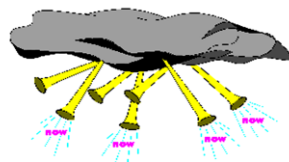


# TRUMPET SOUNDS

Issue No 149

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023



## Hamas

The Hebrew word in Genesis 6: 11 and 13 translated as violence is: **חָמָס**. It can be transliterated as ḥā-mās (Strong's H2555). Corruption and violence are given as the reasons why God destroyed the earth at the time of the flood judgement.

*“Now the earth was corrupt in God’s sight and was full of violence (**Hamas**). God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people of the earth had corrupted their ways. So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence (**Hamas**) because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.” Genesis 6: 11 – 13.*

God sometimes causes men to adopt symbols to help those who are vigilant to understand. The classic case was the adoption of the woman riding a bull as the symbol of Europe. It appeared in statues, coins, bank notes, magazine covers and other places. To the creators of the image, it represented the Greek myth about the abduction of Europa by Zeus. To the vigilant Christian it was the harlot riding the beast as described in Revelation. Europe, by adopting the symbol of ‘Mystery Babylon’, revealed its true nature.

Following the barbaric atrocities carried out by Hamas on the 7<sup>th</sup> October we may well ask if the name Hamas is significant. I believe that it is.

The injustice against the Israel and the Jews has angered God. Just as Hamas was the cause of God’s anger against the earth in the days of Noah, so Hamas is bringing God’s wrath down on a violent and rebellious world.

It is not only the actions of the Hamas terrorists on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, which have aroused God’s anger. It is the mindless support for Hamas and the Palestinian cause which has angered Him. In major cities around the world there have been large demonstrations in support of the Palestinians. It is reported that 100,000 turned out in London on the 21<sup>st</sup> October. These demonstrations are characterized by hate for Israel and the Jews.

The atrocities committed on 7<sup>th</sup> October were similar or even worse than those committed by ISIS. Did thousands turn out on the streets of London or other cities in support of ISIS? Of course not. The world recognized that ISIS was evil and needed to be destroyed. But when the victim is Israel and the Jews

it is another matter altogether. The BBC couldn't even bring itself to condemn the murderers as terrorists. It had no problem using that label for ISIS.

World leaders are no better. Many have flocked to Israel following the attack. They have pledged their support while heaping on Israel conditions which hinder their actions and endanger their troops. Jews in many countries now live in increased fear of violence.

Hamas has spread around the world. The world is filled with violence. The barbarity of Hamas and the violence of those who support it, is a warning that the time is drawing near when God will pour out His wrath on the earth. He will release the evil that has been stored up for this time.

For a while now I have sensed that we are on the brink of five events which will precede the return of Christ. Everything around the horrific attack on Israel has confirmed to me that the time is near.

## **Nearing the end**

*“Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels which are about to sound.”* Revelation 8: 13.

The events which I sense are about to befall us are; the falling away, which is already under way, the first woe to be soon followed by the second woe, the fall of Babylon and the revealing of the Antichrist.

### **The Falling Away (2 Thessalonians 2: 3)**

The falling away will precede the day of Christ (2 Thessalonians 2: 3). In the western world, over the last 100 years, faith in Christ has collapsed. There are many reasons for this falling away. Primarily it is the result of a waning confidence in the authority of the Bible. Currently the falling away has mainly affected the former strongholds of the Christian faith in Britain, Europe and the United States. It will come to fullness when large sections of the church accept the Antichrist. Only a few will be left who due to their vigilance in watching are not deceived by the imposter.

### **The First Woe (Revelation 9: 1 – 11)**

The first woe is announced by the first of the three angels who have not yet sounded their trumpets. Demons are released from the bottomless pit with permission to torment mankind. In my book ‘Revelations of Jesus Christ’, I put forward the view that the four trumpet judgments, which precede the woes, have at least been partially fulfilled in the wars and environmental destruction of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

If correct, the stage is set for the first woe. In the vision a star falls from heaven. The star is Satan cast out of heaven (Revelation 12: 9). He is given a key allowing him to unlock the pit and release the fallen angels imprisoned there.

God judged the evil angels, responsible for the degenerate state of man and the world in the days of the Noah. They have been kept in bonds until the day of judgement. For a short time they will be released from the abyss to paralyse people with fear.

