

*Israel*  
*Mistake or Miracle?*

By  
*Roland Pletts*

*The Everlasting Covenant -*  
*Israel and the Church*

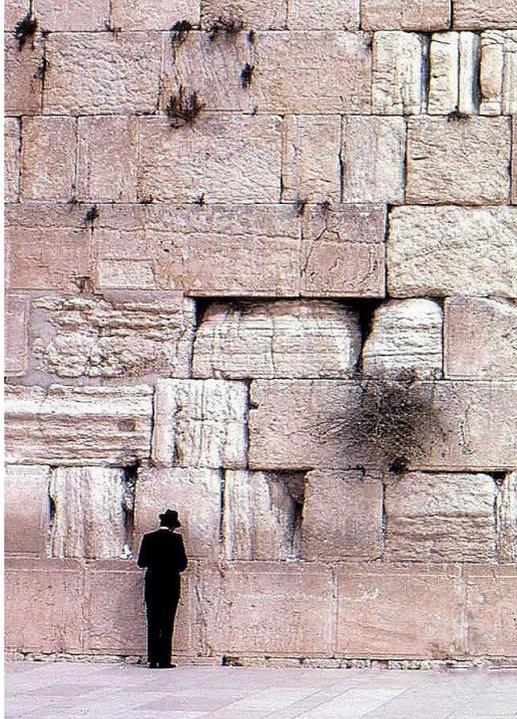


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*“But Zion said “The Lord has forsaken me and my Lord has forgotten me.” Can a woman forget her nursing child and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely she may forget, yet I will not forget you. See I have inscribed you upon the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before me.”*  
*Isaiah 49:14-16, Zechariah 13:6.*

## *THE MIRACLE OF ISRAEL*

Is the present nation of Israel fulfilment of Biblical prophecy or just a mistake?

To some people this may be a controversial question but it is of supreme importance to all people in the world. Israel is constantly in the news to the four “corners” of the world; on TV and radio, in newspapers and on the lips of people either in blessing or cursing. It is a nation that arouses great passion or great animosity and in many ways divides the world.

It also divides the church. Some Christians believe that God is finished with the Jewish people and they are now rejected as a people and nation. To some Christians the idea that God is still the God of Israel is entirely unpalatable. Others believe that God still has a calling upon them and a plan for them. Can we know for certain whether Israel is God’s plan or just a coincidence of history and of no spiritual value? The only valid answer must come from the Bible and not from the opinions of men whether popes, archbishops, synods or church decrees.

The question then is “how should we read and understand the Bible?”

One day a certain man asked the Lord Jesus a question. This man was a “lawyer” in other words a theologian and he asked

the question to try and test the Lord. Jesus answered by asking a question of his own which I have paraphrased; “How do you read the Bible?” Luke 10:26. Jesus was interested in the man’s heart.

You see the Bible is like a mirror; when you read it you will see your own heart. If your heart is full of judgment, condemnation and pride then those scriptures will get your attention. If your heart is full of love, compassion and mercy those scriptures will attract you. It reflects our inner values.

When it comes to Israel some people read the Bible and find scriptures of judgment and curses on them, other people find scriptures of blessing and love. Which are you?

This study is just a brief window into the great wealth of Bible truth about Israel and the wonderful God of Israel, His extraordinary love and great power. Some people discount Israel and even hate it but is that because their eyes are blinded and their hearts not right?

Those who know the Saviour’s heart will know His love, not just for Israel but for all people everywhere.

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(Take time to look up the Bible quotes most of which are from the New King James Bible.)

## *God's Covenant with Israel*

Israel was established on an “everlasting Covenant” that God made with one man and his descendants – Abraham.

God promised to bless *all* other people and nations through Abraham and his “seed”. Genesis 12:1, 15:18, 17:1-7, 22:14. This is linked to the promise God spoke to Eve that from her “seed” a Saviour would redeem fallen mankind. The “seed” God promised is a man and in the epistle of Galatians we read this man is Jesus. Gal 3:16. He is the fulfilment of the promise God made long ago to Eve and to Abraham. God chose one man from one family in order to bless the entire world. Because of this Covenant we know God loves us and through Jesus we have eternal life; “God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

God Himself made this Covenant and God cannot lie. He established it with a *promise* and then endorsed it with an *oath*. Hebrews 6:13-18. So by two unbreakable things, a promise which can never be broken and an oath which is binding, we know this Covenant can never be changed. “God wanted to make the *unchanging* nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of his promise so He confirmed it with an oath.” This Covenant can never be broken or cancelled. For God to do so would mean his character and Word is unreliable. This Covenant is binding and can be only confirmed and fulfilled,

unlike a modern contract or agreement which might be cancelled.

Jesus descended from Abraham and his lineage is given in Matthew and Luke. His family tree is through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, David, Solomon and others. Since the Jewish Diaspora any further family genealogies are no longer accurate. Jesus is the Messiah and by his life, death and resurrection he confirmed the Covenant. He redeemed all who put their trust in the unbreakable Word of God whether Jew or Gentile. It is this Covenant that Christians trust for their salvation. Jesus is our everlasting Saviour.

### **The “New Covenant” made by the Lord Jesus**

When Jesus made the “New Covenant” at the Passover supper he *fulfilled* the same Covenant God made with Abraham. This New Covenant was foretold by Jeremiah. At that time God had given a promise to the people of Israel and it was to this that Jesus referred in his New Covenant. He promised to give his Spirit to all believers and write his laws within their hearts. Jeremiah 31:31, Luke 22:20, 1 Cor 11:25, Ezekiel 36:26-28.

At the “last supper” Jesus confirmed the Covenant God made through Abraham and established the “New Covenant”. However, it was not entirely new for it was established on the existing Covenant God had made. Several times God repeated it to Abraham and extended it through Isaac and Jacob, David and

Solomon. God also made Covenant through Moses. Jesus fulfilled every aspect of these Covenants. He declared emphatically that he did not come to do away with the law but to *fulfil* the law *and* the prophets. Matthew 5:17 (Amplified Bible). Jesus fulfilled the original Covenant; he confirmed, ratified and endorsed it. Far from abolishing it he “renewed” the Covenant God made with Abraham. The Greek word “new” means to “to refresh, renew, anew, latest.” (Strong’s Analytical Concordance, 2537.) Jesus established the New Covenant at the Passover supper on the night before he was crucified. He endorsed and fulfilled the first covenant that the second may be established. He added the final part of it, making it complete. No one else had the authority to do this, only he could do it because he had made the first covenant and had fully kept it. His death was the true sacrifice for he was the “Lamb of God” which took away the sins of the world. Hebrews 8:6-13. Jesus “cut the Covenant” by shedding his blood; it was a **blood Covenant**. Gentiles may not understand the significance of this but for Hebrews the meaning is clear; it can *never* be broken, only fulfilled. A Hebrew Covenant was not like a Greek/Roman contract that could be cancelled or changed. It was a blood Covenant binding in *all* points and could never be broken on pain of death.

