

Mystery of the Millennium
Part 13

It's been interesting of late to see Psalm 2 used in the way it has been. There is just so much information there. And hearing Mark quote it triggered a chain of thought that has been in my mind for a couple of years now. And before we get on our way with MOM 13 I'd like to comment on it if I might. I believe it's important to our growth personally that we look at these things as we read through the scriptures.

In I Peter 1, verses 10 and 11 there's an interesting statement; it says:

¹⁰Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, ¹¹searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

So we're told that the prophets had the spirit of Christ in them. And that He spoke through them at times. They also had the spirit of God as God's ecclesia do. This is referenced in John 14, verse 23; something we read usually at the Passover service every year. John 14:23, where this is alluded to; it's troublesome for some but it is what it says. John 14:23:

²³..."If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

And so it was for the prophets, so it is for us. And given that reality then, we should be able to determine which one is doing the talking in the Old Testament when we read it, and recognize it when we do; for it is a window for seeing the difference in the two Beings. That matters!

For if we go to John 17, verses 1 - 3, Christ speaking, He said:

¹... "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ²as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³And this is eternal life, (There's that definition word again) that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

So they are different Beings and we are told to come to know them. The ecclesia would seek to understand better those that live within them, for our future lies with being at one with them as we read in John 17, verses 20 - 23. Where Christ said:

²⁰"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²²And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, (So when we are made perfect we will be in total harmony with God the Father and Jesus Christ) and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

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Well that's a pretty tall order. We are separate beings, yet we are one in goal and purpose with the Father, who is not only our God, but Christ's God. And He stated that in John 20; John 20, verse 17. Christ speaking:

17...“Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren (And that's important to remember; we are brethren to Christ, we are the children of God to the Father) ... ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’”

So Christ made it very plain that God the Father was His God. So given that understanding, when we come across phrases in the Old Testament when Christ is speaking, we should be able to recognize the voice of a Servant, for if we have a God then we serve that God. And we are told that Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever in Hebrews 13:8, which we will not read.

But if we go to Psalm 2, which was the thing that kicked this whole thought process off; if we read verses 1 – 3, we can see the unison of the two as non-descript here.

1 Why do the nations rage and the people plot a vain thing? 2The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against Yahovah (The Father) and against His Anointed, (Christ) saying, 3“Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us.”

Well, let's go on. Who is speaking in verses 4 – 6?

4He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. 5Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure: 6“Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”

It's the Father speaking and He is speaking of His Son. And interestingly in verse 7 of Psalm 2 we can see a flip, where the speaker is now Christ. They both lived in David. He said:

7“I will declare the decree: Yahovah has said to Me,

So He is confirming what God the Father has said to Him

‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You. 8Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.

So He is telling us what the Father said to Him.

9You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.’”

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So Christ was speaking there quoting what the Father had said to Him. And the Father takes up the narrative again in verses 10 – 12. Let's read that and just make a note of that:

¹⁰Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. ¹¹Serve Yahovah with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

So we can see in here the presence of both of them in the text; they both lived in David and they both spoke through him as the narrative goes through. We can see the supreme Being and we can see the Servant in this passage.

I have often said, "If you had two human beings on the stage and one of them was the king and one was a servant, how long would it take you to figure out who was who? Well, I am thinking not so long! And it is the same thing when we read the scriptures.

Why would any of this matter to us? Well, this whole servant thing is very important to us because that is in fact where we are going. And we can read of that in Revelation 22, rather, verses 3 and 4, where it says:

³And there shall be no more curse but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, (Both of them there) and His servants (That's where we're destined) shall serve Him. ⁴They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

So there isn't any mistaking of who that is actually referencing.

Psalms 22 is the text book example of Christ speaking through David. And we are just going to read a little bit of Psalm 22 so we can hopefully show this up for you. It makes a great deal of sense. In Psalm 22 we don't have to read very far into the text to where we can see that it is Christ speaking. If we read verses 14 – 18 we'll establish that.

¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it has melted within me.

This is not the Father speaking through David; it is Christ speaking through David.

¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue clings to my jaws; You (The Father) have brought me (Christ) to the dust of death. ¹⁶For dogs have surrounded me; the congregation of the wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands and my feet; ¹⁷I can count all my bones. They look and stare at me. ¹⁸They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

The speaker in that passage is Christ, and we can see that.

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If we go on to verse 22, once the ordeal is over what is Christ going to do? Because he spoke of the things He would do as we saw in first Peter. He says:

²²I will declare Your name to my brethren;

Again brethren, we are brothers and sisters of Christ; God is our Father. So there is no mistaking who's speaking. And He said that He was going to declare God's name to His brethren. You don't suppose Satan would want to hide that! And maybe he has!

in the midst of the assembly I will praise You. ²³You who fear Yahovah, (There's that name) praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, (Instruction to us about God the Father) and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel! ²⁴For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from him; but when He cried to Him, He heard. ²⁵My praise shall be of You in the great assembly;

Do we see the spirit of a Servant here? And it's clearly Christ that's speaking.

I will pay my vows before those who fear Him. ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him will praise Yahovah. Let your heart live forever! ²⁷All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to Yahovah, (It doesn't say turn to me) and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. (Doesn't say me) ²⁸For the kingdom is Yahovah's, and He rules over the nations.

Well it's very important for us when we go into this consideration of the Mystery of the Millennium. We can see the same thing in Psalm 69. If you will turn with me to Psalm 69 we can identify the speaker. Let's go to verse 9. This is quoted by Christ in the New Testament, so there is no mistaking who said it.

⁹because zeal for Your house (The Father's house) has eaten me up, (Can't be the Father speaking, makes no sense) and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me. ¹⁰When I wept and chastened my soul with fasting, that became my reproach. ¹¹I also made sackcloth my garment; I became a byword to them. ¹²Those who sit in the gate speak against me, and I am the song of the drunkards. ¹³But as for me, my prayer is to You, O Yahovah, in the acceptable time; O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear me in the truth of Your salvation. ¹⁴Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink; let me be delivered from those who hate me, and out of the deep waters. ¹⁵Let not the floodwater overflow me, nor let the deep swallow me up; and let not the pit shut its mouth on me. ¹⁶Hear me, O Yahovah, for Your lovingkindness is good; turn to me according to the multitude of Your tender mercies. ¹⁷And do not hide Your face from Your servant,...

Christ has always been a Servant; it's all over the place. If you want to find Christ in the Old Testament look for the Servant.

Going on, verses 34 – 36 of Psalm 69:

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³⁴*Let heaven and earth praise Him, the seas and everything that moves in them.*

³⁵*For God (Not me) God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah, that they may dwell there and possess it. ³⁶Also, the descendants of His servants (Again, we are servants to the Father) shall inherit it, and those who love His name shall dwell in it.*

Well if you don't know the Father's name, do you think maybe that might present some, ah, technical problems at some point? I think so!

We can see the same theme, and again I would ask, just think this through. If we go to Isaiah, the book of Isaiah and we will read chapter 61, okay:

¹*"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, (Who's talking?) because Yahovah (The Father) has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,*

He has been sent by God to do those things in the capacity of God's Servant, which He's always been.

and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the acceptable year of Yahovah, and the day of vengeance of our God; (Which ties into our Mystery of the Millennium series) to comfort all who mourn, ³to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of Yahovah, that He may be glorified."

⁴*And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.*

⁵*Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the foreigner shall be your plowmen and your vinedressers.*

⁶*But you shall be named the priests of Yahovah, they shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory you shall boast.*

⁷*Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; everlasting joy shall be theirs.*

Who is talking? Notice the switch flip here!

⁸*"For I, Yahovah, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, and will make with them an everlasting covenant. (Who do we make everlasting covenants with? God the Father!) ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the posterity whom Yahovah has blessed."*

And notice the flip back here.

