

His Fire Arrows

1st June 2024



[AUDIO VERSION](#)

Good morning, everyone.

It is 1st of June 2024. in the Early Barley calendar, it is 22nd Sivan 5784. Now I want to share with you a journey of discovery that the Lord took me on when He led me to read Psalm 7 the other day.

Psalm 7:12 'If a man does not turn and repent, God will whet His sword. He has strung and bent His bow and made it ready. He has also prepared for Him deadly weapons. He makes His arrows fiery shafts.'

The Holy Spirit really made that last phrase jump out at me. **He makes his arrows fiery shafts.** So, I want to share with you how the Holy Spirit broke this passage down with me and connected it to other scriptures, and gave me an understanding of how God

makes His arrows fiery shafts. We've spoken so much about the tip of the spear, about the arrowheads, about being a weapon in the Lord's hands. And here in Psalm 7:12, we read that because there is not repentance in the earth, God whets His sword and He gets His bow and makes it ready. He also has prepared the weapons that go with the bow - and these are described as 'fiery shafts'. So, there's an order here of what God does when He's preparing to deal with the lack of repentance in the earth. He strings the bow and He bends it. Then He makes it ready by fitting it with an arrow.

Now, the way a bow was bent in the olden days, and probably quite often now, is that the archer would put the wooden part of the bow under his foot, and tread on it with his foot, and then he would pull the string back, fit the arrow shaft in the string and put the arrow into position and then lift up the bow, ready to fire the arrow. Now this is connected by the Holy Spirit to Zechariah 9:12, where it says, '*I have bent Judah as My bow, fitted it with Ephraim...*' and pitted the sons of Zion against the sons of Greece, 'and made you as the sword of a Mighty Man'. Both Psalm 12 and Zechariah 9 mention a sword, but Psalm 7 says that God WILL whet His sword and He HAS bent His bow, so we know that the whetting of the sword follows the bending of the bow, and the putting of the arrow in the bow.

How do you make an arrow into a fiery shaft? You know, an arrow head. Is formed and forged in the fire with the blows of the blacksmith. So, metal does not burn. You can't set an arrow head on fire, because it is solidified by its time in the fire (the time of preparation). So just how does one make an arrow a fiery shaft? Remember this - I originally thought that you dip an arrow in oil, you set it alight, and then you fire it... But the point is that when an arrow is fired, the wind friction will put out the fire, if you have just dipped it in oil. So, this is not what they did. How did they make a fire arrow? Well, I went on an interesting journey to discover this, and I'm going to share that just now. But what I first want to point out is, seeing as we are waiting for the baptism of fire, that the arrow is not made into a fiery shaft BEFORE it is time to release it from the bow. When arrows were prepared and sharpened and made ready, they were then put in a quiver, and only just a moment before shooting, the arrow was it set alight.



This tells us that the time in the quiver is a holding pattern, and the baptism of fire comes JUST BEFORE RELEASE. In the Psalms, it says '*He makes His ministers flames of fire*'. So there again, there's a connection to an arrow being made, a fiery shaft. So let's just dissect Psalm seven first and look into the Hebrew, and then let's learn how they made fiery shafts. It says He will wet His sword. That is the Hebrew Strong's number H3913. And it means 'to sharpen or instruct'. So, there's teaching going on here by the Lord Himself; by the Spirit of Truth.

When I have spoken to you about Zechariah 9:12, for I've mentioned that in the bending of Judah as His bow, that word 'bent', means 'to tread or to thresh'. It also means 'to lead forth or to march forth'. So, we see that the bending of the bow is connected to the leading forth of an army. It says He has made his bow READY. That comes from the Hebrew word H3559, which means 'to set up, to establish firmly, to direct rightly, or to provide for'. I've spoken to you before about when the arrow is placed in the bow, it is drawn backwards with the string and the tip of the arrow's trajectory is adjusted minutely by the eye of the archer, so the 'making ready' of the bow also consists of rightly aligning the arrow towards the target, setting it up and establishing it firmly in the bow for release. To make it 'ready' also means 'to provide for', and how is the arrow provided for? It is pulled back in the string of the bow by the strong right arm of the Archer, and a massive amount of potential energy is positioned behind the arrow in order to launch it forth. All the energy, all the power to reach the target which the archer decides the arrow is going towards is provided by the strong right arm of the Archer. The arrow does not provide itself with the power to make the journey.