Jesus is the “seed” God promised through Abraham and in whom *all nations* of the earth are blessed by the shedding of his blood for the remission of sins. In this way Jesus confirmed and established the Covenant of God given to the descendants of

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God changed the name of Jacob to Israel which referred to all twelve tribes of Jacob. The name “Jew” is derived from Judah, one of the twelve sons of Jacob, and it became the collective name for *all* Jacob’s descendants; the Jews. The term Israelite and Jew are often interchangeable in scripture. There is no justification to say that the Jews are any other than the descendants of *all* twelve tribes of Jacob despite the later division into Israel and Judah.

### ***God’s Heart for Israel***

During the upheavals and scattering at the time of Jeremiah God promised to renew His covenant with Israel and Judah and despite their scattering this Covenant would last as long as the *“heavens and earth and the sun, moon and stars continue to exist.”* It will last as long as *day* and *night* endure. It is **everlasting**. **Jer 31: 7-9, Jer 33:19-26**. It included the **land** given to Abraham. **Jer 32:37-42, Ezek 36:19-28**. God promised to bring the Jewish people back to their land from all countries in which they were scattered including the “northern countries and the furthest regions of the earth.” **Isaiah 11:11,12** says God *“will assemble the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the world.”* God said he will do this with all his heart and soul. **Jer 32:41**. This reveals the *heart* of God. Was God confused when he said this or did he really mean it? There are some theologians who say this only referred to the return of Jews who came back from Babylonian captivity. However, that was only a very partial return. Isaiah

said God will do it a *second* time. After AD70 those who had returned to Jerusalem were again scattered and remained in the great Diaspora of Jews until the 20th century when surviving Jews returned and the nation of Israel was established.

### **The Land**

This Covenant was made with Abraham and his descendents, *all* twelve tribes, and then confirmed through prophets such as Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Zechariah, Amos, Daniel and others. When Jesus came this is the Covenant he fulfilled by his death. Covenant required the shedding of blood even that of the Covenant maker. Jesus therefore shed his blood to fulfil it. This Covenant included the land for God promised to gather the Jews back from all nations to the land where they will dwell safely. He will plant them in their land. That is not Uganda, USA or anywhere else. The historical context is clear: it refers to Israel; both the people, and the land. **Jer 32:37-41**. In almost every scripture in which God made this Covenant the land is also an integral part of it. **Gen 12:1-7, 13:14-16, 15:7,18, 17:18,19**. Was God confused about this?

It was Moses who led the children of Israel through the wilderness to this very land. At the beginning of this great journey God made a Covenant at Mount Sinai with Moses and the nation. At the end of forty years and before they entered the land Moses reminded the people of this Covenant and renewed it yet again. Moses reiterated the binding nature of God's

Covenant and the need to obey it. Deuteronomy 29:1-13. He also foretold that if they did not keep the Covenant they will be plucked from the land and scattered from one end of the earth to the other. Deut.28:58-68. In fact Moses got all the people to enact the blessings that God promised and the curses that would come through disobedience. Deuteronomy chapters 27 – 28. These were the laws and clauses of the Covenant, the conditions for Israel to possess the land and the consequences of disobedience. The land belongs to God but Israel was given tenancy subject to maintaining the laws. If they kept the Covenant they would inherit blessing, if not they would inherit the consequences. Moses predicted their disobedience and scattering and final return to the Lord. Deut. 30:1-10. He said God will ***“bring them back from all nations where they are scattered to the land their fathers possessed”***. Not only that but he said God will then put the curses upon their enemies! Moses encouraged them therefore to love and obey the Lord so they may dwell in the land that God gave to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses set before them blessing and cursing so that they may choose life. Deut. 30:15-20.

Again and again the prophets repeated the words of Moses and foretold that the people would be scattered but then gathered back to the land. It is easy to quote only those scriptures which tell of Jewish judgment but these are *always* balanced by scriptures that *affirm* God’s *unchanging* promise to restore the ancient Jewish people to the land. These are so numerous they are not hard to find in every prophetic book of the Old

Testament. The scattering of the people through history is *evidence* of the binding nature of the Covenant as is also the gathering of survivors back to the land. God *scattered* them and God *gathered* them. Part of the Covenant is forfeiture of the land, the other part is restoration to the land, *both* give witness to the unchanging nature of Covenant. It is precisely because of God's promises that they were scattered and have also come back. They go together; physical restoration to the land is the prelude for their spiritual restoration. Ezekiel 39:28. God scattered them and gathered them. He will *never* forsake them.

To some Christians the truth that God is still the God of Israel is unacceptable, however, he *is* still the God of Israel and Jesus is the King of Israel, King of the Jews. "***For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed O sons of Jacob.***" Malachi 3:6, Romans 11:29. It is because of God's unchanging promise that the Jews have survived over 2000 years of extreme persecution. God does not change and that is why we too can have confidence in Him. God has never cancelled his promise. There is not a single scripture that says he ever has. The only part of the Covenant that has become "worn out or waxed old" is the sacrifices and temple ordinances of the Covenant made through Moses. Hebrews 8:13. That is because Jesus perfectly fulfilled those sacrifices and there is no further need of them; he fulfilled Passover, Atonement and all the others. He is also the High Priest and the true Temple. God has never abandoned, changed or altered any of His Covenant. He has fulfilled it all and will continue to do so.

It was not the Covenant that was cancelled, only the temple ordinances, rituals and sacrifices, nothing else. These were *shadows* pointing to Jesus the reality. Jesus fulfilled the *whole* Covenant by his death on the cross. The moment he died the veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom to show that the temple order was fulfilled and complete. Jesus also foretold the utter destruction of the temple. God allowed it to be destroyed to show that it was finished. However, Christians are not free to break the laws of God just because they are Christians. Believers are now in Covenant with Jesus, and the Holy Spirit gives us strength and faith to obey God in loving obedience.

