In spite of the obvious number of quacks trying to use the Bible to make prophetic predictions, the Bible is very clear based on what is written there {not on the false dreams and false visions of false prophets} on the Future of the Middle East. Long ago in the book of Moses called Deuteronomy, God forever gave us advice on how to tell the difference between a true prophet and a false prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-22), the message being essentially as to the nature of the prophetic prediction {never forget that prophesy as well defined in the Bible as a current message and a prediction, please see “ProphesyAndPrediction”} that if the prediction does not come true like in the recent case of the California Preacher who predicted the end of the world on May 22, 2011; and now some of the smarter people want their money back, then it is a false prophesy from a false prophet. Granted, as we have found in our 3 year study of the book of Jeremiah, that God’s people of Judah and Jerusalem had forgotten this lesson of the 5 books of Moses, generally called the law, in spite of the so-called revival {really reformation} under King Josiah where the book of the law {called in II Kings “the book of the covenant”} was discovered hidden in the basement of the temple and read to the people2 (II Kings 22,23); for all the official prophets of the days of Jeremiah {included kings Josiah, Jehoikim, and Zedekiah, Jeremiah 1:2,3} were practicing deceit and delay with their own self-generated dreams and visions (Jeremiah 23, See “Dreamers of Deceit and Delay”).

33-1: The US Presently has almost as many calamities as the countries of the Middle East, only of a different kind as God, the only LORD of the Universe, {and also who self revealed Himself in the Bible as first the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, then the God of the nation of Israel, and then in the continued nature of progressive revelation in the Prophets as “The LORD of hosts”3, that is as LORD God also of the Gentiles}, has many ways to express His “Cup of Fury” on people and nations.

1 “...when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken, the prophet has spoken it presumptuously, you shall not be afraid of him.” (Deut. 18:23)
2 See “Democrats [Manasseh] versus Republicans [Josiah]”.
3 You might say that before these, and in the first verses of the first book of the Bible, Genesis, He is revealed as the only LORD God of Creation, the Lord of the Universe.
Hopefully with a short look at Jeremiah 25:15-38, Joel 3:1-17, Joel 2:28-32, Acts 2:14-21, and Revelation 19:11-21, and Revelation 20:7-10, and Zechariah 14 we can begin to see the different kinds and ways of calamities that God sends against states, peoples, and nations. As a preview of coming attractions, and you should be familiar with these kinds of calamities, from previous studies in Jeremiah, there are the calamities of the first kind, where God brings chastisement on His own people, sometimes in milder form like the plague of locusts in the book of Joel or much more drastic form as in the captivity and destruction of Jerusalem and Judah of both the book of Jeremiah, Joel {163 years ahead of time}, and other Prophetic books of the Bible; calamities of the second kind which like a woman in travail to give birth continue in history, and world-wide, sort of like on automatic control as the old earth passes away to give room for the new earth. The third kind of calamity, on the wicked only, is like when God rained down fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, because not even on righteous person could be found.

NOTE: As a preface to short look at some Scriptures of the “last things” (end times or eschatology\(^4\)), let it be said emphatically that you only know half about the Lord God of hosts, the LORD God of Creation {Father of the Lord Jesus Christ and originator of the Bible}, if you know only a God of love and blessings. You can pretty well be assured also that the Pope of today is a false prophet as he is telling people that if anything bad is happening in the world, it can not be from God; and while it is what people want to hear all over the world, it is a lie as compared to many sound doctrines of the Scriptures.\(^5\) And even as Idolatry was the prime wickedness of the destroyed people of God of Jerusalem and Judah during the time of Jeremiah, so creating an image of God in our own minds that eliminates God’s “Cup of Fury” is also idolatry, also the climatic sin of the Moral Majority {“You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?”}.

