



*Editor's Note: Due to the vast amount of information prepared on this subject, items shown within a border are details relevant to the specific topic for which we did not have time to discuss on air. We included the additional details topically for your personal study rather than adding to the Bonus Material at the end.*

## Israel: God's Chosen or Obsolete?

**Romans 4:16:** (NASB) *To the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all...*

**Guest: Kris Knapczynski**



All Christians studying the Old Testament realize the important role given to the Nation of Israel by God. We can also easily prove the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. Yet, for many centuries, the Christian demographic has been almost exclusively Gentile. Is Israel still on God's radar screen? Modern history tells us about Israel's re-establishment as a nation after 2,000 years of exile! Daily news confirms it is for real! Is this by God's doing? If so, what's the plan? Stay with us, as we discuss these intriguing questions.

*Our guest Kris is a long-time friend of Rick, Jonathan and the program. He is an elder in a Bible Student congregation in Chicago. He grew up in Warsaw, Poland after the war, and lived in the district where the Jewish Ghetto had been during the years of Nazi occupation. He has frequently intersected by and studied Jewish themes and is fascinated and humbled by Jewish history, their experiences and the current situation in Israel. He recently participated in a seminar offered by Yad Vashem, Israel's Institute of Holocaust Research, taught especially for a Christian audience on location in Jerusalem.*

### Modern day dilemma for Christians: Do we stand FOR or AGAINST the nation of Israel?

As Christians, we have a common heritage with the Jews, with overlapping information shared with Jewish history and of the Jewish nation. The Old Testament is such an important part of our faith system. We know that Jesus came from the Jewish nation. When we look at the content of the Old Testament, we see the nation developing. We see the very special care they were under for many thousands of years. But something drastically changed into a very depressing story. We are mindful of the various promises given to Israel and try to understand the relationship between us Christians and the Jewish nation. This is important especially now when we hear about Israel on a daily basis in a negative way.

#### Americans are fed up with Israel, mix of modern news clips

- To use armed commandos to attack an international humanitarian convoy in international waters, I think everyone can agree that there is no possibility, no way to justify using armed force against what was clearly unarmed humanitarians trying to relieve an illegal siege of Gaza.*
- The harlot, the United States of America, who brings the beast, Israel, to power, is starting to buck against her master, which will end with Israel destroying this country when it no longer needs her.*



- *It is unbelievable! Do you think any other ally has that kind of power over the U.S.? Not even close!*

World opinion does not seem to stack up on the side of Israel. When Christians examine the subject, they generally are either intuitively “for” Israel or “against” Israel. It is hard to stay indifferent.

#### Christian “intuitive arguments” *against* Israel:

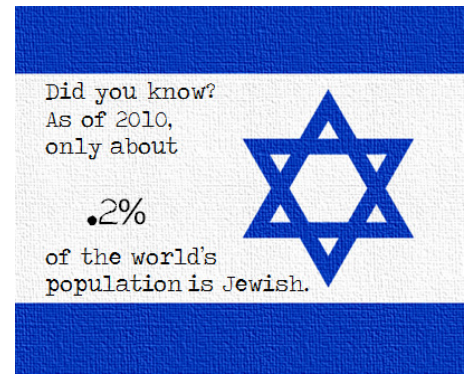
- ✓ Those present at Jesus’ trial uttered the words, *Crucify him!* and *his blood be upon us and our children*. The Jewish leaders, and those influenced by them, condemned Jesus and demanded his crucifixion from the Roman governor in Jerusalem. This story is repeated throughout generations and reinforced by many Christian churches.  
  
It appears that we hear the echo of these words as a self-fulfilling prophecy for the next 2000 years (AD 70, AD 135). The exile started with the Roman Empire and continued for almost 2,000 years. Heavily marked with persecutions, killings, pogroms, confiscations, bizarre accusations, humiliations, discrediting, all the way to the monster of the Nazi Holocaust and concentration camps. All this while the Jews, for the most part, are not convinced to recognize the role of Jesus as the expected Messiah, but rather are still expecting the Messiah in the future.
- ✓ We read about the harsh criticism for Israel from God himself, expressed via the prophets, leading to punishments, exiles, etc. The Bible does not hide the imperfections of the servants of God.
- ✓ Our Lord Jesus was also critical of the nation of Israel and did not spare warnings and admonitions.
- ✓ We have heard condemnation of the Jewish people from many Christian authorities, confirming that the Jews have been “rejected by God.”
- ✓ Prejudice, hearsay, myths, bias, and separate-ness, and yet they persevered at remaining a separate nation during the millennia of dispersion. Example: *Protocols of the Elder of Zion* pamphlet, the repetitively busted, yet continually re-emerging, hoax purporting a scheme of Jewish world domination, practices of using human blood for ceremonies, and other perpetuated prejudices/generalizations.

#### Christian “intuitive arguments” *for* Israel:

- We have a special affinity for the Jewish culture, values, history and examples. The foundations of Christianity were laid by our Jewish brethren. Christian heritage is in fact Jewish heritage.



- We see what has happened in the last 65 years - history changed its course and the nations witnessed the birth of the nation of Israel in 1948 after 2,000 years of the most bitter and difficult national experience! There is hope in light of all of the punishment. While God did not hide that He was displeased with the nation and their response to Him, at the same time like a wise parent, He approaches them in a way that causes a correction.



- We notice the numerous prophecies which in fact indicated the return of Jews to the Land of Israel and that favor or grace would return.

**Just to quote one:** Amos 9:14-15: *Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them; They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their fruit. I will also plant them on their land, And they will not again be rooted out from their land which I have given them, says the LORD your God.*

- All the authors of the Bible, both Old Testament and New Testament, were Jewish! We cherish and accept the Old and New Testament as the inspired word of God and a revelation of His plans, character, and guidance for us in our lives.
- What do we hear on the news? Israel is in the Middle East, surrounded by continually escalating conflicts with the Arab countries and the Arab residents in the disputed territories. The question of their legitimacy is ever present and challenged by a majority of the United Nations. In the recent past, the BDS movements (Boycott, Divest and Sanction) have been a popular move in politics, business, education, and the arts. The position on Israel increasingly becomes a pressure point on all aspects of international exchanges: Is it a legitimate nation? Is it violating international law, human rights, or is it morally and ethically correct to be clinging to the claims on the land to which they returned so massively after World War II? And what about Jerusalem?

### Two differing Christian views regarding Israel's national restoration: Replacement and Separation

There is a spectrum of answers for the question: how do Israel and the church relate? How to interpret the terminology "Israel" or "church" in the Scriptures? Is what was given in the Old Testament to Israel now just given to the church or is there some sort of extension for this nation that was so visibly set aside or rejected?

The first mainstream view is called Replacement theology, also known as Covenant theology or Supersessionism. That last word comes from the verb supersede, or to take somebody's place.