### **The demons**

The demons are not visible to us but their torture will be very real. The vivid description emphasises the power of their attack. War horses: are creatures without fear. Crowns: symbolise the authority they are given. Faces of men: represents intelligence. Having the intelligence of men they are able to deceive. Women's hair: indicates effeminacy. Lion's Teeth: warns that the attack will be ferocious. Iron breastplates: which cover their hearts, there will be no mercy. Wings: this plague of evil will spread rapidly over the whole earth. Stings of scorpions: they torture rather than kill. A scorpion sting causes intense pain around the sting site. Other affects are difficulty in breathing, muscle spasms, drooling, vomiting, fever and heart palpitations. God will limit this terrible time of torture to last for only five months.

Some have seen in the description of the demons a likeness to the Greek Sphinx. With the body of a lion, wings of a falcon, a human face and hair. It was a ferocious beast which ate its victims. The Greek sphinx had a viper for its tale. If that comparison was intended it underlines the savagery of the attack. God is permitting the torment of mankind in order to bring about repentance. The torment is directed at all who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. Is this a reference to those who are sealed in chapter 7 or does it have a wider significance?

### **The sealed**

Ezekiel received a vision just before the fall of Jerusalem to Babylon. He sees the Lord command a man to go through the city putting a mark on the foreheads of the godly. The mark is placed on all who sigh and cry out over all the abominations that are done in the city. The angel is followed by the executioners. They slay without mercy all who do not have this mark, beginning with the ungodly elders of the Temple. It is the ones who grieve over the ungodliness of the world who are marked. Those whose trust is in God will not fear, being confident that they are in His safekeeping (Ezekiel 9: 1 – 11).

## **The plague**

For the rest of mankind the torment will be like a plague. Covid came out of a Chinese biological warfare laboratory. This future plague will literally come out of the pit. Such will be its intensity that many will despair and wish they were dead. When your friends and neighbours start falling ill from this plague it will confirm that this interpretation is correct. If they repent of all their sin and turn to Christ as their Saviour the plague will be lifted from them. This will be the first woe.

## **The Second Woe (Revelation 9: 12 – 21)**

The next angel sounds a trumpet and a voice commands the release of four angels bound at the great river Euphrates. The Bible says that they have been prepared for this specific time with a mission to kill one third of mankind. These evil angels have a vast demonic army of two hundred million.

Although the description of the army is like cavalry in the ancient world, their power is very modern. The fire, smoke and brimstone which comes out of their mouths is a picture of artillery and other weapons.

There being four angels suggests that there will be four centers of the war. The angels will stir people to hate and fight. It will be truly a world war. Today with the advent of nuclear weapons the destruction in one war of a third of the world's population is conceivable.

We already have a war raging in Europe which could expand. A war has started around Israel which could spread to the rest of the Middle East. China is preparing for the invasion of Taiwan. President Xi is making very belligerent speeches with regard to the future inclusion of Taiwan back into China. We wait to see where else war will erupt.

## **The Fall of Babylon**

Trumpet Sounds has frequently identified Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots, as the global financial and one world government system centered in the United States and Europe. Many, who are in tune with the Lord, recognize that the system is soon to collapse. The plague and wars will hasten the downfall of Babylon. In the chaos ten kings will arise. They will further destroy Babylon and open the way for Satan to introduce to the world his saviour.

## **The man of sin**

For a world which has been torn apart by war and collapsing economies, the man Satan introduces to the world will seem like a savior. When the Antichrist appears he will be welcomed by the World. He will pose as a saviour claiming to be able to solve the world's many problems. There will be no condemnation of sin, only condemnation of those who refuse to accept his rule.

## **The restoration of Israel**

A covenant keeping God cannot break His promises. From the study of God's word J. C. Ryle recognised that the day must come when Israel was restored to her land.

In the previous article in this series on J C Ryle's Prophetic Creed, I commented; "a major consequence of the divide between the postmillennialists and the premillennialists is their view of Israel. The postmillennialist does not see any place for a restored nation of Israel. For them Israel has been rejected by God. Their mission was handed over to the church. The premillennialist believes that Israel will be restored and play a significant role in Christ's future kingdom. Ryle deals with this in the seventh item of his prophetic creed."

As a premillennialist I look forward to the time when Jesus Christ reigns on this earth from Jerusalem. Before that can happen the Jews are to be gathered back to their land. For Ryle this was a future hope. For us it is both history and a present reality.

In 1868 Ryle wrote: "I believe that the Jews shall ultimately be gathered again as a separate nation, restored to their own land, and converted to the faith of Christ after going through great tribulation (Jeremiah 30: 10, 11; 31: 10; Romans 11: 25, 26; Daniel 12: 1; Zechariah 13: 8, 9)."

