



David W. Cloud

JEWVS
IN FIGHTER
JETS

ISRAEL

Past, Present, and Future

Jews in Fighter Jets: Israel Past, Present, and Future

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SAMPLE

Every time I visit Israel, I feel as if the place is vibrating, as it were, in anticipation of the fulfillment of prophecy. *The stage is set!*

PowerPoints and Teaching Tips

Jews in Fighter Jets is a package consisting of a book and a series of PowerPoint presentations to illustrate the material.

It is designed to be studied privately or to be used as a training course for Sunday School, home schooling, Bible Institute, Bible conferences, and any similar setting.

It can be used as a stand-alone Bible course or as a supplement to other courses and studies.

Basically, the PowerPoint presentations are a graphical edition of the book. That's why we publish it as a package. The 16 presentations are packed with more than 2,650 high quality color photos, drawings, historic recreations, and video clips. A majority were taken on location in Israel and other countries and in museums.

Jews in Fighter Jets covers the past 2,500 years of the history of the most important and amazing nation on earth, the only nation directly created by God and called by God "my people," the nation to whom "were committed the oracles of God" and "of whom, as concerning the flesh Christ came" (Romans 3:2; 9:5).

The author has been studying Israel for 45 years and has visited Israel multiple times, traveling from the Red Sea to Mt. Hermon. For starters, I have traveled the entire length of the Jordan River, taken a boat entirely around the Sea of Galilee, observed the Plain of Megiddo from a hot air balloon, and gone to many places where tourists never go. I've interviewed Netafim engineers and Biobee representatives, toured banana, mango, and dairy farms, visited many of the kibbutzim and a great number of Israel's museums.

The book/course is divided into three major sections:

Israel Past: 2,500 Years of Fulfilled Prophecy. This section documents the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy of Deuteronomy 28. It covers the Assyrian captivity, the Babylonian captivity, the Syrian wars (the Maccabees), the Jewish-Roman wars (AD 70 and 135), the Emperor Hadrian's

role in attempting to eradicate Israel, Roman coins depicting Bible prophecies, the 2000-year Diaspora, including Hitler's Final Solution and his little-known plan to destroy the Jews in Palestine, synagogues, the Talmud, and Kabbalah.

Israel Present: The Modern State of Israel. This section covers the amazing Ezekiel 37 prophecy of Israel's return to the land in a spiritually-dead condition in preparation for the fulfillment of the last seven years of Daniel's 70 Weeks. We cover the little known prayer movement of the 19th century that focused on the return of Israel to her land (including Charles Spurgeon's role in that), the Zionist movement, the early kibbutzim, the Balfour Declaration, the fall of Palestine to Britain, the British Mandate, the Haganah, the founding of the state of Israel, the War of Independence, the Six-day War, the War of Attrition, the Yom Kippur War, the intifadas, Israel's modern military, national development, technological prowess. We deal with intriguing and little-known things such as Britain's Jewish Brigade, the Alayon Institute, Aliyah Bet, the Davidka, the 11 Points, Israel's "theft" of naval boats from Cherbourg, Talpoit, Yamas, Operation Opera, Operation Mole Cricket 19, Operation Nickel Grass, Israel's invention of drip irrigation, her massive desalinization plants using homegrown technology, and her missiles and fighter jets.

Israel Future: A Prophetic View. This section covers false Messiahs, the Antichrist, the Third Temple, Jerusalem as a burdensome stone, the 144,000 Jewish evangelists, the Two Witnesses, the battle of Armageddon, the conversion of Israel, the New Covenant, the Millennial Temple, and Christ's glorious kingdom.

The PowerPoints are as follows:

Israel 01 Past - Captivities and Wars (196 slides)

Israel 02 Past - Climatic Evidence (25 slides)

Israel 03 Past - Synagogues (112 slides)

Israel 04 Past - Diaspora (156 slides)

Israel 05 Past - Talmud Kabbalah (284 slides)

Israel 06 Present - Modern Israel the Resurrection of Dry Bones (135 slides)

Israel 07 Present - 19th Century Prayer Movement (81 slides)
Israel 08 Present - Zionism (223 slides)
Israel 09 Present - Great Britain and Modern Israel (210 slides)
Israel 10 Present - Israel's Modern Wars (398 slides)
Israel 11 Present - Israel's Military Today (180 slides)
Israel 12 Present - Israel's Development (242 slides)
Israel 13 Present - Israel a Blessing to the World (51 slides)
Israel 14 Future - Jerusalem a Burdensome Stone (74 slides)
Israel 15 Future - Antichrist and the Third Temple (186 slides)
Israel 16 History of the Temple Mount (123 slides)
Total slides 2,676

Teachers should first read the material in the book, where more information is found. In this way, the teacher will be better prepared to describe the slides and answer questions.

The PowerPoints can be modified by the teacher, who can add his own photos and video clips. The teacher can also shorten the presentations to suit the audience and situation. The material is extensive, and the teacher can decide whether to use all of it or to select only some portion for his particular class.

The book contains a set of review questions. These can help the student who is studying the material privately to make sure that he knows the most important parts of the material. The review questions can also assist the student in preparing for tests in a classroom setting.

