

## SIGNS OF CHRIST'S RETURN FULFILLED SINCE 1940

**Question:** How do you know the Bible is true?

**Question:** How do you know that Jesus Christ is the only true way to God and heaven?

**Answer:** Because the Bible is the only book in the world that accurately predicts the future. Anybody can write a religious book and claim that it is from God. But no man can predict the future in great detail with 100% accuracy as the Bible does.

The Bible contains hundreds of clear prophecies about Jesus Christ's first coming, every one of which came true.

The Bible also contains hundreds of clear predictions about events surrounding Jesus Christ's second coming. Many of these predictions have been fulfilled since 1940.

This leads us to conclude that Jesus Christ's second coming may be close.

God challenges all religions to prove that they are from God, by predicting future events:

'Show the things that are to come hereafter (in the future), that we may know that ye are gods.' Isaiah 41:23.

If a religion cannot accurately predict the future, then it is not from God but is false, manmade, and to be rejected.

**Challenge:** Consider how the Bible has successfully predicted these 20<sup>th</sup> Century events:

1. **Knowledge** shall increase in the time of the end:

'Seal the book to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.' (Daniel 12:4). The time of the end will see a definite increase in knowledge. The 20<sup>th</sup> Century has seen an enormous increase in man's knowledge because of so many scientific and technological advances. Inventions of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century showing this to be true include: electricity; electronics; computers; nuclear energy; space travel; satellite communications; telephone; internet; TV; jet travel; medical advances; radio and space telescopes; military technology; 'smart' bombs; many new chemical compounds; drugs to treat most diseases; motor cars, etc.

2. **Travel** shall increase in the time of the end:

'seal the book to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro. . .' (Daniel 12:4). The time of the end will see an increase in the number of people travelling to and fro around the world. With the invention of airplanes, cars, trains and ocean liners, travelling across the world at low cost is possible for most people. These inventions are unique to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Before 1900 very few people traveled outside their country. Have you traveled overseas?

3. **World population** shall greatly increase:

'The number of the army of the horsemen were 200 million.' (Revelation 9:16). This army will come from beyond the Euphrates River, possibly China, and will kill one third of mankind. Only 20<sup>th</sup> Century China has the ability to raise an army of 200 million soldiers. As of the year 2000, China's population is about 1.3 billion people. Never before could any nation raise an army this size.

4. **Wars and rumors of wars** shall increase.

'When ye hear of wars and rumors of wars, be ye not troubled, .... the end shall not be yet.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom . . . these are the beginning of sorrows.' (Mark 13:7,8).

Never have there been so many wars all over the world, involving so many nations. Some of the wars seen in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century include World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam, Cambodia, China/ Vietnam, Falklands, Ireland, Israel-Arab wars of 1947, 1956, 1967, 1973, Russian/ Afghanistan, Chechnya, Nicaragua, Angola, Iran/ Iraq, Iraq Gulf War 1991, Croatia 1991, Kosovo 1999, Cold War, many African wars, Afganistan/USA and terrorist wars. At least 20 major international wars have been fought this century.

5. **Earthquakes** shall increase.

'Earthquakes in divers (many) places.' (Matthew 24:7).

'there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great (v 18) . . . the cities of the nations fell (v 19) . . . the mountains were not found (v 20). (Revelation 16:18-20).

The year 1991 saw 15 earthquakes over 7.1. The Australian Seismic Centre in Canberra records about 100 earthquakes every day, 75% of these are of magnitude 3-4 on the Richter Scale, and 25% are greater than magnitude 4. Yes, earthquakes have always occurred but never so many daily and worldwide, causing such great damage as in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**6. Famines** shall increase. (Matthew 24:7).

The chief causes of famine are drought, flooding, plant diseases and war. About 800 million people are severely malnourished. Recently we have seen famines in Africa, North Korea, Biafra (1967-70 where 1 million Biafrans died), and Afghanistan.

**7. Pestilence and Diseases** shall increase. (Matthew 24:7).

Many fatal epidemic diseases have killed millions of people this century as viruses mutate into stronger varieties that are more resistant to treatment. Examples of modern diseases include: AIDS (30 million cases), Hepatitis, Syphilis, TB (3 million deaths per year), Malaria, Polio, Dysentery, Sleeping Sickness, Ebola, many tropical diseases, Typhoid, Cancer, Parkinson's, Mad Cow and Heart Disease. Old World Screw-worm disease can consume a whole cow in 5 to 7 days.

