There are moments of history, and we know this from Scripture, in which God removes His hand of grace and puts His hand of judgment on a country. It is not a pretty picture. [Speaking of America] *How soon? I don't know. But I fear it might be a lot closer than most people, even I, realize.*

Joel Rosenberg in his book *Implosion* (c.2012)

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THE JOCHEBED ANOINTING AS WE PREPARE FOR THE END OF THE AGE

Prayer Study #432

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ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS?

Every prophetic person that I know believes these are the last days, although the time is *not yet* for many prophetic words have not been fulfilled. Still, there are scriptures, which seem to describe the times we are living in *now*. These scriptures include 2nd Timothy 3, Psalm 2, Isaiah 60:1-3, Revelation 12:12, Matthew 24, to name a few, and these scriptures are about the conditions on earth during the Last Days. Therefore, although I don't think that Jesus will come back next year, I do think 2015 will be a year that will convince the Body here that we are in the Last Days period.

The Late Great Planet Earth by Hal Lindsey and Carole Carlson-1970

The Late Great Planet Earth is a literalist, pre-millennial, dispensational eschatology. In it, Lindsey used current events to broadly predict the future events leading to the rapture of believers before the tribulation and before the Second Coming of Christ. Lindsey, as did most prophetic ministries, believed that the rebirth of Israel in 1948 marked the beginning of the Last Days and that the generation living then would be alive when Jesus returned, because Matthew 24 seemed to indicate that that Jesus would return within one generation of the rebirth of Israel. Lindsey believed that a Biblical generation was 40 years. He further cited as evidence the increased frequency of famines, wars, and earthquakes. He predicted a Soviet invasion of Israel (War of Gog and Magog); a "United States of Europe," which would become the Revived Roman Empire ruled by the Antichrist; and a lessening of America's influence in the world since there appeared to be no mention of America in Daniel or Revelation, the two Biblical books that most deal with the end times. Although Lindsey did not claim to know the year of the return of Jesus, he and many believers believed that it would be before the year 1988, i.e. 1948 plus 40. Twenty-eight million copies of Lindsey's *The Late Great Planet Earth* were sold. The problem with Lindsey's book was the authors started from the wrong beginning point, i.e. 1948, when Israel was reborn as a nation, instead of 1967, when the time of the Gentiles ended with the recapture of Jerusalem in the Six-Day War. There has to be a beginning point to a generation as well as an end point.

The False Prophet by Ellis H. Skolfield-2004

In his excellent book *The False Prophet* Ellis H. Skolfield convincingly proves to me that the recapture of Jerusalem in 1967 was the beginning point of the last generation. Skolfield points out that we base most of our opinions about the Last Days, as Lindsey did, on teachings several decades old, and yet Daniel, the apocalyptic book of the Old Testament, says, *"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end…."* (Daniel 12:4a). Thus we have been taught things that could really not have been understood until 1967, the year the end days began, with the recapture of Jerusalem. From 688 AD to 1967 AD the Israelis did not have control of their own capitol. Skolfield writes in his book: *If the "Time of the End" began in 1967, and Daniel was sealed until the "Time of the End," then all views theorized out of Daniel before 1967 would at best be incomplete, and at worst heretical."*

The Generation That Will Not Pass.

Luke 21:24: *And they [the Jews] shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations, and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*

The time of the Gentiles began in 606 BC when the Gentiles took Jerusalem. Jerusalem was restored in 1967 during the Six-day war, when the Israelis recaptured Jerusalem. Thus 1967 begins the end of the Times of the Gentiles and the countdown of the end times. Thus the Gentiles will never again rule Jerusalem. The book of Daniel, which contains the verse Daniel 12:9 (see also 12:4), which says, *"And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end,"* can now be explained. As Ellis Skofield said, "If the 'Time of the End' began in 1967, and Daniel was sealed until 'The time of the End,' then all views theorized out of Daniel before 1967 are at best incomplete and at worst heretical."

