

ELIJAH'S WAR

The Translation Generation ~Part Two

Thesis: The calling and mission of the “Translation Generation” is to wage war against and completely vanquish all untrue concepts, theologies and mental images of God’s character. Prophecy foretells that this war will finally rage to its climax in a battle called “Armageddon,” which is the end-time parallel to the battle of Elijah against the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. The issue in that Old Testament showdown was the true identity of God. Elijah’s God was placed in contrast to the popularized picture of God being promoted by the false prophets. The question urged by Elijah was, “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.” *Choose the illusion that bears God’s name or choose to believe the truth about God.* Just as Elijah’s war was against the worship of a false image of God, so the “Armageddon” warfare of God’s Translation Generation is a battle to rescue hearts from false pictures of God by magnifying His true image revealed in the self-sacrificing incarnation, life and death of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 16:12-16—12Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. 13And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. 15“Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.” 16And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon.

1 Kings 18:20-39—20So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel. 21And Elijah came to all the people, and said, “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him”... 22Then Elijah said to the people, “I alone am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal’s prophets are four hundred and fifty men. 23Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it. 24Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God.” So all the people answered and said, “It is well spoken”...

37“Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again.” 38Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. 39Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!”

Revelation 13:6-10—Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. 8All who dwell

NOTE: “My work on the Armageddon article for the Anchor Bible Dictionary led me to the conclusion that the best way to understand the word Armageddon, in the light of Biblical evidence, is as the Greek form of a couple of Hebrew words that mean ‘Mountain of Meggido.’ Meggido was a city on a small elevation at the edge of the Plain of Jezreel. Looming over the place where the city of Megiddo was, however, is a range of mountains called Carmel” (Jon Pauline, *John’s Apocalyptic Matrix*, p. 13).

NOTE: “to slander His name” (NIV). The main characteristic of the Sea Beast is that it defames the character of God by using coercion in the name of God, by enforcing worship and thus eclipsing the love of God as the only effective power to produce genuine worship.

on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. 9If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 10He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Revelation 13:11-15—11Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 12And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. 14And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. 15He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Daniel 7:25—He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High.

Daniel 8:9-14—9And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land. . . 11He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily *sacrifices* were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down. 12Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily *sacrifices*; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered. 13Then I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking, “How long will the vision be, concerning the daily sacrifices and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled under foot?” 14And he said to me, “For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed.”

Daniel 11:44-45—44But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many. 45And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

Revelation 7:1-3—1After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. 2Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, 3saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Ezekiel 43:2—And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5—3For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every

NOTE: The proclamation that the sanctuary will be cleansed is the answer to the question concerning how long the character of God will be defamed by the Little Horn; therefore the cleansing of the sanctuary must entail the vindication of God's character against the claims about God advanced by the Little Horn.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9

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thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

Phi.—Our battle is to break down every deceptive argument and every imposing defense that men erect against the true knowledge of God. We fight to capture every thought.

Revelation 12:11—They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

THE TRUE IMAGE OF GOD

1. Selfless

Genesis 1:1—In the beginning God (Elohim)...

Genesis 1:26-27—26Then God (Elohim) said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness”... 27So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Colossians 1:17—He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

1 John 4:8—God is love.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5—Love...does not seek its own [is not self-seeking (NIV)].

1 John 5:7—For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

John 1:1—In the beginning...was God...with God.

Deuteronomy 6:4—Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one!

1 John 3:16—By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us.

Philippians 2:6-7, NIV—Who, being in very nature God...made Himself nothing.

Zechariah 13:7—“Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd (Christ), against the Man who is My Companion,” Says the LORD of hosts (the Father).

Proverbs 8:30—I (Christ) was beside Him (the Father) as a master craftsman; and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him.

John 17:24—Father... You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

John 17:25-26—25O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.

NOTE: The obedience spoken of here is an obedience of “thought” to believe in the knowledge of God revealed in Christ against the “arguments” of a warring enemy who paints an untrue picture of God. “Arguments” is from the Greek word “logismos,” meaning reasonings, imaginings, ideas, computations, judgments.

NOTE: “God” in Genesis 1:1 is *Elohim* in Hebrew, which is a proper name in the plural form, thus indicating that the Creator God whom scripture introduces to us is a plurality of being within the divine personage apart from created beings.

NOTE: Love=Other-centeredness, and, if necessary, self-sacrifice.

NOTE: Not 1+1+1=3, but 1x1x1=1.

NOTE: Jesus is God, but not all there is of God. The Father is God, but not all there is of God. The Holy Spirit is God, but not all there is of God.

NOTE: Literal translation—“Hear, O Israel! Yahweh, our Elohim, Yahweh is one.” Or, the One is more than one and yet is One. There are two Hebrew words for “one,” *Yacheed* and *Echad*. The first indicates singular unity, as in *one and only*. The second indicates compound unity, as in *the oneness of two or more*. *Echad* is the word used in this text, which make sense because it is preceded by the plural name of God, *Elohim*. The meaning is, *Elohim*—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—are one. God is a plurality of Persons who are one in nature.

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2. Changeless

Jeremiah 31:3—The LORD has appeared of old to me, *saying*: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

3. Non-condemning

Romans 8:31-34—31If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?... *It is* God who justifies. 34Who *is* he who condemns?... 35Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

1 John 3:20-21—20If our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

James 2:13—For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

John 8:11—Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.

4. Empowering

Galatians 5:5-6, KJV—5For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith... 6faith which worketh by love.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15—14The love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

Ephesians 3:14-20—14I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... 16that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—19to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. 20Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.

1 John 4:19—We love Him because He first loved us.

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