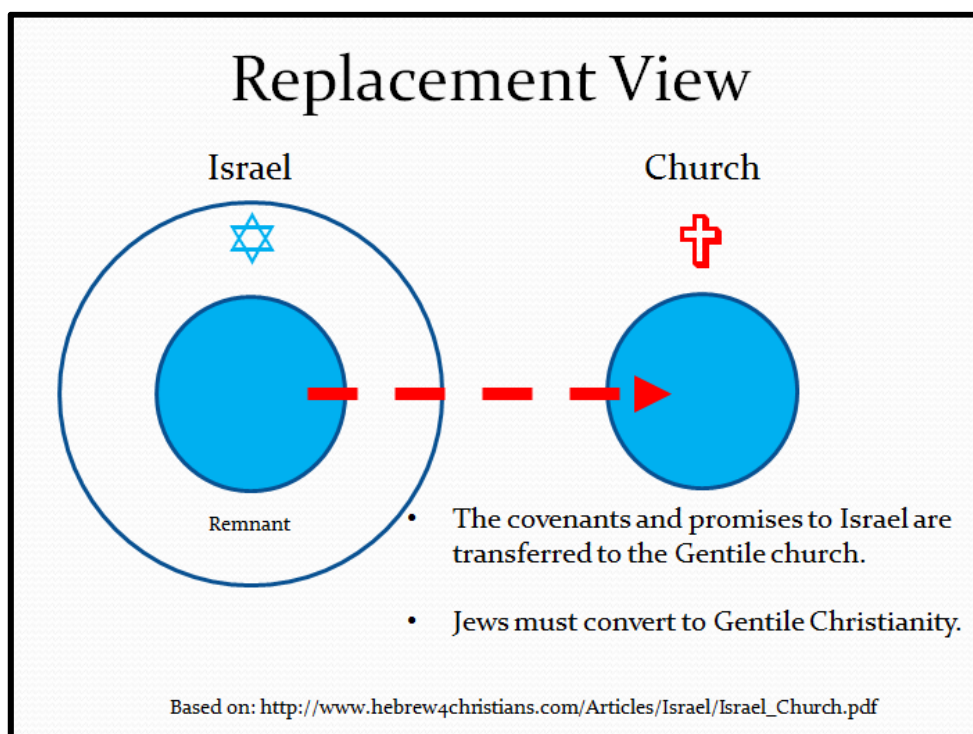
Replacement theology essentially teaches that the Jews were at one point in God's favor, but when the time came for Jesus, most of them did not accept him so they were rejected. However, the promises that were originally given to them, such as they would be blessed, cared for and protected, and that they would stay in the Land - these were all transferred to the Christian church.

Adherents of Replacement theology would say the Jews are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the nation of Israel.

Read more at: <http://www.gotquestions.org/replacement-theology.html>

Replacement theology might say:

- The promises made to Israel were fulfilled in the Gentile Church, and that was the idea from the beginning.
- Prophecies about the land are now spiritualized/allegorized.



## Replacement View

- Would consider what is happening to Israel now is coincidental, like any other nation regaining their freedom.
- Not inclined to be supportive of Israel.





## Is there anything valid in the Replacement View?

### God's correction for Israel was necessary

Israel met with God's disapproval (NOT irrevocably, but only for a time!)

Luke 13:34: (NIV) *Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. (as a whole)*

The responsibility on the Chosen was to obey. The blessings were accompanied by high expectations of loyalty and responsibility. Israel was selected by God to be his Chosen People, but that did NOT mean they could just relax, slip into irreverence, material complacency, idolatry, and lack of commitment to the commandments.

There was a decline of greatness. Although prophets were sent to admonish the nation and its kings, the problems continued. God allowed 70 years of desolation and exile to Babylon. Those who came back were enthusiastic and dedicated. They appreciated their Land and rebuilt the temple, but Israel never regained a complete independence with Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome rolling over them as the next ruling powers. Around the time of Jesus and soon thereafter, the critical times returned. It seems that the Land (part of the promise to Abraham) is something that needs to be earned by obedience and to the Lord.

### Yet, Gospel blessings were offered "to the Jew first"

As we discuss during the program, the Gospel was initially meant for Israel. Jesus focused first on the Jews (lost sheep of Israel, etc.) See Matthew 10:6, Luke 20:10, Romans 1:16. What did God do? He offered the Gospel to those who appreciated it, Israel's "remnant" and the Gentiles. Privileges of the Land and protection were removed. This was sad but necessary for teaching.

This change was "sanctioned" by the Lord Jesus after his resurrection, when he told his Apostles to *Go and preach to all nations*. Peter's commission to visit Cornelius (Acts 10) was a meticulous arrangement of providential details to mark how important this change was and that God was for it, as much as previously He was against it.

### So was there a replacement and who was replaced?

A new way was OPENED with Jesus' Advent. Prior to this point, Israel (both the current and past generations who had died) remained on the original track, but there is a new GRACE and FAITH based opportunity, and a greater mission became available. Scripturally this opportunity is described in several ways, including: *the Church, Christ's Bride, Christ's Body, and a new and living way*.

"Some" of Israel did not believe (Romans 3:3) and were not included in the new opportunity. As a result the call went to the Gentiles, with the marked introduction from the Lord. While these were *blinded or hardened*, the Gentiles who responded to the call were grafted in. "Some" turns out to be a large majority. But this blindness was to be for a temporary, limited time only, *Until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in*, as described in Romans 11:25.



## What is the Separation View?

Separation theology is also known as Dispensationalism. A dispensation is a period of time. This approach sees that God's plan is developing across certain time frames, so it sees a number of dispensations, or times, when God was dealing with different groups of people. They believe that the nation of Israel had their time and that now is the time for the Church. But they also believe that Israel will come back and that the nation of Israel continues independently of the Church. As such, there are promises about a return to their land.

Separation theology might say:

