**“O Sleeper! Arise, Call…!” The Book of Jonah**

*A Prophecy about Israel and the Nations, A Study about Israel and the Nations, as Seen in the Life and Experiences of the Prophet Jonah*

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The small four-chapter Book of Jonah is mainly a prophecy covering a central feature of the complete history of Israel, past, present, and future — that of *Israel’s calling as God’s witness to the nations* (Isaiah 43).

Very little of the book though has to do with Israel’s past or present history in this respect (only the opening verses in Jonah 1; 4 and time surrounding that foreshadowed by *the three days and three nights* [Jonah 1:17]).

Though Jonah was moved by the Spirit to record this prophecy about 2,800 years ago, almost the entire book (Jonah 1:4ff), even today, *has to do with Israel at a yet future time*. This part of the book has to do with the Jewish people during the coming Tribulation, the time immediately beyond following Christ’s return, and the ensuing Messianic Era.

The Book of Jonah, in its layout after the preceding fashion, deals with a problem. *And it is NOT just any problem. Rather, it is THE CENTRAL PROBLEM confronting mankind today — MIDDLE EAST PEACE!*

*WHY* does the problem exist?

*HOW* can the problem be resolved?

*WHEN* will the problem be resolved?

The small Book of Jonah provides the answers to all of these questions, and more. And these answers were provided by a Jewish prophet some 2,800 years ago.

But who believes a Jewish prophet? Certainly not the world!

Then there are the Christians, who, for the most part, don’t appear to believe the Jewish prophet either!

The battle has been raging between two half-brothers for 4,000 years, and, as of late, others have entered into the fray as well.

But that existing in the Middle East today is *FAR, FAR more than just a 4,000-year-old problem*. In fact Jonah, providing the solution, doesn’t even deal with this part of the problem. And, though he provides the solution in a simple, concise manner, almost everyone still misses it.

Then there is something else. *Though the WHY, HOW, and WHEN of the problem are all dealt with in Jonah, man CAN’T have any part in dealing with or resolving the problem — except possibly making it worse*.

But, nonetheless, Scripture provides answers to all of the preceding. And that’s what this book is about.

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