1. Since Joel is better known, (1) especially because of the Joel 2:28-32 quote by the Apostle Peter as recorded in Acts 2:14-21, (2) also because of its obvious clarity in a clear definition of the “great and notable day of the LORD”; and (3) the simple reading of Joel itself, just letting the Bible say what the Bible wants to say, in the total context defines types and kinds of calamities.

\(^4\) Are you accustomed to these braces, { }, of the writings of SunGrist_Bible and http://biblecombibleman.com? The reason is that the human brain is a multi-tasker far beyond the capabilities of any computer, thanks to the grace of God in our Creation. The brain does not think linearly down a single path of sequence in time, but it goes easily everywhere thinking many related thoughts.

\(^5\) Later we will come to how the man of sin of Revelation 19:20 {there called false prophet}, in II Thessalonians 2:3,4 called “son of perdition” or “the man of sin”--"who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing Himself that he is God"--the short horn in Daniel; so that with all we can learn of these, the man of sin of II Thessalonians, which along with the Falling Away are the final two signs before the Second Coming of Christ and the gathering of the saints off the earth {falsely called a rapture, which is not a biblical word}, and since we had many reasons to think that Osama Bin Ladin was that man of sin, also the leaders in Iran, Gaza, and of Hisballah in Lebanon, all this gives us reason to think that the man of sin are really many, each one of these that just after the destruction of Jerusalem are only “prototypes” of the total.
a. Something Joel and Peter do for us is to acknowledge that even as there are several kinds of calamities, there are several kinds of “the day of the LORD”—in Joel 2: and Acts 2:20, the end time day of the LORD is “the great and notable day of the LORD—and you can see this obviously implies other days of the LORD, which are reinforced as such in other of the Prophets. In Zechariah 14:1 and the following description of that “Behold, the day of the LORD is coming”, this day is the same as the great and notable day of the Lord of Joel and Acts plus the day of the LORD when God destroyed Jerusalem and Judah, obvious because of the reference in Zechariah 14:2 and Zechariah 14:3.

b. The more immediate calamity and judgment on Jerusalem.

“For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem...half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city.” (Zechariah 14:2)

c. "Then” (Zechariah 14:3) the LORD God fights against, yes that is the exact wording of the Bible and it is not figurative or to be taken lightly, all the nations of the world. You just realize that there is a large gap in time between verse 2 and verse 3; that the “then” is an extremely long period of time, say close to the time marker of a thousand years of Revelation 20.

“Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle, and in THAT DAY His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives.” (Zechariah 14:3)

2. Good ole Jeremiah (in Jeremiah 25), made a Prophet to the Nations by the LORD God of hosts, the Lord of Creation, identifies specifically these nations of the Middle East that will in the future be victims of God's Cup of Fury, of the great and notable day of the LORD, and of these calamities of the second kind.

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6 Obviously this remnant is Judah of the restoration that came back to Jerusalem after Persian Captivity for 70 years, and obviously not that remnant which after the destruction of Jerusalem, a rag tag remnant of military leaders and troops and others who had fled before destruction and captivity, gathering at Mispah during the days Nebuchadnezzar had appointed Gedaliah as Governor, but who were destroyed in Egypt because of their refusal to denounce Idolatry.

7 By the way why are Bible quotes shown in bold green and NOTES in bold blue, because these are primarily what you should go away with after your reading. Look and listen carefully at all these false prophets while they will claim Scriptures for support, they do not specifically nail down where that support is. Often they take one loosely connected verse, and “go everywhere preaching”. Even the most respected of false prophets today, like in San Antonio, so mix up personal opinions, Scoffield, and unconnected Bible quotes that you are lost in their presentations, quite often diverted like by a magician with their charts and superficial timelines.
"For thus says the LORD God of Israel \{you want to know which God has the power to terminate these warring countries of the Middle East that surround Israel, just as He terminated Jerusalem earlier; yes, the LORD God of Israel which is incidentally the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the author of the Bible, the LORD of Creation and the Universe, the only one true God\} to me: \{here comes the words from God Himself\} 'Take this wine cup of fury from My hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send you, to drink it. And they will drink and stagger and go mad because of the sword that I will send among them. \{You see that is not clear whether they "stagger and go mad" before the sword comes, and in anticipation of the sword, or when the sword and fury of God actually come on the great and notable day of the LORD\} Then I took the cup from the LORD's hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the LORD had sent me: \{it is not clear how Jeremiah made these nations drink, we would suspect it was by writing the book of Jeremiah for the Bible\}

