THE COMING KINGDOM



What Is the Kingdom and
How Is Kingdom Now Theology
Changing the Focus of the Church?

Andrew M. Woods

Foreword by Thomas Ice

The Coming Kingdom

Chapter 12



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Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Kingdom Study Outline



1. What does the Bible Say About the Kingdom?
2. The Main Problem with Kingdom Now NT interpretations
3. Why do some believe that we are in the kingdom now?
4. Why does it matter?



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1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

1. Eden	6. Old Testament Prophets
2. Abrahamic Covenant	7. Post exile
3. Mosaic Covenant	8. Offer of the King / Kingdom
4. Divided Kingdom	9. Rejection of the Offer
5. Times of the Gentiles	10. Interim Age



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1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

11. Kingdom Mysteries	15. Transfer of Kingdom Authority
12. Church	16. Kingdom Establishment
13. Israel's Discipline & Restoration	17. Eternal State
14. Re-offer of the King/Kingdom	18. Testimony of Early Church History



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THE INTERIM AGE

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2. The Church Age (Matt. 16:18)



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2. The Church Age (Matt. 16:18)



Matthew 13 Parables

- Public parables (13:1-2)
  - Sower (13:1-9, 18-23)
  - Wheat and tares (13:24-30, 36-43)
  - Mustard seed (13:31-32)
  - Leaven (13:33)
- Private parables (13:36)
  - Earthen treasure (13:44)
  - Pearl of great price (13:45-46)
  - Dragnet (13:47-50)
  - Householder (13:51-52)



THE INTERIM AGE

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2. **The Church Age (Matt. 16:18)**



The Church Age

1. The definition of the Church
2. The beginning of the Church
3. The purposes of the Church
4. The Church is not the Kingdom
5. The Church is not Israel



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

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Exodus 19:5-6

“Now then, **if** you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then** you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a **kingdom** of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”



Matthew 23:37-39

"**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,** who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. 38 Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 For I say to you, from now on **you will not see Me until you say**, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"



Israel's Discipline & Restoration



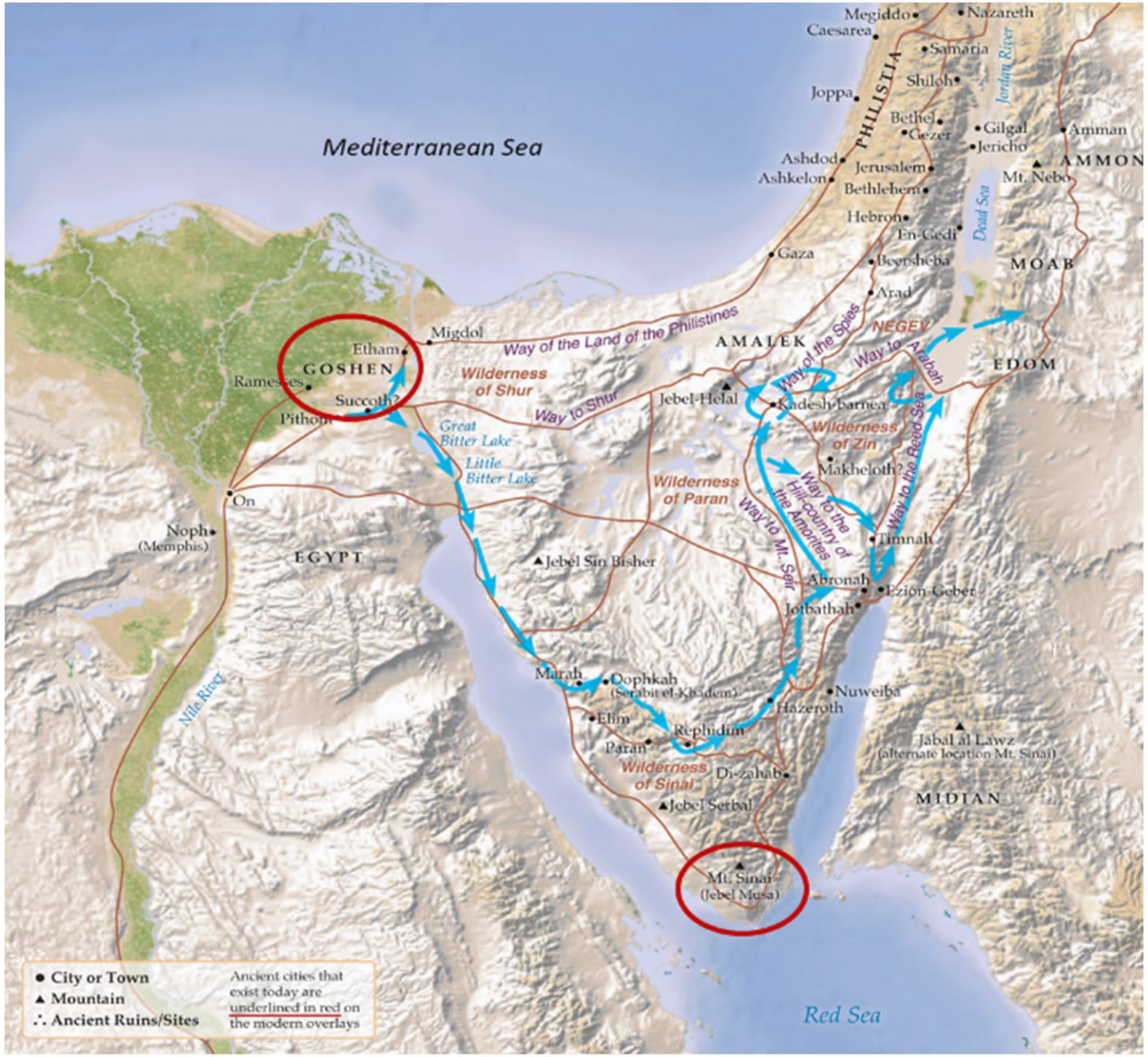
1. Israel in the Diaspora
2. Israel's regathering in unbelief
3. Israel's conversion through distress
4. Israel's final restoration

Israel's Discipline & Restoration



1. **Israel in the Diaspora**
2. Israel's regathering in unbelief
3. Israel's conversion through distress
4. Israel's final restoration


Mediterranean Sea
Gaza
CANAAN
Dead Sea
Beersheba
Arad
Way to the Land of the Philistines
Migdol
WILDERNESS OF ZIN
Rameses
EGYPT
Tahpanhes
Pithom?
GOSHEN
Succoth?
WILDERNESS OF SHUR
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
WILDERNESS OF PARAN
On
Memphis
Marah?
Timna
SINAI
Elath
Jotbathah?
Ezion-geber?
Nile River
Elim?
Red Sea
MIDIAN
Dophkah?
WILDERNESS OF SIN
Hazeroth?
Rephidim?
Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)
0 50 100 mi
0 50 100 150 km


Mediterranean Sea
Megiddo
Nazareth
Caesarea
Samaria
Shiloh
Joppa
Jordan River
PHILISTIA
Bethel
Gezer
Gilgal
Amman
Jericho
Ashdod
Jerusalem
AMMON
Ashkelon
Bethlehem
Mt. Nebo
Hebron
Dead Sea
En-Gedi
Gaza
Beersheba
MOAB
Arad
NEGEV
Migdol
Way of the Land of the Philistines
AMALEK
Way of the Spies
Way to Arabah
EDOM
Etham
GOSHEN
Wilderness of Shur
Succoth?
Pithom
Way to Shur
Jebel Helal
Kadesh-barnea
Great Bitter Lake
Little Bitter Lake
Wilderness of Zin
Makheloth?
On
Wilderness of Paran
Way to the Hill-country of the Amorites
Way to the Reed Sea
Noph (Memphis)
EGYPT
Timnah
Jebel Sin Bisher
Way to Mt. Seir
Abronah
Ezion-Geber
Jotbathah
Marah
Oophkah (Serabit el-Khadem)
Nuweiba
Hazeroth
Elim
Rephidim
Jabal al Lawz (alternate location Mt. Sinai)
Paran
Wilderness of Sinai
Di-zahab
MIDIAN
Jebel Serbal
Mt. Sinai (Jebel Musa)
Nile River
Red Sea
City or Town
Mountain
Ancient Ruins/Sites
Ancient cities that exist today are underlined in red on the modern overlays

Six Parts of the Suzerain-Vassal Treaty in Deuteronomy

1. Preamble (1:1-5)
2. Prologue (1:6–4:40)
3. Covenant obligations (5–26)
4. Storage and reading instructions (27:2-3; 31:9, 24, 26)
5. Witnesses (32:1)
6. Blessings and curses (28)



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Israel's Historical Judgments

- Division of the kingdom in 931 B.C. (1 Kgs. 12)
- Assyrian judgment in 722 B.C. (2 Kgs. 17)
- Babylonian captivity in 586 B.C. (2 Kgs. 25)
- Roman Judgment in A.D. 70 (Luke 19:41-44)



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- ***Roman Judgment in A.D. 70 (Luke 19:41-44)***



Deuteronomy 4:27

The LORD will **scatter you among the peoples**, and you will be left few in number **among the nations** where the LORD drives you.



