**Will Israel Rise Again?**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday June 13th, 2021

Text: Galatians 3:26-29

***Introduction***

1. Whenever Israel is in the news, either being attacked or on the attack, many people ask, “Will Israel be restored to their land?”
	1. World leaders and preachers in the religious world watch world events and even make political moves, all believing Israel as it exists today will still play a part in God’s plan.
	2. Premillennialists: Events fulfill prophecy, Christ to rule 1,000 years in restored Israel.
	3. The purpose of this lesson is not to take on the Premillennial doctrine but to focus on the issue on people’s minds: “Will Israel rise again?”
2. Current events get people excited that Israel will be restored to their land…
	1. In 1948 State of Israel formed – Many claimed prophecy was being fulfilled!
	2. The 1967 6-Days War with Egypt & their Arab Alliance tripled their land area.
		1. <https://www.jewishhistory.org/the-six-day-war/#:~:text=On%20Monday%20morning%2C%20June%205%2C%201967%2C%20the%20war,and%20Jerusalem%2C%20destroying%20the%20enemy%20with%20impunity%2C%20etc>.
	3. The Gaza War of 2008-2009 with Hamas (a terrorist group who took control of the Gaza Strip in 2007) ended with many claiming Israel won the war but Hamas won the Public Relations War.
		1. <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R40101.pdf>
	4. The 2014 50-Days War with Hamas brought about a tenuous peace with Palestine.
		1. <https://jcpa.org/the-gaza-war-2014/timeline-key-moments-gaza-war/>
	5. The 2021 (last month in May) 11-Days War with Hamas ended with heavy casualties on the Gaza Strip and a Cease Fire.
		1. <https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/israel-unleashes-strikes-vowing-press-gaza-77796552>
	6. Whenever these current events were happening many preachers and world leaders were teaching that prophecies concerning Israel were about to be fulfilled and they would be restored to their ancestral land! They say, “Stand with Israel,” “End times are near!”
3. **Galatians 3:26-29:** The blessings promised to Abraham were fulfilled in Christ; not land!
4. The promises to Israel were fulfilled and the nations were blessed in Jesus Christ!
5. **God Fulfilled the Covenant to Abraham**
6. **Gen. 12:1-3** God’s Covenant Included Three Promises to Abraham’s Descendants…
	1. **Vs. 1:** Land Promise: Canaan
	2. **Vs. 2:** Nation promise: Israel
	3. **Vs. 3:** Seed promise *(Gen. 22:18):* Bless men of all nations (fulfilled in Christ)
7. **Joshua 21:43-45:** Land Promised Fulfilled
	1. God GAVE the land (21:43)
	2. Israel POSSESSED the land (21:43)
	3. Israel LIVED in the land (21:43)
	4. Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed (21:45)
	5. **Deut. 28-30; Josh. 23:14-16:** Possession of the Land Conditional! Moses set before them life and death, the blessing and the curse. He encouraged them to choose life and the blessing. Joshua urged them to remain faithful to God!
8. **Exodus 19:6:** Nation Promise Fulfilled – “A kingdom of priests, a holy nation”
	1. When God gave them His laws at Sinai, He was establishing His covenant with them as a nation!
	2. A nation came out of Egypt and crossed the Jordan River into Canaan (Joshua 3:17; 5:6)
	3. Israel as a nation transgressed God’s covenant and would be judged (Judges 2:20)
	4. David asked, “And what one nation in the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make You a name by great and terrible things, in driving out nations from before Your people, whom You redeemed out of Egypt?” (I Chronicles 17:21)
	5. Paul said he was “circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;” (Philippians 3:5)
9. This shows that Israel was a nation before the exile and after the exile, for Saul of Tarsus, who become the Apostle Paul, was born “of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin.”