It might help to point out that although Moses was a Jew he was not directly linked to the “family line” of Jesus through Abraham, and the Levite priesthood that derived through Moses was different from that of Melchizedek who was representative of Jesus. Yet, the Covenant of Moses was very much part of God’s Covenant and Moses himself warned the Jewish people that even though they may forsake the Covenant and be scattered throughout all nations God will eventually bring them back and restore and bless them. Long ago Moses foretold that God will “*provide atonement for His land and His people.*” Then the *Gentiles* will rejoice *with* his people. Deut 32:43 NKJ. The closing chapters of Deuteronomy record the “Song of Moses” and the affirmation of God’s Covenant. Deut 31:30. It is significant that the Song of Moses is seen again in the last book of the Bible. Revelation 15:3. In fact the apostle John, writing about the “end times” makes it clear that all twelve tribes of

God's ancient people of Israel still exist and are still in God's plans and purposes. He also mentions the "four winds" of the earth which is a reference to OT promises of the return of the scattered Jewish people from the four corners of the earth back to their land. Revelation 7:1-8.

### ***A Remnant will return to the land***

All the OT prophets endorse the words of Moses concerning this theme of judgment and restoration. They warned of judgment and scattering but this was *always* followed with the promise that a **remnant** will come back to the *land* and be restored. It is very easy to quote all the warnings but they are incomplete without the promises. Zechariah lived during a partial return of Jews from Babylon but he foretold a future full restoration. Zech 8:8. He foretold that so many will return that there will be *no room* for them, something that never happened at that time. He foretold that Jews will remember God in far off countries and return with their children and come back to Jerusalem. Zechariah went on to depict through vivid actions and symbolism God's judgment upon all false shepherds and idols and the cleansing of the land. Zechariah 10:1-11:4-17, 12:5,6, Jeremiah 23:1-8, Ezekiel 34:1-31. Some people misquote these verses to say that God broke His Covenant but a careful reading indicates that it was not the Covenant with Abraham that was broken but the covenant Zechariah made with the false shepherds. He then took on the role of the false shepherds even to the degree of enacting the final betrayal of Judas who sold

Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Zech 11:10-14. These false shepherds and false prophets are set in contrast to the true shepherd. Zech 13:1-7. (See also Ezekiel 34:17-31, 36:24-28, 37:24, 39:21-29.) Zechariah ends with the triumphant declaration that Jerusalem will be inhabited again and a great fountain of cleansing will be opened, and the people will have their eyes *opened* to see Jesus who was pierced and that the **remnant** of people will *not* be cut off even though all nations come against Jerusalem; it will be delivered and become the Holy city to which all Gentiles will come and worship the King. It will become the head nation of the earth.



*This stone stands by the walls of Jerusalem.*

The prophet Micah prophesied that Israel will be “*given up until her time of labour*” and a *remnant* will return. First they will go into captivity but then the *remnant* will return and be restored even in the midst of the Gentiles. Micah 4:6-7,10 5:3-8, 7:18. Ezekiel wrote at great lengths to describe the return of the Jewish people back to their *land* and back to full restoration and faith in God. He said God will make “an everlasting Covenant of peace with them.” Ezekiel. 37:25-27.

Joel prophesied that the Lord will be zealous for “His land” and will judge the nations because of the way “they divided My land.” Joel 3:1,2. God will judge them “on account of “My people, My heritage Israel”. Then the *remnant* will be saved in a great Holy Spirit visitation, the *land* restored and blossom, and Jerusalem will be sanctified as God’s city. Joel 2: 3:12,17,18,20.

Many other prophets foretold the return of the *remnant* of Jewish people to the land. Amos 9:8-15, Zephaniah 2:9, 3:9-13. Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel had much to say about it. Isaiah 1:9, 10:20-22, 11:11, 46:3, 61:4-9, Jeremiah 23:3-8, 30:10-11, 18-24, 31:3-12,17, 32:37-42, 33:7-14, and many more scriptures foretell their *physical* return to the Land and their *spiritual* restoration to the Lord. Isaiah goes so far as to say that the *land* will be called *Hephzibah* (My Delight) and *Beulah* (Married). Isaiah 62:1-7. To deny this would require ripping out many pages of the Bible. This theme is found throughout the entire Bible from Moses to the Apostle Paul.

## *The Apostle Paul's Heart - Romans chapters 9 to 11*

The apostle Paul confirmed all that the prophets had foretold and that the *remnant* of Israel will be saved. He wrote especially to Gentile believers and taught them about God's heart for Israel. It is clear that he meant Jews, his countrymen after the flesh. Some theologians quote many scriptures to disprove the everlasting promises of God to the Jewish people yet miss the heart of God. Paul revealed the true heart of God.

Paul was a Jewish believer in Yeshua. He was especially called by God to take the Gospel to the Gentiles but he understood the Jews because he was one; he was brought up a Pharisee, Jewish through and through. He made an astonishing statement when he explained that the Jews had been blinded by God for the benefit of us Gentiles! Romans 11:11,25. Because of their blindness they *stumbled*, not to total rejection but for the salvation of the Gentiles so that the Gospel could go to Gentile nations. Paul also said he was constantly in deep *grief* and great *sorrow* for his Jewish people, so much so that he was willing himself to be "accursed" if he could win them to Christ. Romans 9:1. He expressed God's heart for the Jews and was even willing to forfeit his own salvation in order to win them. How many Christians can say that? How many of those people who are so adamant in their denial of the Jews would be willing to sacrifice and suffer for a Jew? I suspect very few. Why is that? Is it because they do not have the heart of God, for if they did they would do everything possible to love them and win them to

salvation. History has proved that those who have closed their hearts to the Jewish people very often end up persecuting them.

In Romans 11:28 (Amplified Bible) Paul wrote that those unbelieving Jews of that time were “enemies” because of their opposition to the Gospel yet were “beloved” because of the fathers. This is still our choice; we can either consider them enemies or we can consider them beloved.

Paul said their “calling was irrevocable for they had received the Covenants and promises of God.” As Gentiles we owe everything to the Jews! They were the people to whom God chose to reveal Himself. They received the Word of God and the Covenants. They withstood great persecutions long before Jesus came. When Jesus came he was born in Bethlehem not London. He grew up and lived as a Jew, in a Jewish land and culture. He was the “King of the Jews”. Jesus is not coming back as an English gentleman or an American superman. He is coming back as the King of the Jews, the Lion from the tribe of Judah. He is coming back to Jerusalem not New York. The Judean foundations of the Old Testament form the basis for Godly society in all nations. Every early “believer” was a Jew. Without the Jews there would be no Patriarchs, no Prophets, no Apostles, no Bible and no Saviour. Paul said that because God had shown mercy to us Gentiles we too should show them mercy. Romans 11:31 (Amplified Bible). We are called to be “vessels of mercy” towards them. The “church” should rejoice *with* them not against them. Romans 15:8-12. Yet through the age it has been

the “church” that has persecuted them more than any other! Instead of having “beautiful feet to bring them salvation” the “church” has had “feet swift to shed blood.” This is the spirit of antichrist. To mistreat a Jew is to mistreat Jesus the King of the Jews. How can one love a Jewish Saviour yet hate the Jews?