Deuteronomy 28:63-65

63 It shall come about that as the LORD delighted over you to
prosper you, and multiply you, so the LORD will delight over you
to make you perish and destroy you; and you will be torn from
the land where you are entering to possess it. 64 Moreover, the
LORD will **scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the
earth to the other end of the earth**; and there you shall serve
other gods, wood and stone, which you or your fathers have not
known. 65 Among those nations you shall find no rest, and there
will be no resting place for the sole of your foot; but there the
LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing of eyes, and despair of
soul.




CASPIAN SEA
HARRAN
ASSYRIA
NINEVEH
Tigris River
Euphrates River
CYPRUS
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SIDON
TYRE
DAMASCUS
SAMARIA
JERUSALEM
Jordan River
BABYLON
Chebar River
SUSA
BABYLONIA
ELAM
UR
CHALDEA
PERSIAN GULF
ARABIAN DESERT
THE CHEBAR RIVER
Ezekiel 1:1
Map Design by: Gabriel Morris 2014

Deuteronomy 30:3

"Then the LORD your God will **restore** you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will **gather you** again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has **scattered you**."



Israel's Discipline & Restoration



1. Israel in the Diaspora
2. **<u>Israel's regathering in unbelief</u>**
3. Israel's conversion through distress
4. Israel's final restoration

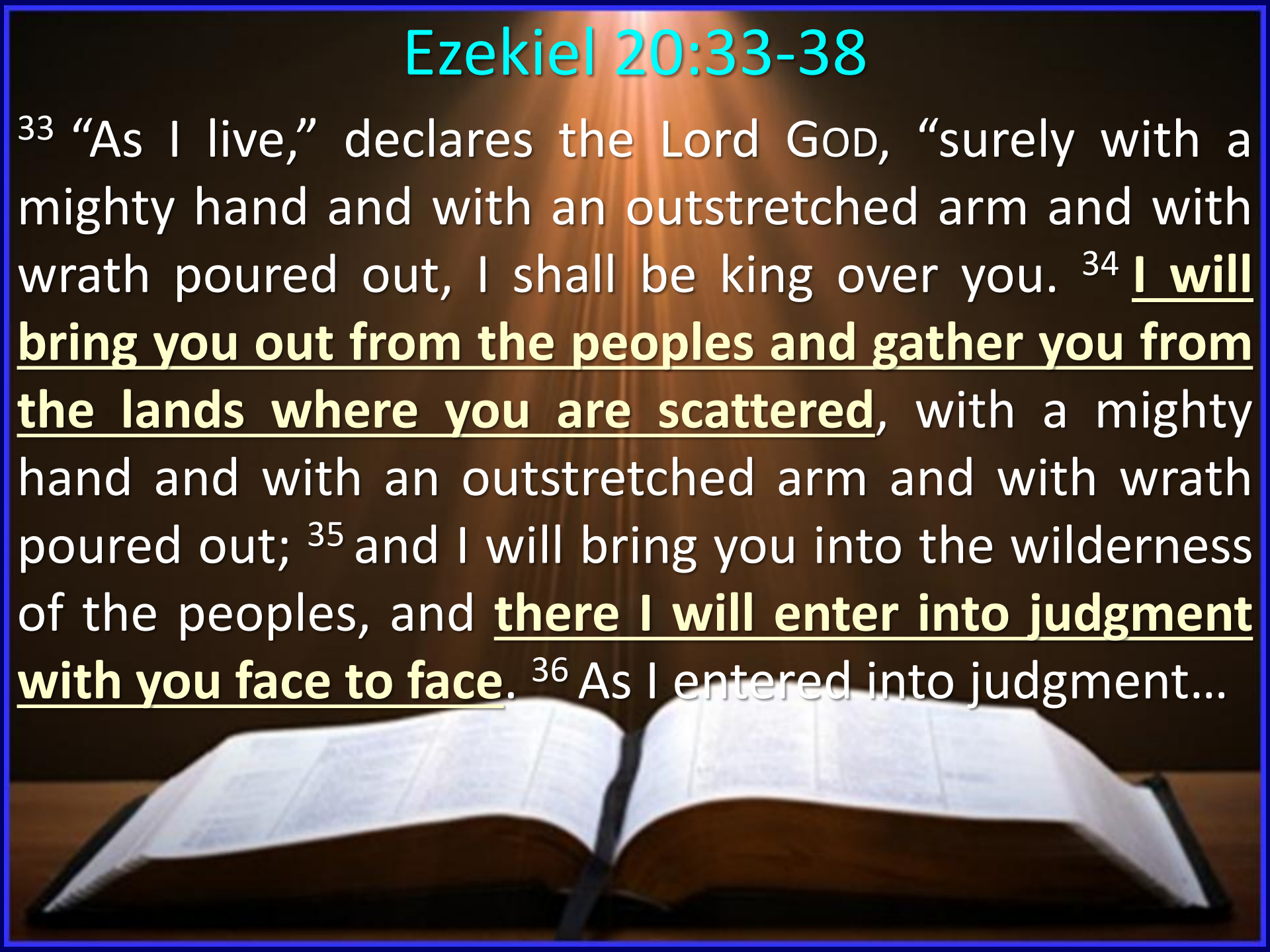
Israel's Two Regatherings

THE PRESENT (FIRST) REGATHERING	THE PERMANENT (SECOND) REGATHERING
Return to part of the land	Return to all the land
Return in unbelief	Return in faith
Restored to the land only	Restored to the land and the Lord
Sets the stage for Tribulation (discipline)	Sets the stage for Millennium (blessing)

