**This book is about the *current* state of the Jewish people (spiritually dead), *awaiting* that day when God, through His Spirit, will do a work in their lives — will *breathe* into them “the breath of life” (*cf.*** [**Genesis 2:7**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+2.7&t=NKJV)**;** [**Ezekiel 37:1-11**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37.1-11&t=NKJV)**) — resulting in their passing “from death to life” (**[**John 5:24**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+5.24&t=NKJV)**).**

**Israel from Death to Life BOOK  
By Arlen Chitwood of** [**Lamp Broadcast**](http://lampbroadcast.org/)

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**COVER**

On May 14, 1948, after almost 1,900 years — dating back to the time when Rome ruled the then-known world — an Israeli nation was reborn in the Middle East. The time when this occurred was near the end of the 6,000 years allotted to man. That is to say, the re-emergence of Israel in this respect was near the end of Man’s Day, near the time which the Prophets had declared that God would re-gather and restore His people to their land (*cf.* [Isaiah 1:25-2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.25-2.5&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 39:25-29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+39.25-29&t=NKJV): [Joel 3:1-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.1-21&t=NKJV)).

But, are the events of May 14, 1948 the beginning of this restoration? And are the things which have occurred during the more than six decades since that time — a return of millions of Jewish people to the land, numbering some 6,000,000 today — a continuation of this restoration?

Then there is reclamation of parts of the land — cities built or rebuilt and parts of the land transformed from vast wastelands to fertile farmlands. Are these things part of God’s restorative promises through His Prophets?

There is *an inseparable connection of the Jewish people with their capital city and their land*. Both *the city of Jerusalem* and *the land of Israel* are, at times, spoken of in a synonymous respect with *the Jewish people* ([Lamentations 1:7-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Lamentations+1.7-8&t=NKJV); [Jeremiah 22:8-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+22.8-9&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 14:11-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+14.11-13&t=NKJV); [Hosea 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hosea+1.2&t=NKJV); [Matthew 23:37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+23.37&t=NKJV)). *Thus, one cannot be restored apart from the other*.

That which is being taught by most Bible teachers today concerning events in the Middle East — an on-going restoration of the people and the land, including Jerusalem and other cities — connect these events with God’s restorative promises through His Prophets.

But what does Scripture have to say about the matter? Numerous Scriptures are being used to show that the things that have occurred and continue to occur are a fulfillment of God’s promises. But, are these Scriptures being used correctly? Or, are they being misused instead?

That’s what this book is about. And Scripture is *crystal clear* on the matter. *There can be no mistake when one goes to the Scriptures as the final authority, paying attention to exactly what God has said*.

*Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity . .*

*From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores . . .*

*Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence . .*

*How the faithful city has become a harlot! It was full of justice; righteousness lodged in it, but now murderers. .*

*Therefore the Lord says, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, “Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, and take vengeance on My enemies. I will turn My hand against you, and thoroughly purge away your dross, and take away all your alloy. I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.”*

*Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths. ”For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.*  ([Isaiah 1:4a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.4a&t=NKJV), [6a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.6a&t=NKJV), [7a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.7a&t=NKJV), [21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.21&t=NKJV), [24-26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.24-26&t=NKJV); [2:2-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.2-4&t=NKJV))

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**FOREWORD**

This book, [Israel -- From Death to Life by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/IDL.pdf), is exactly about what the title states. This book is about the *current* state of the Jewish people (spiritually dead), *awaiting* that day when God, through His Spirit, will do a work in their lives — will *breathe* into them “the breath of life” (*cf.* [Genesis 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+2.7&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 37:1-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37.1-11&t=NKJV)) — resulting in their passing “from death to life” ([John 5:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+5.24&t=NKJV)).

This book approaches the matter centrally from the standpoint of the Old Testament types, along with reference made to the seven Jewish festivals in [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV).

The types are foundational for a correct understanding of the Word. This is where God began structuring His Word to man after a particular fashion, and this is where man must begin if he is to understand the Word after the manner in which God gave the Word.

And the seven Jewish festivals of [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV) form what one could call “The Prophetic Calendar of Israel.” These festivals are Jewish, and they foreshadow a sequence of events awaiting Israel, extending from the national *conversion* of Israel (seen in the first festival) to the nation at *rest* in the Messianic Era (seen in the seventh festival).

THE FESTIVALS OF THE LORD ([Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV))

The Passover ([Leviticus 23:4-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.4-5&t=NKJV))

The Festival of Unleavened Bread ([Leviticus 23:6-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.6-8&t=NKJV))

The Festival of Firstfruits ([Leviticus 23:9-14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.9-14&t=NKJV))

The Festival of Weeks [or Pentecost] ([Leviticus 23:15-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.15-22&t=NKJV))

The Festival of Trumpets ([Leviticus 23:23-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.23-25&t=NKJV))

The Day of Atonement ([Leviticus 23:26-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.26-32&t=NKJV))

The Festival of Tabernacles ([Leviticus 23:33-44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.33-44&t=NKJV))

Though the studies in this book draw centrally from the Old Testament types and lead into or have to do with that which is foreshadowed by the seven Jewish festivals in [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV), the festivals themselves are only alluded to and dealt with briefly, showing how that seen in the types is seen in the festivals as well.

To state the matter one way, the festivals provide the correct *sequence* for the events, *beginning* at a certain point, *seen* in the types. There is a *sequence* seen in the types as well, but *not* all are seen in any one type. And to see this sequence in an unquestionably correct manner in the word picture presented by the numerous types, the festivals must be *placed* within the word picture. In short, Scripture must be *compared* with Scripture. This is simply one of the numerous ways that God has structured His Word.

(For information on the seven festivals in [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV), refer to [The Seven Jewish Festivals](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#The%20Seven%20Jewish%20Festivals) in this site.

Also, the book, [Arlen Chitwood's Coming in His Kingdom](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/CHK.pdf), deals quite a bit with that which is foreshadowed by events in [Exodus 3-14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+3-14&t=NKJV), having to do with events that cover the same time that is seen in that which is foreshadowed by the seven Jewish festivals. Thus, the current book, [Israel from Death to Life](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-three.php#Israel%20from%20Death%20to%20Life), and [The Son of Man Coming in His Kingdom](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#The%20Son%20of%20Man%20Coming%20in%20His%20Kingdom), both in this website, should be considered *companion* volumes, for *both* deal with the same thing from two *different* perspectives.)

But, back to the thought that this book draws heavily from typology, which is a form of biblical structure and study not even accepted in some circles today, much less understood in other circles. It was Andrew Jukes who, over one hundred years ago, said:

“The real secret of the neglect of the types, I cannot but think may be in part traced to this, that they require more spiritual intelligence than many Christians can bring to them. To apprehend them requires a certain measure of spiritual capacity and habitual exercise in the things of God, which all do not possess…”

Thus, the material in this book, drawing heavily from the way God has structured His Word — highly typical — may be *rejected* by some and *not understood* by others, with the reason given. Regardless, the Word must be dealt with after the manner in which it has been *structured*; and it must be believed and received as the *final authority* on any and *all* matters of faith.

This is what is *required* in biblical studies if one would *know* and *understand* that which God’s Word *really has to say*. We have nothing more, and we need nothing more. It is *the Word, the Word, the Word*, that which has been “forever . . . settled in heaven” ([Psalm 119:89](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+119.89&t=NKJV)).

Described in [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV), The Feast of Weeks is the second of the three “solemn feasts” that all Jewish males were required to travel to Jerusalem to attend ([Exodus 23:14–17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+23.14%E2%80%9317&t=NKJV); [34:22–23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+34.22%E2%80%9323&t=NKJV); [Deuteronomy 16:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+16.16&t=NKJV)). This important feast gets its name from the fact that it starts seven full *weeks*, or exactly *50 days*, *after* the Feast of Firstfruits. Since it takes place *exactly* 50 days *after* the previous feast, this feast is *also known as* “Pentecost” ([Acts 2:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2.1&t=NKJV)), which means “fifty.”

Also refer to [Shavuot, Revelation and the Fruit of the Spirit](http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Holidays/Spring_Holidays/Shavuot/shavuot.html) for information regarding reading of The Book of Ruth at the feast ([Ruth by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/Ruth.pdf)).

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Ch. 1

**THE INTRACTABLE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM**

*Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son, My firstborn.*

*So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me.”* . . . . ([Exodus 4:22b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+4.22b&t=NKJV), [23a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+4.23a&t=NKJV)).

(Almost all of the material in this chapter, save for comments on recent or current events in the world, can be found in material that the author has written at one time or another over the past thirty years, scattered throughout the books that have been printed during that time. In this respect, the short of the matter follows, with not that much explanation or that many references. The long of the matter, with explanation and references, can be found in the books.

This material was put together and sent out in the spring of 2007 because of a number of requests for comments brought about by the Middle East situation at that time. Material in the chapter remains unchanged from its original publication, for that dealt with will not change. It cannot change, for, aside from several comments on current events at the time this material was written, the basis surrounding everything dealt with is the unchangeable Word.

The existing Middle East problem is far from simple, though, from a biblical standpoint, not as complex as one might be led to believe. One might say, *from a biblical standpoint, a person can understand the problem; apart from a biblical standpoint, it is not possible to understand the problem*.)

“Israel,” of course, is *the key*. And concerning problems existing between Israel and the nation’s Moslem neighbors in the Middle East (Arab, Iranian, *et al*.), during the spring of 1991, James Baker, Secretary of State under the first President Bush, stated that this is “the most intractable problem that there is.”

James Baker was also one of the two men who co-chaired the Iraq Study Group in late 2006, turning out an assessment and recommendations — *the Baker-Hamilton report* — on Iraq and the Middle East in general that referred to the situation as “grave and deteriorating” and warned of “dwindling chances to change course before crisis turns to chaos.” And the somber faces and urgency in the voices of both James Baker and Lee Hamilton told the story apart from the report itself.

Was James Baker correct in his assessment of the situation in the Middle East over fifteen years ago? Insofar as man solving the problem, he was as correct as one can become.

Were James Baker, Lee Hamilton, and others in this group correct concerning the recent assessment of the Middle East situation? That could be answered two ways: (1) from a biblical standpoint, the situation is *far worse* than the report indicates, but (2) also from a biblical standpoint, the situation is *much brighter* than the report indicates.

And the preceding would require explanation, providing, at the same time, information to address the whole of the issue at hand.

So, let’s look at it.

**A Biblical Base**

First, dealing particularly with the intractable problem in the Middle East, this *must* be done from *a biblical base*. There is no other way. Apart from a biblical base, a person will only find himself as mired down in trying to deal with the problem as the problem itself has become.

A biblical base is simple and easy to come by. However, *it would not be acceptable* to the secular world at all. How could it be acceptable when most of those in the Middle East are Moslems, along with the fact that the Bible would not be acceptable as a base to work from by any nation attempting to solve the problem, whether the United States or elsewhere? Even Israel would have major problems in this respect because of that which would have to be stated and dealt with.

And the preceding would be true even among many Christians in these nations. Allow an example to illustrate the point, part of which bears directly on the Middle East situation. And, in order to understand the existing problem, this would have to be dealt with *first and foremost* anyway.

**The One Nation with a God**

In the 1950s, during the Eisenhower administration, the words “under God” were added to a line in the United States pledge of allegiance to the flag, making the pledge of allegiance read, “one nation under God.” But is this true of the United States? That is to ask, “Is this true from a biblical perspective?” — the only place where one can possibly go to answer the question.

Christians will fight the ACLU and others through whatever means deemed necessary over this issue. But does either side really know what Scripture has to say about the matter?

The biblical base for this and all the remainder of the Middle East problems can be found in *Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets*. One doesn’t even have to go into the New Testament.

Such would be of little to no value in the matter anyway, for there is nothing in the New that cannot be found in some form in the Old. The New is simply an opening up and unveiling of that which had its beginning in the Old. So, for the most part, we’ll simply stay with the Old since all of the information is there anyway.

For “one nation under God” a person would begin with [Genesis 9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9&t=NKJV) and proceed from there. This chapter deals with Noah and his three sons following the Flood, and everyone in the human race today can trace their ancestry back to Noah through one of his three sons.

Only one of these three sons — *Shem* — is said to have *a God* ([Genesis 9:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.26&t=NKJV)). Neither Ham nor Japheth had a God; and if either was to receive spiritual blessings, which can come only from and through the one true God, *they had to go to the one son with a God*. As stated in the text, Ham and/or Japheth *had to* “*dwell in the tents of Shem*” ([Genesis 9:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.27&t=NKJV)).

That is to say, in order to receive spiritual blessings, Ham and/or Japheth *had to go to and partake of that which God had bequeathed to Shem*. Or, in the words of the explanatory statement by H. C. Leupold in his word studies in the Hebrew text of Genesis, the expression “implies friendly sharing of his hospitality and so of his blessings.”

This is the manner in which God has established the matter in Genesis, and *it can never change*.

The lineage from Shem, in the respect seen in [Genesis 9:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.26&t=NKJV), goes through *Abraham* nine generations later and then through *Isaac, Jacob, and Jacob’s twelve sons*, from whom sprang the twelve tribes of Israel, the nation of Israel. In short, the descendants of Shem through this lineage alone have a God. The whole of this matter is something clearly revealed and seen in Scripture.

Other descendants of Shem, such as the Arab nations (from Abraham through Ishmael, or through one of the sons of Keturah, or through Isaac’s son, Esau), are as the descendants of Ham and Japheth in this respect. They are to be “*reckoned among the nations* [Gentile nations].” Israel, on the other hand, is *not* to be “*reckoned among the nations*” ([Numbers 23:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+23.9&t=NKJV)).

With that as a base to work from, one can then understand verses such as [Psalm 72:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+72.18&t=NKJV) and [Psalm 96:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+96.5&t=NKJV). The first verse refers to:

*“. . . the LORD God, the God of Israel . . . .”* ([Psalm 72:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+72.18&t=NKJV))

And the second verse states:

“*For all the gods of the peoples* [‘nations’ in KJV] *are idols* [*lit*., ‘nothing’] . . . .” ([Psalm 96:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+96.5&t=NKJV))

That is to say, the gods of all the nations (whether they be idols, demons, or anything else) are “nothing” in comparison to the God of Israel, the one true and living God.

[Psalm 33:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+33.12&t=NKJV) is often misunderstood in the preceding respect:

“*Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD* . . . .”

That statement is not a reference to any Gentile nation. *It can’t be*! From a biblical standpoint, *such could not be possible* (unless projected out beyond Man’s Day, into the Messianic Era, during that future time when a Gentile nation would be able to associate itself with Israel in the respect seen in [Genesis 9:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.27&t=NKJV))!

The statement, contextually, has to do with *Israel*, the only nation with a God. *The only way any Gentile nation can have a God is to go to the nation with a God, go to Israel.*

God made that *quite clear* at the outset of His word, in [Genesis 9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9&t=NKJV). And today, with Israel in her current state of unbelief, for the most part scattered among the nations, *it is not possible* for a Gentile nation to dwell in the tents of Shem and possess a God.

For a New Testament reference relative to the preceding, note [Ephesians 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.12&t=NKJV). *Christians possess a God*, but this is only because of and through a Jewish Messiah who came through Israel. With Israel in her current state of disobedience and unbelief, the same thing *cannot* presently be true of nations *per se*.

Thus, from a biblical standpoint, *it is not possible* for any Gentile nation to look upon itself as “one nation under God.” And *that one truth* really forms the central base for understanding the whole of the Middle East problem.

*At the center of the problem is Israel, the only nation on the face of the earth with a God*, a standing that Israel holds even in the nation’s present state of unbelief. *And surrounding this nation with a God are Moslem nations with a governmental system, which is intermixed with a religious system and with a god who is described in* [*Psalm 96:5*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+96.5&t=NKJV), the same place the god of the United States or any other Gentile nation is described during the present day and time.