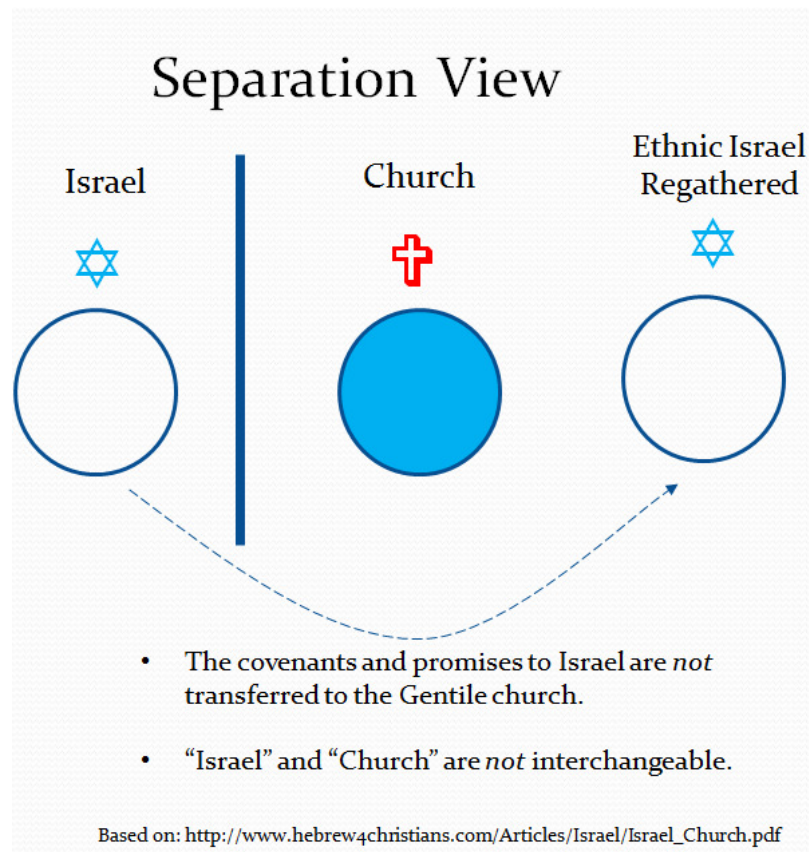
- There is a strict distinction between Israel and the Church. They should not be confused or used interchangeably, i.e. 'spiritual Israel' is not a valid expression.
- The Church is an entirely new Creation and will remain as such until it is taken out of this world.
- God has planned a restoration of Israel in the end-times (around the rapture of the Church).
- Order of events (approximate): Israel's regathering is a sign of a near return of Christ, the rapture takes the Church and while the world is judged for rejecting Christ, Israel is restored as a nation to witness Christ's return; accept him and reign with the Church over the remaining nations on the earth for 1,000 years.

The more popular opinion within this view is that in the near future when Christ returns, there is going to be a regathering of Israel that has already started. There is enthusiastic support for Israel at this time.



## Separation View

- Believe there will be a regathering of Israel that has already started.
- Enthusiastic about supporting Israel.



One of the popular points of this view is that around the time of Christ's return, there will be a regathering of Israel, and that this is already taking place.

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Christianity *did* replace Israel in a sense of size and popularity. From the progress of the time of the early years of the church until now, we definitely see a greater impact and influence of the Christian perspective of Jesus with the inclusion of all Gentiles.

Amos 3:2: (KJV) *You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.*

But wouldn't this support the Replacement View that the Jews have been pushed aside as punishment? The consequence was that they lost their standing with God.

We believe it is analogous to a parent who punishes their child. A smart parent has one thing in mind - a correction. They want the child to have the ability to recover from his mistake. The Scripture shows that exclusively *you only have I known*. It means that they were very special and near to God's heart. The fact that they failed something does not necessarily mean they are rejected forever, but that now they need to experience some period of difficulty that perhaps would reinforce why their faithfulness and obedience need to be continued.



The Gospel was initially directed only at Israel. For example, we see that Jesus initially preached the message of the kingdom only to Jews. He did not preach to or heal Gentiles as a rule, (though He graciously allowed some exceptions):

Matthew 15:24: *I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of Israel.*

Matthew 10:6: *Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*

The whole preparation was intending to bring the nation of Israel to a special opportunity, on an exclusive basis.

### So what is the end result for the Jews under the Replacement View?

As a Christian theology, blessings go to all people who believe in Jesus. Replacement View will affirm that the Jews are included as part of the new church whenever they accept Jesus, but as a national opportunity, there is no more hope or reason to think that any kind of regathering or reinstatement will occur. They "spiritualize" many of the promises we will read here. For example, we already looked at these Scriptures:

Amos 9:14-15: *Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them; They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their fruit. I will also plant them on their land, And they will not again be rooted out from their land which I have given them, says the LORD your God.*

The Replacement View might say this return to the Land already happened such as after the Babylonian captivity or that this is spiritualized in the way where they return to some sort of favor with God, but it is not geographic. "Land" under this view means picturing favor or blessings but does not mean the physical world.

As we look at various parables that Jesus gave to his disciples, Jesus implied that Israel did have the chosen status but because of their attitude it would be given to and shared with others.

Luke 20:10: *At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed.*

The servant was attacked, i.e., the prophets and Jesus.

### Parable of the wedding garment:

Matthew 22:1-14: (NIV) <sup>1</sup>Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. <sup>4</sup>Then he sent some more servants and said, Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet. <sup>5</sup>But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. <sup>6</sup>The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. <sup>9</sup>So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find. <sup>10</sup>So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. <sup>11</sup>But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. <sup>12</sup>He asked, How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend? The man was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king





told the attendants, Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>14</sup>For many are invited, but few are chosen.

Those "invited" (thought of as deserving this favor in the first place) were not interested, but were absorbed by temporal priorities, and distracted.

So, the Replacement View has some validity in that the offer of the "new and living way" through Christ largely went to others. But the question is does that validity hold true throughout all time into the future? We answer, no. Israel was set aside "until" several features of God's plan are fulfilled (Romans 11:25, Luke 21:24, Psalms 102).

### What is the BDS movement?

BDS stands for "Boycott, Divestment, Sanction." The objective is to put pressure on Israel to cease development activity in Judea and Samaria communities, which are known as the "disputed territories", and to delegitimize Israel's rights to the territories. Additional arguments are around the treatment of the Palestinian Arab population in those disputed territories.

#### BDS defined, *Boycott/Divestment/Sanction Israel*

- *The Palestinian cause has long been synonymous with violence, terrorism and Islamist fundamentalism. A new generation of pro-Palestinian activists are working to change that. These young, eloquent speakers educated in western universities, are making the rounds on news programs and on university campuses advocating their vision for Palestine.*
- *They are part of the BDS movement and their message is clear. No one should buy Israeli products. They invoke humanist and socialist values. Justice in Palastine. Aimed to garner the support of students, trade unions, and even Jewish civil rights activists, BDS is particularly vigilant against any form of Palestinian-Israeli collaboration.*

This is a secular movement that agrees with the Replacement theology that says Israel does not have any right to the Land.

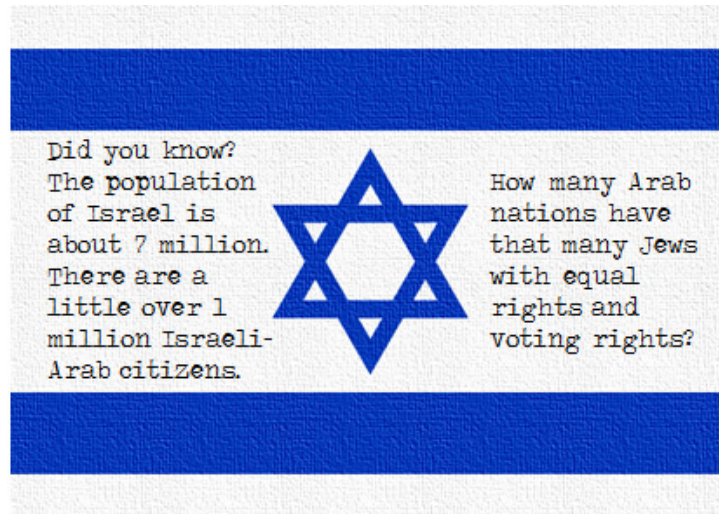
Aspects of the BDS movement dwell on the public sentiment that is easily fanned by various incorrect statements.

