

Biblical Sites We Will See in this File

The Temple Mount and Western Wall

A Trip of Lifetime...



“Next Year in Jerusalem is Now” TM

“And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem.” Acts 20:22

The 9th of Av—

To understand the Jewish people, we must celebrate their MANY achievements and **sympathize** with their many calamities.

The following “calamities” began in the Jewish people’s “Past” and continued into Her “Present.” I prefer to use the word “**calamity**” to describe the following events, while the majority of “Religious Rabbis” prefer to use the term “**judgment.**” God has judged the Jewish people for their “unbelief.” All of the following calamities began on the same day, **The 9th of Av.** “Av” is the 5th month in the Biblical calendar. The fact that all these “calamities” started on the “same day” is another example of God’s “repetitive cycles.”

ALL of Israel’s calamities lead to a monumental event, the Rebirth of “ISRAEL.”

Every year, on the 9th day of Av., the Nation of Israel has a **National Day of Fasting.** This Nation Day of Fasting is called “**Tisha B Av.**” This “Day” was set aside to remember **all** the calamities in Israel’s history. For three weeks before “Tisha B Av,” Jews stay in an attitude of mourning, introspection, and prayer. The Jewish people acknowledge that the “judgments” that have fallen on them are because of unbelief. Yet, they continue in unbelief. Again, this proves that God’s Word is true concerning Israel’s “callused” or hardened heart.



ALL the stories in Israel’s history originated from “one story” of the Jewish people’s unbelief.

Scriptures are in **BLUE.**

Belief or Unbelief— It Was Israel's Choice to Make

The Promised Land

Israel's Unbelief Begins with the Ten Spies Coming Back with a Bad Report

After Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt (The Exodus), he sent twelve spies to scout out the "Promised Land" for 40 days and to come back with a report.

On the 9th of Av, the "12 Spies" returned with their "report."

Ten spies gave a "bad report" and said they could not take the Land. They claimed the inhabitants "were like giants" and the Israelites "were like grasshoppers." **These ten watchmen "Trumpeted" UNBELIEF!**

However, the other "2" spies, Joshua and Caleb, believed the Israelites could defeat the inhabitants and possess The Land God had given them. **They Trumpeted "BELIEF."**

Unfortunately, the Nation of Israel chose to listen to the "unbelievers," and they suffered the consequences. God is a gracious God.

Therefore, all the following calamities are God's "Judgement" on the Jewish People for their unbelief. ALL of Israel's calamities lead to a monumental event worthy of the Sounding of God's Trumpets- **the Rebirth of "ISRAEL."**

When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, God did not take them directly to the "Promised Land." Instead, God brought them on a path with many twists and turns. The "Path" God chose for the Israelites to traverse out of Egypt was a "roundabout" towards the Red Sea, not directly towards it.

"When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt. So, God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea." Exodus 13:17-18

If the Israelites "**believed,**" it would have taken them two weeks to traverse Egypt to Canaan- a "straight path."

But it took 40 years (**one year for every 40 days the twelve spies scouted out the Land**) as God waited for the unbelieving generation to die off.

A “NEW” generation of Hebrews was born during these 40 years, and they would grow up to expect their inheritance of God’s Land. This new generation was also indoctrinated to “believe and trust” God. ALL the unbelieving Israelites died except for Joshua and Caleb, who finally lived to cross into Israel.



It is also interesting to note that the “Promised Land” inhabitants were giants. The ten spies were right on that account. Historical records show that the people living in “The Land” were about 4-5 feet “taller” than any Israelite. Therefore, if an average Israelite was 5’8” tall, in comparison, an “inhabitant” was at most twelve feet tall. This means the inhabitants were “twice” as large as an Israelite. But the ten “unbelieving” spies said they were like grasshoppers in comparison to the inhabitants. Maybe in their “minds,” they were. Still, the truth was the “giants” were only twice the size of an Israeli. Look at the picture. Significant difference!

After wandering in the desert for 40 years, all the unbelievers died. Joshua (the other believer) sends out two spies into the “Promised Land” to scout it out, “*especially Jericho.*” You will recall that these two spies were “hidden” by a prostitute named Rahab. Then, in the following conversation, we learn that Joshua and Caleb were RIGHT! They could have taken the Land 40 years earlier. All they had to do was to BELIEVE.

“I know that the LORD has given this land to you and that a great fear of you has fallen on us so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. When we heard of it, our hearts melted, and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD, your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.”

Rahab says that the inhabitants of (God’s Land) had been living in FEAR for 40 years. Hindsight is always “20-20,” which means that the original Israelites could have “walked in” and taken The Land the “first time around.” It is unlikely they would have been met with any resistance. The truth is that God would have “squashed” the inhabitants had the Israelites believed in God. But their unbelief delayed God’s blessing and their “Their Land” inheritance for 40 years.

The Story of an Evil King, The First Temple is Destroyed

On the “9th of Av,” King Nebuchadnezzar came into Jerusalem and destroyed “God’s City” and the First Temple. Nebuchadnezzar was an evil, pagan, Gentile King, and he took Daniel and the Jews who had survived to Babylon, where they remained “Captive” for 70 years. But the story of Jerusalem’s destruction began long before King Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem and the First Temple.