**Israel’s Position among the Nations**

Beyond that, *Israel is God’s firstborn son* ([Exodus 4:22-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+4.22-23&t=NKJV)), the one and only nation among all the nations that God recognizes as possessing *the rights of the firstborn* — a firstborn right among nations, which, among other things, includes *the right to hold the scepter, the right to rule*. Israel is the only nation that God recognizes as possessing these rights, and, with Israel exercising these rights (which the nation one day will exercise, though that is far from the case today), *the Gentile nations are to be ruled by and blessed through Israel* (in accordance with [Genesis 12:2-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.2-3&t=NKJV), realizing another part of the rights of the firstborn, the priestly rights).

The Gentile nations today rule under Satan and his angels (in accordance with that seen in [Daniel 10:12-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+10.12-20&t=NKJV)). But Israel, not to be reckoned among the nations, occupies a position separate from this rule (in accordance with that also referenced in [Daniel 10:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+10.21&t=NKJV)).

Satan knows all these things, and he has been doing and will continue doing everything within his power to prevent the one nation with a God from ever exercising her God-ordained position *as God’s firstborn son*. He knows that when this occurs, not only will he have to relinquish the scepter but conditions relative to Israel and the nations will become as described in [Zechariah 8:20-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+8.20-23&t=NKJV).

*Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities;*

*The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, ‘Let us continue to go and pray before the LORD, and seek the LORD of hosts. I myself will go also.’*

*Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.”*

*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.’”* ([Zechariah 8:20-23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+8.20-23&t=NKJV))

And in an effort to prevent the preceding from ever occurring, Satan and his angels, ruling from a heavenly sphere through the Gentile nations on earth, have been seeking for decades in the Middle East, through the nations, to bring about that which is stated in [Psalm 83:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+83.4&t=NKJV):

*Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more.*

In [Psalm 83](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+83&t=NKJV), ten Gentile nations are seen allying themselves against Israel in the preceding respect, foreshadowing the ten-kingdom confederacy of Gentile nations that will one day rule under Antichrist and ally itself against Israel in exactly the same manner.

(For information on the present and future government of the earth, refer to the author’s book, [The Most High Ruleth by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/TMHR.pdf).)

**And There Is More…**

Then, as if the preceding wasn’t already too much for man to even begin to deal with, there is still more. There is the matter of Israel being driven out among the nations, *because of unbelief, to effect repentance*. And a remnant has returned back to the land *before the time*. The *manslayer* (*slayer* in the KJV), “Israel,” typified in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV), has returned to the land of her possession *before it is time for the nation to return*.

The “manslayer”, according to the type in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV), *cannot* return to the land of her possession before Christ completes His present high priestly ministry in the heavenly sanctuary and comes forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek (*cf.* [Genesis 14:18-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18-20&t=NKJV); [Psalm 110:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.1-7&t=NKJV); [Hebrews 5:6-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.6-10&t=NKJV); [6:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+6.20&t=NKJV); [7:1-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.1-21&t=NKJV)). And because a remnant has returned *before the time*, before Christ completes His high priestly ministry in the heavenly sanctuary, *a major Middle East problem has resulted*.

It is the age-old story of a disobedient Jonah asleep on board a ship headed away from God’s calling and then finding himself in the midst of a raging storm out on the sea, a storm so severe that it struck fear in the hearts of those men on the ship, a storm so severe that it was about to destroy the ship. *That is the picture that Scripture presents of the dire situation in the Middle East today.*

(For information on the preceding, in relation to the antitype of [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV), refer to [Bible One - Arlen Chitwood's Esther, Appendix 1](http://bibleone.net/Esther_A1.htm).)

Then, as if the preceding addition to the existing problem wasn’t enough, add something else. God pictures Israel as *having been wounded*, *as being sick, because of past disobedience* ([Isaiah 1:2ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.2ff&t=NKJV)). And God states concerning Israel’s condition in this respect that the One who brought about this condition (God, because of the nation’s disobedience) is *the only One who can cure the nation* ([Hosea 5:13-6:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hosea+5.13-6.2&t=NKJV)).

The present nation of Israel in the Middle East is an outgrowth and result of a Zionistic movement that began under Theodor Herzl (an ardent Zionist) and others toward the end of the nineteenth century. Then, the catalysts to bring this Zionistic movement to fruition were, centrally, events occurring during and following two subsequent world wars, WWI and WWII.

*The former* provided England with the Mandate to Palestine (“the administration of the territory of Palestine” given to England by the League of Nations in 1922). And England, prior to this time, had become sympathetic toward the Zionists’ aims of a homeland for the dispersed Jew in the land to which they now held the Mandate, resulting in numerous Jews, during particularly the next two decades, returning to the land of Palestine.

And *the latter*, resulting centrally from the actions of the Third Reich in Europe — seeking to produce a Jew-free Europe, slaying some 6,000,000 Jews in the process, in what is called *the Holocaust* — provided the Jewish people with the catalyst, with that which was necessary among themselves and world opinion, to bring about events of May 14, 1948.

On this date, the current Israeli nation was born. A remnant of Jews, for the first time since Rome had ruled the known world, once again existed as a nation in the Middle East. And since that time, with Jews worldwide continuously streaming into Israel, the nation to date is over 5,000,000 strong. And it is *this return* of the Jewish people from a worldwide dispersion (referred to by the name, *Aliyah*) that Bible students often associate with the prophesied biblical return.

The fact of the matter though is that the Jewish people have sought to return *through man’s own power and strength during a time in which the nation remains in disobedience and unbelief*. God scattered the Jewish people among the Gentile nations *because of disobedience, to effect repentance*. However, *an unrepentant and a disbelieving remnant returned before the time.* A nation resulted, and that nation has grown over the past almost sixty years to where it comprises a sizeable percentage of the world’s Jewish population (about two-fifths).

A people described in the words of [Isaiah 1:4-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.4-6&t=NKJV) (“*a people laden with iniquity*”) presently reside in the land. And the land itself is described in the verse immediately following, [Isaiah 1:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.7&t=NKJV) (“*desolate . . . strangers devour your land*”).

Numerous verses in Scripture deal with Israel’s restoration (*e.g*., [Deuteronomy 30:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+30.1-3&t=NKJV); [Isaiah 1:4-2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.4-2.5&t=NKJV); [6:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.1-8&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 36:24ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+36.24ff&t=NKJV); [37:21ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37.21ff&t=NKJV); [38:8ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+38.8ff&t=NKJV); [39:25ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+39.25ff&t=NKJV); [Matthew 24:30-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.30-31&t=NKJV)). And that which is stated in the text and context of verses of this nature clearly presents *numerous* *insurmountable problems* for anyone attempting to associate the present return of a remnant with God’s promised restoration of His people.

*The same prophecies* that deal with Israel’s restoration also deal with the reason Israel was driven out among the nations (*because of disobedience*), along with that which must occur before God will remove His people from the nations and place them back in the land — *repentance. And the latter has yet to occur*.

Thus, in this respect alone, *it is not possible* that the return of a remnant *at a time* *before repentance occurs* can be looked upon as God restoring the Jewish people in accordance with the numerous Old Testament prophecies.

If the present restoration of a remnant to the land is the beginning of the prophesied biblical restoration of the Jewish people to the land, *God, within this restoration, would be seen acting contrary to His revealed Word*, not only relative to repentance but in numerous other realms as well — *an impossibility*.

Aside from the fact that the restoration of the Jewish people *can occur only following Israel’s repentance*, this restoration *must occur in accordance with the chronology of that which is foreshadowed by each of the seven Jewish festivals in* [*Leviticus 23*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV)(which means that it can only follow Israel’s national conversion at the end of the Tribulation).

This restoration *can occur only after Christ completes His present high priestly ministry in the sanctuary*.

This restoration *can occur only after Christ has returned at the end of the Tribulation*.

*This restoration can occur only after two days, on the third day* (only after 2,000 years, in the third 1,000-year period, which comprises the Messianic Era).

This restoration *can occur only after the “Times of the Gentiles” has been completed*.

This restoration *can occur only after Daniel’s Seventy-Week prophecy has been fulfilled* (and seven years yet remain to be fulfilled in this prophecy).

**The Complete Picture**

Thus, the complete Middle East picture, as it exists today, could be succinctly depicted:

*On the one hand, God’s firstborn son, the one whose right it is to hold the scepter, the only nation with a God, is sitting wounded in a place where the nation is not even supposed to be today, in the midst of Moslem nations, with the nations raging and the whole situation about to tumble out of control* (*cf*. [Psalm 2:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.1ff&t=NKJV)).

*And on the other hand, Satan, through existing conditions, is doing all within his power to destroy Israel by using the surrounding Gentile nations, which are under his control and sway.*

*This is why* there is a situation rapidly becoming uncontrollable, with the nations raging, in the Middle East today. *This is why* the world heard the cry from Nasser four decades ago that the primary goal of a war between Egypt and Israel was to drive Israel into the sea, doing away with the nation. And, as well, *this is the reason* why the present ruler of Iran and others are openly and defiantly continuing to call for this same destruction of Israel today.

None of the basics behind these things are being taken into account in the nations’ endeavors to effect Middle East peace. They can’t take these basics into account. The intractable Middle East problem has both *a biblical base* and *a false religious base*, and the nations seeking to effect peace cannot operate in either realm.

Both bases are *spiritual* and *involve supernatural powers* — one emanating from the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and the other emanating from the god of this age. Man’s best efforts in either supernatural realm would be as powerless as trying to extinguish the flames of a burning skyscraper with an empty eyedropper. And even if the nations could operate in the spiritual realm, the nations *couldn’t* cure Israel of her current condition. *Only God can do this*, something that He clearly states that He will do following Israel being brought to *the place of repentance*.

The Middle East is *a powder keg with a burning short fuse*. It is going to blow, and man can’t stop it, for the prophets have already spoken. *This is simply what GOD HAS DECREED that it will ultimately take to bring Israel to the place of repentance*, something that has been in the offing for over 2,600 years of Gentile rule and persecution of Israel.

How soon will it be before the Middle East tumbles completely out of control in the preceding manner? We’re not told. So there is no need to speculate. Such would be useless anyway. Suffice *it to say that it is later than most care to think, imagine, or admit.*

**Then, There Is Something Else**

The preceding outlines the bad news. The preceding shows why a report such as the Baker-Hamilton report *can’t even begin to touch the problem, as it exists.* And this is not to speak negatively of the report. Rather, it is simply to say, from a biblical base, as previously outlined, that *there is an existing problem in the Middle East with which man can’t deal*.

But there is good news. *The more the matter deteriorates, the brighter things become in another respect*. The dawn always follows the darkest hour of the night.

The time is rapidly approaching when the Church will be removed, and after that God will allow conditions to deteriorate to a point, particularly in the Middle East, where Israel will have no place to turn other than to the God of their fathers. Scripture describes that time as a day “*burning like an oven*” ([Malachi 4:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Malachi+4.1&t=NKJV)), and Scripture also speaks of conditions deteriorating during that time to a point where “*no flesh*” would survive apart from divine intervention ([Matthew 24:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.22&t=NKJV)).

It will be the story seen in the book of Exodus all over again. Israel, *through Gentile persecution, will be brought to the place of repentance, a Deliverer will be sent, Israel will be delivered, and Gentile power will be destroyed*.

That coming day will see the “*Sun of Righteousness*” rise “*with healing in His wings*” ([Malachi 4:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Malachi+4.2&t=NKJV)). *Christ will return, Israel will be cured of her wound (her sickness), Gentile world power will be destroyed, and God’s firstborn Sons (Christ, Israel, and the Church following the adoption) will then exercise the rights of primogeniture, with the Gentile nations being blessed through Israel.*

*Then and only then* will the intractable problem in the Middle East be resolved.

*Then and only then* will there be peace in the Middle East.

*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.* ([Psalm 122:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+122.6&t=NKJV))

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Ch. 2

**MIDDLE EAST PEACE — HOW, WHEN?**

***As Seen through the Death of Ishmael in*** [***Genesis 25***](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV)

*These were the years of the life of Ishmael: one hundred and thirty-seven years; and he breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.* ([Genesis 25:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25.17&t=NKJV))

(The chapter that follows is an extensive revision of a chapter in the book, *Israel and the Land*, written and published in 1979. Parts of the original chapter dealt with events of the times. Much of this original material has been retained, for the things occurring in the Middle East back in those days were very much in keeping with and have parallels to things occurring in the Middle East today, particularly on-going peace efforts between the Jews and the Palestinian Arabs [note that the Palestinians are a displaced people, not a nation *per se*, *i.e*., they are not one of the nations surrounding Israel].

Events in history often have a way of repeating themselves, with man, at times, seeming to never learn from the lessons of history, often repeating the same mistakes. Then, where these events touch upon or have to do with the things revealed in Scripture, man invariably pays even less attention, far less.

And the latter is *the most major of all mistakes* that man can possibly make in this realm. Events occurring during Man’s Day have to do with *time* and *possible change*. That which Scripture reveals though is *timeless* and *unchangeable*.

Relative to Middle East peace, Scripture deals rather extensively with *the only way* and *the only time* in which this can be brought to pass. Scripture presents a 4,000-year old problem, with spiritual values involved. And, from this perspective, man can’t possibly begin to deal with even one small part of the problem.

When this material was originally written and published in 1979, to illustrate the folly of man’s attempts to deal with the Middle East situation, events occurring almost two years earlier in that part of the world were dealt with extensively, which will explain why the chapter begins and continues as it does.)

On November 19, 1977 a descendant of Ishmael, representing the largest Ishmaelite nation in the world, stepped off his Boeing 707 jet onto Israeli soil at Ben-Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, Israel, and was received in a red-carpet welcome (including a blare of trumpets and a 21-gun salute) by the descendants of Isaac. On hand at Ben-Gurion Airport to greet Egyptian President Anwar Sadat were such dignitaries as Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, former Prime Ministers Golda Meir and Yitzhak Rabin, and the military heroes of past Arab-Israeli wars, General Moshe Dayan and General Ariel Sharon.

This historic event captured the attention of the world. All of the major news networks sent representatives into the area. The jet aircraft carrying Anwar Sadat was filled with reporters. And live television coverage was flashed, via satellite, from Ben-Gurion Airport to points around the world.

Although the world’s news media was able to somewhat capture the importance of the moment at that time, its commentators have never been able to properly assess certain things about the current Middle East situation. There is only *one document* in existence that gives a completely accurate account of the past history, present condition, and future status of the Middle East; and this document — the Word of God — has been *rejected* by the world. Thus, the world’s news media, not going to this document, could not then and cannot today even begin to correctly analyze events of the nature under discussion in the Middle East.

The outline of Middle East history, current events, and prophecy has its roots in the book of Genesis. The unrest between the Arabs and the Jews in the Middle East can be understood only in the light of the Abrahamic Covenant and the unrest existing in Abraham’s tent between two sons of Abraham — *Ishmael* and *Isaac* — relative to this covenant.

Thus, this not only takes the situation back 4,000 years in human history — beginning with two sons of Abraham and dealing over the years that followed with the descendants of these two sons (the descendants of Ishmael and the descendants of Isaac) — but it places a divine covenant right in the middle of the matter.

In this respect, any proposed peace between the Arabs and the Jews, such as the one underlying Anwar Sadat’s trip to Israel in 1977, must be understood not only in the light of the revealed history of Ishmael and Isaac in Genesis, but in the light of the Abrahamic Covenant as it relates to Old Testament prophecies concerning Israel, the Arab nations, and the surrounding non-Semitic, Gentile nations.