Paul wrote that a *remnant will be saved*. Romans 9:27, 11:26,27. He taught this from the OT prophets but placed it still in the future. He talked about his *present* time (11:5) and also a *future* time (11:25,26). To understand what he meant one must go back to the prophets and read their predictions; that although the Jewish people will be scattered throughout all nations a *remnant* will survive and return to the land.

Forty years after Jesus there was a great exodus of Jews from the land when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem. These survivors joined the rest of the Jews in the Diaspora amongst the nations. They remained there for nearly 2000 years until in the wake of the Nazi Holocaust the *remnant* of surviving Jews began to return to their original homeland as foretold by the prophets of old.

### **Scattering and Persecution of the Jews**

So why do some people discount the eternal promises God gave to Israel including the promise that He will gather them back to their land and restore them? Through the ages Satan has caused deception and some “Christians” have “believed a lie.”

The Bible is clear that the original Covenants were made to Israel and Judah, in other words with the house of Jacob, the Jews. According to Paul these promises were never revoked and he explains that there have always been amongst Jewish people those who were partakers of the Covenants. Paul goes so far as to say that one day blindness will be lifted off the Jews and they will be grafted back into their own tree. There is coming a day when “he will turn away ungodliness from Jacob and *all Israel* will be saved according to the Covenant God made with them.” Romans 11:24-26.

There is only one way that the promises God gave the Jewish people can be distorted and that is to change the meaning of the Bible. Much of the “institutionalised church” from very early on and through the centuries explained the scriptures in a way as to change their plain meaning to no longer apply to Jews. This is generally done in two ways.

1/ It was said that the Covenant no longer applies to Israel because the Jews rejected Jesus and are now rejected and cut off forever. They are no longer God’s people and were replaced by the church. The blessings now apply to God’s new spiritual people comprised mostly of Gentile believers and the curses belong to the Jews. This teaching is called “Replacement Theology;” Jews are replaced by the “church.” To support this Matthew 8:11 and 21:42-43 are often cited. However, a reading of these verses shows how they are to be understood. In Matthew 8 Jesus is talking about Jews who have *no faith at all*

and says that Gentiles who do have faith will sit down *together with* Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in other words with Jewish believers. He is saying all people can now receive the Covenant *with* the Jews. In Matthew 21 Jesus addressed only those corrupt leaders of the time who rejected him, not the general people. In fact many, many thousands of Jewish people did receive him and a few chapters further on Jesus indicated that a time will come when the Jewish people *will* receive him. Matthew 23:39.

The suggestion that God has cancelled His Covenant reveals ignorance of the nature of Bible Covenant. Covenant is not something that can be annulled, cancelled or in anyway changed. It can only be fulfilled, endorsed and confirmed. Jesus did this, with Jews, and there have always been Jewish people who lived in Covenant even before Jesus came and ever since then there have always been Messianic believers. Jesus came to the Jewish people. He established the New Covenant with Jewish disciples. All the apostles were Jews. All the early believers who established the churches were Jews. Thousands upon thousands believed in him. Some historians believe that the majority of people in Jerusalem became believers. Not all Jews rejected Jesus, only the rulers. It was not the Jewish people who crucified Jesus but the corrupt leaders of the world both Jews and Gentiles together. As more and more Gentiles came to faith many of the Jews were persecuted until eventually the “church” closed the doors to them and turned their backs on them. This was the beginning of increased animosity and hatred towards the Jews causing their isolation and intense persecution.

The “church” turned from Jewish/Hebrew origins and took on Greek/Roman traditions and theology. Replacement Theology became the presiding thinking in many churches.

As already mentioned the Covenants and Promises of God were made to Jews; Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – the house of Israel and Judah. The Covenant always extended to and included Gentiles who wanted to receive it. In the early church men like Peter and Paul went out from Jerusalem to the Jews in Diaspora and also to Gentiles in all nations and many received it both Jew and Gentile. One reason why more Gentiles joined the growing church was because there were many more Gentiles in these lands than there were Jews. The Jewish population was small compared to Gentiles. As the church grew it forsook its Hebrew roots to believe Greek/Roman philosophy and concepts.

Through the age many Jewish people were persecuted and hounded from nation to nation by the institutionalised church which wanted them to convert to a church that had turned from Hebraic foundations to pagan traditions. Consequently the Jews were alienated more and more until there was great mistrust between “Christians” and Jews. However, part of God’s Covenant with Israel is not only that He will never break that Covenant but He will *also* actively pursue restoration until they are brought into the fullness of that Covenant. This does not mean they have to embrace the “pagan traditions and theology” of Gentile churches but that they *will* come to faith in the Jewish Messiah, Yeshua. This is the Promise and heart of the OT

prophecies concerning God's faithfulness to the *remnant* that will be fully reconciled to Him. God keeps Covenant for His own sake not ours. This is the nature of God and of Covenant. This is the heart of God; He never gives up on those He loves and He loves them with an "everlasting" love. He is faithful and unchanging. He will actively pursue His side of the Covenant until they are brought back to Him. That some people teach otherwise simply reveals their lack of understanding of the true nature of God and of Covenant. Ezekiel makes this aspect of Covenant very clear when he wrote about it in connection with the restoration of Israel to the "their land;" ***"Thus says the Lord God, 'I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went.'"*** Ezekiel 36:22-28,32.

The term "My name sake" occurs often in scripture; God does things for "His own Names Sake" not ours. He is faithful to His Covenant and will never break His own Word or renege on His side of it. God is totally committed to Covenant. God seeks His sheep until He finds them. A careful reading of the prophecy of Ezekiel reveals that Israel comes back to the land in unbelief and only *after* returning are they cleansed and receive spiritual rebirth. Ezekiel 37:9-28, 36:23-32. They are restored to the *land* to be restored to Messiah. This spiritual restoration has already begun and there are more Messianic Jewish believers now than since the days of the early church. Likewise we read that only when this happens will the nations fully understand it is God who restores the land and the people. It is *not* some freak of

coincidence that Jews have returned to the land which has now blossomed and become a nation with ancient cities rebuilt. The Bible says that God has done it; ***“I, the Lord, have spoken and I will do it.”*** Ezekiel 36:36.

Gentile believers are included in the promises of God but to say the “church” has replaced the Jews and taken over all the promises of God is simply not true. Have the Christians been scattered throughout all nations and come back to possess the land of the Bible? Clearly they have not. Are God’s promises to the Jews forgotten by God? No, God gave both His Promise and His Word that He would *never* break Covenant or abandon them. Part of that Covenant is that God will *Himself* bring them back to faith. The Lord has a plan for Israel that will not change and all of history is moving irrevocably towards its completion.

