# 50+ Ministry

+ + +

# *60+ Legacies*

# Sunday Class

+ + +

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

Led by Rev. Craig Chapman
cchapman@allsaintsaustin.org

******NAME TAGS, PLEASE ******

****** Sit UP FRONT & TOGETHER, PLEASE ******

# *Because You Asked*

## *Answering Your Questions, According to Scripture*

All Saints Presbyterian Church

+ + +

Austin, TX

Winter-Spring 2026

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

# 50+ Special Events – 2026

**Songs of Praise**

**Prayer & Scripture**

***"Because You Asked"***

*3/1/26*

# 50+ Special Events

- March 28 (Sat) – **Indoor Pickleball Round Robin**
  - 2 – 4 pm – Hill Country Sport & Fitness – Registration Now Open
- April 17 (Fri) – Painted Churches Tour & Lunch
  - 8:30 am – 4:30 pm – Schulenberg, TX
- May 7 (Thu) – Texas Capitol & Governor's Mansion Tour
  - 9:45 am – 3 pm – Lunch at Capitol Grill
- May 29 (Fri) – Summer Social
  - 6:30 – 9 pm – Betsy & Dave Willis' home.
    BYOB & Appetizer or Dessert.
- July 4 (Sat) – Patriotic Pool Party
  - 6 – 9 pm – Location TBD. BYOB & Appetizer or Dessert.
    Burgers & Hot Dogs provided.

# 50+ Special Events – 2026

**Songs of Praise**

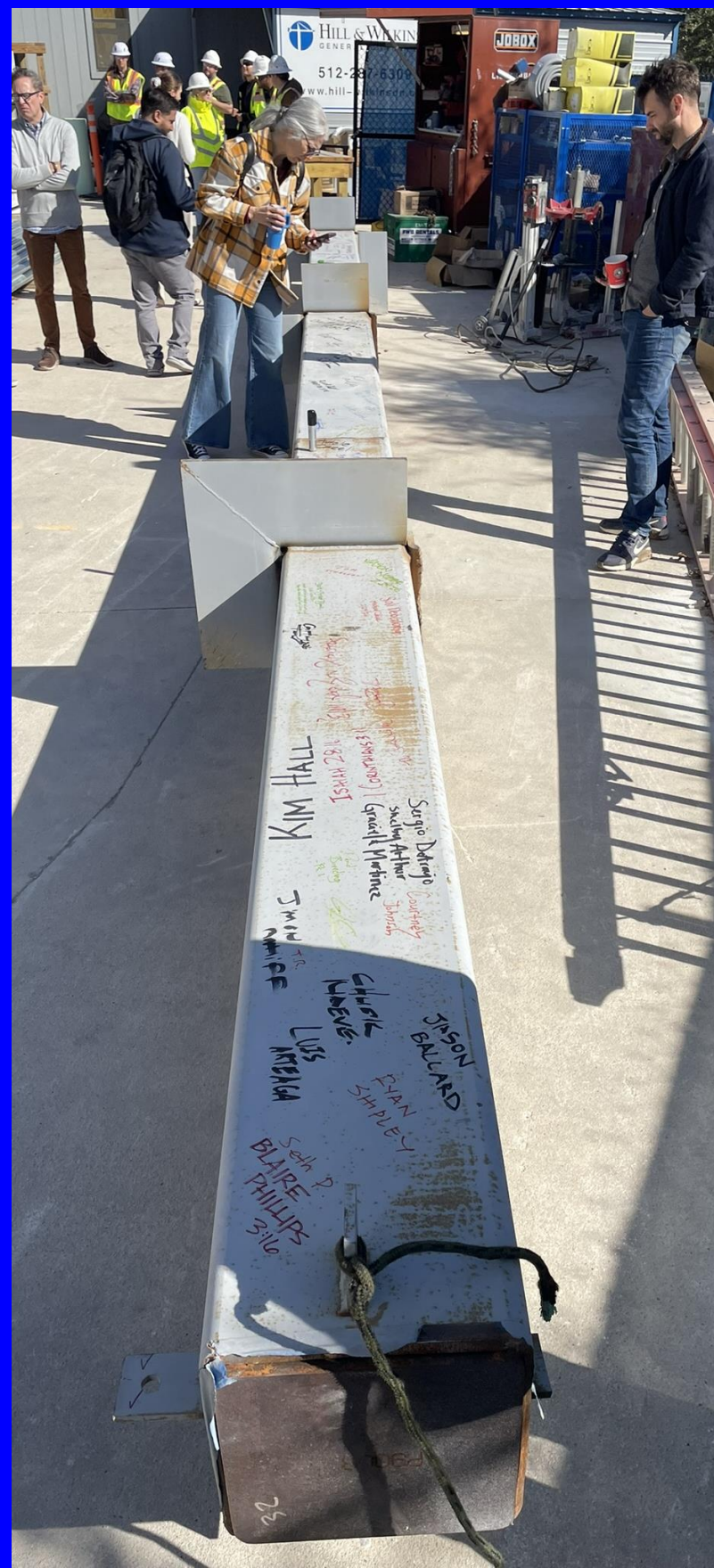
**Prayer & Scripture**

***"Because You Asked"***

*3/1/26*

Let's
count
our
blessings
+ + +
. . .
one
shovel
at
a
time!

# This week around All Saints ...



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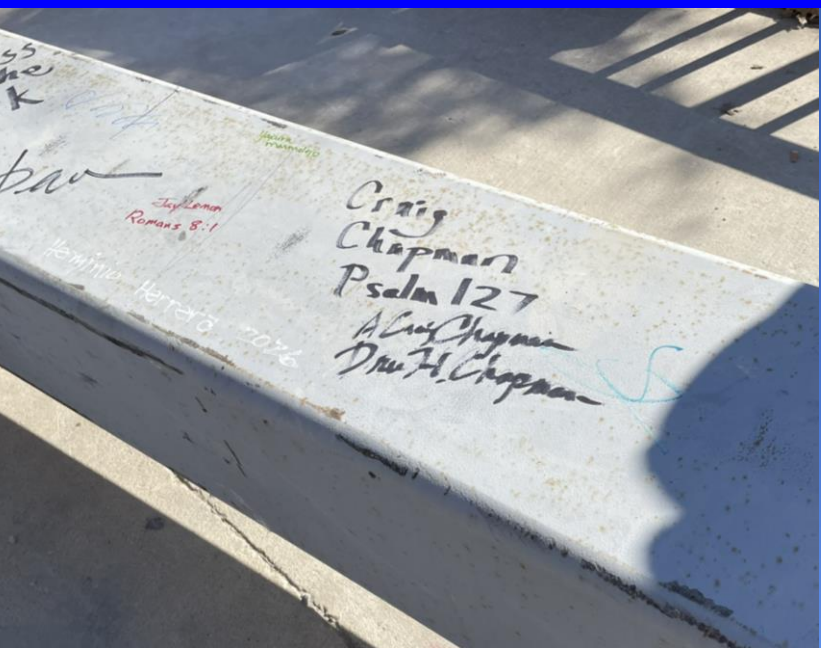

