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PRAISES

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PSALM 83

Deal with Your enemies O God, that they may know that
The LORD is the Most High over all the earth!

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every other reference to the God with a red triangle.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every reference to the Name of the LORD with a yellow box filled in with purple.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every reference to Jacob or Israel with a blue Star of David.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every reference to a place with orange brackets.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every reference to the nations with a purple flag.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every reference to time with a blue box. If the time phrase is referring to the last days or day, fill the box in with blue to differentiate it from a general time phrase.

Read through **Psalm 83** and mark every comparison with a pink equal sign.

Read through and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. Prayer for God to act
2. Prayer to deal with enemies like a battle
3. Prayer to deal with enemies like a temptest

READ AND ANSWER

Psalm 83:1-8

Who is addressed in this **Psalm**?

What is God called upon to do?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Why is God called to not remain quiet?

POINT OF DEPTH

Who are God's enemies?

Psalm 68:1

***“Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered,
And let those who hate Him flee before Him.”***

Will God arise and deal with His enemies? Oh, yes!

Psalm 68:21

***“Surely God will shatter the head of His enemies,
The hairy crown of him who goes on in his guilty deeds.”***

Nahum 1:2

***“A jealous and avenging God is the LORD;
The LORD is avenging and wrathful.
The LORD takes vengeance on His adversaries,
And He reserves wrath for His enemies.”***

What are God's enemies doing?

POINT OF DEPTH

What happens to God's enemies who make an uproar against Him?

Isaiah 17:12-14

***“Alas, the uproar of many peoples who roar like the roaring of the seas,
and the rumbling of nations who rush on like the rumbling of mighty waters!
The nations rumble on like the rumbling of many waters,
but He will rebuke them and they will flee far away,
and be chased like chaff in the mountains before the wind,
or like whirling dust before a gale.
At evening time, behold, there is terror!
Before morning they are no more.
Such will be the portion of those who plunder us
and the lot of those who pillage us.”***

What are those doing who hate God?

POINT OF DEPTH

Who alone is to be exalted?

Psalm 148:13

***“Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For His name alone is exalted;
His glory is above earth and heaven.”***

Isaiah 2:11

***“The proud look of man will be abased
and the loftiness of man will be humbled,
and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.”***

Isaiah 17:7

***“In that day man will have regard for his Maker
and his eyes will look to the Holy One of Israel.”***

Philippians 2:5-11

***“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,
Who, although He existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant,
and being made in the likeness of men.
Being found in appearance as a man,***

**He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
For this reason also, God highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW,
of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.”**

Against whom are they making shrewd plans?

What kind of plans are they?

What does the word shrewd mean? Look it up if you need to.

POINT OF DEPTH

Who are God's people?

Exodus 6:1-8

**“Then the LORD said to Moses,
“Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh;
for under compulsion he will let them go,
and under compulsion he will drive them out of his land.”
God spoke further to Moses and said to him,
“I am the LORD; and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty,
but by My name, LORD, I did not make Myself known to them.
I also established My covenant with them,
to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they sojourned.
Furthermore I have heard the groaning of the sons of Israel,
because the Egyptians are holding them in bondage,
and I have remembered My covenant.
Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel,
‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians,
and I will deliver you from their bondage.
I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.
Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God;
and you shall know that I am the LORD your God,
Who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.
I will bring you to the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and I will give it to you for a possession; I am the LORD.’””**

I Kings 8:51

***“for they are Your people and Your inheritance
which You have brought forth from Egypt,
from the midst of the iron furnace”***

What are God’s people called?

The word for treasured is the Hebrew word “*tsaphan*” which means to hide, conceal, watch or store. What does it mean when God treasures His people?

What kind of plan are God’s enemies putting together?

Who is their plan against?

What does the word conspire mean? Look it up if you need to.

What have they said?

Why are they coming together?

What is the purpose of wiping out Israel as a nation?