Here is a word of warning for those evaluating these two ideas: Go deep into the arguments that are there and really appreciate the fact that Israel as a state, while not perfect, is founded upon the ideals of equity, democracy and the roots of the Law of Moses. Therefore, they uphold the various responsibilities they have towards their neighbors - one who is not from their nation. It is an attitude of respect. We see that perhaps this is a new kind of trial for Israel where there is a pressure point or criticism





that is directed at the high moral values for which the Jewish nation stands. We need to be very careful to get those details right.



**The BDS movement has support from several Christian church organizations.**

Once the pro-Palestinian evangelicals get a hold of this theology, they use it to argue the state of Israel the Jews are now living in is not the Israel of the Bible. Instead, modern Israel is a secular state created by ardent Zionists and God has nothing to do with the establishment of Israel. Why would God support a nation that has rejected the Jewish Messiah and give them their own homeland if they are out of His will by rejecting Jesus? You can see that Replacement theology in the hands of those who are already anti-Israel becomes a dangerous theological and political weapon.

See more at: <http://scripturesolutions.com/2013/03/not-all-israel-is-israel-part-1/#sthash.1VVgK22a.dpuf>

**More on the Separation View**

We believe that understanding how God is developing His plan with people over time is a true and Scripture-based approach. One cannot look at just this moment to determine the will of God. One must look at history past and prophecy future to determine the will of God. We believe we are somewhere in the process of God developing His plan. Some things might not yet be completely ready and while other things have happened already. We have the benefit of looking back at history and learning the lessons.

**Some cautions regarding the Separation View:**

--The most popular view (made more popular by the *Left Behind* book and movie series) expects an appearing of a personal Antichrist, who, within seven years, (the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel's prophecy resumed after 2000 years) would manifest his opposition to Christ in the newly rebuilt Third Temple in Jerusalem, with Israel regathered. The questionable points of this view are the chronology of the 70<sup>th</sup> week, and the prophetic fulfillment of the Antichrist. It sounds more reasonable to seek a larger fulfillment of an Antichrist "system"



that persecutes the saints and places itself "in place of Christ," which has been indicated by other historical interpretations.

-- in light of the above popular expectations, the support for Israel's restoration is quite enthusiastic, but appears to be somewhat shortsighted, with only a near-term goal of encouraging the above prophetic fulfillment.

--Does this view take the "eternal" character of Israel's promises literally? Or is there a necessary end to these blessings of restoration when the earth is expected to be literally burned (in the mainstream perspective common to the classic separation view)?

--What about those Jews who died? Do the eternal promises of restoration apply to them? The classic view is less clear on this, expecting a heavenly reward for those already dead, faithful Jews or Gentiles. However, Stephen confirmed that Abraham himself did not receive the promised blessings (Acts 7:5), and yet they are irrevocable (Romans 11:29). These promises were quite literally referring to "the land." How can they be realized without an earthly resurrection?

We would subscribe to the part of the Separation View that expects Israel's return and restoration. Why does Separation bring Israel back into the picture? It highlights the Scriptures that we do not see as interpretable in any spiritual way.

Genesis 13:14-17: (KJV) <sup>14</sup>And the LORD said unto Abram after Lot had parted from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: <sup>15</sup>For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever. <sup>16</sup>And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. <sup>17</sup>Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Abram was brought into the Promised Land and stood somewhere in the current areas of Judea and Samaria. The Lord told him to look around in four directions. It was given to him personally and to his seed forever.

However, someone subscribing to the Replacement View might quote Galatians 3:29: (New Living) *If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. That would imply the Christian just took away that inheritance. But even the Apostles confirmed that Abraham did not yet receive this promise!*

**We read Stephen's words while he was being stoned by his Jewish brethren for believing in Christ:**

Acts 7:5: (KJV) *And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child.*

He was sojourning and traveling but never received the land during his lifetime.

Heb 11:13,39 (KJV) *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that*



*they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth (...) And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:*

### Here is a very specific prophecy about the dispersal of Israel:

**Deuteronomy 30:1,3:** (KJV) *<sup>1</sup>And it shall come to pass when all these things come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations wither the LORD your God has driven thee...*

### They are dispersed, but it continues with their return!

*<sup>3</sup>That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.*



### Observations thus far:

- We are deeply rooted in the history of the Jewish nation.
- We see there are different views from Christian standpoints as to whether or not Israel as a nation has hope or not.
- We have identified two main theories: The Replacement View and the Separation View.

### What is the purpose in Israel's regathering?

If Christianity is God's focus at the moment, why does He bother to regather Israel?

We see that the Bible holds out hope for a dual heritage of God's salvation. It is a two-pronged attack to address the problem of removing evil.

**Genesis 22:17-18:** *<sup>17</sup>That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; <sup>18</sup>And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*

In this prophecy given to Abraham, the use of *stars* and *sand* is not just poetic. In fact, it is interesting that it develops into this two-fold approach discussed in our theme Scripture - two developments of that seed:

**Romans 4:16:** (NASB) *To the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all...*

**Earthly/sand** = associated with the Law

**Heavenly/stars** = associated with faith

Abraham's promise was continued through the Jewish nation, who had their first opportunity to participate in the heavenly seed when the call of the Gospel first went out. Some of them took the offer, but most of them did not.

So what is the physical purpose of being regathered now? As we pray, *thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10)*, we expect that the fulfillment of these promises will be on the earthly level and therefore it is necessary for Israel to be a part of this scenario to bring the enlightening knowledge about God to the nations.





### **Israel is to be a light unto the nations:**

**Isaiah 49:1-6:** (NASB) <sup>3</sup>He said to me, You are My Servant, Israel, In whom I will show My glory. <sup>4</sup>But I said, I have toiled in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; Yet surely the justice due to me is with the LORD, and my reward with my God. <sup>5</sup>And now says the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might be gathered to Him (For I am honored in the sight of the LORD, And my God is my strength), <sup>6</sup>He says, It is too small a thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make you a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

This restoration and preservation of Israel is because they are to be an instrument both to bring information about God and also information about salvation and obedience to all of the nations.

Israel has largely been regathered really starting in 1948 when they became a nation. They are there to be a light to all other nations so that God's salvation can reach the rest of the earth. Therefore, that gathering will not be undone. We also have strong promises that the restoration of Israel is also connected with bringing life and resurrection. It is not yet complete; God is behind this ongoing building process. The end result is to be a beacon of light to the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

**Deuteronomy 4:5:** See, I have taught you statutes and judgments just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do thus in the land where you are entering to possess it. So keep and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him? Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?

This tells us that the wisdom and justice of God's law given to the Jews with the Ten Commandments and additional rules is very valuable and constitutes an explanation of God's rules that never become obsolete. Yes, we know that the way to reach salvation by perfectly obeying these laws was impossible for imperfect people. We have the opportunity to be invited through Christ by grace, and that opportunity will be extended to all of mankind, but the principles of justice and wisdom shared through the Old Testament will be the basis for all the nations in the kingdom.

