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



Dr. Andy Woods

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?



Kingdom Study Outline



1. **<u>What does the Bible Say About the Kingdom?</u>**
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?



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



1. Kingdom Throughout the Bible

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



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

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)***



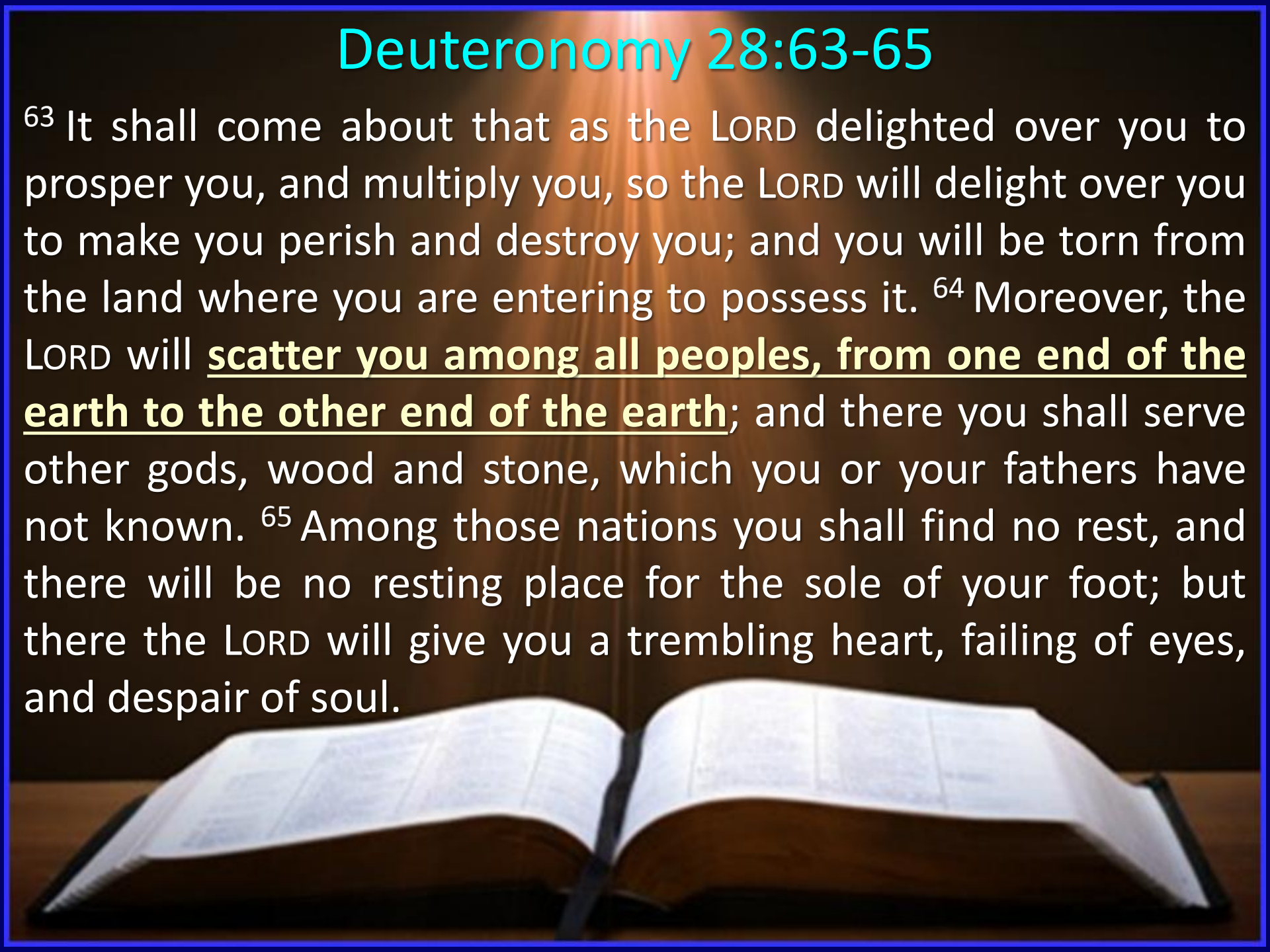
Israel's Historical Judgments

- 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)***



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.