POINT OF DEPTH

**They hate The Name!
And they hate the place of The Name
Israel! It’s the place where God chose to put His Name!
Israel is the most important place, that is why Arabs hate it so—
because they want to erase God’s Name—
just like the tower of Babel. Genesis 11:1-9**

In the second book of the Bible God gives His personal memorial Name for all generations to a man named Moses. In Biblical times, a name meant much more than it does today. It spoke of that person’s nature, character or attributes. It was often prophetic of what that person would someday do or represent.

God says in Exodus 3:14 that His Name is Jehovah,
the transliterated form of Yahweh,
which in turn came from the Tetragrammaton YHWH,
which in Hebrew looks like this: יהוה.

God's personal Name was so awesome to Moses' people, Israel, that they would not even say it aloud; consequently, we cannot be sure of how to pronounce God's Name even today. In most Bibles, if you see the word "Lord" in all small caps like this "LORD", you can know that the word being translated is Jehovah.

Jehovah means I AM WHO I AM. The Great I AM is the Self-Existent One,
the God Who exists totally separate and apart from anything else.
Yahweh needs no one and nothing else to exist.
That cannot be said of anything else in existence, especially mankind.
We are dependent on virtually everything around us.
Without air, water, gravity, blood, food, etc. we would cease to exist.
We are totally and completely dependent upon the One Who needs no one—
Jehovah!
Our next breath is His decision because our next breath is in His Hand!
We need Him! Job 12:10

Mt. Zion, or Jerusalem in Israel, is the place where God chose to put His Name!
II Chronicles 6:6, 20; I Kings 11:36; II Kings 21:4
Israel is the most important place in all of the world.
God put His Name there and someday soon He will come and dwell there Himself.

He chose Zion to be the place where He would put His throne and rule the world
for 1,000 years. He will sit on His throne and rule this world with a rod of iron.
The nations will do as He says, or else!
Zechariah 14:16-19; Revelation 19:11-16

And that is why Arab nations hate it so—because they want to erase God's Name
—just like men wanted to do when they built the tower of Babel.

But God's Name will be exalted!
Someday, at the Name of Jesus, every knee will bow and every tongue confess

Isaiah 45:23
*"I have sworn by Myself,
The word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness And will not turn back,
That to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance."*

Romans 14:11
*For it is written,
"AS I LIVE," SAYS THE LORD,
'EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD.'*

Philippians 2:10

**“so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW,
of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,”**

How have the enemies of God conspired together?

What does that mean—with one mind?

What do they “make” with one another?

POINT OF DEPTH

What is a covenant?

The Hebrew words used for “make a covenant” are “karath” and “berith”

The word for make is karath and means to cut.

**The word for covenant is berith
and means to become allies in league with one another.**

**It is the ancient idea of cutting a covenant, becoming blood brothers, or two becoming one. It is the most unbreakable bond that can be made by man.
And in the time of the ancients, to break covenant required death.**

**It seems these enemies of God have joined themselves together
with one another unto death. They have put their lives on the line.
However, what they do not realize is that in the end their death *will be required*,
not at the hands of men, but at the hand of God.**

Against Whom is their covenant?

Just exactly who are these enemies that conspire and shrewdly plot with one another in order to wipe God’s people out from being a nation? Just exactly which nations have cut a covenant of death against God?

1.

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

POINT OF DEPTH

**Who might these nations be in our modern world?
Note below each passage what information you find concerning their locations.**

**First on the list is Edom, which is directly descended from Esau.
Ancient Edom is part of the present day nation of Jordan.
Jordan is on Israel's western border.**

Genesis 36:1, 8

***"Now these are the records of the generations of Esau (that is, Edom).
So Esau lived in the hill country of Seir; Esau is Edom."***

**Two of the other conspirators—Moab and Ammon, are the descendants of Lot
through drunken incestuous relations with his two daughters.
They also are on Israel's west border;
Moab is north of Ammon and Ammon is north of Edom.**

Genesis 19:36-38

***“Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father.
The firstborn bore a son, and called his name Moab;
he is the father of the Moabites to this day.
As for the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi;
he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day.”***

**Going back to our list we find the Ishmaelites.
Ishmael was the son of Abram through his wife Sarah’s concubine, Hagar.**

Genesis 16:15

***“So Hagar bore Abram a son;
and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.”***

Where did Ishmael live?