### **Additional Scriptures about Israel's regathering:**

**Eternal Promise: Jeremiah 31:35-36:** <sup>35</sup>Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: <sup>36</sup>If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

**Isaiah 11:11-12:** (NASB) <sup>11</sup>Then it will happen on that day that the Lord will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His people, who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. <sup>12</sup>And He will lift up a standard for the nations, and will assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

**Jeremiah 31:38-40:** (NASB) <sup>38</sup>Behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when the city will be rebuilt for the LORD from the Tower of Hananel to the Corner Gate. <sup>39</sup>The measuring line will go out farther straight ahead to the hill Gareb; then it will turn to Goah. <sup>40</sup>And the



*whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the LORD; it will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever.*

The final line is crucial, because God promises that the Jews will never be dispersed again after this time. This, of course, could not refer to the first regathering.

(Source: John Wolvoord at <http://www.evidenceunseen.com/articles/prophecy/the-regathering-of-israel/>) "It is predicted that Israel will return to the land and that Jerusalem will be built in a certain area which had formerly never been used for building purposes. It is remarkable that this precise area has been built into a portion of the modern city of Jerusalem in fulfillment of this prophecy."

**Hosea 3:4:** *For the sons of Israel will remain for many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar and without ephod or household idols. Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king; and they will come trembling to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days.*

**This prophecy is dated after Jesus' first return:**

**Zechariah 10:8-10:** (NASB) <sup>8</sup>I will whistle for them to gather them together, For I have redeemed them; And they will be as numerous as they were before. <sup>9</sup>When I scatter them among the peoples, They will remember Me in far countries, And they with their children will live and come back. <sup>10</sup>I will bring them back from the land of Egypt and gather them from Assyria; And I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon Until no room can be found for them.

**Israel as the recipient of the New Covenant**

**Jeremiah 31:31-34:** (NASB) <sup>31</sup>Behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, **when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,** <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant which I made with **their fathers** in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD, **I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it;** and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup>**They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know the LORD, for they will all know Me,** from the least of them to the greatest of them, declares the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.

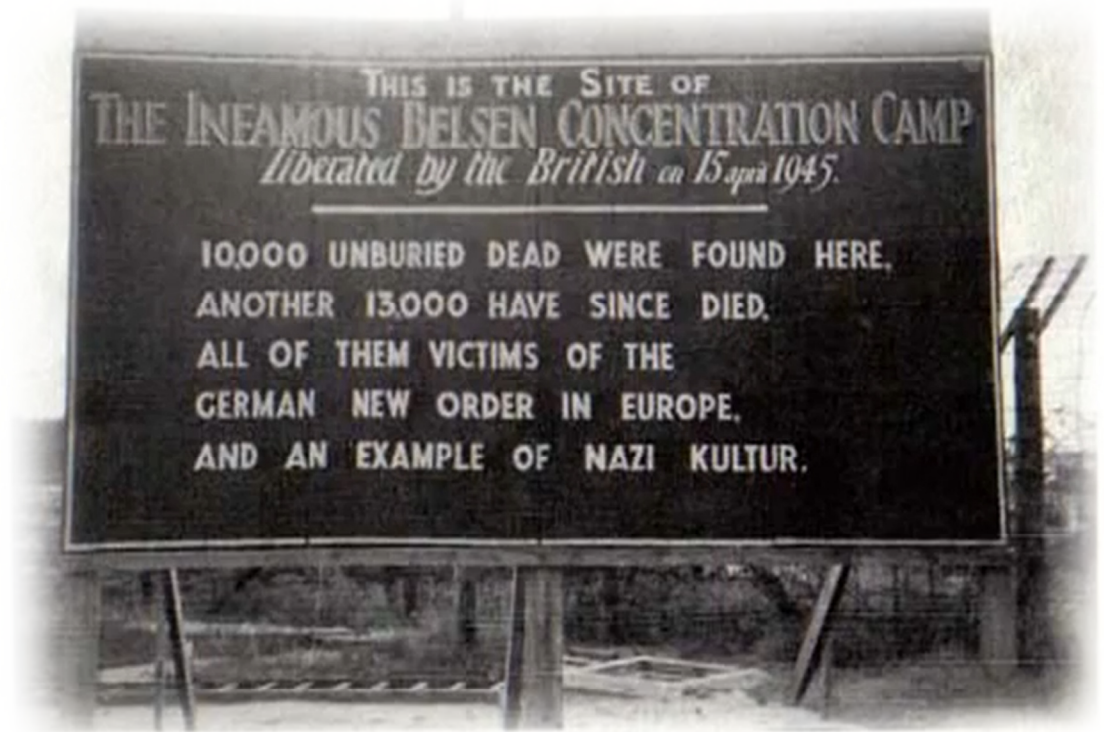
This scripture provides an important clue about the timing and scope and outward signs of the New Covenant. It implies that the New Covenant is to be inaugurated with Israel *after those days* (Hebrews 8:7-12), and that it will result in removing their sins and iniquities and offer a lasting recovery from evil by affecting the hearts. It will also afford the blessing of a thorough knowledge of the LORD.

**Other scriptures indicate that the nations will seek to join Israel thus reunited with God:**

**Zech. 8:20-23:** (KJV) *Thus saith the LORD of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also. Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.*



## If regathered by God's grace, then why the Holocaust?



This is a very challenging question with no easy answer! It has caused many to lose faith in God. But in this development of God's plan in a grander scale, we see perhaps the Holocaust was a fulfillment of prophecy such as:

Jeremiah 16:16: (KJV) *Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the LORD, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.*

Fishers and hunters would be sent out to "motivate" the remaining Jews who were scattered all over the world in order to be gathered back to Israel.

Zechariah 1:14-15: (NAS) <sup>14</sup>*So the angel who was speaking with me said to me, Proclaim, saying, Thus says the LORD of hosts, I am exceedingly jealous for Jerusalem and Zion.* <sup>15</sup>*But I am very angry with the nations who are at ease; for while I was only a little angry, they furthered the disaster.*

However, the animosity and hatred that developed toward the Jews, especially in Germany through Hitler, was much greater than God's anger. We see that God can use the hideousness of humankind to press His prophecies along. And if there was no resurrection, this would be a question with an unending answer of depression.

The end result was a strong resolve from the nations: NEVER AGAIN! This provided lessons of moral strength and integrity for many.





We see that God sometimes chooses very difficult situations to accept during the moment, but we do see the hope of life in the resurrection which is offered and promised to everyone who has ever lived. Through Christ, it will allow everyone who perished in the Holocaust to come back and rejoice in God's kingdom. It really is a comparison of a moment with an eternity.

However, we cannot discount the lessons and the responsibility that the nations had both supporting and protecting these innocent ones who perished.

### How has Christianity contributed to Anti-Semitism?

Sadly, Christendom has greatly contributed to Anti-Semitism. Many writings of the church Fathers were negative toward the Jews. This was quite opposite from the attitude of the Apostle Paul in Romans 9 through 11, where he was very sympathetic and regretful and tells the Christians not to boast over those who were given the Abrahamic promise.