**8. False religions and deceivers** shall increase.

When Jesus was asked 'What shall be the sign of thy coming?' He replied:

'Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.' (Matthew 24:3-5).

Here we see that the first sign Jesus spoke of was religious deception by false Christs. Today we have so many false religions and religious deception that this prophecy has clearly been fulfilled. It is estimated that over 3000 cults exist in the world today. All these have a book other than the Bible as sole authority, a gospel of good works rather than Jesus Christ for salvation, and a founder other than Jesus Christ.

**9. Wickedness** will increase.

God says, 'I will punish the world for their evil'. (Isaiah 13:11).

The LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity.' (Isaiah 26:21).

After Jesus Christ has returned to earth, the Bible says,

'The inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.' (Isaiah 24:6).

Fourteen examples of modern wickedness include: witchcraft; murder of unborn babies; widespread drug addiction; violent movies; internet and magazine pornography; terrorist bombings; hostage taking; blowing up passenger planes; schoolyard massacres; genocide of Pol Pot killing 2 million people in Cambodia; Stalin starving 30 million Ukrainians in WWII; Communist persecution of minorities over 70 years; Hitler gassing 6 million Jews in WWII slave camps; widespread political bribery and corruption. Moral conditions today match those predicted in the last days in 2 Timothy 3:1-5.

'This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be:

- a) Lovers of their own selves
- b) Covetous (greed for money and power is everywhere)
- c) Boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents
- d) Unthankful – to God and others for blessings
- e) Unholy – people loving sin, and caring little about God
- f) Without natural affection – abortion is against a mother's natural love for her baby
- g) Trucebreakers, false accusers
- h) Incontinent – lacking sexual control
- i) Fierce – terrorists and brutal dictators
- j) Heady – given to intoxication by alcohol or drugs
- k) Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God – people prefer TV, sport, vacations, entertainment, rather than God, the Bible and Church.

God says of these. 'From such TURN AWAY.'

**10. The Number of Nations** shall increase by **gaining independence**.

'Behold the FIG TREE (Israel) and ALL THE TREES (many nations gaining independence); when they now shoot forth, ye see and know . . . that summer is near at hand. So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things come to pass, know that the Kingdom of God is near at hand.' (Luke 21:29-31).

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century has seen many nations gaining independence. Examples include many African countries, many Pacific Island countries, 12 former Soviet block countries with the breakup of the USSR, many former British Commonwealth countries and East Timor. The process is still continuing. The 'fig tree' budding refers to Israel gaining independence in May 1948 (Matthew 24:32,33; Joel 1:6,7), so do 'all the trees shooting forth' refer to many nations gaining independence this century.

**11. Europe will unite as a world power.**

After Babylon conquered Israel in 606 BC, the 'times of the Gentiles' began. God told the prophet Daniel that 4 great world empires would rise and fall before God's Kingdom

would be set up on earth. These four empires are Babylon (606-536 BC), Medo-Persia (536-330 BC), Greece (330-67 BC), Rome (67 BC -) and a final European power that would be like and rise from the earlier Roman Empire. The vision of these empires looked like a statue of a man. The vision is explained in Daniel 2:19-49 & represented as follows:

14.

When the European Union becomes a world power, Jesus Christ will return and set up His Kingdom on earth.

'in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed'. (Daniel 2:40-44).

A similar verse states that when Israel is built up as a world power, Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, will appear in His glory:

'When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.' (Psalm 102:16)

This European Union will, under a future President, known as the Antichrist, confirm a seven-year treaty with Israel. America's pro-Jewish position is pushing Palestinians towards Europe as a preferred peace broker. Western European nations have united under the Treaty of Rome (1957-58) thus setting up the European Economic Community (EEC). The Maastricht Treaty (1993) transformed the EEC into the European Union

(EU) creating European citizenship, with economic and monetary union. The Amsterdam Treaty (1997) integrated Central and Eastern Europe into the EU. The 15 member countries (370 million population) plan to expand to 25 countries (500 million people) by 2010AD. This would give a modern Revived Roman Empire as predicted in the Bible (Daniel 2:19-49).

