

Twelve Princes!

Overview

I feel a little delinquent. This is my first time standing here before you as I've been missing for three Sundays. And so the first Sunday that was totally planned. I was preaching special meetings in Toronto. And I have to tell you that it was glorious. I had such a time. I had such freedom. It was camp meeting for the whole weekend. And you know what I mean by the altar times. Every service the altar extended beyond two hours. Just a time of waiting before the Lord. Excellent, wonderful things happened.

There were people there from Iran, from Iraq, from China, from all over the world. And it was a beautiful multicultural mix of people. And my, did they sing. It was a little loud for me. I found it a little deafening. I turned to the 52 year old pastor in the middle of it and shouted in his right ear. You really get off on this do you? He said, well, I have to stay young. And he said, but it does hurt my ears. So I thought I'd tell them about how you can get special hearing aids from Costco. Once you've been in a few of those services, you might need them.

I struggled all this week for obvious reasons as to what I should say in this pulpit. I'm determined not to talk about the atrocities. We've heard enough about that. And someone would say, we'll never hear enough. It's debilitating to a person's soul to hear about such ugliness and such terror. And now, of course, the follow through has to be the mopping up and the destruction of the terrorists. And of course, the whole world's going to turn against Israel now. We know that and we just have to anticipate it. I work so hard at preparing some things. I found quite a list.

You can find them on the Internet if you look in the right place. Quite a list of the different outfits. I don't know what else to call them. Empires, small empires. Who owned that thing called the Gaza Strip, and who owned or who controlled Israel? The list was so long over the centuries that I just determined, I'm not going to read all that off to you. But for somebody to say, this is ours. They never had it until it was given to them, the Gaza Strip in 2005. They never had it before. And they were not content with that. So I just say this much. The war that's going on is not about Gaza. Gaza is a convenient hotspot. It's about something else. And I'm going to share that with you today.

Now, I'm going to get into some weeds today. I mean, I'm going to get into a lot of data. It's all biblical. And I hope you won't mind that. So I'm going to read what you might consider to be a strange passage of Scripture on such a topic. But trust me, if you stay with me, this is going to mean something. In fact, every time you read this passage from now on, I trust that you'll remember what I shared with you today. In Luke 23, then they took, they all took Jesus to Pilate and began to bring up charges against Him. They said, we found this man determining or undermining our law and order, forbidding taxes to be paid to Caesar, setting himself up as a Messiah King. Pilate asked Him, is this true that you're the king of the Jews? Those are your

words, not mine, Jesus replied.

Pilate told the high priests and the accompanying crowd, I find nothing wrong here. He seems harmless enough to me, but they were vehement. He's stirring up unrest among the people with His teaching, disturbing the peace everywhere, starting in Galilee and now all through Judea. He's a dangerous man and He's endangering the peace. When Pilate heard that, He asked, so, He's a Galilean. Realizing that He properly came under Herod's jurisdiction. He passed the buck back to Herod who just happened to be in Jerusalem for a few days. Herod was delighted when Jesus showed up. He wanted for a long time to see Him. He'd heard so much about Him.

He hoped to see Jesus do something spectacular. He prompted Him with some questions. Jesus didn't answer, not one word, but the high priests and the religion scholars were right there saying their peace, strident and shrill in their accusations. Mightily offended Herod turned on Jesus. His soldiers joined in taunting, jeering. Then they dressed Him up in elaborate, kingly costume and sent Him back to Pilate. That day, Herod and Pilate became thick as thieves. Always before they kept their distance.

So why would I read a passage like that to you today? Well, I'm glad you asked. We have to go back to the first book of the Bible to find out what this chapter in the gospel of Luke really, really meant. Abraham, the Lord called out of Ur of the Chaldees and said, I'm taking you to a land that I will give you. Leave everything. Take your herds, take whatever you want to take with you, but you follow me. The story goes on when the Lord said, I'm going to make you a great nation. People all over the world are going to hear about you, eventually, and just the mention of your name is going to bring a blessing to many. We could add millions.

The Lord you know was preparing Abraham and Sarah for a child. But Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were looking for a child. But Abraham got a little anxious about it and his wife came along and said, why don't you take Hagar, and why don't you bear a child through her? Interesting. Hagar was an Egyptian. And she'd been sold to Abraham, at some time in the past, because slavery to the Egyptians was a simple thing. The Jews were happy to go along with it. So Hagar lived in the house of Abraham and Sarah. She was like a personal maid to Sarah. But once a child was conceived, some things began to happen between these two women and a little civil war broke out in the house.

