

Genesis, part 34 – The “Promised Land,” part 3 – The Rebirth of the State of Israel: God Does the Miraculous (Ezekiel 37:21-25)

“How can you be so sure God exists?”

“The Jews!”

The continuation of the Jewish people down through the centuries is miraculous – pure and simple!

No other people in history has ever been scattered throughout the world for 2000 years like the Jewish people – and survived as a people.

No other people in history has ever been displaced from their homeland for 2000 years– and gotten their homeland back – like the Jewish people.

No other language in history has ever died out as a living, spoken language and been revived as a living, spoken language – except Hebrew!

Bible: “God isn’t finished with the Jewish people yet.”

#1 – Because of their rejection of Christ, God has moved the Jewish people “**offstage**” for now

#2 – God has placed the church “**center stage**” in His dealings with mankind for now

#3 – One day, the Church Age will end (Rapture) and God will restore the Jewish people to “**center stage**” and will fulfill **every promise** He ever made to them.

We call this theological understanding of the Bible “**dispensationalism.**”

One of the most foundational of all the promises God made to the Jewish people is found in Genesis 15 – where God **promised** to give the land of Canaan to them.

With the exception of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the rebirth of the modern state of Israel is one of **the** most miraculous things God has done since the Creation of the world.

In the book of Genesis, God promised to give the land of Canaan to Abraham’s descendants through Isaac and then Jacob.

After the Exodus from Egypt, God gave the Jewish people part of the total land grant He had promised them.

“When the house of Israel was living in their own land, they defiled it by their ways and their deeds. Therefore, I will pour out my wrath on them . . . and scatter them among the nations and disperse them throughout the lands.” Ezekiel 36:17, 18

“When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is at hand . . . and there will be great distress upon this land [Israel] and wrath on this people [Jewish people] . . . and they will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive into all the nations.” Luke 21:20, 24

“Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘when it will no longer be said, “As the LORD lives who brought the Israelites out of Egypt,” but, “As the LORD lives who brought the Israelites from . . . all the countries where He had banished them.” For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers.” Jeremiah 16:14, 15

“Thus says the sovereign LORD, ‘I will take the children of Israel from among the nations where they have gone and bring them into their own land . . . and they shall live on the land that I gave to Jacob my servant – they, their sons and their sons’ sons **forever.**” Ezekiel 37: 21, 25

“I will restore My people Israel, and they will rebuild their ruined cities and live in them; I will plant them on their land and they will never again be rooted out from their land which I have given them,’ says the LORD.” Amos 9:14

“Therefore, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the sovereign LORD, “It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of My holy name. For all the nations will know that I am the sovereign LORD, for I will prove Myself mighty in their sight. For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from every land, and bring you back into your own land . . . I, the LORD, have spoken this and I will do it.”’” Ezekiel 36:22-24, 36

“**Zionism**” = the movement to give the Jewish people a country of their own

“His Majesty’s government views with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use its best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this objective.”

Balfour Declaration

“Great Britain should place the country [of Palestine] under such political, administrative, and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home.” League of Nations endorsement of the Balfour Declaration

“The White Paper” (1939) canceled all Jewish immigration into Palestine and capitulated to every Arab demand.

“This is a breach; it is a violation of our pledge; it is the abandonment of the Balfour Declaration; and it is the end of the vision, the hope, and the dream.” Winston Churchill

In November, 1947, the United Nations voted to partition Palestine and to create the modern state of Israel.

On May 15, 1948, Israel declared its independence and – immediately – 300 million Arabs declared war on Israel.

On May 15, 1948 – a mere eleven minutes after Israel declared its independence – President Truman officially recognized the new Jewish state.

Thus, for sixty-five years now, the United States has been the greatest friend and supporter that Israel has ever had!

“God put you in your mother’s womb so you could be the instrument to bring about the rebirth of Israel after two thousand years.” Chief Rabbi of Israel (1949)

“The LORD God of heaven has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and has charged me to build Him a house in Jerusalem.” Ezra 1:2

“To the people of Israel, you are the modern King Cyrus.” Chief Rabbi of Israel (1949)

The birth of the modern state of Israel in 1948 was not a coincidence or a lucky break – but the fulfillment of God’s unconditional, eternal, unbreakable promise to Abraham.

“. . . It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of My holy name . . . so the nations will know that I am the LORD, for I will prove Myself mighty in their sight. For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from every land, and bring you back into your own land.”
Ezekiel 36:22, 24

We understand that what we have today is “unbelieving” Israel in the Land . . .

- **Which means**, that all of Israel’s actions are not biblical and godly
- **Which means**, that we do not automatically support every action that Israel takes

But what we do support is Israel’s right to exist and to own the land of Canaan as their God-given entitlement.

So What?

“What does the rebirth of the nation of Israel teach us spiritually?”

“It teaches us that there is a totally sovereign God running the universe!”

“God is sovereign” means: that God wields a power that cannot be overruled, overcome or resisted

“The LORD is great and **sovereign** above all; whatever the LORD pleases, He does.” Psalm 135:5

“My purposes **shall be** established, and **I will** accomplish My good pleasure.” Isaiah 46:10

“God does according to His will with the host of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth – and no one can ward off His hand.” Daniel 4:35

“It is He who sets kings up and who takes kings down.” Daniel 2:21

To say that God is “**sovereign**” is to say that He is actively running everything in the universe according to His personal pleasure, will, and plan!

As followers of Christ, this is an essential truth for us – not just to **know** in our heads – but to **believe** in our hearts!

As followers of Christ, the **only way** for us to stay spiritually steady and keep the joy of our salvation (Psalm 51:12), is for us to rest **in the sovereignty of God!**