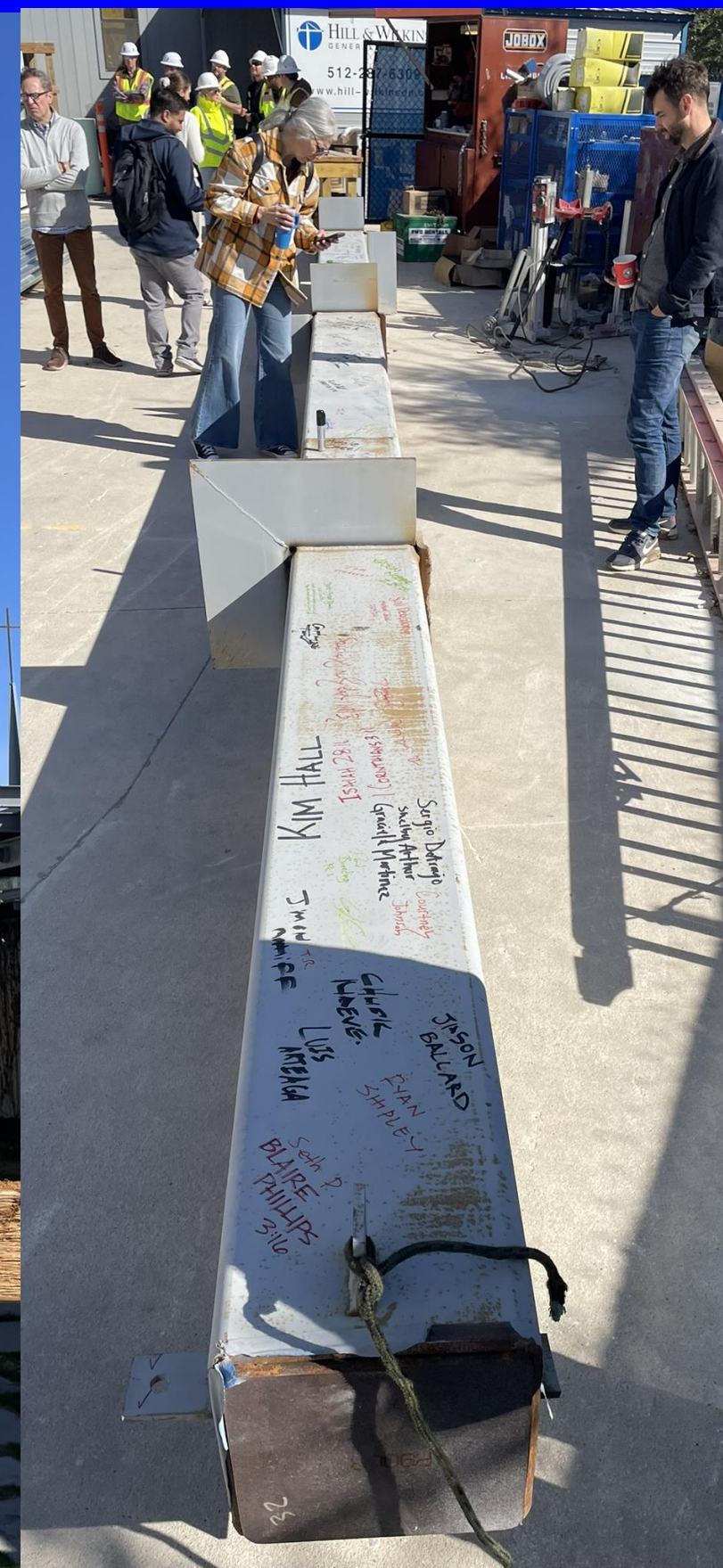

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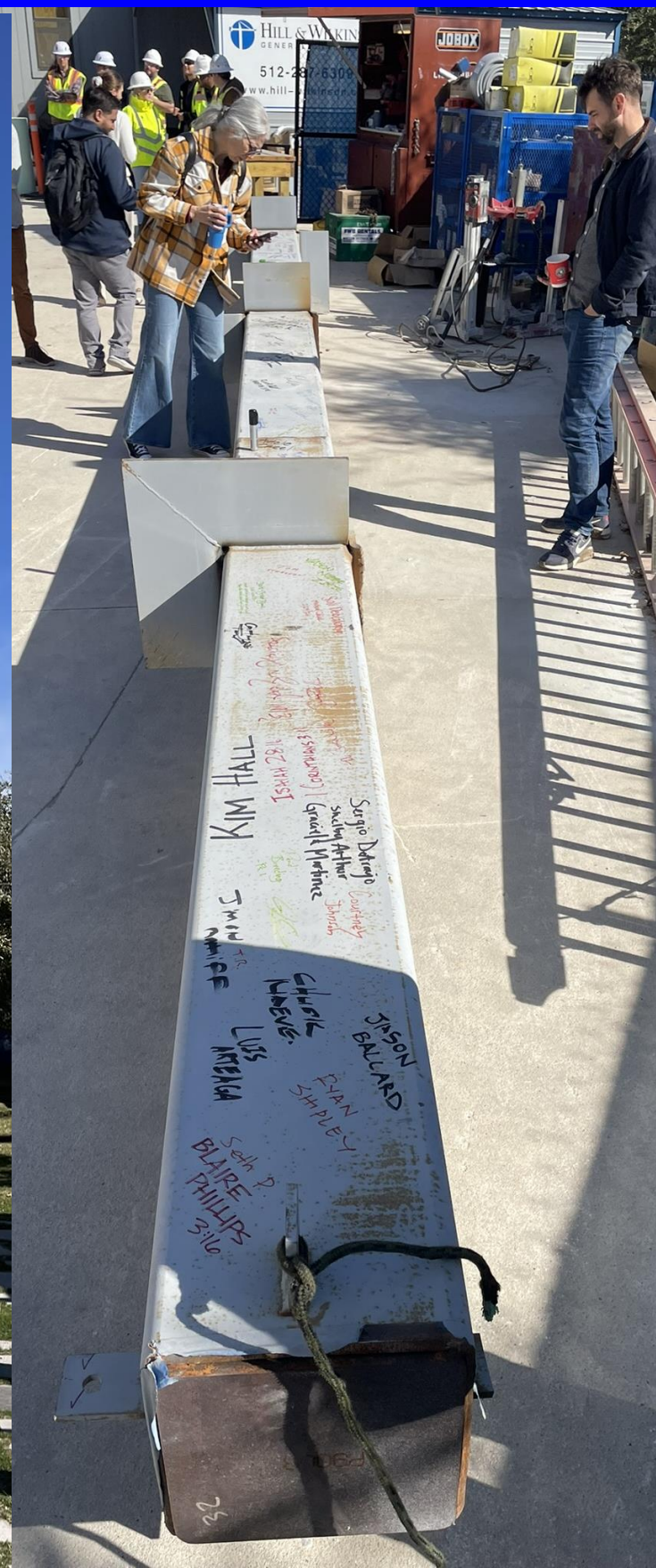