Why Study Israel?

Jews in Fighter Jets covers the past 2,500 years of the history of the most amazing nation on earth, the only nation directly created by God and called by God “my people,” the nation to whom “were committed the oracles of God” and “of whom, as concerning the flesh Christ came” (Romans 3:2; 9:5).

Israel Is a Major Theme of the Bible

The name *Israel* appears 2,575 times in the Bible.

It is impossible to understand the Bible without understanding Israel, and the more you know about Israel, the better you can understand the Bible.

Every serious Bible student must be a student of Israel.

Israel Is God’s Chosen Nation

Israel is the most important nation on earth.

In the Bible, God calls Himself “the God of Israel” 203 times and “the God of Jacob” 25 times.

“Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob” (Psalm 114:7).

God created Israel to reveal Himself to fallen mankind and to bring to pass His eternal plan of redemption.

God placed Israel at the center of the nations physically as a testimony to Himself.

“Thus saith the Lord God; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her” (Ezekiel 5:5).

Israel is located at the crossroads of Africa, Asia, and Europe, the continents that were first settled by Noah’s sons after the Flood.

Israel straddles the ancient crossroads between the three great centers of civilization following the Flood: Anatolia to the

north and west, Mesopotamia to the east, and Egypt to the south.

To Israel were committed the Holy Scriptures (“unto them were committed the oracles of God,” Ro. 3:2).

Through Israel the Saviour came into the world (“of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever,” Ro. 9:5). Jesus told the woman at the well that “salvation is of the Jews” (Jo. 4:22).

To reject the God of Israel is to reject the only true and living God.

Sadly, Israel rejected her own God 2,000 years ago in the person of her Messiah, Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14), but the same Bible that prophesied that rejection in Isaiah 53 prophesies Israel’s repentance and conversion in coming days.

Israel Is God’s Glory

God formed Israel for His glory. “... for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him” (Isa. 43:7).

God calls Israel “Israel my glory” (Isa. 46:13).

The glory of God is His character, and God has ordained that Israel shine as light to the nations to reveal His character. It is through Israel that we learn such wonderful things about God as the following:

He is the Creator of all.

He is the only God.

He is all-powerful.

He is all-knowing.

He is eternal.

He is the beginning and the end.

He is the King of kings who rules over all.

He works all things after the counsel of His own will.

He is the holy lawgiver.

He is the righteous and just judge.

He is the compassionate Saviour.

He is good.

He is truth.

He cannot lie.

He is light.

He is love.

He is the author of every good gift.

Israel was a light to the glory of God during the days of Solomon (2 Ch. 9:22-23). “All the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart.” The queen of Sheba is an example of how that the rulers of the earth saw Solomon’s glory and *thereby learned of God’s glory* (2 Ch. 9:1-9). The rulers would have learned of the Hebrew Scriptures, doubtless obtaining copies of at least some portions thereof as the Ethiopian Eunuch did (Ac. 8:27-28). The rulers who visited Solomon would have seen the Levitical sacrifices and services and been instructed about the coming Messiah.

We know that the queen of Sheba was converted from idolatry to Jehovah God by her visit to Israel. In the biblical account, she praised Jehovah God and confessed her belief in God’s covenants with Israel. She said to Solomon,

“Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice” (1 Ki. 10:9).

The Chronicles account adds that the queen of Sheba said that Jehovah God “loved Israel, to establish them for ever” (2 Ch. 9:8). One must believe God’s Word to make such a statement. Further, the Lord Jesus Christ was indicating that the queen of Sheba exercised saving faith when He said that she will join the repentant Ninevites in condemning the unbelieving Jews (Mt. 12:41-42). She could not condemn unbelief if she had remained an unbeliever.

Israel was a light to the glory of God by the Hebrew Scriptures. We have already mentioned the Ethiopian Eunuch who journeyed to Israel and obtained a copy of the prophet Isaiah. Only the Lord knows where the Hebrew Scriptures traveled across the ancient world and what influence they had, carried perhaps by Phoenician traders and other travelers. The record of this is in God’s books.

Israel has continued to be a light to the glory of God in the church age. The first missionaries were Jews from Jerusalem and Antioch. The Bible that has been translated into all major languages was written by Hebrew prophets and apostles.

Anyone who wants to learn about God and see His glory must learn about Israel.

Israel Is Evidence

Israel is irrefutable evidence of the existence of God and of the divine inspiration of the Bible, which was written by Hebrew prophets.

When Frederick the Great, the atheist king of Prussia, asked, “Can you give me one single irrefutable proof of God?” Jean-Baptiste de Boyer (Marquis d’Argens) replied, “Yes, your Majesty, the Jews.”

Bible faith is not blind religious faith; it is faith based on the Word of a God who cannot lie, and that Word is supported by “many infallible proofs” (Acts 1:3). Israel’s history, continued existence, return to the land, geography, and archaeology are among the chief of these.