Today, the European Union has a:

a) European Parliament, of 626 members from 15 countries.

b) European currency, the Euro as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 1999.

c) European army, known as NATO, with a membership of 28 European countries.

d) European President appointed by secret ballot of members of the Parliament.

Only the 20<sup>th</sup> century has seen all of Europe unite since 450 AD.

12. **Nuclear, chemical and biological weapons** of mass destruction shall be invented.

These fulfil a prediction that before Christ returns, man will discover the power to destroy the earth. One reason that Christ returns is to stop man destroying the earth.

'And should destroy them which destroy the earth' (Revelation 11:18).

'For then shall be great tribulation . . . and except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved.' (Matthew 24:21,22).

Up until 1945, man could not destroy the earth with weapons such as spears and swords.

Since 1945, with the invention of atomic and hydrogen bombs, entire cities can be destroyed in minutes. Scientists estimate that a major nuclear war could kill over 500 million people initially, but another 4 000 million people could starve to death in the next year due to nuclear winter. This would be caused by smoke from nuclear fires preventing sunlight from reaching the ground. Farming could stop and worldwide famine could result. Nuclear winter could also devastate the earth's ozone layer, permitting more harmful UV radiation to enter the earth.

(World Book Encyclopedia)

13. **Underground shelters** shall be invented.

'Every bondman and every free man hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains . . . from the wrath of the lamb'. (Revelation 6:15).

'They shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the Lord, when he arises to shake terribly the earth.' (Isaiah 2:19).

The Swiss Civil Defence Organization has built a 7 floor nuclear bomb shelter, deep in the Sonnenberg mountain, near Lucerne, able to house 22,000 people underground for 2 weeks. The aim is to provide nuclear shelter within 15 minutes walk for everyone in Switzerland by 2000AD.

The Australian 1980 Domestic Fallout Shelter Guide describes the construction and equipping of a private nuclear survival shelter. Two of the models pictured are:

14. **Missiles and missile launchers** shall be invented.

These are some of the weapons used by the 200 million man army coming from the East described in Revelation 9:17-19 as having 'tails like serpents (rocket exhaust) and heads that hurt (explosive warheads)'.

Rockets and missiles are a basic weapon of modern warfare. They were only developed in WWII. How was this known in 96 AD?

Examples include: a) The US 'MX' ICBM each contains 10 nuclear warheads.

b) Each of 30 US Trident submarines is 170 metres long, and carries 24 Trident missiles, each tipped with up to 17 nuclear warheads. This gives a total of up to 408 nuclear missiles per sub, enough to destroy more than 100 major cities in one blow.

15. **Satellite television** shall be invented.

This is described in Revelation 11:8-10 when people all over the world see the two witnesses' dead bodies lying in the streets of Jerusalem for 3½ days.

'They of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three and a half days.....' (Revelation 11:9). This is possible today by satellite TV.

16. **Telephones** shall be invented.

This was predicted 3500 years ago in 1500BC. God asked Job the question:

'Canst thou send lightnings (electricity), that they may go and say unto thee, "Here we are"?' (Job 38:35).

By dialing a phone number, you send an electric current down a line, which rings a bell on your friend's phone, so you can introduce yourself as 'It's John speaking here'.

12.

17. **Electronic fund transfer at point of sale (EFTPOS)** shall be invented.

Today, using your credit card you can purchase goods at most shops by inserting your card into a machine that electronically transfers money from your account to the shop's account as payment for goods purchased. The Bible predicts that a time will come

when people will receive a mark or a number known as '666' implanted in their right hand or forehead, as the method of buying and selling. This number '666' may well be

an 18 digit bank account number contained in a smart electronic chip implanted under the skin, which specifies every person's bank account in the world.

This system is already available today and is known as 'implantable biochip technology'. It is used to identify dogs and other animals.

How did the Bible know this in 96AD?

'And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads. And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, of the number of his name . . . the number of the beast . . . is 666.' (Revelation 13:16-18).

18. **Common 20<sup>th</sup> Century Sins** are predicted in Revelation 9:21.