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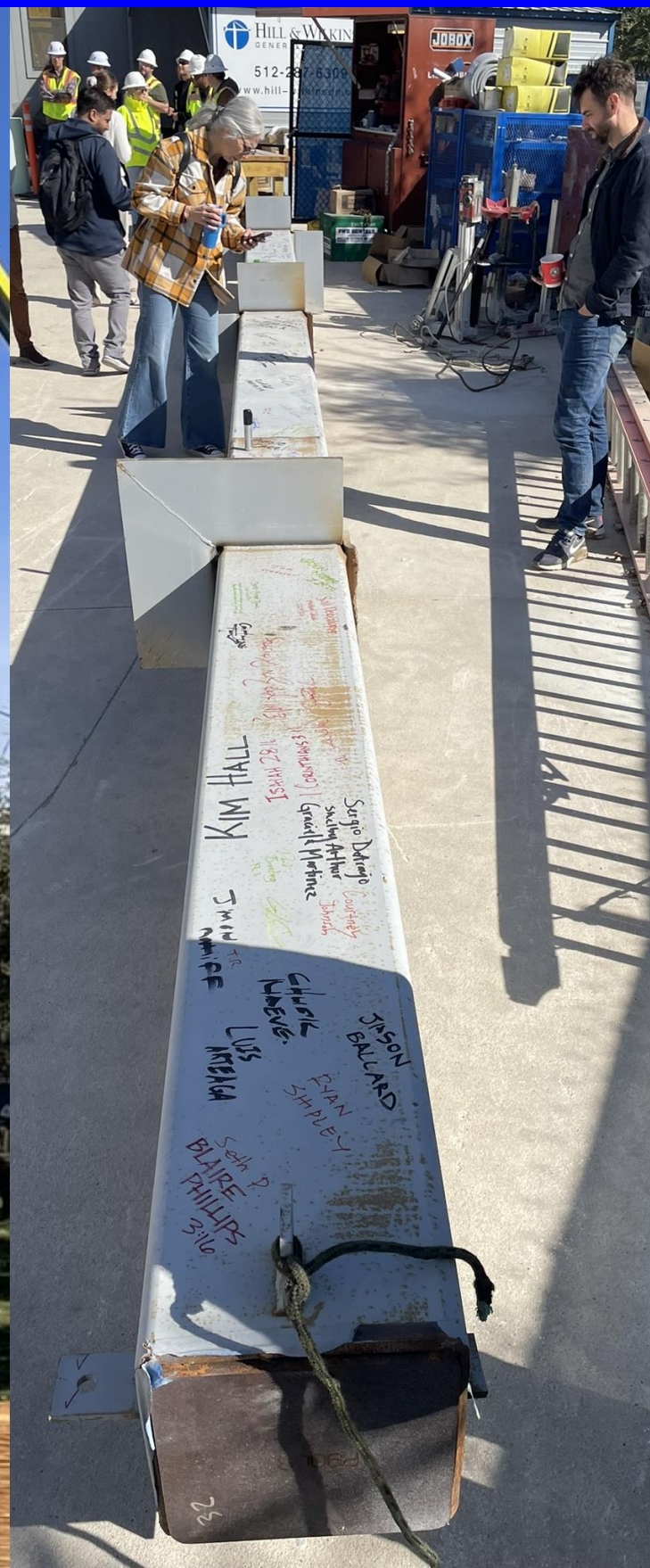
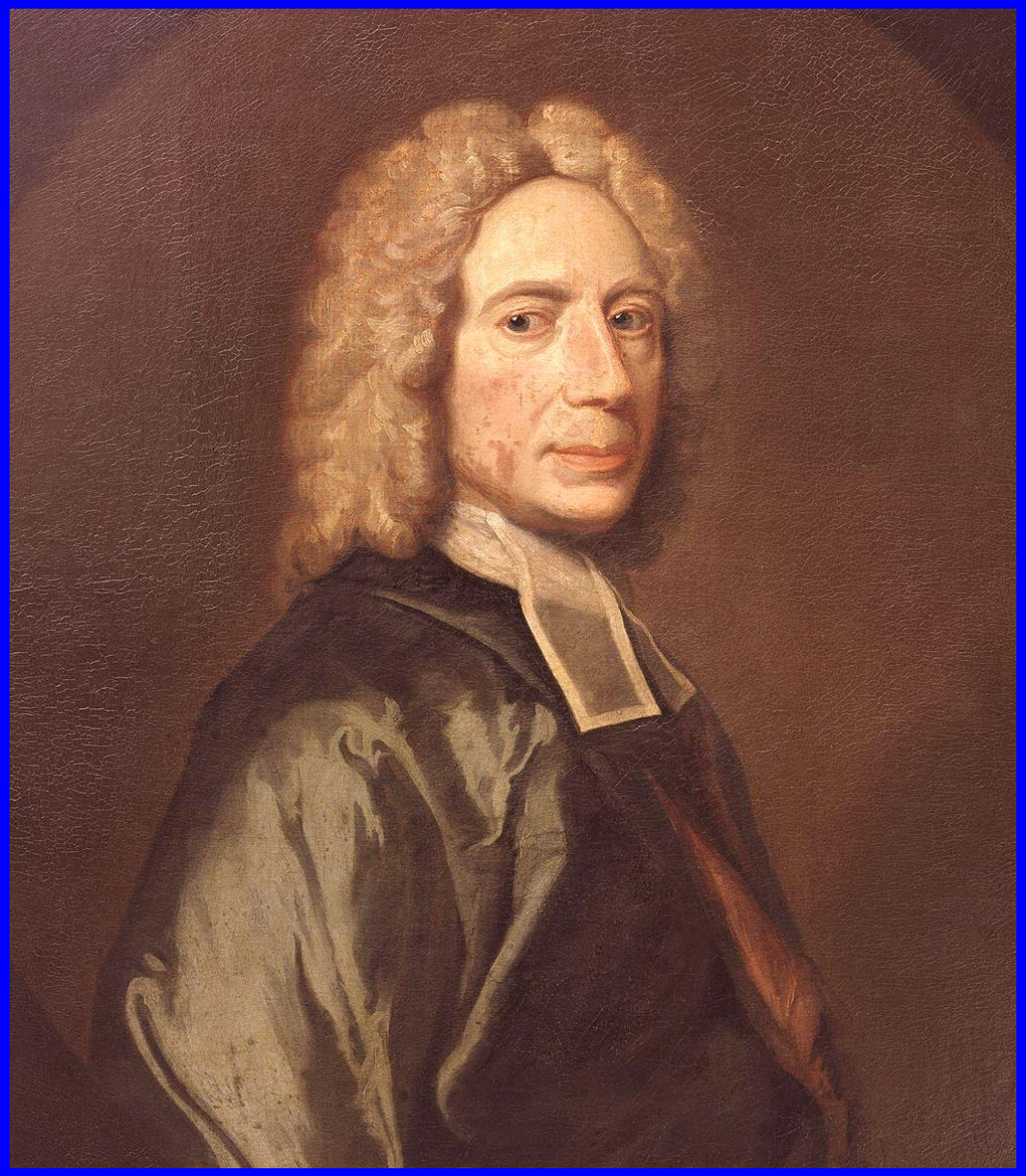


