Book of Joel Introduction

It has been said that any prophecy in the Bible, if we have the true interpretation, has to harmonize with other prophecies relating to the same subject. This is a basic principle of biblical interpretation. So if the literal interpretation of *Daniel* 11:36-45 is correct, there would have to be other prophecies that relate to, and harmonize with, the literal view of this passage.

Revelation 9, 11, and 16:12 are complementary with Daniel 11:36-45. Upon further study, we have discovered a prophecy in the book of Joel, that when paralleled with Revelation 9, Exodus 10, Psalm 91, and several other passages in the Bible, provides a vindication of the literal understanding of Daniel 11:45 that is irrefutable. This prophecy in Joel was never linked to the King of the North by our pioneers because they simply did not have enough information. It demands our study just now because it depicts final events of the greatest magnitude that have been overlooked because of the misinterpretation that the papacy is the King of the North.

The book of *Joel is* a prophecy of the soon-coming global jihad where Islam makes its bid to take the whole world for Allah, bringing untold death and devastation upon mankind. This scourge will continue until the sixth plague when Islam (the King of the North) will come to his end, precipitating the battle of Armageddon, and finally the Second Coming of Christ.

There are prophecies in *Isaiah*, *Jeremiah*, and Ezekiel that expound on the symbolic prophecy in *Joel and* the literal understanding of *Daniel* Chapter 11. These additional prophecies bring into focus the sequence of events that are about to transpire. They explain how <u>Islam will be the catalyst</u> that will quickly establish the image of the beast, bringing the Sunday law, the death decree, and the close of probation. <u>They show us what must happen before literal Israel is destroyed</u>, <u>and illustrate the destruction of spiritual Babylon</u>. They teach us the real purpose behind <u>Armageddon</u>, and reveal how God will deliver His people through it all.

We must always remember that the papacy is the main perpetrator behind all these terrible events and calamities that are coming on the earth. The papacy created Islam to be her battle axe and now God will use Islam to bring judgment upon the papacy and destruction to all the churches who corrupt themselves by idolatrous devotion to the service of the papacy.

So why would the papacy want Islam to make a bid to take the world for Allah? First of all, the papacy needs a catalyst to cause the world to accept the Sunday law, to compel all to come under her dominion, and finally to instigate the death decree against God's last day remnant. Satan himself, appearing as an Angel of Light, will declare that the little companies standing in defiance of the Sunday law are causing the terrible judgments to continue, and therefore, ought not to be tolerated. Also, the papacy knows that Islam is her major contender for control of the world, and therefore must be eliminated, but not until after it has done its work of death and destruction. Please notice the following inspired counsel;

The Roman Church is far-reaching in her plans and modes of operation. She is **employing every device** to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for **a fierce and determined conflict** to regain control of the world, to re-establish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done. *The Great Controversy*. pages 565-566

Stealthily and unsuspectedly she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends when the time shall come for her to strike. All that she desires is vantage-ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and shall feel what the purpose of the Roman element is. *Ibid*, page 581

The papacy has wanted Jerusalem for centuries but has never been able to obtain it without revealing her true character. How shrewd would it be for the papacy to coerce Islam into perpetrating a global jihad, beginning with the annihilation of Israel, and causing untold death and destruction throughout the world, including much of spiritual Babylon itself, to achieve her goal?

Political correctness, also initiated by Rome to blind the world to her devices, would be thrown out. Islam would be unmasked as the destroyer and exterminator that it is, and the whole world, led by **the United States and instigated by the papacy, would rise up and totally annihilate Islam**. The papacy doesn't care who she kills, and the global elite want to eliminate up to ninety percent of the population anyway. The

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papacy would, through it all, present herself as the savior of mankind, and come out on top with Jerusalem as her capital.

The papacy's plans ultimately backfire when the ten kingdoms of the New World Order turn on her. Her cup will be filled to her double.

Conversely, <u>God's true remnant also need an impetus for the Loud Cry to be sounded to the world</u>. Let's face it, we have been trying to give the last message of warning for a long time now, and very few are listening. When we have true revival and reformation in our own lives, God will turn around these very events that the papacy is using as a catalyst to promote her agenda, and use these events, depicted in Joel and *Daniel* 11:45, as the very means necessary to get all who are honest in heart to finally listen and realize we have the truth for this time.