After the 200 million man army kills 33% of mankind, the following is said of the people who survive this nightmare:

'Neither repented they of their murders (abortions and violence), nor of their sorceries (drugs), nor of their fornication (sex outside marriage), nor of their thefts (stealing).'

19. **20<sup>th</sup> Century Christendom** is accurately predicted as being

a) lukewarm, neither cold nor hot spiritually,

b) rich and increased with goods,

c) not knowing that it is wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked, that is, blind to its ....spiritual poverty. (Revelation 3:14-19), and

d) asleep: 'While the bridegroom (Christ) tarried, they all slumbered and slept'. (Matthew 25:5). This well describes most sleepy 20<sup>th</sup> Century churches where very few preachers tell people about the signs of Christ's return being fulfilled daily, the events of Christ's return, or how to be saved from hell. Many clergy prefer to entertain people rather than warn them to reject and separate from false doctrine. Many preachers are too scared to warn people about hell, God's judgment, or the tribulation to come on earth, in case they offend people. The current ecumenical movement of churches with false doctrines joining together will lead to a one-world religion that God describes as 'the great whore' in Revelation 17.

## **ISRAEL SIGNS**

19. God shall **re-establish the Nation of Israel** in their ancient homeland in the latter days:

'I will gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.' (Ezekiel 36:24). The 20<sup>th</sup> Century has seen the return of many Jews to the ancient land of Israel from all parts of the world, resulting in the reestablishment of the modern state of Israel, and its entry to the United Nations in May 1948. As of the year 2000AD there are about 6 million Jews in Israel.

God states through the prophet Ezekiel that Jews will return to their land in a condition of unbelief in Jesus Christ as their Messiah, but will later change their minds to receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Messiah when He returns to rescue them from the Antichrist's invading armies. The prophet Daniel (in Daniel 9:26) states that Israel's

Messiah at His first coming would be killed ('cut off'), then the Jewish temple and the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed (70AD). This proves Jesus Christ to be Israel's Messiah.

**21. Immigration of 1 million Jews from Russia to Israel.**

With the collapse of USSR and the Russian economy, many Russian Jews have left the financial hardships of Russia for a new life in modern, free, and prosperous Israel.

This fulfils another Bible prophecy where God says:

'Fear not; for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the **east** (Yemen, Arabia) and gather thee from the **west** (Europe, USA, Britain): I will say to the **north** (Russia) 'Give up'; and to the **south** (Ethiopia) 'Keep not back': bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.' ( Isaiah 43:5,6).

Since Israel's founding as a nation in May 1948, God has regathered many Jews from the East (Yemen, Arabia, Iraq, Iran), from the West (Europe since the WWII holocaust, Britain, USA), from the North (Russia and Eastern Europe), and from the South (Ethiopian Jews known as Falashas, and South Africa).

**22. Israel shall rebuild the waste cities and inhabit them.**

'I will multiply men among you, all the house of Israel, even all of it: and the cities shall be inhabited, and the wastes shall be builded.' (Ezekiel 36:11).

'I will settle you after your old estates' ( Ezekiel 36:10).

Today, all throughout Israel there is a massive building program of houses to accommodate 70,000 new Jewish immigrants per year. The Jerusalem Post, 2 May 1998: 'Israel will triple its built-up space by 2020 as it races past every other developed country in its rate of population growth'. This has been fulfilled in the last 20 years.

**23. Israel shall be tilled, planted and fruitful agriculturally.**

'For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and ye shall be tilled and sown.' (Ezekiel 36:9).

'I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field . . . (Ezekiel 36:30).

'The desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by'. 'And they shall say, this land that was desolate is become like the Garden of Eden' (Ezekiel 36:34,35). 'The desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose'. (Isaiah 35:1).

Today if you visit Israel, you will notice rose bushes everywhere, fruit trees, eucalypt trees and much tilled land cultivated as farms.

**24. Israel shall be militarily superior to Egypt.**

'And the land of Judah shall be a terror unto Egypt, every one that maketh mention thereof shall be afraid in himself.' (Isaiah 19:17).

