

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 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.

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.

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.

Leviticus 16:14—He shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

Numbers 3:38—Moreover those who were to camp before the tabernacle on the east, before the tabernacle of meeting, were Moses, Aaron, and his sons, keeping charge of the sanctuary, to meet the needs of the children of Israel.

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 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.

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.

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.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9

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All Scripture References are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.

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.

Isaiah 27:9—Images...shall not stand.

Isaiah 25:7—He will destroy...the veil that is spread over the nations.

“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9

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