# THE ANCIENT BOOK OF JOB AN 'END-TIMES 'PROPHECY

FORETOLD: COVID-19 ... & WHAT COMES NEXT!!

Consider for a moment **JOB Ch. 20**.

This entire chapter is a divine commentary concerning the universal traits of 'the wicked man'. Throughout the course of this chapter we have illustrated the flawed dealings and abject futility of the ways of 'the wicked'. The characteristics described are true whether applied on a personal, collective, national or even global level. Human nature (man) is inherently evil and corrupt.

Fast forward to verse 22 and we find a truly remarkable statement. A bizarre, almost 'paradoxical' statement that quite astonishingly appears to describe the unprecedented 'worldwide transformation' caused in recent months by the Coronavirus Global Pandemic (COVID-19). In fact, in just 11 words, the writer captures the full breadth of this sudden and traumatic 'plunge' into confusion and fear, endured by all mankind since the beginning of 2020.

### *In the <u>fulness</u> of his sufficiency . . . he shall be in straits*

When we examine this passage (and the precise language purposefully used by the divine author), we discover two corroborating 'time stamps' that appear to bookmark exactly when this peculiar event would take place.

<u>In the first phrase</u> ... "in the fulness of his sufficiency" pinpoints a specific time in history when man would reach the peak of his abundance, his pride and his self-aggrandisement. A time when man would have no reliance upon, nor need for God. This phrase perfectly describes the prosperity, the self-indulgence and the distraction of our 'pre-pandemic' societies in 2019 and represents a direct parallel to the days of Noah "they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day..."

This language used in verse 22 is also an unmistakable 'echo' of other biblical occasions that were, in like manner a prelude to imminent judgment and the divine re-ordering of man's affairs. Examples include:

- **Ezekiel 16v49** the pronouncement of Sodom's destruction was predicated upon its iniquity of "pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness".
- Romans 11v25 we're told that spiritual blindness will continue to afflict God's people Israel, "until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in".
- Galatians 4v4 ".. when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son"
- **Ephesians 1v10** " in the dispensation of <u>the fulness of</u> times he might gather together in one all things in Christ"

Each instance heralded a terminal interruption to the existing state of affairs of mankind, just as the COVID-19 pandemic has - in just a matter of days - brought all man's worldly pursuits and pleasures to a total standstill.

<u>In the second phrase</u> ... " *he shall be in straits*" seems to be a direct contradiction of the preceding words. As mankind reaches the very zenith of his achievements - wealthy, self-governing independent and proud - shockingly, he finds himself **in crisis**!! How can this be? In fact, if we examine the exact Hebrew definition of the phrase ' *in straits*' we find it has the following specific meaning:

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" in straits" - Strongs Concordance H3334 יצר yaîtsar yaw-tsar' A primitive root; to press (intransitively), that is, be narrow; figuratively be in distress: - be distressed, be narrow, be straitened (in straits), be vexed.
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It's quite literally the '<u>identical</u>' phrase and meaning found in the Olivet Prophecy of Luke 21v25 " ... and upon the earth 'distress' of nations, with perplexity" which speaks irrefutably of the tumultuous events of the last days.

Is this remarkable word placement just co-incidence? Of course, it is not. No more co-incidental than two distinct but equally powerful 'end-times' bookmarks being placed within this small handful of prophetic words. We know every word in the Bible has been meticulously chosen, preserved through the ages and purposed by the Father to be a perfect expression of His Divine will. There is nothing random, co-incidental or arbitrary in His Holy Word.

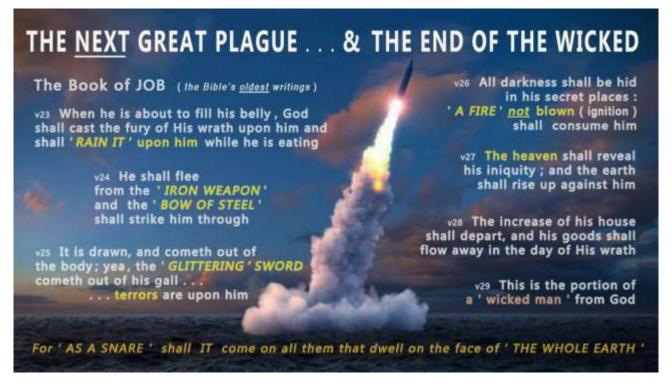
**So, what of 2020?** Could we be witnessing a parallel fulfilment to the 'Ten Plagues' of Egypt ... now being unleashed on the world? Since '*midnight*' Dec 31, 2019, mankind has been in a perpetual state of '*CRISIS*'. From the first known report of *Coronavirus*, the entire planet has been convulsing violently under a series of rolling global disasters. A virulent global pandemic; a forced worldwide lockdown; financial turmoil and distress; social unrest, rioting, lawlessness and anarchy witnessed *throughout the earth* in recent months. Are there more plagues coming? Where will this contagion of fear and chaos end? ... The book of Job provides the answer.