In 1754, Thomas Newton wrote of the Jews:

“Their preservation is really one of the most illustrious acts of Divine Providence. They are dispersed among all nations, yet not confounded with any. ... They can produce their pedigree from the beginning of the world. ... After wars, massacres and persecutions they still subsist; they are still quite numerous. What but a supernatural power could have preserved them in such a manner as no other nation on earth has been preserved?” (*Dissertation on the Prophecies*, VIII, section 2).

Just one of the Bible’s many prophecies is sufficient to demonstrate this, and that is Deuteronomy 28. This was written by Moses in about 1450 BC while Israel was in the wilderness on the way from Egypt to the land of Canaan. This great prophecy describes Israel’s entire history in clear words and in great detail.

God promised great blessings on Israel if she loved Him and obeyed His Word (De. 28:1-14). But God promised judgment on Israel if she turned from Him (De. 28:15).

Consider some examples of the precision of this ancient prophecy:

“And thy heaven that *is* over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that *is* under thee *shall be* iron. The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed” (De. 28:23-24).

“The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them” (De. 28:25)

“thou ... shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth” (De. 28:25).

“thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save *thee*” (De. 28:29).

“Thy sons and thy daughters *shall be* given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail *with longing* for them all the day long” (De. 28:32).

“*there shall be* no might in thine hand” (De. 28:32).

“The fruit of thy land, and all thy labours, shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up; and thou shalt be only oppressed and crushed away” (De. 28:33).

“And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee. (De 28:37)

“The stranger that *is* within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low” (De. 28:43).

“The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, *as swift* as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand; A nation of fierce countenance, which shall not regard the person of the old, nor shew favour to the young: And he shall eat the fruit of

thy cattle, and the fruit of thy land, until thou be destroyed: which *also* shall not leave thee *either* corn, wine, or oil, *or* the increase of thy kine, or flocks of thy sheep, until he have destroyed thee. And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee” (De. 28:49-52).

“And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other” (De. 28:64).

“And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life” (De. 28:65-66).

Reading this prophecy is like reading the pages of Israel’s history. In fact, we have documented all of these things in *Jews in Fighter Jets*, and the Deuteronomy prophecy contains a great many other details.

Only God could describe a nation’s entire future at the dawn of its history.

The utter candor of the Hebrew Scripture also attests to its Divine inspiration. No other nation has been so brutally honest about its failings after the fashion that we see in Israel’s Scripture.

Israel’s history proves that the Bible is a supernatural book.

Israel Is the Key to History

It is impossible to rightly understand human history apart from Israel.

The key to understanding history is not Egypt or Persia or Greece or Rome.

Israel is the Key to the Future

The Bible's prophecies of the future center in Israel, not in America or England or Germany or Saudi Arabia or China. Jerusalem, not New York or London or Brussels, will be the capital of Christ's kingdom.

Israel Is a Blessing to the World

God said to Abraham that he would make of him a great nation and he would be a blessing (Genesis 12:1-2).

The blessings that Israel has brought to the world by God's power and grace cannot be measured. And this is in spite of the fact that Israel has been very disobedient to her God. It is true because it is God's design.

Without the Hebrew Bible written by Israel's prophets, the world would sit in utter spiritual and moral darkness. Without the Bible, man could not know the truth about God, man's beginning, man's nature, man's condition, man's purpose, the spiritual realm, and life after death. If there were no Bible, there would be no Genesis, no Exodus (the Ten Commandments), no Psalms, no Proverbs, no Prophecy.

Without Jesus, Israel's Messiah, the world would have no salvation, no gospel, no hope.

Countless other blessings have come to mankind through Abraham's nation.

Jews have made their mark in life-changing scientific discoveries and inventions far in excess of their small numbers. Following are a few examples:

- **Carburetor** (Donát Bánki), 1893
- **Nuclear energy** (Albert Einstein), 1905; Einstein's theory of relativity demonstrated that mass can be converted into energy
- **Acetone-butanol-ethanol (ABE) fermentation** (Chaim Weizmann), 1916, contributed to England's victory in World War I through the production of artificial acetone for high explosives
- **Color photographic film** (Leopold Godowsky, Jr.), 1917
- **Ballpoint pen** (László József Bíró), 1931

- **Instant Polaroid camera** (Edwin Land), 1947
- **Magnetic disk data storage** (Jacob Rabinow), 1949; became the basis for the hard drive storage system
- **Singer Sewing Machine** (Isaac Singer), 1951, the first practical home sewing machine
- **Rooftop solar hot water system** (Levi Yissar), 1953; first system perfected for large scale use
- **Wireless remote control** (Robert Adler), 1956
- **The laser** or light amplification (Theodore Maiman), 1960; Albert Einstein laid the theoretical foundation for the laser in 1917
- **Geostationary communication satellite** (Harold Rosen), 1963; facilitated international phone, television, and Internet communication
- **Drip irrigation** (Simcha Blass, Netafim), 1966
- **Genetic engineering** (Paul Berg), created the first recombinant DNA molecules, 1972, which led to the development of genetic engineering
- **Personal computer CPU**, 1979, designed at Intel's Haifa laboratory
- **Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)** (Alon Cohen), 1989, used to make phone calls over the Internet
- **Google** (Larry Page and Sergey Brin), 1998
- **USB flash drive** (Dov Moran), 1998
- **Semiconductor heterostructures** (Zhores Alferov); Nobel Prize in Physics in 2000; this made possible the transfer of massive amounts of information from satellites and advances in fiber-optic communications

Consider **the field of modern medicine**: Jews have won 27% of the Nobel Prizes for Medicine, 32% of the Lasker Awards in Medical Research, 41% of the Wolf Prizes in Medicine, 43% of the Louisa Gross Horwitz Prizes, and 38% of the GM Cancer Research Foundation Sloan Prizes.

