

5777, the Hallelujah Psalms and the Seven Last Years

What is the real significance of the present year 2017, which is the Hebrew year 5777? Does it have a unique, spiritual meaning in terms of Biblical prophecy and the end of this age? How does it tie in with the Trump presidency, and the changes coming in the world? What does it mean to your life? And to God's people and their witness and work as God's watchmen?

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This year is the Jewish New Year 5777 and began at sunset on October 2 of 2016. It is unique and quite rare for there to be three sevens in the same year, as these three sevens will not be repeated for a thousand years from now (6,777).

The Biblical number 7 is linked to “completion” and is considered the highest sacred number in the Scripture. In Hebrew, each letter of the alphabet has a specific numerical value. The Hebrew alphabetical letter represented by the number seven, is called Zayin. It is noted by rabbinical sources, that this Hebrew letter Zayin, in both meaning and in its form, has three possible meanings concealed in the year 5,777.

First, the letter alludes to the “return of light” or exposing in the light what is concealed in the darkness. For example, a U.S. Senator from Utah said on Fox News, “We are going to shine the light on this corruption in Washington.” This is the allusion to one meaning of this letter.

A second interpretation related with Zayin [ז] is that the letter is in the form of a “sword,” implying that a battle or a war of some type may loom over this year, 5,777, which is parallel to the Gregorian year 2017. Oddly, the letter Zayin is one of the final Hebrew letters that when used as a final form in a sentence has a decorative crown that scribes create on the top of the letter, forming a crown on the head of the letter. The rabbinical interpretation is that it can represent the “crowning of a man.”

Does this pattern reveal that there is a strange Providence behind the rise of Donald Trump, perhaps in the same manner of Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus the King of Persia, who both fulfilled specific prophecies for their time that was linked with Israel and the Jews?

Donald Trump is the first Presidential candidate that said he will "officially" recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. It is amazing to see someone that is not

afraid to be politically incorrect, and buck a totally corrupt system. Is his rise to this point prophetic?

Is Donald Trump a Cyrus or Nebuchadnezzar?

Here are some interesting facts. President-elect Donald John Trump was 70 years, 7 months, and 7 days old on his first day of office. What are the chances of that happening on the Hebraic year of 5777?

Curt Landry, a Messianic rabbi who works to reconcile Jew and Gentile, recently shared some facts related to the 2016 presidential election that defy random chance.

For instance, 2017 is the Hebraic Year 5777—a year he says correlates to grace and perfection. And on Jan. 20, 2017, the first day Donald Trump takes office as the 45th President of the United States, he will be 70 years, 7 months and 7 days old.

Trump will also be the 45th president of the United States. And in the Bible, Isaiah 45 tells about Cyrus, who was instrumental in rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem.

Evangelical writer Lance Wallnau declared in a blog on his website, “Something struck me about the significance of this new year, 5777. There are three ‘7’s in this Jewish new year. Interestingly, the number ‘7’ in Hebrew is the letter ‘zayin’ which represents both the number ‘7’ and the word ‘sword.’”

“What we are looking at in 5777 is, ‘The year of supernatural grace (5) to engage the clashing of swords (7).’

“The clashing of heaven and hell will show up in the conflict of ideologies. This collision of kingdoms has already started.”

In other words, the world is entering a devastating period of WAR and clashing of swords! Ideologies are warring, and millions of people are being manipulated through media mind control: sound bites, talking heads, and an onslaught of progressive liberal ideologies baked into our entertainment.

5777 is the year of the clashing of swords! However, “Zayin” means more than just “sword” or “weapon.” It also connects with a modern Hebrew word “mazon,” meaning “food” or “sustenance,” and “nourishment,” both coming from the same root as Zayin.

Today, God’s people are taking on giants just like the children of Israel did when they entered the Promised Land around 1332 B.C., in the days of Moses and Joshua.