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

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.”



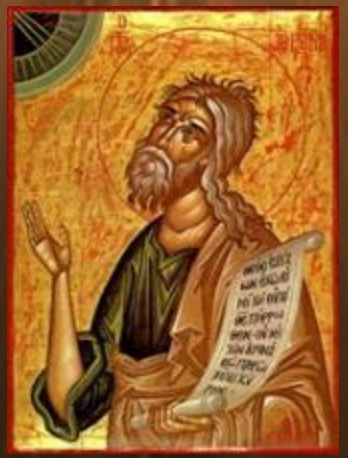
Joel 3:1-2

“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**.”



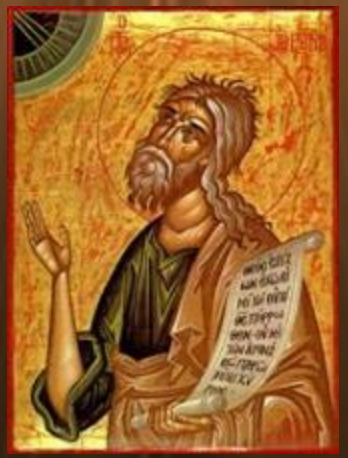
Jeremiah 30:7

“ 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.”



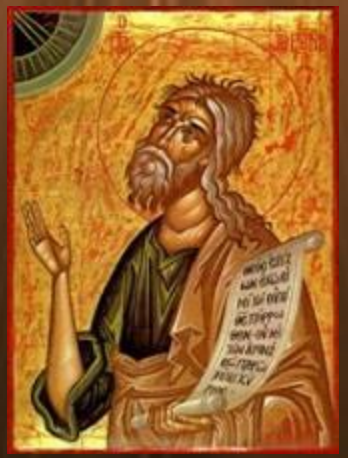
Jeremiah 30:7

“ 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.”



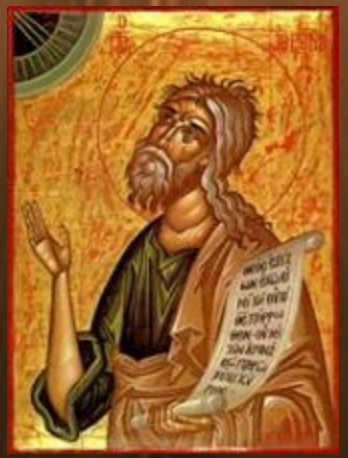
Jeremiah 30:7

“ 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 30:7

“ 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.’”