Adapted from: Price, *Jerusalem In Prophecy,* 219

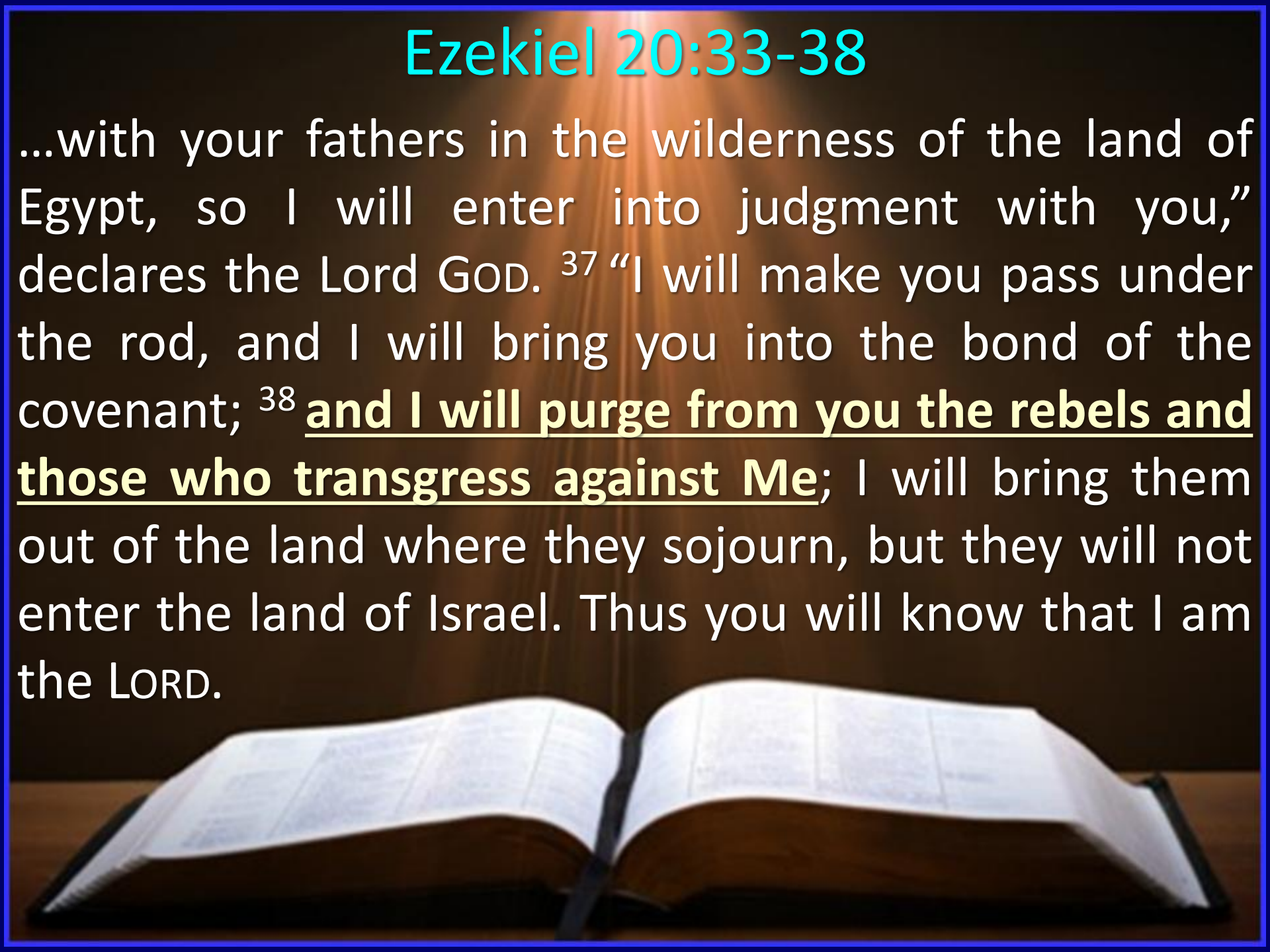
Ezekiel 20:33-38

33 “As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “surely with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out, I shall be king over you. 34 **I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered**, with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out; 35 and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and **there I will enter into judgment with you face to face**. 36 As I entered into judgment…



Ezekiel 20:33-38

…with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment with you,” declares the Lord GOD. 37 “I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; 38 **and I will purge from you the rebels and those who transgress against Me**; I will bring them out of the land where they sojourn, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Thus you will know that I am the LORD.



Isaiah 11:11-12

Then it will happen on that day that the Lord Will again recover **the second time** with His hand The remnant of His people, who will remain, From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, And from the islands of the sea.[12] And He will lift up a standard for the nations And assemble the banished ones of Israel, **And will gather the dispersed of Judah From the four corners of the earth**.





Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

Footsteps of the Messiah: A Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events, rev. ed. (Tustin, CA: Ariel, 2003), 102–103.

"But then the…view goes on to say that we really cannot be sure that the present Jewish state, as we see it today, is the fulfillment of those prophecies that spoke of the regathering in unbelief. Why not? Because they believe that it is possible to have several regatherings in unbelief before there is the specific one that fulfills the prophecies just discussed. But this passage in Isaiah shows that is exactly what cannot be: there cannot be several regatherings in unbelief *from the four corners of the earth*. The entire context is Isaiah 11:11–12:6. In this context, he is speaking of the final worldwide regathering in faith in preparation for blessing."



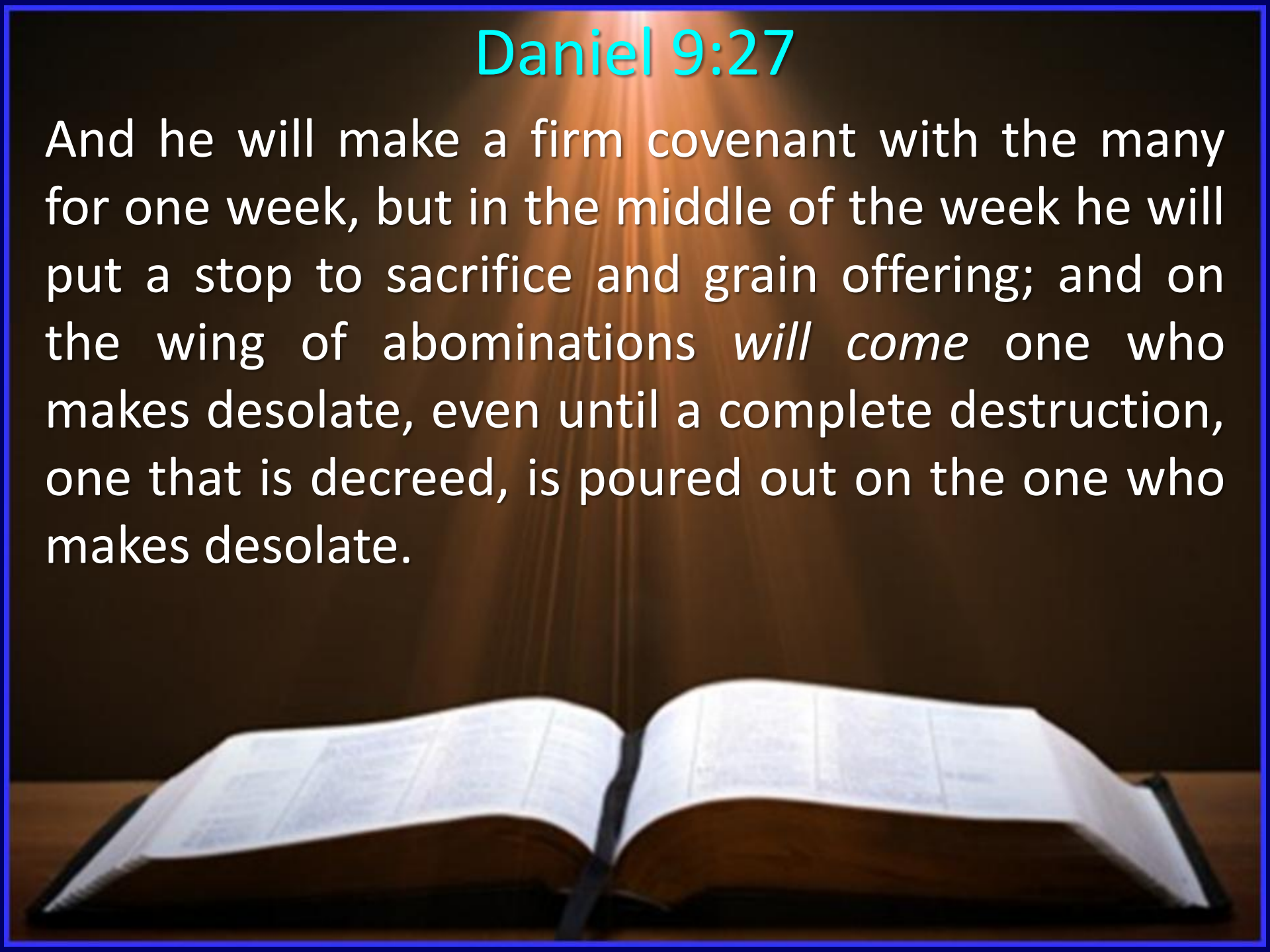
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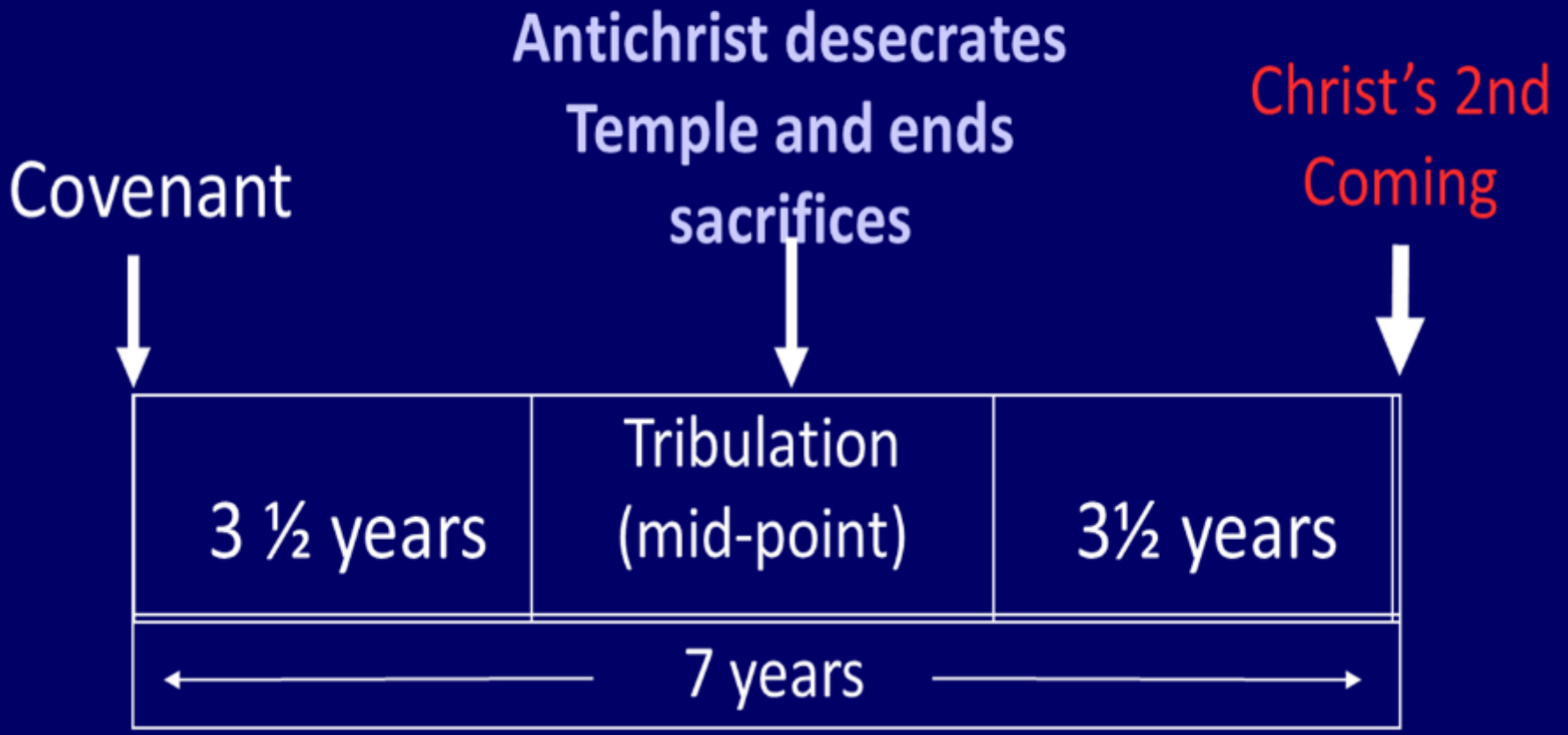
"Isaiah numbers the final worldwide regathering in faith in preparation for the messianic Kingdom as the *second* one. In other words, the last one is only the second one. If the last one is the second one, how many can there be before that? Only one. The first one could not have been the return from Babylon since that was not an international gathering from the four corners of the world, only a migration from one country (Babylonia) to another (Judea). The Bible does not allow for several worldwide regatherings in unbelief; it allows for one worldwide regathering in unbelief, followed by the last one, the one in faith, which is the second one. This text only permits two worldwide regatherings from *the four corners of the earth*. Therefore, the present Jewish state *is* relevant to Bible prophecy."