Yet Jews form a very tiny percentage of the world population (0.2%).

An estimated 2.8 billion lives have been saved by Jewish medical discoveries and inventions (jinfo.org/life_savers.html).

Following are some examples:

- **Aspirin** (Felix Eichengrun and Felix Hoffmann), 1890s
- **Vaccines against cholera and bubonic plague** (Waldemar Haffkind), 1890s
- **Novocaine** (Alfred Einhorn), 1905; every dental patient should be thankful to Mr. Einhorn for this blessing
- **Discoveries leading to blood storage and blood transfusion:** blood types (Karl Landsteiner, 1900), the sodium citrate blood storage technique (Richard Lewisohn, 1914), the technique of direct blood transfusion (Richard Lewisohn and Karl Landsteiner, 1915), Rh Blood group (Karl Landsteiner, 1939). Blood transfusion is estimated to have saved more than one billion lives since the 1950s, “making it the single greatest lifesaving medical advance in history.”
- **Chlorination of drinking water** (Abel Wolman, a world pioneer in water purification systems), 1919, 91 million lives saved
- **Penicillin** (Ernst Chain), 1928; Chain was co-recipient of the Nobel Prize for Medicine for his work on penicillin
- **Synthesizing vitamin C** (Tadeus Reichstein), 1933
- **Oral Rehydration therapy for cholera** (David Nalin), 1940s; *The Lancet*, prestigious British medical journal, called it “potentially the most important medical advance of this century.”
- **Streptomycin** (Selman Waksman and Albert Schatz), 1946, the first effective antibiotic for tuberculosis
- **Diphtheria and Tetanus antitoxin** (Paul Ehrlich), 1894, estimated to have saved 14 million lives
- **Chemotherapy** (Louis Goodman, Alfred Gilman, Sidney Farber), 1940s
- **Cortisone** (Tadeus Reichstein), 1940s, anti-inflammatory medication for treating arthritis, tendonitis, and bursitis
- **Cardiac defibrillator and pacemaker** (Paul Zoll), 1952
- **Salk polio vaccine** (Jonas Salk), 1955, **Sabin oral polio vaccine** (Albert Sabin), 1961; nearly eradicated this terrible childhood disease; Salk refused to profit from the vaccine by patenting it

- **Radiation cancer therapy** (Henry Kaplan), 1950s; cure rates of 70%-80% in Hodgkin's disease which was previously uniformly fatal
- **Optical fiber flexible endoscope** (Basil Hirschowitz), 1960; this research led to the production of optical fibers which revolutionized telecommunications
- **Phacoemulsification cataract surgery** (Charles Kelman), 1967
- **Hepatitis-B vaccine** (Baruch Blumberg), 1981, estimated to have saved estimated 6-7 million lives
- **Hib vaccine for bacterial Meningitis** (John Robbins and Rachel Schneerson), 1987
- **Cisplatin** (Barnett Rosenberg, Lawrence Einhorn), 90% cure rate for testicular cancer, 1978
- **LASIK eye surgery** (Samuel Blum), 1981
- **Copaxone immunomodulatory** (Michael Sela, Ruth Arnon, Deborah Teitelbaum), 1990s, for treating multiple sclerosis
- **Grain cocoon** (Shlomo Navarro), 1992, airtight containers save crops that were previously lost to pests and mold; maize was safely stored for 12 years in Rwanda
- **Pillcam or capsule endoscopy** (Gavriel Iddan), 2001; tiny camera size of a pill to record images of the digestive tract
- **Azilect** as a treatment for Parkinson's disease (Moussa Youdim and John Finberg of the Technion), 2005

(The previous information is available in illustrated format in the PowerPoint presentation "Israel 13 Present - Israel a Blessing to the World," which is included with the *Jews in Fighter Jets* book/teaching package.)

Israel Is a Wake-Up Call

Israel's situation today is a wake-up call that Christ's return is at hand. In fulfillment of the Ezekiel 37 prophecy of the valley of dry bones, Israel is back in the land in an unconverted condition. This is in preparation for the building of the Third Temple and the coming of the Antichrist as described in Daniel 9:27.

This is why I say that when I am in Israel, I feel as if the place is vibrating, as it were, in anticipation of the final prophetic events of this age.

The stage is set!

In the last few years, serious preparations for the Third Temple have been made.

Israel longs for a Messiah who will be a superman to solve her problems.

Even now he could be in the wings, awaiting his entrance cue.

Israel Is the Believer's Future

The church-age believer has an intimate and inseparable and eternal association with Israel.

The church is a distinct spiritual body that is different from Israel, but the church and Israel are intimately associated.

