## Israel Under Attack Part 1

Daniel 10, Genesis 10, Genesis 6, Ephesians 6, Psalms 82, Ezekiel 28, Revelation 19, Isaiah 60, Deuteronomy 32, Jeremiah 7

#### **Persecution of Israel**

Two factors for the current persecution of Israel:

- God's judgment on Israel.
- Spiritual war against Israel.
- This spiritual war began with the dispersion of the nations after the Tower of Babel.
- These nations kept the memories, stories and mythology of Nimrod's empire.
- The Bible suggests that God permitted the spiritual government of these seventy nation groups to be divided between powerful, fallen angels.

#### Sons of God

- The Bible references a group of powerful angel princes that appear to have a particular relationship with human beings.
- The term "son of God," when applied to a created being, is used to define a creature that has been directly created by God.
- Adam, the only man created directly by God, as opposed to the rest of our race, is called a "son of God."
- In the Old Testament, the term applies chiefly to angels.

# Demonic Beings Rule Over the Nations

- Evidence of the presence of demonic rulers is found in the book of Daniel.
- Satan rules each nation-group separately through powerful, fallen angel-princes.
- This fallen world is under Satan's control as he rules through these malignant beings.
- This is why Satan could offer Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Christ would just bow down to him.

### Mythology

- Nations deserted the true God as Satan placed the polytheistic worship of these fallen, demonic beings into their belief systems.
- As man scattered over the earth, they began to weave stories around the one, true God.
- They attached a spouse to Him and gave them children.
- These children, who actually were fallen angels, formed a pantheon.
- The real God, whom we worship, was pushed into the background and became increasingly irrelevant or ineffective.

#### **Angels Confronted**

- There are exactly seventy nation—groups that developed after the flood from Noah's three sons.
- Angelic princes, or world rulers, are in charge of human affairs.
- Psalm 82 tells how God confronted these fallen angels with their mismanagement.
- God passed judgement on these fallen angels and pronounced their doom.
- God would create His own nation that would bring salvation and blessing to all the nations.
- Then, around 2000 B.C., God steps in and shows them how it should be done!

#### The Lord's Portion

- The Lord's portion of the nations would be Israel.
- The fallen angels received their nations by lot.
- God did not choose an already-existing Israel from among all the other nations.
- God started from scratch by creating and developing His own nation through one man – Abraham.
- The three matriarchs of Israel, Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel, all needed supernatural assistance to conceive.
- Like all direct creations, Israel, the nation, is described as a "son of God."
- God took this fledgling nation and nurtured and cared for it.

#### Yahweh

- The other nations may have been claimed by Satan but not Israel; Israel was God's portion.
- God tells Moses that, in His capacity as the national God of His own nation, Israel, He is to be known as Yahweh.
- The personal name of Israel's god is Yahweh.
- The other nations had no personal, on-going and developing relationship with their gods.
- The false gods are not eternal Beings, neither have they any influence over the future.

#### Israel's Existence

- Yahweh alone could establish a covenant of love because the other so-called gods did not love their subjects.
- Israel's existence served as a constant rebuke to their immorality and unrestrained evil.
- God's good name and His glory is bound up with Israel; if Israel is defeated then Yahweh is defeated.
- If a nation was defeated by another nation, the god of the victorious nation was commonly regarded as stronger and more worthy than the god of the defeated nation.

#### Conclusion

- At the time Yahweh brought out His own nation, the world was polytheistic.
- Yahweh was regarded by the pagan world as just another god.
- When the Ark of the Covenant was captured, the Philistines recognized that Yahweh was the stronger god.
- Satan's intentions are clear: he must either corrupt or destroy Israel!
- The temptation to idolatry was ever-present with Israel, and Yahweh took every precaution to keep His people separate and pure.