10. The first two promises made to Abraham were fulfilled by the time of Joshua!
11. **Christ Is the Ultimate Fulfillment of the Covenant with Abraham**
12. The Seed Promise
	1. The seed of woman (Gen. 3:15)
	2. The seed of Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3; 22:18)
	3. The seed of David (II Sam. 7:11-14)
13. **Galatians 3:16:** Christ Is Abraham’s Seed
	1. The gospel of Matthew begins by telling us Jesus is the fulfillment of the seed (son) of David and the seed (son) of Abraham (Matthew 1:1)
	2. Matthew further tells us Jesus is the seed of woman by a virgin birth by the Holy Spirit, fulfilling prophecy of Isaiah 7:14 (Matthew 1:18-25).
14. **Gal. 3:26-29:** United with Christ, saints Become Abraham’s Seed! Children of promise!
	1. **Gal. 6:15-16:** Christians are the New Israel
15. Jesus fulfilled the seed promise and saints that put on Jesus through baptism are the heirs of the promise to Abraham!
16. **What Remains to be Fulfilled for Fleshly Israel?**
	* + 1. **Jer. 19:10-15:** Physical Israel Cannot Be Restored – Shattered like the jar Jeremiah broke in their sight.
				1. Jewish people will be scattered among the nations, but not ever a nation as they once were!
				2. A remnant would return, but not a physical ruler from line of David in Judah! (Ezra 1:1-3)
				3. *In the Intertestament period, the Maccabees ruled, but were of the tribe of Levi.*
			2. **Jer. 22:28-30:** God told Jeremiah to write King Jeconiah (Coniah) “childless.”
				1. He did have children (I Chr. 3:17-18) but they would not rule, and further, God said, through Jeremiah, that no descendant of Coniah would prosper ruling from the throne of David in Judah!
				2. Jesus is of the line of David through Jeconiah! In exile Jeconiah had Shealtiel, by whom Jesus physically descended (Matthew 1:11-12).
				3. Jesus has the right to rule from the throne of David, but He cannot rule in Judah and prosper. This means Jesus cannot have a prosperous earthly reign from Jerusalem for a thousand years!
				4. Jesus does rule now from the Throne of David but over a spiritual kingdom from a Heavenly Rule! (Luke 1:32-33; Acts 2:29-36)
			3. **Matthew 21:43:** Jesus foretold that their kingdom was removed from them and given to a people producing the fruit of it.
				1. AD 66-73 Jewish Revolt: In AD 70 Jerusalem destroyed and the temple burned, “not one stone left upon another” (Matthew 24:2).
				2. AD 132-135 Jewish revolt under Emperor Hadrian: Jews dispersed, the whole land of Judea renamed to Palestine (Land of the Philistines).
				3. U.N. treaty of 1948: A small portion of the land given back to Israel.
			4. **Gal. 3:26-29:** The blessings promised to Abraham have been fulfilled, the nation and land promise fulfilled long ago, and the seed promise fulfilled in Jesus! ***No other promises to be fulfilled that were made to Abraham!***
				1. Jews Restored to God in Jesus Christ! Citizens of Jesus’ spiritual kingdom.
			5. The Jews that are saved are made up of those that have obeyed the gospel through faith, been baptized into Christ for forgiveness of sins, the same as the Gentiles (Acts 2:37-38, 41; Acts 10:48; 11:18)!

***Conclusion***

1. Both Jew and Gentile alike are called by the gospel and saved by faith through grace *(Eph. 2:8-9; Gal. 3:8-9),* are called Christians *(Acts 11:26)* and are in the church *(Eph. 3:6)!*
2. One last promise: Both Jew & Gentile wait for the promise of Jesus to return again for judgment & reward (Mt. 25:31-46; Heb. 9:27-28) – Christians need to be prepared!
3. All men must seek to be a part of the church in this life – God’s chosen people, royal priesthood, and holy nation! (I Peter 2:9-10) – Are you ready?
4. If not a Christian, you need to be! Repent and be baptized!
5. If a Christian in error, don’t wait for “that one day” to come, but repent and seek forgiveness!
6. Whatever your requests, let them be known ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!