We see them *distinct yet together* in the New Jerusalem. The names of the 12 tribes of Israel are written on its gates (Re. 21:12-13), while the names of the 12 apostles are written on its foundations (Re. 21:14).

The Lord's apostles--who penned the New Testament, who form the foundation of the church (Ephesians 2:20), who planted the first churches and instructed the churches--*will sit on thrones in Christ's kingdom, judging the 12 tribes of Israel.*

“Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel” (Mt. 19:27-28).

New Testament believers, saved out from among all nations through the preaching of the gospel in the church age, are priests and kings who will rule and reign with Jesus Christ in His earthly kingdom, which other Scriptures depict as Israel's kingdom.

“And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth” (Revelation 5:9-10).

In His messages to the churches in Revelation 2-3, Christ taught that the victorious church-age believer will rule over the nations in His earthly kingdom:

“19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience ... 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. ... 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have *already* hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches” (Revelation 2:19-20, 24-29).

Observe that this is a message to all churches. “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

We see that the overcomer will rule the nations with Christ in His earthly kingdom. In a nutshell, the overcomer is the church-age believer who is born again and evidences it by following Jesus Christ and serving Him as a true disciple.

Christ describes the characteristics of an overcomer in some detail: First, the overcomer is the one who shows and demonstrates works, charity, service, faith, patience (Re. 2:19). This distinguishes the individual who merely professes Christ from the one who truly knows Christ as Lord and Saviour. Second, the overcomer is the one who rejects false teachers (Re. 2:20). Third, the overcomer is the one who does not love the

world (Re. 2:20). Fourth, the overcomer is the one who does not associate with Satanic things (Re. 2:24). Fifth, the overcomer is the one who is looking for Christ (“till I come,” Re. 2:25). Sixth, the overcomer is the one who keeps Christ’s works to the end (Re. 2:26).

Elsewhere, Christ taught that positions of ruling in His kingdom will be given to those who serve Him in this life. See Matthew 24:44-47; 25:20-23; Luke 12:32-44; 19:15-19.

The New Testament overcomer will be given authority over the nations in Christ’s kingdom and will rule them with a rod of iron.

This is the same kingdom of which Israel will be the heart and Jerusalem the capital.

Consider the following prophecy about Israel:

“The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD” (Isa. 2:1-5).

Observe that this prophecy pertains to *Judah* and to *Jacob*. It is not a prophecy about the churches. New Testament believers are children of Abraham by faith in Christ (Ga. 3:7), but they are not children of Jacob. Isaiah describes a redeemed and converted and restored *Jacob* and a glorified *Jerusalem* as the center of Christ’s coming kingdom. In that day, the nations will come to Jerusalem to be instructed in God’s Word. In that day,

the law of God will go forth from Jerusalem, and the LORD God will rule the nations.

Therefore, by comparing Scripture with Scripture, we know that Christ's millennial kingdom will be ruled by redeemed Israel (see also Psalm 45:16; 122:5; Mic. 5:7-8) *and* by resurrected church-age saints (Re. 2:26-27).

For all of these reasons, every born again Christian should be keenly interested in Israel!

SAMPLE

I Love Israel

“Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, *and* the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts *is* his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, *then* the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever” (Jeremiah 31:35-36).

Israel has been the subject of false teaching and unbiblical thinking among professing Christians since the time of the church fathers, so called, and the invention of Replacement Theology and the subsequent sad history of persecution of Jews by professing Christians. These heresies were subsumed by the Roman Catholic Church and were part of the heretical baggage that was brought out of Rome by many Protestants. Martin Luther did not get his ideas about burning synagogues from Scripture rightly divided.

I have been amazed and saddened in recent days to learn of a growing (though very small) movement among fundamental Baptists to adopt the ancient heresy of Replacement Theology.

I love Israel, and I love Israel because I love the Bible. I don't love Israel because I am a “Christian Zionist” or because of the Scofield Bible or Darby Dispensationalism.

I love Israel because the Bible teaches me to love Israel.

I love Israel because Jehovah God loves Israel and says, “If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD” (Jeremiah 31:37).

The Lord Jesus taught me to love Israel when He wept over her on the eve of His crucifixion (Luke 19:41) and said on the cross, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do (Luke 23:34), and when He rose from the dead and commanded that the gospel be preached “among all nations, BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM” (Luke 24:47).

The apostle Paul teaches me to love Israel by his Christ-like love for her even in her rebellious, gospel-rejecting condition

(Romans 10:1-4) and by his lifelong ministry to Israel even in the face of her stubborn persecution of the gospel (16 times in Acts we read about his preaching in the synagogues) and by his teaching that the gospel is for the “Jew first” (Romans 1:16).

I love Israel’s past, present, and future.

I know that Israel is in rebellion against God as surely as when Jeremiah preached more than 2,500 years ago, but I love Israel and look forward to her salvation.

I know that Israel was at the forefront of the death of Jesus Christ, that the Jewish leaders pressed the Roman governor Pilate to crucify Him, but I love Israel and look forward to the day when a remnant will look on him “whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his own son” (Zechariah 12:10).