Genesis 25:17-18

***“These are the years of the life of Ishmael, one hundred and thirty-seven years;
and he breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.
They settled from Havilah to Shur
which is east of Egypt as one goes toward Assyria;
he settled in defiance of all his relatives.”***

Where is Havilah?

**It would seem that Havilah was located close to the Garden of Eden because one
of the garden’s rivers flowed out of Eden and around the whole land of Havilah.
Two of the garden’s other rivers, the Tigris and the Euphrates,
locate the Garden of Eden’s location as somewhere in Babylon,
or present day Iraq.**

Genesis 2:10-11

***“Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the garden;
and from there it divided and became four rivers.
The name of the first is Pishon;
it flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold.”***

Where is Shur?

**It is close to the place where the Lord found Hagar when she fled while pregnant
with Ishmael, which means it is close to the well Beer-lahai-roi;
which is close to Kadesh and Bered. We also know it is east of his brothers.**

Genesis 16:7

***“Now the angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness,
by the spring on the way to Shur.***

Genesis 16:11-12

***“The angel of the Lord said to her further,
‘Behold, you are with child, and you will bear a son;
and you shall call his name Ishmael,
because the Lord has given heed to your affliction.
He will be a wild donkey of a man, his hand will be against everyone,
and everyone’s hand will be against him;
and he will live to the east of all his brothers.”***

Genesis 16:14

***“Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi;
behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.”***

Another bit of information is found in the account of Joseph.

Genesis 37:28

***“Then some Midianite traders passed by,
so they pulled him up and lifted Joseph out of the pit,
and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver.
Thus they brought Joseph into Egypt.”***

And where is Midian?

**Well, it is a northern region in Saudi Arabia.
So it seems the Ishmaelites would be southeast of Israel.**

**Next in the lineup is the Hagrites. What do we know about them?
It would appear they lived east of Gilead, Gilead being east of the Jordan.**

I Chronicles 5:10

***“In the days of Saul they made war with the Hagrites, who fell by their hand,
so that they occupied their tents throughout all the land east of Gilead.***

What do we know about Gebal?

**Having been a Phoenician city north of Tyre, along the seacoast of the
Mediterranean, it is probably in the northern area of modern day Lebanon.**

Ezekiel 27:9

***“The elders of Gebal and her wise men were with you repairing your seams;
All the ships of the sea and their sailors were with you
in order to deal in your merchandise.”***

**Who are the Amalekites and where did they live?
It seems they lived between the land of the Ishamelites (Northern Saudi Arabia)
and Egypt.**

Exodus 15:22

***“Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea,
and they went out into the wilderness of Shur;
and they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.”***

I Samuel 27:8

***“Now David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites and the Girzites and
the Amalekites; for they were the inhabitants of the land from ancient times,
as you come to Shur even as far as the land of Egypt.”***

**Philistia is located along the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea,
including the Gaza Strip, which is the southwest corner of Israel.**

Exodus 23:31

***“I will fix your boundary from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines,
and from the wilderness to the River Euphrates;
for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand,
and you will drive them out before you.”***

Joshua 13:3

***“...the five lords of the Philistines: the Gazite, the Ashdodite, the Ashkelonite,
the Gittite, the Ekronite...”***

I Samuel 17:23

***“As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine from Gath
named Goliath, was coming up from the army of the Philistines,
and he spoke these same words; and David heard them.”***

**On to Tyre, which seems to be part of Lebanon,
which is on Israel’s northwest border.**

Ezekiel 27:3

***“and say to Tyre, who dwells at the entrance to the sea,
merchant of the peoples to many coastlands,
‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “O Tyre, you have said, ‘I am perfect in beauty.’”***

Luke 6:17

***“Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place;
and there was a large crowd of His disciples,
and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem***

and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon,”

Acts 21:3

*“When we came in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left,
we kept sailing to Syria and landed at Tyre;
for there the ship was to unload its cargo.”*

**Assyria is the last nation mentioned by name. Where was it?
We can know it was west of Babylon and it includes the city of Nineveh.
Assyria was to the far northeast of Israel and includes the areas of Iraq and Iran.**

Genesis 2:14

*“The name of the third river is Tigris; it flows east of Assyria.
And the fourth river is the Euphrates.”*

Genesis 10:10-12

*“The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh,
in the land of Shinar.
From that land he went forth into Assyria, and built Nineveh and Rehoboth-ir and
Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city.”*

What do all of these ten nations become?