As God’s people, we should remember what Caleb said in Numbers 14:9, “*Do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them.*”

Caleb saw the giants in the land not as obstacles but as bread. Similarly, the world is full of evil “giants,” today – left-wing enemies of the people, including Communists, Fascists, Republicans and Democrats. But God tell His people they shall be as “bread” for us – He will lead us to spiritual victory over them!

In this new year, 5777, God will open up His word to you and reveal a “sword” in the scripture! As Christians, we must prepare for spiritual warfare!

5777 is the year of spiritual warfare. Jesus Christ declared to His disciples in words meant for all of us, “From the days of John the Baptist until now, they are pressing into the Realm of heaven – these eager souls are storming it!” (Matt.11:12, Moffat Translation).

We are in a spiritual war. The apostle John warns us, “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the *lust of the eyes*, and the pride of life – is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever” (I John 2:15-17).

Adam and Eve were ignorant of Satan’s tactics. They were blindsided in his relentless attack. He deceived Eve and persuaded her to go contrary to God’s commands. She ate the forbidden fruit, and gave also it Adam, and “then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked” (Gen.3:7). They knew they had transgressed God’s commandment – and felt deep shame and fear. And then, as if it were immediately, “They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden” (verse 8).

They “knew” they had sinned. They knew they were guilty. They had failed the “test.” They had been tricked, and defeated by the devil. Now they had new ‘INSIGHT’ as to their spiritual condition, and were afraid, hiding themselves, from fear of punishment – even death (Gen.2:17).

Even so, the year 5777 is a year of testing and trial. It is a year of spiritual warfare. Are you ready to do spiritual battle?

Conquering the Enemy

To conquer sin, and its impulses and drives, we must stay focused on the Word and Commandments of God. That is why God commands us to keep His law and says they would be “as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes” (Deut.6:8).

Or as David said, ‘My eyes are ever toward the LORD’ (Psalm 25:15). And as the Psalmist also said, “Behold, as the eye of servants look to the hand of their masters, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God,

until He has mercy on us!” (Psalm 123:2). And David said, “But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the Lord; in You I take refuge” (Psalm 141:8).

The mitzvah of wearing fringes in our garments, as God commanded, teaches His great love for us, His people, for they constitute a safeguard against outer temptation by making the eye a vehicle through which we can constantly be reminded of His commandments and statutes, “that you may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God” (Numbers 15:39-40).

When problems in the future surround us, and seem to be overwhelming, then we need to do what King Jehoshaphat did. He “feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.” And he laid the problem before God, and prayed earnestly, saying, “O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You” (II Chron.20:12).

And God’s Word came to them, through the voice of Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, “Thus says the LORD to you: Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God’s” (verse 15).

God says, “Keep my commands and live, and my law as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers, write them on the tablet of your heart” (Prov.7:2-3).

Lamech and the Flood

As we look at the first 10 generations we see a prophetic pattern being laid out. The pre-Flood genealogy consisted of the generations of Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, and finally Noah.

But let us take a look at Lamech, the father of Noah.

The Bible tells us Lamech lived to be 777 years old (Genesis 5:31). Historians tell us that 5 years later came the flood (7 7 7 5).

The name Lamech means *to be low, to be humiliated*.

Since this is the year 5777, does this suggest that 5 years after 5777 the world will once again experience another Judgment, like the Flood? Will the wrath of God be poured out on mankind beginning in 2022?

If so, then the present year 5777 is a turning point – a year of great prophetic significance!

The Shemitah Command

In Leviticus chapter 25 we read: “And the LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When you come into the land which I give you, then *the land shall keep a sabbath to the LORD*. Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather its fruit; but *in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the LORD*. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard. What grows of its own accord of your harvest you shall not reap, nor gather the grapes of your untended vine, for it is a year of rest for the land. And the Sabbath produce of the land shall be food for you: for you, your male and female servants, your hired man, and the stranger who dwells with you, for your livestock and the beasts that are in your land—all its produce shall be for food” (Lev.25:1-7).