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¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in Yahovah, (Who's talking now?) my soul shall be joyful in my God; (Yahovah doesn't have a God, he is God; Christ has a God, and it's Yahovah) for He has clothed me (Yahovah) has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God (The Father) will cause (This is very important to our Mystery of the millennium series) the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

So all of a sudden there is going to be a righteous and holy nation established in the earth that the nations can look at and say, "Umm, Hey it's right there." It's very important.

You notice, when you look at the map we got a place to put this now. Point A (1) point B (2) on our map. Very, very important! We can look at that and say, "Well, when does that righteous and holy nation get established? This is something that God is going to do, and that is the basic focus of our study. People can point to that and say, "Well this isn't some pie in the sky thing; it's the real deal! And you can see it and it's right over there and it is the Father that brings it about.

If we go to Zechariah 8, verses 20 – 23, we see that:

²⁰Thus says Yahovah of hosts: 'Peoples shall yet come, inhabitants of many cities;

²¹the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, "Let us continue to go and pray before Yahovah, and seek Yahovah of hosts. I myself will go also."

²²Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before Yahovah.'

²³Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"

So they know that the Father is there, He's established and the nations, been set up and they come and say, "Hey, maybe we can learn something here."

This does not happen overnight! It takes a while to establish. It has a start and we have a finish to it. Does the bible give us a blueprint for this? What are the steps to get to that point? Well if we go to Luke, the book of Luke. Luke 21; it's kind of a strange place to start, but let's go there and see if we can join some dots here. Luke 21, verses 20 – 28. This is an event that you and I should be watching for:

²⁰But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.

²²For these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.

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²³But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people.

The modern state of Israel is going into captivity, when it's time.

²⁴And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles (So the Gentiles are going to go into the holy land) until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.²⁵“And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, (After that fulfillment of the Gentiles we are going to have the heavenly signs) ...²⁶men’s hearts failing them from fear ...

When they see those heavenly signs and they're terrified. Then what happens?

*²⁷Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
²⁸Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption...*

The first resurrection of the saints, the hundred forty-four thousand and the innumerable multitude happens. But; those who are still alive are going to see those events play out on the world's stage.

It's also mentioned in Zechariah 1(14) where it tells us, before the Father's direct involvement. If we go to Zechariah 14, and verse 1, we can actually see that referencing the same event, where it says:

*¹ Behold, the day of Yahovah is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst.
²For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem;*

The same reference we see in the book of Luke, and when they finally take Judah captive, what do you suppose their attitude would be? And how did they actually behave when they got in there? We read some of that actually, or we read some of that in Amos the last time. And we saw a bit of the outline of what was their behavior like when that country was actually overrun. I'll just review it quickly because we went through that in MOM 12. But in Amos 1, verses 6 – 8 we get a glimpse of the behavior of the other nations. Just think about that, if the modern state of Israel went down who would be real happy with that arrangement? Well just think that through!

⁶Thus says Yahovah: “For three transgressions of Gaza, (There is still a Gaza) and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, because they took captive the whole captivity to deliver them up to Edom. (Well you know how that would play out today) ⁷But I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza, which shall devour its palaces.

⁸I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and the one who holds the scepter from Ashkelon; I will turn My hand against Ekron, and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish,” ...

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Where do you think that goes on the map? Let's read 9 and 10.

⁹Thus says Yahovah: "For three transgressions of Tyre, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and did not remember the covenant of brotherhood. ¹⁰But I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre, which shall devour its palaces."

Going on:

¹¹Thus says Yahovah: "For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away its punishment, because he pursued his brother with the sword, and cast off all pity; His anger tore perpetually, and he kept his wrath forever. ¹²But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah."

Do we get the point? You can see the actions of the nations when the modern state of Israel is allowed to go into captivity.