There is not a single verse in the New Testament that says that Gentile believers have *replaced* Jewish believers. Paul said Gentile believers have joined the “commonwealth of Israel,” not that they have replaced them. Ephesians 2:11-22. In fact Paul taught that Gentiles who received God’s Spirit into their hearts were just as *Jewish* as the Jews who had also done so. (Romans chapter 2) In Romans chapter 11 Paul said there is only one tree and “wild Gentile branches” have been grafted *among* Jewish branches onto the same root, not replaced them. It is because God is faithful to keep all his Promises that we Gentiles can be sure He will not abandon us. God does not change and neither does his Covenant. Because God is faithful to His Covenant

with the Jews, so Gentile believers can have assurance of salvation. Paul foretold a time when the *remnant* of Jews will return and be grafted back into the “Olive Tree” and be restored. Romans 9:27, 11:5,23,24. He said that Gentile believers should not “boast” (be arrogant) towards the Jews but should beware lest they are themselves cut off when the Jews are grafted back. Romans 11:21. The implication is that some Gentiles may be.

The Olive Tree is a symbol of Israel. Jeremiah 11:16, Romans 11:16. Because Israel violated the Covenant their branches were broken off. However, this was not terminal for God will have compassion on them and bring them back. Jeremiah 12:15, Romans 11:24. This will be done by Messiah who is the true Branch as well as the root and tree. Jeremiah 11;16-19, 23:5, 33:15, Isaiah 11:1, Zechariah 3:8, 6:12. This is the theme of the prophet Hosea who foretold that although Israel had been an unfaithful wife she will be restored as a “beautiful Olive Tree.” Even though they *stumbled* they will be restored. Hosea 2:14-20, 14:1-7. Isaiah wrote “They shall inherit the land forever, the branch of my planting.” Isaiah 60:21. Even though they were blinded their eyes will be opened. This is not a mistake but a miracle.

Unfortunately through the years and even to this time much of the “church” has not heeded Paul’s words about mercy but in fact have done the exact opposite and boasted in arrogance against the Jews. The time will come when Gentile believers will look to Jewish believers for strength and support.



***An ancient Olive Tree in the Garden of Gethsemane.***

*Even if an Olive tree is cut down it is able to send up new shoots from its roots. They can survive for thousands of years and are a symbol of the nation of Israel. The tree also represents Messiah Jesus who is the Root of David and the BRANCH of the Lord.*

2/ Another way that some try to distort God's promise to Israel is to say that the Jewish people are not really true Jews or part of ancient Israel. After saying this they often then claim to be the true Jews! What arrogance! There are many ingenious ways

people try to do this. It is amazing how many sects claim the Jews of today are not the true people of the Bible. Once this deception is accepted their next step is to claim to be the only “true Jews.” It is extraordinary how many people want to be Jews yet reject the real Jews. Many attempts have been made to disprove the authenticity of the Jews in order to prove Israel is now rejected by God. It is another kind of replacement theology. Any group that claims they are the true Jews are totally deceived.

In recent years research has been done on DNA and genetics. In this way the origins and history of ethnic groups can be traced. Even though Jews have intermarried research on Jewish DNA endorses their clear genetic links with the ancient people of the Bible.

Those people who claim Jews are not Jews quote lots of scripture and dubious historical “facts” but have little real knowledge of history and twist it to promote their ideas. There are all kinds of conspiracy theories that blame Jews for many things. At times Jews have been accused of awful lies instigating all manner of prejudice and cruelty against them. These lies are fabricated by Satan to deceive and manipulate people. Jews have been accused of falsehoods and crimes for far too long. Much of the world media gives biased and exaggerated false reports about them. When men’s hearts are not right their eyes are blinded and they believe all sorts of things. The apostle Paul said people in the end times will *believe a lie*. One of these

lies is to hate the Jews. 2 Thes 2. This is the spirit of antichrist.

Through the age Satan has hated the Jewish people and persecuted them relentlessly. He has even deceived some “Christians” to believe a lie and Jews have been hounded in pogroms, ghettos, expulsions, persecutions and holocausts. From Haman to Hitler people have tried to annihilate them. It is Satan’s work to try to destroy them and so nullify the promises of God to Israel. Those who teach that Jews are forsaken by God do the devil’s work for him. If the devil succeeds then there is no future for Christians. Our salvation is grounded only on the unchanging Covenant of God. Psalm 89:3, 26-37.

Persecution of Jews by Christians started very early in the church. Many of the “Church Fathers” wrote damning incitements against the Jews accusing them of outrageous crimes and claiming they were under the perpetual judgment of God. Much of church theology was formulated by Greek/Roman thinking that discounted the true Hebrew foundation of scripture. Augustine formulated the concept about the “City of God” (the State Church) ruling the world. In order to promote this the Jews had to be discounted as God’s people. Replacement Theology became the thinking in the church. The State institutionalised churches actively persecuted Jews. By the time of the Crusades there was such anti-Semitic fervour that not only did ungodly “Christians” kill many Muslims they also slaughtered many defenceless Jews. At the time of the Reformation this attitude was not reformed but in fact grew

worse. Martin Luther wrote these words.

***“What shall we Christians do with this damned rejected race of Jews? First, their synagogues should be set on fire. Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed. Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer books and Talmuds. Fourthly, their Rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more. Fifthly, passport and travelling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews. Sixthly, they ought to be stopped from usury (charging interest). Seventhly, let the young and strong Jews and Jewesses be given the flail, the axe, the hoe, the spade, the distaff and spindle and let them earn their bread by the sweat of their noses. We ought to drive the rascally lazy bones out of their system. Therefore away with them.”***

Hitler followed this advice and put into actions Luther’s words when he and the Nazi regime committed the greatest mass murder of history. Many other nations have done horrendous things towards the Jews. It was often the churches that promoted this hellish hatred against them and it is the churches that must ultimately take some responsibility for the awful consequences of this hatred.

The horrors of the Second World War sifted hearts of all people, believers and non believers alike. Amongst all the cruelty there were some people who risked their lives to help Jews. The Jewish people call them “the righteous Gentiles”. They stand in

stark contrast to those who were indifferent and hateful towards Jews. Nothing has changed. Israel of today still faces extreme anti-Semitism. They are surrounded by regimes that advocate their total destruction. Many other nations are indifferent to their circumstances and promote further isolation. The churches need to repent of the satanic antichrist spirit that has thrived in “Christian” prejudice, indifference and hatred towards the Jews.

