

THE NATIONS IN BIBLICAL PROPHECY

GLORIA COPELAND AND BILLYE BRIM

DAY 1 – WATCH THE FIG TREE

The disciples asked Jesus two questions (Matthew 24:1-3): 1. When will the Temple be destroyed? 2. What will be the sign of His return and the end of the age? His answer surprised them.

STUDY IT

- Jesus answered that we should watch the fig tree because it represents Israel (Joel 1:7).
 - Watch the other trees—they represent other nations (Luke 21:29).
 - Nations talked about in the Old Testament include: Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Russia, old Roman Empire (including Europe) and Persia (Iran).
- The generation that sees the fig tree bud, or sees prophecy begin to become reality, will see the coming of the Lord and the end of the age (Luke 21:30-33).
- History from God's point of view – See Chart #1 – *Seven-Day Chart*.
 - One day to the Lord is as a thousand years (2 Peter 3:8).
 - The first 2,000 years were the Days of Chaos.
 - The next 2,000 years were the Days of the Torah (Law).
 - On the fourth day, the Messiah came.
 - The next 2,000 years are the Church Age or Latter Days.
 - At the end of six days or 6,000 years, Adam's lease on the earth is finished.

Additional scriptures: Revelation 22:7, 12, 17, 20; 2 Chronicles 2:1; Ezra 5:12, 6:15-17;
1 Samuel 2:10; Isaiah 9:6-7; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Psalm 90:4; Ezekiel 38, 39

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Daily Declaration:

Even without the stability of nations, my trust is in the Lord who, according to Psalm 91, promises to take care of me!



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DAY 2 – THE NATIONS IN BIBLICAL PROPHECY

We are instructed to “watch the trees”—Israel and the nations—for signs that the end of the age is near. We are studying the history of Iran and its place in future prophecy.

STUDY IT

- All of mankind descended from Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, including the nation of Iran (Genesis 9:18-19).
 - Iran was called Persia or Elam until 1935.
- Noah carried a precious treasure on the ark—mankind and the knowledge of God.
- Even though God had delivered man and showed Himself to be powerful, within a few generations sin and rebellion against God became prevalent.
 - Sin robs man of righteousness (Genesis 6:11 - *Chumash*).
 - There is a progression to sin:
 1. Sin is done in private.
 2. Sin becomes a habit.
 3. People lose the shame of sinning.
 4. The behavior of sin becomes accepted—even required normal behavior.
- We are watching prophecy being fulfilled. It’s a time to be fearless and full of faith.

Additional scriptures: Luke 21:29-33; Genesis 3:8, 6:5-12; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Acts 10:34; Genesis 15:13-16, 1:28, 5:25-29; 2 Peter 2:5; 2 Corinthians 5:7

MAKE IT PERSONAL

What steps should you take to mature in your Christian life? _____



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DAY 3 – DESTINY OF NATIONS

When Noah and his family left the Ark they had a tremendous respect for God and His ways. God promised Noah and his sons that He would never again destroy the planet with water and that there would be perpetual seedtime and harvest. God gave Noah and his sons THE BLESSING (Genesis 9:1).

STUDY IT

- Noah's oldest son, Shem, had a son named Elam, who with his family became a tribe and built cities. That's the beginning of the Persian Empire—Iran (Genesis 10:22).
- Noah's descendants rebelled against God's command to go out and fill the earth. They all spoke the same language. They determined to build a tower to escape any further judgment from God (Genesis 11:1-9).
- The leader of man's rebellion against God was Nimrod, grandson of Noah's second son, Ham.
- Nimrod pulled men's allegiance from God to himself. He ruled Babylon, then established the city of Nineveh in Assyria.
 - The current name of Nineveh is Mosul which is in modern-day Iraq.
 - In 2015 the group ISIL announced their intention to destroy the wall of Nineveh and plundered artifacts from the Mosul Museum.

Additional scriptures: Luke 21:29-33; Jude 6; Ephesians 5:27;
Genesis 6:8, 1:28, 8:22, 10:1-32, 12:1-3; 2 Peter 3:1-2

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Prayer to be saved and to become a child of God:

Almighty God in heaven, I believe that Jesus died on the cross, thereby taking the punishment for my sin, and that You raised Him from the dead. Jesus, come into my heart—save me and make me a child of God. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other languages. I praise You and thank You in Jesus' Name, Amen.



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DAY 4 – ABRAHAM’S SEPARATION

There are 10 generations from Noah to Abraham—in which time the people were already rebelling against God. This study is about the nation of Iran that originated from Shem, Noah’s son.

STUDY IT

- God chose Abraham and his descendants to be the keepers of the knowledge of God (Romans 9:4-5).
 - Abraham was blessed of God in wisdom and natural possessions (Genesis 13:2).
 - Abraham’s nephew Lot chose to move to the city of Sodom (Genesis 13:10-11).
 - In the first recorded war, four kings attacked five kings and their city-states, including Sodom. One of the four kings was king of Elam (Iran). They took hostages, one of which was Lot (Genesis 14:1-12).
 - Abraham took 318 of his servants, chased the enemy and rescued Lot (Genesis 14:14-16).
 - Melchizedek, who was a priest of God, met Abraham coming back in victory and blessed him. Abraham gave the priest tithes of all (Genesis 14:18-20).
- The Jews will triumph because they have a covenant with God.

Additional scriptures: Luke 21:29-33; Genesis 10:22, 11:1-32, 12:1-3, 13:5, 8, 14:1-24; Ezekiel 38, 39; Hebrews 7:8; 1 Peter 2:24

MAKE IT PERSONAL

You have a covenant with God! Write how you can keep the relationship with God fresh every day of your life: _____



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DAY 5 - KEEPERS OF TIME

Studying Iran is an illustration of how to watch the nations through biblical history. Today we see how THE BLESSING will bring increase to our lives and give us opportunities to be a witness of the greatness of God.