On one occasion, Hagar was chased off the property, for a time, and then she was invited back when the Lord said to her, you go back, I'm going to bless you with a son. I'm going to take care of that son. Through your son, you will see 12 grand sons and every one of them, the Lord said, every one of the sons, of your son, will be known as a prince. Abraham, Isaac, but you never heard about princes. But with Hagar and the Lord saying, I'm going to bless you. with what turned out to be Ishmael. Ishmael will have 12 sons and every one of them will be a prince.. Every one of them.

Well, when Ishmael was born, trouble continued in that house. And when he was about the age of, I believe it was 14, Sarah conceived and she bore a child. The trouble raged and Sarah was watching what was going on between Ishmael, who was now 15 years of age and little Isaac.

And she was concerned that Ishmael was going to be honored. Sarah was concerned that Ishmael was going to be honored over Jacob. Jacob, she was thinking, is my son and Ishmael is the son of Hagar. But Ishmael, you see, was the first born. There was a complete understanding back in those days and it was a cultural thing. And the Lord actually spoke into the situation as well and said, the first born will be the best. The first born will be honored. And in fact, when the dad's properties are divided up, no matter how many sons a daddy has, a double portion would go to the first born, and the remainder divided up among the rest of daddy's offspring. So, when it's all said and done, the first born will get twice as much as any of the other sons.

So you see, there was another thing. Another part of it was that whoever is the first born, will become the heir apparent of the family line. And the Lord had said to Abraham, I'm going to bless you and everybody in the whole world is going to hear about you. And so here is Sarah worrying that Ishmael is going to be the one that is celebrated and that he's going to receive the blessing of being part of Abraham's lineage.

So trouble ensued and Hagar was pushed out of the house because Sarah would not have anything more. It had to be a troubling thing for Abraham to let Hagar go with the first born. But he also understood that Isaac was God's promise. By the way, if you were to read it up in the Koran, you'll discover that that little story gets passed by and the Koran tells you that Ishmael was the child that the Lord said to Abraham, take him up onto Mount Moriah and offer him and he was miraculously restored. That according to the Koran was actually Ishmael because they had to make the story up however they wanted to.

Now watch this. How come the twelve sons of Ishmael were known as princes? Well, when you go and you look a little closer, Hagar sought for a wife for her son Ishmael and where did she go to get that wife? She went back to her clan back in Egypt and it's widely believed by both the Jewish people and the Arabs, and the Muslims combined. All of them believe this, that she had very significant ties with the Pharaoh's house and that the woman that married Ishmael was an Egyptian and the daughter of the Pharaoh. So when twelve sons are born to Ishmael and his Egyptian princess, what would the twelve boys be known as? These are the grandsons of the Pharaoh so of course they're called princes.

Interesting enough that the second prince doesn't matter about the names. I can't pronounce them anyway. Of Twelve sons, the second one married another, I believe, Egyptian and the Muslim people will tell you that from that second son of Ishmael going down through the lineage and you don't have to go down very many generations, you will find a man by the name of Muhammad. Therein was born and came to life, the Muslim religion. So what we know is, is a son of Ishmael, a great grandson of Abraham, his name is Muhammad, and the Arabs love that, they love it very much.

So the weeds are still coming, believe me. So we have Ishmael who's the firstborn but he senses rejection because in his mind and in his mother's mind he should have been honored by Abraham. He should have got not just a double portion, he should have been blessed beyond

measure, and the world should have known the name of Ishmael, not Isaac, have I mixed you up now? I told April this is going to be bad, I know it.

Alright so from Isaac then we have two sons, I'm going to be switching back and forth, we have Isaac who has two sons, Jacob and Esau. The firstborn was Esau, so he should have received the double portion and he should have been fully recognized? It would be Esau, but we know that Jacob was born seconds later. The record is that the lady who was assisting Rebecca with the birth of this child, noticed that the second child had a hold of the heel of the firstborn. Jacob was born holding on to Esau saying, not so fast buddy, I want a portion of this.