How has this prediction been fulfilled? On four occasions Egypt declared war against Israel, and in each war Israel quickly and convincingly smashed the Egyptian military.

i) War of Independence: 29 November 1947-24 February 1949.

ii) The Sinai War: 29 October -5 November 1956.

iii) The Six Day War: 5-10 June 1967.

iv) The Yom Kippur War: 6-25 October 1973.

**25. Israel will be a land of unwallled villages.**

'I will go up to the land of unwallled villages' (Ezekiel 38:11).

The Bible predicted that a time would come when an invader would attack Israel, and Israel would dwell safely without the protection of city walls. How could this be? This appeared foolish to people living before 1500AD, because many major cities, towns and villages were protected from invaders by strong walls. However, with the invention of modern missiles, tanks, artillery and planes, walls offer no protection against invaders. No city today has walls for defense. How could the Bible predict this modern situation back in 590 BC? It is because God wrote the Bible.

**26. Jerusalem's East Gate will be shut.**

Today if you visit Jerusalem's East Gate or Golden Gate, you will notice that it is completely bricked up so that nobody may enter it. Jesus Christ, who is the God of Israel, entered it on a donkey on His way to be crucified. The prophet Ezekiel foretold: 'Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east and it was shut.

Then the LORD (*Jehovah the Father*) said unto me: 'this gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the LORD (*Jehovah the Son*), the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut.' (Ezekiel 44:1,2).

**27. Jerusalem will be a burdensome stone for all people.**

'In that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people.' (Zechariah 12:3)

This prediction has been fulfilled today because the Palestinian Muslim Arab conflict with Israel over Jerusalem will be a difficult if not impossible problem for mankind to solve. It will only be fully solved when Jesus Christ returns to earth.

28. God calls Yassar Arafat, the Palestinians and nations that claim Israel's high places as '**ours**' as 'the **enemy**.'

At a Fatah rally on 25 June 2000, Mr Arafat made threats of a renewed uprising, shouting, 'Palestine is ours, ours, ours ! We have a few weeks left ahead of us and at the end of it we will declare statehood . . . with its capital Jerusalem'. (ICEJ News 26 June 2000).

Ezekiel predicted 2600 years ago that Israel's neighbors would say these very words which Arafat said in June 2000:

'Thus saith the LORD God; Because the enemy hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are **ours** in possession (v 2); that ye might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers . . . (v 3)

which have appointed my land into their possession . . . with despiteful minds (v 5). Surely the heathen that are about you shall bear their shame'. (v 7). (Ezekiel 36:2,3,7).

Notice several predictions that have recently come true within this prophecy:

a) The ancient high places of Israel are Jerusalem, Hebron, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Golan Heights and others, all of which are claimed by Arafat as belonging to the Palestinians or Syria. (v 2).

b) The phrase 'the lips of talkers' well describes how the Palestinians seek to gain control of these ancient high places by 'negotiation' and by the 'peace process' where they claim control over this land in exchange for peace. (v 3).

c) The phrase 'with despiteful minds' perfectly describes the malice, cruelty and anger that Palestinians have for Israel as seen in the exploding car bombs and in educating Palestinian school children to hate Israel.

d) The phrase 'appointed my land into their possession' describes how Israel is being pressured by Clinton and Arafat to give up land that God says belongs to Israel.

29. **The Middle East Peace Process** shall be resolved by Europe, and not by America. 'And he (the European Antichrist) shall confirm the covenant (the Middle East peace agreement) with many (a term referring to Israel) for one week (a period shown earlier to be seven years:)' (Daniel 9:27).

This is being fulfilled in 2000AD as seen by the many failed efforts by President Clinton of the USA to mediate peace between Israel and the Palestinians. The Palestinians don't trust America as a neutral mediator because of America's unashamed and public support for Israel. The Palestinians are now turning more to Europe in the hope of gaining a favorable mediation with Israel.