STUDY IT

- God gave the responsibility of keeping time to the Jewish people.
 - The Passover holiday was instituted when the Jews were released from Egypt. The death angel was instructed to pass over each house that had a lamb's blood on the top and sides of the doors (Exodus 12:2, 13).
- God gave His people THE BLESSING (Deuteronomy 28:1-14). The meaning of *blessing* is *increase*.
- We should be walking in so much blessing, that God's favor is obvious to others who are watching (Deuteronomy 28:10).
 - See attached Map #1 – *The Three-Leaved Trade Depiction*.
- The Jews have come home to the land of Israel, and they are in place to be blessed more than in the past (Deuteronomy 30:9).
- God spoke to Daniel in visions and dreams and showed him the rise and fall of empires, and times to come.

Additional scriptures: Romans 9:4; Acts 1:4, 2:1-4; Hebrews 13:8; Leviticus 23;
Galatians 3:16; Deuteronomy 28-29-30; Romans 11:29;
Daniel 1-6, 7:5; Matthew 2:1-2; Galatians 3:13

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Partner, we expect blessings in your life. [Click here to share your testimony](#), or [contact us on Facebook](#).

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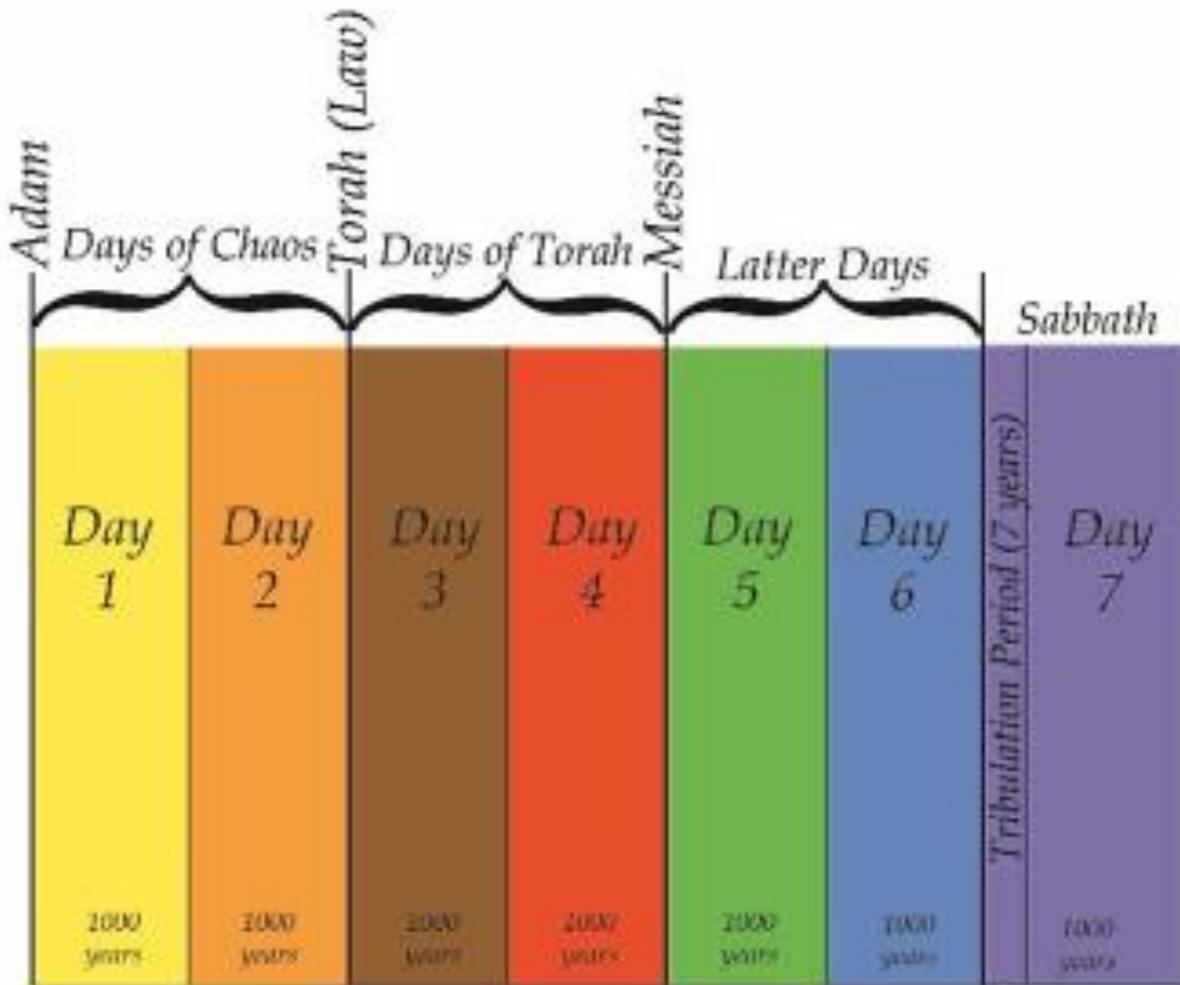
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MAPS, DRAWINGS AND PICTURES

DAY 1 - WATCH THE FIG TREE

Chart #1 - Seven-Day Chart.





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MAPS, DRAWINGS AND PICTURES

DAY 5 - KEEPERS OF TIME

Map #1 – *The Three-Leaved Trade Depiction.*