### ***The Nation of Israel Today***

Today Jewish survivors from over 2000 years of desolate wanderings have returned to the land of their historical origins and established the modern nation of Israel. Many nations closed their borders to these survivors. Although badly treated and often persecuted when scattered throughout the world they were not destroyed. Their scattering was in fact their survival for not one nation could ever fully eliminate them as a people. However, now a great number of them, many millions, are located in a small strip of land in which they are vulnerable and could be totally destroyed by weapons of mass destruction or overrun by massed armies. There has never been a time in their history in which they have faced so grave a peril as they do now.

The existence of Israel has been a divisive issue for the church and in these present times will be more so. Much depends upon which side of the fence we choose to stand, either with a heart of compassion and mercy towards them or in arrogance and rejection of them. We can show mercy towards them or treat

them with condemnation. We can open our hearts to them or close our hearts. We can bless them or curse them. The choice is ours. It will not be possible to sit on the fence for much longer. God is allowing the church and every nation in the world to be tested and sifted and one of the dividing issues is our stance towards Israel and the Jews. We do not love them because they are perfect but because they need mercy. We should not love them at the expense of others. We should be praying for and standing with all people in need and that includes Palestinians and others who need the Lord.

But, some may say, what about all the injustice in the Middle East? Yes, there has been terrible deeds perpetrated but much of the world media is totally biased against Israel. This study is not to consider the politics of rights and wrongs as perceived by different factions. Christians are best equipped to help all people for we are called to love all people. Yet Christians in Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya and elsewhere have been in the forefront of dreadful suffering during the present upheavals and Christian communities have been decimated and thousands have fled. The only place where there is a “secure” Christian community is under Israeli administration. We should be praying for Palestinian Christians, Egyptian Coptics and many others under dire threat.

People sometimes say they cannot understand how God can allow such suffering or how God in the OT told the armies of Israel to destroy the people who stood against them. What few

understand was the appalling depravity of those people. They had no morals, were completely ungodly and worshipped demonic idols that led them into many conflicts and all manner of wickedness even to sacrificing living children in the cruellest manner. Deuteronomy 9:5 gives insight into the reason why God allowed them to be destroyed and that this judgment was delayed for many hundreds of years to allow time for them to change which unfortunately never happened. Genesis 15:16. Throughout history many nations brought about their own destruction through their own sins and immorality. It continues to this present time. When nations forsake righteousness and serve idols and false religion they bring upon themselves their own ultimate destruction. This is a sobering truth.

Many of the various peoples of the OT hated and opposed Israel right from the start. When Israel was led out of Egypt some of these people, the Amalek and others such as Edom, Moab and Amon, took advantage of Israel's vulnerability. Some refused to allow Israel safe passage through their territories and attacked Israel. The Amalekites in particular developed a *perpetual hatred* of Israel. God therefore instructed Israel to blot them out. Similar statements are made about other nations. Ezekiel 25:12-17, Joel 3:19. Ezekiel called to remembrance this perpetual hatred as an example for nations that hate Israel, that they too will become perpetually desolate. Ezekiel 35:1-35, 36:1-38. This portion of scripture is an end time prophecy and solemn warning to *all nations* that harbour "ancient hatred" towards God's people; they too will inherit the curses of their own hatred.

Some people may say that the Covenant God made with Israel was only for the time of Moses and the OT. However, Psalm 105:7-12 says ***“He remembers His covenant forever, the Word which He commanded for a thousand generations, the Covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting Covenant, saying ‘To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance.’”***

If a generation is only forty years then a thousand generations is 40,000 years! We have not yet run out of earthly time and there is still plenty of everlasting time.

### **Blessing or Cursing**

Let us consider what the scriptures say about blessing or cursing. The Bible and history is full of examples of people who either blessed Israel or cursed Israel. Many great generals and leaders thought they could wipe Israel off the face of earth yet were themselves defeated. Haman is a prime example. He died on his own gallows. This true story of Haman is found in the book of Esther. Balaam was another. He was a prophet hired by the Moabites to curse Israel but God stopped him and turned his curse into blessing. Numbers 22:9-18, Jude 11, Nehemiah 13:2. He declared concerning Israel **“Blessed is he who blesses you, and cursed is he who curses you.”** These words are inspired by God’s Spirit. Numbers 24:9. Is God confused? Perhaps those who are so adamant that God has forsaken Israel need to be

careful lest they find themselves on the wrong side of blessing and alienated from God. I personally would hesitate to change God's word or question His character. Even the donkey was made aware of Balaam's folly and obeyed the angel. Past nations and great Empires that persecuted Israel have ceased to exist yet Israel still does after 2000 years of persecution.

In more recent times there are examples of those nations that stood with Israel being "blessed" and those that did not being "cursed." One need go no further back in history than to the Second World War and its after affects. The Nazi regime was crushed and the Soviet Union disintegrated releasing millions of Jews to return to Israel. The modern State of Israel is a direct consequence of nations closing their borders to homeless Jews. Instead of assisting them to find refuge many countries hindered them reaching safety. Because of this the Jews went to the only place they could, back to their historical land of Israel.

Not only has Israel been a blessing through history but many Jewish people have been instrumental in great blessing to the modern world in culture and research. Einstein was one of the greatest scientists and Jews have led the world in medical research, scientific inventions, the arts and much more. What did Jesus say about Jews? He made it clear that salvation is from them. John 4:22. Every nation on earth has been blessed by the Jewish heritage through Messiah. One of the strongest cautionary words Jesus gave was in Matthew 25:32-46 when he said that some who claim to be "Christians" will not enter his

Kingdom. Why should that be? It is because they did not have a heart for “his brethren.” God cares for all people, the lost and suffering, but in the Biblical context Jesus was speaking from Isaiah 58 and Ezekiel 34, scriptures that refer to Jews. He is the Shepherd who will judge between the sheep and goats and restore His flock *in their land* and make a Covenant of peace with them. Ezk 34:11-31. This is how the people would have understood his words; they are his flock and brethren. He is King of a Heavenly Kingdom as well as King of the Jews. I ask again “Is it possible to love a Jewish Messiah and hate his earthly people?” Much of the church has forgotten its Jewish roots and that Jesus is Jewish. The whole world will be judged on its stance to the Jews. It is crucial that Christians should come to a place of repentance for what the “church” did to God’s ancient people.