If we go to the little book of Obadiah; you know, God spoke through the prophets about the restoration of all things. So here we've got this little book of Obadiah; when we read it, think about that and say, "Hey, where does this go on the map?"

Well, let's read Obadiah 6 – 18

⁶"Oh, how Esau shall be searched out! How his hidden treasures shall be sought after!

⁷All the men in your confederacy shall force you to the border; the men at peace with you shall deceive you and prevail against you. Those who eat your bread shall lay a trap for you. No one is aware of it. (God is telling us how this is going to go down)

⁸"Will I not in that day," says Yahovah, "Even destroy the wise men from Edom, and understanding from the mountains of Esau?"

⁹Then your mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that everyone from the mountains of Esau may be cut off by slaughter. (Well, didn't we read something about that in Amos?)

¹⁰"For violence against your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. ¹¹In the day that you stood on the other side—in the day that strangers carried captive his forces, when foreigners entered his gates (The armies have surrounded Jerusalem and they have gone in there) and cast lots for Jerusalem—even you were as one of them. (You were in there up to your ears.)

(God's admonition!) ¹²"But you should not have gazed on the day of your brother in the day of his captivity; nor should you have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; nor should you have spoken proudly in the day of distress. ¹³You should not have entered the gate of My people in the day of their calamity. Indeed, you should not have gazed on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity.

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¹⁴You should not have stood at the crossroads to cut off those among them who escaped; nor should you have delivered up those among them who remained in the day of distress.

¹⁵For the day of Yahovah upon all the nations is near; as you have done, it shall be done to you; your reprisal shall return upon your own head. ¹⁶For as you drank on My holy mountain,

They came into the land, they drank on God's holy mountain; interesting, it's still His holy mountain. Hmm, how can that be, even when the place is overrun?

so shall all the nations drink continually; yes, they shall drink, and swallow, and they shall be as though they had never been. ¹⁷But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. ¹⁸The house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame; but the house of Esau shall be stubble; they shall kindle them and devour them, and no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau," for Yahovah has spoken.

Huh, we have a place to put that and it all makes sense.

If we go into the book of Ezekiel; I'd like to walk through a passage. And we can see some of the events happen and the attitudes of the nations and what God thinks about it. Well, let's start tying some of that together here by reading Ezekiel 35.

¹ Moreover the word of Yahovah came to me, saying, ²"Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir and prophesy against it, ³ and say to it, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, O Mount Seir, I am against you; I will stretch out My hand against you, and make you most desolate; ⁴I shall lay your cities waste, and you shall be desolate. Then you shall know that I am Yahovah. (Hmm)

⁵"Because you have had an ancient hatred, and have shed the blood of the children of Israel by the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, (Have we not been looking at that) when their iniquity came to an end, ⁶therefore, as I live," says God, "I will prepare you for blood, and blood shall pursue you; since you have not hated blood, therefore blood shall pursue you.

⁷Thus I will make Mount Seir most desolate, and cut off from it the one who leaves and the one who returns.

⁸And I will fill its mountains with the slain; on your hills and in your valleys and in all your ravines those who are slain by the sword shall fall.

⁹I will make you perpetually desolate, and your cities shall be uninhabited; then you shall know that I am Yahovah.

¹⁰"Because you have said, 'These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess them,' although Yahovah was there, (Hmm) ¹¹therefore, as I live," says Yahovah, "I will do according to your anger and according to the envy which you showed in your hatred against them; and I will make Myself known among them when I judge you.

¹²Then you shall know that I am the Lord. I have heard all your blasphemies which you have spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, 'They are desolate; they are given

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to us to consume.' (Oh yeah, they were right in there; that's part of the flooding of the Gentiles into the holy land)

¹³Thus with your mouth you have boasted against Me and multiplied your words against Me; I have heard them."

¹⁴'Thus says the Lord God: "The whole earth will rejoice when I make you desolate. (Does this sound like a little bit of house cleaning when the Father has returned? Note the green section in the chart.)