In Egypt, the ten plagues ended with the deliverance of God's people as they remained *protected in their homes* during the '*The Passover*'. We know also, God's coming judgments on the nations [2 Peter 3:7,10,12 / Isaiah 66:15-16] will be '*by FIRE*' and also '*by HIS SWORD*' (Russia). It may seem unimaginable, but Job reveals that despite the enormous scale and unprecedented nature of the recent Coronavirus Pandemic - this global calamity is merely a *pre-cursor* to a far greater, more deadly and catastrophic 'plague/pestilence' that <u>WILL</u> COME NEXT!!

**Does that sound like an overstatement ??** To dispel any doubt, we *then* consider the revealing words that follow in Job 20 v22 (and the verses beyond) where we are told in precise detail exactly 'WHAT' this coming 'man-made' pestilence/plague will be. Immediately <u>after</u> mankind finds himself in this global crisis, we're told:

v22 " . . . every hand of the wicked shall come upon him "

It is speaking of the 'outbreak of war' between the nations as 'every hand of the wicked' will be upon his fellow man. The remaining verses of Job 20 (vs 23-29) then provide a terrifying vision of events that follow:



While the use of weapons (like 'swords' and 'bows') would be entirely normal and consistent with the ancient times of Job, it is *only now* in the 21<sup>st</sup> century we can see how the masterful use of metaphors in this text was actually pointing forward *over 2,500 years* to modern hi-tech weaponry such as conventional and nuclear missiles.

The descriptive language employed leaves nothing to the imagination. The pictorial descriptions in these verses offer inescapable clues that can only have relevance to our day. As depicted over 25 centuries ago, these weapons are made out of '*iron*' and '*steel*'... each '*glittering*' and illuminated as they '*rain down*' out of the heavens upon their victims and consume them '*with fire*'. It is not a traditional fire (blown from embers) but a fire created by ignition. As '*the heavens reveal*' this man-made evil, the end for '*the wicked*' is devastation, as their homes, their families and their goods are '*consumed*' and '*the earth rises up*' (grave) to reclaim them ... in the day of God's wrath.

**Truly it is a fearful vision**. Yet it need NOT be so for 'the faithful in Christ'. There is great comfort and volumes of bible evidence to unreservedly prove that the saints will be safeguarded and protected throughout the duration of this long-prophesied 'time of trouble'. We cannot place our hope in the mistaken belief of a 'pre-tribulation' calling away.. a doctrine that **cannot** be found in God's Word. "We must through **much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God" therefore let us prepare mentally and spiritually to "endure to the end" as our Lord instructed us.

# We recommend a complete & thoughtful reading of the following articles : [CLICK the blue links]

#### 1) The Return of the Lord ... The need for Bible Truth

A detailed study on the long-held doctrine of the 'SECRET RETURN' of the Lord Jesus Christ. Principally based upon two biblical phrases "I come as a thief" & "the Day of the Lord" we provide evidence proving BOTH are deeply misunderstood & misapplied

#### 2) The Time of Trouble ... A Thematic Study

Comprehensively catalogues and examines the extensive array of bible passages that unmistakably 'PROVE' the Saints in Christ 'remain in the world' amid the final Time of Trouble & details the circumstances of 'the faithful' during the coming tribulations

## 3) Global Nuclear War ... & The 'Final' Passover (for the Household of Faith)

Written & published in **EARLY-2019** (many months 'before' the arrival of COVID-19 & the world-wide' lock-down') this treatise lays out the clear bible evidence detailing: All aspects of the coming Nuclear War; God's protection of His saints during the Time of Trouble (while in their dwellings / homes)... & their ultimate deliverance through an 'end-times Passover'.