### **Israel and Church Restoration**

Jesus warned the Jewish people of judgment but he also foretold their future return both to the land and to full faith. He foretold the “times of the Gentiles” will end with the restoration of the Jews to himself. Luke 21:24. Gentile Christians need to take cognisance of this prediction. Believe it or not, the days are coming when Gentile believers will be succoured by Jewish believers. (Zech 8:23, Rev 11:4)

Psalm 89 is called a Messianic Psalm for it speaks about Yeshua; “firstborn” of God and King of all the earth, of his

exaltation, and God's Covenant that will "stand firm with him," never broken. Ps 89:1-37. But from verse 38 onwards the writer foresaw the suffering of Messiah and wondered if God had renounced the Covenant. He asked "How long Lord? Will you hide yourself forever?" The answer is given by God, "**My Covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.**" God will never go back on His Word.

In the closing chapters of Isaiah the prophet foretold the restoration of Jerusalem and Israel during the future age. "**For a mere moment I have forsaken you but with great mercies I will gather you. My kindness shall not depart from you nor shall my Covenant of peace be removed.**" Isaiah 54:7-10. "**This is My covenant with them, My Spirit ... My words ... will not depart from your descendants ... says the Lord from this time and forevermore.**" Isaiah 59:21 "**Arise shine ... the Gentiles shall come to your light.**" Isaiah 60:1 "**For the nation ... that does not serve you will perish.**" 60:12 "**your people ... shall inherit the land forever.**" 60:21 The remaining chapters of Isaiah continue in this way, in fact to mention all the promises of the Old Testament to the Jewish people would require quoting much of the Bible. To say that they are no longer valid would mean tearing out most of the Bible's pages.

A time will come when there will be great persecution against Jews. Zechariah predicted that the nations of the world will gather against Jerusalem to control it. There is increasing anti-Semitism and hatred towards Israel. Zechariah also predicted the

day in which the Jewish people, family by family, will have their eyes opened to see that Jesus is their Messiah. Then they will ask him “What are these wounds in your hands?” and he will answer “These are the wounds I got in the house of my friends.” Zech. 12:10, 13:6. Ezekiel foretold that the Jewish people will come to faith and receive such a spiritual renewal that it will impact the entire world. Ezekiel chapters 36 and 37. When that happens then all the Gentile nations will know who the Lord is. Ezekiel 36:23. He is the God of Israel.

This last century has seen miraculous prophecies come to pass. Jews from around the world have returned to the ancient land of Israel. In 1948 they became a new nation and withstood many conflicts against opponents that far outnumbered them and vowed to destroy them. The ancient language of Hebrew is restored. Zephaniah 3:9. Ancient ruins have been rebuilt and the land that lay desolate as a desert for centuries has blossomed. Amos 9:14,15. Millions of trees have been planted and farms now produce crops, fruit and livestock. The land that was a wilderness has come alive. This has never happened before. This was all foretold. There are many scriptures that foretell the recovery in the “end days” of the land that lay abandoned by its original people for hundreds of years. Almost every tree was cut down. Today the land has blossomed.

Many scriptures, when accepted on face value and clear meaning, indicate that present day Israel is the fulfilment of Biblical prophecy. The foundations of Christianity are built on

Biblical promises God made with the Jewish people. Our salvation depends upon God's unchanging Word made with the house of Israel and Judah. It is important that Christians should understand the *heart* God has for the Jewish people if we are to understand God's purposes for the times in which we now live.

God's dealings with the nations and His future plan for this planet are inextricably linked with Israel and the Jewish people. Paul the apostle writes that "their acceptance will bring life from the dead." The restoration of the entire earth and the age of resurrection are linked with Israel. The new life that God will pour into the Church worldwide is linked with the Jews. The great end time outpouring of the Holy Spirit is linked with Israel and the recovery of the land of Israel. "***He will provide atonement for His land and His people.***" Deuteronomy 32:43 NKJ. This end time restoration was foretold by all the holy prophets and includes the restoration of the land. Acts 3:21, 1:6. The New Covenant is in direct context to the return of the Jews to their land and their spiritual restoration. Ezekiel 36:24-28.

All the Jewish Biblical Feasts have prophetic significance. Instead of retaining them the church replaced them with pagan based celebrations such as Christmas and Easter. However, the true Biblical celebrations all have great prophetic importance in God's unfolding plan for the redemption of the earth. They are in two groups; the Spring Feasts of Passover, Unleavened Bread, Wave Offering and Pentecost and the Autumn Feasts of Trumpets, Atonement and Tabernacles. All the Spring Feasts

were perfectly fulfilled by Jesus when he came. He fulfilled Unleavened Bread, died on the day of Passover, arose on the day of Wave Offering and sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. All these are Jewish Feasts. The Autumn Feasts are yet to be fulfilled and just as precisely, at the return of Jesus. Trumpets is the warning given to nations to prepare for the Lord, Atonement is to do with his appearance and Tabernacles with the gathering and rejoicing of his people. Even though the church is not keeping these feasts Israel still does and will be at Christ's return. In fact the Jewish people have kept these Biblical statutes including Shabbat for over 2000 years despite all the persecution against them to stop on threat of death.

It is the faithful observance of the Covenant by Jews for over 2000 years that is significant for the return of Messiah. These religious observances are all prophecies of the reality of Christ's return. For example the Jewish Passover has not changed despite thousands of years of persecution. It follows a certain format which clearly prefigures the return of Messiah. The manner in which Jewish people keep the Feast of Atonement is described in Revelation 11:19 and other places. The Feast of Tabernacles will also be kept in future ages. Zechariah 14:16. These predictions are not understood by the Gentile church because it has forsaken Jewish truths.

If Israel ceases to exist then there is no future for the church; the branches cannot survive without the roots. Israel is the buffer that keeps back the tide of evil sweeping through the world to

destroy every true Christian. Do not think for a moment that we will survive if Israel is destroyed. Satanic deception has aroused animosity and hatred towards the Jewish people but in a mysterious way the Jewish people are a “measuring rod” by which God will judge the hearts of men. Eventually God will judge the values and attitudes of the world at the Valley of Jehoshaphat which is just outside the walls of Jerusalem. When Satan attempts to destroy the Jews on which side will you stand? The defeat of Satan and victory over injustice, sin and death are linked with Israel and our future is too. Ephesians 1:10, 2:15,16.

Every Christian should be praying for Israel. Every Church should be involved in praying for and loving the Jewish people in practical ways. Those churches that do not may miss the great worldwide move of God’s power, redemption and new life that will sweep across the earth. Christians should love all people *including* the Jewish people. If we cannot love them how can we love others? We should *especially* love the Jewish people, not at the expense of others, nor because they are better than others, but because we owe them a debt of enormous proportions. Our Lord was Jewish and He is coming back to redeem them and all others who are in Covenant with Him. Psalm 50:5

### ***National and Individual Blessing***

Nations that want blessing, protection and wisdom in these days need to bless Israel. Nations that will not do so could slide into chaos, confusion, deception and judgment. Do you want your

nation to prosper? Then pray for your leaders to open their hearts to Israel. We should be aware of world shattering events that are taking place. We should be praying for Jews, Arabs, Palestinians and all mankind, that all come to obey Jesus Christ the Messiah. Are we expecting the great “Acts of God” that will take place when Jesus returns or are we indifferent?