Daniel 9:27

And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

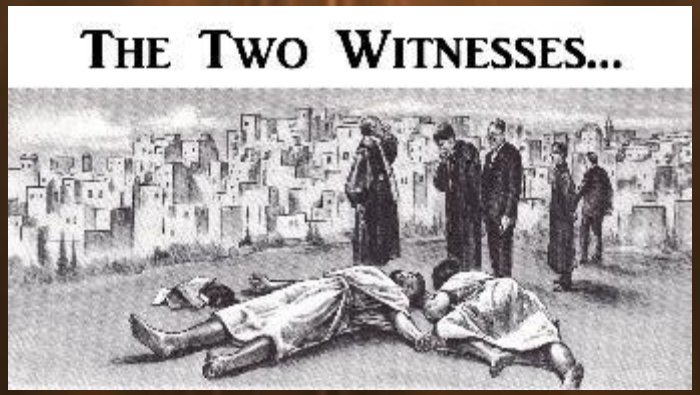


DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Revelation 11:8

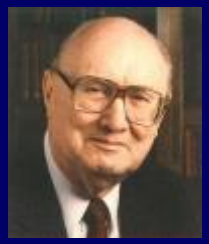
[8] And their dead bodies *will lie* in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.



Zechariah 12:10

"**I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace** and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn."

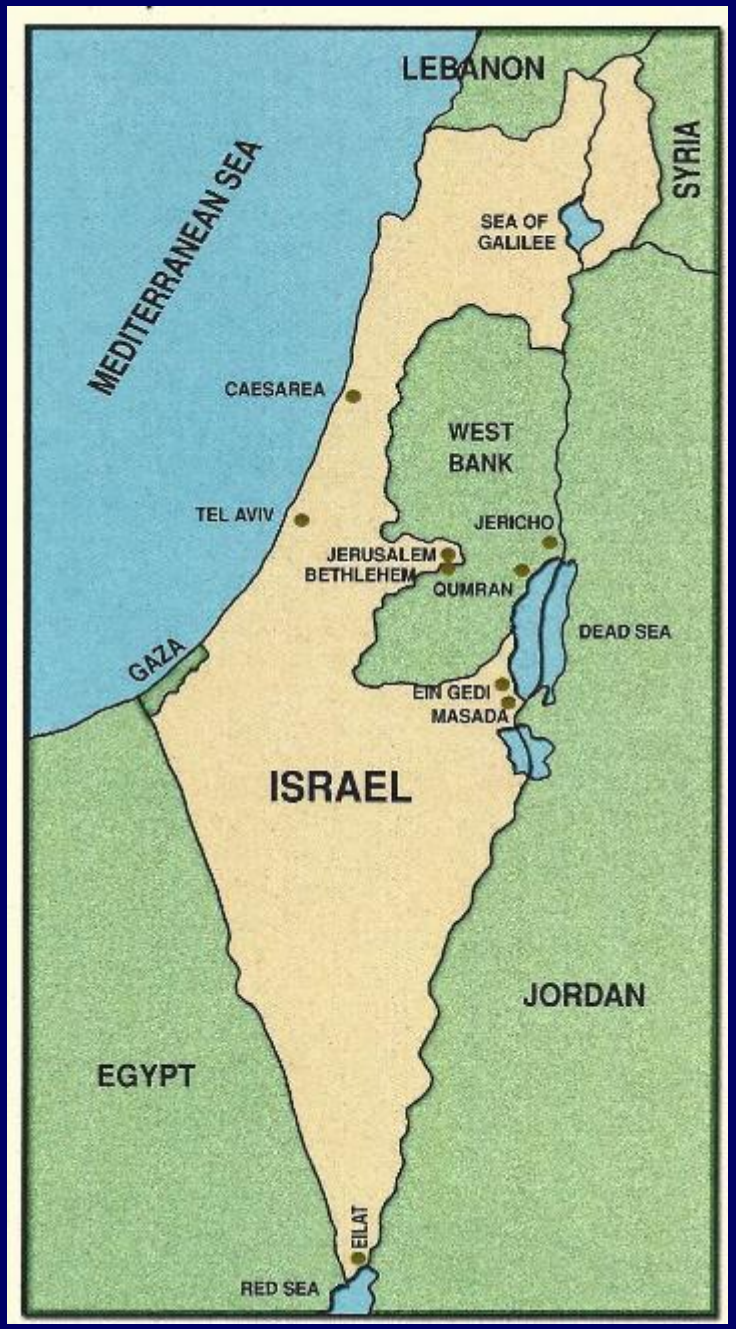




John Walvoord

Israel in Prophecy, Page 26

"Of the many peculiar phenomena which characterize the present generation, few events can claim equal **significance** as far as **Biblical prophecy** is concerned with that of the **return of Israel to their land**. It constitutes a **preparation** for the end of the age, the **setting** for the coming of the Lord for His church, and **the fulfillment of Israel's prophetic destiny**."