Now, starting with Jerusalem and Judah, comes the list of nations in the Middle East to be personally destroyed:

"Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, its kings and its princes, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse, as it is this day; Pharaoh king of Egypt, his servants, his princes, and all his people; all the mixed multitude, all the kings of the land of Uz, all the kings of the land of the Philistines (namely, Ashkelon, Gaza, Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod); Edom, Moah, and the people of Ammon; all the kings of Tyre, all the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the coast lands which are across the sea; Dedan, Tema, Buz, and all who are in the fartherest corners; all the kings of Arabia and all the kings of the mixed multitude who dwell in the desert; all the kings of Zimri, all the kings of Elam, and all the kings of the Medes; all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another; and all the kingdoms of the world which are on the face of the earth." (Jeremiah 25:5-26)
NOTE: Once again it has been thousands of years, or at least 587 plus 2011 years, or 2597 years, between the destruction of Jerusalem and Judah, that the destruction of all the other countries in the Middle East and the world; but the time lag again does not bother the Lord God of the Universe to whom one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day! You see, the important thing is that the JUDGEMENT of God has already been passed, recorded in the Bible concretely and easy to understand, awaiting the final fulfillment when the countries of the Middle East come against Jerusalem for destruction, assisted by many other countries of the world, seemingly the only exclusion according to Revelation 20:8,9 is the “camp of the saints”, which surely we must consider to be the US and the UK, the best saints or Christians the world has to offer these days.

33-2: It is obvious from the context of Revelation 20:7-10 that “the nations of the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog”, and as numerous as the sands of the sea, include nations that already hate Israel like the Arabs and Muslims of the Middle East {recall that in Jeremiah 25 above they are specifically named}, but is an army that goes against Jerusalem for destruction that is much larger than the countries of the Middle East.

NOTE: It is obvious that the hate of Arabs and Muslims for the Jewish people’s occupation of Palestine is not enough to make the whole world except the camp of the saints come against Jerusalem for the final battle of “the Valley of Jehosaphat” (Joel 3:2).  

There is always speculation, especially among the false prophets of Scofield notoriety, about what brings all these nations together, one being the need for the oil in the region which the Evangelist Hyman Appleman made famous; but since we already see the hatred and need for destruction by the Muslims that already surround Jerusalem, then hatred of the Jews is the most likely cause coupled with legal claims of Palestinians, now all over the world, who have legitimate claims on the land.  However, Revelation 20:7-10 gives us the most basic cause of this numberless army assembling to come against Jerusalem and the camp of the saints.

8 The Valley of Jehosaphat is called “Armageddon” in Revelation 16:12-16, a very familiar word made famous in literature and movies as the end battle of all time, which indeed according to the Bible it is. The same as the hill of Megiddo where king Josiah was killed, leading the Republican army in a battle against Pharaoh Necho of Egypt although God had warned him not to do so. (See II Chronicles 35:20-27)

9 Later we must also discuss these twin legitimate claims on the land by both the Jews and the Palestinians, then resolve in our own minds as God did for us in Joel 3 that it is “My land”, “My people {we must also explain at some point as Paul does in Romans the enlarged people of God of Jews and Gentiles, and how God became more than the God of Israel in that He became the Lord of hosts}, and “My heritage”.