You may say that you are spiritually dry and are struggling with problems and need renewal. Try blessing Israel and see what happens. Pray for their salvation and see if God will not pour upon you refreshing, healing and blessing. Open your heart to the Jewish people and *accept* them in love and God *will* pour blessings upon you. The “latter rain” will fall upon those who have a heart for the Jewish people.

Among some Christians there is much argument over doctrines concerning Israel but where are those who have the heart of God? Paul said he was willing if necessary to lose his own salvation in order to win them to Jesus! Can we say that? Where is that kind of sacrificial love in the Church? There is a lot of rejection and indifference towards them but do we have the heart of God? Where are Christians who will sacrifice for them, pray for them and stand with them? Start blessing them and God will bless you. Churches that open their hearts and doors to Israel and the Jewish people will be blessed by God. There is coming an awesome intervention upon earth by the God of the Bible, the God of Israel. The greatest “awakening” will be in Israel among Jewish people. Churches that pray for Israel and

love Jews will be included in the next world shaking “Acts of God.” Those churches that have no heart for Israel will lose out. God continues to use Israel and the Jewish people to sift the hearts of all in the world. Those people who say they love God yet do not love Israel do not have the heart of God but are misled. Those who persecute the Jews are doing the devil’s work for him. Those who are indifferent are no better. What’s the difference between indifference and hatred? Hatred is indifference in action. Some people argue about doctrines and interpretation of scripture and miss the true heart of God. We can either consider the Jewish people as enemies or as beloved. As believers we are exhorted in the New Testament to show them mercy. This is God’s heart for them. They are beloved to Him. It is easy to see people who have experienced mercy. Mercy is a Godly quality. People who have been touched by God’s mercy are people who show mercy to others; they are merciful. Those who do not realise their own need of mercy, seldom show mercy to others.

Some people may say they love individual Jews but not Israel. However, over six million Jews live in Israel and are threatened by numerous nations that have vowed to totally destroy them and wipe them off the face of the earth. The Jews are fighting for their very lives against a spiritual ideology that is fanatical, irrational and diabolical. Militant religious deception has hijacked numerous peace accords and caused massive disruption and violence to millions of innocent people both Jew and Muslim alike. There is only one solution; it is Jesus Christ,

Yeshua the Messiah, the King of the Jews and all mankind. The Lord is sifting the hearts of all three main religions. He is calling Jews to himself, he is challenging Muslims to re-evaluate their beliefs and come to him the true Prophet and Saviour Moses foretold, and he is preparing the Church for his Coming to establish his Kingdom. Deuteronomy 15:18-22, Luke 24:25-27. The dispute as to where the borders of the land of Israel are must still be resolved but it will be in God's time and in His way. There has always been room for others, "strangers and foreigners" to dwell in the land if they adhere to the righteous laws of God. Whether Jew or Gentile domicile in the land depends upon holiness. This is why the future of Israel and all nations lies with the Covenant of Jesus. The Messiah is Himself the Covenant to both Jew and Gentile. Isaiah 42:1-6.

Jesus spoke of a great SIGN in heaven. Matthew 24:30. In the context this sign is the nation of Israel. It is the sign God has given the world and it is a sign the whole world cannot miss for daily it is in world news. It is like a woman clothed with the sun, moon and stars and in *labour to bring forth children*. The scriptures quoted in this study show that Israel is linked to the eternal, unchanging Covenant of God. Even if the devil tries to destroy Israel her children, both Jew and Gentile, will endure forever. Revelation 12:1-17.

***We are at a time when God is giving the Church one last chance to bless the Jews; survivors of the ancient people of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.***

*Psalm 105:7-*

*“O seed of Abraham His servant, you children of Jacob, His chosen ones! He is the Lord our God: His judgments are in all the earth. He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying “To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance”*

*Psalm 122:6*

*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: may they prosper that love you.*

*Psalm 62:1 – 2,7.*

*For Zion’s sake I will not hold my peace and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness and all kings your glory. Give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in all the earth.*

*Isaiah 66:18,20*

*It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory. And they shall declare My glory*

*among the Gentiles. Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the Lord out of all nations... to My holy mountain Jerusalem.*

*Zechariah 8:23*

*Thus says the Lord of hosts: in those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."*

*Revelation 21:10*

*John saw - The Holy city Jerusalem descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, and she had twelve gates and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel. And the gates shall not be shut at all ...and they shall bring the glory and honour of the Gentiles into it.*

Here is a closing question to ponder. How will Gentiles enter New Jerusalem if they hate and despise the Jews? Each of the twelve gates is named after one of the twelve tribes of Israel, the descendants of Jacob, Jews. To get into the city we have to submit to the angelic authority over the gates which protect them and represent the twelve tribes of Israel!



*A plaque in the Garden Tomb*

The author has been in Bible ministry from the 1970s.

Other books by the author:

**Covenant of Glory** – an explanation from a Hebrew perspective of how Jesus will come; the true meaning of “clouds,” the Jewish Feasts, how he will “Confirm the Covenant” with Israel followed by the future time of Glory.

**War for the World** – an explanation of Revelation and its amazing fulfilment through history to present times.

**The Crown of Thorns** – the last week of Jesus’ earthly life - a study about the Biblical prophecies and events concerning the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**The Coming Desolation/Consolation** – a Biblical understanding of the “Abomination of Desolation”, the Temple Mount, the soon coming “Acts of God” when Messiah Confirms the Covenant and the great Glory of restoration.

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FRONT COVER. The Israeli Flag, torn and tattered. The star on the flag is a symbol of Israel and dates back, on tombstone and synagogue, to the third/fourth century CE. It is also called the “Shield of David” a Jewish title for God. It represents two triangles superimposed upon one another, one pointing up towards heaven and the other down towards earth; the spiritual and the earthly linked as one. On the sides are four points reaching out to the “four corners” of the earth. It is blue on white for peace. It has twelve outer sides representing the 12 tribes of Israel united by King David. There are six points representing six days of creation and it forms a hexagram representing the Shabbat of peace for all mankind, for whom the “Great King David” died. This star was used by the Nazi regime as a yellow symbol to identify Jews for persecution and death. Note that this star is not the five pointed star used by many countries and which has astrological connotations and inverted is used as an occult sign.

BACK COVER. A lonely worshipper prays at the ancient “Wailing Wall”.