Distances Between Israeli Population Centers and Pre-1967 Armistice Lines

Israel's Discipline & Restoration



1. Israel in the Diaspora
2. Israel's regathering in unbelief
3. **Israel's conversion through distress**
4. Israel's final restoration

Deuteronomy 4:30

“When you are in **distress** and all these things have come upon you, in the **latter days** you will **return to the Lord** your God and listen to His voice.”



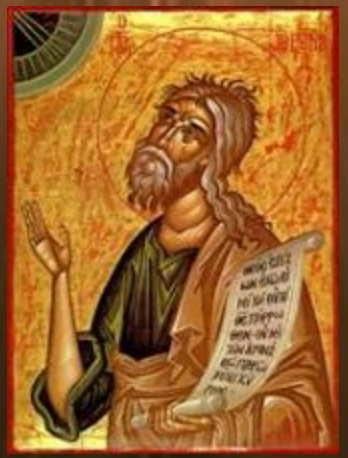
Joel 3:1-2

“For behold, in those days and at that time, When **I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem**, I will gather **all the nations** And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into **judgment** with them there On behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; And **they have divided up My land**.”



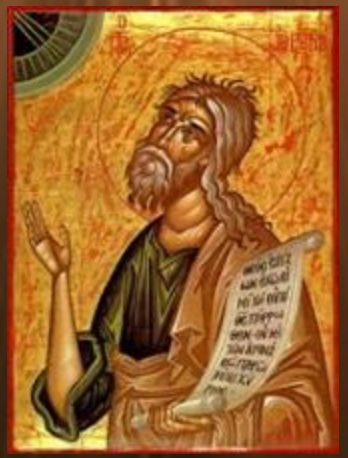
Jeremiah 30:7

“ Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s distress, But he will be saved from it.”



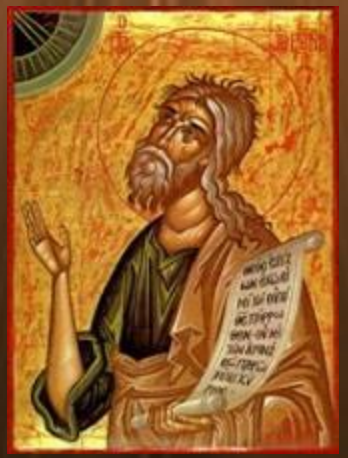
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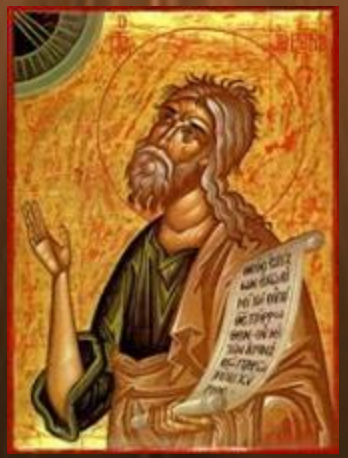
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“ Alas! **for that day is great**, **There is none like it**; And it is the time of Jacob’s **distress**, But he will be saved from it.”



Jeremiah 30:7

“ Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s distress, But he will be **saved** from it.”



Jeremiah 30:3

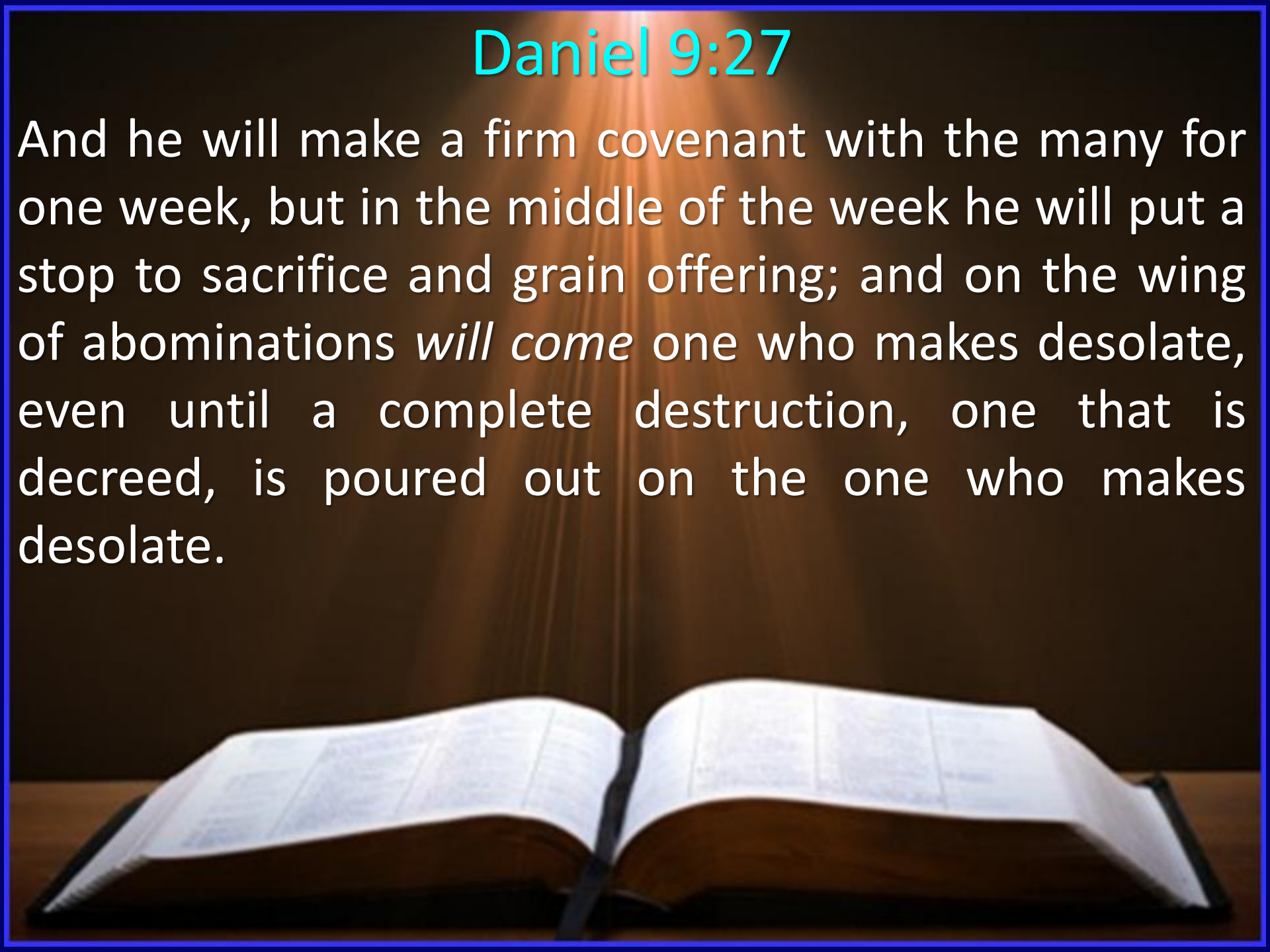
“3 For behold, days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will restore the fortunes of My people Israel and Judah.’ The LORD says, ‘I will also bring them back to the land that I gave to their forefathers and they shall possess it.’”



