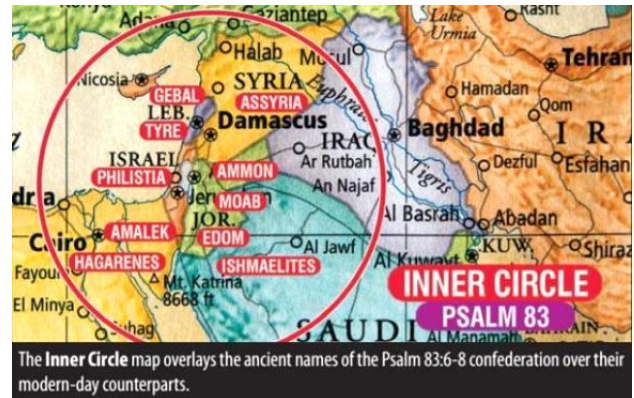
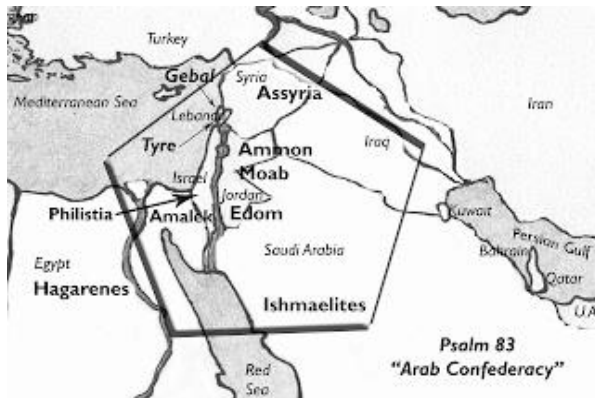


PSALMS CHAPTER 83

A Passionate Appeal and an Arab Confederacy



This is a map showing all the tribes and nations involved in the Arab Confederacy described in **Psalm 83**.

Introduction

Now we will look at **the parallel prophecy to Ezekiel Chapter 32**, found in **Psalm 83**. **This Psalm describes exactly the same confederacy of nations that will be formed against Israel**. We know this is yet future, as there is no historical evidence that all those nations were ever confederated together against Israel at any one time.

This prophecy will not only have a literal fulfillment, but is a word picture to illustrate an amazing fact. It shows us that the odds against literal Israel's survival are astronomical. They are so far outnumbered by their enemies that it is incredible in the extreme that they still exist, and yet they do exist because God's appointed time for their total destruction is not yet.

It is the same for the true remnant of spiritual Israel. The enemies bent on our demise are legion. We are surrounded and so vastly outnumbered it is incredible. Literal Israel will be finally destroyed because of their apostasy, but the true remnant will not only survive, but go on to victory because God's protecting hand is over them. We should pause and consider just how much we owe to our Lord for our very existence every day.

As we go through the prophecy, we should keep in mind that this is not only a forecast of what is about to happen so we can know the season in which we live, but that **it should be our passionate appeal to our Lord every day**. It is a plea for protection and for the conversion of all who are honest in heart to the true God, whether they be Jewish, or Muslim, or whatever religion they profess.

Vs 3-4 Remember the Charter of Hamas which was published in 1988. The preamble of the Charter quotes Imam Hassan al-Banna who said: "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it."

Article 13 of the Charter says: "There is no solution to the Palestinian problem except by Jihad. The initiatives, proposals and International Conferences are but a waste of time, an exercise in futility."

On April 1, 2006, Hamas Foreign Minister Mahmoud Zahar said: "I dream of hanging a huge map of the world on the wall at my Gaza home which does not show Israel on it."

Satan's plans to destroy Israel are being brought to fruition. He wants "to cut them off from being a nation" so he can seat himself on the throne of the world, in the person of the papacy, at Jerusalem.

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Satan also wants to cut off the last remaining part of God's true church. He knows that if he can accomplish this he would win the controversy. But, thank God, we serve a Master who has already gained the victory for us. Satan should read the last page of the book.

For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: *Psalm 83:5*

We are watching this confederation of nations being formed against Israel, and the world, right before our eyes, but no one seems to realize what is really going on. Soon, very soon, the Caliphate will be reinstated and the time of trouble such as never was will begin. The whole Christian world is on the verge of annihilation, but they are asleep and will not wake up until it is too late to escape the snare.

In verses 6-11 the Psalmist names every nation that Ezekiel delineated in his prophecy with the possible exception of Iran. But then, Assyria may have extended into that region, and if so, then the two lists of nations are identical.

The tabernacles of **Edom**, and the **Ishmaelites**; of **Moab**, and the **Hagarenes**; **Gebal**, and **Ammon**, and **Amalek**; the **Philistines** with the inhabitants of **Tyre**; **Assur** also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah. *Psalm 83:6-8*

Some of the names of the nations are different here because the Psalmist wrote at a different period in time. Some nations were overthrown amid the wars and conflicts of the ages, and when regions were conquered sometimes they were given different names.

Edom encompassed what is today Jordan and part of Saudi Arabia. The Ishmaelites lived south and east of Edom in Saudi Arabia and possibly up into what is now Iraq. Moab was just north of Edom where today we see Jordan, it also extended into Saudi Arabia, and perhaps the western corner of Iraq.

3
Next we have the **Hagarenes**. This is the only place in Scripture the name is used. It is derived from Hagar, the mother of Ishmael. She was an Egyptian slave, so this brings Egypt into the picture, and remember **ancient Egypt extended into what is now Libya and Sudan.**

Gebal was an ancient city in what **is now Lebanon**. **Ammon** lay just **north of Moab where today we find the northern part of Jordan, western Iraq, possibly the northern tip of Saudi Arabia, the southern edge of Syria, and possibly eastern Lebanon.**

The **Amalekites** were a race of giants who inhabited an area in **the south of Israel, extending into the northeast corner of Egypt, and possibly up into what is now the Gaza strip**. The **Philistines** dwelt in the area that is **now Gaza**. **Tyre** is an ancient city and today lies within **the domains of Lebanon**.