Who were the children of Lot?

So what modern day country do these nations strengthen?

Isaiah 83:9-12

In the first section, **verses one** through **eight**, God was called upon to rise up because His enemies were plotting shrewdly against God’s people Israel. In this section they are calling Him to act in a certain way, recalling some of the greatest past victories of Israel over their enemies. List the past enemies below.

1.

2.

3.

4.

POINT OF CONNECTION

The battle of Midian. Judges 7:15-24.

“When Gideon heard the account of the dream and its interpretation, he bowed in worship. He returned to the camp of Israel and said, “Arise, for the LORD has given the camp of Midian into your hands.”

He divided the 300 men into three companies, and he put trumpets and empty pitchers into the hands of all of them, with torches inside the pitchers.

He said to them, “Look at me and do likewise. And behold, when I come to the outskirts of the camp, do as I do.

When I and all who are with me blow the trumpet, then you also blow the trumpets all around the camp and say, ‘For the LORD and for Gideon.’”

So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when they had just posted the watch; and they blew the trumpets and smashed the pitchers that were in their hands.

When the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers, they held the torches in their left hands

and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing, and cried, “A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!”

Each stood in his place around the camp; and all the army ran, crying out as they fled.

When they blew 300 trumpets, the LORD set the sword of one against another even throughout the whole army; and the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the edge of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath.

The men of Israel were summoned from Naphtali and Asher and all Manasseh, and they pursued Midian.

Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, “Come down against Midian and take the waters before them, as far as Beth-barah and the Jordan.”

So all the men of Ephraim were summoned and they took the waters as far as Beth-barah and the Jordan.”

Oreb and Zeeb were the leaders of Midian. Judges 7:25

“They captured the two leaders of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb, and they killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb,

*and they killed Zeeb at the wine press of Zeeb,
while they pursued Midian;
and they brought the heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon from across the Jordan.”*

Zebah and Zalmunna were the kings of Midian. Judges 8:10-12, 18-21

*“Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor, and their armies with them,
about 15,000 men, all who were left of the entire army of the sons of the east;
for the fallen were 120,000 swordsmen.
Gideon went up by the way of those who lived in tents on the east of Nobah and
Jogbehah, and attacked the camp when the camp was unsuspecting.
When Zebah and Zalmunna fled, he pursued them and captured the two kings of
Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and routed the whole army.
Then he said to Zebah and Zalmunna,
“What kind of men were they whom you killed at Tabor?”
And they said, “They were like you, each one resembling the son of a king.”
He said, “They were my brothers, the sons of my mother.
As the LORD lives, if only you had let them live, I would not kill you.”
So he said to Jether his firstborn, “Rise, kill them.”
But the youth did not draw his sword,
for he was afraid, because he was still a youth.
Then Zebah and Zalmunna said,
“Rise up yourself, and fall on us; for as the man, so is his strength.”
So Gideon arose and killed Zebah and Zalmunna,
and took the crescent ornaments which were on their camels’ necks.”
What was the end result of the battle of Midian? Judges 8:28
“So Midian was subdued before the sons of Israel,
and they did not lift up their heads anymore.
And the land was undisturbed for forty years in the days of Gideon.”*

Sisera was the commander of the army of Canaan. Judges 4:1-22

*“Then the sons of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died.
And the LORD sold them into the hand of Jabin king of Canaan,
who reigned in Hazor;
and the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-hagoyim.
The sons of Israel cried to the LORD; for he had nine hundred iron chariots,
and he oppressed the sons of Israel severely for twenty years.
Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time.
She used to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the
hill country of Ephraim; and the sons of Israel came up to her for judgment.
Now she sent and summoned Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh- Naphtali,
and said to him, “Behold, the LORD, the God of Israel, has commanded,
‘Go and march to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men
from the sons of Naphtali and from the sons of Zebulun.
I will draw out to you Sisera, the commander of Jabin’s army,*