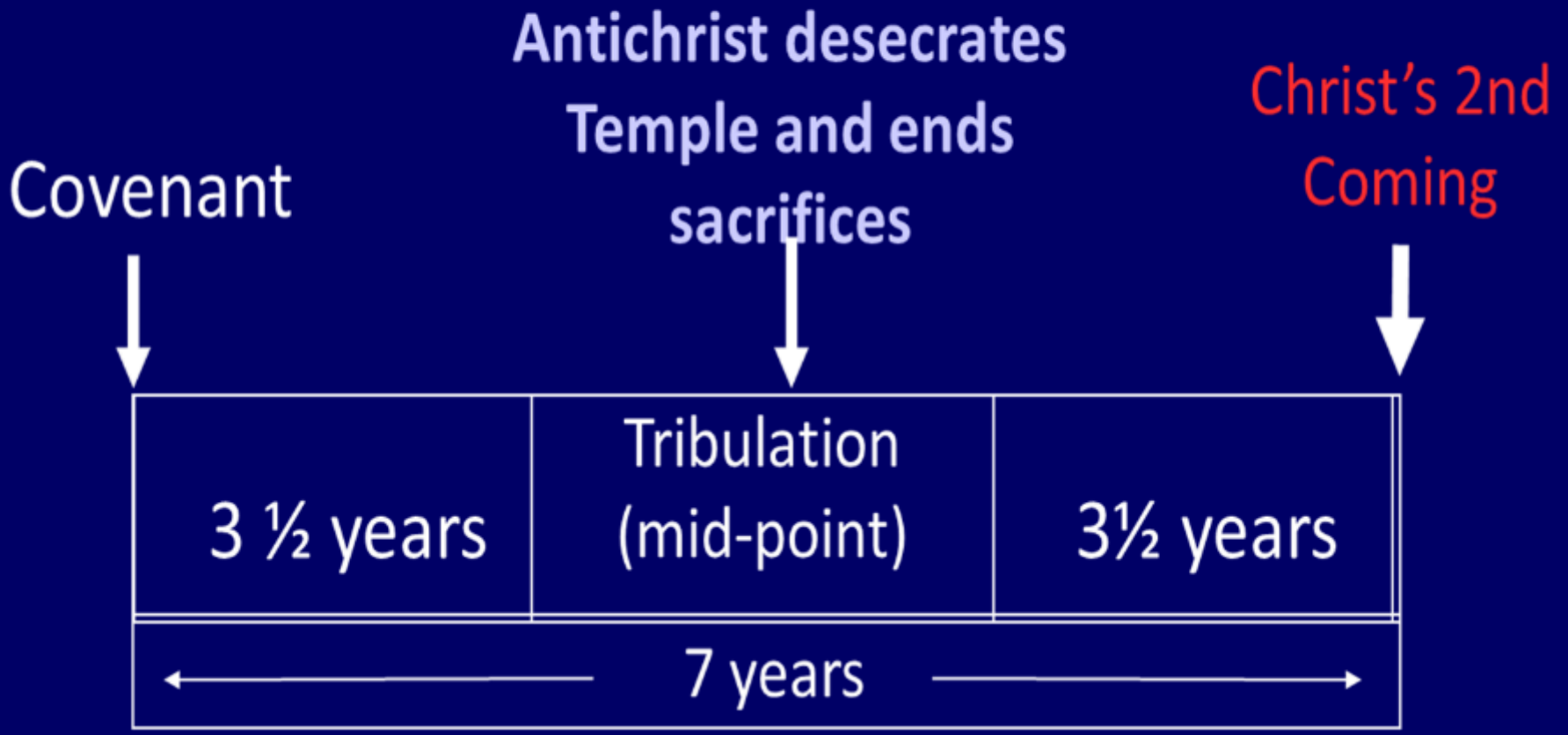

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Daniel 9:27

And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.

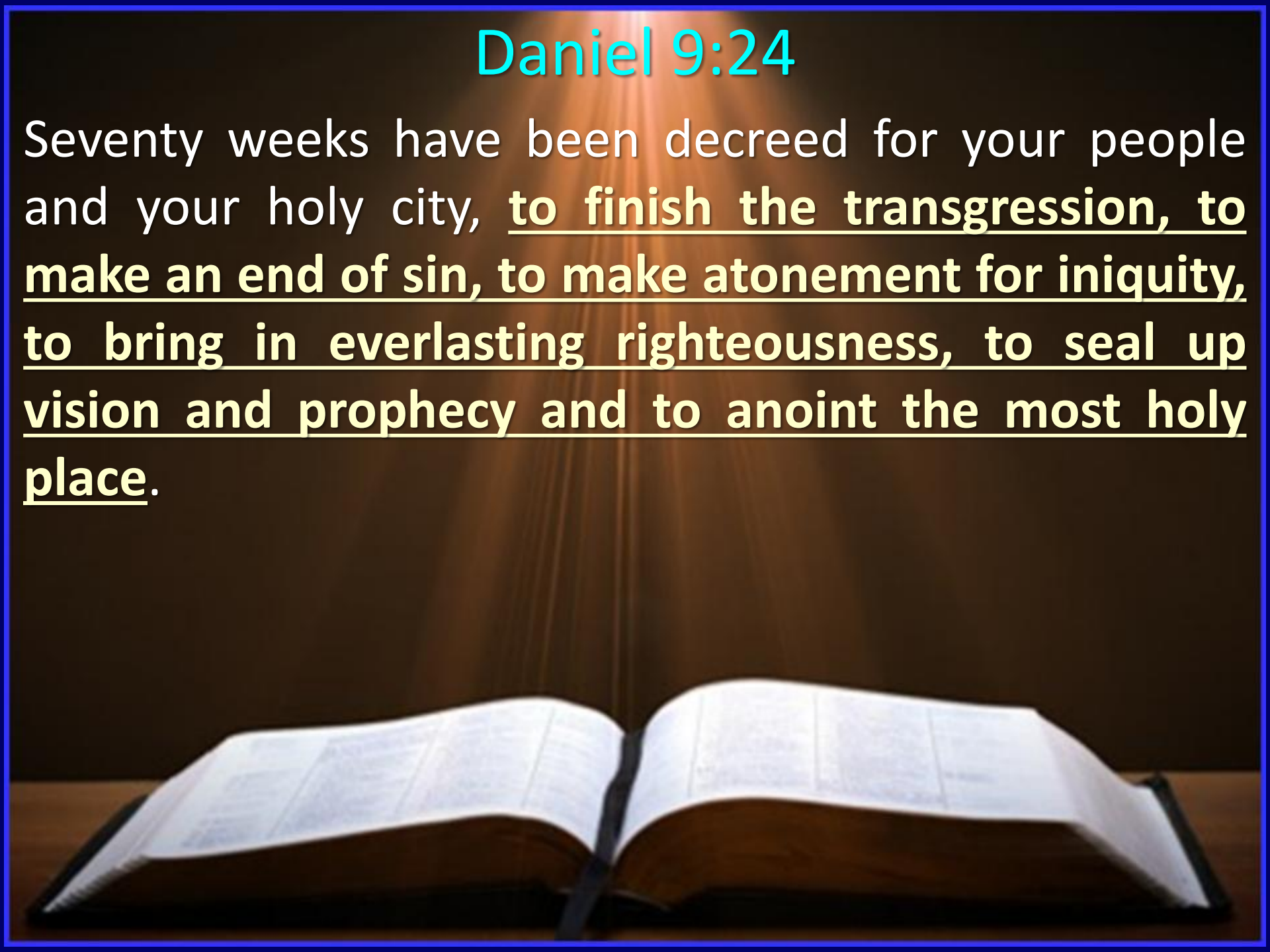


DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Daniel 9:24

Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, **to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place**.





6 Prophecies WILL BE fulfilled V.24c

1) “to finish transgression”
2) “to make an end of sin”
3) “to make atonement for iniquity”
4) “to bring in everlasting righteousness”
5) “to seal up vision and prophecy”
6) “to anoint the most holy place”

Arnold Fructenbaum, *Footsteps of the Messiah,* p.191-4

Israel's Discipline & Restoration



1. Israel in the Diaspora
2. Israel's regathering in unbelief
3. Israel's conversion through distress
4. **Israel's final restoration**

Israel's Regathering in Belief

- Deuteronomy 30:3
- Jeremiah 16:14-15
- Ezekiel 36:24-28
- Zechariah 8:7-8
- Amos 9:14-15



4. Israel's Final Restoration

a. Law

b. Major Prophets

c. Minor Prophets

d. Conclusion



4. Israel's Final Restoration

a. **Law**

b. Major Prophets

c. Minor Prophets

d. Conclusion



Deuteronomy 30:3

"Then the LORD your God will **restore** you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will **gather you** again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has **scattered you**."