¹⁵As you rejoiced because the inheritance of the house of Israel was desolate, so I will do to you; you shall be desolate, O Mount Seir, as well as all of Edom—all of it! Then they shall know that I am the Lord."

So if the land of Israel was overrun, these guys came in here; it was a Gong show through the whole operation. Did God notice that, if you were God, what would you do then after the land has been cleansed and taken into captivity, what would be a logical thing for you to do?

Well it turns out we're told exactly what it is; this reads like a normal book now that we can understand where it goes, and it's not millennial.

¹"And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, 'O mountains of Israel, hear the word of Yahovah!

²Thus says the Lord God: "Because the enemy has said of you, 'Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession,'" (These nations flooded into there when Israel fell.) ³therefore prophesy, and say, 'Thus says Lord God: "Because they made you desolate and swallowed you up on every side,

Talking about the Gentiles flooding in there and taking the place over and they made the country desolate.

so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations, (The modern state is no more) and you are taken up by the lips of talkers and slandered by the people"— (So God is speaking to the land now) ⁴therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord God! Thus says the Lord God to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, the valleys, the desolate wastes, and the cities that have been forsaken, which became plunder and mockery to the rest of the nations all around— (Can you see that happening if Israel ever went down? You betcha!) ⁵therefore thus says the Lord God: "Surely I have spoken in My burning jealousy against the rest of the nations and against all Edom, (Didn't we read about that in Ezekiel 35?) who gave My land (It's still his land) to themselves as a possession, with whole hearted joy and spiteful minds, (We did the study on a spiteful mind is a satanic mind) ... to plunder its open country."

⁶"Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains, the hills, the rivers, and the valleys, 'Thus says The Lord God: "Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and My fury, because you have borne the shame of the nations."

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⁷Therefore thus says the Lord God: "I have raised My hand in an oath that surely the nations that are around you shall bear their own shame. ⁸But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to My people Israel, for they are about to come.

Oops, talking to the land overrun by the Gentiles, God talks to the land, reestablishes its productivity in preparation for His people to enter the land again. Doesn't that sound perfectly normal? Does this sound millennial to anyone? Or is it something the Father is going to do after He comes back to get on with the program that He's talked about endlessly?

⁹For indeed I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. (That's a promise from the Father to that land) ¹⁰I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, all of it; (Very important, and what's going to happen?) and the cities shall be inhabited and the ruins rebuilt. ¹¹I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bear young; I will make you inhabited as in former times, and do better for you than at your beginnings. Then you shall know that I am Yahovah. ¹²...I will cause men to walk on you, My people Israel; (Again, My people, not my brethren, My people; this is God the Father talking) they shall take possession of you, and you shall be their inheritance; no more shall you bereave them of children." (The reestablishment of Israel in that part of the world fulfilling the promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) ¹³Thus says the Lord God: "Because they say to you, 'You devour men and bereave your nation of children,' ¹⁴therefore you shall devour men no more, nor bereave your nation anymore," ... ¹⁵Nor will I let you hear the taunts of the nations anymore, nor bear the reproach of the peoples anymore, nor shall you cause your nation to stumble anymore," ...

Does this sound like a restoration to you?

¹⁶Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying: ¹⁷"Son of man, (So God talks about in here what His reasoning is, why He allowed all this to happen) "Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity. ¹⁸Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it. (Doesn't Micah 1 come into mind?) ¹⁹ So I scattered them among the nations, and they were dispersed throughout the countries; I judged them according to their ways and their deeds.

You can walk through that, He explains why He did what He did. Verse 22

²²Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says God: "I do not do this (The reestablishment) for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went. ²³And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am Yahovah," says the Lord God, "when I am hallowed in you before their eyes.

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Here's where we get very, very interesting. These are physical beings that come into the land that has been prepared to receive them.

²⁴For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Do we not see here, God wants a holy and righteous nation and we know where He wants it.