30. God promises to **bless those nations that bless Israel** and **curse those nations that curse Israel**.

'Now the LORD had said unto Abram . . .

a) I will make of thee a great nation.

b) I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee.

c) in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.' (Genesis 12:1-3)

God gives three predictions here about Abram whom God used to found the Israelite nation in 2000 BC:

a) Israel today is a great nation in military and technological terms.

b) Nations (such as the USA) who have blessed and helped Israel have been blessed by God. God has truly blessed America as the world's greatest military, technological and economic power because of its support for Israel in aid and in UN votes. God has cursed those nations that have persecuted Israel, such as Germany, Russia and Iraq. Germany, while killing 6 million Jews in WWII experienced complete destruction of many of its cities by allied bombing. Russia, which has persecuted Jews during 72 years of Communism, has been cursed with a bankrupt economy. Iraq after firing missiles at Israel during the Gulf War of 1991 has been demoralized by losing the Gulf War and by being crippled by UN sanctions over the last 10 years.

c) All countries with a Biblical Christian heritage, freedoms, Constitution, government and legal system have been blessed by having a more peaceful society. The Gospel of Jesus Christ and enforcing of Bible legal values have brought this about.

31. '**No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper.**' (Isaiah 54:17).

This prediction has been fulfilled over the last 2700 years. This is seen by God protecting Israel from every weapon that man has invented to destroy her. This is a promise that God will protect Israel from being completely destroyed.

32. **'Every tongue that shall arise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn'** Isaiah 54:17. The first part of this prediction has been fulfilled by many nations in the United Nations Council Meetings arising to speak words of judgment and condemnation against Israel for defending the land that God has given her. Many nations in the UN have consistently voted against Israel. The only nations that vote in favor of Israel are the USA and some small Pacific Islands. The second part of this verse will be fulfilled in the Millennium after Christ returns when Israel, as the chief nation on earth, will condemn those nations that voted against her.

'The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might.' (Micah 7:16) .

'The nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.' (Isaiah 60:12).

33. **Many Muslim nations shall oppose Israel.**

The prophet Ezekiel predicted that in the latter years a group of nations would invade the regathered nation of Israel. These invading nations are stated in Ezekiel 38:5,6 as being:

- a) Persia, which today includes Iran and Iraq.
- b) Ethiopia, today including Ethiopia and Sudan.
- c) Libya
- d) Togarmah, which today is known as Turkey.

Each of these six nations today is strongly Muslim and anti-Israel. The Bible predicts that they will be led by Russia in their invasion of Israel, and that God will destroy these Muslim armies on the mountains of Israel by a great earthquake (38:19,20), by them fighting each other (38:21), by pestilence (maybe biological weapons v 22), by an overflowing rain (maybe a mudslide v 22), by great hailstones, and by fire and brimstone (maybe the same means that God used to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah).

It is interesting that these Muslim nations are all strongly allied to each other in their hatred of Israel. Many of them are already calling for a Jihad (holy war) against Israel. They surely will get a Jihad, but will be destroyed in the process, thus discovering that God is against Islam.

'Thus saith the Lord God: Behold I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee (ie fivesixths or 83% of the invading armies will be destroyed). (Ezekiel 39:1,2).

Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou and all thy bands, and the people that are with thee (v 4) . . . Thou shalt fall upon the open field; for I have spoken it, saith the Lord God'. (Ezekiel 39:1,2,4,5).

Israel will take seven years to burn the weapons (39:9), and will take seven months to bury all the dead army (39:11-14), so great will be the destruction.

34. This **destroyed army** will become a **tourist attraction**:

'it shall stop the noses of the passengers'. (Ezekiel 39:11).

You would expect Jews to make some money by turning this into an international tourist attraction, and you would expect many people from the West would want to go to see for themselves the destruction of the Russian and Muslim armies. Tourism is a big industry today, and the Bible predicts that tourists will come to see these destroyed armies.

35. **America, Britain and Saudi Arabia** will protest against this invasion, but will not intervene militarily to support Israel.

'Sheba and Dedan (Saudi Arabia), and the merchants of Tarshish (Britain and USA), with all the young lions (British Commonwealth countries) thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a great spoil? (Ezekiel 38:13)

Thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days.' (38:16).

Notice that these nations today are militarily aligned with each other into two camps as God predicted 2600 years ago. These events all happen AFTER Israel is back in their land, just as we see today. This shows that we are now living in the latter days, and just before Jesus Christ's return.

36. **Egypt and Jordan** are not mentioned as joining this Muslim invasion (Ezekiel 38:5,6).

