

~Day(s) of the Lord~

Isaiah 34:1-5. Draw near, O nations, to hear; and listen, O peoples! Let the earth and all it contains hear, and the world and all that springs from it. For the Lord's indignation is against all the nations, and His wrath against all their armies; He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to slaughter. So their slain will be thrown out, and their corpses will give off their stench, and the mountains will be drenched with their blood. And all the host of heaven will wear away, and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; all their hosts will also wither away as a leaf withers from the vine, or as one withers from the fig tree. For My sword is satiated in heaven, behold it shall descend for **judgment upon Edom**, and upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.

This prophecy was against **Edom** (verse 5, see also Genesis 25:30). **This was fulfilled in 721 BC by Assyria.** Please note that the mountains melt, the host of heaven dissolved, heaven rolled up as a scroll, etc. In other words, "heaven and earth" was destroyed.

Question: "Did these things literally take place when the Assyrians destroyed Edom?" If they did, where is the passage that states that God created a "new heaven and earth?" I assert that there isn't one. These terms are poetic references to the judgment of that nation.

Zephaniah 1:1-4, 14-18. The word of the Lord which came to Zephaniah son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah son of Amon, king of Judah, "I will completely remove all things from the face of the earth," declares the Lord. "I will remove man and beast; I will remove the birds of the sky and the fish of the sea, and the ruins along with the wicked; and I will cut off man from the face of the earth," declares the Lord. "So I will stretch out My hand against **Judah** and against all the inhabitants of **Jerusalem**. And I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the names of the idolatrous priests along with the priests! Near is the great day of the Lord, near and coming very quickly; listen, the day of the Lord! In it the warrior cries out bitterly. A day of wrath is that day, a day of trouble and distress, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of trumpet and battle cry, against the fortified cities and the high corner towers. And I will bring distress on men, so that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the Lord; and their blood will be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them on the day of the Lord's wrath; and **all the earth** (land) will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, for He will make a complete end, indeed a terrifying one, of all the inhabitants of the earth (land).

This is a prophecy against **Israel** (verse 4). **It was fulfilled in 587 BC by Babylon.** Note the destruction of all flesh, the day of the Lord was near; the day of the Lord was coming very quickly. There was also wrath; destruction; darkness; clouds; trumpet; earth destroyed by fire; etc. That is to say, the destruction of the "world."

Question: "Did those things literally take place when Jerusalem fell?" Of course not. Just like our previous example, these terms are poetic references to the judgment of God.

Those terms are also used to depict the destruction of Jerusalem in the New Testament. Instead of a cosmic cataclysm, it refers, in Hebrew hyperbole, to a major change in authority (or government),

usually through war. It does NOT mean the end or destruction of the entire planet, as is obvious from the other 'days of the Lord'.