

THE SIX SONS OF KETURAH...

...As these sons' names prophetically suggest the history of the gentile nations in relationship to Israel and Israel's Messiah *during the Millennial Age*. The Millennial Age is the thousand year reign of Christ on earth following His return and until the coming of the New Heavens and the New Earth.

ZIMRAM = 'singer' or 'song'. That is how the millennial age will begin. It will begin with songs of praise to the Lord for all that He has done for the earth. Isaac Watt's hymn will come into its own: Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King!" From pole to pole the redeemed nations will sing the praises of the Lamb.

JOKSHAN = 'hard', 'difficult', 'scandalous', As time goes on, more and more children will be born on the millennial earth. They will have never known the world as we know it, misruled, ravaged by disease, death, war, economic inequity. They will only have known the prodigal bounty of the millennial earth, the peace and the prosperity of the Savior's reign. But those children will be as much children of Adam as any born today. As those born into Christian homes today sometimes grow up to be gospel hardened, so they will grow up to be glory hardened. There will be some whose behavior will bring scandals even in that age.

MEDAN and MIDIAN = 'judgment' The Lord will reign throughout the Golden Age with a rod of iron. Those who challenge His authority will be instantly, fairly, but unsparingly judged. Death will be the exception rather than the rule during the Millennium and, for the most part, when it comes it will be the result of judgment.

ISHBAK = 'empty', 'forsaken', 'abandoned'. As the millennial age draws toward its close, disaffection will increase. The secret rebels will tend to congregate further and further from Jerusalem, the center of the millennial earth. The unleashing of Satan from the abyss will give those abandoned ones a rallying point for their smoldering rebellion. The name "Ishbak" with its suggested connotations seems to suggest the spiritual condition of those who will flock to Satan's standards once they are raised.

SHUAH = 'pit', 'cry', 'humiliation'. For is not Satan released from the bottomless pit? Will there not be tumultuous crying as the unregenerate multitudes find at last a champion who will lead them against their hated King? And will not the result be humiliation as their armies are swept away in the explosion of the planet and the instant summons to the Great White Throne?"