Jonathan Cahn in his sequel to the book, *The Harbinger*, points out in *The Mystery of the Shemitah*, a shocking discovery that the five great economic crashes of the last 40 years—1973, 1980, 1987, 2001 and 2008 – have all occurred in Shemitah years (every seventh year) –those God set apart as Sabbath years (years of rest for the land).

Cahn pointed out in *The Harbinger*, in 2001 (Twin Towers/economic crash) and 2008 (Wall Street crash) both coincided precisely with the exact end of the Shemitah year on the Hebrew calendar day of Elul 29). This is the day before Tishri 1 which is the beginning of the calendar of the new Hebrew year (the fall to fall reckoning). What did all this mean?

Cahn summed up his message by saying, “America is progressing toward God’s judgment.” According to the Bible, the Shemitah year was set aside as a blessing for the nation of Israel. It was to be set aside as a rest for the land with no sowing or reaping. Instead, God would provide food miraculously for the people, as he did during the Exodus from Egypt.

“However, Cahn points out, if the Shemitah was not observed by the people, it would become a curse, as described later in Leviticus chapter 25.

The Shemitah Warnings

It is interesting that in 1993-94 – a Shemitah year – the Oslo Peace Accords signed by Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and Yasser Arafat of the Palestinians on the White House lawn. This could be referred to as the “Beginning of Jacob’s Trouble.”

The Oslo Agreement, also known as the Oslo Accords, is an agreement signed between the State of Israel’s Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat representing both sides and US President Bill Clinton serving as their witness. The accords, representing a milestone in Israeli-Palestinian relations, were finalized in Oslo, Norway, on August 20, 1993. The official signing ceremony was held in Washington the

following September, with then-Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin and PLO Chairman Arafat. This occurred on a Shemitah year.

In 2000-2001—another Shemitah year – America’s economy collapsed, following the attack on the Twin Trade Towers, Sept.11, 2001. This was another year of horror and infamy, with the greatest attack on America since Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Then in 2007-2008 – another Shemitah year – a second financial, Stock Market collapse occurred, which was much worse.

The financial crisis of 2007–2008, also known as the Global Financial Crisis and 2008 financial crisis, is considered by many economists to have been the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s. It resulted in the threat of total collapse of large financial institutions, the bailout of banks by national governments, and downturns in stock markets around the world.

In the year 2014-2015 another Shemitah cycle concluded in September of 2015. The year 2016 would have been a Jubilee year, from September 2015 to September 2016. The year 2017 is 50 years after the miraculous Six Day War of 1967 when the nation of Israel defeated the surrounding Arab nations and regained the West Bank from Jordan, the Golan Heights from Syria, and the Old City of Jerusalem.

The fact that such a Biblically significant Year (5777) is following not just a Shemitah, but a year that could be considered a Jubilee year, and itself was 50 years after 1967, a very auspicious year, the year the Jews annexed Jerusalem and the Temple Mount to Israel, could be considered as very meaningful prophetically.

5777 is the 50th Anniversary of Israel’s reunification of the Jewish State of Israel with its true capital city of Jerusalem, which occurred in 1967. But that’s not all!

The year 5777 also fulfills an astonishing 800 year old rabbinical prophecy!

Judah Ben Samuel

Judah Ben Samuel was a legendary and prolific German rabbi of the 12th century who made some astonishing and specific predictions about the future of Jerusalem and Israel that came true.

Judah Ben Samuel, also known as Judah he-Hasid (Judah the Pious), lived and worked from the end of the 12th century until the beginning of the 13th century in Regensburg, authoring a number of books in the German language.

Ludwig Schneider of *Israel Today* magazine has translated some of his work into English over the last few years, including "The Book of the Pious – Sefer Hasidim" and the "Book of Calculations – Sefer Gematriyot."

Following the Christian crusades to the Holy Land, between 1096-1270, a regular

correspondence developed between the Jews in the Holy Land and the Christian West. Thus, for example, the rabbis in Worms and Regensburg in Germany knew that Saladin's Ayyubids had been ruling in the Holy Land since 1187.