Matthew 24:34 *Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place.*

Matthew 24 is a chapter in which Jesus answers two questions the disciples ask: *When shall these things be* [the destruction of the Temple] *and what shall be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?* Jesus gives the characteristics of the end times, such as wars and rumors of war, famines, pestilence, earthquakes, hatred of Christians, hate, false prophets, love that has turned cold, Gospel of the Kingdom preached in all the world, abomination of desolation, great tribulation, false christs who do signs and wonders, powers of heaven shaken, sun darkened, moon without light, etc. Then the Son of man will come in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

There is a generation that will not pass for the Bible clearly teaches that, but what is a Biblical generation?

Four Viewpoints:

1. 40 years? (1948 + 40=1988, 1967 + 40 =2007)
2. 70 to 80 years? Psalm 90:10 (*The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if, by reason of strength, they be fourscore years, yet in their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.)*
3. 100 years?
4. Who knows? A Biblical generation cannot be calculated because people had a different life expectancy in the Bible. For example, Adam lived 929 years but David lived on 70 years. The average life expectancy in the United States today is 78.7 years. So a generation in our time would fall into the category of Psalm 90:10's 70 to 80 years.

<u>The Benjamin Generation</u>

Joseph Prince believes that the last generation will become known as the Benjamin Generation. This generation will know God's grace in a special way. The Benjamin Generation will live a life of undeserved favor and blessing and have abundant provision. In fact, this generation will be given five times more than previous generations. Of course the spiritual implications of this are astonishing.

We are promised in the Bible a generation that will have the following characteristics:

1. **The Greater Works Generation:** ***Verily, verily I say unto you, he that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also, AND GREATER WORKS THAN THESE, shall he do because I go unto my Father*** (John 14:12)
2. **The Generation That Will Not Pass:** ***Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled*** (Luke 21:32).
3. **The Righteous Generation:** *And an highway shall be there and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness….and the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away* (Isaiah 35:8a & 10).
4. **The Generation That Will Seek His Face:** *This is the generation of them who seek Him, who seek Thy face, O Jacob. Selah* (Psalm 24:6).
5. **The Generation That Will Not Fear Evil Tidings:** *He shall not be afraid of evil tidings; his heart is fixed, trusting the LORD* (Psalm 112:7).
6. **The Latter Rain Generation:** *Then we know, if we follow on to know the LORD; His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He shall come upon us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth* (Hosea 6:3).

7. **The Bridal Company Generation:** *And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband* (Revelation 21:2).
8. **The Mature Sons of the Kingdom:** *For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God* (Romans 8:19).
9. **The Third Day Generation:** *Come and let us return unto the LORD; for He hath torn, and He will heal us; He hath smitten, and He will bind us up. After two days will He revive us; in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight* (Hosea 6:1-2).
10. **The Fullness Generation:** *And* [He] *hath put all things under His feet and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all* (Ephesians 1:22-23).
11. **A Generation of Destiny:** *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a people of His own, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light* (1st Peter 2:9).
12. **A Generation that will declare His Mighty Acts:** *One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts* (Psalm 145:4)

If we are in the Last Days awaiting the manifestation of the Benjamin Generation, what is our role? I truly believe it is to birth something in the Spirit, something new that the Lord wants to do with this ministry. He has impregnated us with something glorious, and it will come forth in His timing, but we must be willing to push through.

<u>A Time of Birthing</u>

Isaiah 66:9: *Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the LORD. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God.*

1st Commandment from God to Humankind: Be fruitful and multiply.

Genesis 1:27-28: *So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

First the natural and then the spiritual (1st Corinthians 15:46)-Thus, we are to be fruitful and multiply in the spiritual as well as the natural. Spiritual fruitfulness and multiplying include birthing things in the Spirit, after we have been impregnated by God.

THE JOCHEBED ANOINTING

(Jane Hamon prophetically introduced the term *Jochebed Anointing* to describe a time of birthing in the Church in the Last Days.)