Then Psalm 7:13 says, *'He has prepared for Himself deadly weapons.'* The word 'weapon' in Hebrew is 'keliy'. It also means 'instrument, vessel, jewel or tool'. Those who are His jewels speak often to one another, Malachi 3 tells us, and their names are written in the Book of his Remembrance. The word for 'arrow' itself in Hebrew also means 'thunderbolt'. Now, what is a thunderbolt? It is the sound released from a flash of lightning, and we know that the Word says that the God of Glory thunders, and that lightning is prophetically and spiritually a flash of revelation light. So, an arrow is an instrument, or a vessel, or a jewel that carries the thundering of God's voice, releasing and explaining a flash of revelation light.

Zechariah 9 says He bends Judah as His bow, and I've shared many times that Judah was the tribe that would march out first when the cloud moved in the wilderness. So, Judah is the forerunner tribe, the tribe that leads the way. And very interestingly, 2 Samuel 1:18 tells us, *'He bade them teach the children of Judah the use of the bow. Behold, it is written in the book of Jasher'*. So, we see that the tribe of Judah is intimately connected with the use of the bow and the release of arrows. It is the forerunner tribe. It is out of this company that arrows are released in warfare against the enemy. Zechariah 9:13 and 14 says, *'His arrow will go forth as lightning. He will blow the shofar and go forth with whirlwinds of the south'*. So, the word 'arrow' means 'thunderbolt', and it goes forth as fast and as quick as a lightning bolt strikes from heaven to earth. We see that God Himself is accompanying these arrows that are being released from the bow. That is the company of Judah, and it says that God blows the shofar over them and goes forth with whirlwinds of the South.

The word 'south' in Hebrew also means 'right hand'. So, we see in the release of these arrows from the Tribe of Judah or the forerunner company also encapsulate a release of those that are positioned at the right hand, the sons of the right hand. In Isaiah 49:2, it describes some more about the preparation of the arrows. It says: *'He has made my mouth like a sharp sword. In the shadow of His hand has He hid me and made me like a polished shaft. In His quiver has He hid me.'* So that's very interesting because both Zechariah 9:12 and Psalm 7:12 speak about a sword, and now Isaiah 49:2 explains to us that it is our MOUTH that is the sword. That's important because psalm 7:12 says that God will WHET His sword. Remember, 'whet' means 'to instruct'. So, He's instructing us what to release with our mouths. Remember, in Revelation, Jesus the Word is seen riding a white horse, with a sharp sword coming out of his mouth.

So, these arrows that are released have mouths like a sharp sword. They have been instructed in the Word of the Lord. They have been given the words, and through them the God of Glory is going to thunder.

Isaiah 49:2 speaks of the polishing of the shaft, and that word is H1305. It means 'to clarify, to examine, to select, to choose, to cleanse, or to make bright'. So, the One who is the Archer examines His arrows for straightness and righteousness. He cleanses, He purges them, and then out of all the arrows, He chooses the straight ones - and then He hides them in His quiver. Now there's not only one arrow in a quiver. There are many arrows. So, you are not alone, Beloved! You might feel alone, but you are not alone. When he has polished you and made sure you are straight, and purged you and cleansed you and prepared you, He chooses you, and He puts you in the holding pattern - in the quiver, in the hiding place.

We would think from a natural point of view that after you've polished and purged and sharpened your arrow, this would be the time to use it, but Isaiah 49:2 says that after the preparation time comes the holding pattern, the waiting time, the time of the hiding in the quiver... until the moment of release. God is getting His instruments of war ready, and then He puts them in a covered, protected place behind His back. At the moment that He needs them, He pulls them out. He ignites them and He releases them. After the description of the putting of the arrows in the quiver Isaiah 42:3 speaks about God being glorified in this bondservant Israel.