LENT
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

# WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

Isaac Watts (1707)



# WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

Isaac Watts (1707)

*When I survey the wonderous Cross*
*On which the Prince of Glory died,*
*My richest gain I count but loss*
*And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbit it, Lord, that I should boast,*
*Save in the death of Christ, my God;*
*All the vain things that charm me most*
*I sacrifice them to His blood.*

# WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

Isaac Watts (1707)

*See from His head, His hands, His feet,*
*Sorrow and love flow mingled down;*
*Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,*
*Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,*
*That were a present far too small;*
*Love so amazing, so divine*
*Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

50+ Special Events – 2026

Songs of Praise

Prayer & Scripture

*"Because You Asked"*

*3/1/26*

# Romans 8:26-27

*... the Spirit helps us in our weakness.*
*For we do not know what to pray for as we ought,*
*but the Spirit himself intercedes for us*
*with groanings too deep for words.*
*And he who searches hearts knows*
*what is the mind of the Spirit,*
*because the Spirit intercedes for the saints*
*according to the will of God.*

(ESV)

# New City Catechism

(thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism)

## Part 1—God, Creation & Fall, Law (Q1-Q20)

*3/1/26*

# New City Catechism

(thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism)

Part 1—God, Creation & Fall, Law (Q1-Q20)
Part 2—Christ, Redemption, Grace (Q21-Q35)

*3/1/26*

# New City Catechism

(thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism)

## Part 2—Christ, Redemption, Grace (Q21-Q35)

**Q21**: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

***A21**: One who is truly human and also truly God.*

# New City Catechism

(thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism)

## Part 2—Christ, Redemption, Grace (Q21-Q35)

**Q21**: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

***A21**: One who is truly human and also truly God.*

Isaiah 9:6

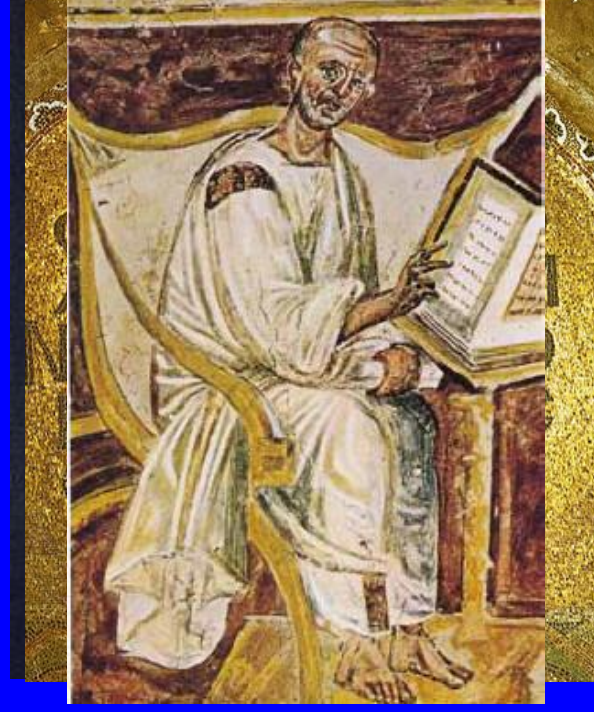
*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Augustine of Hippo

# New City Catechism

(thegospelcoalition.org/new-city-catechism)

## Augustine of Hippo



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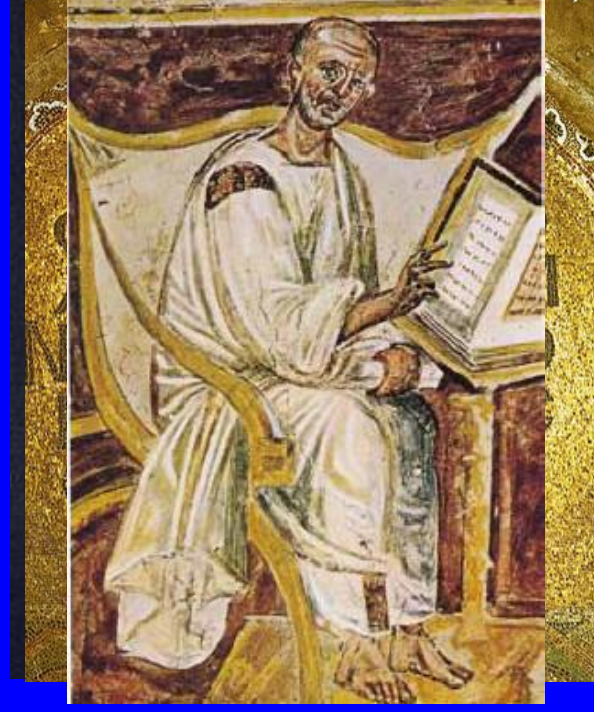