Jochebed was a midwife. Her husband was Amram, and both of them were from the tribe of Levi. She also was the mother who birthed Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. Her name means *The Glory of God.* Jochebed birthed the following, all for the glory of God:

- Moses-The Deliverer
- Aaron-The High Priest
- Miriam-The Anointed Prophetess and gifted musician

The time of the Jochebed anointing or birthing anointing is near at First Love. What I am saying may not come forth for some months, but the Lord is going to birth something here, something that I have been waiting for, for many years, and something that is going to change those who press into this anointing. It will change this whole ministry forever. When it comes, our complacency, our divisions, our negative talk, our lukewarmness, and our lack of prayer will be gone. With a Jochebed Anointing, we will see a tremendous revival of the deliverance ministry, a more powerful intercessory ministry (since the High Priest office is a type of Christ the intercessor), and a fresh anointing in the prophet ministry, especially as relates to music. The ultimate purpose of this birthing here and elsewhere is to bring glory to the Lord. Dr. Bill Hamon writes of the scripture *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea* (Habakkuk 2:14), "The New Testament reveals that Jesus is the glory (expression) of God the Father and the Church is the glory (expression) of Christ Jesus. His Church will be the glory that fills the earth with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord."

For some time, the Lord has spoken to me that we are called to birth something. I don't know when or exactly what, but it is going to be *awesome*. Unfortunately, our stinking attitudes and ungodly divisions and prayerlessness have caused more abortions than birthing, but this particular birthing *will come* and will define this ministry for many years to come.

Before a woman gives birth, there are labor pains and her water breaks. We must be willing to lay down our pride, our offenses and unforgiveness, our desire to be recognized and praised (which is an iniquity drive), as painful as these actions will be, and we must push into the things of God. We must allow the Holy Spirit, the water, to break open within us as we prepare to give birth in the Spirit realm.

For many years we have spoken of the importance of the scripture in Proverbs 18:21, *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.* Many have spoken words of death over this ministry. We have rarely spoken of Proverbs 6:2 and 12:13: *You are snared by the words of your mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth*, even though this is another way of saying Proverbs 18:21. The wonderful news is that we can speak life in the power of the tongue and that we can be blessed and send blessings with the words of our mouth.

To bring us to the time of birthing, therefore, we need to begin to declare the Word of the Lord and positive confessions. A spiritual declaration is coming in to agreement with the Kingdom of Heaven and speaking out faith words that will transform the world. Tom Crandall, youth pastor at Bethel Church, says, "I believe declarations…will be like a battering ram to the walls in your mind and dynamite to your faith!"

Steve Backlund gives us scriptural reasons for speaking declarations in his book, *Declarations: Unlocking Your Future.* Some of the reasons include the following:

1. **Life is in the power of the tongue**. *Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit* (Proverbs 18:21).
2. **Words propel us to experience all that Jesus won for us.** *For by your words you will be justified and by your words you will be condemned* (Matthew 12:37).
3. **Grace is imparted when we hear life-giving declarations.** *Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers* (Ephesians 4:29).
4. **Declarations are a way to overcome anxiety and become glad.** *Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad* (Proverbs 12:25).
5. **Faith comes by hearing truth, and declarations cause us to grow in our faith by regularly hearing truth.** *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God* (Romans 10:17).
6. **Declarations direct our lives toward what we speak.** *Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. Even so the tongue* (James 3:4-5).
7. **Declarations unlock destinies.** *And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor"* (Judges 6:12).
8. **The weak are to declare they are strong.** *Let the weak say, "I am strong"* (Joel 3:10).

9. **The Spirit's anointing causes us to make declarations that set people free.** *The Spirit of the Lord God us upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to those who are bound* (Isaiah 6:1).
10. **Declaring truth to others causes a chain reaction of breakthrough.** *Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God; He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert* (Isaiah 35:4-6).

A SAMPLE DECLARATION
(mostly taken from *Declarations* by Steve Backlund)