The Arab nations in the Middle East can make their overtures toward war or peace, Russia to the North can voice her approval or disapproval, the United States to the West can attempt to exert influence and control over the situation, and the world’s news commentators can surmise all they want, but ONE FACT remains: That which is about to happen in the Middle East surrounding the Arabs and the Jews and the place that all of the other nations will occupy as these events begin to unfold has already been prerecorded. This entire matter — taking things back 4,000 years in history and moving them forward into the future — was all foretold by Moses and the Prophets, and *NOTHING can alter that which God has revealed will occur*.

**The Abrahamic Covenant  
Two Half-Brothers**

As previously seen, the history of the present Middle East situation had its beginning with Abraham almost 4,000 years ago ([Genesis 12:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1ff&t=NKJV)). Abraham was called out of Ur of the Chaldees and instructed to go into another land, a land that God would show him.

Then, once in the land, God established an everlasting covenant with Abraham. This covenant concerned *a seed* and *a land*. Abraham was to have a son, and through the progeny of this son God would establish a great nation. And this nation was to be the channel through which God would bless all the Gentile nations.

This nation was to be established in a tract of land in the Middle East, within certain specified boundaries — *a land given to Abraham and his seed for an everlasting possession* (*cf*. [Genesis 12:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1-3&t=NKJV), [7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.7&t=NKJV); [13:14-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+13.14-17&t=NKJV); [15:18-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+15.18-21&t=NKJV); [26:3-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+26.3-4&t=NKJV); [28:13-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+28.13-15&t=NKJV)). And the Abrahamic covenant was established before Abraham even possessed a seed to fulfill the promises of God.

Following the establishment of this covenant we have the account of Sarah, Abraham’s wife, who found herself with no children and beyond the age of childbearing. Sarah, in the energy of the flesh, surmised that if Abraham were to have a seed to fulfill the promises of God, this seed would have to come through someone other than herself. Sarah, thus, said unto Abraham, “*See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her*.” Abraham harkened to Sarah’s voice, took Hagar, went in unto her, and she conceived and bore *Ishmael* ([Genesis 16:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.1ff&t=NKJV)).

The birth of Ishmael marks the point in history to which all of the present turmoil in the Middle East can be traced. *Nothing* performed in the energy of the flesh is ever acceptable to God; and many times, as is exemplified in the acts of Sarah and Abraham, resulting in the birth of Ishmael through Hagar, actions of this nature will have far-reaching, dire consequences.

In the Genesis account there are thirteen silent years following the birth of Ishmael ([Genesis 16:16-17:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.16-17.1&t=NKJV)). Then, at the termination of these thirteen years God appeared to Abraham and revealed that the time had come for His promise concerning a seed to be fulfilled.

Sarah, who was old and beyond the age of childbearing, was to have a son. God would return to Sarah “*according to the time of life*” ([Genesis 18:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+18.14&t=NKJV); [21:1-2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21.1-2&t=NKJV)), and Sarah would bear Abraham a son in his old age. This son was to be called “Isaac,” a name divinely revealed even before conception, at a time when Sarah was still incapable of bearing children ([Genesis 17:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+17.19&t=NKJV)).

Then, as well, at this same time (before Isaac was conceived), insofar as the Abrahamic covenant was concerned, *Ishmael was completely rejected* ([Genesis 17:18-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+17.18-21&t=NKJV)).

*All things* surrounding the birth of Isaac were of divine intervention — the opposite of those surrounding the birth of Ishmael (Ishmael’s name had also been divinely revealed before birth but only *afte*r conception, not *before* conception, as Isaac’s [[Genesis 16:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.4&t=NKJV), [11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.11&t=NKJV)]).

The whole problem in the Middle East today stems from one central subject and has to do with two major points of contention regarding that subject.

1) The subject: The Abrahamic Covenant.

2) The points of contention: How the descendants of the two sons of Abraham relate to and view this covenant.

Those surrounding Israel, many within the borders of the Jewish nation itself — the Egyptians, Syrians, Jordanians, Palestinians, *et al*. — are descendants of *Ishmael*. The Israelites are descendants of *Isaac*. Thus, the Jews and the Arabs are *half-brothers*.

Both Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Menachem Begin of Israel alluded to this fact in speeches before the Israeli Knesset November 20, 1977. Both men traced their common ancestry to Abraham — one through *Ishmael*, the other through *Isaac*.

(Some of the Arabic nations, taking matters back far enough, could trace their origin to other sons of Abraham besides Ishmael — to Esau, or to one of the six sons of Keturah. However, over centuries of time, extending into millennia, *the descendants of Ishmael* have come to the forefront in this respect.

For all practical purposes, the descendants of Esau or the six sons of Keturah have, over time, been assimilated into the descendants of Ishmael. Thus, in this chapter, the Arabic nations will be referenced in connection with *Ishmael*.

Even if Arabic nations could be found today that could trace their lineage back to other than Ishmael, they would still be looked upon in relation to the Jewish people and the Abrahamic Covenant in exactly the same way as the Ishmaelite nations. In this respect, their origin would really be immaterial in relation to the subject matter at hand.)

The entire framework for peace that Anwar Sadat proposed was built around Israel’s willingness to relinquish certain parts of the land that God had given to Abraham and his seed. Anwar Sadat wanted the land “captured” during the 1967 war returned to the Arabs. This land included the Sinai Peninsula taken from Egypt, the Golan Heights taken from Syria, and the West Bank — including the old city of Jerusalem — taken from Jordan. Anwar Sadat did not believe that any of the captured land belonged to the Jewish people by and through their tracing the title deed back to the Abrahamic Covenant (see data in parenthesis at the end of this section).

Menachem Begin, on the other hand, took a different position toward ownership of this land. His attitude toward the land occupied by Israel was found in his statement that the Israeli people had not “captured” ANY LAND; they had simply “liberated” land that was already theirs. And he based his position on the Abrahamic Covenant. Menachem Begin believed, in accordance with Scripture, that this land belonged to the descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob.

However, even though Menachem Begin took this hardline stance on the matter, he softened his approach in one realm. In keeping with that which Anwar Sadat wanted, he expressed his willingness to relinquish part of this land in order to establish peace.

(The Arabic nations all across North Africa and in the Middle East are Moslem nations. The Moslems believe the Old Testament, though they would see numerous parts as having been corrupted over time.

For example, they would see Abraham offering Ishmael, instead of Isaac, as the sacrifice in [Genesis 22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+22&t=NKJV).

[The Moslems view the Koran as a continued and final revelation through Mohammed, with the Koran presenting a number of matters related to the Old Testament in a later, uncorrupted form.]

On the Abrahamic Covenant, the Moslems, from at least one statement in their Koran, would see this covenant established through Abraham and his nephew Lot, with the land “blessed” and given to “all the people of the world.” And the Moslems would see the Jewish claim to the land as based on corrupted Scripture, shown to be corrupted by and through not only the words from their Koran but by and through that which is stated in [Deuteronomy 18:21-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+18.21-22&t=NKJV):

*And if you say in your heart, “How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?”*

*When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.*

In short, the Moslem’s claim that the Jewish title deed to the land from a verse such as [Genesis 17:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+17.8&t=NKJV) is invalid by and through the test laid down by Moses in [Deuteronomy 18:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+18.21&t=NKJV). That is, they see the promises in the covenant as *not having come to pass*, showing, to them, that the matter exists only in corrupted statements regarding this covenant in the Old Testament. Then, beyond that, as previously shown, their Koran lays the matter out in an entirely different fashion anyway, in line with their thoughts regarding a corruption of the Old Testament Scriptures.

Until modern times, the Moslems have ruled this land for thirteen centuries [except for about 100 years of Crusader domination]; and because of this, though the Koran states that the land is for “all the people of the world,” they view the land as belonging to them [though some of the Moslems, in this respect, may look upon themselves as curators of the land, remaining more in line with the statement from their Koran].

And the re-emergence of a Jewish nation in the land seen in the Abrahamic Covenant, established in modern times by and through man’s Zionistic efforts, has certainly not helped the Moslem’s outlook on matters. The re-establishment of a Jewish nation in this land has *infuriated* the Moslems. They look upon the Jews *as squatters in a land that does not belong to them, squatters who must be removed and driven into the sea.*

Then, a high percentage of those whom the Moslems deem as *squatters* are self-proclaimed atheists or agnostics — *believing that a God whom they don’t even believe in has given them this land by and through an everlasting covenant*. And in this respect, combined with that which is seen in the preceding several paragraphs, is it any wonder that the Moslems, who believe in God [though the wrong God], view the presence of the Jewish people in the land after the manner in which they do?

The Moslems are determined *to fight an Islamic jihad against Israel until the land has been returned to its rightful owner.* To not do so, in their eyes, is to be unfaithful to “Allah.”

Thus, the battle rages, with man vainly attempting to unravel something that he doesn’t even begin to understand and attempting to accomplish this task apart from dealing with any of the central issues [which would be impossible for him to deal with anyway].)

**A Chronology of Events**

There are five consecutive chapters in Genesis — [Genesis 21-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21-25&t=NKJV) — which, if understood in the light of that which has previously been discussed, will provide the necessary, additional information to not only understand that which is under discussion concerning peace between Israel and her Arab neighbors (*et al*.), but also will provide an outline covering all of subsequent Scripture. Thus, the importance of correctly understanding these five chapters cannot be overemphasized.

The birth of Isaac is found in [Genesis 21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21&t=NKJV). This is the first of five chapters forming an overall type extending from the birth of Christ to His millennial reign. And, the place that Ishmael occupies in these chapters along with what has been previously revealed about Ishmael in [Genesis 16-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16-17&t=NKJV) will provide the basic framework for correctly understanding the place that the Arab nations *MUST OCCUPY from the time of their inception until the Messianic Era.* The Prophets also give additional information concerning the status of the Arab nations — particularly Egypt — both before and during this future time.

In the overall type covered in these five chapters in Genesis one finds:

1) The birth of Isaac ([Genesis 21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21&t=NKJV)).

2) The offering of Isaac ([Genesis 22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+22&t=NKJV)).

3) The death of Sarah ([Genesis 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+23&t=NKJV)).

4) The bride for Isaac ([Genesis 24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24&t=NKJV)).

5) The remarriage of Abraham and the subsequent death of Ishmael ([Genesis 25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV)).

*The birth of Isaac* typifies the birth of Christ. Divine intervention surrounds the birth of both.

*The offering of Isaac* typifies the offering of Christ. In [Genesis 22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+22&t=NKJV) there is a vicarious sacrifice. The ram caught in the thicket died in the stead of Isaac. In the antitype there is also a vicarious sacrifice. The Lamb of God, Christ, died in your place and in my place.

*The death of Sarah* typifies the setting aside of Israel following Calvary. Israel was/is the wife of Jehovah (though divorced because of harlotry). And just as Sarah, the wife of Abraham, died following the offering of Abraham’s son, Israel, the wife of Jehovah, was set aside following the offering of God’s Son (with Israel seen as in the place of *death* [*e.g*., the seventh sign in John’s gospel, the death and resurrection of Lazarus in [John 11:1-44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+11.1-44&t=NKJV)]). See in this site [The Eight Signs in John's Gospel](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-one.php#The%20Eight%20Signs%20in%20John's%20Gospel).

*The bride for Isaac* typifies the bride presently being called out for Christ following the setting aside of Israel. Abraham sent his eldest servant into a far country to obtain a bride for Isaac; and God, in that which is foreshadowed by events in this chapter, has sent the Holy Spirit into a far country to obtain a bride for Jesus. The journey of Abraham’s servant in the type was successful, as will be the present journey of the Holy Spirit in the antitype.

*The remarriage of Abraham* typifies that time when God will restore Israel to her rightful place on the earth. AFTER the bride has been called out, AFTER “*the fullness of the Gentiles has come in*,” THEN “*all Israel will be saved*” ([Romans 11:25-26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+11.25-26&t=NKJV)).The nation will be restored to her former position. Israel’s harlotry will be done away with ([Revelation 17:16-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.16-17&t=NKJV); [19:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19.3&t=NKJV)), cleansing for the nation will occur ([Ezekiel 36:24ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+36.24ff&t=NKJV)), and God will once again take Israel as His wife ([John 2:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=John+2.1ff&t=NKJV)).

If one will get the framework of that which is taught in [Genesis 21-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21-25&t=NKJV) straight in his mind and interpret Scripture in the light of this framework, he will have very little trouble in biblical interpretation throughout Scripture.

The broad outline of [Genesis 21-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21-25&t=NKJV) has been called to your attention to show the place that Ishmael occupies during the time covered by these chapters. *The life of Ishmael spans the entire period. Ishmael died* ([Genesis 25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV) [b]) *only AFTER the bride had been called out for Isaac* ([Genesis 24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24&t=NKJV)), *and only AFTER Abraham had remarried* ([Genesis 25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV) [a]).

**The Ishmaelites**

(The things pertaining to Ishmael occurred after the preceding fashion in the type, and they *MUST* occur after this same fashion in the antitype.)

That which is revealed concerning Ishmael in [Genesis 16-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16-17&t=NKJV) will, according to the manner in which [Genesis 21-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21-25&t=NKJV) are structured, characterize the Ishmaelites *from the time of their inception in about 1,900 B.C. until the time that the kingdom is restored to Israel,about 4,000 years later*. We are presently living during the days typified by [Genesis 24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24&t=NKJV) — the Holy Spirit in the world calling out a bride for God’s Son.

Ishmael can only remain *UNCHANGED* until after the events typified by the opening verses of [Genesis 25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV), *i.e.*, until after Israel has been restored — placed back in her land, as the wife of Jehovah, at the head of the nations, within a restored theocracy.

And this cannot occur until after the present dispensation has run its course, until after the Church has been removed, until after the seven-year Tribulation has run its course, and until after Israel’s Messiah returns to the earth at the end of the Tribulation.

The most revealing description of Ishmael was given before he was even born, by the Lord Himself:

*And he shall be as a wild ass among men; his hand shall be against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he shall dwell over against all his brethren.* ([Genesis 16:12 ASV](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.12&t=ASV))

The dwelling place of the wild ass is *in the wilderness* ([Job 39:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Job+39.5-6&t=NKJV); *cf*. [Genesis 21:20-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+21.20-21&t=NKJV)). This description given to a man would characterize *his wild, lawless, nomadic nature*. He is further described as an *aggressor*: *“his hand shall be against every man*,” and as a result, “*every man’s hand*” shall be “*against him*.” The expression “*he shall dwell over against all his brethren*” implies not only location but disposition. He will dwell in the presence of his brethren, and he will be hostile toward his brethren.

“Apparently, the fellow himself as well as his descendants will not be of peaceable disposition. We should say, he will carry a chip on his shoulder and have his finger on the trigger.” ~ H.C. Leupold

Anyone who visits an Arabic country along the coast of North Africa or in the Middle East and views present and past conditions in the light of [Genesis 16:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+16.12&t=NKJV) can only marvel at the complete accuracy of this description of the Ishmaelites. They have always been wild, lawless, nomadic, and have never been able to even get along with one another, much less the Israelites in the Middle East and the Gentile nations of the world.

Arab unity is a myth and has been over the years. Possibly the nearest that the Arab World ever came to uniting was during the Six-Day War of 1967. But Israel shattered that unity in a matter of hours. Israel began a war with the surrounding Arabic nations after the Western World had retired for the night, and won that war before the Western World awakened the following morning. That is how fast things often transpire in the Middle East. The Arab World became split down the middle because of Anwar Sadat’s overtures of peace with Israel in 1977. King Hassan II of Morocco at the time backed Sadat and stated: “We are presented with an undeniable fact. It is impossible to dream of pushing Israel into the sea.”

But most of the Arab countries — including those without a country, the Palestinians — desired to continue trying. *This was to be expected. This was their nature, which would remain unchanged throughout the remainder of Man’s Day*.

**Reflections on Days Following 1977**

Another war with Israel during Anwar Sadat’s day would have been disastrous for Egypt. The Egyptians couldn’t possibly have hoped to win, and the end result would have only been another blow to Egypt’s staggering economy and rapidly deteriorating standard of living at the time.