## Augustine of Hippo

*He who existed as the Son of God before all ages, without a beginning, deigned to become the Son of Man in these recent years. He did this although He who submitted to such great evils for our sake had done no evil and although we, who were the recipients of so much good at His hands, had done nothing to merit these benefits. Begotten by the Father, He was not made by the Father; He was made Man in the Mother whom He Himself had made, so that He might exist here for a while, sprung from her who could never and nowhere have existed except through His power.*

# Lesson Series

- 1/11/25 – *Because You Asked* – Infant Baptism
- 1/18 – Guest Teacher: Bill Laughlin—*Barnabas: Son of Encouragement*
- *1/25* – No Class (due to weather)

- 2/1 – Because You Asked – Angels & Their Abilities
- 2/8 – Because You Asked – Angels & Their Abilities – 2
- 2/15 – Because You Asked – Angels & Their Abilities – 3
- 2/22 – Because You Asked – Modern Israel

- ***3/1 – Because You Asked – Modern Israel – 2***
- 3/8– Guest Teacher: Bill Walker
- 3/15 – No Class (Spring Break)
- 3/22 –
- 3/29 –

- 4/5 – No Class (Easter)
- 4/12 –
- 4/19 –
- 4/26 –

# Lesson Series

- 5/3 – Guest Teacher:
- 5/10 – No Class (Mother's Day)
- 5/17 –
- 5/24 – No Class (Memorial Day Weekend)
- 5/31 –

- 6/7 – Guest Teacher:
- 6/8 –
- 6/14 –
- 6/21 –
- 6/28–

- 7/5 - 8/9 – No Class (Summer Break)

- 8/16 – Guest Teacher:
- 8/23 – Guest Teacher:
- 8/30 – Guest Teacher:

***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

1 - Have the Old Testament promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob been "transferred" to the Church?

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

1 - Have the Old Testament promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob been "transferred" to the Church?

- Gen 12.2-3—*" I will make of you a **great nation**...so that you will be a blessing. ... in you **all the families** of the earth shall be **blessed**."*
- Gen 13.15-16—*"...all the **land** that you see I will give to you and to your **offspring** forever. 16 I will make your offspring ... so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your **offspring** also can be counted."*
- Galatians 3:16—*"...the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ."*

- The Abrahamic promises terminate in Christ as the true Seed.
- Because Christ is the Seed, the promises to Abraham reach their goal *in him*, not apart from him
- **God's covenant promises to Abraham and his seed are fulfilled in Christ.** Thus, **all united to Christ by faith—Jew and Gentile—inherit those promises**.

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

1 - Have the Old Testament promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob been "transferred" to the Church?

- Matthew 5.5—*"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"* (echoing Ps 37:9, 11—*"…those who wait for the LORD … the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace"*)
- Hebrews 11.10, 13-16—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were *"…looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God…. These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one."*
- In Christ we inherit a **much Greater Land than Canaan**—it's globalized, transformed, renewed, and heavenly

***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

1 - Have the Old Testament promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob been "transferred" to the Church?

- Exodus 19.6—*"'…you shall be to me a **kingdom of priests** and a **holy nation**.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."*
- 1 Peter 2:9–10—believers *"… are a chosen race, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, a people for his own possession… Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people."*

- Christ's multiethnic **Church receives Israel's Covenant Identity** & Calling

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

1 - Have the Old Testament promises to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob been "transferred" to the Church?

- 2 Corinthians 1:20—*"…all the promises of God find their Yes in him"*
- Luke 22.20—*"This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood"*
- Hebrews 8-10—Jesus is the mediator of this better covenant, which brings to God's people forgiveness and his law written on their heart

- Christ is the true Seed of Abraham
- Believers united to him are Abraham's offspring and heirs
- … a Greater Land—globalized, transformed, renewed, heavenly
- Israel's covenant titles and promises extend to Christ's Church
- In **One Man** we have **one reconciled people of God**
- All God's promises find their "yes" in Jesus
- **In Christ, God's promises** are neither abolished nor merely transferred, but **fulfilled, deepened, intensified, and expanded**

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 9-11

*9.30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; 31 but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. 32 Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. …*

*11.1 I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God* ***has not rejected his people*** *whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? 3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." 4 But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." 5 So too* ***at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace****. 6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.*

***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11.7-16

*7 What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking.* ***The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened****, 8 as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day." …*

*11 So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather,* ***through [Israel's] trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous****. 12 Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!*

*13 Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry 14 in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. 15 For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? 16 If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.*

***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11.17-24

*But if some of the **branches were broken off**, and you, although a **wild olive shoot**, were **grafted in** among the others and now share in the nourishing **root of the olive tree**, do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. And even they, **if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in**, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.*

***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11.25-33

*Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of* ***this mystery****, brothers:* ***a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in****. And in this way* ***all Israel will be saved****, as it is written, "The Deliverer will come from Zion, he will banish ungodliness from Jacob"; "and this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins."*

*28 As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are* ***beloved for*** *the sake of* ***their forefathers****. For* ***the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable****. For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.*

*Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!* ***How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!***

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11

- Abrahamic promises extend to Christ & His Church
- Continuity with (ethnic) Israel, not full transfer or replacement.
- Believing Gentiles are grafted into Israel's covenantal "olive tree."
- We share its blessings—but be humble toward unbelieving Jews.
- The Olive Tree (v. 16–24) depicts God's people as a single, rooted entity—patriarchs (root) & Abrahamic covenant (nourishing sap).
- *'Natural branches'* (unbelieving Jews) are *'broken off due to unbelief,'* while *'wild branches'* (Gentiles) are *'grafted in'* through faith.
- Gentiles share in the "rich root" (promises to Abraham) but do not support it—Israel's heritage sustains them.
- This grafting fulfills the *"blessing to all nations"* (Gen 12:3)
- Israel's temporary *"stumble/rejection"* brings Gentile riches (v. 11, 15).

## 2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11

- Believers in Messiah/Christ (Jew & Gentile) inherit as one "Israel of faith," but the Olive Tree remains Israel's by divine promise.
- Seems to affirm God's unwavering faithfulness to (ethnic) Israel: they are *"beloved for the sake of their forefathers"* (v. 28), *"for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable"* (v. 29).
- A *"present remnant"* (v. 5) is carrying covenant promises forward.
- *"...all Israel will be saved"* (v. 26) after *"the fullness of the Gentiles has come in"* (v. 25)
  —likely meaning a large-scale Jewish turning to Christ so as to *"graft back in the natural branches"* (v. 23–24).
- Amplifies Abrahamic promises (v. 12) and global blessing.
- Rather than a total transfer, it shows promises rooted in Abraham-Israel, but *expanded* through Christ—Gentiles partake without becoming Israel or nullifying Jewish priority.

# ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11

| Aspect | Israel's Role | Gentiles' Role | Outcome for Promises |
|---|---|---|---|
| Olive Tree Root/Sap | Patriarchs & Covenants (e.g., land, seed, blessing) | Nourished by it | Continuity in Christ |
| Current Branches | Remnant believes, but many are hardened | Grafted in by faith | Shared inheritance (Gal 3:29 & Rom 11) |
| Future | Mass restoration | Provoke jealousy | Full Abrahamic blessing (Gen 12:3) in Christ |

- Balances the Church as Heirs (Galatians 3 & Ephesians 2) with Hope for Israel's future ingathering (Romans 11), yet all in Christ

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11 – Dispensational View

- Seeks a literal, future fulfillment to national Israel
- Counters the idea of a transfer or expansion of OT promises (e.g., land, seed, nationhood) from ethnic Israel to Christ & His Church
- Sees 2 people of God in sharp distinction: Israel & Church
- Church is not the heir or fulfillment of Israel's covenants, but a "parenthesis" in God's plan

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

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- Sees 2 people of God in sharp distinction: Israel & Church
- Church is not the heir or fulfillment of Israel's covenants, but a "parenthesis" in God's plan
- Abrahamic, Palestinian, Davidic, & New Covenant promises remain exclusively for ethnic Israel, and are to be realized physically in a future millennial kingdom.
- The promises of eternal land possession (Gen 17:8) & eternal Davidic throne (2 Sam 7) are unconditional & unfulfilled—"spiritualizing" these to the Church violates a "literal" interpretation
- Church enjoys spiritual blessings (new birth), not national ones

## ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11 – Dispensational View

- Proves Israel's enduring role: natural branches (Jews) are broken off temporarily for unbelief, while wild branches (Gentiles) are grafted into Israel's Olive Tree, where its root remains Abraham's covenants
- *"all Israel will be saved"* (Rom 11.26)—after Gentile fullness will be a national, ethnic restoration & regrafting of natural branches (Israel)
- *"for the sake of their forefathers … the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable"* (Rom 11.28-29)—ensures a future fulfillment

# ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

2 – Are these covenant promises to the ethnic Jewish people and thus are yet to be fulfilled?

Romans 11

| Aspect | Covenantal/Reformed View | Dispensational View |
|---|---|---|
| Romans 11 Salvation | Mass ethnic Jewish conversion to Christ to join Church near history's end (Rom 11.25-26; Isa 59.20) | National repentance during and after Tribulation, with Christ's millennial kingdom on earth for restored Israel (Rom 11.25-27; Zech 13.1) |
| Land Promise | Spiritualized/fulfilled in Christ & new creation (Heb 11.10; Rev 21) | Literal, future possession by ethnic Israel (Gen 15.18-21; Deut 30.1-5) |
| Kingdom | Inaugurated spiritually now. Consummated (one people of God) at Christ's return | Future, literal 1000-year reign with Israel at the center (Rev 20.1-6; Isa 2.2-4) |

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- Dispensational View—
  God's faithfulness requires a literal fulfillment of national Israel to avoid accusing him of breaking his covenant promises.

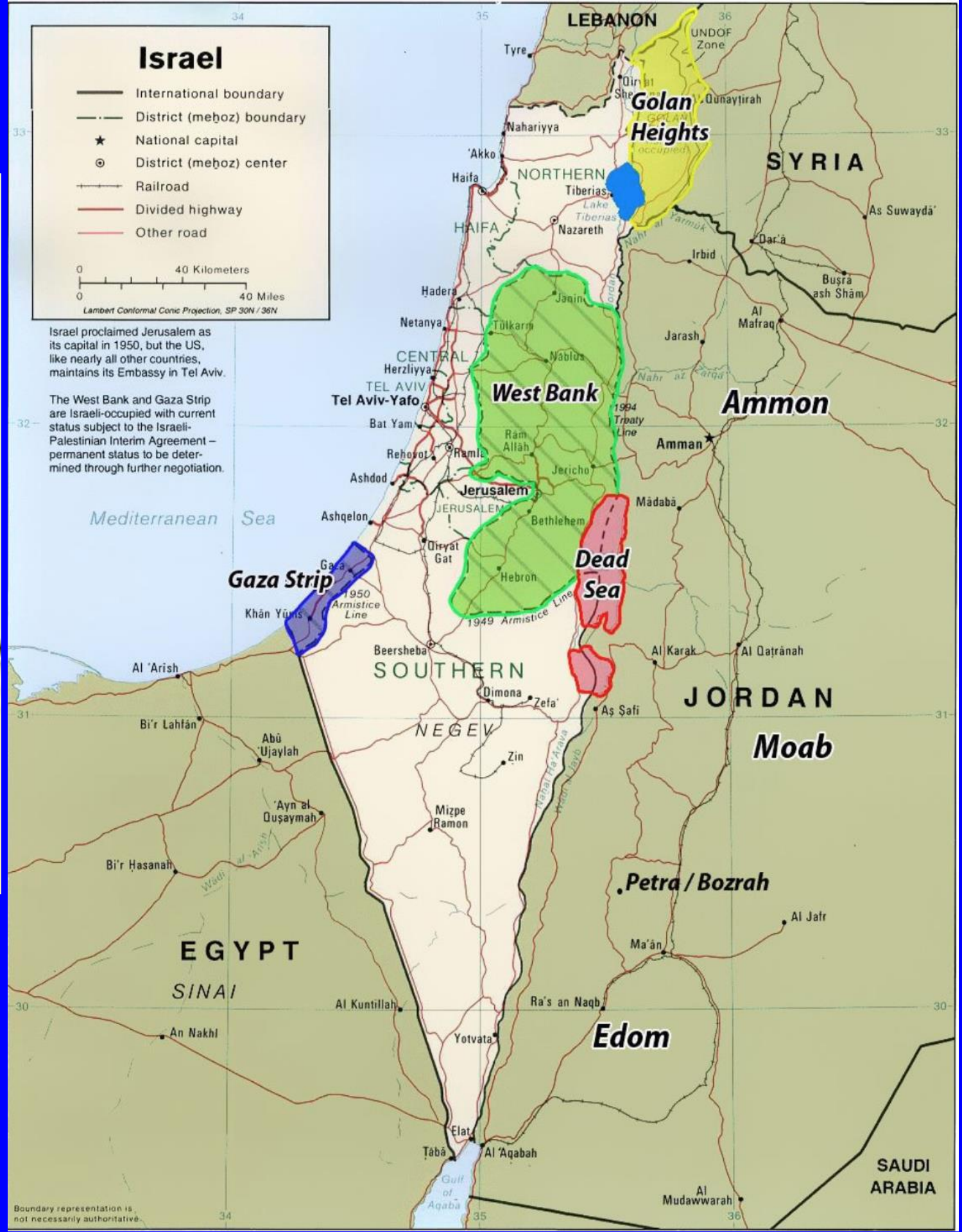
3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

## 3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

Regardless of whether you tend toward a Covenantal or Dispensational perspective theologically, given the multitude of countries for Arab Muslims to live in a strong "majority population," it is persuasive from a *humanitarian* viewpoint for the Jewish people to have a place where they can do the same, especially given the long history of persecution they've suffered and the large numbers today who publicly advocate for their genocide.

