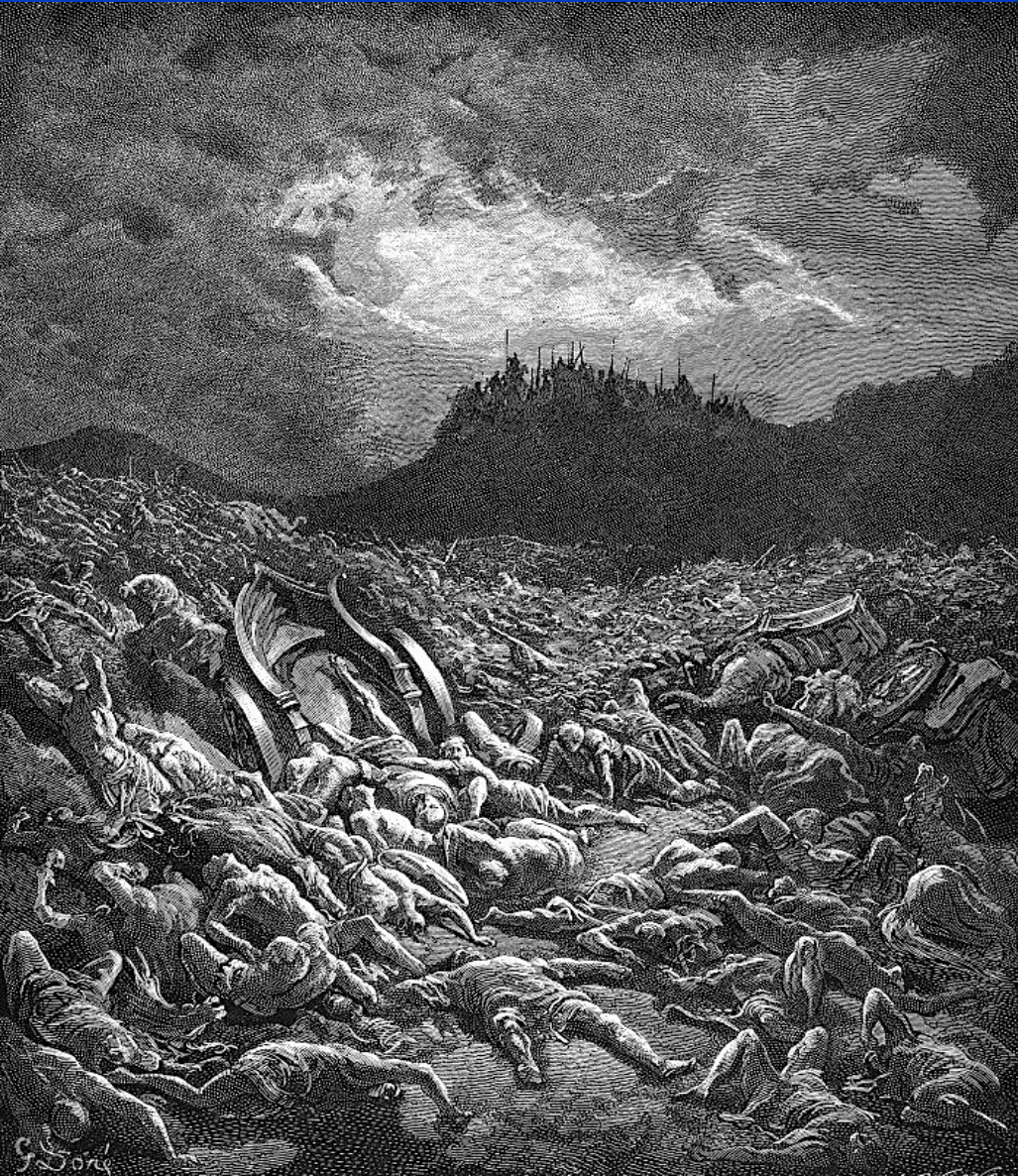


GOD'S WRATH ON MOAB AND AMON




- Amon + Moab = Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- That area's population is descended from Lot
- Edom also a "blood relative" of Israel
- Blood relations are no guarantee of family harmony
- Luke 14:26

THE DESTRUCTION OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH



- Zephaniah 2:8 Has happened, and will happen again!
- Moab and Amon reproached and reviled Israel
- Israel does NOT own the Holy Land: God does
- Taking someone's territory is typical for tyrants
- But, to take Israel's territory is to take from God
- Zephaniah 2:9 Nettles and salt pits

SODOM AND THE DEAD SEA

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- ***Charul*** = stinging nettle, only found in wastelands
 - Although Lot escaped, the fate that befell Sodom and Gomorrah followed him
 - Whatever nation or nations claim the Trans-Jordan has no future... that land belongs to Israel
 - Zephaniah 2:10 “they reviled and boasted against the people of Yehoveh Tzva’ot”