4. Israel's Final Restoration

a. Law

b. <u>Major Prophets</u>

c. Minor Prophets

d. Conclusion



Isaiah 27:13

"It will come about also in that day that a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were perishing in the land of Assyria and who were **scattered** in the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD in the holy mountain **at Jerusalem**."



Jeremiah 16:14-15

14 “Therefore behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when it will no longer be said, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ 15 but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and **from all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers**.”

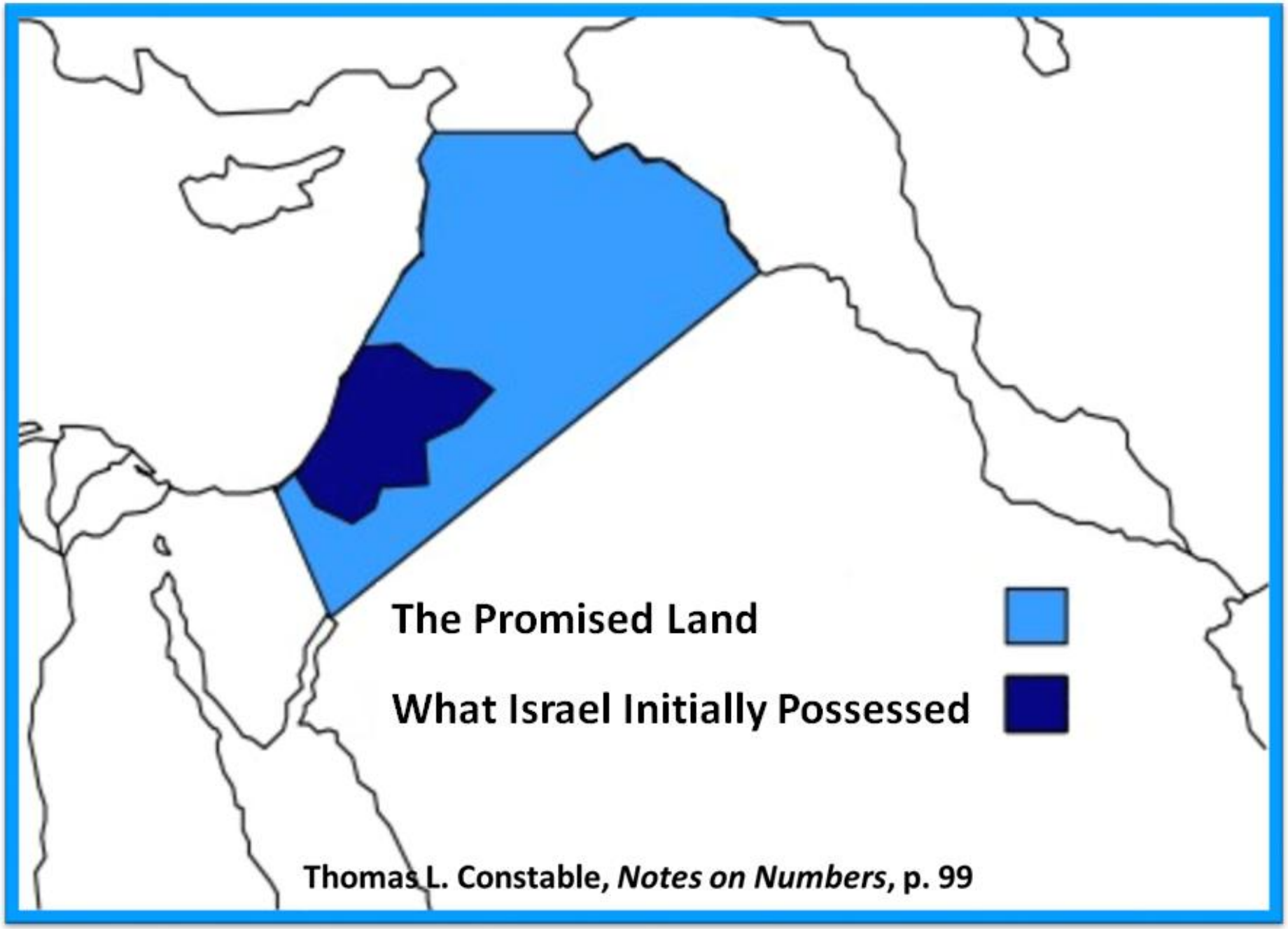



CASPIAN SEA
HARRAN
ASSYRIA
NINEVEH
Tigris River
Euphrates River
CYPRUS
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SIDON
TYRE
DAMASCUS
SAMARIA
JERUSALEM
Jordan River
BABYLON
Chebar River
SUSA
BABYLONIA
ELAM
UR
CHALDEA
PERSIAN GULF
ARABIAN DESERT
THE CHEBAR RIVER
Ezekiel 1:1
Map Design by: Gabriel Morris 2014

Ezekiel 36:24-28

“For I will take you from the nations, **gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.** 25 **Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean**; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 Moreover, I will give you a new heart and **put a new spirit within you**; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. 28 You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.”





Thomas L. Constable, *Notes on Numbers*, p. 99

The "Land" in Progressive Dispensationalism



For example, according to Progressive Dispensational progenitor Dr. Darrell L. Bock, his Progressive Dispensationalism is both "less land centered" and less "future centered" in comparison to traditional Dispensationalism.

Darrell Bock; quoted in Ken Sidey, "For the Love of Zion," *Christianity Today*, 9 March 1992, 50.