1. It happens during the Falling Away of all nations, as the Holy Spirit is withdrawn from this earth, which in turn releases Satan from bondage. Revelation 20:7 in its often figurative language, like all apoplectic literature meant to allow a select few to understand but not the enemies of God and Christianity, calls this release of bondage of Satan “from his prison”.

   a. According to II Thessalonians 2:6,7 it is the Holy Spirit that restrains on this work the opposing work of Satan, that is by “convicting the world of sin, or righteousness, and of judgment” (John 16:8-11) the Holy Spirit since the first day of Pentecost after the Ascension of Christ has restricted (not completely for we know how Satan goes about as a lion to seek whom he may devour, Satan is only “restrained” by the work of the Holy Spirit) the work of Satan to bring all the nations of the world under the bondage of “The LIE”. (See an introduction to the Idolatry of the LIE under that subject and from Romans 1:25) Satan has a lot of children already in the world, many more each day among the Muslims as they substitute the real God of the Universe for “Allah”; but when the Holy Spirit withdrawal allows Satan freerer access to the nations of the world to dominate them along with the many prototypes of the man of sin, then “the coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, sings, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved”. (II Thessalonians 2:9,10)

   b. THE RISING TIDE OF THE MYSTERY OF LAWLESSNESS AND SIN (II Thessalonians 2:7): you can see how the lawless terrorism of radical Muslims does today contribute so largely to this worldwide increase in rebellion, revolution, murder, bombing, and terrorism called by the Apostle Paul, who was already in the first century looking at the countries of the Middle East around him, “the mystery of lawlessness already at work” (II Thessalonians 2:7).10

2. Now, we should never exclude the United States, Canada, and the UK, and a few other countries that may be considered as Christians, and as the “camp of the saints” to be free of this rising tide of the mystery of sin and lawlessness.

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10 So much of these awesome protests and overthrow of governments in the Middle East--Tunisia, Libya, Algeria earlier, Egypt, Syria, and others, to mention a few--among what one would call the Arab and Muslim countries, many of which have deep seated hatred of Israel and the United States {we are told that even in Pakistan where we have sent missiles, nuclear bombs, F-16s and related weapons like the laser guided bombs, approximately 6 out of 10 citizens hate the United States, and even in moderate Arab nations like Saudi Arabia there is deep seated resentment of Israel, the only real democracy of the Middle East}. In short, it is easily foreseeable that in the very near future all the Arab and Muslim countries will naturally be part of that large army that comes against Jerusalem and the camp of the saints.
a. It is this rising tide of the mystery of lawlessness and sin that has led America and the rest of the world into the great apostasy called in the Bible “the Falling Away”, one of the only two signs before the end along with a visual on the “man of sin” {really the man of sin is actually a prototype of many national and otherwise leaders who pretend to be God and stand in some temple as such11}.

b. You will notice that it is only “a camp of saints” not a whole nation.

c. Surely you have noticed the peak in sin and unrighteousness in America during the last approximately 40 years as homosexuality has become more and more accepted, as educators and government leaders practice deceit, greed, and personal profit, as in states, cities, and the nation, we hear of one after another of sin and lawlessness. Sometimes it makes us think that the Holy Spirit has already been withdrawn from this earth, the many men of “the man of sin” are already here and surrounding Jerusalem, and that we are certainly in the fourth stage--“the turning away from truth” of the five stage Falling Away of II Timothy 4:3,4. If you have not noticed that, then please notice the intense series of calamities God has brought on America since 911, obviously either a calamity of the first kind on God's people in favor of more righteousness; or a calamity of the second kind that ends this old earth, as the intensity of such calamities like earthquakes increase until the Second Coming of Christ.


NOTE: While you are going off on all these tangents of doomsday in 2012, or the past one on May 22,2011, and the doomsday movie, and Astrodomes, and the Mayan Calendar, why not gives priority to the Word of God?