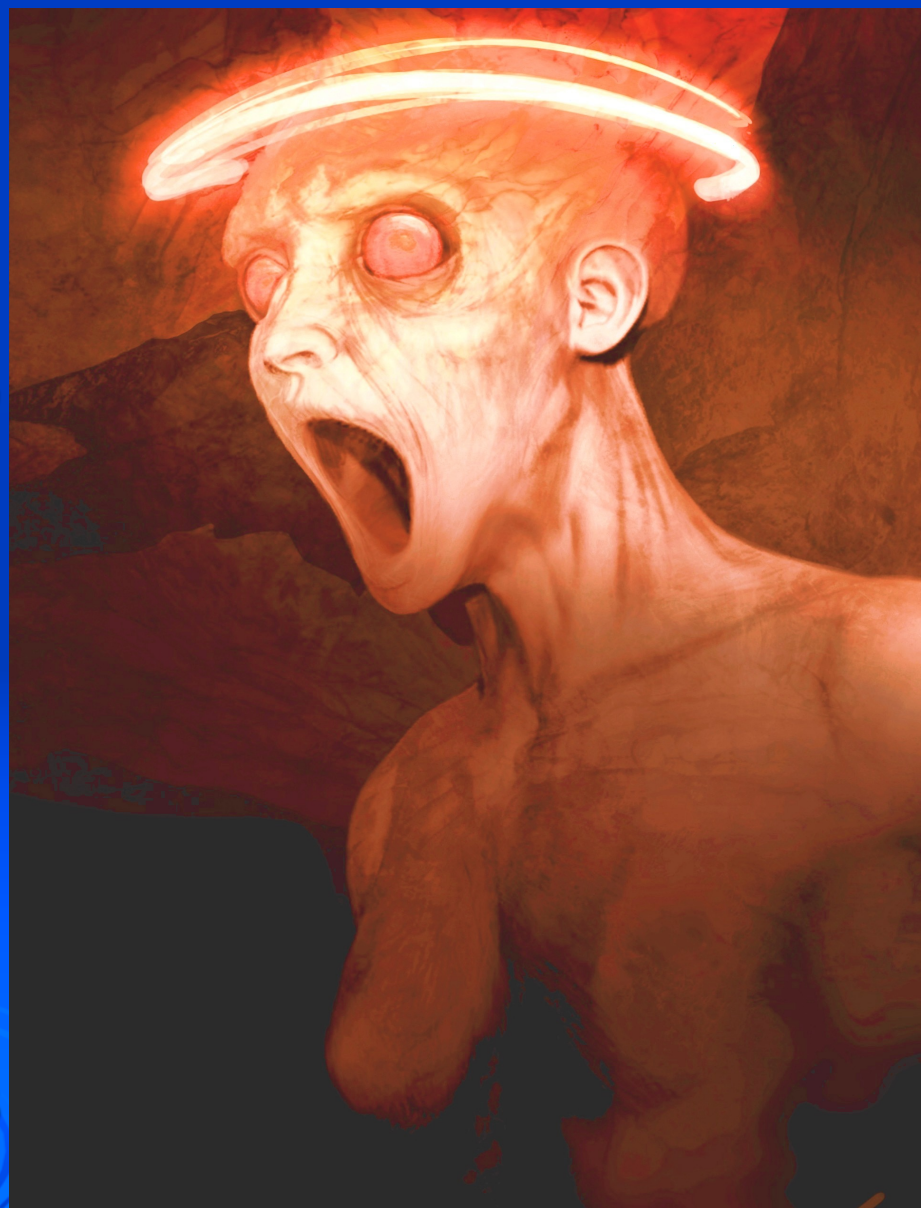
BAD THEOLOGY



- Most prophetic doctrines that gave blessings to Israel have been misappropriated by the Church
- Kiel and Delitzsch comment written in the mid-1800's, long before Israel returned as a Jewish State
- **“...the fulfillment is still in the future, and that will be accomplished NOT literally, but spiritually...”**
- Even though Israel is back, Churches haven't changed their doctrines about it and still see it all as “spiritual” not “literal”

STARVING THE GODS

- Zephaniah 2:11
- God is addressing the world universally
- **Yare** = fearsome, terrible, awful, reverence, awe
- The “gods” had to be fed or they would “waste away”
- These gods would be revealed for what they are: false... impotent
- All the nations will turn to worship Yehoveh
- “Islands of the nations” = far flung and remote places



ENTIRE WORLD WILL WORSHIP YEHOVEH



- Malachi 1:11
- It has always been that we can worship God from anywhere
- In Zephaniah's day, gifts were things like produce, silver and gold, jewelry
- Zephaniah 2:11
- **Maqom** (place) and **NOT maqam** (Arabic for temple)
- Meaning is the farthest flung nations will come to Jerusalem with their gifts (sacrificial likely)

Zephaniah 2:12

- Nations to the west and east were dealt with, now nations to the south
- NOT Ethiopia, but rather **Cushim**, meaning “people of Cush”
- Cush does NOT equal Egypt
- Zephaniah 2:13
- This points to nations to the north of Judah
- The idea is that all nations of the world will be affected





A FINAL AND COMPLETE DEVASTATION

- In Zephaniah's time, Assyria was in decline, Nineveh would soon crumble, Babylon would take over
- Just as Sodom and Gomorrah were ruined, never to rise again, so is Nineveh... and this is what happened!
- Zephaniah 2:14 "... all kinds of wild animals, too..."
- This is not only about Nineveh, but the whole world
- Herds and flocks of sheep replaced by wild animals



NEVER MORE

- The various animals spoken of are uncertain due to variations in the ancient Hebrew
- Cedar-wood was used as expensive interior paneling
- Zephaniah 2:15 *“the city... people felt... secure...”*
- Nineveh’s demise due to arrogance & a false sense of security
- History reveals EVERY great nation eventually collapses into irrelevance due to this same reason
- The devastation of the nations is an after-effect of the destruction of Judah



Israel And The End Times

What Shall Befall The Jews In The Last Days

- What Zephaniah describes is the Day of Judgment
- A 2-sided coin for Judah (Israel); first destruction, then restoration
- The nations will suffer devastation without restoration
- Why no mention of Edom? Edom at peace and was a commercial partner with Judah at this time



- Zephaniah's prophecy was concerned mostly about the sons of Ham
- We don't hear much about descendants of Japheth
- Genesis 9:24 – 29
- Did Israel and Judah remember any of this?
- Object lesson: God's Word WILL come true!