**Justin Martyr**, writing to the Jewish leader, Trypho, (AD 138) quoted from the Jewish Scriptures, which he referred to as "your Scriptures, or rather not yours, but ours." He also stated that the "prophetical gifts...formerly among your nation have been transferred to us."

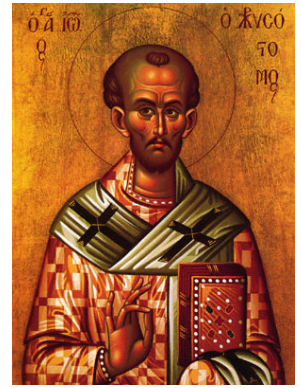
Thus, "replacement theology" was born—Christians have replaced the Jewish people. It teaches the favorable promises of Judaic Scripture now belonged to Christians, not the Jewish people. Only the promises of punishment for disobedience belonged to the Jewish people.





In AD 387, **John Chrysostom** ranted:

"Since the deicide, the Jews have been delivered into the hands of their demons...they are only fit to be butchered...Their behavior is no better than that of swine and oxen in the gross lewdness.... The synagogue is a brothel, a cave of brigands, a den of ferocious animals...." He also argued that when Christians beat and murder Jews, the Jews are to blame, not the Christians who had acted through God's will.



**Ambrose**, Bishop of Milan, ordered the burning of a synagogue in A.D. 388 "so that there would be no place where Christ is rejected." In his eyes, the synagogue "was destroyed by the judgment of God."



Even **Martin Luther (1483-1546)**, regarded as the courageous and sincere reformation leader in the 1500's, after disappointments from not being able to convert the Jews in the areas of his influence, he developed a critical and violent attitude which can be observed from his book, "Concerning the Jews and Their Lies," in which he listed eight actions to be taken against the Jews:

- Burn all synagogues
- Forbid Jews to travel
- Destroy Jewish dwellings
- Forbid Jews to charge interest on loans to non-Jews
- Confiscate the Jews' holy books
- Force Jews to do physical labor
- Forbid rabbis to teach
- Expel the Jews from provinces where Christians live

KRISTALLNACHT, November 9, 1938



Mob law ruled in Berlin throughout the afternoon and evening and hordes of hooligans indulged in an orgy of destruction. I have seen several anti-Jewish outbreaks in Germany during the last five years, but never anything as nauseating as this. Racial hatred and hysteria seemed to have taken complete hold of otherwise decent people. I saw fashionably dressed women clapping their hands and screaming with glee, while respectable middle-class mothers held up their babies to see the "fun".

--Daily Telegraph, writing of events in Berlin



The tragedy of Kristallnacht on November 9, 1938, perpetrated by the Nazi army in Europe is often associated with the above "instructions" read from Martin Luther.



Pope Gregory XIII

We see in Scripture that God will punish for a time with the objective of bringing them back into favor. That is exactly what has happened with Israel. But along the way, Christianity has gone off the path.

**Pope Gregory XIII (1502-1585)** declared that Jewish guilt for crucifying Christ “only grows deeper with successive generations, entailing perpetual slavery.”

This gives us a sense of how deeply rooted the animosity is from “Christians.” It goes back to the rejection of Jesus. The mistake is that we take that errant judgment back 2,000 years ago and say it was a permanent response that cannot be recalled. But that is contrary to God’s plan.

**Notice that punishment is only for a time:**

Deuteronomy 5:9-10 NIV: <sup>9</sup>*I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,* <sup>10</sup>*but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

**What about loving thy neighbor as thyself and to love our enemies?**

**Ensuing popes** persisted in vicious anti-Semitism. A succession of popes reinforced the ancient prejudices against Jews, treating them as lepers unworthy of the protection of the law. Pius VII followed by Leo XII, Pius VIII, Gregory XVI, Pius IX—all good pupils of Paul IV. Eleven days after Rome fell on October 2, 1870, the Jews by a royal decree were given the freedom which the papacy had denied them for over fifteen hundred years. The last ghetto in Europe [at that time] was dismantled. Peter De Rosa, *Vicars of Christ: The Dark Side of the Papacy* (New York: Crown Publishers, 1988), 194-195.

The expulsion and persecution of Jews of Girona, Spain, are emblematic of the fatal history of Jews in the Spanish Holy (?) Inquisition by the Roman Catholic Church. On March 31, 1492, Ferdinand and Isabel of Castile and Aragon, known as the Catholic Monarchs, issued the edict expelling the Jews from Spanish territory... [they had] no other choice but renunciation of religious belief or compulsory expatriation. Those who chose to convert to Christianity in order to avoid expulsion faced the full fury of the Inquisition, which had already begun to prosecute heretics in Girona in 1490.... Some Jewish families were virtually wiped out at the hands of the Inquisitors.

Upon their triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the First Crusade, [1096 AD] under Pope Urban II, enthusiastically rounded up the Jews and burned them to death in their synagogue. En route to the Holy Land, the Crusaders forced Jews to die or be baptized.

In Rome the Jews had been forced into ghettos for 300 years and “obliged ... to wear on their chest, to their public shame, a yellow circle of cloth.” On July 17, 1555, Pope Paul IV issued an anti-Semitic bull, *Cum nimis absurdum*, which forced Jews to sell their properties at great loss and reduced their status to slaves and rag merchants. The Jewish population of Rome was almost completely annihilated.

It should be noted that after the Holocaust there has been a progressive warming up and reconciliation of the Catholic Church toward the Jews (e.g. the



Vatican II Council and document *Nostra Aetate*, or the special reconciliatory efforts to of Pope John Paul II).

**Hitler**, in a friendly session with Bishop Bering and Monsignor Steinman, observed that his policy for the Jews, after all, was "what the church had done for 1,500 years." Also, Hitler often quoted Martin Luther to justify his final solution of the "Jewish Question."

**As Christians, what should be our attitude toward the Jews?  
Should Christians attempt to convert Jews to Christ?**

It seems the efforts at proselytizing the Jews have totally failed. In fact, it is very difficult for the Jewish people to even start talking about Christ. (Rivers of Jewish blood spilled by Christian persecutions are an effective barrier!) A similar question can be asked, do we need to convert the whole world now and offer them a chance so they can have salvation? We would say the conversion of the whole world is not for this time yet.

**There is going to be a time arranged for the restoration of all things:**

Acts 3:21: (KJV) *Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

Micah 4:1-3: (NASB) *<sup>1</sup>And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it. <sup>2</sup>Many nations will come and say, Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For from Zion will go forth the law, Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>And He will judge between many peoples And render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war.*

Obviously this prophecy has not yet come true. There is a sculpture in front of the United Nations building called *Let Us Beat Swords into Plowshares*. Ironically, this is the same United Nations that just recently announced that Zionism (the desire for Jewish people to return to their land) is a form of racism.



