

FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ Sunday, March 3rd, 2024



Part 3: “Keep Your Eye...On Israel”

The Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 12:1-3

1. The Promises of the Covenant

- a. To make Abraham a _____ – 12:2a
- b. To _____ Abraham and make his name great – 12:2b
- c. To make Abraham a _____ – 12:2c
- d. To _____ those who blessed Abraham and _____ those who cursed him – 12:3

2. The Features of the Covenant

- a. _____ – Gen. 15:7-21

“To establish and confirm a covenant in Abram’s day, usually the two parties would walk between the pieces of the sacrificial animals, saying, in effect, “May what has happened to these creatures happen to me if I break the covenant. Because this was Yahweh’s sovereign covenant with Abraham, not an agreement between equals, symbols of God (a smoking oven and a burning torch) passed between those pieces; Abram did not. The Lord made the covenant with not conditions – independent of Abram – and He would fulfill it in His time.”

~ Jeremiah Study Bible

- b. _____

- c. _____

- d. _____ – Deut. 11:12

- e. _____ – Zech. 2:8

- f. _____

- g. _____



Resources

At the Tower (beside the Welcome Center):

Prophetic Chart (based on the book of Revelation)

In Fellowship Café

What's Next? Israel – Gaza War – Connecting Today's Headlines to Tomorrow's Prophetic Events

Israel on High Alert – How Conflict and Wars in the Middle East are Setting the Stage for the End Times

Israel and the Church – An Israeli Examines God's Unfolding Plans For His Chosen Peoples

Basic Bible Prophecy – Essential Facts Every Christian Should Know

Bible Prophecy – The Essentials: Answers to Your Most Common Questions

The 8 Great Debates About Bible Prophecy

The End-Times in Chronological Order – A Complete Overview to Understanding Bible Prophecy

Assault on the Image of God – Understanding and Responding to Attacks on the Bible, Human Life, and the Church

The Last Hour – An Israeli Insider Looks at The End Times

Pray for Israel

1. That God will limit the evil efforts and impact of the attackers and their sponsors.
2. That He would protect all those who have been touched by this attack—the families of those killed, those injured, and those who have been taken hostage.
3. That God would bring to pass the deliverance of many who have been taken hostage.
4. That God would protect the men and women of the Israel Defense Forces, some of whom are brothers and sisters in Christ, and that He will take care of their loved ones in their absence and strengthen them for the difficult days ahead.
5. That He will provide safety and ministry blessing for all our evangelical ministry partners in Israel—messianic assemblies, ministry organizations (e.g., Friends of Israel, Jews for Jesus, Chosen People Ministries, etc.).
6. That God would provide wisdom for Israel's leaders, both political and military
7. That this region which has known such violence would soon know peace (Ps. 122:8).
8. That God will use this tragic moment in Israel's history to awaken many to the truth of the Gospel and that many will come to faith in the Messiah; that believing soldiers or believing hostages would share the life-transforming message of the Gospel to those around them.
9. Also, pray broadly for Jews and Palestinians who have been impacted by these events.

Next Week: We'll Begin **40 Days Through Bible Prophecy**

Using the daily devotional book: [40 Days Through Bible Prophecy –](#)

[A Panoramic Survey of the End Times and Beyond](#)

Books are available for pick up in the lobby (\$5 donation)

Growth Groups Study Guide for the Week of March 3rd – 10th

Reminder:

- Reminder: Next Sunday is Time Change Sunday. Also, we'll be starting our 40 Days Through Bible Prophecy part of this series. We're using Ron Rhodes 40 Day Devotional book, 40 Days Through Bible Prophecy - A Panoramic Survey of the End Times and Beyond. We'll kick-off Day 1 of these readings on Monday, March 11th. You can get your copy in the lobby.
- Next Sunday night is our next Praise & Prayer Service at 6:00 p.m. Our special guest will be Pastor Eddie Passmore, Executive Director of Mexico Caravan Ministries.

Group Discussion:

What do you believe Israel is always in the news? What does this tell us about Israel?

Digging Deeper:

1. On Sunday morning we reviewed what is called the Abrahamic Covenant found in Genesis 12:1-3. READ this passage and review both the Promises and the Features of the Covenant listed on the front page of the notes. Discuss any thoughts or questions anyone has.
2. Read the article below and discuss the questions that follow at the end of each section.

What is Israel's role in the end times?