Assur lay north of Israel and today would encompass mainly Syria, northern Iraq, southern Turkey, and possibly extending into western Iran.

This completes the list of nations, and as we compare them with the list of Ezekiel Chapter 32, we find they are identical. This cannot be a mere coincidence. They are parallel prophecies and must be studied together to get the full picture. Assur is said to "have holpen (or helped) the children of Lot". The children of Lot were Moab and Ammon. All of these nations were at one time or another the mortal enemies of Israel, but never were they all confederated together to work out their nefarious plan of extermination until now. **As we watch the fulfillment of this prophecy we need to discern the workings of the Mystery of Iniquity behind the literal scenes portrayed.**

Soon all the forces of evil will be confederated together to exterminate the remnant. Our only hope is in God. Do we truly have the faith that He can protect us in such a time as this? The prophecies are designed to fully establish our faith as we see them fulfilled.

Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am [he]. *John 13:19*

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Behold, I have told you before. *Matthew 24:25*

Vs 9-10: Next the Psalmist pleads with God to send judgments upon Israel's enemies in a solemn appeal that the Lord will destroy those who are hardened in sin and wickedness, and reveal Himself as the true God of heaven.

Do unto them as [unto] the Midianites; as [to] Sisera, as [to] Jabin, at the brook of Kison: [Which] perished at Endor: they became [as] dung for the earth. *Psalm 83:9, 10*

This is a reference to Gideon's miraculous victory over the Midianites; one of the most glorious victories in the history of Israel. The defeat of Jabin's armies and the death of Sisera at the hands of Deborah was another miracle of God to the glory of His name.

Apparently we don't have enough information to be sure about the meaning of verse 10. But when Saul went to the witch of Endor, he and most of his army perished the next day in battle. He had turned from following the Lord, and perished and "became as dung for the earth". David immediately took the throne of Israel which is symbolic of the eternal kingdom of God.

Vs 11-12: Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna: Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession. *Psalm 83:11, 12*

Oreb and Zeeb were princes of Midian slain by Gideon's army. Zebah and Zalmunna were kings of Midian slain in the same battle. Over and over the Psalmist reminds God of how He worked miracles for the deliverance of Israel when it seemed that their doom was certain.

These battles are typical of the way God will deliver His people in the time of trouble. Every day we need to plead with God that He will work the same kinds of miracles for His people today.

4 **Satan used the Midianites to try to destroy Israel and possess their land. Today he is trying to destroy the remnant, so he can possess the whole earth. We should continually plead with God for victory so that we may be a part of His eternal kingdom.**

Vs 13-14: O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind. As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire; *Psalm 83:13, 14*

The prayer here is that all the enemies of God's people may be driven away as a tumbleweed is driven before a strong wind.

Next he asks God to consume them even as a piece of wood is consumed by the fire and reduced to ashes and as the dry vegetation on the mountains is totally consumed by a wildfire.

This applies to us as well as to them. We should pray that God would consume the impenitent wicked along with Satan and all his host, so that righteousness might prevail.

Vs 15: So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm. *Psalm 83:15*

We will compare this verse with *Psalm 35:4-7*;

Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt. Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase [them]. Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them. For without cause have they hid for me their net [in] a pit, [which] without cause they have digged for my soul. *Psalm 35:4-7*

Satan has always tried to persecute and destroy God's people without a cause, other than we are made in God's own image.

We are not to take vengeance on our enemies, but we should pray for "the angel of the Lord" to vindicate His people.

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Vs 16: Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD. *Psalm 83:16*

Confusion and shame always show on the face. The Psalmist does not want his enemies to suffer unnecessarily, but that through judgments brought upon them they may turn to the true God and live. True humiliation results in submission to God's will.

Vs 17: Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish: *Psalm 83:17*

Many times in the history of the children of Israel, God caused the leaders in rebellion to perish, either by a plague, or they were ordered to be put to death by the sword. The Lord did this so those who were not hardened in sin would realize there is a God in heaven who will not tolerate sin, but will be merciful to the sinner. This was designed to lead the penitent to turn to God in sincerity and truth.

Vs 18: That [men] may know that thou, whose name alone [is] JEHOVAH, [art] the most high over all the earth. *Psalm 83:18*

This is a plea to God that the enemies of Israel may come to the knowledge of the true Lord of Heaven and be made to know that He alone is the Most High over all the earth.

This is the reason that God brings judgments upon people and nations. Jesus wants to save every soul that can possibly be saved. The vast majority today will be lost, but Jesus will leave nothing undone to save as many as possible, even if it means that millions must perish in order to save a humble few.

I am sure there are many, even among the Islamic nations who are basically humble and honest at heart. Many, many people are honestly deceived.

Severe judgments are soon to be brought upon the nations, - earthquakes, volcanoes, fires, tempests, disasters by sea and land, pestilence, famine, political strife, - and through it all, war will rage. Jesus will use all these calamities to wake up and call out a people who will turn to Him in the last moments of probationary time.

In the prophecies we have just studied, Jesus has given us a word picture, a symbolic representation, of what is to be. As we watch the literal events escalating to their culmination, we can know where we are in the stream of time.

We serve a wonderful, all knowing, and almighty Lord. His ways are mysterious, and infinitely beyond our understanding. Let us praise His Holy name and pray for the deliverance of all His children.

Jesus is coming to take us home. Let us prepare our hearts to meet Him in peace as we watch the end approaching.

[I Will Stand Upon My Watch - Habakkuk's Tables](#)