It is interesting to note that both have a peace treaty with Israel. After Egypt started and lost four wars against Israel, we can understand their reluctance to try a fifth war.

37. **China and Japan as the Kings of the East**

(Revelation 16:12) are predicted to cross a dried up Euphrates River, possibly to take the Middle East oil fields to fill the power vacuum created after the Russian/Muslim armies are destroyed

(Revelation 9:13-16).

This army will number 200 million men and will kill one third of mankind.

'the number of the horsemen were 200 million (v 16); . . . and out of their mouths issued fire, and smoke and brimstone (v 17). By these three was the third part of men killed.' (Revelation 9:16-18).

Today, China and Japan are economic powers and are cooperating more closely in many areas. They have little or no oil reserves of their own and would be tempted to go to war to secure what oil remains amongst a threatened and dwindling world supply.

**38. Israel is now an Associate Member of the European Union.** (Daniel 9:27)

The *Jerusalem Post* has reported that on 1 June 2000, Israel formally became an Associate Member of the European Union (EU). This agreement was negotiated in 1995 and was ratified by each of the 15 nations of Europe and also by Israel's Knesset. The free trade element of this agreement has been in force since January 1996. This associate membership permits Israel to co-operate with Europe in financial services, energy, transport, tourism, telecommunications, energy, information and standards. Israel is now officially linked to the Revived Roman Empire. This associate membership of Israel with Europe establishes the relationship that Israel will have with the Antichrist who will be the President of the European Union. At the beginning of the seven years tribulation, the Antichrist 'shall confirm the covenant with many (Israel) for one week (the seven year tribulation).' (Daniel 9:27)

For Antichrist to confirm a covenant means that a covenant must already exist between Israel and Europe. This associate membership of Israel with the EU on 1 June 2000 was certainly a covenant with Europe, if not the covenant stated in Daniel 9:27. This move gives Europe the right to be involved in Israeli and Middle East affairs, which forms the basis for many other Bible prophecies being fulfilled about the Antichrist.

**39. Peace and Safety.**

A temporary 'Peace and Safety' exists in the world just before the seven year tribulation period starts. 'For when they shall say, peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them, . . . and they shall not escape.' (1 Thessalonians 5:3). Just before the seven years tribulation commences, people will describe the world situation as 'peace and safety'. This is exactly the situation that we are seeing the beginnings of right now.

- a) With the collapse of USSR and Communism, the world is enjoying the end of the Cold War, the arms race, and the nuclear threat.
- b) With the departure of Milosevic from Serbia, the Balkans look more peaceful.
- c) North and South Korea are now having peace talks. The USA is coming to agreement with North Korea about its missile program.
- d) There is more motivation to fix the Israeli/Palestinian problem.

The world seems to be on the brink of great peace. This is precisely what occurs just before the start of the seven years tribulation. In Revelation 6:1,2 the Antichrist from Europe comes to power on a white horse with a bow but no arrow, as a man of peace. He gains control of the world by bringing a temporary 'peace', and a temporary solution to the Palestinian/ Israeli conflict over Jerusalem.

**40. Passenger airplanes** will be **invented** before Jesus Christ returns. (Isaiah 60:8,9)

At the beginning of Christ's rule on earth, Israelites from all over the world will be regathered to the land of Israel.

The prophet Isaiah asked who they were whom he saw flying as a cloud, like doves to their lofts or windows. ('windows' in Hebrew means a 'pigeon house').

This is a clear reference to modern passenger jumbo jet air travel.

**'Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows? . . .**

the ships of Tarshish (USA) first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to His Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee (Israel)'. (Isaiah 60:8,9)

Today there are about 7 million Jews in New York, USA. Many of these Jews are very wealthy. New York could be said to be the financial capital of the world because of the New York Stock Exchange in Wall Street.

This prophecy contains several interesting predictive details:

- a) Today, air transport is by Jumbo jets, many of which are painted white like doves, and shaped like doves. By 1950, jet passenger planes were making daily non-stop flights across the Atlantic Ocean.
- b) Today, many Jews live in the USA (Tarshish), which is far away from Israel.
- c) Today, many American Jews are wealthy, as seen from them bringing their silver and gold with them back to Israel.