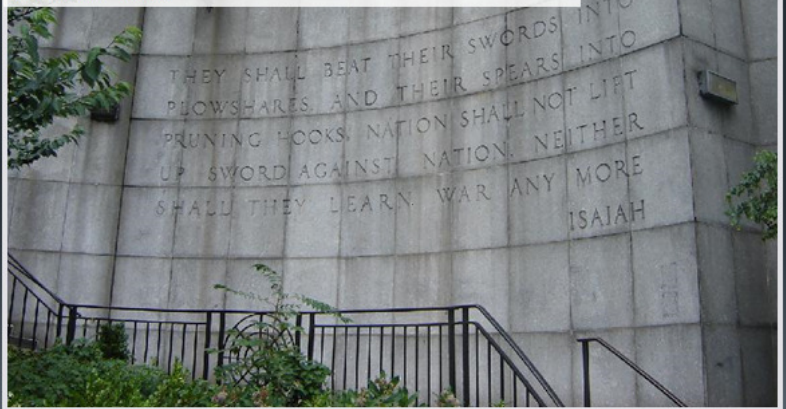




We need to encourage the Jewish people to embrace their Jewish heritage but stop short of attempting to proselytise, except giving the reason for our faith when asked. The indications are so clear that the Lord will arrange for the removal of Israel's blindness as to

Christ, and that the regathering will result in wonderful next phases for Israel's everlasting fulfillment of their promises, and blessings to mankind.

Opposite the main entrance of the UN building, New York City, in Ralph Bunche Park, are the words of Isaiah 2:4. Ralph Bunche was the first African American to receive a Nobel Prize for Peace (1950) for successful efforts to resolve the first Arab-Israeli conflict in 1949.



Zechariah 12:10 KJV *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

Did you know?  
The Messianic  
communities in  
Israel today  
number around  
15,000 - 20,000.



Jeremiah 3:17: (NAS) *At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations will be gathered to it, to Jerusalem, for the name of the LORD; nor will they walk anymore after the stubbornness of their evil heart.*

How much more specific can you get than to actually name the city? The purpose of the time is for Israel, the earthly seed, and for the Church, the heavenly seed, to work together to bring about a true conversion of every individual by their willing collaboration of being educated and informed.

This goes back to the two-pronged approach we discussed earlier, the *sand of the seashore* and the *stars of heaven*. This is the physical, real nation of Israel and the true

followers of Jesus that are going to work together for the rehabilitation of the entire world. They will be a blessing to the nations, especially those who have not had the chance to hear the name of Christ now. There will be that opportunity during the *time of restitution of all things*. Who is better equipped to relate how God has dealt with them for centuries if not the Jewish nation? Israel is important and will play an integral role.

Where does Israel stand right now in terms of actually fulfilling prophecy?

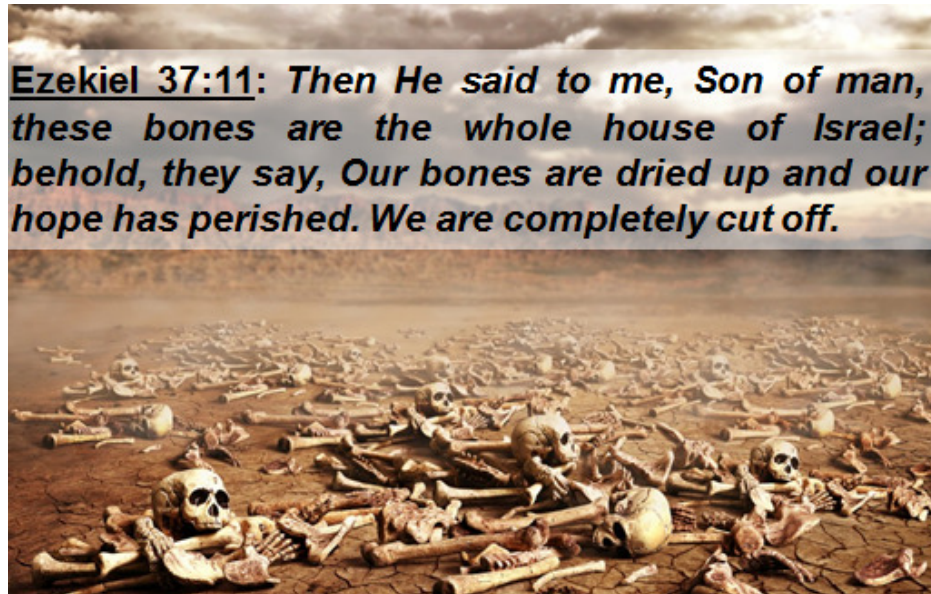
### The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-3: (NASB) *'The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. He said to me, Son of man, can these bones live?*





Notice, the Lord is asking the prophet if the bones can live! Verse 11 explains what this question is about...



So the bones represented the whole house of Israel! How well said about the hopeless outlook that the Jewish people could have about their future.

Ezekiel 37:3-5: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>And I answered, O Lord GOD, You know. <sup>4</sup>Again He said to me, Prophecy over these bones and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, Behold, I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life.

So Ezekiel prophesies to these bones - he speaks to them and they become covered with sinews, flesh and skin. For the moment there was no breath in them, but in the second command to prophesy, the breath entered.

This prophecy applies directly to recent human history in the regathering of Israel. It is logical to think that the restoration process that started over 100 years ago is gradually building momentum. There are many *improbable* historical events that led the Jews to return to their land. Although there is not yet perfect harmony in Israel or an acknowledgment of their eventual role, possibly this is an opportunity for us as Christians to interact with them.

### **What is Christian Zionism and should we be a part of it?**

Christian Zionism is a form of supporting the Zionist movement that the Jews have been involved in for over 100 years; the desire to return to the Land. Christian Zionists take a harmonious view of the Jews' desire to be reconstituted as a nation.

Many who subscribe to the Separation View we have described are very enthusiastic about supporting Israel, emotionally through their faith and through financial means. The Jewish nation accepts and values this friendship.

We see the purpose of the nation of Israel is amplified in the grand scheme of things. This is not always seen in the classic Separation View which seeks a



very close fulfillment of prophecy in the rise of the Antichrist, the rebuilding of the Temple and then suddenly there is no more big opportunity for the nations or for education. In that view it comes to an end quite quickly, i.e., there is a millennium but only for select individuals. But we believe there is a much bigger picture that involves all who have ever lived.

### So how should we act towards Israel?

Isaiah 40:1-2: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>*Comfort, O comfort My people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak kindly to Jerusalem; And call out to her, that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity has been removed, that she has received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.*

We are to be very careful as to how we communicate our sentiments about Israel. If this is the Lord's hand and the Lord's command to regather, we should be quite careful with the criticism and see if we can do anything to support it and not go against it.

We consider this a command to Christianity.

If you want to see where prophecy is being fulfilled, start looking at Israel! The Dry Bones prophecy is coming to pass as we watch. We have a role to play in prophecy. What a wonderful privilege in which we all want to be included. We should be actively involved in being a comfort and an encouragement because God's plan is unfolding before our very eyes in our lifetime.