Now, normally the meaning of the name 'Israel' is given as 'Prince with God', or 'he will rule with God', but there is another possible interpretation for the meaning of this name. Abarim Publications says that the name 'Israel' may come from the words 'sara' and 'yashar', compiled with the word 'El,' meaning 'God'. So, 'sara', the verb, comes from a root word describing the absorption or retention of fluids, and the verb 'shara' means 'to fill and release'. The word 'yashar' means 'to be straight or upright'. Now we know that Jacob was given the name 'Israe'l' after wrestling with God at Peniel, (which means the face of God). So, it's very plausible that the word 'yashar', meaning 'to be straight or upright', is connected to the assembling of the word 'Israel', because an arrow must be made straight and upright before it can be released from before the face of God.

So the name 'Israel' carries a sense of being made straight and upright by God, and also of becoming a vessel that can receive, retain, and release that which is fluid. In other words, a vessel that can receive, retain and release the Spirit of God. To me, that

is profound when you consider that the polishing of the arrow and the whetting of a sword is the preparation of a vessel for going into battle against the enemy. Remember Jesus said that out of our bellies would flow rivers of living water i.e. a vessel that can receive, retain, and release that which is fluid. So, this wrestling that Jacob did with God at Peniel changed him into a straight, upright receptacle capable of receiving, retaining, and releasing the presence of the Spirit of God. Now, what else is fluid? What else could a vessel contain? Well, fire is fluid. Fire is not solid. Fire is fluid, and our God is a consuming fire. So, the name Israel could be a straightened and made ready vessel capable of receiving, retaining and releasing that which is fluid - the consuming fire of God. When it is time for battle, the prepared, polished and straightened arrow is removed from the quiver, placed in the bent bow and then set aflame. He makes His messengers flames of fire.

Flaming arrows are used during siege warfare to set enemy buildings on fire, so that the enemy would be thrown into chaos and distracted, trying to put out the fire. Now, I've mentioned the difficulty of setting an arrow head aflame, but I discovered something about those arrows that were destined to be fire arrows. They were shaped differently from ordinary arrow heads. In medieval times, arrowheads destined to be flaming arrows had a kind of a claw or a basket hammered into the shaft just behind the arrow head, and they would take strips of cloth (In the time of the Bible it would have been linen or cotton). They would dip it in bitumen, and they would stuff it into the gap in the claw, or the basket of the shaft of the arrow. And it is that bitumen-soaked cloth that was set alight. So, it's almost like in the belly of the arrow was this bitumen-soaked cloth. In earlier times they would dip the cloth in bitumen and wax and wrap it round the shaft of the arrow, just behind where the arrow head was positioned.

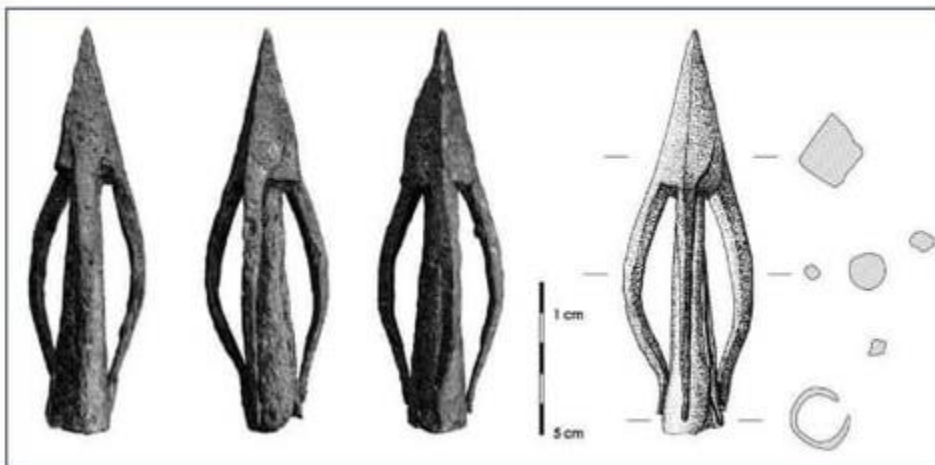


Fig. 4 — *Píum cotepultorium incendiario* (moleola) de La Loma (lot. : C. Fernández, Museo de Palencia).