Every time there is a conflict in or around Israel, many see it as a sign of the quickly approaching end times. The problem with this is that we may eventually tire of the conflict in Israel, so much so that we will not recognize when true, prophetically significant events occur. Conflict in Israel is not necessarily a sign of the end times. Conflict in Israel has been a reality whenever Israel has existed as a nation. Whether it was the Egyptians, Amalekites, Midianites, Moabites, Ammonites, Amorites, Philistines, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, or Romans, the nation of Israel has always been persecuted by its neighbors. **Why do you think this is?**

According to the Bible, it is because God has a special plan for the nation of Israel, and Satan wants to defeat that plan. Satanically influenced hatred of Israel—and especially Israel's God—is the reason Israel's neighbors have always wanted to see Israel destroyed. Whether it is Sennacherib, king of Assyria; Haman, official of Persia; Hitler, leader of Nazi Germany; or Rouhani, President of Iran, attempts to completely destroy Israel will always fail. The persecutors of Israel will come and go, but the persecution will remain until the second coming of Christ. As a result, conflict in Israel is not a reliable indicator of the soon arrival of the end times. **Discuss why Satan wants the destruction of Israel, before Christ came, and since then, in light of the Abrahamic Covenant.**

The Bible does say there will be terrible conflict in Israel during the end times. That is why the time period is known as the Tribulation, the Great Tribulation (the second 3 ½ years of the tribulation), and the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). Here is what the Bible says about Israel in the end times:

1. There will be a mass return of Jews to the land of Israel – READ Deuteronomy 30:3; Isaiah 43:6; Ezekiel 34:11-13; 36:24; 37:1-14). **How have we seen this occur since 1948? NOTE: There is now more Jews living in the land of Israel than the rest of the world combined.**
2. The Antichrist will make a 7-year covenant of "peace" with Israel – READ Isaiah 28:18; Daniel 9:27.
3. The temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem – READ Daniel 9:27; Matt. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:3-4; Revelation 11:1.

4. The Antichrist will break his covenant with Israel (at the midway point of the Tribulation), and worldwide persecution of Israel will result under the Antichrist's leadership – Read Daniel 9:27; 12:1, 11; Zechariah 11:16; Matthew 24:15, 21; Revelation 12:13. Israel will be invaded (Ezekiel chapters 38-39).

5. Israel will finally recognize Jesus as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10). Israel will be regenerated, restored, and regathered – Read Jeremiah 33:8; Ezekiel 11:17; Romans 11:26.

There is much turmoil in Israel today. Israel is persecuted, surrounded by enemies—Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, etc. But this hatred and persecution of Israel is only a hint of what will happen in the end times (Matthew 24:15-21). The latest round of persecution began when Israel was reconstituted as a nation in 1948. Many Bible prophecy scholars believed the six-day Arab-Israeli war in 1967 was the "beginning of the end." Could what is taking place in Israel today indicate that the end is near? Yes. Does it necessarily mean the end is near? No. Jesus Himself said it best, "Watch out that no one deceives you. . . . You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come" (Matthew 24:4-6).

Information Provided by gotquestions.org

- Discuss the Chart below providing a timeline for both the church and Israel from the beginning of the Church Age (the Cross) and moving into the end times. The church's path is above the red timeline, and Israel's path is below the red timeline.

THE CHURCH AND ISRAEL

FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CHURCH (ACTS 1-2) THRU THE MILLENNIUM (REV. 19-20)

First Stage of Jesus' Return
For the Church - in the Air
(Rapture)



Second Stage of Jesus' Return
For Judgement – on the earth
(Second Coming)



Church Age (current) >

**ISRAEL – In unbelief.
Set aside in favor of the
Church til the Tribulation.
Scattered until 1948
(regathering in progress).**

Tribulation (7 Yrs.) >

**ISRAEL – Regathered before
the Tribulation in Unbelief
(Ez. 20:33-38; 22:17-22; 36:22-24
Is. 11:11-12; Zeph. 2:1-2; Ez. 38-39)**

Millennium (1,000 yrs.) >

**ISRAEL – Regathered before the
Millennium in Belief
(Deut. 4:29-31; 30:1-10
Is. 27:12-13; 43:5-7; Jer. 16: 14-15;
Believing Israel (those saved)
will enter the Millennium under
Christ's rule fulfilling God's
promises to them.**

Wrapping Up / Closing in Prayer

Provided with these notes is a prayer list for Israel. God wants us to pray for Israel, so spend time in prayer for the nation of Israel and especially for the current trouble she is dealing with from the enemies around her.