### **A waste land**

At that time the Holy Land was largely a deserted barren wilderness. Most of the Arab peasants had been driven off the land either by Ottoman tax collectors or the Bedouin who forced villagers to pay a form of protection money. The Ottoman land reforms of the 1860's speeded up the depopulation of Palestine. Eye witnesses testify that villages were deserted and large areas of land were left uncultivated.

In the 1860's the overwhelming majority of Jews were still a scattered people. The Jewish communities which existed in Hebron, Jerusalem, Tiberius and Safed were very small. The Ottoman Empire was not in favour of Jewish immigration to Palestine. (In 1882, in response to the growing number of Jews returning to their land, the Ottoman Empire issued a ban on Jewish settlement in Palestine). In the 1860's there was nothing to even hint that the Jews would soon be gathered to form a separate nation. At that time the following prophecy from Jeremiah seemed a distant dream.

## **A future gathering**

*“Therefore do not fear, O My servant Jacob,” says the LORD, ‘nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, and no one shall make him afraid. For I am with you,’ says the LORD, ‘to save you; though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished.”* Jeremiah 30: 10 – 11

Ryle lists this prophecy among those which point to a future gathering of Israel. He recognised that this was not fulfilled in the return from Babylon. Jacob has not had, in the last two and a half thousand years, a time of rest and quiet or a time when there was no one to make him afraid. As prophesied in Daniel chapter 11 after her return from Babylon she was caught in a pincer between the king of the North, Babylon and the king of the South, Egypt. Then came the Greeks, followed by the Romans, after which the Jews were scattered once more. The Lord in His righteous justice had to punish Jacob for her sin. The time when the Lord gives her rest in her own land was then and still is future.

## **Restoration**

The next supporting verse listed by Ryle contains a similar message. A time is coming when the Lord will restore Israel and from that time on will be their shepherd. *“Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd does his flock.* Jeremiah 31: 10. The gathering will be a testimony to the nations both near and far. The present day restoration of the Jews to their land stands as a testimony to God’s faithfulness and also a warning that a time of judgment on the nations is fast approaching. Judgment on the way nations treated Israel during her time in exile.

## **Restored**

Restoration to the land will be followed by restoration of Israel’s place in the purposes of God. The commission given to the Church to be witnesses to all nations is temporary. One day all the gentiles who are going to be saved will be saved. That number, known only to God, when fulfilled will end that commission. On that day Israel’s eyes will be opened to recognise their Messiah. This is confirmed in Ryle’s next supporting verses. *“For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The*

*Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;*  
Romans 11: 25 – 26.

Much of the Christian Church has become *'wise in their own opinion'* discarding the significance of Israel. In so doing they have reversed the teaching of Scripture. Gentiles have exalted themselves above the Jews, believing that to them alone was given the truth of salvation. According to the Bible, salvation is for the Jew first and then the Greek (Romans 1:16).

### **A time of trouble**

The salvation of Israel will not be easy. First will come a time of trouble which will cause them to cry out to the Lord. Even in the time of trouble God is watching over them. *"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; And there shall be a time of trouble, Such as never was since there was a nation, Even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book."* Daniel 12: 1. This time of trouble is the same as the sifting which is described in Amos 9: 9 – 10. That sifting will remove all the sinners and rebellious from Israel. All whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life will be brought through this time and be saved.

The outcome of God's dealing with Israel will be a people refined like pure silver and gold. *"And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "That two-thirds in it shall be cut off and die, But one-third shall be left in it: I will bring the one-third through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This is My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD is my God.' "* Zechariah 13: 8 – 9.

In Malachi the Lord says of Israel, *"They shall be Mine"* says the Lord of Hosts, *"On the day that I make them My jewels."* Malachi 3: 17.

### **The sovereignty of God**

The restoration of Israel and their conversion to faith in Christ is a sovereign act of God. It is not because of their merit but for His glory. In Ezekiel we read, *"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord God: "I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went."* Ezekiel 36: 22.

This verse is followed by a series of statements of what God will do for His name's sake.