Anwar Sadat’s only hope for improving conditions in Egypt was to establish a peaceful relationship with Israel and stop the fighting. But, one problem about Anwar Sadat’s people, which neither Anwar Sadat nor any other leader in the Middle East alluded to, lay in the path:

The nature of the Ishmaelites, in accordance with [Genesis16:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesi+16.12&t=NKJV), MUST remain unchanged throughout Man’s Day. Anwar Sadat, the leader of the largest Ishmaelite nation in the world, was trying to establish millennial conditions BEFORE the time, and *this COULD NOT be done.*

And the leaders of Israel at this time, receiving Anwar Sadat in the manner which they did, evidently knew little more about the matter than Sadat knew.

According to [Isaiah 19:23-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+19.23-25&t=NKJV), a highway will one day extend from Egypt northeast through Israel to Assyria. These three countries will form a triumvirate in the Middle East. But this is millennial in its scope, and there can be no highway or lasting peace between these countries BEFORE that time.

It is interesting to note that before Anwar Sadat went to Israel, he traveled to Syria — the country presently occupying territory covered by the ancient Assyrian Kingdom immediately north and northeast of Israel — and sought to enlist the aid of Syrian President Hafez Assad in his move toward peace with Israel. Anwar Sadat sought the aid of Syria above all the other Arab nations, but Syrian leaders rejected his plea and condemned his actions.

Sadat sought to establish millennial conditions between Syria, Israel, and Egypt, but such could not exist in that day, nor can they exist today. The day though is coming when Syria, Israel, and Egypt will dwell in peace together, but that day lies within the scope of that which is seen in [Genesis 25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+25&t=NKJV), not within the scope of that which is seen in [Genesis 24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24&t=NKJV).

Anwar Sadat’s motives for going to Israel, or that which he was attempting, are really of little consequence. *NO lasting peace can exist between the descendants of Isaac and the descendants of Ishmael during the present time.*

*Scripture is CRYSTAL CLEAR on this matter!*

Also, prophecies concerning judgments that will befall Egypt in the latter days indicate that Egypt’s attitude toward Israel at the end of this age will probably be more hostile than that of any other Arab nation.

The last days will evidently witness Egyptian hostility toward Israel of such a nature that Egypt will be singled out of all the Arab nations to undergo certain judgments.

During or immediately following the coming Tribulation the Nile River will be “*dried up*,” and the land of Egypt will be made “*utterly waste and desolate*” ([Isaiah 19:5-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+19.5-9&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 29:1-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+29.1-10&t=NKJV); [30:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+30.12&t=NKJV)).

During the Messianic Era the land of Egypt will lie desolate for the first “*forty years*.” Neither man nor beast will be allowed to pass through the land during this time.

Then, after forty years the land will be restored and inhabited, but throughout the Millennium Egypt will be the “*lowliest of kingdoms*” ([Ezekiel 29:11-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+29.11-15&t=NKJV)). The reason given in Scripture for this is because of the “*violence against the people of Judah, for they have shed innocent blood in their land*” ([Joel 3:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.19&t=NKJV)).

When Anwar Sadat returned from Israel, three million Arabs lined the route from the airport to Cairo and hailed their president as, “Man of Peace.” Individuals throughout the world bestowed upon him the same title, including his subsequently being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (awarded jointly to Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin in 1978).

But Anwar Sadat, in reality, could not hold this title. He was an *Ishmaelite*, and the time had not arrived for Ishmael to die. He could have done no more than effect a temporary, outward appearance of peace, far from any type of real lasting peace.

(In keeping with the Moslem mind-set pertaining to the Abrahamic Covenant and the Jewish people, Anwar Sadat paid dearly for his trip to Israel and his peace overtures.

Just under four years later, on October 6, 1981, he was assassinated at a military parade in Cairo by an Egyptian Islamic Jihad squad led by one of his own army officers.)

**The Coming Holocaust**

In Anwar Sadat’s dealings with Israel, he could have been seen as a forerunner of the coming Antichrist. This man too will seek to bring about peace in the Middle East by going to Israel. He will establish a seven-year covenant with Israel ([Daniel 9:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+9.27&t=NKJV)). And he will divide the land, evidently establishing boundaries to the satisfaction of both Arab and Jewish interests ([Daniel 11:39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+11.39&t=NKJV); [Joel 3:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.2&t=NKJV)). He will succeed in effecting a somewhat similar outward appearance of peace in the war-torn Middle East to that which is seen throughout Anwar Sadat’s trip to Israel.

When this man appears on the scene, the Middle East situation will be very much like it is today — with peace effort’s eluding all who try. This is another clear indication that any present efforts of Israeli and Palestinian leaders can produce little in the way of anything beyond a possible short-lived outward appearance of peace. That is to say, conditions may stabilize for a short time, but such stability can never last.

When Antichrist appears, conditions in the Middle East may very well be so unstable that they will appear insoluble. Regardless of conditions though, he will seemingly establish peace in that part of the world.

(Note that this man, who will likely be a Moslem himself, will be “*mortally wounded*.” He is then subsequently seen ascending out of the abyss, the place of the dead [[Revelation 13:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.3&t=NKJV); [17:8-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.8-11&t=NKJV)].

This man will evidently be slain — very likely because of his previous peace treaty with Israel, as Anwar Sadat was slain for this reason — but then raised from the dead [as a false Messiah whom the Moslems may associate with the 12th Imam, which many are looking for].

[Scripture does not explain how the preceding can occur, only that it will occur. Thus, it is not left for man to surmise. *The simple statement from Scripture is sufficient*].

And the way Scripture is worded [*cf.* [Revelation 11:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.7&t=NKJV); [12:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.1ff&t=NKJV); [13:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.3&t=NKJV); [17:8-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.8-11&t=NKJV)], the preceding appears to occur very near but before the middle of the Tribulation, immediately prior to the time that this man slays the two witnesses in [Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV) and turns against Israel in all his fury in [Revelation 12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV) [*cf*. [Matthew 24:15ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15ff&t=NKJV)].

Then, this man, at this time, can only find one major thing relative to his Satan-driven aspirations — *a fanatical Moslem world ready to follow him into the depths of the abyss itself if that’s what it will take to remove the Jew from the face of the earth, with* [*Matthew 24:21-22*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.21-22&t=NKJV) *describing the severity of those days.*

*For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

*And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake* [Israel’s sake] *those days shall be shortened*.)

Both the Jews and the Arabs are today desperately searching for some means to bring about peace in the troubled Middle East. They know that the continuous state of war (at least after some fashion) that has existed since 1948 has adversely affected all the Middle East countries involved, and something must be done soon to change the situation.

As previously stated, something is going to be done, and from all indications it will be done soon. But the end result of the type of peace that the man about to appear will bring to pass will make the Holocaust of World War II in Europe pale by comparison.

As also previously stated, after only three and one-half years, this man will break his covenant with Israel, turn upon Israel, and for three and one-half more years seek to accomplish that which Satan and those under his direction have attempted for the past 4,000 years — the complete destruction of Abraham’s seed derived from Isaac and Jacob.

Between the years 1939-1945 Adolf Hitler directed the mass murder of six million Jews in Europe. The man of sin will direct the mass murder of twice that many worldwide in half the time.

The atrocities committed against Jews in Europe during World War II intensified the World Zionist Movement, and a Jewish nation was re-born less than three years after the termination of that war. *Yad Vashem* (transliterated Hebrew words from [Isaiah 56:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+56.5&t=NKJV), “*a place and a name*”), a memorial to the six million who died in the Holocaust has been built in Jerusalem, and the Israelites in the land today have two words that they sound forth to the entire six million:

*“WE LIVE!”*

**A National Homeland Today, But…**

The nation of Israel is presently in existence to provide a national homeland for any Jew in the world, seeking to prevent anything like the Holocaust from ever happening again by providing a place where a Jewish person could go and find refuge (a major problem for European Jews during World War II). And “The Law of Return,” passed by the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset, in 1950, grants any Jewish person in any part of the world the right to emigrate to Israel (though amendments have been added to this law over time because of problems that have surfaced — criminal elements, *etc*.).

Regarding the Jews in the land today though, *the Prophets have spoken*. The Prophets have stated that the present Israeli nation in her national homeland will be uprooted once again, and something like the Holocaust of World War II — but far worse — *will THEN happen again*.

Israel, by and through Zionistic efforts (man’s efforts, not God’s) dating back over one hundred years, is in the land today awaiting Antichrist. Adolf Hitler was only a forerunner of this man. And just as Adolf Hitler came to his end, this man will also come to his end. And just as the Jews survived the past Holocaust, they will also survive the future Holocaust.

The nation of Israel *cannot* be destroyed (*cf*. [Isaiah 54:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+54.17&t=NKJV); [Jeremiah 31:35-37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+31.35-37&t=NKJV); [33:20-26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+33.20-26&t=NKJV)). The Jews throughout history have always emerged from the furnace, while their persecutors suffered destruction themselves ([Daniel 3:8-30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+3.8-30&t=NKJV); [6:4-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+6.4-24&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Exodus 3:2-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+3.2-8&t=NKJV); [12:29-30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+12.29-30&t=NKJV); [14:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+14.30&t=NKJV)).

*One more furnace remains* — the most terrible of all — and then the long-awaited Messianic Era.

Just as a Jewish nation was reborn in the Middle East following the past Holocaust, the nation will be reborn following the future Holocaust ([Isaiah 66:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.8&t=NKJV)). *THEN, and ONLY THEN, will there be the long-awaited, true peace that individuals in the Middle East are now vainly seeking to establish*.

*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.”* ([Psalm 122:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+122.6&t=NKJV))

(For additional information on the present Middle East situation and that which Scripture reveals regarding the future for Israel and the nations in the Middle East, refer to [The Intractable Middle East Problem](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Intractable%20Middle%20East%20Problem) and [The Death of the High Priest](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Death%20of%20the%20High%20Priest) in this site.)

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Ch. 3

**TIME OF ISRAEL’S RESTORATION**

***As Seen through the Death of the High Priest in*** [***Numbers 35***](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV)

*Whoever kills a person, the murderer shall be put to death on the testimony of witnesses; but one witness is not sufficient testimony against a person for the death penalty.*

*Moreover you shall take no ransom for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death, but he shall surely be put to death.*

*And you shall take no ransom for him who has fled to his city of refuge, that he may return to dwell in the land before the death of the priest* [the high priest]. ([Numbers 35:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.25&t=NKJV))

*So you shall not pollute the land where you are; for blood defiles the land, and no atonement can be made for the land, for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it.* ([Numbers 35:30-33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.30-33&t=NKJV))

[Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV) relates the account of God instructing the children of Israel to set aside six cities to be “*cities of refuge*.” And within this account one will find central truths surrounding that future time — which is seen in [Hebrews 5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5&t=NKJV) — when the present high priestly ministry of Christ, *after the order of Aaron*, is concluded and Christ comes forth from the heavenly sanctuary as the great King-Priest, *after the order of Melchizedek*.

Three of the cities of refuge were to be on the east side of Jordan, and the three remaining were to be on the west side of Jordan ([Numbers 35:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.14&t=NKJV)). The three cities on the east side of Jordan were selected by Moses, prior to his death and the subsequent entrance of the Israelites into the land of Canaan ([Deuteronomy 4:41-43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+4.41-43&t=NKJV)); and the three cities on the west side of Jordan were selected by the children of Israel under the leadership of Joshua, following their entrance into the land ([Joshua 20:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joshua+20.1-7&t=NKJV)).

These cities were set aside to provide *a sanctuary* for any man who killed another man by an unpremeditated act. The divine decree given to Noah and his sons following the Flood required the death of the slayer at the hands of man:

*Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.* ([Genesis 9:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+9.6&t=NKJV))

And God’s injunction concerning capital punishment for a capital crime was later reiterated to Moses and is part of the Mosaic Economy as well ([Exodus 20:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+20.13&t=NKJV); [21:12ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+21.12ff&t=NKJV)).

The command concerning capital punishment for a capital crime was thus given to Noah and his sons over eight hundred years before it was delivered to the children of Israel under Moses. Consequently, man not being under the Mosaic Economy today has *nothing* to do with the validity or non-validity of capital punishment for a capital crime, for not only does the biblical origin of this injunction *precede* the giving of the Law through Moses but the command given to Noah and his sons (approx. 2,300 B.C.) *has never been repealed.*

Although capital punishment for a capital offense has never been repealed, provision was later made for a man who killed another man unintentionally. This was the divinely established purpose for setting aside the six cities of refuge (*cf.* [Exodus 21:12-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+21.12-13&t=NKJV)). These cities were to be located at places where at least one city would be easily accessible to any Israelite living in the land of Canaan. And should one Israelite kill another Israelite by accidental means — unintentionally — he could flee to the nearest city of refuge and be provided a sanctuary from the near kinsman of the person who had been slain.

It fell upon the lot of the near kinsman to fulfill God’s injunction concerning capital punishment for a capital crime. The near kinsman was to confront the slayer and, in turn, slay him. God’s requirement in the matter was *blood for blood* ([Numbers 35:16-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.16-21&t=NKJV); *cf*. [Deuteronomy 19:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+19.21&t=NKJV)).

God’s previous instructions to Noah and his sons remained *unchanged* within the framework of God’s instructions to Moses. Something though was added to these instructions within the Mosaic Economy. Provision was made for the person guilty of accidental, unpremeditated murder. And once the Israelite guilty of such an act had taken advantage of that provision — once the slayer had fled to and was inside the walls of one of the six designated cities of refuge — the near kinsman, as long as the slayer remained in this place, couldn’t touch him.

Any individual though who fled to one of the cities of refuge must, at a later time, be returned to the area where the slaying occurred and appear before a judicial court. And, should the testimony at this court prove to be negative — *i.e*., show that the man had committed the act in a willful manner — at least two witnesses were required to testify against the man in this respect.

If the slayer was found *guilty of willful murder*, he would no longer be granted sanctuary in a city of refuge. Rather, he would be turned over to the near kinsman to be slain; and the near kinsman, slaying the man, would not be guilty of blood himself.

But if the slayer, on the other hand, was found *guilty only of involuntary manslaughter*, he would be returned to the safety of the city of refuge to which he had previously fled ([Numbers 35:22-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.22-28&t=NKJV)).

Then there was the matter of *a ransom*. This ransom constituted a payment for the life of the one found to have committed involuntary manslaughter. No ransom though was provided for the life of a person found guilty of willful manslaughter. Rather, he was to forfeit his own life (*blood for blood*), apart from a ransom.

But though the ransom was a provision for the one having committed involuntary manslaughter, there was a stipulation: *The ransom could not be used until the death of the high priest* ([Numbers 35:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.28&t=NKJV), [32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.32&t=NKJV)).

Once the high priest in the camp of Israel had died and the ransom had been paid, the individual who had previously been found guilty only of involuntary manslaughter was then *free to leave the particular city of refuge where he had been provided a sanctuary and return to the land of his possession. And once this had occurred, the near kinsman no longer had any claim on that individual.*

**Israel, the Slayer**

In the Old Testament (in the type) it was *individual Israelites* who found themselves guilty of manslaughter (willful or involuntary) and, consequently, in a position where they would either be slain or be granted protection in a city of refuge. Today (in the antitype) it is *the entire nation of Israel* that finds itself guilty of manslaughter and in a position to either be slain or be granted protection.

The nation of Israel is guilty of *blood*. The nation is guilty of *the death of their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ*.

The paschal lamb was given to Israel, and *only Israel could slay this lamb* ([Exodus 12:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+12.1ff&t=NKJV)). “Jesus” was *the Paschal Lamb* ([1 Corinthians 5:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+5.7&t=NKJV)), to whom all the sacrificial lambs in the Old Testament pointed; and *only Israel could have slain Jesus*, which is exactly what, according to Scripture, occurred ([Acts 2:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2.23&t=NKJV), [36](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2.36&t=NKJV); [3:12-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+3.12-15&t=NKJV)).