It might take courage to stand up in the face of all the unfair statements being hurled, as in the BDS movement.

We see that Israel is definitely not obsolete. The Scriptures predicted that they would be regathered to their land (against all odds!) and this is continuing as shown in the Dry Bones prophecy.

As Christians, we respect our common roots with Israel and we humbly accept that we have the privilege to participate in the Gospel blessings in the heavenly part of the Abrahamic promise. We look also for the fulfillment of the earthly blessings.

As we observe the current events, we need to look for God's hand and experience the blessing by seeing His word being fulfilled.

This is such an important subject! If we want to follow Christ, we have to follow the prophecies and step in where we are supposed to.

*So, is Israel still God's chosen or is it obsolete?  
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions,  
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...  
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*





### Historic Developments:

- 1878 Berlin Congress. Lord Beaconsfield (Disraeli), England's Prime Minister seeks protectorate of Turkey's Asiatic lands
- 1897 First Zionist Congress inspired by Theodore Herzl proclaims the right of the Jewish People to a national revival in their own country
- 1917 Balfour Declaration - confirming a favorable disposition of the Queen and the Government establishment of national home for the Jews in Palestine
- 1922 League of Nations affirm the Mandate over Palestine in the hands of England  
(\*\*\* revival of Zionist hopes and efforts \*\*\*)
- 1924 Hitler writes Mein Kampf, (5 million copies sold by 1939) a Nazi manifesto with primitive social Darwinism, racial myth, direct anti-Semitism and lebensraum fantasy. (This is a German word meaning 'living space.' In the period from 1880 onwards there was a widespread view that a power nation needed an overseas empire. After Germany's brief and illusory victory over Russia towards the end of World War I, many German nationalists believed this could best be achieved by vast expansion [lebensraum] in Eastern Europe.)
- 1933-4 Hitler Becomes Reich Chancellor, and Dictator
- 1938 Nov. "KristalNacht" - violence on Jews and destruction of Jewish property
- 1939-45 WWII in Hitler's mind, totality of Germany's enemies was "International Jewry"
- 1941 The Final Solution starts and results in destruction of 67% of the 9 million Jews in Europe = 6 million, 50% of those in Poland.
- 1945 Hitler's final statement: "Above all, I charge the leaders of the nation and those under them to scrupulous observance of the laws of race and to merciless opposition to the universal poisoner of all peoples, international Jewry."
- 1947 November 27 UN Resolution on establishment of independent Jewish State in Palestine
- 1948 British Mandate ended at midnight May 14, 1948 (70 years since 1878) and state of Israel is born!





## 2004 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches

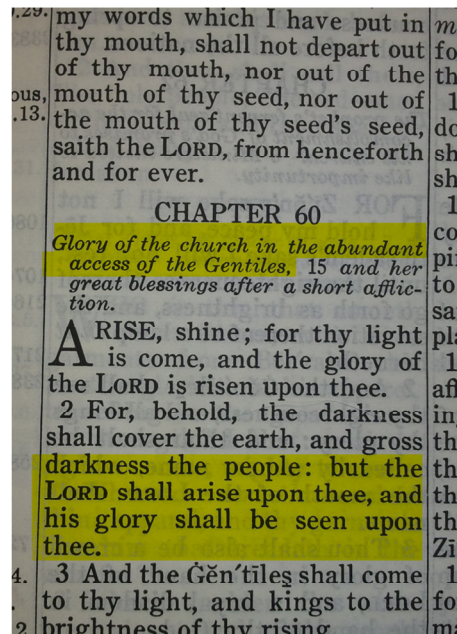
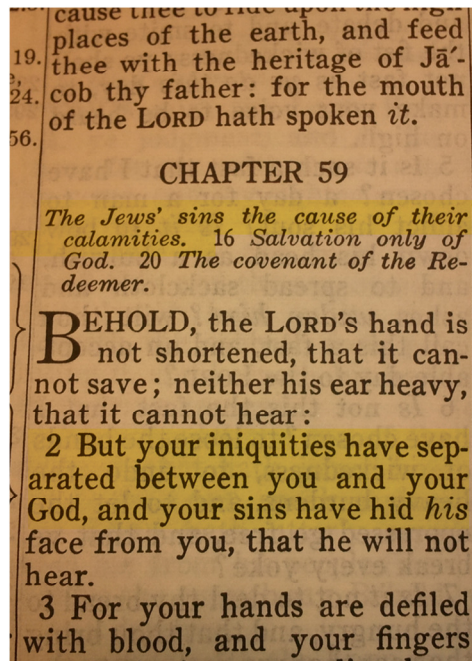
Source: <http://amos37.com/2010/05/01/replacement-denominations/>

Those shown in red subscribe to the Replacement View:

- 1. The Roman Catholic Church - 66,407,105**
2. Southern Baptist Convention - 16, 427, 736
- 3. The United Methodist Church - 8,251,042**
4. The Church of God in Christ - 5,499,875
- 5. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - 5,410,544**
- 6. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - 5,038,006**
7. National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. - 5,000,000
8. National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. - 3,500,000
- 9. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - 3,407,329**
10. Assemblies of God - 2,687,366
- 11. The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod - 2,512,714**
- 12. African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2,500,000**
13. National Missionary Baptist Convention of America - 2,500,000
14. Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc. - 2,500,000
- 15. The Episcopal Church - 2,333,628**
- 16. Churches of Christ, Corsicana, Texas - 1,500,000**
- 17. Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America - 1,500,000**
18. Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc. - 1,500,000
19. American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. - 1,484,291
- 20. African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church - 1,430,795**
- 21. United Church of Christ - 1,330,985**
22. Baptist Bible Fellowship International - 1,200,000
- 23. Christian Churches and Churches of Christ, Joplin, Mo. - 1,071,616**
- 24. Jehovah's Witnesses - 1,022,397**
25. Church of God, Cleveland, Tenn., - 944,857



Here is an example of the Replacement View (not so) subtly made a part of our Bible translations. Note the King James Version headings of Isaiah 59 and 60.



Isaiah 59 talks about the Jews' sins and that their iniquities caused God to hide His face from them. But in the next chapter when the blessings return to Israel, the heading now gives those blessings to the "glory of the church in the abundant access of the Gentiles!"

### Time elements of Israel's restoration

Psalms 102:13-18: Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the **set time**, is come.

Leviticus 26:27,28: And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me; Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you **seven times** for your sins. (2520 years ending in the year 1914).

Daniel 5:25: And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. (2520 years ending in the year 1914).

Isaiah 40:1-2: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand **double** for all her sins. (1845 years ending in the year 1878).



Genesis 15:7-9: *Whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it? (3960 years ending ~1930-1950)*

Ezekiel 21:27: I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: [dominion] and it shall be no *more*, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it to *him*. (Dominion was overturned the first time by the takeover by Babylon, overturned the second time by Medo-Persia and Greece and overturned the third time by Rome.)

Deuteronomy 30:1-3: *After the blessing and the curse...The LORD will have compassion and will return and gather thee from all the nations...*

Luke 21:24: *and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*