11 In fact one way you can know that “the man of sin” has already appeared in history is because of the number of world leaders that can now meet the definitions of: (1) “opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God” or that is worshipped the way the one God of the Bible and of the Lord Jesus Christ; (2) sits in the temple as God in the temple of God--idolatry and blasphemy even if called Mohammedanism or Muslimism; (3) and claiming to be God--:showing himself that he is God. All you have to do is look around the world, including in our nation, to see all those who either claim to be God, or have the habit of acting like a God. Please do not wait for these two signs, the Falling Away and a visual on the man of sin, so that you are caught unawares at the Second Coming which ends every thing in favor of a new earth of a new people of God, since the signs are already here in the world news in spite of the many efforts of Satan and false prophets to present you with deceit and delay.
1. According to the Apostle Peter, and the Prophet Joel which he quoted, in Acts 2:14-17, the Coming of the Holy Spirit in great power on the first day of Pentecost after the Ascension of Jesus, was the beginning of “the last days”, same as the beginning time of the binding of Satan for over two thousand years, called in the figurative language of the book of Revelation, “a thousand years” or “the thousand years”, but never one thousand years as Scofield and the fundamentalists in control of the SBC claim. The almost end of the last days is when the Holy Spirit is withdrawn from earth, releasing Satan to deceive all nations during the Falling Away, also the peaking and peak of the rising tide of the mystery of lawlessness and sin {how could our nation get any worse on national sin and unrighteousness, the neglect of God, and the widespread attempts in churches and otherwise to subordinate God to a corner; and since Satan is released for only a “little while” {of course this is in comparison to a thousand years}, then the last days will be offer as God and Christ come to rescue Jerusalem from the large worldwide army of destruction led by Satan and men of sin.

2. According to this same passage of the Apostle Peter and the Prophet Joel, the last days naturally end on that “great and notable day of the LORD” (Acts 2:20)

3. During that figurative “thousand years” of the last days, which of course started out with the coming of the Holy Spirit in great power and glory {and also from Peter and Joel}, first prophesy becomes more democratic 12{twice it mentions the democratic nature of “prophesy” in Acts 2:17 and Acts 2:18}, and then during the long period of the last days God “will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath” {surely you recognize this as tornados and hurricanes above, and wildfires and drought and earthquakes beneath}; “blood and fire and vapor of smoke” {surely you have see these in the news and increasingly although those interviewed after tornados like in Joplin, seldom recognize these as signs of cal am ties from God}.

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12 Just the fact that predictions of prophesy have recently come from professionals instead of from regular church members, that is the office of the democratic prophets of Ephesians 4:11, should give you cause to pause in the rush to follow and believe these false and professional prophets that are doing such for profit and status. Have we not learned anything from all the official false prophets of Jeremiah? (Jeremiah 23:9-40)
4. These signs of kinds of calamities—in the sky and in the earth, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke—continue all during the “last days” until what happens just “Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD”, culminating immediately before this Second Coming of Christ\(^\text{13}\) with the sun turned into darkness and the moon into blood.\(^\text{14}\) (Acts 2:20).


   a. The “wine cup of fury” of judgment on all nations, staring with Jerusalem and Judah, and then in “THEN TIME” coming to all nations, comes from God Himself, so that no Pope, no liberal, nor fundamentalists, nor popular preacher and prophet can deny God as the obvious source of calamities, whether of the first or second kind, whether of the great and notable day of the LORD or a lesser day of judgment and chastisement from God Himself. (25:15)

   b. “as it is this day” (25:18): Jerusalem is “a desolation, an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse”—all from God.

   c. This “wine cup of fury” from God is also called in 25:16 and 25:27 “a sword that I will send among them”, according to the Word of God, also “calamity” and a sword in 25:29.

   "For behold, I begin to bring calamity on the city which is called by My name, and should you be utterly unpunished? {all the other nations of the world} You shall not be unpunished, for I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth,’ says the LORD of hosts.” (Jeremiah 25:29)

   d. This Bible usage, usage by God Himself, of “sword” as the means of calamity is echoed from Jeremiah 25:29 to Revelation 19:11-16.

