

# Assyria turned to the Lord

The seismic activity which accompanies Christ's arrival on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem - **Zechariah 14** - will cause widespread local destruction, including religious shrines, whether orthodox, catholic, protestant or Muslim - whether owned by Arabs, North Americans, Europeans or Russians. When foreign emissaries begin to make arrangements for repair and reconstruction, Christ's government will prohibit such work. Furthermore, all such properties will be removed from foreign ownership, and associated religious activities ordered to cease - **Micah 5**. The reaction to seeing their precious "holy places" being abolished will be to view Jesus as another middle-east religious fanatic trying to carve out his own Caliphate - and to make it an exclusively Israeli one to boot!

The international military response will not be long in coming, and the first may be from the Islamic State, suddenly re-invigorated by developments in Israel. Filled with outrage, the Caliphate in possession of northern Syria and Iraq - the territory of ancient Assyria - joined by other nations around Israel - see **Psalms 83** - will mount an invasion of the Promised Land. But the one of whom the prophet declared, *"Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel ... 5 And this man" - the Lord Jesus Christ - "shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men" - Micah 5:2*. Crushing their attackers, these "shepherds" and "principle men" - the new divine leaders of Israel, will lead the IDF to invade the territory of their invaders - **6** *"And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver us from the Assyrian, when he comes into our land, and when he treads within our borders" - Micah 5:2*.

The result of this invasion will be the fulfilment of **Ezekiel 28:25** *"Thus says the Lord God: 'When I have gathered the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered ... 26 they will dwell safely there ... yes, they will dwell securely, when I execute judgments on all those around them who despise them. Then they shall know that I am the LORD their God.'"* \*

\*They will accept Jesus Christ as the True Prophet of the One God of Israel, and will fulfil **Isaiah 19:24** *"In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land, 25 whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, 'Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance."*

It will be only after this that the next - and far more massive - invasion of Israel will be mounted, as described in **Ezekiel 38-39**. They *"will say, 'I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates' "* - **Ezekiel 38:11**.

The crushing of the Assyrian invasion will be by the same power which was used by the angel to control the elements - **Matthew 28:2** *"there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it."* Jesus promised that the faithful saints, being made like the angels, will be able to *"...say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says" Mark 11:23*. That required faith must be developed now, to be used in the future. We have seen from the books of **Joshua 10:11, 13, 42; Judges 5:21** and **Psalms 114** how the elements were brought into the battle against the Canaanites, with the use of the weather, hailstorms, heavy rain, lightning, and earthquakes. Against such power the puny mortal armies will collapse, and with them will be toppled mankind's monuments of pride and false worship - first in the Promised Land which they have invaded, and afterwards when the war is taken back to the invaders' homelands.