

REVIVE CHURCH-ISRAEL 2

MAY 14TH, 2023

We covered a lot last week pertaining to Israel and why it is so important to participate with Jesus in ushering the fullness of God's plan concerning them . We have set aside the month of May to mature in love, knowledge and practice, to bring clarity to some things and to simplify some things concerning God's covenant with the Jewish people. Sometimes it is simply out lack of understanding that keeps us from entering into what God has called us to do yet understanding often comes as we are obedient to God's will. The truth is the Holy Spirit brings understanding to anyone who will set their minds and hearts on the Word of God that reveals the plans of God.

Im going to explain a couple terms that many may know, and many may not. I would rather lay it out rather than presume.

The millennium refers to the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ spoken of in Revelation Chapter 20, yet referred to throughout the (old) First Testament.

Revelation 20:1-7 (NKJV) 1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is [the] Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then [I saw] the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received [his] mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This [is] the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy [is] he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. 7 Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison

There are three major schools of thought pertaining to the 1000 year reign of Jesus that I think will help you understand the position we take. I may oversimplify, but want to give a quick snapshot that helps explain the different positions.

1. **Amillennialists-** Believe we are presently living in the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ; Yet, They believe that the number 1000 is not literal but figurative. They believe Satan is currently bound but will be loosed just before Christ return. Amillennialists hold that the **promises made to Israel are fulfilled** by Jesus Christ and His church during this present age and no future fulfillment is required. I don't know about you but I have higher expectations for the 1000 year reign of Christ than what is currently happening. **Motto-it's simple-Christ is returning, no road map, no hard stuff, no rapture**
2. **Postmillennialism-** Holds to the view that Christ will return after the 1000 year reign. As with amillennialism there terminology falls short. Both Postmillennialism and amillennialism believe the 1000 year reign of Christ is not a literal time period, but figurative. They both teach Satan is currently bound. (*Sure doesn't feel like he is bound*). A major difference between the two of these beliefs is that amillennialism expects the church to experience both victory and suffering simultaneously until the second coming where postmillennialism expects the golden age of righteousness on earth to be accomplished by the church prior to the return of Jesus Christ. This view believes the world will be fully Christianized and that the return of Christ is to occur at the close of a

long period of righteousness and peace. Motto-The world only gets better through the unstoppable Gospel

3. **Premillennialism**-believes the present time we are living in precedes the literal 1000 year reign of Christ. Two different perspectives within premillennialism.

Dispensational-a theology developed by John Nelson Darby in 1830 that divides Biblical history into a series of ages or dispensations. Dispensationalists predicts a secret rapture that precedes the great tribulation period prior to the return of Jesus Christ. This view promotes escapism and leaves the church fully absent in what is meant to be her most glorious hour. Motto-it's going to get worse but the church will be raptured out.

Historic Premillennialism-Which resembles the understanding during the ancient times. This historic view I believe contains the most Biblical evidence, teaches that Christians will live through the tribulation (Victorious perspective or dooms day approach), Used mightily in partnership with God, Nothing in Scripture, Judaic tradition or the experience of the early church suggests that we should expect to escape all tribulation and persecution, one only need to look at the early church as well as the global persecuted church to understand God does some of His best work in times of difficulty. Motto-It's going to get worse, but the church will overcome.

Both historic and dispensationalist follow a chronological or more literal understanding of Revelation 20, that believes the 1000 year reign of Jesus Christ has not happened yet but will follow the return of Christ and the final battle in Revelation 19:11-21. Pre-millennialism is the doctrine stating that after the coming of Jesus Christ, He will rule and reign for 1000 years ushering in the golden age over the entire earth with His saints before the final consummation of God's redemptive purpose in the new heavens and the new earth in the age to come.

Historic premillennialists believe the present age will continue until a period of tribulation after which Christ will return. Satan is bound for these 1000 years and released for a short period of time in which he leads a rebellious army in which Christ destroys, Jesus Judges the world and He ushers in the eternal state, inviting the saints to rule and reign with Him.

I recognize many of us may hold a different view pertaining to the end time events. My challenge would be to walk with a Biblical, historical understanding and a lot of grace. Go to the source of God's word in context for understanding. I wanted to bring these different perspectives in front of you because what you believe is directly connected to your level of involvement, your willingness to enter into God's plan. This is not a salvation issue, but your perspective will influence your response greatly There is a lot of thoughts that have crept into the church that are meant to be dismantled.

The Historic theology that teaches and believes in what is coming, prepared us to enter into the prophetic plan of God connecting to His commitment to save Israel, and release global revival. We need to be prepared for the churches finest hour that includes great pressures but greater glory and power, This is a forerunner call.