Well there was difficulty in the house of Isaac because of these two boys. Jacob was born, was favored by Mama and Esau was favored by Daddy, so you already had a dysfunctional family and so Esau, he's a hunter and Jacob's kind of like, you know, he's sticking close to home. Esau comes in from the hunt and he's starving to death. Let's remember that this is a very wealthy house. There were lots of servants around to prepare food or whatever, but Jacob comes and he prepares him a bowl of stew. I looked it up and I thought, why didn't it just say pork and beans? Why didn't it just say porridge? No, it was called stew and when you look into the original ingredients of that word, the significant thing is, it was a stew made of wild meat because that is what Esau craved.

He was a hunter, he didn't want to eat mutton, he didn't want to eat sheep or goat or cow. He wanted deer, he wanted caribou or maybe he wanted a northern Canada moose. We don't know, but he probably wanted wild meat, and so the stew that was prepared for him was wild meat because he was going to be a wild man. He was going to be a wild fellow. So it's interesting that Esau lost the blessing. He sold out his inheritance and let Jacob have it. Then he thought it over and said, I changed my mind, but here's the interesting thing. Once the blessing was passed to Jacob, there was no turning back. It was a done deal. God was going to honor that covenant.

So Esau is now another first born who feels betrayed and he feels out of it. He's missing it. So on that side of the family, we have Esau who's upset because although first born, he misses out on the blessing. On the other side of the family, you have Ishmael, he's upset because he should have been honored as the first born. I fear I've lost you. I hope not. I hope it all comes together in a couple of minutes here. So now we have Esau, he leaves home and against his mother and father's wishes, he goes to the Hittites. These are not good people. And there he becomes known as Edom. Edom meaning red. He loved his red meat and he also was of a rather reddish complexion and he happily accepted that name at about the age of 15, Edom.

And eventually, and it's important when you're reading the Old Testament, you'll read about Edom. It's talking about Esau. Esau became a great nation and this was part of God's blessing upon him. He was blessed by God and eventually became known as the leader, the founder of the Edomites. And you'll read about them all along down the way. In fact, the Edomites are rather famous because in Numbers chapter 20 and verse 14, Moses is leading the children from Egypt, leading the Israelites, the Jewish people out of Egypt. They're heading for the promised land, he's now at the very border land of the Edomites, the kingdom of the Edomites. And he sends a message to the king of Edom. Esau's passed away now.

This is 400 years later. And he sends him a message and he says, Hi, my name's Moses. I'm your cousin. Remember me? You surely have heard the problems that we had. My great grandpa made his way down into Egypt and everything seemed hunky-dory, but then things kind of went wrong. And we ended up being terrorized and troubled, but God Jehovah has delivered us. And we're on our way to the promised land. Now your property, your kingdom is right on the path that we're on, we're right on the way. We're just on the outskirts now.

We'd like permission. We'd like permission, Esau, come, Edom. We'd like permission for us, your cousins, to pass over your land. We won't touch your vineyards. We won't walk through your grainary fields. We won't, we won't even take water out of your wells. We're going to go through without saying a word. We won't be singing. We won't be dancing. We're going to go, you won't even know we're there. We're going to pass through and please, we just don't want any trouble. We're not here to conquer. We're not here to do anything. We're a bunch of slaves. We don't know how to make war or anyhow. Can we just make our way through?

And the answer came back from the Edomite king, a relation of Esau, a great, great, great grandson, maybe of Esau. And the word came back. You put one foot on our property and it's war and we'll cut your heads off. And so Moses and the children of Israel had to pass around. Why was this? Because the sons of Esau hate the sons of Jacob. You got the blessing, but you never should have got it. You got it with that stew. You caught me in a weak moment. That just wasn't fair. I know I ate the stew. I know I said, yeah, I'll trade my heritage for a bowl of stew, but that was just a weak point. You got a kind of, yeah, give me some space here.

But you know what? God honored the promise that came through the old grandpa who laid his hands upon Jacob and blessed him. Edom is a man of war. He's related to Esau. But then we have also Esau had a son whose name was Eliphaz. And Eliphaz had a son whose name was Amalek. Write that name down in your mind and never forget that name, Amalek. You know, all these genealogies so it's over. Years ago, when I was trying to read the Bible through, I'd get to one of those pages and I'd flip it over, get to another, this one begat this one. I'll flip that one over and flip that one over. All of these names.