I know that rabbinic Judaism is a false religion based on human tradition rather than God’s Word, but I love Israel and look forward to the day that she will turn from these broken cisterns to the life-giving words of the living God. I have studied the Talmud and Kabbalah and world history and Jewish history and American history and Hasidic Judaism and Nachman and the Na Nach movement and Rabbi Schneerson and the Chabad movement. I have studied all sorts of conspiracy theories. I have studied the history of false Jewish Messiahs. I have been to Mt. Meron and observed the occultic Kabbalah rituals at the tombs of the rabbis. I have seen images of the pagan Zodiac and the Greek sun god on the floors of ancient synagogues. We have witnessed to atheist Jews and homosexual Jews. We know that Israel is a hotbed of relativistic morality, a mecca for “gays,” and that the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) are a proving ground for transsexual rights.

I know how terribly lost Israel is today, but neither history nor current events nor Israel’s apostasy nor the Bible teach that God is finished with Israel or that Israel today is not Israel or that the church is Israel.

As a born again believer in Jesus Christ, I am a son of Abraham by faith, but I am not a son of Jacob. And it is Jacob who will be saved and restored. “And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD” (Isa 59:20).

I know that modern Israel is not the fulfillment of the Messianic kingdom prophecies, that modern Israel is an unrighteous secular state, but I love Israel and look forward to when the desert shall blossom as a rose as a divine miracle and not as a result of drip irrigation (Isaiah 35:1) and sorrow and sighing shall flee away (Isaiah 35:10) and the Branch of righteousness will reign over a righteous Israel as the capital of His world kingdom (Jeremiah 23:5).

I would not join “Christian Zionists” in giving one dime toward the Temple Institute’s program to build the Third Temple, knowing that it will be occupied by the Antichrist rather than the Christ, but I am fascinated by the fulfillment of prophecy before my very eyes in these preparations.

It is impossible for me *not* to see the hand of God in modern Israel, in her partial return after 2,000 years of wandering among the nations, in the resurrection of her ancient language, in the winning of her wars against all odds, in the development of the land in the face of great and continual difficulties and almost worldwide opposition.

To understand modern Israel, I turn to the great prophecy of Ezekiel 37, which teaches that Israel will return from her diaspora, which is described in terms of a valley of death, in two stages, and in the first stage she will return in a spiritually dead condition (verses 7-10). Verse 8 says, “... lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: BUT THERE WAS NO BREATH IN THEM.”

This is exactly *what* Israel is today and *where* Israel is today prophetically.

Modern Israel is setting the stage for the fulfillment of the last stage of Daniel’s prophecy of the 70 Weeks (Da. 9:24-27), which describes the entirety of God’s dealings with Israel from the time of the Babylonian Captivity to the second coming of Christ. The prophecy is specifically said to pertain to Daniel’s people, Israel, and it is specifically said to describe the finishing of Israel’s transgression, the making of reconciliation for her iniquity, and the bringing in of everlasting righteousness, which will begin with Christ’s return (verse 24).

By this prophecy we know that one prophetic week of seven years remains of God’s final dealings with Israel, and at the

beginning of that week the Antichrist will arise and make a seven-year covenant with many in Israel; and half way through the seven years, he will break the covenant and desecrate the third temple and cause the renewed sacrifices to cease, which will initiate the last half of the seven years, which is called the Great Tribulation in the New Testament (Matthew 24:15-22).

Modern Israel is setting the stage for these events. She is back in her own land, having partially returned from the nations. She is preparing for the building of the third temple. She is looking for a peace-making, temple-building Messiah, which is a perfect definition of the Antichrist at the beginning of his reign.

Israel must return to the land in a spiritually unconverted condition for these things to happen, because a converted Israel would not receive a false christ.

The stage is set!

2 Thessalonians 2:6-8 explains why the 70th Week of Daniel's prophecy has not yet been fulfilled, and it has to do with God's great love for sinners. The one who withholds the devil's "mystery of iniquity" program to put the Antichrist on the throne of the world is a Person. The one who withholds is twice called "he" in verse 7. This is none other than the Holy Spirit, who came into the world to empower the saints for world evangelism during the church age as described in Acts 1:8 and who will be "taken out of the way" in the sense of the lifting of His present restraining ministry toward the devil's program. The Holy Spirit is omniscient and has always been in the world and cannot leave the world, but Paul is talking about a particular ministry of the Holy Spirit during the church age.

Why is God waiting? Peter explains.

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

God continues to call out a people from the nations for His name (Acts 15:14).

I love Israel. I am sad at her stubborn rejection of God's Word, but I look forward to her conversion and beyond to ruling and reigning with the redeemed of Israel in Christ's

millennial kingdom and beyond that, in the New Jerusalem, the gates of which are named for the twelve tribes of Israel and the foundations of the wall of which are named for the twelve apostles of the Church (Revelation 21:12-14).

The Church and Israel are different bodies and different programs in God's great eternal plan, but they are closely associated in that they have the same father, Abraham, and the same Saviour, Jesus Christ, and they will live forever in the same glorious City.