*with his chariots and his many troops to the river Kishon,
and I will give him into your hand.”*
Then Barak said to her, *“If you will go with me, then I will go;
but if you will not go with me, I will not go.”*
She said, *“I will surely go with you; nevertheless,
the honor shall not be yours on the journey that you are about to take,
for the LORD will sell Sisera into the hands of a woman.”*
Then Deborah arose and went with Barak to Kedesh. Barak called Zebulun and
Naphtali together to Kedesh, and ten thousand men went up with him;
Deborah also went up with him.
Now Heber the Kenite had separated himself from the Kenites,
from the sons of Hobab the father-in-law of Moses,
and had pitched his tent as far away as the oak in Zaananim,
which is near Kedesh.
Then they told Sisera that Barak the son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor.
Sisera called together all his chariots, nine hundred iron chariots, and all the
people who were with him, from Harosheth-hagoyim to the river Kishon.
Deborah said to Barak, *“Arise! For this is the day in which the LORD has given
Sisera into your hands; behold, the LORD has gone out before you.”*
So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him.
The LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and all his army with the edge of the
sword before Barak; and Sisera alighted from his chariot and fled away on foot.
But Barak pursued the chariots and the army as far as Harosheth-hagoyim,
and all the army of Sisera fell by the edge of the sword; not even one was left.
Now Sisera fled away on foot to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite,
for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the
Kenite. Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said to him,
“Turn aside, my master, turn aside to me! Do not be afraid.”
And he turned aside to her into the tent, and she covered him with a rug.
He said to her, *“Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty.”*
So she opened a bottle of milk and gave him a drink; then she covered him.
He said to her, *“Stand in the doorway of the tent, and it shall be if anyone comes
and inquires of you, and says, ‘Is there anyone here?’ that you shall say, ‘No.’”*
But Jael, Heber’s wife, took a tent peg and seized a hammer in her hand,
and went secretly to him and drove the peg into his temple,
and it went through into the ground; for he was sound asleep and exhausted.
So he died.
And behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him and said to him,
“Come, and I will show you the man whom you are seeking.”
And he entered with her,
and behold Sisera was lying dead with the tent peg in his temple.”

Jabin was the king of Canaan. Judges 4:23

“So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the sons of Israel.”

What was the end result of Jabin and Canaan? Judges 4:24
“The hand of the sons of Israel pressed heavier and heavier upon Jabin the king of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin the king of Canaan.”

Just from the **Psalm 83** text, what happened in the battle against Sisera and Jabin?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Again, just from the **Psalm 83** text, what had the leaders Oreb and Zeeb, and the kings Zebah and Zalmunna done against Israel?

Does that sound familiar? What are the ten nations in this **Psalm** saying?

Isaiah 83:13-18

How did the psalmist start off his prayer?

How does the psalmist start of this section of his prayer?

What would be the purpose of adding the “my”?

How does he want the enemies’ destruction to come about? In other words, to Whom is he calling for their destruction?

Who is the “them”?

Like what does the psalmist want them to become?

- 1.
- 2.

What happens to whirling dust eventually?

What happens to chaff before the wind?

The psalmist calls for God to pursue His enemies. What picture does the psalmist give to show the pursuit he is calling for?

1.

2.

What happens to a forest when a fire is driven by a strong wind?

Will it eventually devour each and every hillside on the mountains?

What kind of a wind does the psalmist expect God to use?

1.

2.

POINT OF CONNECTION

Isaiah 17:12-14

***“Alas, the uproar of many peoples who roar like the roaring of the seas,
and the rumbling of nations who rush on like the rumbling of mighty waters!
The nations rumble on like the rumbling of many waters, but He will rebuke them
and they will flee far away,
and be chased like chaff in the mountains before the wind,
or like whirling dust before a gale.
At evening time, behold, there is terror!
Before morning they are no more.
Such will be the portion of those who plunder us
and the lot of those who pillage us.”***

II Chronicles 6:33b

“in order that all the peoples of the earth may know Your name,

***and fear You as do Your people Israel,
and that they may know that this house which I have built
is called by Your Name.”***

What does the psalmist expect the reaction of the enemies to be to God’s stormy tempest of wrath?