# Israel Today

- 1948 – Israel birthed from a British Mandate & UN Resolution. Since, it has defended against many threats and invasions.



## 3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

Context

2025 World Populations

| | |
|---|---|
| TOTAL: | 7.9 B |
| Christian: | 2.4 B (~31%) |
| Muslim: | 2.0 B (~25%) |
| Hindu: | 1.1 B (~15%) |
| None: | 1.1 B (~15%) |
| Folk/Ethnic: | 0.7 B (~9%) |
| Buddhist: | 0.5 B (~6%) |
| Other: | 0.1 B (~1%) |

# 3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

## Context

Population of Jews - Worldwide

- 1933: 15.3 M (9 M in Europe)
- 1939: 16.6 M
- 1945: 11 M
- 2026: 15.8 M

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Population of Jews - Worldwide

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Population – in Israel

- 1950: 1.37 M
  - Jew: 1.2 M (87.8%). Muslim: 116K (8.5%). Christian: 36K (2.6%).
- 2026: 10.2 M
  - Jew: 7.6 M (~75%). Muslim: 2.1 M (~20%). Christian: 210 K (~2%)

Population of Jews – in USA

- 2026: 7.5 M (~2.5% of USA)

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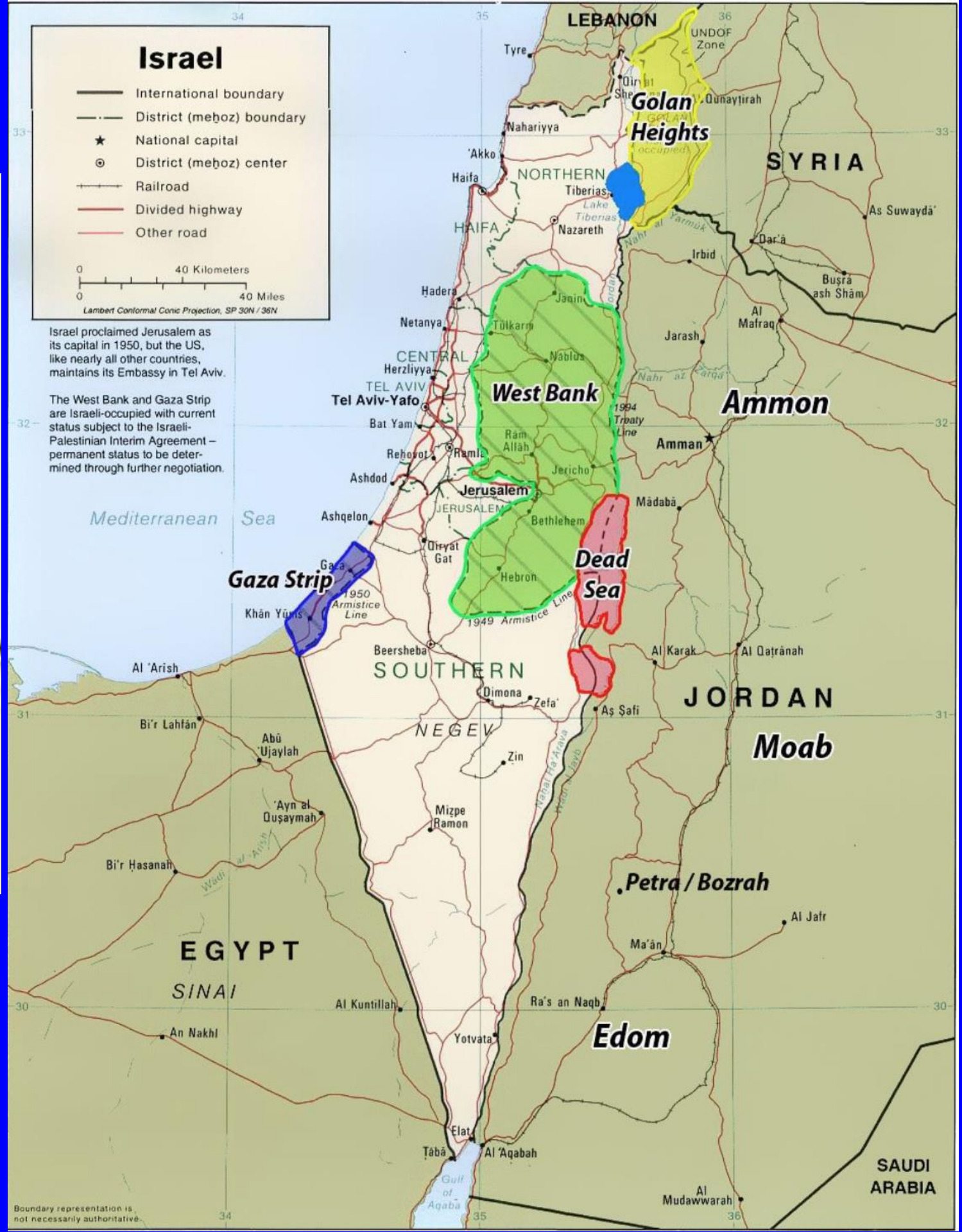
# Israel Today

- 1948 – Israel birthed from a British Mandate & UN Resolution. Since, it has defended against many threats and invasions.