Israel today is *unclean* through contact with the dead body of God’s Son, with cleansing to be provided on the seventh day — the seventh 1,000-year period, the Messianic Era ([Numbers 19:11-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+19.11-12&t=NKJV)). But how is Israel’s act, as the slayer, to be reckoned? Was it *a premeditated act?* Or was it *an unpremeditated act?*

If it was a premeditated act, the nation would have to be cut off. No ransom could be provided (it would have to be *blood for blood*; the nation would have to pay with its own life); nor, if *a premeditated act*, could the nation *ever* be allowed to return to the land of her possession (which would mean, in the final analysis, that God’s promises to Abraham, beginning with [Genesis 12:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1-3&t=NKJV), could *never* be realized).

However, if Jesus was delivered into Israel’s hands after a manner that would allow the nation’s act of crucifying her Messiah to be looked upon as *unpremeditated murder — i.e*., allow the nation’s act to be looked upon as having been done through *ignorance* — then Israel could be granted protection and a ransom could be provided. And beyond that, the ransom could one day be used by the nation, at which time Israel would be free to return to the land of her possession (allowing God’s promises to Abraham, beginning with [Genesis 12:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1-3&t=NKJV), to be fulfilled).

The biblical testimony concerning the manner in which the nation’s act must be viewed was given by Jesus Himself at Golgotha; and the same testimony was later provided by Peter, following the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Christ.

Note the words of Jesus:

*. . . Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do . . . .* ([Luke 23:34a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+23.34a&t=NKJV))

Then note the words of Peter:

*Men of Israel . . .*

*But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,  
and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. . . .*

*Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers.* ([Acts 3:12a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+3.12a&t=NKJV), [14-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+3.14-15&t=NKJV), [17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+3.17&t=NKJV)).

Thus, Jesus was delivered into the hands of Israel (*cf.* [Exodus 21:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+21.13&t=NKJV); [Acts 2:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2.23&t=NKJV)) after a manner that not only allowed the Jewish people to act after the described fashion but also prevented them from acting after any other fashion as well. Consequently, Israel is to be granted protection, a ransom will be provided, and the Jewish people will be free to one day avail themselves of this ransom and return to the land of their possession, *though only after the antitype of the death of the high priest*. And, at this time, *all of God’s promises to Abraham through Isaac, Jacob, and Jacob’s twelve sons, beginning with* [*Genesis 12:1-3*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1-3&t=NKJV)*, will be fulfilled.*

**The High Priest and the Ransom**

In the camp of Israel there was only one high priest at any one time. At the time of the high priest’s death, he was succeeded by another from the Aaronic line; and the high priestly ministry in the Aaronic line continued in this manner, after this fashion.

Aaron ministered in the sanctuary in the earthly tabernacle, with blood, on behalf of the people. Jesus, on the other hand, is presently ministering in the heavenly sanctuary, with blood, on behalf of the people — a ministry patterned after the order of Aaron. And, as evident from [Hebrews 5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5&t=NKJV), along with other related Scripture, Christ’s present ministry after the order of Aaron *will not* continue indefinitely.

There is coming a day when Christ’s present ministry in the heavenly sanctuary will end. And the termination of this ministry, along with certain events that will occur relative to Israel in that day, was typified by the death of the high priest in the camp of Israel and events that occurred relative to the slayer when the high priest died.

And these events, as they pertain to the slayer, have to do with two things in the antitype:

*1) Israel’s cleansing from defilement through contact with the dead body of the nation’s Messiah.*

*2) A restoration the Jewish people to the land of their possession.*

The word *ransom* ([Numbers 35:31-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35.31-32&t=NKJV) [translated “satisfaction,” KJV]) is from a cognate form of the word for “atonement” in the Hebrew text. The underlying thought behind “atonement” is *to cover*; and that is the same thought expressed by the “ransom” in this chapter. This ransom provided *a covering* — a covering from view, a putting away, a blotting out — of the previous capital act (an unpremeditated act). And once the ransom had been used, which could be only *after* the death of the high priest, the whole matter was *put away*. The person was then free to return to the land of his possession; and the near kinsman of the one slain could no longer have any claim on him whatsoever, for the matter had been *put away* and could never be brought up again.

(In the type, this ransom was connected with some aspect of the person and work of the high priest, or of other priests. For example, this ransom could not be used *until the high priest had died*. Then, this ransom had to do with *a covering* [with *atonement*] from defilement wrought through contact with a dead body. And such a work in [Numbers 19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+19&t=NKJV), where cleansing from this type defilement is dealt with, was performed by *a priest*.

The high priestly ministry of Aaron and his successors in the camp of Israel, whether in this or in other areas of defilement, was a work on behalf of *the saved*, not the unsaved. Their work was for those who had already appropriated the blood of slain paschal lambs, pointing to Christ and His shed blood at Calvary [the slain Paschal Lamb]. This succession of high priests ministered in this manner, on the basis of shed blood, typifying Christ’s present ministry in the sanctuary after this same fashion [a ministry for the saved, on the basis of shed blood].

Thus, that which is being dealt with in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV) — portending a priestly work — has to do with *the cleansing of saved individuals* *from defilement* [defilement wrought through contact with a dead body], not with issues surrounding the death of the firstborn [issues surrounding eternal salvation].

And the Jewish people, for two reasons, find themselves in a position today where they cannot avail themselves of this cleansing [cleansing from contact with the dead body of their Messiah]:

1) The Jewish people today are in *an unsaved state*.

2) The Jewish people, even if they were in a saved state today, could not presently avail themselves of the ransom [cleansing] because of *the nature of Christ’s present priestly ministry*.

Cleansing from all defilement during the present dispensation is brought to pass through only *one means* — through Christ’s present ministry in the heavenly sanctuary, on the basis of His shed blood on the mercy seat. Though Christ is not of the Levitical line, His present ministry is patterned after the order of Aaron’s ministry; and, because Christ is not of the Levitical line, if God were dealing with Israel on a national basis today, He could not deal with the Jewish people in relation to Christ’s present ministry in the sanctuary [else He would violate that which He Himself established].

The Jewish people, if they were being dealt with in relation to the priesthood today, would have to be dealt with in relation to that which is set forth concerning the priesthood in the Mosaic Economy [as will be seen through the covenant Antichrist will make with Israel during the coming Tribulation, when God completes His national dealings with Israel during Man’s Day]. The priest, within the Mosaic Economy, had to be of *the Levitical line*. And Christ is not of this line. Christ is from the tribe of Judah.

Thus, dealing with the Jewish people in relation to Christ’s high priestly ministry today would be *completely out of the question*. They could not go to Christ and receive cleansing, for the Mosaic Economy does not recognize a priestly ministry of the nature Christ is presently exercising [a non-Levitical ministry patterned after the order of Aaron, a Levite]. And any priesthood that the Jewish people themselves could enact today, from the Levitical line, would be completely non-efficacious.

However, note that Christ [though from the tribe of Judah] *can conduct* a ministry patterned after the order of Aaron for Christians during the present dispensation, *for Christians are not under the Mosaic Economy*. Christians form part of *the one new man*, which is neither Jew nor Gentile [*cf*. [Galatians 3:26-29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Galatians+3.26-29&t=NKJV); [Ephesians 2:12-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ephesians+2.12-15&t=NKJV)]. Thus, for Christians, Christ’s lineage *has nothing to do with the matter one way or the other.*

But, before the Jewish people can enter into the picture as matters pertain to the priesthood and the ransom, seen in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV), Christ must *first* terminate His present ministry in the sanctuary and come forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek. And, as well, a new covenant [which will replace the old covenant] will be made with Israel at this time [[Jeremiah 31:31-34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+31.31-34&t=NKJV)].

In the preceding respect, from the vantage point of the antitype, it is an easy matter to see why the high priest in the camp of Israel had to die before the slayer could avail himself of the ransom and return to the land of his possession. God had simply established and brought matters to pass after this fashion in the history of Israel in order to form a type, with a view to the antitype. Christ’s high priestly ministry in the sanctuary has to terminate first. *Only then* can the slayer [Israel] avail herself of the ransom and return to the land of her possession.)

Thus, the ransom for Israel’s capital offense has already been paid. Jesus paid this ransom at Calvary, shedding His own blood — blood which is presently on the mercy seat in the heavenly sanctuary. However, although the ransom (providing atonement) for Israel’s sin has already been paid, the nation cannot avail herself of this ransom or return to the land of her possession *until the antitype of the death of the high priest*.

Israel though must *first* experience her national Passover in fulfillment of [Exodus 12:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+12.7&t=NKJV) and [Leviticus 23:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.5&t=NKJV) — by and through applying the blood that was shed 2,000 years ago. And this can occur *only* at the termination of Israel’s present blindness ([Romans 11:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+11.25&t=NKJV)). Israel, as the two disciples on the road to Emmaus in [Luke 24:13ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.13ff&t=NKJV), *must continue in a blinded condition* until the resurrected Christ, by His personal presence at His second coming, opens the Old Testament Scriptures to the Jewish people’s understanding in this respect (*cf.* [Luke 24:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.16&t=NKJV), [25-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.25-27&t=NKJV), [31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.31&t=NKJV)).

In that day, Israel’s eyes will be opened; and a nation will be “*born at once*” ([Isaiah 66:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+66.8&t=NKJV)). The entire nation will experience *the birth from above at the same time* [when the Jewish people look upon the One whom “*they have pierced*” ([Zechariah 12:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+12.10&t=NKJV))]). And this will occur *only after* Christ terminates His present ministry, departs the heavenly sanctuary, and comes forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek. *Then cleansing can occur, allowing the ransom seen in* [*Numbers 35*](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV) *to be accessed*.

It will be in that day — not before — that Israel *will experience her national Passover, be able to avail herself of the ransom, and be free to return to the land of her possession*. As long as Christ occupies His present position in the heavenly sanctuary, Israel cannot avail herself of the paid ransom and return to this land. Israel must remain in her present condition — blinded — throughout the present dispensation; and, according to related Scripture, Israel will not be removed from this condition until a few years beyond the present dispensation, at the end of Man’s Day, at the end of the Tribulation.

(Insofar as Christians are concerned, Christ’s present ministry in the heavenly sanctuary will terminate when the Church is removed from the earth into the heavens, at the end of the present dispensation. However, Christ’s ministry in the sanctuary will apparently continue for others through the Tribulation, else the saved among the earth-dwellers would have no High Priest.

Christ though will not come forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek, appearing to Israel after this fashion, until the end of Man’s Day, the end of the Tribulation. And it will be only at this time that events surrounding the antitype of the death of the high priest in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV) can occur.)

Also, the Jewish people one day availing themselves of the ransom in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV) would correspond with the fulfillment of events set forth in the second and sixth of the seven feasts of the Lord in [Leviticus 23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23&t=NKJV) — *the feast of Unleavened Bread, which immediately followed the Passover, and the Day of Atonement.*

“Leaven” points to that which is *vile, corrupt* (*cf.* [Matthew 13:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+13.33&t=NKJV); [16:1-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+16.1-12&t=NKJV); [1 Corinthians 5:6-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+5.6-8&t=NKJV)); and the fulfillment of this festival in the type had to do with *a cleansing of the house, a removing of all leaven from the house immediately following the Passover* (*cf.* [Exodus 12:8-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+12.8-20&t=NKJV); [Leviticus 23:6-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.6-8&t=NKJV)).

And in the antitype, it is the same. The fulfillment of this festival will immediately follow the fulfillment of the Passover. It will occur immediately following Israel applying the blood of the slain Paschal Lamb, blood shed 2,000 years prior to this time. And because Israel had previously shed this blood, the entire house of Israel will be found in an *unclean* condition in that day, *an uncleanness which will have to be dealt with*.

Israel, in that day, will be found in this *unclean* condition through the nation’s prior contact with the dead body of their Messiah. The house, resultantly, will be found *completely leavened. And the leaven will have to be removed; it will have to be put out, done away with.*

But, though all things associated with *leaven* will be put out of the house (fulfilling the second festival, the festival of Unleavened Bread), *cleansing* cannot occur until events surrounding the fulfillment of the sixth festival (the Day of Atonement).  *Only then* will the nation be able to access the ransom, be cleansed of defilement by and through contact with the dead body of their Messiah, and be free to return to the land of their possession. *Only then* can the seventh and last festival be realized — the feast of Tabernacles, a time of rest at the completion of the previous six festivals, foreshadowing the time of rest awaiting the people of God (a seventh-day rest, a Sabbath rest), the Messianic Era. (See in this site [The Seven Jewish Festivals](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-two.php#The%20Seven%20Jewish%20Festivals).)

This is where the account of the slayer availing himself of the ransom in [Numbers 35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+35&t=NKJV), following the death of the high priest, is seen being fulfilled in the antitype (along with the fulfillment of that which is seen in [Numbers 19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Numbers+19&t=NKJV). *Israel in that day will be cleansed of this defilement, and the house will no longer be leavened*.

Accordingly, *only in that coming day*, only following cleansing from Israel’s present defilement wrought by and through prior contact with the dead body of the nation’s Messiah, will the Jewish people be free to return to the land covenanted to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and *only then* can the Jewish people realize their calling in this land, with God’s promised blessings flowing out through Israel to the Gentile nations of the earth after the fashion that God intended when He called this nation into existence.

(Knowledge of the preceding facts will reveal not only truths surrounding Christ’s present and future ministries but also truths surrounding Israel’s present and future status as a nation in the Middle East. Christ is *still ministering* in the heavenly sanctuary, with the antitype of the death of the high priest yet to occur; and Israel *still remains in unbelief*. Consequently, Israel — being *unable* to presently avail herself of the paid ransom — will not only *continue in unbelief*, but the nation, as well, *cannot return to the land of her possession during the present day and time.*

To equate the present restoration of a remnant of the descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob to the land of Israel with the fulfillment of any of the Old Testament prophecies dealing with Israel’s restoration to this land [such as the vision of the valley of dry bones in [Ezekiel 37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37&t=NKJV)] is to ignore the fact that Israel is the slayer. *And this is an established biblical fact that cannot be ignored.*

The present restoration of a remnant to the land can have nothing whatsoever to do with the fulfillment of any of the numerous Old Testament prophecies surrounding Israel’s restoration. The fulfillment [after any fashion] of such promises today, from a biblical standpoint, is *impossible*, for Christ is *still ministering* after the order of Aaron in the heavenly sanctuary.

Thus, the ransom that Christ paid to effect Israel’s cleansing *cannot* presently be used; *nor can* Israel return to the land of her possession today. These things are reserved for *the seventh day, the Lord’s Day*, which lies just ahead.

However, a remnant must be present in the land immediately preceding the end of Man’s Day for certain prophecies surrounding Israel and the nations to be fulfilled, though the existence of this remnant has nothing to do with the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies surrounding Israel’s restoration. Thus, the existence of the nation of Israel in the land today [consisting of almost 6,000,000 Jews] is neither the beginning of nor a partial fulfillment of any Old Testament prophecy surrounding Israel’s restoration to the land. Rather, this remnant in the land is the result of a Zionistic work among the Jews during about the past century, and this remnant constitutes the existence of an end-time Israeli nation which must be present in the land in order to bring about the fulfillment of numerous Old Testament prophecies surrounding Israel and the nations immediately preceding Christ’s return.

In this respect, the remnant in the land today constitutes the nation that will shortly make the seven-year covenant with Antichrist. And this remnant will, in turn, later be uprooted from the land [something that will *never* occur after the Jewish people have been re-gathered to the land in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy (*cf*. [Isaiah 2:1-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.1-4&t=NKJV); [Jeremiah 32:37-44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+32.37-44&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 37:19-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+37.19-28&t=NKJV); [39:25-29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+39.25-29&t=NKJV); [Joel 2:27-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+2.27-32&t=NKJV); [Micah 4:1-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Micah+4.1-7&t=NKJV))].

