

PASSOVER

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It's Passover; what a glorious time of the year! Many Christians enjoy Christmas as their favorite holiday; however, I like Passover and the Easter Season. These past few days during Passover the Spirit of the Lord has been on me very strongly; more so than any previous Passover and I believe it's a sign – a sign that the Body of Christ is entering the Passover season of persecution and death that the Head of the Church went through 1977 years ago (April 3, 33 A.D. to be exact). It's only through persecution and death that we attain glory.

Although I've never been sent to Israel by the Lord, it is one of the three countries I receive the most revelation about – the other two being America and South Africa. I haven't been able to confirm it, but I understand that the current U.S. administration has refused to allow delivery of bunker busting bombs and other state of the art weapons that were approved for Israel under the Bush Administration. If this is true, then it is an indication that the USA is no longer going to guarantee Israel's safety.

Several years ago the Lord showed me that Binyamin Netanyahu would be elected Prime Minister of Israel once again (he was P.M. during the mid-'90s) because he was God's chosen man to stand against what the world, including the United States, would bring against Israel.

Against all odds he was elected and we are seeing the beginning of Israel's last friends in the West turn against her in favor of the Palestinians. I find it interesting that Netanyahu is the first and *only* prime minister who was born after Israel became a nation in 1948. He is only the ninth P.M. in Israel's short history and he understands the history and mindset of Muslim terrorists very well as both he and his elder brother {(who was commander of the Entebbe commando raid and was killed during this raid on July 4, 1976 (America's 200 year anniversary)} have fought against terrorists and the enemies of Israel. We need to pray for him because we seem to be entering the period of time prophesied in Ezekiel 38 and 39 when an alliance headed by Russia will move against Israel and there will be no one to stand with Israel save *Adonai* who will destroy these armies and be glorified because the whole world will know that He did it! I want to encourage you this Passover to set aside several hours to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Ps. 122:6), Israel and Mr. Netanyahu – he not only needs wisdom but also the courage to stand against all odds.

Passover, of course, is the greatest time of year for the nation of Israel as it is a reminder not only of God's power but also His saving grace. Of course Christians see Passover in a different light; we know that the Passover of Exodus was a *type* of the New Testament Lamb of God who died for the sins of the world and whose Blood, like the blood of the lamb in Exodus applied to the doorpost, applied to our hearts brings freedom from eternal death and the bondage of the world and the devil who controls it.

The more times I read through the Bible the more amazed I am at all the ways and times the Lord God reveals Himself to man through the Scriptures. Praise the Lord! And the Passover is one of the strongest Old Testament types of the only method of salvation – by

the Blood. It was only the blood of the lamb that kept the death angel at bay and it's only the Blood of the Lamb of God, given at Passover 1977 years ago tomorrow, that can keep us from eternal death in a Lake of Fire. I've never been taken to hell like Mary Baxter, Ted Eby and others but I've been to the Lake of Fire. The Lord took me there on Thanksgiving Day, 1989, while I was ministering at our church in Benin City, Nigeria. He awakened me at 3 in the morning and talked to me about some things and then took me there in the spirit. I could feel the *intense heat* from it as Jesus and I stood about 100 yards away on a small mountain looking down into the lake which was full of what looked like molten sulfur. The Lake was empty then but one day it will be full of screaming, suffering human beings along with the devil and his angels. What a terrifying day that will be!

But now it's Passover – a continuing sign from God to the world that there is still hope and still time to accept the Blood of the Lamb for one's sins and not spend eternity separated from God in this Lake of Fire. I pray that you will be about the Father's business as Jesus always was and get as many people saved this year as you can. Remember, one of the signs of Jesus' return was that the times would be like they were during the days of Noah.

Peter said of that time that God “patiently waited.” What was He waiting for? People to accept His salvation – His provided way of escape from death. Let's not get distracted by the cares of the world and the attacks of the enemy but let's set our faces like flint to finish the Great Commission that the Lord Jesus gave us to do.

God bless you! Everyone at CCI wishes you a blessed Passover and a wonderful celebration of our Lord's Resurrection this Sunday.

Maranatha