# ***Because You Asked*** – Modern Israel

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| **Scripture – *Phrase*** | **Geographic Area Today** |
|---|---|
| Gen. 15:18. Exod. 23.31.<br>*– from the of river Egypt / Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the great river Euphrates* | Egypt's Sinai, up the Mediterranean coasts of Israel, Lebanon, Syria & Turkey;<br>from the N Red Sea, across N Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq, Syria & W Turkey |
| Gen. 15:18. Deut. 11.24. Josh. 1.4.<br>*– from the wilderness to the Lebanon, from the River Euphrates to the Great / western Sea* | From Egypt's Sinai to Israel to Lebanon. SW Syria. SW Turkey. W Iraq. Jordan. N Saudi Arabia. |
| Gen. 17.8. Num. 34.1-12.<br>*– all the land of Canaan* | Israel. West Bank. Gaza. NW Jordan.<br>Parts of Lebanon & SW Syria. |
| Deut. 1.7. Num. 34.7-9. Ezek. 47.15-17. –<br>*this Lebanon … "Lebo-hamath"* | Southern & Central Lebanon, into SW Syria. |
| Num. 32.33. Josh. 1.12-15. Josh. 13.8-12.<br>*– land east of the Jordan*<br>(Reuben, Gad, ½ of Manasseh) | NW Jordan.<br>Gilead, parts of the Transjordan plateau. |

- From the generation of Joshua, at least some descendants of Abraham-Israel have remained in the Holy Land

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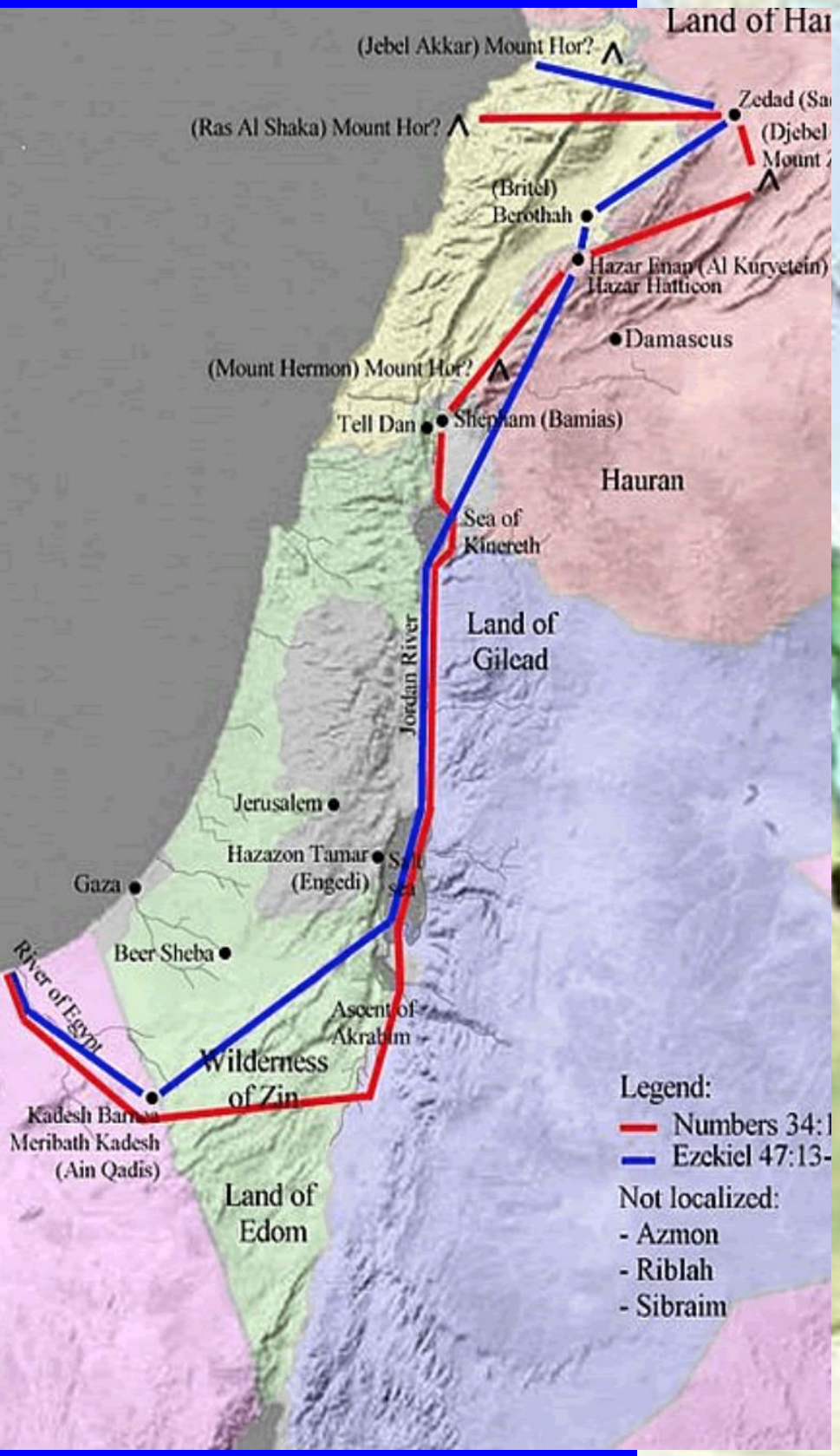

# Israel & Neighbors

* * *

# 1948 to Today

| 1948 | Jewish Population | 2025 | Muslim Population | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 265,000 | MOROCCO | 2500 | 37 M | (99+%) |
| 140,000 | ALGERIA | 1000 | 45 M | (~99%) |
| 150,000 | TUNISIA | 1500 | 12 M | (~99%) |
| 38,000 | LIBYA | 0 | 6.9 M | (~99%) |
| 75,000 | EGYPT | < 10 | 105 M | (~95%) |
| 55,000 | YEMEN | < 10 | 32 M | (~99%) |
| 150,000 | IRAQ | < 5 | 44 M | (~98%) |
| 40,000 | SYRIA | < 10 | 21 M | (~90+%) |
| 20,000 | LEBANON | 100 | 3.8 M | (~65%) |
| * * * | * * * | * * * | | |
| 156,000 | MUSLIMS in ISRAEL | 2,178,000 (~20%) | | |

JORDAN
0% Jews
98% Muslim
2% Christian

SAUDI ARABIA
0% Jews
99+% Muslim
(35 M)

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| * * * | * * * | * * * | | | |
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From 1948 to 2025, the population of—
-Jews in Arab Countries DECREASED by > 99%
-Arabs in Israel INCREASED by ~ 1,300%

## 3 - How should we Christians view the modern nation-state of Israel?

Regardless of whether you tend toward a Covenantal or Dispensational perspective theologically, given the multitude of countries for Arab Muslims to live in a strong "majority population," it is persuasive from a *humanitarian* viewpoint for the Jewish people to have a place where they can do the same, especially given the long history of persecution they've suffered and the large numbers today who publicly advocate for their genocide.

Next Class – March 8, 2026

Prayer