SAMPLE

Israel Past: 2,500 Years of Fulfilled Prophecy

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Israel Past: Introduction

Israel's past 2,500 years is irrefutable evidence of the divine inspiration of the Bible. This is because the history of these times was recorded plainly in Bible prophecy a millennium before the Babylonian Captivity of 586 BC.

Isaiah says that fulfilled prophecy is evidence of divine inspiration, and that should be obvious since only God knows the future.

“Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob. Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the later end of them: or declare us things for to come. Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods...” (Isaiah 41:21-23).

The God of Israel challenges the gods of the nations to prove their divinity by foretelling the future.

No pagan religion or prophet has ever done this.

Consider the **Sibyl prophetesses** of ancient Greece. Plato, in the fifth century BC, mentions one Sibyl, but eventually there were several. The most famous was the **Oracle of Delphi**, the high priestess at the Apollo temple in Delphi. Croesus, king of the great Lydian empire, consulted the oracle about whether he would be victorious over the Persians. The oracle replied, “If Croesus sends a great army against Persia, a mighty empire will fall.” This vague statement is a “win-win” prophecy for the soothsayer, since regardless of which empire fell, the prophecy would hold true! Croesus took the prophecy to mean that he would be successful, but he was defeated, and it was his Lydian empire that fell. When Philip of Macedonia consulted the Delphi oracle in 336 BC about his planned expedition against Persia, she replied, “The bull is ready for slaughter, the end is near, the sacrificer is present.” When Maxentius consulted a Sibyl prophetess before meeting Constantine in battle at the

Tiber, she said, “On that day the enemy of Rome will perish.” This obscure nonsense is typical of pagan “prophecies.”

Consider **Nostradamus** (1503-1566), one of the most famous non-Bible prophets. His messages are described as “obscure” even by those who believe in him. Consider one of his most famous prophecies:

“Beasts ferocious from hunger will swim across rivers:
The greater part of the region will be against the Hister,
The great one will cause it to be dragged in an iron cage,
When the German child will observe nothing” (centuries #2,
quatrain #24).

Some have said that this is a prophecy about Hitler and World War II, yet it is so vague and obscure that it could refer to practically anything.

Consider **Jean Dixon** (1918-1997), a famed Roman Catholic psychic and astrologer. When she was a child, Dixon’s mother took her to a gypsy fortuneteller who predicted that she would be a famous seer. She supposedly foretold the assassination of President Kennedy, but she made many false predictions. She erroneously predicted, for example, that the Soviets would beat the U.S. to the moon, that World War III would begin in 1958, that there would be a cure for cancer in 1967, that labor leader Walter Reuther would run for president in 1964, and that President Bush would win the presidential election in 1992 (actually Bill Clinton did).

Consider **Edgar Cayce** (1877-1945), a famous psychic who gave prophecies while in a trance state, but many of his prophecies were false. He said that China would be converted to Christianity by 1968. He predicted the arrival of Armageddon in 1999.

Consider **astrology**. Those who have depended upon astrological forecasts have been disappointed. Two famous astrologers in Britain said that World War II would *not* happen. An astrologer named Naylor, whose predictions appeared in the *Sunday Times*, said, “In this column, for years, I have constantly laboured these points: Hitler’s horoscope is not a war-horoscope ... there will be no war” (August 27, 1939). Another British astrologer, Edward Lyndoe, said: “I see absolutely no

signs of a Great War during 1939” (*The People*, January 1, 1939, p. 11). Hitler started World War II later that year.

Consider **Hindu soothsayers**. In former days, the king of Nepal was supposed to be the incarnation of the Hindu god Vishnu, “the preserver and nurturer,” and he surrounded himself with the best astrologers and pundits that Hinduism had to offer. The late King Birendra consulted the astrologers for everything, but when Birendra and the rest of the royal family were slaughtered in 2001 in a hail of gunfire, no prophet had seen it coming. The chief royal astrologer, Mangal Raj Joshi, was interviewed later and asked if he had seen this event beforehand, and he replied candidly that he had not. He said that he was looking, rather, for an earthquake (Isabella Tree, *The Living Goddess*, p. 131).

That God intends Bible prophecy to be used as evidence of the divine inspiration of Scripture is one reason why we interpret it literally. To interpret it allegorically--which is a method of interpretation that was devised by Origen and other heretical “church fathers,” adopted by Rome, and borrowed from her by Protestants--destroys its evidentiary power.

Another reason why we know that Bible prophecy must be interpreted literally is that the prophecies that have been fulfilled have been fulfilled literally.

The prophecies of Christ’s first coming described such things as the time and place of His birth and the exact circumstances of His death, even the very words that He spoke from the cross and the soldiers gambling for His garments, all of which were precisely and literally fulfilled.

These great prophecies were written in the Hebrew books of Psalms, Isaiah, Micah, and others long before Jesus was born. The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1950s leaves no doubt that the Old Testament prophecies predated Jesus. The biblical scrolls found in the caves, such as the nearly complete Great Isaiah Scroll with its breathtaking prophecies of Christ, predate Jesus by 100-200 years and they were obviously copied from scrolls that were much older.

The prophecies of Israel’s own history are no less detailed and no less literal than the prophecies of Israel’s Messiah.