Now I have come to understand. There's a reason why those names are all there. Esau begat Eliphaz. Eliphaz begat Amalek and Amalek became famous in his own way. And he gave birth to a nation of people called the Amalekites, the Amalekites. So interesting that when Moses and the Jewish people were on their way leaving Egypt, they had trouble with Edom, but now this is another son of the other side of the family. When they stop at a place called Rephidim, and God supplies them with water, the word of God says, then came Amalek. So Amalek, you see, is part of that family of Esau feeling rejected. They hate the sons of Jacob. They hate the sons of Jacob.

And so they attack. And who did they attack? And this will, this will make you feel like you're watching the news this week. How did Amalek attack those who were following Moses? Did they face them? Get this. Did they face Moses and those men that he had kind of trained up and said, now you've got to look after the women and the children and the grandmas and the infirm, you've got to look after them. So you're going to be up at the front line with me and we're going

to be the defenders. Amalek was wise. And Trump, bless his pointed head, this week said, well, I'm really proud of some of those people over there. They were pretty smart. Amalek attacked the Jewish people who were fleeing Egypt. He attacked them from behind. He killed the babies. He beheaded the young women who were pregnant with children. He attacked the grandmas and the grandpas. And so the mighty men with Moses had to turn around and start fighting those who were coming in from behind. That is the story you'll remember where Moses goes up on a mountain and he starts praying against the Amalekites.

But his arms grow weary and as he starts to lower his arms, the Amalekites start to win. What is the significance of raising the arms? It's a sense of dependence. It's a sense of honoring. It's a sense of saying, Lord, we depend on you. And even in weakness as his arm started to come down, that must not be. And so his brother Aaron, and another leader Hur, came up and they held up his arms. And that day the Amalekites were defeated. At the end of the day, or maybe the following morning, Moses sat down with Joshua and said, I want you to make sure that this gets written down. Because last night I got a word from the Lord and this is the word.

When our people arrive in the promised land, God says when we get there, there's some unfinished business that we need to take care of. When we get to the promised land, the Lord God says, deal with Amalek. He attacked the women. He attacked the babies. And I want you to wipe Amalek from the face of the earth. I don't want one thing left. In fact, the Lord God said, not even a cow, nothing. Don't bring me a sheep and say, here's a prize sheep that we're offering to the Lord. Where did it come from? Well, it was raised by an Amalekite, on Amalekite land. Nothing shall remain of Amalek. I want his name wiped.

It's an interesting story. The first king in the promised land, his name was Saul. He was anointed the king through the workings of Samuel. And one of the first things that Samuel had to have told Saul, I've been checking with the Lord and I know one thing you're going to have to do eventually. I'll tell you when it is. But it's recorded from Joshua and Moses' time. Remember Amalek. I want him dead, his children and everything. Vengeance is mine and you will carry it out. The day came when Samuel said, when he said to Saul, it's time. The Lord has spoken to me, you are to go after Amalek. And so they did. So they did.

At the end of the day, the end of the battle, Samuel catches up to Saul, in their camp. The men are all getting drunk and they're carrying on. Samuel says, well, it looks like you guys did pretty good. Oh, yeah, we did. And Samuel notices over here, tied to a chain, to a tree, whatever, who is this fellow? He says, and who's that? Oh, don't worry about him. He said, that's Agag, Agag who? Well, he's the leader of all these Amalekites. Oh, what's he doing here? Well, I just thought I'd save him. I just thought we could have some torment. We could do some extra business with him.

And Samuel says, what are all these herds, sheep and cattle, whatever? Well, what's this all about? He said, oh, those are the animals of the Amalekites because they were very successful farmers, don't you know? And Samuel says, and what do you plan to do with those animals? Let's remember that the Lord viewed the animals. He viewed Agag, the king of the Agagites, who were actually Amalekites. He regarded all of it, all of them, everything they owe, everything. He

regarded it as something that belonged in a cesspool. But here's Saul as he becomes world-minded. I saved the best of the rot of the world. It's pretty, it's nice. It's got wonderful music. It's got awesome great things. And we're going to bring it into the house of the Lord, and we're going to offer it to God. We're going to offer the things of the world, the things that God despises. But we saved the best, and we're going to offer it to God.