²⁸Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. ²⁹I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. I will call for the grain and multiply it, and bring no famine upon you. ³⁰And I will multiply the fruit of your trees and the increase of your fields, so that you need never again bear the reproach of famine among the nations.

³¹Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good; and you will loathe yourselves ..., for your iniquities and your abominations. ³²Not for your sake do I do this," says the Lord God, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel!"

³³'Thus says the Lord God: "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. ³⁴The desolate land shall be tilled instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass by. ³⁵So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited.'

This is going to happen in the kingdom of God, this is not millennial!

³⁶Then the nations which are left all around you shall know that I, the Lord, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted what was desolate. I, Yahovah, have spoken it, and I will do it." ³⁷'Thus says the Lord God: "I will also let the house of Israel inquire of Me to do this for them: I will increase their men like a flock. ³⁸Like a flock offered as holy sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem on its feast days, so shall the ruined cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they shall know that I am Yahovah."'"

It paints us a picture of the things that are going to happen. These are what's going to happen to the physical beings and we know that the spirit beings, the holy and righteous nation; when God the Father and Jesus Christ come down with the saints, the core that will be righteous eternal beings and the physical will be added to it in due course. We need to understand that.

We go right on then in Ezekiel 36:8 where it said, "Be prepared for my people." Well what do you know! There we go in Ezekiel 37; he sees the bones. Verse 11

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¹¹Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.

Have we not seen the whole restoration theme playing out?

*They indeed say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’
¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says Yahovah God: “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³Then you shall know that I am Yahovah, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. (It all fits) ¹⁴I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it,” ...*

And we saw in previous passages where this setup is done and where God brings them up all together and brings them into the land. But in Ezekiel 20 we got an additional piece of information; He is going to bring them out of the land alright, if you don't want to toe the line and you don't want to be righteous, you're not going in! That's not mentioned here but it is in there and all the scriptures have to fit together.

We see the same thing in Isaiah 65; the resurrection, the gathering, the sorting; it's all over the place.

And we saw that again, also in Ezekiel 36:8 – 10; I'll just read it again.

⁸But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to My people Israel, for they are about to come. ⁹For indeed I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. ¹⁰I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, all of it; ...

It's all going to be done together and you do that by resurrecting them and bringing them into the land and when they've made their decision of whether they are going to live that way or not.

In verse 28 of Ezekiel 37 we read a condition here. Actually I'll read verse 27 as well.

²⁷My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, (Who is Christ's God, same as the people, it's all the same?) and they shall be My people. ²⁸The nations (The nations of the earth) ... will know that I, the Lord, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst for ever more.””

The Father is there and the nations know it!

When we get to 38, Ezekiel 38; does this seem millennial to you? Let's just read a little of Ezekiel 38.

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¹ Now the word of Yahovah came to me, (This is after Israel has been restored. God is living there) Hear the word of the Lord, ²“Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him, ³and say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. ⁴I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army,

Well, this is the Millennium, what would they have an army for? No, no it's not the millennium at all! They have yet to be conquered and submit to the kingdom of God, which God has established in His nation. And there comes a time when they just have to be dealt with. God leads them out.

... a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. ⁵Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them with shield and helmet;

In the millennium? What, are you kidding me! No, God needs to deal with these people who are not yet with the program, though they know to do so. There is an accountability that's in place. Let's just read what happens.

⁷“Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. ⁸After many days you will be visited. In the latter years (That's not the Millennium) you will come into the land of those brought back from the sword and gathered from many people on the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate; they were brought out of the nations, and now all of them dwell safely.

There's the condition again.

⁹You will ascend, coming like a storm, covering the land like a cloud, you and all your troops and many peoples with you.” ¹⁰Thus says God: “On that day it shall come to pass that thoughts will arise in your mind, and you will make an evil plan: ¹¹You will say, ‘I will go up against a land of unwalled villages; I will go to a peaceful people, who dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates’—¹²to take plunder and to take booty, to stretch out your hand against the waste places that are again inhabited, (Israel has been restored and God is living amongst them) and against a people gathered from the nations, who have acquired livestock and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land. ¹³Sheba, Dedan, the merchants of Tarshish, and all their young lions will say to you, ‘Have you come to take plunder? Have you gathered your army to take booty, to carry away silver and gold, to take away livestock and goods, to take great plunder?’”