At this time, Judah Ben Samuel published the results of his biblical calculations (Gematria) and astrological observations and summarized as follows: "When the Ottomans (Turks) – who were already a power to be reckoned with on the Bosphorus in the time of Judah Ben Samuel – conquer Jerusalem they will rule over Jerusalem for eight jubilees. Afterwards Jerusalem will become no-man's land for one jubilee, and then in the ninth jubilee it will once again come back into the possession of the Jewish nation – which would signify the beginning of the Messianic end time."

One jubilee is 50 years (Leviticus 25). It is the 50th year after seven times seven years, the year in which each person should regain ownership of his or her land. Ben Samuel's calculations were purely theoretical; there was absolutely no sign at that time of their being fulfilled. He himself was not able to experience their fulfillment, for it was only 300 years after his death that the first of his predictions were to come true.

The Mamluks, who had been reigning in Jerusalem since 1250, were conquered in 1517 by the Ottoman Turks. They remained for eight jubilees ($8 \times 50 = 400$ years), that is to say they were in Jerusalem for 400 years. Exactly 400 years later, in 1917, the Ottoman Turks were conquered by the British. The League of Nations conferred the Mandate for the Holy Land and Jerusalem to the British. Thus, from 1917, under international law, Jerusalem was no-man's land. Then, when Israel captured Jerusalem in the Six Day War of 1967, exactly one jubilee (50 years) after 1917, Jerusalem reverted to Jewish-Israeli ownership once again. Thereby, according to the prophecies of Judah Ben Samuel, the Messianic End Times began.

Ben Samuel was often called "Light of Israel." Even bishops came to him for advice. If anyone asked him where his wisdom came from he would answer, "The prophet Elijah, who will precede the Messiah, appeared to me and revealed many things to me and emphasized that the precondition for answered prayer is that it is fueled by enthusiasm and joy for the greatness and holiness of God."

But to recap the astonishing predictions: In AD 1217 this scholarly and pious rabbi prophesied that the Ottoman Turks would rule over the holy city of Jerusalem for eight Jubilees. Now, keep in mind, he made this prediction 300 years before the Ottoman Turks seized control of Jerusalem in 1517. If indeed 1217 and 1517 were jubilee years as Judah Ben Samuel believed, then his prophecy was exactly right, because exactly 400 years after the Turks took control of Jerusalem they were driven out of the city and the holy land in 1917 by the Allied forces under the command of General Edmund Allenby – on Hanukkah, by the way.

The rabbi also prophesied that during the ninth Jubilee Jerusalem would be a "no-man's land." This is exactly what happened from 1917 to 1967, due to the fact that the

Holy Land was placed under British Mandate in 1917 by the League of Nations and literally “belonged” to no nation.

Even after Israel's war of independence in 1948-49, Jerusalem was still divided by a strip of land running right through the heart of the city, with Jordan controlling the eastern part of the city and Israel controlling the western part of the city. That strip of land was considered and even called “no-man's land” by both the Israelis and the Jordanians.

It was not until the Six Day War in 1967 when the entire West Bank of the Holy Land was conquered by the Israeli army that the whole city of Jerusalem passed back into the possession of Israel. So once again the prophecy made by the rabbi 750 years previously was fulfilled to the letter.

It certainly would be significant if both 1917 and 1967 were Jubilee years, considering the significance of what happened in Jerusalem on those years. But it gets even more interesting, because Judah Ben Samuel also prophesied that during the 10th Jubilee Jerusalem would be under the control of the Jews and the Messianic “end times” would begin. If he's right, the 10th Jubilee began in 1967 and will be concluded in 2017. 2017, or 5777, would be the beginning of the “Messianic end times”!