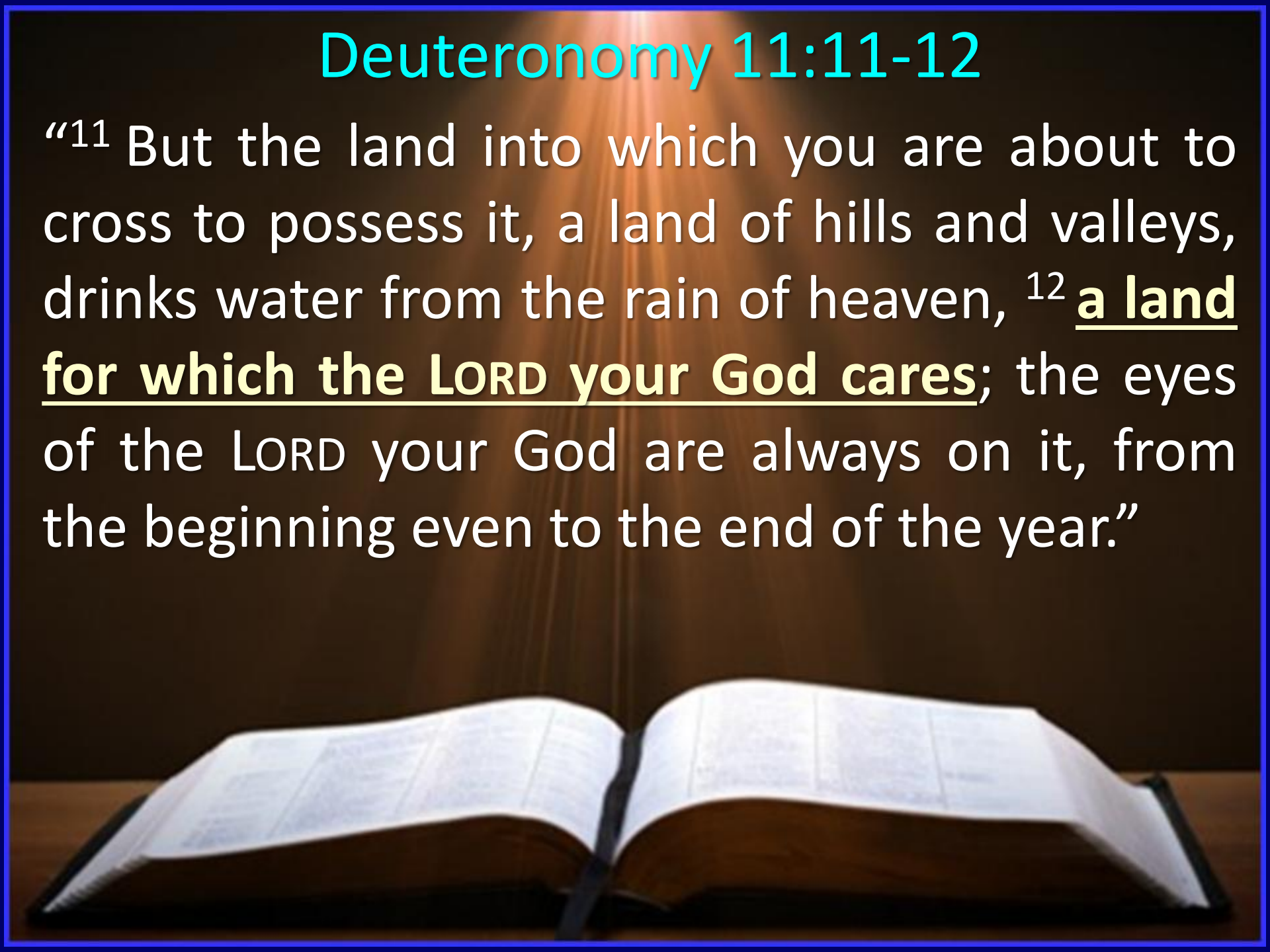
Leviticus 25:23

"The land, moreover, shall not be sold permanently, for **the land is Mine**; for you are *but* aliens and sojourners with Me."



Deuteronomy 11:11-12

“[11] But the land into which you are about to cross to possess it, a land of hills and valleys, drinks water from the rain of heaven, [12] **a land for which the LORD your God cares**; the eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning even to the end of the year.”



4. Israel's Final Restoration

a. Law

b. Major Prophets

c. **Minor Prophets**

d. Conclusion



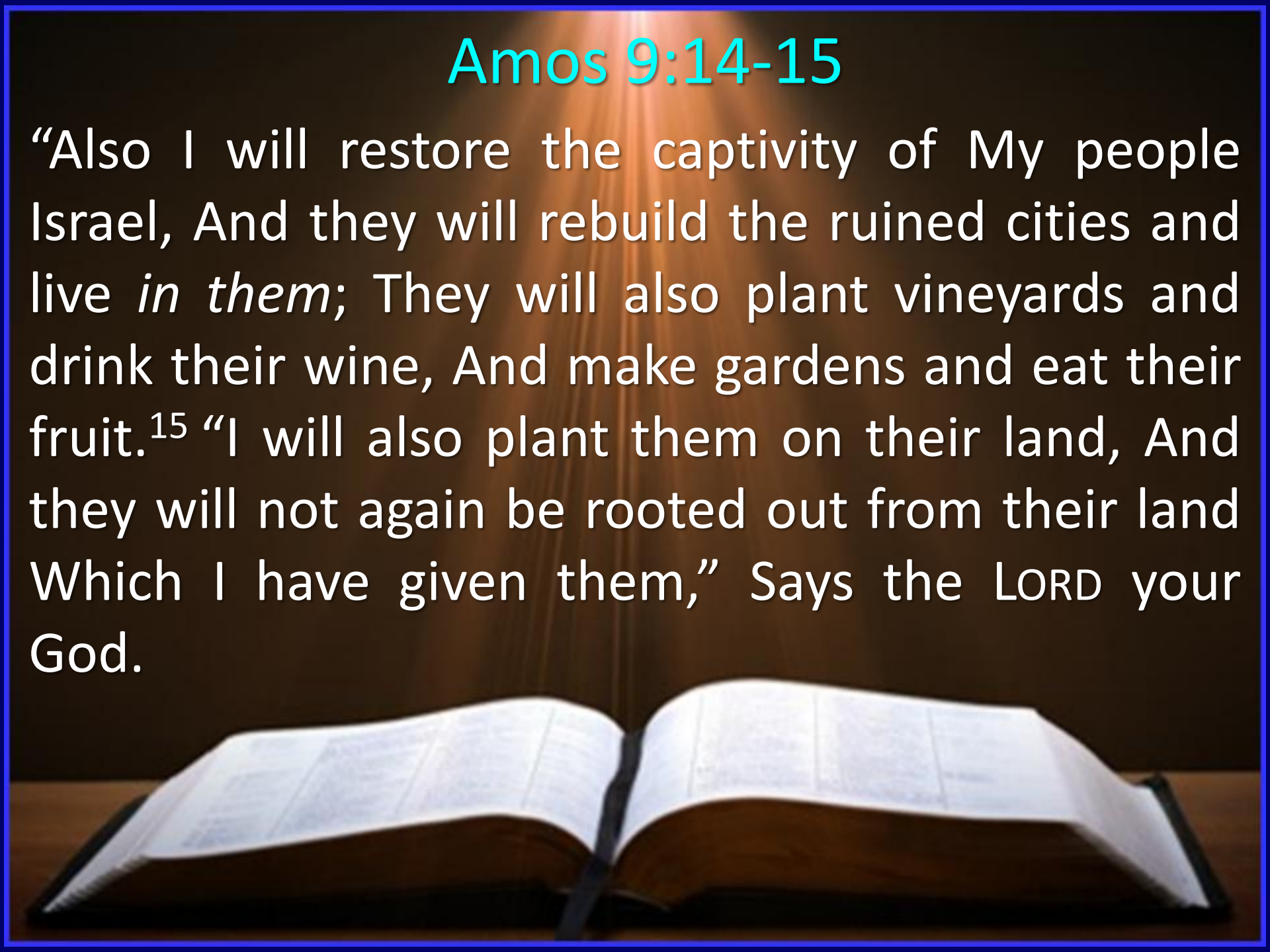
Zechariah 8:7

“[7] Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Behold, I am going to save My people from the land of **the east and from the land of the west; [8] and I will bring them *back* and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem**; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God in truth and righteousness.’”



Amos 9:14-15

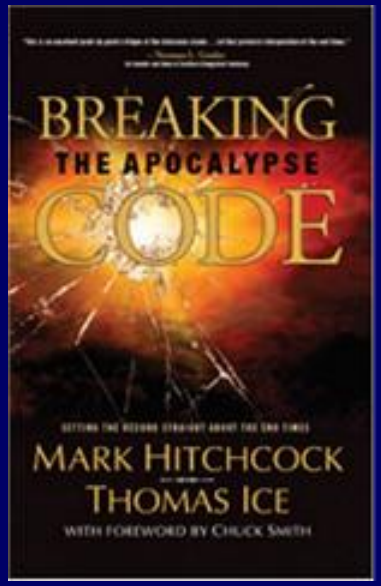
“Also I will restore the captivity of My people
Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and
live *in them*; They will also plant vineyards and
drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their
fruit.[15] “I will also plant them on their land, And
they will not again be rooted out from their land
Which I have given them,” Says the LORD your
God.



Mark Hitchcock and Thomas Ice

Breaking the Apocalypse Code (Costa Mesa, CA: Word for Today, 2007), 136-37.

"Every Old Testament prophet, except Jonah, speaks of a permanent return to the Land of Israel by the Jews."





4. Israel's Final Restoration

a. Law

b. Major Prophets

c. Minor Prophets

d. <u>Conclusion</u>



Reliability of the "Divine Regathering" Predictions

	RETURN	PREDICTED	FULFILLED
1st	From Egypt to Canaan	Gen. 15:13-14	Joshua 1–12
2nd	From Babylon to Israel	Jer. 25:11; 29:10	Ezra & Nehemiah
3rd	From the Diaspora to Israel's restoration	Ezekiel 36:24-28	Millennial Kingdom

Conclusion

Israel's Discipline & Restoration



1. Israel in the Diaspora
2. Israel's regathering in unbelief
3. Israel's conversion through distress
4. Israel's final restoration