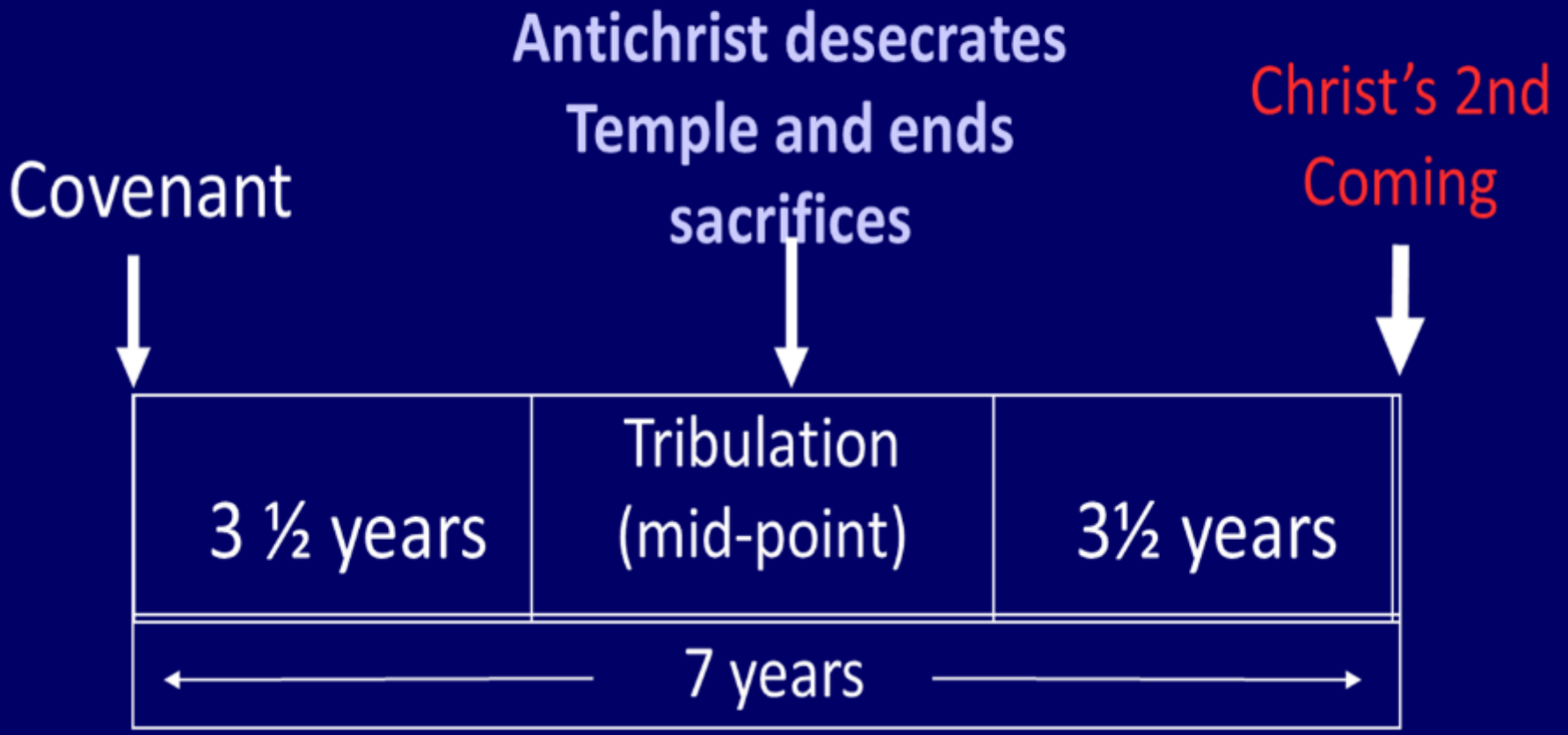

60
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45
50
55
30
5
10
15
20
25

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**."

RESTORATION
IS COMING!



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**."

RESTORATION
IS COMING!



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**.”