The Number 777

The number 777 is attributed to our God and Father. It is also attributed to our Lord Jesus Christ, Israel's Messiah and our Saviour. Written in Hebrew, “YHVH in the YESHUA Messiah”, gives the number 777. It is spelled:

Yod, He, Vaw, He, beth, yod, shin, vaw, ayin, he, mem, shin, yod, heth
 $(10+ 5+ 6+ 5+ 2+ 10+ 300+ 6+ 70+ 5+ 40+ 300+ 10+ 8 = 777)$.

that in itself is awesome enough, but in Hebrew, “YESHUA saves”, gives 777 as well:

Yod, shin,vaw, ayin, he, vav, shin, yod, ayin
 $10+ 300+ 6+ 70+ 5+ 6+ 300+ 10+ 70 = 777$

Throughout the Bible, we see the significance of the number 7 to God. It is, by far, used by The LORD more than any other number. For instance, God rested on the 7th Day and blessed it. The Shemitah Year comes every 7 years. The Jubilee Year comes after 7 Shemitah years..

In the Book of Revelation, the Judgments all come in 3 sets of 7: Seven Seals, Seven Trumpets, Seven Vials or 7-7-7 judgments. These are just a few of the many examples.

This generation, which has already witnessed an abundance of “Last Days” Biblical signs, will only live through ONE Biblical Year which bears God’s Holy number, and that will be 5777. What a season to be alive!

Seeing the Holy “777” in this present Year, and the nearly 1,000 year old Prophecy of Rabbi Samuel of the Messiah’s Coming connected to this year, should make us be more watchful than ever before.

We are now poised for our entrance into the Kingdom of God. As it was in the days of Joshua and Caleb, as they prepared to go into the Promised Land and take the land that was their inheritance, we also are standing on the brink of the Messianic Kingdom.

Almighty God declares, “For thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord of hosts. ‘The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,’ declares the Lord of hosts. ‘The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘and in this place I will give peace,’ declares the Lord of hosts” (Hag. 2:6-9).

God declares to our generation, “And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Joel 2:28-32).

God also says, “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising” (Isa.60:1-3).

The Crisis at the Close

Year 5777 then is the beginning of the “end of days of the Messianic times.” This final period of time corresponds to the “crisis at the close” spoken of by Daniel – a “time of trouble” such as has never been upon the earth in all its gory, bloody, sanguinary, cruel history (Daniel 12:1). Daniel was told, “And now, O Daniel, keep all this a closed secret and keep the book shut as a secret, till the *crisis at the END*; err then many shall give way and *trouble shall be multiplied on earth*” (Dan.12:4, Moffatt).

The revelation was to be hidden away; its meaning concealed, till the end times. Daniel, fascinated, was told, “Ask no more, Daniel, for the revelation is to be kept secret and closed, *TILL THE CRISIS AT THE CLOSE*. Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the evil shall do evilly; none of the evil shall understand things, it is the pious who understand” (Dan.12:10, Moffatt).

5777. Five (He in Hebrew) is the number of grace and the number of government.

Seven (Zayin in Hebrew) is the number of rest; it can symbolize a sword, and it represents the finished work. I believe this year we will begin to exercise God’s authority and power in a way like we’ve never experienced before, as we enter into a closeness in Him like we have never known.

We will see the sword of the Lord go forth into all the earth, bringing down the enemy's plans just as Haman's plans came to naught and the tables were turned upon Him as Queen Esther received the favor of her king!

We are on the cusp of the greatest awakening in human history, since the time of Christ! We are on the eve of the greatest outpouring of God’s Spirit and glory that will outshine any move of God in history as we approach the coming of the Messiah Himself! We are also on the brink of worldwide conflict and war on a scale never before imagined or experienced by mankind.

Daniel’s 70 Weeks

In the book of Daniel is a fascinating prophecy for the last days. It says:

“SEVENTY WEEKS are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish [margin, to restrain] the transgression, and to make an end [margin, to seal up] of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

“Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem [margin, to build again Jerusalem] *unto Messiah the Prince* shall be *seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks*: the street shall be built again, and the wall [margin, breach, or ditch], in troublous times. . . .” (Dan.9:24).

How does this apply to our time?