*"I will sanctify My great name .....and the nations will know that I am Lord."*

*"I will .....gather you out of all countries and bring you into your own land."*

*"I will sprinkle clean water on you and you shall be clean"*

*"I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols"*

*"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you"*

*"I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."*

*"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes."*

*"Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God."*

*"I will deliver you from all your uncleanness."*

*"I will call for grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you."*

*"I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you will never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations."* (from Ezekiel 36: 23 – 30)

This is what God will do. It does not depend on human action. The Lord God determined that one day He would restore Israel. Because He has declared it, it is as good as having already happened. Why will it happen? It is for the sake of the Lord's Holy name. He is a God who keeps His word to all generations.

## Taiwan

As noted under the second woe, China is making preparations for the invasion of Taiwan. In response Christians are praying.

Pastor Yang who leads the *Taiwan Christian Alliance* has pastored and planted churches across the island. He says he's never seen the kind of unity now on display as churches across denominational lines join the initiative. "What's happening today is so rare, Every day, every week, I join pastors from other churches, other denominations, and we pray for our cities, for our nation for other countries. It's amazing, it's clearly God's doing. Unity will be the legacy of this movement."

"I believe something so simple is starting to have such a huge impact upon people in the church and also the people around the church," prominent church leader Gordon Huang told *CBN News*. He pastors one of Taiwan's best known congregations in a church that sits atop the iconic skyscraper known as Taipei 101 in the heart of the capital. He fears war with China is coming and wants Christians to be ready.

*CBN News* found Taiwan's church leaders united on one key point. They all believed prayer can make the difference between war and peace.

Source: [Vision.org.Au](http://Vision.org.Au)

## Biological Extermination

Prestige BioTech, a Nevada company fronting for parties in China, was caught operating an "unlicensed laboratory" in Reedley, California in March. State and Fresno County officers raided the facility, and the FBI and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have since been participating in the investigation

The lab was supposed to be producing COVID-19 and pregnancy tests, but the facility contained items inconsistent with that explanation. The seizures at the lab strongly suggest China's regime is preparing to spread diseases in America, undoubtedly in the months before a war.

"This kamikaze lab—unsecured, poorly contained, makeshift, containing a couple dozen pathogens near a population center—cannot be a one-off," Brandon Weichert, author of 'Biohacked: China's Race to Control Life', told Gatestone. "It is, I believe, a part of a large Chinese military operation to spread disease throughout the American population."

"The idea, apparently, is to inhibit Washington's response to a Chinese attack in Asia," said Weichert. "The lab near Fresno, I think, is just the first to be discovered. There must be many more Fresnos out there."

In all probability, it is from locations like this one where China will "fire the first shot" in the next war.

General Chi Haotian, when he was China's defense minister two decades ago, reportedly gave a secret speech advocating the extermination, by disease, of Americans. His plan was to clear out the hills, plains, and valleys of North America so that the Chinese people could settle in the vast spaces left uninhabited.

Since then, the mass murder of Americans has been a popular theme in Chinese society. The Communist Party, which tightly controls discourse in the People's Republic of China, permits and even encourages incitement to kill Americans. "We are ahead of schedule in terms of overtaking the United States," said prominent Chinese sociologist Li Yi in a public speech in late 2020, after talking about the devastation caused by COVID-19 to America. "There will be no problem reaching this goal in 2027. The U.S. will not survive." Then he added this, to make clear he was not merely making a prediction: "As long as we go to work every day, we will drive the U.S. to its death."

"The problem with the report of the Chi Haotian speech is that it cannot be verified," Richard Fisher of the International Assessment and Strategy Center told Gatestone. "When it was revealed in 2005, it seemed fantastical that China

would unleash biological warfare against the United States to massacre its population and pave the way for a Communist Party invasion, occupation, and exploitation."

Fisher points out Chinese "actions have given that report increasing credibility." He notes that the 2002 outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) may have been the result of a leak from a Chinese biological warfare laboratory, and the COVID-19 pandemic almost certainly originated from such a facility, the Wuhan Institute of Virology. Therefore, "the Chi Haotian speech reads more like a real warning."

Source Gordon Chang, The Gatestone Institute. 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

## **A Nation Debanked**

When Nigel Farage had his bank accounts closed it brought into the limelight the problems which many others faced. Any whose views don't coincide with the woke ideology of their bank or building society are in danger of having their accounts closed.

Individuals and organisations are not alone in suffering this anti-God agenda. Nations which do not fit the globalist programme are also in danger. The World Bank has cut off all new funding for Uganda, over a bill that outlaws homosexual child molestation, knowingly having sex with others while carrying the AIDS virus, and drugging or coercing vulnerable people into nonconsensual gay sex - - acts the bill describes as "aggravated homosexuality." Engaging in same sex relations is illegal in Uganda as it is in 30 of Africa's 54 nations.