In the middle of the Tribulation, when Antichrist breaks his covenant with Israel, the nation of Israel, as we know it today, will be uprooted from their land; and the Jews dwelling in the land at that time, who do not escape to places of safety out among the nations, or the place that God will have specially prepared for them in the mountainous or desert terrain of the land [[Matthew 24:16-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.16-20&t=NKJV); [Revelation 12:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.6&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12.14&t=NKJV)], will either be slain or be sold as slaves throughout the Gentile world [*cf.* [Joel 3:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Joel+3.6&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20-24&t=NKJV); [Revelation 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)].

During the last half of the Tribulation there will be no Jewish nation in the Middle East. Rather, Jerusalem, the capital of Jewry, will be “*trodden down of the Gentiles*” until the full end of Daniel’s Seventy-Week prophecy, which marks the end of “*the times of the Gentiles*” [*cf.* [Daniel 9:24-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+9.24-27&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.24&t=NKJV); [Revelation 11:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.2&t=NKJV)].

During this time, the entire world — particularly the center of Antichrist’s kingdom in the Middle East [including the land of Israel as we know it today] — will become like Nazi Germany during the final six years of the Third Reich [1939-1945]. And when the Holocaust of that coming day reaches its darkest hour, Messiah will return, and He Himself will effect the prophesied re-gathering of the nation [[Matthew 24:15-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15-31&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20-27&t=NKJV)].

*Christ must first complete His present ministry in the sanctuary and return to earth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek. Only then can Israel avail herself of the ransom and return to the land of her possession*.)

**My Son, A Priest**

There are two quotations from the Old Testament in [Hebrews 5:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.5-6&t=NKJV), and both are Messianic in their scope of fulfillment. There is first the quotation from [Psalm 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.7&t=NKJV),

*. . . You are My Son, today I have begotten You.* ([Hebrews 5:5b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.5b&t=NKJV))

And then there is the quotation from [Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV),

*. . . You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*. ([Hebrews 5:6b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.6b&t=NKJV))

These two quotations are used together, *referring to one and the same time*. They refer to that time in [Psalm 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2&t=NKJV) when God states,

*Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.* ([Psalm 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.6&t=NKJV))

And they refer to that time in [Psalm 110](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110&t=NKJV) when God states,

*The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!* ([Psalm 110:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.2&t=NKJV))

Both quotations in Hebrews are from Messianic passages in the Old Testament, leaving no room to question the time of their fulfillment. “Zion” is *Jerusalem* ([Psalm 76:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+76.2&t=NKJV); [126:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+126.1&t=NKJV); [Isaiah 1:26-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.26-27&t=NKJV)), and the Old Testament quotations in [Hebrews 5:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.5-6&t=NKJV) simply refer to that future day when Christ will exercise His kingly office in this city, on the earth.

1) [PSALM 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=PSALM+2.7&t=NKJV)

[Psalm 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.7&t=NKJV) is quoted three places in the New Testament. It is quoted by Luke in [Acts 13:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+13.33&t=NKJV) and it is quoted twice by the writer of Hebrews ([Hebrews 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+1.5&t=NKJV); [5:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.5&t=NKJV)).

The words, “*You are my Son*,” form an allusion to [2 Samuel 7:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.14&t=NKJV) in the Davidic covenant: “*I will be His Father, and He shall be My Son . .* . .”

And to view [Psalm 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2&t=NKJV) from the perspective of the Davidic covenant, this Psalm reveals the fulfillment of God’s threefold promise to David in [2 Samuel 7:12-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.12-13&t=NKJV):

1) David was to have a Son ([2 Samuel 7:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.12&t=NKJV)).

2) David’s Son was to sit on his throne ([2 Samuel 7:12-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.12-13&t=NKJV)).

3) The kingdom, under this Son’s reign, was to be established forever ([2 Samuel 7:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.13&t=NKJV)).

Accordingly, God’s promise to David, rather than being fulfilled through his son, Solomon, finds its fulfillment by and through his greater Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

1) He is the One to whom God will give “*the throne of his father David*.”

2) He is the One who will “*reign over the house of Jacob forever*.”

3) He is the One who will possess *a kingdom* of which *“there shall be no end*” ([Luke 1:31-33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+1.31-33&t=NKJV)).

This is exactly what is in view in [Acts 13:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+13.33&t=NKJV), where [Psalm 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.7&t=NKJV) is quoted for the first time in the New Testament. [Acts 13:34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+13.34&t=NKJV) goes on to state, “*And that He raised him from the dead* . . . .” That is, concerning Jesus one day occupying the throne of David and reigning over the house of Jacob, fulfilling God’s promises in the Davidic covenant, God raised Him from the dead. And the same verse concludes with the statement, “I will give you the sure mercies of David [*lit*., ‘I will give you the holy things of David’ (which, contextually, can only be a reference to things surrounding the Davidic covenant)].”

[Psalm 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.7&t=NKJV) must likewise be looked upon as Messianic in its two usages in the book of Hebrews. In [Hebrews 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+1&t=NKJV) the verse comprises one of seven Messianic quotations that make up most of the chapter, and it is used here in connection with the parallel quotation from the Davidic covenant in [2 Samuel 7:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Samuel+7.14&t=NKJV) ([Hebrews 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+1.5&t=NKJV)). And in [Hebrews 5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5&t=NKJV) the verse is used in connection with that future time when Christ will come forth from the sanctuary and exercise the Melchizedek priesthood ([Hebrews 5:5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.5-6&t=NKJV)).

2) [PSALM 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=PSALM+110.4&t=NKJV)

Melchizedek is mentioned eleven times in Scripture — two times in the Old Testament ([Genesis 14:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18&t=NKJV); [Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV)) and nine times in Hebrews ([Hebrews 5:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.6&t=NKJV), [10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.10&t=NKJV); [6:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+6.20&t=NKJV); [7:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.1&t=NKJV), [10-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.10-11&t=NKJV), [15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.15&t=NKJV), [17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.17&t=NKJV), [21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.21&t=NKJV)). And the manner in which Melchizedek is presented in the Old Testament will govern the manner in which he *must* be viewed in the book of Hebrews.

Melchizedek first appears in Scripture when Abraham was returning from the battle of the kings ([Genesis 14:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18-19&t=NKJV)). Melchizedek was “*king of Salem* [‘king of Jerusalem’ ([Psalm 76:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+76.2&t=NKJV))]” and “*priest of the Most High God*” ([Genesis 14:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18&t=NKJV)). Thus, he was a king-priest in Jerusalem.

Meeting Abraham, following the battle of the kings, he brought forth bread and wine and blessed Abraham, saying, “*Blessed be Abram of the Most High God, possessor of heaven and earth*” ([Genesis 14:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18-19&t=NKJV)).

It is evident that Melchizedek’s actions in the type during the days of Abraham were Messianic in their scope of fulfillment in the antitype. Immediately prior to Christ’s death at Calvary, He partook of the Passover with His disciples ([Matthew 26:19ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+26.19ff&t=NKJV)). And at the end of the Passover feast — after Jesus had participated with His disciples in the breaking of bread and drinking from the cup, along with His instructions to them concerning both ([Matthew 26:26-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+26.26-28&t=NKJV)) — Jesus said, “*I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom*” ([Matthew 26:29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+26.29&t=NKJV)).

This could only be an allusion to one thing — that future day when Christ will come forth in the antitype of Melchizedek as he is presented in [Genesis 14:18-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.18-19&t=NKJV), with bread and wine to bless Abraham and his descendants, both *heavenly and earthly* (*cf.* [Genesis 22:17-18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+22.17-18&t=NKJV)). And this is an event that will occur following the battle of the kings (*cf.* [Revelation 19:17-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19.17-21&t=NKJV)).

In [Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV), where Melchizedek is referred to the only other time in the entire Old Testament, as previously seen, is also Messianic in its scope of fulfillment. It must be, for this is the way Melchizedek is presented in Genesis, and there can be no change when one comes to the book of Psalms.

The Son is told to sit on the Father’s right hand until such a time as His enemies are made His “*footstool*” ([Psalm 110:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.1&t=NKJV)). Then, after His enemies have been made His footstool, He is going to *rule* “*in the midst*” of His enemies ([Psalm 110:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.2&t=NKJV)). He is going to “*strike through kings*” and “judge among the heathen [Gentiles]” in that coming day of His “power” ([Psalm 110:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.3&t=NKJV), [5-6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.5-6&t=NKJV)), a day when He will be revealed as the great King-Priest in Jerusalem, “*after the order of Melchizedek*” ([Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV)).

[Genesis 14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14&t=NKJV) and [Psalm 110](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110&t=NKJV) *must* be understood in the light of one another (actually, [Psalm 110](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110&t=NKJV) draws from [Genesis 14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14&t=NKJV)), and [Hebrews 5-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5-7&t=NKJV) *must* be understood in the light of both Old Testament references. Thus, all eleven references to Melchizedek in Scripture can only be looked upon after one fashion — *as Messianic in their scope of fulfillment.*

(Concerning the absence of the mention of *a sanctuary and shed blood* in connection with Melchizedek, this would not be the case as matters are seen in the antitype, in that future day, when Christ comes forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek and a new covenant is made with the House of Israel. Covenants are, at times, associated with *death and shed blood* in Scripture, as is the new covenant [*cf*. [Genesis 15:9-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+15.9-21&t=NKJV); [Jeremiah 34:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+34.18&t=NKJV); [Matthew 26:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+26.28&t=NKJV)]. There is an allusion to this in [Hebrews 7:21-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.21-22&t=NKJV):

*The LORD has sworn and will not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek;”*

*by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant.*

Then, when Christ deals with Israel in relation to sin at the time of His return [fulfilling that which is foreshadowed by events on the Day of Atonement {[Leviticus 23:27-32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+23.27-32&t=NKJV)}], of necessity, *death and shed blood and a sanctuary, will have to be in view*. And also, of necessity, Jesus will have to be exercising *the Melchizedek priesthood* at this time.

Thus, in the preceding respect, one could find *death and shed blood, along with a sanctuary, associated with the Melchizedek priesthood.* But that is strictly future; it involves Israel alone, and it has nothing to do with Christ’s present priestly ministry on behalf of Christians.)

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Ch. 4

**BLESSINGS AWAITING ISRAEL AND THE NATIONS**

***As Seen through the Death of King Uzziah in*** [***Isaiah 6***](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV)

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*

*Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.*

*And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”*

*And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.*

*So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”*

*Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.*

*And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.”*

*Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then said I, “Here am I; send me”* ([Isaiah 6:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.1-8&t=NKJV))

King Uzziah ruled over Judah during the eighth century B.C. He was faithful during most of his reign and never deserted the worship of the one true God. That which is seen in [Isaiah 6:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.1-8&t=NKJV) forms an overall type having to do with the complete history of Israel, with the emphasis on Israel’s future; and the type begins with and draws from something not dealt with in the text *per se*, though it is alluded to through *cleansing* that is seen in the account.

During King Uzziah’s reign, the day came when he took it upon himself to do that which is reserved for the priests alone, those from the tribe of Levi. Though not of the priestly tribe, he sought to burn incense upon the altar in the Holy Place of the Temple.

He was opposed by Azariah the priest, along with eighty other priests. And because he had transgressed against the Lord, he was struck with leprosy; and *he remained a leper, “cut off from the house of the LORD” until the day of his death* ([2 Chronicles 26:1-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Chronicles+26.1-21&t=NKJV); *cf*. [Leviticus 13:46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+13.46&t=NKJV)).

[Isaiah 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV), drawing from this incident and experience in Uzziah’s life, has to do with “Uzziah” as *a type of Israel*.

As seen beginning in the book of Isaiah, *Israel’s sickness, paralleling Uzziah’s leprosy* is brought to the forefront in the opening verses:

*Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity . . .*

*From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores . . .*

*Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence .* . . . ([Isaiah 1:4a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.4a&t=NKJV), [6a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.6a&t=NKJV), [7a](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.7a&t=NKJV))

Then, later in this opening chapter, extending into the next chapter, matters are presented where Israel is *to one day be cleansed of her iniquity* ([Isaiah 1:25-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.25-31&t=NKJV)), with the “*mountain of the LORD’s house*” subsequently being established “*on the top of the mountains* . . . .” ([Isaiah 2:1-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.1-4&t=NKJV)).

This is exactly the same story told through the experiences and death of King Uzziah in [Isaiah 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV). In the year that King Uzziah died — *the death of a leper* (*who had been cut off from the Lord’s house*), *typifying the end of Israel’s sickness (the end of Israel being cut off from those things that the Lord has reserved for the nation*) — the same thing is seen that was seen toward the end of [Isaiah 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1&t=NKJV) and the beginning of [Isaiah 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2&t=NKJV). Following Israel’s cleansing, the Glory will be restored to the nation ([Ezekiel 43:2-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+43.2-5&t=NKJV)); and Israel will then realize all that will be involved by and through the restoration of this Glory.

*The whole earth* [land] *is full of His glory!* ([Isaiah 6:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.3&t=NKJV))

[Isaiah 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV) deals, first and foremost, with *Israel* and *the land of Israel*. The remainder of the earth has to do with the Gentile nations and the lands where they reside. And these nations during both Man’s Day and the future Lord’s Day (the Messianic Era) are seen, from a Scriptural standpoint, *coming into view because of Israel and then being dealt with through Israel.*

Israel is “*the apple* [*lit.,* ‘pupil’]” *of God’s eye* ([Zechariah 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Zechariah+2.8&t=NKJV)). And, accordingly, God views and then deals with the nations through Israel. This is the way God established matters through Abraham and the Abrahamic Covenant in [Genesis 12:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+12.1-3&t=NKJV); [15:5-21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+15.5-21&t=NKJV); [22:17-18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+22.17-18&t=NKJV), and this is the way matters must remain. (See [The Pupil of God’s Eye](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-four.php#The%20Pupil%20of%20God%E2%80%99s%20Eye) in this site.)

Even today, with Israel in a disobedient, spiritually dead state, God still views and then deals with the nations through Israel. *God cannot violate that which He has established.*

Blessings that God has reserved for the nations through Israel though, for the most part, are today being withheld. But, even during the present time, *because of the manner in which God sees and then deals with the nations, blessings simply cannot be completely removed* (*e.g*., note the numerous advancements in science, particularly in medicine, wrought by and through the Jews). And with the present as no more than a foretaste of things to come, *think how it will be when God sees and then deals with the nations through a repentant and obedient Jewish nation, restored to the land, with the Glory restored to Israel.*

That is the time seen in the latter part of [Isaiah 6:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.3&t=NKJV) — “. . . *the whole earth is full of His glory*.” The word “*earth*” in this verse is a translation of the Hebrew word, *eretz*. And this word can be understood and translated as either “earth” or “land.” This is the word used in [Genesis 1:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.1&t=NKJV), properly translated “*earth*.” This is also the word used today to refer to the land of Israel: *Eretz Yisrael*, “land of Israel.”

Again, bear in mind that [Isaiah 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV) is about *Israel and the land of Israel*. The thought in [Isaiah 6:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.3&t=NKJV) concerning the fullness of God’s Glory during the coming Messianic Era has to do with *the land of Israel*, not the whole earth at large.

In fact, to think of the matter in the latter respect, as the verse reads in almost any English version, can easily be shown to be incorrect. For example, Egypt will lie desolate the first forty years of this time ([Ezekiel 29:6-15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+29.6-15&t=NKJV)); and different nations will be rebellious throughout much, if not all, of this time (*cf*. [Jeremiah 14:16-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+14.16-19&t=NKJV); [Revelation 20:7-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20.7-9&t=NKJV)), *separating themselves from anything associated with God’s Glory*.