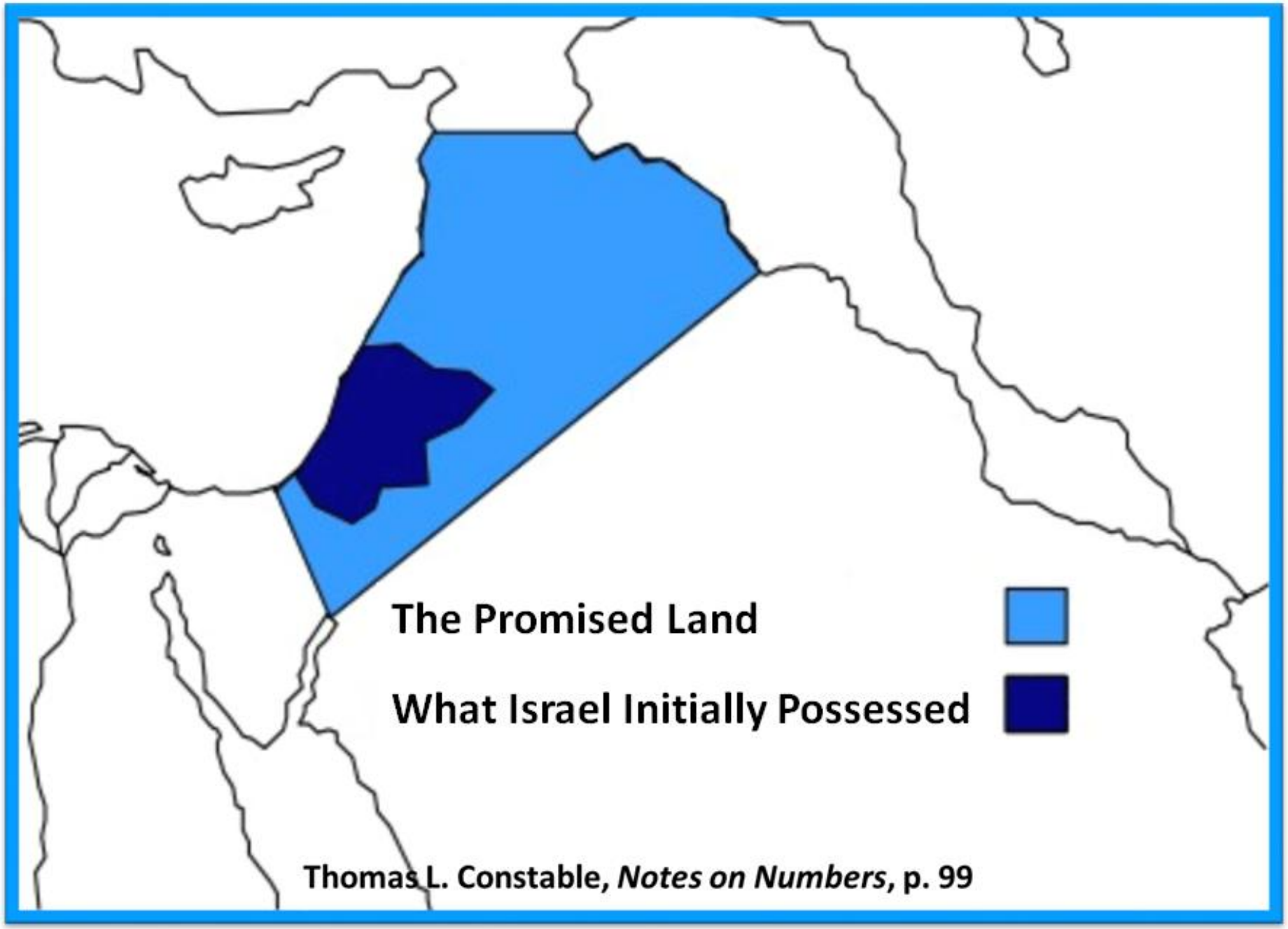



CASPIAN SEA
HARRAN
ASSYRIA
NINEVEH
Tigris River
Euphrates River
CYPRUS
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
SIDON
TYRE
DAMASCUS
SAMARIA
JERUSALEM
Jordan River
BABYLON
Chebar River
SUSA
BABYLONIA
ELAM
UR
CHALDEA
PERSIAN GULF
ARABIAN DESERT
THE CHEBAR RIVER
Ezekiel 1:1
Map Design by: Gabriel Morris 2014

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

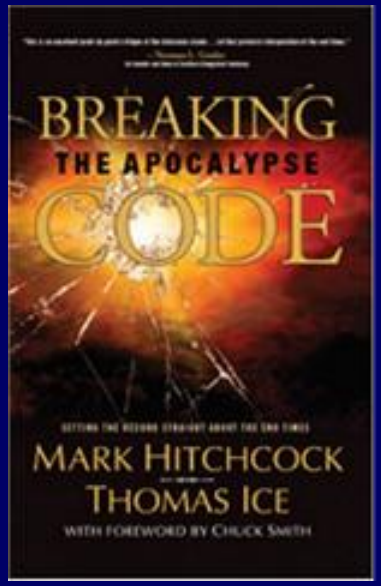
“Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel, And they will rebuild the ruined cities and live *in them*; They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, And make gardens and eat their fruit.[15] “I will also plant them on their land, And they will not again be rooted out from their land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