Consider the prophecy of Moses recorded in Deuteronomy 28 about 1,490 years before Christ:

“The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth” (De. 28:25).

“And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee” (De. 28:29).

“Thy sons and thy daughters shall be given unto another people, and thine eyes shall look, and fail with longing for them all the day long: and there shall be no might in thine hand” (De. 28:32).

“The LORD shall bring thee, and thy king which thou shalt set over thee, unto a nation which neither thou nor thy fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other gods, wood and stone. And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the Lord shall lead thee” (De. 28:36, 37).

“Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, *even* great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance” (De. 28:59).

“And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you, to do you good, and to multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it. And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind; and thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou

shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life: In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! For the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see” (De. 28:63-67).

This breathtaking prophecy describes what would happen if Israel turned away from God. It describes her defeat at the hands of foreign powers, her dispersion to the ends of the earth, and a long period of oppression. Twice the prophecy says the plagues will be of “long continuance” (De. 28:59).

By way of overview, we will consider six of the major events that were encompassed in the fulfillment of these prophecies: The Assyrian Captivity, the Babylonian Captivity, the Syrian Wars, the Roman Wars, climatic desolation, and the Diaspora.

SAMPLE

The Assyrian Captivity

➤ A PowerPoint presentation of this material is included in the *Jews in Fighter Jets* package. See “Israel 01 Past - Captivities and Wars.” See “PowerPoints and Teaching Tips” at the beginning of the book for more information.

Moses’ ancient prophecy recorded in Deuteronomy 28 began to be fulfilled with the destruction of the northern tribes of Israel at the hands of Assyria between 732 and 721 BC.

In 732 BC, the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser destroyed large portions of northern Israel (2 Kings 15:29). Gilead was on the east side of the Jordan River, Galilee was west of the Jordan, and Naphtali was north of the Sea of Galilee. The extant records of Tiglath-pileser, found in his palace by archaeologists, describe the destruction of Galilee and other events from that time.

In 721 BC, Samaria, the capital of Israel’s northern kingdom, was destroyed and the northern tribes were carried away captive to Mesopotamia (2 Kings 17:1-23; 18:9-12).

The siege of the heavily fortified city lasted three terrible years, during which the Assyrian king Shalmaneser died and Sargon II took the throne and oversaw the final destruction of the city. The records of Sargon II, which are in the British Museum and the Louvre in Paris, describe the destruction of Samaria from the Assyrian viewpoint.

During an earlier siege of Samaria by Syria in the days of Jehoram, a woman ate her infant baby (2 Ki. 6:25-29). This was in fulfillment of Deuteronomy 28:53-57.

(For a pictorial study on the destruction of Samaria, see *Bible Times & Ancient Kingdoms*, PowerPoint # 13 “Samaria and Jezreel,” and for a pictorial study of the Assyrian military see PowerPoint # 14 “Assyria.”)

The forceful repopulation of Samaria at the hand of Assyria was the origin of the Samaritans who are mentioned in the New Testament. They are a mixed race and a mixed religion, part Jewish and part pagan (2 Ki. 17:24-41). The Samaritans were hated by orthodox Jews who had no dealings with them (John

4:9), but Jesus loved them as He loves all men. He saved the woman at the well in Samaria (John 4), and He rebuked the Jews' self-righteous national pride by the parable of the Good Samaritan (Lu. 10:30-37). Christ commanded that the gospel be preached in Samaria (Acts 1:8).

SAMPLE

The Babylonian Captivity

☛ A PowerPoint presentation of this material is included in the *Jews in Fighter Jets* package. See “Israel 01 Past - Captivities and Wars.” See “PowerPoints and Teaching Tips” at the beginning of the book for more information.

The next major step in the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy of Deuteronomy 28 occurred with the destruction of Jerusalem and Solomon’s Temple in 586 BC at the hands of the Babylonians.

The capture of Jerusalem occurred in three stages.

In 597, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took Judah’s King Jehoiakim captive (2 Ki. 24:1). Jeremiah had prophesied that Jehoiakim would be “buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem” (Jer. 22:18-19) and his dead body would be cast out in the day to the heat and in the night to the frost (Jer. 36:30). 2 Ch. 36:6 says Nebuchadnezzar “bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon,” but it doesn’t say he did carry him to Babylon. Apparently Jehoiakim was killed while still in Jerusalem and his body was desecrated. Josephus says Jehoiakim was slain by Nebuchadnezzar, who “commanded his body to be thrown before the walls, without any burial.”

Jehoiachin was made king of Judah in Jehoiakim’s place (2 Ki. 24:6-9).

Three months later, Nebuchadnezzar came against Jerusalem the second time. He confiscated all of the treasures and took captive the king, princes, craftsmen, and men of valor (2 Ki. 24:8-16). This was the great deportation when Daniel was carried away (Da. 1:1-6) and the prophet Ezekiel (Eze. 1:2) and Mordecai’s great grandfather, Kish (Est. 2:5-6).

In 587, Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem for 18 months. The city was besieged from the 9th year and 10th month of Nebuchadnezzar’s reign until the 11th year and 4th month (2 Ki. 25:1-3).

Jeremiah described the horrible conditions during this siege