So, this was how an arrow destined to be a fiery shaft was prepared. It was prepared differently. It was shaped differently. Have you ever felt like you're different from those around you in the remnant company? Have you ever felt like God's dealings are more intense with you than with the rest of those in the remnant company? Perhaps it is because you are destined to be a fiery shaft... The flaming arrows were the forerunners in battle. They were to cause confusion in the enemy camp and then regular, sharp, straight arrows would follow on into the chaos created by the fire arrows. The use of fire arrows or flaming shafts was not open warfare, and the archer had to be much closer to the enemy because of the weight of the fire-loaded arrow made its range shorter, but the fiery shaft would end up behind enemy walls. Once the fire arrow hits the target, it just stays in the position it's been embedded to, with the fire burning in its belly and setting everything around it alight.



Now let's look at this bitumen or tart that is used in the making of fiery shafts. Genesis 6:14 says that God instructed Noah to cover the ark inside and outside with bitumen or pitch. It is the Hebrew word H3722, 'kaphar', And very interestingly, that word kaphar means 'to make atonement for or to cover with bitumen'. So, the bitumen-soaked linen that is stuffed into the belly of fiery shafts before it is ignited depicts the atonement price. What is the atonement price? It is the Blood of the Lamb. So, in that basket or that claw behind the head of an arrow destined to be a fiery shaft, there is the

atonement price - the linen soaked with 'atonement price' the linen depicting the righteous deeds or the straightness of the arrows and the bitumen depicting the power of the Blood of the Lamb, it is that that has the capacity to receive, retain and release the fire of God. If you do not have within yourself; within the belly of the arrow, the understanding of the power of the Blood, if you are not soaked and saturated in that revelation and understanding of the power of the Blood of the Lamb, you are not capable of receiving, holding, and releasing the baptism of fire. Moses was also placed in a basket covered in pitch, Exodus 2:3 tells us. That positioned Moses in a place of protection, so that he would not be overwhelmed by the waters of the Nile.

So, there's extra forging in the fire for fire arrows. They are a different shape to normal arrowheads. They have a belly or a basket to hold the pitch-soaked linen. The arrow designated to be a fire arrow has the ability to have the zeal of God, the consuming fire of God, burning within them. It has the ability to hold fire in its belly. That sounds like Israel, a vessel forged with the capacity to hold something fluid. Fire is fluid.

Fire arrows were longer arrows so that they could be drawn in the bow without burning the archer's hand, and they had a thicker shaft to make them able to take the extra weight of the bitumen-soaked linen behind the head. So, these arrows had been lengthened and strengthened. Have you been long in the refiner's fire? Have you had dealings that other remnant saints haven't had? Perhaps He is forging you to be able to carry the extra weight of the fire of God within you. Much more skill, labour and expense goes into making a fire head arrow.

The other thing is that the arrow's belly must stay hot enough during flight to cause fire at the end of the journey. And as I said, it is shot over the walls right into the enemy camp to start fires. That speaks about the end time positioning of the fire arrows. So, fire arrows were a smaller group of arrows specifically forged to carry fire. They were different to run-of-the-mill arrows. And after forging with the hammers and the fire, they were filled BY HAND with bitumen-soaked linen cloths, and then they were placed into the quiver. They were all ready in the quiver, amongst the ordinary arrows, but there was no fire. There was no baptism of fire until the moment before launch. The quiver is the holding pattern.