Hear me on this: **We cannot bring the church into the golden age without the return of Jesus Christ. He will not forsake His firstborn Israel; in other words He will not usher in the age to come without them.** This means we get to enter into His longing for Israel to be saved knowing that this will usher in the age to come!!! He won't forsake His covenant to Israel, He won't remove promises reserved for them so let's commit to be involved as we believe for revival but set our hearts on the age to come.

Three Simple ways to step into God's plan for them.

- I. **Proclaim the word of God**-There is power in the proclaimed word of God. The proclaimed word of God is to us what the rod of Moses was in his generation. *With Moses outstretched rod he defeated the magicians and dark magic of Egypt, stripped Pharaoh of his power, humiliated Egypt's gods and brought Israel out of slavery and into freedom. We need to proclaim what God has said in His eternal word, say it, sing it! We can't be passive spectators when it comes to the known will of God.* We are purposed to bless, stand in alignment and proclaim to the nations His plan for Israel.
- Jeremiah 31:10** "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, And declare it in the isles afar off, and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, And keep him as a shepherd *does* his flock.'
- We can boldly declare the plan of God to gather them and protect, preserve, deliver and heal (shepherd). God will not forsake His inheritance in Israel, He will also never forsake you!**
- **The return of a Jewish people to their homeland Israel in 1948 was an astounding, miraculous event unprecedented in world history.** Never had a decimated ancient people managed to retain their individual identity through almost twenty centuries and reestablish their nation in their original homeland. *The event was specifically prophesied, and it happened exactly as foretold. It was clearly a miraculous act of God.*
 - **May 14, 1948.** *On this day, the United Nations officially recognized the State of Israel, with US president Harry Truman determining the deciding vote.* The Israeli government established the State of Israel, thus fulfilling the twenty-five-hundred-year-old prophecy recorded in the Bible. (Zechariah 12:10, 13:1, Ezekiel 36:24-25 and many more!)
 - In 2006, for the first time in nineteen hundred years, Israel became home to the largest Jewish community in the world, surpassing the Jewish population in the United States. From the 650,000 who returned when the Jewish state was founded in 1948, the population of Israel has swelled 6.8 million.
- We can boldly proclaim that God is directing the future!**

- I. **Praise -a weapon of measureless power is praise.** *As we praise the Lord for who He is and what His plans are, we can rely on His strength and not our own.* Praise upon the lips of God's build God a place to be enthroned and glorified. Praise removes the enemy from the dialogue and enters into the nature and wonder of God. As God's people were hopelessly outnumbered under the leadership of King Jehoshaphat we see them do the following **2Chronicles 20:20-22** ²⁰ *So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."* ²¹ *And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the Lord, For His mercy endures forever."*

²²Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

We must learn to praise God according to His promises before they come to pass. We can enter His breakthrough based upon His perfect word. We can live in today's blessing and tomorrow's promise even in difficulty.

- I. **Pray-** *Isaiah 62:6-7-I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, 'And give Him no rest till He establishes
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*
 - **Jesus will continue to place Israel upon the hearts of His people so they will partner in prayer with Him** until He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth at the time of Jesus' return.
 - **believers across the nations have the opportunity to cry out for Jerusalem on the spiritual wall of intercession.**
 - God has invited us in to participate in His perfect plan by praying for His will to be completed. We get to stand with God through prayer.
 - **Number one way to pray for Israel**

Jeremiah 31:7-For thus says the Lord: "Sing with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O Lord, save Your people, The remnant of Israel!'"

Romans 10:1-Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they **may be saved.**

Derek Prince tells the story of a trip to Singapore where he met a fellow Christian who had been visiting the Christians in China and had been present at their prayer meeting. A local Chinese Christian was praying with great intensity and tears and he asked the interpreter what he was praying for. The interpreter replied, he is praying for Israel. At that time the Chinese had received very little Bible teaching and no real information about Israel. *Holy Spirit had supernaturally placed this burden upon his heart.* The Same thing happened in Africa. Africans with no teaching or understanding related to Israel were crying out for them. The point is **God is going to get the church stirred up for Israel.** The Holy Spirit will continue to release this emphasis from God. We get to partner with God in prayer for the final restoration of Israel.

Romans 11:15- 15 For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

Revival groups -please make sure you honor the core teaching of Revive that teaches we will be part of God's solution in the end times. We believe in the victorious church that will overcome by the blood of the lamb. We have the example of our Savior, the early church and the global persecuted church so we should not falsely believe we will be raptured out of this world prior to the seven years of tribulation. We hold to a Historic premillennialism perspective.

- Why does what we believe concerning the end times matter?
- Why is preparation so important?
- How is Holy Spirit helping your understanding pertaining to Israel?
- Discuss the power of partnering with God through proclaiming, praise and prayer.
- If God is going to sovereignly do what has been written in the word with or without us the. Why is our involvement so important?
- Is there any personal repentance that needs to happen concerning Israel?