

Zephaniah 1:5~ And those who are bowing down upon the roofs to the army of the heavens, and those who are bowing down, making sworn oaths to Yehowah, and making sworn oaths by Malcam.¹

Footnote: By Malcam Hebrew, *beMal·kam'*; Syrian, *beMal·kum*; Vulgate, by Melchom; LXX, by their king

1· Yehowah then will also come out against all those ones who are within Jerusalem, who are bowing down upon their rooftops to all of the army of the heavens, Satan the Devil and his demons, they making sworn oaths to Malcam, who was the principal god of the Ammonites, and at the same time trying to worship Yehowah God.

[Question] Who also, within Jerusalem, will Yehowah God then come out against, for who are all such ones really worshipping?

2· And the altars that were upon the roof of the roof chamber of Ahaz that the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in two courtyards of the house of Yehowah, the king pulled down, after which he crushed them there, and he cast their dust into the torrent valley of Kidron. (2 Kings 23:12)

[Question] Where did the kings of Judah make altars to their false gods to worship?

3· So he built again the high places, that Hezekiah his father had pulled down, and set up altars to the Baals, and made sacred poles, and he began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and serve them. (2 Chronicles 33:3)

[Question] What high places did Manasseh rebuild, and what did he set up there?

4· And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, must become like the place of Topheth, unclean ones, that is, all the houses upon the roofs of which they made sacrificial smoke to all the army of the heavens, and there was a pouring out of drink offerings to other gods. (Jeremiah 19:13)

[Question] What did Yehowah God state, that the house of the kings of Judah would become like, and why?

- 5· **And the Chaldeans who are fighting against this city, must come in and set this city aflame with fire, and must burn it down, and the houses upon the roofs of which they have made sacrificial smoke to Baal, and have poured out drink offerings to other gods, for the purpose of offending me. (Jeremiah 32:29)**

[Question] What did Yehowah God state would happen to all the houses, where this false worship to the army of the heavens had been carried on in Jerusalem?

- 6· **Then Elijah approached all the people and said; How long will you be limping upon two different opinions? If Yehowah is the true God, go following him, but if Baal is, go following him. And the people did not say a word in answer to him. (1 Kings 18:21)**

[Question] What question did Elijah put to Israel, for how were they then serving Yehowah God?

- 7· **It was of Yehowah that they became fearers, but it was of their own gods, that they proved to be worshipers, according to the religion of the nations, from among whom they had led them into exile. (2 Kings 17:33)**

[Question] Who did the people of Israel fear, and why?

[Question] Who though, did they worship, and where did they get this worship from?

- 8· **No one can slave for two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other, or he will stick to the one, and despise the other. You cannot slave for God and for Riches. (Matthew 6:24)**

[Question] Can anyone slave for two different masters, for what will he tend to do?

[Question] What can men not slave for Yehowah God, and also do simultaneously?

- 9· **Hear this, O house of Jacob, you who are calling yourselves by the name of Israel and who have come forth from the very waters of Judah, you who are swearing by the name of Yehowah and who make mention even of the God of Israel, not in truth and not in righteousness. (Isaiah 48:1)**

[Question] How did Isaiah show, that Israel called upon Yehowah God?

- 10· **Although you are committing fornication, O Israel, let not Judah become guilty, and do not **you** people come to Gilgal, neither go up to Beth-aven nor swear; As **Yehowah** is alive! (**Hosea 4:15**)**

[Question] What was Judah warned not to take up, so as to become guilty like Israel?

[Question] What then, were they not to swear by?

- 11· **By never going in among these nations, these that remain with **you**. And **you** must not mention the names of their gods, nor swear by them, neither must **you** serve them, nor bow **down** to them. (**Joshua 23:7**)**

[Question] What were the Israelites not even to make mention of, nor ever swear by?

- 12· **The reason why is that they have left me, and begun to bow **down** to Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh the god of Moab, and to Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon, and they have not walked in my ways by doing what is right in my eyes, and my statutes and my judicial decisions, like David his father. (**1 Kings 11:33**)**

[Question] What gods did Israel leave Yehowah God to go forth and worship, and whose ways did they then walk in?

- 13· **For the sons of Ammon this is what **Yehowah** has said; Are there no sons that Israel has, or is there no inheritor that he has? Why is it that **Malcam** has taken possession of Gad, and his own people have taken up dwelling in Israel's very cities? (**Jeremiah 49:1**)**

[Question] What did the sons of Ammon take possession of, and how did Yehowah God call them to account?

- 14· **And that you may not raise your eyes to the **heavens** and indeed see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the **army** of the **heavens**, and actually get seduced and bow **down** to them and serve them, which **Yehowah** your God has apportioned to all the peoples, under the whole **heavens**. (**Deuteronomy 4:19**)**

[Question] Who did Yehowah God warn his people not to worship?

- 15· **And the high places that were in front of Jerusalem, that were to the right of the Mount of Ruination, that Solomon the king of Israel had built to Ashtoreth, the disgusting thing of the Sidonians, and to Chemosh, the disgusting thing of Moab, and to Milcom, the detestable thing of the sons of Ammon, the king made unfit for worship. (2 Kings 23:13)**

[Question] Who built high places in Jerusalem and on the Mount of Olives near to Jerusalem, and to whom did he render worship there?

- 16· **How can I forgive you for this very thing? Your own sons have left me, and they keep swearing by what is no God. And I kept satisfying them, but they continued committing adultery, and to the house of a prostitute woman they go in troops. (Jeremiah 5:7)**

[Question] What did Yehowah God refuse to forgive Israel of, for what were they committing in troops?

- 17· **And they will actually spread them out to the sun, and to the moon, and to all the army of the heavens that they have loved, and that they have served, and that they have walked after, and that they have sought, and that they have bowed down to. They will not be gathered, nor will they be buried. As manure upon the face of the ground they will become. (Jeremiah 8:2)**

[Question] What did Yehowah God state would happen to anyone worshipping the army of the heavens, the demons?

- 18· **And it must occur that if they will without fail learn the ways of my people in swearing by my name; As Yehowah is alive! Just as they taught my people to swear by Baal, they will also be built up in the midst of my people. (Jeremiah 12:16)**

[Question] Who alone did Yehowah God want his people to swear to oaths by, for who alone was a true God?

- 19· **Their heart has become hypocritical, now they will be found guilty. There is one who will break their altars, he will despoil their pillars. (Hosea 10:2)**

[Question] What has the hearts of the sons of Israel become like, and so what would Yehowah God do to their many altars of false worship?