What's also important is that when a siege was launched. The rain of the fire arrows was a surprise attack. Those who are destined to be fire arrows are launched first out of

the Judah Company - and they come as a great surprise to the places where they are plunged into.

What do the fiery shafts burn at their destination? Well, they used to shoot fire arrows on to thatched roofs and wooden buildings. Fire burns wood, hay and stubble, and all the chaff from the threshing floor. Matthew speaks of the One who's coming with His winnowing fan in His hand, and He's going to baptize us with the Holy Spirit and fire, and He's going to thoroughly purge His threshing floor. He's going to put the wheat in His barn, and He's going to burn the chaff with unquenchable fire. All that is wood, hay and stubble and straw is going to be dealt with by the launch and the planting of His fiery shafts. He uses cleansed, purged, polished, and filled fire-arrows to deal with wood, hay and stubble, and it is the zeal of God burning in your bones that keeps the fire lit within you until impact at the target, and then the fire keeps on burning.

Let's go to Jeremiah 20:9 and the prophet Jeremiah is speaking of all the persecution he's getting from the people that God's calling him to prophesy to, and he says that he doesn't want to speak the words God gives him any more. But verse 9 says, *'His word is in my heart like a burning fire in my bones'*. The word of the Lord, the word about the power of the Blood, the word about the atonement price, the word about God requiring righteousness (linen garments) burns like a fire in his bones until he releases it. The Hebrew word 'bone' comes from a root word H6105, which means 'to bind fast, to make powerful, to strengthen'. God equips and makes powerful and strengthens His fire arrows by binding fast within the bellies an understanding of the revelation of His atonement price. The bitumen is applied inside and outside. It's makes the arrow powerful, but they don't feel powerful until the moment of ignition. They probably feel heavy because of the weight of what is in within them. Just like Jeremiah felt the weight of the God's Word within his heart.

Psalms 69:9 says, *'zeal for Your house has consumed me'*. That word 'consume' means 'to burn up'. So, it's the zeal of God that is ignited within the bellies of the fire arrows, and there's a cross-reference from Psalm 69:9 to John 2:17, where it says, *'His disciples remembered that it is written, zeal for Your house has consumed Me'*. When did they remember this? When Jesus was cleansing the temple and driving out the money changers and overturning their tables! Jesus cleansed the threshing floor of the temple, because the zeal, the consuming fire of God and the love of God for His house and the purity of His temple was burning within the heart of Jesus. He drove out all that made His house a den of thieves. Remember, the threshing floor is the place with the

tabernacle of David was erected, and God did not say He will rebuild the temple. It says that in the end times, He will raise up the tabernacle of David - But before He does that, the threshing floor has to be cleansed. Those who make His house a den of thieves have to be driven out.

So, Beloved, perhaps this understanding of how a fiery shaft is made will help you to understand the dealings God has been orchestrating in your life, to prepare and make you ready - much more skill, much more cost, much more time.... and yet out of that comes the ability to be a vessel that can receive, retain and release the essence of the God who is a consuming fire.

Just know that God has been preparing us, straightening us, polishing us, and for those of us who are destined to be fiery shafts, they have been longer dealings, more intense dealings, different dealings to others in His arsenal - but He knows what He's doing, and He who began the good work in us will complete it! The baptism of fire comes moments before release. Bitumen-soaked linen is ignited with the fiery zeal of God that cannot be quenched by the speed of the flight to the destination. The red, flaming, bitumen-soaked cloth does not get put out and it is still burning at the moment of planting in the target. God has a purpose for your life, and all His dealings with us are according to His specific purposes for us in His end-time army. He is planning a surprise attack on the enemy camp. He's laying siege to the enemy and the rain of the fire arrows is part of His surprise attack. May the Lord bless you and increase your understanding. Know that He is strengthening you. HE is equipping you. HE is making you ready, and the power of His atonement price will be the message that you carry within your belly, as you are consumed with the zeal of God for His purposes and His kingdom. Amen

Fire-arrow videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNCU4WndtYk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgUNmuV91ms>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgUNmuV91ms>