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\(^{13}\) As progressive revelation goes through the OT and into the NT the day of the LORD of the OT becomes the day of the LORD and Lord, for the Lord Jesus Christ, of the New Testament.

\(^{14}\) Granted sometimes, like in Zechariah 14:6-7, it seems like a lesser one day of the LORD than that great and notable day of the LORD is being mentioned; however, you may fail to notice how quickly in going from Zechariah 14:2, the captivity and destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C. to Zechariah 14:9--"And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be--The LORD is one,’ and His name one, you might miss the transition from calamities of the first kind to the larger calamity at the end of Zechariah 14:3, “Then the LORD will go forth and fight against these nations.”, recalling the large time gap of THEN as in previous Scriptures.
“And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress (see the similarity to the wine of the cup of fury of Jeremiah 25) of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.” (Revelation 19:14,15)

NOTE: Now if God does not have that other half to His character and personality, as revealed in the Bible and in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ, why then would the poured wine of the cup of fury include FIERCENESS and WRATH, dear deceived pope. Perhaps, we should pause for a moment to view one peak of Bible revelation on the wrath of God, in II Peter 3:9 from the Apostle Peter.

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But THE DAY OF THE LORD will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” (II Peter 3:10)

NOTE: would you call these calamities of the heavens disappear with a great noise and elements melting with fervent heat as a “blessing” or a “curse”, as a calamity of the first or second kind, as just a day of the LORD or the great and notable day of the LORD and Lord Jesus Christ? This calamity of destruction gets the whole earth and those material “works” that you have spend your life working so hard for!

“Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of person ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of THE DAY OF GOD, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?” (II Peter 3:11)
Now, in all sincerity, let me ask you, Honestly do you think Paul, and the Word of God through Paul, would try to scare us into readiness for that day if Christians and church members would not be part of the final destruction of this earth. Granted, according to Matthew 24:40-42\textsuperscript{15}, they will taken up shortly before the final burning up of the earth, and in order to get them away from this final destruction, but the signs of blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke—the signs in the heavens above and the earth beneath—will be the destiny of Christians, regardless of these false prophets teachings on a “rapture” (not even a literal Bible word although generated and propagated by the fundamentalists that claim to be so literal on the Bible, in reality they are more literal on the Scofield Notes added to the Bible). Add to this biblical fact that rapture per se is never mentioned in the Bible; that almost all references in the NT to the last events also mention the Second Coming of Christ; and then all to all this the consistent tenor, tone, and message of the Bible that all comes to an end only at the Second Coming of Christ, and that this comes shortly after the ultimate calamities, especially the greatest earthquake in Jerusalem, and just after the sun is darkened and the light of the moon diminished.

e. And yes, that great and notable day of the LORD and Lord, at the Second Coming of Christ is a day of good news and blessing for the saved, it is only that those Christians and church members alive at that time, must first pass though the signs in the heavens above and the earth beneath, the blood and fire and vapor of smoke (sorry, in spite of how the fundamentalists are trying to deceive you out of the final tribulation with the rescue of a false rapture before the Second Coming of Christ).

“Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.” (II Peter 3:13)

And sorry, so much more remains to be presented on this subject, even all the early Scripture references on eschatology have not been covered by exegesis, so that you must be referred to the most current index on Bible Studies in Jeremiah and Prophesy, and related indexes on the same subject.

1. “Jeremiah and Prophesy III”.

\textsuperscript{15} By famous by the fiction rapture based on fiction of Tim LeHaye, co-founder of the Moral Majority with Charles Stanley, and Jerry Falwell, and author of LEFT BEHIND, rated by TV as the number one in popularity doomsday movie; and based on a distortion of Matthew 24:40-42: “Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.” Now reason for a moment, when is the moment of the Lord’s coming, at the same time that two men or women are taken from their daily choirs.
2. “Advanced Studies in Jeremiah and Prophesy”.