The fullness of God’s Glory will be seen in a restored land indwelt by a restored people through whom God will view and then deal with the nations. And any type of association with this Glory outside the land of Israel *can only be seen in that day through the Jewish people as they traverse the earth as God’s evangels or move about in some other type of capacity* (*e.g*., a governmental capacity, for Israel, in that day, will hold the scepter). [Romans 9:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+9.4&t=NKJV) would make this very clear.

(Since parts of the preceding are based on a corrected contextual translation and understanding of *eretz* in [Isaiah 9:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+9.3&t=NKJV), note a similar and related mistake that the translators have made with this word in [Jeremiah 4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4&t=NKJV), resulting in the same type of confusion.

In [Jeremiah 4:20-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.20-28&t=NKJV), where the heart of that which is under discussion is dealt with, the word *eretz* appears in [Jeremiah 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.20&t=NKJV), [23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.23&t=NKJV), [27-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.27-28&t=NKJV). In almost any English translation the word is rendered “*land*” twice [[Jeremiah 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.20&t=NKJV), [27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.27&t=NKJV)] and “*earth*” twice [[Jeremiah 4:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.23&t=NKJV), [28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.28&t=NKJV)]. The entire chapter is dealing with Israel and the land of Israel. The subject has to do *with Israeli disobedience and that which resultantly is befalling both the people and the land* [*e.g*., [Jeremiah 4:6-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.6-7&t=NKJV), [14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.14&t=NKJV)]. The “earth” *per se* is not in view.

In [Jeremiah 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.20&t=NKJV), by and through the use of two Hebrew words seen back in [Genesis 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2&t=NKJV) — *tohu wavohu* [“without form and void”] — that which had happened to the land of Israel is likened to that which had previously happened to the entire earth. One had resulted from Israel’s sin [[Jeremiah 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.20&t=NKJV)], the other from Satan’s sin [[Genesis 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+1.2&t=NKJV)].

The *earth* had become “*without form and void*,” with *a view to eventual restoration and regality*; the *land of Israel* had become “*without form and void*,” with *a view to eventual restoration and regality*. [See [Without Form and Void](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-one.php#Without%20Form%20and%20Void) in this site.]

Then there is the matter of the land of Israel being seen at times as synonymous with the people of Israel [[Ezekiel 14:11-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+14.11-13&t=NKJV); [Hosea 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hosea+1.2&t=NKJV)]. *One cannot be dealt with apart from the other*. When the people were dispersed among the Gentiles, *the land had to become desolate*; when the people are one day restored [removed from the nations], *the land will have to be restored as well* [note the fertility seen in parts of this desolate land today, evidently because of the presence of some 6,000,000 Jews in the land].

[In short, anytime you find the words “earth” or “land” in English texts of the Old Testament, it would pay to check the context, for the word *eretz* can be understood and translated either way].

The same would be true of the word *ge* in the Greek New Testament. This word, as *eretz* in the Hebrew text, is also used for both “earth” and “land.”

For example, note the second beast in [Revelation 13:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.11&t=NKJV), who comes “*up out of the earth*.” Again, this is the way almost any English translation will read. But are the translations correct?

As seen from *eretz* in [Jeremiah 4:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jeremiah+4.23&t=NKJV), it can be easily shown from the context that the word *ge* should be translated and understood as “land” in [Revelation 13:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.11&t=NKJV), not “earth.” Note that the first beast comes up out of the “*sea*” [[Revelation 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.1&t=NKJV)]. The “sea,” in Scripture, is used in a dual metaphorical respect as a reference to *the lands of the Gentile nations* and to *the place of death* [*cf.* [Exodus 14:21-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+14.21-31&t=NKJV); [Daniel 7:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+7.3&t=NKJV); [Jonah 1:12-2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.12-2.10&t=NKJV); [Revelation 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.1&t=NKJV); [17:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.1&t=NKJV), [15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.15&t=NKJV); [21:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.1&t=NKJV), [4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.4&t=NKJV)].

In [Revelation 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.1&t=NKJV), the usage has to do with the nations, which could be any or all of the earth’s lands, *except for one part, the land of Israel, the land that God covenanted to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob*. That land is never spoken of in connection with the “sea”; nor does the usage of “sea,” in this respect, ever encompass that land.

Thus, when the first beast arises from the “*sea*” [[Revelation 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.1&t=NKJV), which could encompass any of the lands occupied by the Gentile nations, though other Scripture narrows it down to the land of one nation (land covered by the ancient Assyrian kingdom; [Daniel 8:8-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+8.8-9&t=NKJV))], and the second beast arises from another part of the earth, another land [[Revelation 13:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.11&t=NKJV)], one is left without an option. This man can only arise *from the land of Israel*, and the translators should have recognized this and translated the word *ge* accordingly.

In the same respect, note that the word *ge* has also been translated “*earth*” in the next two verses, when *Israel and the land* are centrally in view, very evident in [Revelation 13:13ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.13ff&t=NKJV).)

***. . . your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged*.** ([Isaiah 6:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.7&t=NKJV))

In [Isaiah 6:5-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.5-8&t=NKJV), exactly the same scene is depicted as set forth in the opening two chapters of the book — *Israel seen in all her iniquity* (*cf*. [Isaiah 1:2-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.2-24&t=NKJV); [6:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.5&t=NKJV)), *cleansing for the nation occurs* (*cf*. [Isaiah 1:25-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1.25-31&t=NKJV); [6:6-7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.6-7&t=NKJV)), *then the nation is seen in the Messianic Era* (*cf*. [Isaiah 2:1-4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2.1-4&t=NKJV); [6:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.8&t=NKJV)). *This is the story presented over and over in Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets.*

This is the story presented in the book of Exodus, beginning with the Jewish people being persecuted while dwelling in a Gentile land. And the complete story is subsequently told in Exodus, the remaining three books of Moses, and Joshua — *an account that takes the reader from the people of God being persecuted in a Gentile land to their dwelling in their own land within a theocracy.*

It is the same story depicted time after time in repeated occurrences throughout the book of Judges. Time after time the same scene is repeated in this book. Israel is presented in a disobedient state, with Gentile nations subsequently being allowed to come in and subjugate the people. And this subjugation, with persecution following, occurred for a divine purpose.

*This was God’s designed means to bring His people to repentance in order that He might send a deliverer and subsequently deal with them in relation to their calling and position as His firstborn son.*

Then, a continuance through the Old Testament Scriptures (as in [Isaiah 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+1&t=NKJV); [2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+2&t=NKJV); [6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6&t=NKJV)) would show exactly this same thing throughout. And, accordingly, this is the way it is all brought to a conclusion at the end of the Old Testament, in the closing two chapters of Malachi ([Malachi 3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Malachi+3&t=NKJV); [4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Malachi+4&t=NKJV)).

In that respect, how would one expect the New Testament to open, continue, and close? It could only be *the same way*, for the New is simply an opening up, providing a further explanation, of that already seen in the Old.

The New Testament begins very near the end of the 2,000-year period that God has allotted to deal with Israel during Man’s Day. And the New Testament, in complete keeping with the subject matter seen in the Old, opens with *a call for Israel’s repentance by the Deliverer Himself, with cleansing from sin and the kingdom in view*. This is what the gospels are about, something seen throughout all four accounts.

The events of Calvary though — climaxing Israel’s rejection of the Deliverer and the proffered kingdom — wrought a change. God, at this point, so to speak, stopped the clock marking off time in the Jewish dispensation. He stopped it seven years short of the complete 2,000 years allotted for the dispensation, or seven years short of the complete 490 years of Daniel’s Seventy-Week prophecy, the closing 490 years of the complete 2,000 years ([Daniel 9:24-27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+9.24-27&t=NKJV) See [Daniel’s Seventy Weeks](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#Daniel%E2%80%99s%20Seventy%20Weeks) in this site).

Seven years yet remain in which God will deal with Israel *relative to repentance, with cleansing and the kingdom in view*. But during the time in which the clock remains stopped, with God having set Israel aside, He has brought into existence a completely separate 2,000-year dispensation in which He has sent His Holy Spirit into the world to call out a bride for His Son (the antitype of that seen in [Genesis 24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+24&t=NKJV)).

The Church, *the new creation* “*in Christ*,” from which the bride for God’s Son is being taken, was brought into existence in [Acts 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2&t=NKJV). But the book of Acts relates *centrally* an account other than God dealing with the Church, forming, in a respect, a fifth gospel. Throughout this book, the offer of the kingdom is left open to Israel, conditioned, as previously seen in the four gospels, *on the nation’s repentance* (*e.g*., [Acts 2:37-38](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+2.37-38&t=NKJV); [7:51-60](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+7.51-60&t=NKJV); [28:23-29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+28.23-29&t=NKJV)).

The Church is seen throughout the book of Acts as the vessel that God used to continue the offer of the kingdom to Israel (from 33 A.D. to about 62 A.D.). *It is not Acts though but the epistles that have to do with the Church* (*some were written during the Acts period*). And though the things having to do with Israel — as previously seen throughout the Old Testament and the opening five books of the New Testament — are seen only sparingly in the epistles (*e.g*., [Romans 1:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+1.16&t=NKJV); [2:9-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+2.9-10&t=NKJV); [9:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+9.11&t=NKJV); [1 Corinthians 1:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Corinthians+1.22&t=NKJV)), the Jewish nation, as seen in the book of Revelation, will appear back in the picture in all the nation’s fullness once God has completed His purpose for the present dispensation.

The opening four chapters of the book of Revelation ([Revelation 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+1&t=NKJV); [2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2&t=NKJV); [3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+3&t=NKJV); [4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+4&t=NKJV)), deal centrally with events immediately following the present dispensation — the removal of the Church ([Revelation 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+1&t=NKJV); [4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+4&t=NKJV) [1a, 4a]), the appearance of Christians before Christ’s judgment seat ([Revelation 1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+1&t=NKJV); [2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2&t=NKJV); [3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+3&t=NKJV) [1b]). [Revelation 2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+2&t=NKJV); [3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+3&t=NKJV) also present a history of the Church during the present dispensation]), and subsequent events having to do with findings and determinations made at the judgment seat ([Revelation 4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+4&t=NKJV)b).

[Revelation 5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+5&t=NKJV) has to do with the search for One worthy to break the seals of the seven-sealed scroll introduced in the chapter. This scroll contains *the redemptive terms* (*judgments*) *for the forfeited inheritance* (*the heavens and the earth, occupied and controlled by Satan, to be occupied and controlled by God’s three firstborn Sons*).

Then [Revelation 6-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6-19&t=NKJV) deal with Israel and the nations, picking up where the Old Testament or the book of Acts in the New Testament left off. These chapters deal with the last seven years of the Jewish dispensation, during which time God will bring His people to the place of repentance.

That is centrally what the book of Revelation, beginning with [Revelation 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6&t=NKJV), is about. God, through the severity of Gentile persecution existing in that day, will bring His people to the place where they will be left without a choice, other than to turn to the God of their fathers (*cf*. [Matthew 24:15ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15ff&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20ff&t=NKJV)).

And, since that is what these chapters are about, *it would indeed appear strange if Israel was not seen occupying a significant place in this respect throughout these chapters*. In fact, such would be *completely out of line with any and all previous Scripture* (even the epistles, for Israel has not been permanently set aside; the nation has been set aside, *until .* . . [*cf.* [Acts 15:14-18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Acts+15.14-18&t=NKJV); [Romans 11:25-26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Romans+11.25-26&t=NKJV)]).

Israel occupying center-stage and brought to the place of repentance through Gentile persecution/judgments though is *exactly* what is seen in these chapters in the book of Revelation. [Revelation 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6&t=NKJV); [8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+8&t=NKJV); [9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+9&t=NKJV); [10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+10&t=NKJV) present all of the judgments of the seven-sealed scroll (with the vial judgments in [Revelation 15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+15&t=NKJV); [16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+16&t=NKJV) being a further description of the trumpet judgments, under the seventh seal, [Revelation 8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+8&t=NKJV); [9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+9&t=NKJV); [10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+10&t=NKJV)). And these judgments occur throughout the Tribulation and extend into judgments surrounding Christ’s return following the Tribulation.

Then Israel is seen throughout [Revelation 11-14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11-14&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 17-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17-20&t=NKJV) (into twenty), with Israel brought to the place of repentance, followed by cleansing, in [Revelation 17-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17-19&t=NKJV) (the opening verses of 19), with a view to Gentile world power being destroyed ([Revelation 19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV) [19b]) and the kingdom being ushered in ([Revelation 20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20&t=NKJV) [20a]).

The judgments in [Revelation 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+6&t=NKJV); [8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+8&t=NKJV); [9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+9&t=NKJV); [10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+10&t=NKJV), and [Revelation 15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+15&t=NKJV); [16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+16&t=NKJV) are designed *to bring Israel to the place of repentance*. It is *Israel* in [Revelation 11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11&t=NKJV) to whom the two witnesses minister; it is *Israel* in [Revelation 12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+12&t=NKJV) who is about to reign; it is *Israel* in [Revelation 13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13&t=NKJV) who is confronted by the beast and his false prophet; it is *Israel* in [Revelation 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14&t=NKJV) that is seen bringing forth 144,000 evangels; it is *Israel*, seen as the harlot woman in [Revelation 17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17&t=NKJV); [18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+18&t=NKJV); [19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV) [the opening part of 19], who is brought to the place of repentance and cleansed; and it is *Israel* who will reign in [Revelation 20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+20&t=NKJV) following the destruction of Gentile world power at the end of [Revelation 19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV).

(For a more detailed exposition of the preceding, refer to the author’s books, [The Time of the End](https://www.koffeekupkandor.com/gods-word-in-revelation.php#The%20Time%20of%20the%20End), in this site, and [The Time of Jacob's Trouble by Arlen Chitwood](http://lampbroadcast.org/Books/TJT.pdf).

On the harlot woman in [Revelation 17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17&t=NKJV); [18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+18&t=NKJV); [19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV) [19a], *proper exposition is not difficult at all if one compares Scripture with Scripture and recognizes that metaphors and symbolic language are being used extensively, not only in these three chapters but throughout the book as a whole.* Though the latter has been generally recognized by expositors over the years, most have failed to compare Scripture with Scripture. And the results of attempts to identify the harlot apart from comparing Scripture with Scripture have, understandably, been quite varied — usually seen as *a false religious system* of some type, but sometimes seen as *a governmental system*.

And interpretation of the preceding nature is, in itself, *tragic*. Loose dealings of this type with [Revelation 17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17&t=NKJV); [18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+18&t=NKJV); [19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19&t=NKJV) [19a] *completely destroys the ending that God built into the last seven years of the Jewish dispensation as it is presented in the book of Revelation, an ending seen throughout the Old Testament and a number of places in the New Testament outside the book of Revelation*.

To illustrate the point, note *how simple the interpretation is regarding the harlot woman if one remains solely with Scripture, allowing Scripture to interpret itself*.

In [Revelation 17:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.18&t=NKJV), *the woman is clearly identified in so many words: “And the woman whom you saw is that great city . . .* .”

The expression, “*that great city* [‘that’ or ‘the,’ the same word appears in the Greek text]” is used nine times in [Revelation 11-18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11-18&t=NKJV). In the first usage in [Revelation 11:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+11.8&t=NKJV), “*the great city*” is clearly a reference to *Jerusalem* [“. . . *where also our Lord was crucified*”].

Then, in [Revelation 14:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.8&t=NKJV) and [Revelation 16:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+16.19&t=NKJV) “*that great city*” is identified as *Babylon*, the same as the harlot woman in [Revelation 17:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.5&t=NKJV) [“. . . *MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH*”]. And one can know for certain that “Babylon,” with all its corruption, is being used as a metaphor for *Jerusalem* (*cf*. [1 Peter 5:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+5.13&t=NKJV)), for Babylon in all three verses is seen to be separate from the Gentile nations, *something true only of the Jewish people*.