Samuel could hardly sleep that night. The following day he found Saul. He asked him, we're at Saul, get to you. Oh, he's down at such and such a place. Saul saw to it that the memorial was raised up in his honor. And he's down there celebrating with his mighty warriors. That day, it was Samuel, who killed Agag. But there was a problem, even with that. A lot of the Amalekites, where these guys were herding up the sheep and the cattle and saving the best for God, some Amalekite warriors got loose, and they ran for home. So we've still got some Amalekites on the loose, right? The day comes when David decides it's time for me to deal with the Amalekites.

And so he goes to war with the Amalekites. Meanwhile, Saul and his sons are fighting the Philistines. David says, I want to know how's it going with Saul and my buddy Jonathan? All of a sudden a man shows up, his clothes are all tattered, he's covered with dirt, maybe some blood. He's obviously been on the battlefield. He wants to speak to David. David said, bring him to me. This fellow shows up, and I just want to give a little drama to this. He had something behind his back, which he was not showing at first. David said, who are you? Oh, I just came from the battlefield between your buddy Saul. I know how you hate him. He hates you. Don't worry, there's nothing left of him. David says, oh, how do you know that?

Oh, he says I was there. What do you mean you were there? Well, he said, the battle was pretty well over. He said, we'd routed Saul and his boys. And he said, I saw a couple of people up on a mound and he said, I went up there and he said, what did I find? He said, I found Saul's two sons dead and I found King Saul. I found him there and he was desperately wounded. It was obvious. He said he wasn't going to make it. He said, I walked up to him and said, you're in a bad way. What do you think I should do today?

And he says, Saul said to him, you better finish me. I'm not going to make it anyway. And David said, what did you do? He said, I killed King Saul. He said, why should I believe that? He said, I stole his crown. I have the crown of Saul. And David stood there and looked at him and said, wait a minute, who are you? I'm an Amalekite. Saul spared Amalekites. And an Amalekite killed him. I stole his crown.

Remember Amalek. The story goes on, folks. In this glorious book, I'm doubting that you're aware of this stuff. I don't know. I'm a nutcase for details. I've actually been working on this topic for probably 15 years. And here's what I discovered. 500 years have passed now since an Amalekite, an Agagite. Remember, you know, like my name is Forrest, but my grandpa was a Hagen. And my other grandpa was a Forrest. So, you know, you have these different families, right? I have cousins who are Haggans. So, that's how you get these Agagite, Edomite, Amalekite. So, 500 years have gone on and a story very familiar to all of us, the story of Esther.

Esther, along with many Jewish people, are being held by the Persian Empire, Persia. Iran. And she has been given as a bride, as a wife, to the king. But there's this mean fellow who had a lot of authority in Persia who hated the Jews with an incredible hatred. The king could have killed all the Jews, but he just made them slaves instead. But this man, his name was, you've heard of him, Haman. And he determined he's going to kill all the Jews. We're going to exterminate every last one. There won't be a Jew left when I'm done.

Esther heard about this. Mordecai, a man who was faithful to God, came to her and said, listen, sweetie, you might have just been born for this very day. I know it's a risk for one of many wives to go in and say to the king, Haman is up to some bad stuff. I know he's your honored fellow. I know he sits at your table. I know you trust him with your entire kingdom. I know that there's nobody in your kingdom that you trust more, but I'm telling you, King, he's a bad actor. Mordecai, I said, go, you might die, but you have done your part. She went to the king and she convinced him.

Anybody want to know the family line of Haman who wanted to exterminate the Jews and kill every one of them? He was an Agagite. It's in the book. It's written therefore so and so begat so and so begat so and so. Haman was from the tribe of Agay. He was a descendant of Ishmael. Oh, did I tell you that Esau eventually married a daughter of Ishmael. So the two deposed boys, one from this line misses out on the first, firstborn privilege. The other guy, Esau, he's ticked off. Now they're joined together as two families in one person. Where's this going, David? Come to the New Testament.

In the New Testament in the gospels, we have, what's called in historical records the Herodian dynasty, the Herod's. Remember the Herod's? Do you remember one of them tried to kill all the little boys who were born in his kingdom? Because he said, I don't like this story about a king of the Jews. That was a Herod. I'll be done shortly and that little baby doesn't bother me, but please stay. That little baby needs to hear this. So the Herod's were from the Idomeans, all of these fancy words. Wait, the Herod's and this is recorded history. I'm not making up funny stuff here. Herod's family were descendants of Edom. Abraham, Isaac, Esau who became Edom, the Edomites. Herod came from that crew.