That's why they are there, does that sound millennial to you?

¹⁴“Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog, ‘Thus says God: “On that day when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it? (You know!) ¹⁵Then you will come from your place out of the far north, you and many peoples with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army. ¹⁶You will come up against My people

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Israel like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be in the (millennium, ah no actually it will be in the) latter days that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.”

¹⁷Thus says the Lord God: “Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days by My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied for years in those days that I would bring you against them?”

Aren't we reading that right now?

¹⁸“And it will come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel,” says the Lord God, “that My fury will show in My face. ¹⁹For in My jealousy and in the fire of My wrath I have spoken: ‘Surely in that day there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel, ²⁰so that the fish of the sea, the birds of the heavens, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that creep on the earth, and all men who are on the face of the earth shall shake at My presence. (Ah, He's there, they don't get it) The mountains shall be thrown down, the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.’

²¹I will call for a sword against Gog throughout all My mountains,” says the Lord God. “Every man's sword will be against his brother. ²²And I will bring him to judgment with pestilence and bloodshed; I will rain down on him, on his troops, and on the many peoples who are with him, flooding rain, great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

²³Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the Lord.”

Going on in 39, verse 3:

³Then I will knock the bow out of your left hand, and cause the arrows to fall out of your right hand. ⁴You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel, you and all your troops and the peoples who are with you; I will give you to birds of prey of every sort and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. ⁵You shall fall on the open field; for I have spoken,” ... ⁶“And I will send fire on Magog and on those who live in security in the coastlands.

So not only are the armies going to be dealt with; the folks back at home are going to taste this too.

Then they shall know that I am Yahovah. ⁷So I will make My holy name known in the midst of My people Israel, and I will not let them profane My holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that I am Yahovah, the Holy One in Israel. ⁸Surely it is coming, and it shall be done,” says the Lord God. “This is the day of which I have spoken.

⁹“Then those who dwell in the cities of Israel will go out and set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and bucklers, the bows and arrows, the javelins and spears; and they will make fires with them for seven years.

¹⁰They will not take wood from the field nor cut down any from the forests, because they will make fires with the weapons; and they will plunder those who plundered them, and pillage those who pillaged them,” ...

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¹¹“It will come to pass in that day that I will give Gog a burial place there in Israel, the valley of those who pass by east of the sea; and it will obstruct travelers, because there they will bury Gog and all his multitude. Therefore they will call it the Valley of Hamon Gog. ¹²For seven months the house of Israel will be burying them, in order to cleanse the land. ¹³Indeed all the people of the land will be burying, and they will gain renown for it on the day that I am glorified,”

Do you suppose, perhaps that in the kingdom of God, God will want to deal with these folks and get rid of this problem before going to the trouble to reconstruct the temple? It sure makes sense to me! In the balance of Ezekiel 42 – 48 we read nothing of a Gog Magog resurrection to face the lake of fire. The rules are it is appointed to men once to die, but after that, the judgment. These physical human beings came against God; they died. The current view, in my mind and yours may be different. This is a kingdom of God event prior to the establishment of the millennium; these do need to be dealt with and the only place I can find so far is in Matthew 25 at the separation of the sheep and goats to go into the lake of fire or at the time of the great throne judgment.

They are going to be resurrected and they will face the second death because they came against God, full knowing. You may come to another conclusion; this whole concept is open to us, but now at least we have a template to look at so that we can objectively look at those things and say, “You know, I think that goes right there!” And hopefully we have a border or template in place now that you can do your own study, your own homework if this is something that interests you and put some of those things that made no sense before in a place that does make sense.