Thus, the reference in all three verses can only be to *Jerusalem*, which, in turn, is a reference to *the Jewish people* [often seen in an inseparable respect to both *their capital city* and *their land* ([Lamentations 1:5-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Lamentations+1.5-8&t=NKJV); [Ezekiel 14:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+14.11&t=NKJV), [13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Ezekiel+14.13&t=NKJV))]. In this respect, interpreting the metaphor being used, the opening part of [Revelation 17:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.18&t=NKJV) could read, “The woman whom you saw is Israel . . . .”

And *the destruction of this harlot woman* ([Revelation 17:16-17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.16-17&t=NKJV); [19:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+19.1-3&t=NKJV)) has to do *with the end of Israel’s harlotry, which has to do with cleansing following repentance, paving the way for the Messianic Era to be ushered in.*

Again, *note the simplicity of biblical interpretation if Scripture is allowed to interpret itself*. And the preceding is only one of several ways that the harlot is *clearly identified* in these three chapters.)

***. . . Here am I! Send me.*”** ([Isaiah 6:8b](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+6.8b&t=NKJV))

A central reason God called Israel into existence was to be His witness to the nations. The Jewish people were to be *the evangels*, going forth to the nations with the message concerning the one true and living God ([Isaiah 43:1-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Isaiah+43.1-11&t=NKJV)).

*A first fruit of the nation* will be saved and go forth during the Tribulation, resulting in “*a great multitude* [converts among the nations] *which no one could number*” ([Revelation 7:9ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.9ff&t=NKJV); *cf*. [Revelation 7:1-8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+7.1-8&t=NKJV); [14:1-5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+14.1-5&t=NKJV)).

Then during the Millennium, with the conversion of the entire nation, *the main harvest will follow*. The entire nation will go forth bearing witness to the Gentile nations, relating the message of their Deliverer, the Great King-Priest who will be seated on David’s throne in their midst.

They will go forth in the antitype of Jonah who was delivered from the sea *after two days, on the third day* (*cf*. [Jonah 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.17&t=NKJV); [Matthew 12:39-40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.39-40&t=NKJV); [Luke 24:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.7&t=NKJV), [21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.21&t=NKJV), [46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.46&t=NKJV)). They, as well, will be delivered from that typified by the sea (the nations, and the place of death) *after two days, on the third day* (after 2,000 years, on the third 1,000-year period [[Hosea 6:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hosea+6.2&t=NKJV)]).

(The” sea,” as previously seen, is used in Scripture in a dual metaphorical sense — *the place occupied by the Gentile nations and the place of death* [*cf*. [Exodus 14:21-31](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Exodus+14.21-31&t=NKJV); [Daniel 7:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Daniel+7.3&t=NKJV); [Jonah 1:12-2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.12-2.10&t=NKJV); [Revelation 13:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+13.1&t=NKJV); [17:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.1&t=NKJV), [15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+17.15&t=NKJV); [21:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.1&t=NKJV), [4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Revelation+21.4&t=NKJV)]. Both usages are seen in the book of Jonah, covering *the complete history of the Jewish people*.)

As Jonah, following his deliverance, went to the Gentiles with God’s message, resulting in *the conversion of an entire city* to which God had sent him, Israel, following the nation’s deliverance, will go to the Gentiles worldwide, resulting in *the conversion of untold multitudes throughout the earth*.

With the ministry of 144,000 Jews over three and one-half years resulting in “*a great multitude which no one could number*,” *think what an entire nation going forth for 1,000 years will be able to accomplish!*

And this is exactly what will occur in the coming day when a repentant and converted nation states,

“*Here am I! Send me*.”

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Appendix

**ISRAEL, IN THE LAND TODAY**

***The Beginning of God’s Promised Restoration?***

***Or, Is This Jewish Presence in the Land Something Else?***

Because of continued Israeli disobedience extending over centuries of time, in the eighth and seventh centuries B.C., God, remaining true to His Word, *uprooted the Jewish people from their land and drove them out among the nations* ([Leviticus 26:21ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+26.21ff&t=NKJV); [Deuteronomy 28:15ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+28.15ff&t=NKJV)), with the “Times of the Gentiles” then ensuing. And He drove them out among the nations for *a purpose*. It was there, among the nations, in subjection to the nations during the “Times of the Gentiles,” that *God had decreed He would deal with His people relative to repentance, followed by restoration* ([Leviticus 26:40ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Leviticus+26.40ff&t=NKJV); [2 Chronicles 7:12ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Chronicles+7.12ff&t=NKJV)).

In short, *the disobedient Jewish people would be driven out among the nations and not be removed until they had repented.* God drove them out among the nations to effect *repentance* by and through persecution at the hands of the nations, and *He would not restore them to their land until His purpose for removing them had been realized.*

With that being the case, how could remnants of Jews return at two periods in history? Following the seventy-year Babylonian captivity, three remnants, over time, returned to the land from Babylon (between 538 and 444 B.C., forming the nucleus for a remnant still there over four hundred years later when Christ was on earth); and the other has returned during modern times (forming the present nation of Israel, over 6,000,000 strong).

Since God drove His people out among the nations to effect repentance, why has God allowed these remnants to return prior to repentance?

The answer, in both instances, is evident: There had to be a remnant in the land in connection with Christ’s first coming, and there has to be a remnant in the land in connection with Christ’s second coming. But, just as the remnant in the land at Christ’s first coming was driven back out among the nations, so will it be with the remnant in the land in connection with Christ’s second coming.

The remnant presently in the land, though comprising some two-fifths of world Jewry and a recognized nation, is going to one day be uprooted and driven back out among the nations.  *They have to be, if for no other reason than the fact that they have to be in the place where God has decreed that He will deal with the Jewish people relative to repentance.*

And, according to Scripture, this is exactly what will occur in the middle of the coming Tribulation when the man of sin, the beast, the Antichrist, breaks his covenant with Israel and seeks to destroy the nation from off the face of the earth ([Matthew 24:15ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+24.15ff&t=NKJV); [Luke 21:20ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+21.20ff&t=NKJV)).

*The nation of Israel, as we know it today, will cease to exist at this time as a recognized nation among nations. And God will then deal with all of the Jewish people out in Antichrist’s kingdom relative to repentance.*

**Jonah, a Type**

This is set forth in type in the book of Jonah, relating the story of a disobedient Jewish prophet, running from the Lord, along with that which then occurred.

Jonah had been commanded to go to Nineveh, a Gentile city, and proclaim God’s message to those in that city. But Jonah, in disobedience, went in an opposite direction. He booked passage on board a ship headed west, to Tarshish ([Jonah 1:1-3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.1-3&t=NKJV)).

Once out on the Mediterranean Sea, a severe storm arose, one so intense that the ship and crew found themselves in danger of being destroyed. And the crew finding that a Jewish prophet, asleep in the hold of the ship, was responsible for the storm, did the only thing that could be done to save the ship and crew. They, at Jonah’s direction, cast him overboard, into the sea. And, with Jonah off the ship and in the sea, “*the sea ceased from its raging*” ([Jonah 1:4-16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.4-16&t=NKJV)).

Then, it was in the sea that *God both protected Jonah from destruction and dealt with him relative to repentance*. God prepared “*a great fish*” to swallow Jonah to protect him from destruction, and God then dealt with him relative to *repentance* while in *“the belly of the fish*.”

*Repentance* occurred *after two days*, with God then raising Jonah up *on the third day* and placing him back in the land of Israel ([Jonah 1:17-2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.17-2.10&t=NKJV)).

(Note how Scripture deals with the expression “*three days and three nights*,” found in [Jonah 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.17&t=NKJV) and referenced in [Matthew 12:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.40&t=NKJV). Scripture deals with the matter quite differently than man often does in his Western way of thinking. Scripture deals with the matter in the sense of *any part of a day forming the whole of that day, along with the corresponding night period*; and Scripture even references the expression found in [Jonah 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.17&t=NKJV) and [Matthew 12:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.40&t=NKJV) two other places in the Old Testament where the matter is clearly dealt with after this fashion [[1 Samuel 30:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Samuel+30.1&t=NKJV), [12-13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Samuel+30.12-13&t=NKJV); [Esther 4:16-5:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Esther+4.16-5.1&t=NKJV); *cf.* [Genesis 40:12-20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+40.12-20&t=NKJV); [42:17-18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+42.17-18&t=NKJV); [2 Chronicles 10:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Chronicles+10.5&t=NKJV), [12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=2Chronicles+10.12&t=NKJV); [Matthew 27:62-64](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+27.62-64&t=NKJV)].

Thus, Jonah had to be raised *on the third day*, as Christ not only had to be but was raised *on the third day* as well [[Luke 24:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.7&t=NKJV), [21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.21&t=NKJV), [46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Luke+24.46&t=NKJV)]. To be raised after a full three days and three nights [72 hrs.], within man’s Western way of thinking, could only be a resurrection no sooner than the fourth day within the way Scripture handles the matter.

Since Christ was raised on the first day of the week [our Sunday, on the Feast of First Fruits], *the day of His crucifixion, from a biblical standpoint, cannot be open to question*. The first day of the week was the third day from the sixth day of the previous week [our Friday]. “Friday” was *the first day*, “Saturday” *the second day*, and “Sunday” *the third day*. The matter is really that clear and simple if one allows Scripture to interpret itself.

Christ, as Jonah, was in the place of the dead “*three days and three nights*,” *exactly in line with the way Scripture handles the matter in the Old Testament*. And to handle the matter any other way [*e.g*., a Wednesday crucifixion, as some attempt to do, having Christ raised on the fifth day] is completely out of line with Scripture.

And not only is the preceding the case, but all these attempts to align [Jonah 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Jonah+1.17&t=NKJV) and [Matthew 12:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Matthew+12.40&t=NKJV) with our Western way of thinking *destroys the septenary structure of Scripture*. Dating from the crucifixion, all three of God’s firstborn Sons [*Christ, Israel*, and *the Church* following the adoption] *are going to be raised up to live in God’s sight on the third day, the third 1,000-year period*.)

The “sea” where Jonah was cast is used in Scripture in a metaphorical manner to signify *the nations*; and Jonah being on the “ship” instead of in the sea in the first part of this account could only be seen in the same symbolic manner to show Jonah in *the land of Israel* rather than out among the nations, *i.e*., as being on the ship was the only place removed from the sea, being in the land of Israel would be the only place removed from the nations.

Because of his disobedience, Jonah eventually found himself in *the sea*, which is where God dealt with him relative to *repentance*. Within the framework of that which the type is about — Jonah as a type of Israel — God could not deal with Jonah on board the ship. Jonah had to be cast into *the sea* before God could deal with him in the respect seen.

And this is where Israel has been for the past 2,600 years — *in the sea, scattered among the nations* (*i.e*., *aside from remnants in the land*), *experiencing persecution at the hands of the nations, with God using the persecuting nations to ultimately bring Israel to the place of repentance*.

The picture in Jonah though doesn’t cover the entire 2,600 years, just the last 2,000. The account forms a dual type of both *Christ* and *Israe*l, with the “*three days and three nights*” taking one back only to the time of the crucifixion.

Thus, the account deals with the last 2,000 years of Man’s Day (two days, the present dispensation) and merges into the 1,000-year Lord’s Day (one day, the third day, the Messianic Era).

*For two days* (for 2,000 years, beginning with the crucifixion) Israel, as Jonah, is seen in a disobedient state, in the sea, scattered among the nations. *But then comes the third day*, the third 1,000-year period when a repentant Israeli nation will be removed from the Gentile nations, be placed back in the land, and takes God’s message to the Gentiles, exactly as seen in God’s dealings with Jonah in the type.

**God’s Dealings with Israel**

**At Christ’s First Coming, Second Coming**

At the time of Christ’s first coming, a remnant was in the land. And Christ dealt with this remnant *relative to repentance while they were still in the land*.

And this would seemingly be contrary to not only God having driven the Jewish people from their land in order to deal with them but the type as seen in the book of Jonah as well. As will be shown though, such is not the case at all. It couldn’t be the case, else God would be acting contrary to His Word.

In the same respect, since Christ dealt with the prior remnant in the land, could God not leave the present remnant in the land and deal with them relative to repentance while still in the land? And the answer to that could only be a resounding, “No!” There is a major, marked difference in conditions pertaining to the two remnants that would prevent such from occurring.

*The remnant in the land when Christ came the first time was in the land under Gentile rule*. Rome was the world power in that day, with the Jewish people in the land subjected to this power. Rome even had rulers in the land of Israel, ruling over the Jewish people.

The situation was similar to a number of instances seen in the book of Judges where the Jewish people, because of disobedience, time after time, *found themselves under subjection to surrounding Gentile nations while still in the land*. And this was, in turn, followed by *repentance* and *God sending a deliverer*.

That was the situation in Israel during Christ’s first coming, with the Deliverer sent, calling the Jewish people to *repentance*. In effect, with Israel subjected to the nations in the land — with the land under Gentile control as well, in keeping with that which is seen in the book of Judges — God could only have looked upon the matter *in a similar sense to His people removed from their land and scattered among the nations*.

Thus, because the Jewish people found themselves under Roman rule in their own land at Christ’s first coming, *He could deal with them relative to repentance while in the land*. Then, once they had rejected not only the offer but the re-offer during the period covered in the book of Acts, *God allowed Titus with his Roman legions to come in, uproot His people, and scatter them throughout the nations, with the same end in view*.

*The situation today though is quite different*. *The remnant in the land today exists apart from Gentile rule*. Thus, God cannot deal with them relative to repentance while still in the land, unless, of course, He brings Gentile powers into the land and subjugates his people (as 2,000 years ago when Rome ruled).

But, as previously seen, this is not what is going to happen. God is going to bring matters to pass *in the only other way which He can and remain true to His Word.*

God, remaining completely in line with His Word — whether in the type from Jonah or other related parts of His Word — is going to *uproot His people from their land and scatter them among the nations. Only then can He deal with them relative to repentance*.

The Israelites have returned to the land in *an unrepentant and disbelieving state through a Zionist movement*, not through God restoring His people in accord with His numerous promises, *for such a restoration can occur only following repentance and belie*f. Israel today is as Jonah on board the ship, with the sea (the nations) raging, though the nations raging in complete fulfillment of [Psalm 2:1ff](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+2.1ff&t=NKJV) will not be seen until the Tribulation.

The only recourse is as seen in Jonah. *Israel must be driven back out among the nations, where God will protect them, deal with them, and bring them to the same place that He brought Jonah — repentance, belief, restored to the land, and then taking God’s message to the nations*.

(As seen in the type, the sea raged as long as Jonah was on board the ship. “Jonah” was *the catalyst*. And once he had been cast overboard into the sea, where God could deal with him relative to *repentance*, the sea quit raging.

Israel in the land today, in the same disobedient and unrepentant state as Jonah, is *the catalyst* for the unrest seen among the surrounding nations. The Jewish people, as Jonah, must be removed from their land [from the ship] and placed back out among the nations [in the sea]. *Only there, among the nations, exactly as in the type, will God deal with the Jewish people relative to repentance and restoration*.

In the type, the sea quit raging once Jonah had been cast into the sea; and, *in complete keeping with the type*, one could only expect the turmoil among the nations to cease as well once Israel has been removed from her land and driven back out among these nations.

However, *the opposite will seemingly occur, for the turmoil will continue, becoming even greater among the nations at this time.* But, though Israel will still be *the catalyst,* the reason for this turmoil will be *different*. This continuing, greater turmoil will have to do with *anti-Semitism of a nature unseen in the world up to this time.*

*And this anti-Semitism will be of such a severe nature that after 2,600 years of Gentile dominance and rule, the Jewish people will ultimately be left with no recourse other than to repent, calling upon the God of their fathers for deliverance*.)