*I am walking in outrageously joyful.
*My joy is a powerful weapon of spiritual warfare and helps create breakthrough in the lives of others.
*God's Kingdom will advance everywhere I go.
*I have an anointing that causes others to walk in abundant favor.
*I am a magnet of God's favor.
*I am known in heaven and on earth as one who loves people.
*My life is overflowing with God's love, making it impossible for me not to love others.
*I have a gift of seeing through the dirt and finding the gold in others.
*I speak to any worry, stress, or anxiety and say, "You cannot stay. Peace reigns in this temple."
*I live with an expectation for the goodness of God to manifest,
even in the most difficult times.
*I not only start well in what I do, but I also finish well.
*I am constantly hearing God's voice through scripture, thoughts, other people and nature.
*The decisions I am making today are producing blessings for future generations.
*My reputation for leading people to Jesus is so widely known in my area that when people want to get saved, they find me.
*Just as Peter's shadow caused healing in Acts 5, my very presence releases miraculous transformation to those around me.
*Just as Obed Edom was blessed by the Ark of the Covenant dwelling in his house, this area of Georgia is blessed by me being in it.
*I encounter God's love and power every time I am in His Word.
*I am not who my past experience says I am. I am who God says I am.

*I am healed from every root that would cause me to walk in addictive behaviors.
*I am so baptized in the Holy Spirit that I naturally spill over to those around me.
*When I speak to non-believers, they are overcome with a sudden urge to get saved.
*I think and speak prophetically.
*My touch releases the healing grace of Jesus.
*I am a God-pleaser, not a people-pleaser.
*I love truth and integrity more than money, fame, comfort, or success.
*My children feel safe, free, and loved in our home.
*My offspring are known for strong families, wisdom, integrity, favor, miracles, health, courage, abundance, evangelism, honor, inventions, passion for the Bible, generosity, and love.
*Future generations will be blessed and highly favored because of the way I am parenting my children today. I joyfully embrace opportunities to resolve conflict with others.
*I walk in ever-increasing good health.
*My healthiest days are ahead of me.
*I think clearly, quickly, and with God's heart in every matter.
*Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He still likes to heal.
*There are no walls between the healing grace of Jesus and me.
*I am a magnet for healing, and people around me constantly get healed.
*My family and I are free from generational illnesses through a divine swap of our inheritance for Jesus' inheritance.
*My family connections are going deeper and becoming more significant every day.
*It is easy for me to have significant conversations and to share my heart with every person in my family.
*When I declare life or lay hands on people, they are launched into higher dimensions of life and ministry.
*As I honor the gifts of others, I am able to receive the same gifts and build on them.
*I have more than enough to sow into the Kingdom of God.
*My life causes a dramatic, positive change in my family tree and in the ministries, cities, and nations that I am a part of.
*My descendants adore Jesus and release His love and salvation throughout the earth.

DECLARATION FOR FIRST LOVE

First Love is an end time, forerunner ministry raised up by the Holy Spirit to bring great destruction to the kingdom of darkness. This ministry operates in all the gifts and ministries of the Holy Spirit with balance and wisdom. Many souls are being brought into relationship with Jesus through this ministry. First Love is a prophetic house and words prophesied by people here are very accurate and impactful. People from all over Middle Georgia are drawn to First Love because of the love and peace and joy of God that they feel here. People who walk in the door are filled with the Holy Spirit just by being in the Presence of the Lord. First Love ministers walk in great end time revelation and remarkable teachings from the Word of God come forth. Addictions are broken. Spirit, soul and body are healed by the presence of the Holy Spirit here, and there is a great anointing for healing here. This is holy ground. Demons flee from this place. Deliverance takes place at every meeting. This ministry is largely responsible for wresting to the ground the principality over this area. Every meeting result in someone being genuinely born again. Missionaries are sent from this ministry to every part of the world. The greatest characteristic of the ministry is love. All the regular participants here walk in unity and love. Powerful prayers are spoken here. The presence of the Lord abides here. The Spirit of Life (Romans 8:2), the Spirit of Adoption (Romans 8:15), the Spirit of Truth (John 14:17), the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation (Ephesians 1:17), the Spirit of Holiness (Romans 1:4), the Spirit of Power and Love and a Sound Mind (2nd Timothy 1:7), the Spirit of Faith (2nd Corinthians 4:13), the Spirit of Grace (Hebrews 10:29), and the Spirit of Glory (1st Peter 4:14) abide here. This is a place of impartation and birth of ministries that have worldwide impact. Those in leadership here walk in humility, integrity, peace, joy, and love. The Body of Believers here walk in outrageous joy in the Lord. The Lord is pleased with all that takes place here and blessed by what we do here.