1.

2.

If they are truly terrified and dishonored by the storm of God’s wrath, what might they do?

What does it mean to seek the Name of the LORD?

Why does the psalmist want the enemies to seek the Name of the Lord? (**Verse four**)

Whereas they wanted to eradicate the name of God’s people, Israel, and therefore their God’s Name, from the face of the earth, what does the psalmist want to happen instead?

1.

2.

3.

4.

Of what are they going to be ashamed?

How long will they be dismayed?

Will others see their shame?

What will be their final end?

What does the psalmist see as the end regarding the nations' understanding of God? Write it out, word for word, repeating is over and over again, until you have it memorized.

Whose Name is the LORD?

Who will eventually know that the LORD is the Most High over all the earth?

What will it take for them to know that the LORD is the Most High over all the earth?

Does any one or any other god have the name "LORD"?

What position does the LORD have?

What does it mean by "Most High"?

POINT OF DEPTH

**The words for Most High are El Elyon.
It is another Name of God and in Hebrew it looks like this: אֱלִיּוֹן**

**God Most High Sovereign Ruler of the universe!
God is the God of all gods—He is the very God of very gods!**

**El Elyon, God Most High, Sovereign Ruler of all the universe is in control!
God so rules and overrules that no person, angel, demon or devil,
nor any circumstance can thwart even a single part of His plan for His creation!**

**He rules over all!
He rules over all the affairs of man.
He holds man in His hand.
He is the Most High God!**

Seems pretty clear to me!

READ AND REASON

Take a map and locate all the nations listed in Psalm 83. What do they all have in common? They seem to surround and circle the tiny country of Israel. Israel's neighbors are her most violent and dreaded enemies!

We have no historical record of any specific battle against Israel that included the ten nations listed in Psalm 83. Therefore, it is likely that it is still yet to occur. How close are we to the battle? No one knows, but we do know that we are to study the Word of God, be familiar with His Word enough to handle it accurately as a workman for God. So it would be wise on our parts to watch the movements in these nations, carefully comparing them to what God has to say in His Word. If you cross-reference these nations in the Bible, you will find God has much more to say concerning them; therefore, we most definitely need to study what God has revealed through His prophets.

As I write this study, the world has just seen an historical military coup take place in Egypt, the result of hundreds of thousands of demonstrators in Cairo for over two weeks. As Tunisia's overthrow of her government was the catalyst for the Egyptians to do the same, so the world is watching the Middle East as it bubbles and foams with many other nations trying to reenact the Egyptian scenario. In Yemen, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Iran (especially note those last four) we see anti-government demonstrations with protestors clamoring to overthrow their tyrannical governments going on at present, while Saudi Arabia is possibly another future boiling point.

Looking at the list of nations in Psalm 83 and looking at the nations in turmoil at the present time makes for a fascinating anticipation of what might quickly be revealed. Will the nations of Psalm 83 soon be in the position to make an alliance against God's people Israel? It's very, very possible, even probable, but God's timetable, although many times spelled out for us, is not completely disseminated. Our job is to study, obey, pray and wait for His return! Included in our obedience is the commission to preach the Truth of His Word, the Gospel, to all the nations, including the very ones who intend to come against the apple of God's eye, Israel.

Read Psalm 2:1-12 and note how entirely relevant it is, both to the world at large, and every individual in it!

*“Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing?
The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together
against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,*

“Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!”

***He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them.
Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying,
“But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”***

***I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me,
‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.
Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.
You shall break them with a rod of iron,
You shall shatter them like earthenware.’***

***Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth.
Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling.
Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way,
for His wrath may soon be kindled.***

How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!”

If you have never bowed your knee in submission to God, then you need to repent from your own uproar against Him—and believe in His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ, Israel’s Messiah and Savior of the saints! Believe that His perfect payment to God was sufficient to completely pay the debt you owed God for your sin—your own life! Then, take refuge in Him!