To gain any further loans from the World Bank, Uganda has to come into alignment with the bank's ESG policies (Environmental, Social and Governance). The bank has stated that "inclusion and non-discrimination sit at the heart of our work around the world.

Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni compared secular-progressive bankers to "religious fundamentalist who are intolerant of other faiths". He also commented that "some of these imperialist actors are insufferable."

The World Bank and the United States have both imposed sanctions on Uganda over this law.

Uganda's Foreign Minister Okello Oryem challenged the consistency of this ruling. "There are many Middle East countries who do not tolerate homosexuals. They actually hang homosexuals." She also added that, "In the US many states have passed laws that are either against or restrict activities of homosexuality ...so why pick on Uganda?

## To win a war

In Trumpet Sounds 148 I reflected on the then on going protests against Israel's Government. The nation seemed to be tearing itself apart. Especially worrying was the refusal of IDF reservist to report for duty. Never before had the nation looked so divided and weak. Nations are not destroyed from outside but from within. Had Israel reached the point of self-destruction?

That has all changed. With the outbreak of war, those living in Israel report a new sense of unity and determination. The Hamas attack had been long in preparation. It seems likely that the internal divisions within Israel emboldened the terrorists to act out their plan.

Israel is now engaged in a war of survival. It is a war which it must win. Winning this war means destroying Hamas. That can only be done by fighting the war. In recent years Israel has, like much of the West, tried not fighting wars. It has made limited incursions to contain the enemy. But the enemy has not been defeated or gone away. Winning a war requires single minded determination and regrettably recognising that it is either them or us.

"The harder we push, the more Germans we kill. The more Germans we kill, the fewer of our men will be killed. Pushing harder means fewer casualties. I want you all to remember that," General George Patton told the Third Army.

Hamas is now fighting a war. Its objective as laid down in its charter is the destruction of Israel. If Israel does not fight this war, Hamas and its allies will win. (Yes, God has plans for Israel but the battles have to be fought. Moses understood this when he had to hold his hands up in prayer during the battle with Amalek. The Amalekites were, like Hamas, intent on Israel's destruction, Exodus 17: 8 - 13).

The more Hamas terrorists Israel kills the fewer Israeli casualties. That is how war works. Winning means destroying Hamas, its leaders, its terrorists and its supporters by any means necessary, and securing the territory they operated from so that it cannot be used to stage similar attacks.

Israel's war is a just war. It is in self defence against an enemy intent on destruction. It will also be conducted to the highest moral standards. In contrast its enemy puts no limits on its barbarity and the war crimes it commits.

Already world leaders are tying Israel's hands with regard to how they conduct their war against Hamas. When the numbers of casualties mount the world's media will be shouting their condemnation of Israel's tactics. The Media will believe the lies of Hamas in preference to the truth reported by Israel.

Pray for Israel. It must win.

## The Balm of Gilead

*"Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people."* Jeremiah 8: 22. The balm, with its healing properties, was made from the tree known scientifically as *Commiphora gileadensis*. The sap of the balm tree is released by cutting the bark.

For centuries there has been no balm in Gilead. The plant became extinct in the region in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. A while ago a German scientist smuggled a single shoot out of Saudi Arabia. Some plants were grown at the Botanical Garden in Jerusalem. The climate in Jerusalem proved too cold, so plants were sent to the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture at Kibbutz Ketura.

The centre provided plants to Guy Ehrlich who now has about 5000 balm trees on his 'Balm of Gilead' farm in the Jordan valley.

Even in Biblical times, the balm was incredibly rare growing only in the extreme heat and saline soil of the Dead Sea area.

In the Bible it is often referred to as balm. It was rare and very precious. When Jacob sent his sons back to Egypt he tells them to take with them a little balm as a present, (Genesis 43: 11). Trader from Judah took balm to sell in Tyre, (Ezekiel 27: 17). The balm remains both rare and precious today. A little 10 ml bottle costs \$525.00.

Also Ehrlich now cultivates around 60 rare biblical plants. These include, myrrh, frankincense, cinnamon and crocus. In particular he is re-cultivating the plants used in the preparation of the incense for the Temple. His trees have been certified by the Temple Institute for use in the Third Temple. They are making sure that the raw materials of the incense will be available when the Temple is rebuilt.

<https://www.balmofgileadfarm.com/>

**Web Site:** [www.trumpetsounds.net](http://www.trumpetsounds.net)

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