

Hebrew for the Goyim

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Ahmad, Ahmood, Ohmed, etc. Oh, yawn! One might ask why study a single word (עמד) so closely. Isn't this just an esoteric, academic waste of time? Who reads this stuff? Who cares? Well, here is a good, practical reason someone might read it and care.

Article on End Times. A friend sent me an article by a well-known religious, radio talk show host, whose name is, let's say, Jared. Jared was speaking at a meeting recently and was openly confronted about the veracity of his message. Yet afterwards, he said he received a prophecy from someone else that he, Jared, would be escorted by Michael (the Archangel) into Israel with miracles and signs following him (Jared, not Michael). Later, Jared began to "re-study" the book of Daniel in the Hebrew Scriptures and as a result, he said he came to a "new understanding" about what is written in Daniel 12:1. Regarding the end times, the prophet Daniel wrote,

"And at that time Michael shall stand up (sngh), the great prince (ha-sar ha-gadol - השר הגדול), the one standing (העמד) **over** (על - on high, above, over, on behalf of - as in El Al, the airline) **the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation (גוי - that includes everyone) until (עד) that time: but at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**"

New Understanding. In his own words, here is Jared's "new understanding" of this passage: "Daniel 12:1 says, 'At that time Michael will stand up.' This literally means, 'stand still.' In other words, at that time he will stop helping the Jewish people."

Jared says the word *amad* (עמד) means "stop helping"? He is actually saying the Archangel Michael, who totally follows God's commands, will *abandon* the Jewish people in the latter days.

What the Good Book Says. As my mother would say on hearing anything questionable, "Let's see what the Good Book says." Please understand that I am not saying Jared does not study the Good Book, that Jared does not seek truth, that Jared does not love God or care about Israel. **What I am saying is that Daniel 12:1 does not say that Michael will abandon the Jewish people.** The word *amad* (עמד) speaks of *standing up for, standing strong and not being moved*, as in "I shall not be moved." It refers to *vertical, upright, non-leaning standing*. It may refer to *standing during a trial, to resisting temptation, to withstanding, resisting*

the enemy's attacks, facing a severe crisis, stepping into the breach, defending, helping. It refers to *standing on guard, to standing on one's own feet, to attending to, persisting, and persevering.* Any idea of stopping would refer to stopping everything else to devote full attention to the business at hand. It suggests *standing at attention*, as a soldier follows the commander's every word. That is the opposite of *abandon*.



Specific Biblical Examples of the word *Amad* (עמד).

- Abraham got up early (and) **stood** (עמד) before Yahweh. (Genesis 19:27)
- Israel **stood** (עמד) before Yahweh, their God, in Horeb. (Deuteronomy 4:10).
- Although Israel is never left unpunished for idolatry (burning incense to the queen of heaven - Jeremiah 44) nor for breaking God's Law, the prophet Daniel prophesies, "fear not," it is the nations *going against her* who will **not** (לא-לו) **stand** (עמד). *Not standing* in Hebrew is clear - it has the word "לו" (לא - not) written in front of it.
- Ezra 10:17 speaks of Cherubim (כרובים), who in (ב) their

- standing (עמד) will stand (יעמד).
- A pillar (a *standing* stone or pillar in the Temple) is called an *amood* (עמוד).
- Jeremiah, Chapter 1. God indicated Jerusalem will be a *pillar* (amood עמוד) and speaks about the "families of the kingdoms of the north who will come and set every one his throne at the entering of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all the walls thereof round about and against all the cities of Judah." The passage indicates those inhabitants who have forsaken god, burned incense to other gods and worshipped the work of their hands - **they will be in big trouble.** However, the message is always clear to those who trust God. "In that day I will make you (Jerusalem) a fortified city and an iron *pillar* (עמוד amood). They will not prevail for I am with you to deliver you, says Yahweh."
- Zechariah speaks of the last days (which obviously have not come yet) when nations will come against Jerusalem. Although many perish, Jerusalem will finally dwell safely, while the flesh, eyes and tongues of those who fought against Jerusalem will be consumed. Does this not sound like a nuclear weapons conflagration? Perhaps the only survivors are those, who like Daniel in the fiery furnace, trust God and are not burned nor even smell of smoke.
- Jews hear many end time scenarios. Usually it is said to be

a time they alone will take the heat, while Christians will be raptured out and miss it all - even Armageddon. In fact, Replacement Theology teaches that Jews are now out of the picture altogether - that only "Christians" are the "chosen" of God. This view teaches that all the promises made in the Hebrew Scriptures to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, Solomon, etc. - now refer only to Christians.

- My response is this. What part of eternal don't people get? If God will break his eternal covenant to Abraham, why on earth would He keep his promises to me? I am personally convinced from my reading of Scriptures that probably no one gets out early. Are we better than the apostles and early believers - or the millions of God-fearing people who have been slaughtered during the last two thousand years, the last hundred or even the last 10 years? In fact, concerning the end times, I think probably everyone will be somewhat surprised.
- The good news of God's Word is that **in all generations**, people who are being saved must live by faith - just like Abraham. It's true that Sarah (Abraham's barren wife) conceived by faith. Enoch was translated by faith. Noah and his house were saved by faith. Daniel was delivered by faith. Even the prostitute Rahab was saved by faith. But let's not forget **the others** who were tortured by faith, cruelly mocked and scourged, stoned, burned, shot, sawed apart, killed by the sword, destitute, afflicted, etc. etc. etc....all through faith. (see Hebrews 11)
- I hate pain as much as the next person, but our blessed hope is the return of our Lord and the establishment of God's Eternal Kingdom - not being spared pain or persecution on this earth. **What about our elder brothers, the Jews?** Recently, a clergyman from a well-placed congregation actually said to my husband, "Oh - the Jews - they are nothing now." Well - although I am neither a prophet nor the daughter of a prophet, I recommend we wait and see. I'm not a betting woman but if I were, I'd put my money on **Israel...**"all Israel," in fact, which includes grafted in believers. As for the passage in Daniel 12, Michael will **not stop helping** Israel. In fact, that great and powerful Archangel and Servant of our God will definitely stand and he will **stand strong.** Count on it. **May we live to see the day!!**

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