After the Six Day War of Israel against the Arab nations in 1967, when Israel conquered the Old City of Jerusalem, Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel sent a letter to President Jimmy Carter of the United States, at Camp David, Thurmont, Maryland, , saying:

17 September 1978

Dear Mr. President,

I have the honor to inform you, Mr. President, that on 28 June, 1967—Israel’s Parliament (The Knesset) promulgated and adopted a law to the effect: ‘the Government is empowered by a decree to apply the law, the jurisdiction and administration of the State to any part of Eretz Israel (land of Israel—Palestine as stated in that decree.

“On the basis of this law, the Government of Israel decreed in July 1967 that Jerusalem is one city indivisible, the Capital of the State of Israel. Sincerely, (signed) Menachem Begin.”

The decree went forth in July 1967. What does the prophecy say? “From the decree going forth to rebuild Jerusalem, shall be seven weeks . . .”

Seven weeks, of seven days each, equals 49 days all together. With a “day” equaling a year being fulfilled (see Numbers 14:34; Ezek.4:6), 49 days would equal 49 years being fulfilled.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1967 \text{ A.D.} \\ \underline{49 \text{ years}} \\ 2016 \text{ A.D.} \end{array}$$

The next year would be 2017, this very year – the year 5777 in the Hebrew calendar!

But there is yet a final “week” of years of Daniel’s prophecy.

“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for ONE WEEK: and in the midst of the WEEK he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations [margin, and upon the battlements shall be the idols of the desolater], he shall make it desolate, even until the consumation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate [margin, desolater]” (Dan.9:27).

The last seven days or final week of Daniel’s 70 weeks prophecy refer to the final *seven years* of this present age, which culminate in the return of the Messiah. This final week could begin with 2017 and extend another seven years or one prophetic “week” – counting from 2018 to 2024.

In the end of this amazing prophecy of Daniel, we read that a wicked leader arises, and he will “confirm the covenant with many for *one week*; and in the *MIDST of the week* he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease” (v.27).

What is this strange-sounding “covenant”? The Hebrew word *berith* literally means “a cutting,” or a “compact, league, confederacy, treaty.” Could that refer to the notorious Iran nuclear agreement between the United States, the European Union, Russia

and the United Nations with the rogue nation of Iran?

Notice carefully! The word “confirm” in this passage is Strong’s #1396, the Hebrew word *gabar*, a primitive root meaning “to be strong,” that is, “by implication, to prevail, act insolently: -- exceed, confirm, be great, be mighty, prevail, put to more (strength), strengthen, be stronger, be valiant.”

“And in the MIDST of the Week”

Daniel goes on to say, “And in the *midst of the week* he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate . . .” The “midst” of the final week would evidently be the year 2020-2021.

In the passage just quoted, the subject of the entire passage, from Daniel 9:24 to verse 27, is the whole period of 70 WEEKS. The final week, then, must refer to the seven years (last week of days) leading up to the climax of the SECOND coming of the Messiah to inaugurate the Millennial rule of God upon the earth!

Therefore, when the passage states, “In the MIDST OF THE WEEK he shall cause sacrifice and oblation to cease,” this would be a clear reference to the FINAL WEEK OF THE PROPHECY!

Is this final week of prophecy, before the coming of the Messiah, alluded to in the prophetic Psalms?

The Hallelujah Psalms

Interestingly, Psalms 111-113 and Psalms 115-117 are called the “Hallelujah Psalms.” In the middle of the group is Psalm 114, which tells about the amazing miracles which accompanied the Exodus of ancient Israel out of Egyptian slavery. There is a great mystery, here. What is the reason for this seemingly parenthetical insertion of Psalm 114, which speaks of the Exodus in the days of ancient Egypt?

Furthermore, Psalm 118 was included with Psalms 114-117 as the Egyptian Hallel, which was used during the Feasts of Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles, and Dedication. At Passover, the first portion was sung before the feast and the Egyptian Hallel was sung after the last cup. In Scofield’s note on Psalm 110, the Psalm of the King-Priest, he refers to Psalm 118 also as the last Messianic Psalm.

Let’s notice carefully these Psalms.