If we can present this prophecy of *Joel* and *Daniel 11:45* to the world before it happens, first they will think we are crazy, (they already do anyway) but then when they see it come to pass, they will wake up and realize we have the truth: and then we can share with them the information they need to avoid the mark of the beast and to receive the seal of God, just as probation is closing.

The book of *Joel* describes the terrible destruction, loss of life, and almost universal devastation coming upon the Earth just prior to the close of probation, and continuing through the plagues. But thank God, *Joel also* gives the remedy and the assurance to all who truly repent of their sins of being gathered in and protected during this very trying time. By comparing passages from *Joel* with *Revelation* 9, *Exodus* 10, *Psalm* 91, and *Daniel* 11:45, we will prove that the resurrection of the Caliphate in Islam is the resurgence of the King of the North, bringing it very rapidly to the status of a world contender. And it is this power, when it declares global jihad that will bring the third woe upon the world.

We will now look at statements by Ellen White where she refers to the book of *Joel*, and links this prophecy with several others, <u>placing it in the context of the time of trouble leading up to the sealing and the close of probation</u>, and continuing on through the <u>plagues</u>;

Angels are now restraining the winds of strife, that they may not blow until the world shall be warned of its coming doom; but a storm is gathering, ready to burst upon the earth; and when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, there will be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.

The Bible, and the Bible only, gives a correct view of these things. Here are revealed the great final scenes in the history of our world, events that already are casting their shadows before, the sound of their approach causing the earth to tremble and men's hearts to fail them for fear. "Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof. . . . They have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate. . . . The mirth of tabrets ceaseth, the noise of them that rejoice endeth, the joy of the harp ceaseth." Isaiah 24:1-18.

"Alas for the day! for the day of the Lord is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. . . The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate." "The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men." **Joel 1:15-18, 12**.

"I am pained at my very heart; . . . I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled." "I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down." Jeremiah 4:19, 20, 23-26. [Jeremiah 4:6 also says; "Set up the standard

"Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." **Jeremiah 30:7**.

toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction."]

"Come, My people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast." **Isaiah 26:20**.

"Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, Even the Most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, Neither shall any plague come night hy dwelling." **Psalm 91:9, 10**. *Education,* pages 179-181

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In the plague that follows, power is given to the sun "to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat." Verses 8, 9. The prophets thus describe the condition of the earth at this fearful time: "The land mourneth; . . . because the harvest of the field is perished. . . . All the trees of the field are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men." "The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate. . . . How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture. . . . The rivers of water are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness." "The songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord God: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence." Joel 1:10-12, 17-20; Amos 8:3. The Great Controversy, page 628

Elder A.T. Jones also makes a very interesting comment in connection with the book of *Joel*. He did not have enough information to tie the prophecy in *Joel with* the King of the North because in his day Turkey was "the sick man of the east". But today, as we watch the Muslim Brotherhood causing all the uprisings in the Middle East in their quest to resurrect the Ottoman Empire and reestablish the Caliphate, the connection between *Joel* and the King of the North becomes crystal clear. We will confirm this again and again as we go through the prophecy.

In his book, Elder Jones parallels the destruction of the Roman Empire "by the mighty armies of the peoples of the north" when the beast (the papacy) was formed, to the "utter ruin of the world, by the mighty armies of another people" (the King of the North) when the Image of the Beast is formed. He refers to it this way;

The result, to the Roman Empire, of the making of the Beast in the Roman Empire, and by the Roman Empire, was the utter ruin of that empire. This ruin was accomplished by the mighty armies of the peoples of the north marching forth under the first four of the Seven Trumpets. And the result, to the world, of the making of the Image of the Beast, and the worship of the Beast and his Image, in the world and by the world, will be the utter ruin of the world, by the mighty armies of another people marching forth under the sounding of the Seventh Trumpet, accompanied by the mighty notes of "the last trump." And concerning this, it is written: [Joel 2:1-11 quoted]. A.T. Jones, The Great Nations of Today, page 202.