How does this all work out? We read about this king and this tetrarch and all this in the gospels and you got to dig in to find out what it's all about. I won't be long here, but Rome had conquered Israel and made it a vassal state. In other words, he left it in place, but you're owned by me. And what Rome did was appoint Herod the Great to sit on the throne of Judea. He died and his territory was divided up among his four sons. A hundred years earlier, Edomites had been conquered by the ruler of Judea. So the Edomites had their piece of land and they were conquered by the ruler of Judea.

The Edomites then were forced because they were conquered by the Jewish rulers of Judea. They were forced to convert to Judaism, but they didn't want any part of it, but they were stuck with it. So the Edomites then were overseen by Antipas. He was the governor of Edom. Antipas had a great grandson who became known as Herod the Great. Antipas was appointed by Rome to be the pro-curator of Judah, and he appointed Herod to be governor of Jerusalem and Judea.

So now we come back to the gospel of Luke and we have Pilate who's just kind of like the sheriff of Nottingham and he finds out that this Judas, this Jesus before him is a Galilean. He says, whoa, wait a minute, here's a chance for me to make some points with my boss, Herod. So he sends Jesus to stand before Herod. Stay with me. Herod is a descendant of Ishmael and Esau. He's the sum total of the Aggagites, the Ishmaelites, the Hittites. He's the summation of all of them. And Jesus is of the line of Jacob. Jacob? Jesus. Esau, Herod. Jesus, the son of Jacob, is standing with his hands tied. He's already been brutalized. Pilate turned Jesus over to Herod and said, he's of your kingdom. You do what you like with him.

Can I play with you for a moment? I don't just see Herod and Jesus. I see Jacob and Esau. Esau is now wearing the crown. And Jacob sold, made a plan with Esau back in the day. You give me the privilege. I'll give you a bowl of wild meat. So now you have Esau with his crown known as Herod. We have Esau saying to Jacob, so, here we are. You think you're the top dog, do you? You're not going to last another 24 hours.

When Jesus on the cross shouted, it is finished. He was declaring, Jacob, have I loved Esau, have I hated? What's going on in the Middle East right now is a family struggle between Esau and Jacob. They will never make peace. They will always hate each other. Esau is always saying, I want it. I want more. I want it. I want it. And I'll kill you to get it. I'll do whatever it takes. I want it.

We've got people on university campuses. We've got some members of the big U.S. Congress shouting and dancing. Go Hamas, go Hamas. There's so much on the side of Esau. I don't know how you view this message. I've come to the end here. This was not an exciting moment. I know that. But I think it's important to realize that the trouble that's going on in the Middle East right now is a spiritual battle. It is a spiritual battle. It's not about a piece of ground called Gaza. It's about Esau saying, I'll kill you all. It's about that side saying, we're going to push the Jews into the sea. We don't want one left alive. We want them gone.

That's what Haman tried to do and a little princess went into the king and said, sir, do you realize what Haman's up to? I'm trusting God for another miracle to salvage the situation. You touch Israel. You're touching the apple of his eye. You condemn Israel. You're in for trouble. You bless Abraham. God will bless you. You curse Abraham and all the judgment of God is hanging over your neck. Word needs to get to that crowd. You're never going to win. You're never going to win. You're never going to win. Israel is the apple of his heart.

So Heavenly Father, as a congregation, we don't pretend to understand it all. My heart's broken when I think of innocent people who live in Gaza. Innocent Palestinians, they're not after this. It's the roughnecks. It's the suicidal maniacs. Lord God, I pray for the Palestinian people that they will not be destroyed, they will not be wiped out.. And I pray, oh God, for the Jewish people, the brokenhearted, the mothers who are languishing, the stories about their children, the rapeings, the murders, the fire. Dear God, what a mess.

But Lord God, we trust you. We believe in you and we trust you with our heart. We trust you with the world and we would cry out ... Even so come Lord Jesus. Come Lord Jesus. Protect your people, Israel. Keep them safe from those who would attack from Lebanon. Keep them safe

from those who might change their mind and attack from Jordan. Keep them safe. Oh Lord, from the Egyptians who just might turn and might also come in and Israel's totally surrounded. But Lord God, I'd like to pray out and say, Israel is surrounded by an army of angels and the Lord God says, these are my people. Protect them, I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.