1. Psalm 110, which affirms the Deity of Christ and looks forward to the conversion of Israel and judgment on the Gentile powers, states: “He shall fill the places with dead bodies” (v. 6). This Psalm introduces the Messiah, and His return to rule the world. It is like an introductory Psalm to the following seven. Perhaps it pictures the

Hebrew year 5777, or 2017 – this very year, setting the stage for Daniel’s seventieth week, which follows!

2. Next comes a group of *seven* Psalms (111-117) picturing the next seven years of Daniel’s prophecy, leading up to the coming of the Messiah! The Psalm in the middle, Psalm 114, is about the Jews fleeing, waters parting, and the earth trembling, in the days of the Exodus. Could it also refer not just to the Exodus from Egypt, but also to a future time when Jews will flee after the abomination of desolation?

3. After these seven chapters, we come to Psalm 118, which is the culmination of the Egyptian Hallel, which is sung after the last cup of the Passover Feast every year in Jewish households. Psalm 118 is the last Messianic Psalm: It says, “The nations compassed me about” (v. 10). It pictures Israel surrounded by the nations of the world and being attacked, but when all appears lost the Lord intervenes. The Psalmist declares, “The Lord has become my salvation” (v. 14). “The stone which the builders refused is become the head of the corner” (v. 22). “This is the Lord’s doing” (v. 23). “This is the day which the Lord hath made” (v. 24). “Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” (v. 26). Clearly this Psalm pictures the returning Christ, the Messiah, intervening and delivering His people from their attacking enemies!

Interestingly, Psalms 111, 112, begin with “Hallelujah,” Psalm 113 both begins and ends with “Hallelujah,” while Psalms 115, 116, and 117 close with “Hallelujah.” This makes SEVEN “Hallelujahs”! This reflects the mirror design of the Temple lampstand called the “Menorah” – the seven branch golden lampstand built at Mount Sinai. In the Menorah, the three eastern lamps were turned toward the center lamp, while the three western lamps (in a mirror design) were also turned toward the center lamp.

Psalms 111-113

Psalm 111 opens with the Jews praising God in the “assembly of the upright and the congregation.” Could this be a reference to a place on the Temple Mount and the Jews restoring Temple worship in a new Temple of God? Could this refer to the year 2018 and worship being allowed to the Jews on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem? The Psalm goes on to show the glory and works of God, His grace and compassion. Could this picture the signature events of the year 2018?

Psalm 112 opens with the people of God being blessed who delight in His commandments (v.1-5). They will never be shaken or afraid of evil tidings or bad news (v.6-8). Could this depict a time of blessing and prosperity for God’s people, with the Temple worship being restored on the Temple Mount? Could this picture the major events of the year 2019?

Psalm 113 opens with praises for the Lord’s kindness toward Israel. “Who is like the LORD our God who dwells on high?” (v.5). “He grants the barren woman a home, like a joyful mother of children” (v. 9). Rabbis have said that the “barren woman” represents the whole house of Israel, finally being blessed abundantly with “children,”

with many returning to Israel to rebuild the nation and worship at the Temple. Could this picture the year 2020? This Psalm both begins and ends with “Hallelujah”!

But then Psalm 114 opens with Israel's Exodus out of Egypt. It speaks of God's people fleeing to safety amidst great havoc and chaos and destruction in the world, with volcanic episodes and great cataclysm. Mountains flowing down, seas fleeing, great earthquakes. Could this also picture the time when everything begins to go seriously wrong, with signs in the earth and heavens, and great calamity among the nations, and the beginning of the Great Tribulation?

This would be the next year, year 2021. Could it be the year when God's people flee to a place of safety, when the Antichrist at the head of the New World Order attacks Israel, invades the Temple of God, and commits the “abomination of desolation” by rearing up an “idol” in the new Temple of God, a statue of himself, just an Antiochus Epiphanes did in 167 B.C.! This would be in the middle of the final seven weeks, the time Daniel referred to as “*in the midst of the week.*”

This point would be the very beginning of the Great Tribulation that Christ warned about in the Mount Olivet prophecy. The Jews in Israel who take warning will flee to the wilderness again to escape calamity and invasion (see the sequence of events spelled out in Matt.24:18-22).

