

WAR NO MORE

ISAIAH 2:4	Hosea 2:18	Micah 4:3
<p>And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.</p>	<p>And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.</p>	<p>And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.</p>

Since Vietnam, war and all its horrors, has entered into our living rooms. Americans have grown weary viewing Broadcasts of fighting; and especially, hearing the daily body count of soldiers being killed - mostly by suicide bombers. The 6 O'clock news is not the same, anymore.

The same media reports approval ratings of the President have fallen to an all time low. And, even when we hear that "Right Wing" commentators blast the "Left Wing Media" and its coverage of only the bad news, there still is a mounting cry for American to "Get out of Iraq."

While, it is difficult not to be affected from broadcast to broadcast - and, how we do love America, we are blessed to have a more sure word of prophetic truth, which presents a future of WAR NO MORE.

So, we buffer newscasts with God's word. Yet, even here, we must work hard to stay on the narrow way; to trust the Word only, and not follow every voice. In Matthew, Jesus said, "**...many will come in My name...and mislead many,**" (24:5). We must hear Jesus and His words, for He knows and speaks what will truly come. "**And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of war** (Iran, etc.) **...but the end is not yet**" (V 6), He went on to say.

WAR NO MORE is what American wants. But, before any part of the world can attain peace, God has to fulfill Isaiah 2:4, Hosea 2:18 and Micah 4:3.

And, to do that, the nation of Israel has to go through a lot; for, there can be no peace until it is first given to God's people, Israel. Peace begins with Israel.

Before they "beat swords into plowshares," the nations must be brought to the "Valley of Decision," as recorded in Joel 3. "I will gather all nations, and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat" (God judges).

The next words in the verse spell out what is to take place. "Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations," v 2.

Verse 12 restates God's call of all nations to the valley. Then, in verse 13, Joel takes us to the Second Coming of Christ by saying, "Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe." Joel refers to a "wine press," a term that is also used by John, the Revelator in Rev. 14:9, corresponding to the Second Coming.

In his words - "The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars lose their brightness," the prophet Joel, not only sets the scene for John, the Beloved, but for Jesus, as well.

In Matthew 25:29, Jesus states His discourse on the end of the world. "But, immediately after the tribulation of those days the SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL FROM the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

WAR NO MORE means that peace comes to earth when the Prince of Peace arrives. While, peace comes to Israel first, it is spiritually interesting - and wonderfully glorious, that Jesus was born from Israel.

Of all the promises God gave to the Fathers, the greatest of these was "the Seed of Abraham" (Gal 3:16); for all the promises lie in the Seed, and all of the promises came alive within Jesus (See Acts 13:33).

Do you remember how wonderful it was when we were given spiritual peace at the time of our salvation? As we bowed our hearts to Calvary's Lamb, the nations of the world will bow to the King of Glory, at His coming. Then, peace shall come to this old world and, not before.

Until His coming, we need to understand what truly is going on, in order to overcome the world and all its broadcasts. In His own words, Jesus instructs, "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on the earth" (Mt 10:34).

However, to His disciples He said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful," John 14:27.

No matter what occurs in the world, Jesus assures, "You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and will come to you.'" When He does come, everyone and everything will have a place. And, everyone and everything will be in its place.

At a place called Calvary, we found peace. At the "Valley of Decision," nations will plow the ground and, war no more. In Jerusalem, the King will reign and the Chief Shepherd's little flock will receive the kingdom from God Luke 12:32).

Thus, Paul's words to the Church at Philippi are easy to receive. "And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (4:7).

Let the world broadcast wars of the world. It is, with peace in our hearts, that there is WAR NO MORE.