Psalms 115-117

Psalm 115 then opens with the whole Gentile world gloating, saying, “So where is their God?” (v.2). Great Tribulation will reign. Global suffering will be at an all time high. Israel will be crushed. But God is still alive, and His people will trust in Him (vs.9-13), and He will bless those who fear Him, both small and great. This would picture the year 2022.

It seems that the world rejoices over the calamity that has befallen the Jews. The Islamic world is delighted to get the Jews off their mountain. The Antichrist by this time has taken over the Jewish Temple for himself. He sits in the Temple claiming to be a god (II Thess.2:4-12). Verses 4-8 of the Psalm seem to be a lament over the image of the beast or idol that has been set up by the Antichrist – it has no power, cannot hear, speak, or even walk!. It has a mouth but cannot speak (v. 5); eyes but cannot see (v. 5); ears but cannot hear (v. 6).

Psalm 116 pictures the profound depth of the Great Tribulation, when all seems hopeless and trouble and sorrow are everywhere (vs.3-4). The Psalmist declares that God's people are suffering “the sorrows of death” and the “pains of hell” (v. 3). Israel will cry out, “I am greatly afflicted”(v.10). But yet Israel will not lose hope. The Psalmist declares, “For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling” (v.8). “I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD” (v.13). This would picture, perhaps, year 2023 and the dire extremity of the Great Tribulation!

Psalm 117 has only two verses. It is the *shortest* chapter as well as the *middle* chapter of the Bible.

Does this picture “time” being “cut short” – the days being “shortened” – before and hastening the coming of the Lord? It pictures the final year – year “seven” of the final seven years of Daniel’s 70 weeks prophecy, leading up to the return of the Messiah! This short Psalm signifies that God will indeed “cut short” the time of the end, before all human life is obliterated from the face of the planet earth! Christ declared, “And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake, those days will be shortened” (Matt.24:22).

Psalms 118 is the last Messianic psalm. This psalm paints a picture of the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to fight against the nations who attack Jerusalem and surround God’s people and whose armies strike from the north. They gather in a place called “Armageddon” and rush toward Jerusalem, gathering in the valley of Jehoshaphat, on the eastern flank of the holy city, marshalling together with fury and raging with hatred for the Jews. But God will intervene, and halt their folly, and Christ will return from heaven with millions of angels to destroy the gathering armies. Their blood will flow down the valley all the way to the Red Sea, through the desert to Aqaba, a distance of 140 miles, as deep as a horse’s bridles.

Notice Matthew 23:39 and Luke 13:35 where Jesus told the Pharisees that He would not return until He heard them say, “Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.” That very statement is found in Psalm 118 and nowhere else in the Old Testament!

Interestingly, Psalm 118 is right in the middle of the Bible. Psalm 118:8 is the middle verse in the entire Bible. Psalm 118:8 says, “It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man,” which is the central theme of God’s Word.

Notice also, Psalm 118 is located between the shortest chapter in the Bible (Psalm 117) and the longest chapter in the Bible (Psalm 119). Psalm 117 is actually the middle chapter of the Bible, with Psalm 118:8 being the middle verse. Together, they seem to point to the events of the seventh year of the Tribulation Period, which concludes with the glorious appearing of Christ!

Psalm 117 has 594 chapters before it and 594 chapters after it. There are 1,189 chapters in the Bible, making a total of 1,188 chapters apart from the middle chapter. It is remarkable that the middle verse should be Psalm 118:8, thus alluding to those 1,188 chapters. This must be the result of Divine inspiration!

The events that seem to allude to the future Tribulation Period stand out quite clearly in Psalms 111-117. Could these “Hallelujah Psalms” picture the Biblical seven-lamped Menorah, as well as the Seven Last Years of this Age, prophetically, leading to the coming of the Messiah? Do they picture the final COUNTDOWN in YEARS to Armageddon and the Day of the Lord? We will soon see!