The Kings of Israel

“Good Kings” are in RED
“Evil Kings” are in BLACK

“The United Kingdom”

Saul	Evil
David	Good
Solomon	Started Good- Ended Evil

“The Divided Kingdom”

The Kings of Judah— “Southern Kingdom” 11 Good Kings and 9 Evil Kings	The Kings of Israel— Northern Kingdom 19 Evil Kings
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1. Rehoboam	Good
2. Abijah	Good
3. Asa	Good
4. Jehoshaphat	Good
5. Jehoram	Good
6. Ahaziah	Evil
7. Athaliah	Evil
8. Joash	Evil
9. Amaziah	Evil
10. Uzziah (Azariah)	Good
11. Jotham	Good
12. Ahaz	Good
13. Hezekiah	Good
14. Manasseh	Evil but Repented
15. Amon	Good
16. Josiah	Good
17. Jehoahaz	Evil
18. Jehoiakim	Evil
19. Jeconiah	Evil
20. Zedekiah	Evil

1. Jeroboam I	Evil
2. Nadab	Evil
3. Baasha	Evil
4. Elah	Evil
5. Zimri	Evil
6. Omri	Evil
7. Ahab	Evil
8. Ahaziah	Evil
9. Jeroram	Evil
10. Jehu	Evil
11. Jehoahaz	Evil
12. Jehoash	Evil
13. Jeroboam II	Evil
14. Zacariah	Evil
15. Shallum	Evil
16. Menahem	Evil
17. Pakhiah	Evil
18. Pekah	Evil
19. Hoshea	Evil

Please note on the chart that King Zedekiah was Judah's last King, who reigned before Jerusalem's destruction. **But God did NOT "install" Zedekiah as the King of Judah.** King Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylon, had wielded power over Judah long before he destroyed it. This evil, pagan, Gentile King Nebuchadnezzar "installed" Zedekiah as King of Judah. And because of this, Jerusalem, FELL. Later, when we review the book of Daniel, we will learn more about King Nebuchadnezzar and what God's ultimate plan for the King was.

"Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he became King, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years...He did evil in the eyes of the LORD... It was because of the LORD's anger that all this happened to Jerusalem and Judah, and in the end, he thrust them from his presence...Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, marched against Jerusalem with his whole army. They camped outside the city and built siege works all around it. The city was kept under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. By the ninth day of the fourth month, the famine in the city had become so severe that there was no food for the people to eat. Then the city wall was broken through, and the whole army fled...On the tenth day of the fifth month, in the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, Nebuzaradan, commander of the imperial guard, who served the King of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. He set fire to the temple of the LORD, the royal palace, and all the houses of Jerusalem. Every important building he burned down... The commander of the imperial guard took away the basins, censers, sprinkling bowls, pots, lampstands, dishes, and bowls used for drink offerings—all that were made of pure gold or silver....which King Solomon had made for the temple of the LORD...So, Judah went into captivity, away from her land." Jeremiah 52:1–34

Again, Israel did not follow "God's Laws," so God caused them to be exiled to Babylon as punishment. The Prophet Jeremiah predicted Israel's exile to Babylon would last for 70 years. He also instructs Israel NOT to follow false "prophets" and "diviners" (false teachers).

"This is the text of the letter that the Prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the other people Nebuchadnezzar had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon...This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the LORD. **This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place."** Jeremiah 29:1–23

The Prophet Ezekiel also confronts the “People of God” (“Jerusalem”). Though God’s People had become “unfaithful,” their God, the God of the Jewish People, was “Faithful.” God does not go back on His Word. He had made an “everlasting covenant” with His people and “upheld” it.

“Confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices...The LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites...On the day you were born, your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to make you clean, nor were you rubbed with salt or wrapped in cloths... for on the day you were born, you were despised. “Then I passed by and saw you kicking about in your blood, and as you lay there in your blood, I said to you, “Live!” I made you grow like a plant of the field. You grew up and developed and became the most beautiful of jewels... I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness. I gave you my solemn oath and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Sovereign LORD, and you became mine...You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen. And your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty because the splendor I had given you made your beauty perfect, declares the Sovereign LORD. But you trusted in your beauty and used your fame to become a prostitute...In all your detestable practices and your prostitution, you did not remember the days of your youth when you were naked and bare, kicking about in your blood...Woe to you declares the Sovereign LORD...You engaged in prostitution with the Egyptians...So I stretched out my hand against you and reduced your territory; I gave you over to the greed of your enemies...I will deal with you as you deserve because you have despised my oath by breaking the covenant. Yet I will remember the covenant I made with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you. Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed...So I will establish my covenant with you, and you will know that I am the LORD.” Ezekiel 16:1–63

The Story of the Pharisees and Sadducees, The Second Temple is Destroyed

Before the Second Temple was destroyed, on the “9th of Av., there was a “shift” from “Temple Worship” to the “Obedience” of God’s Law. And this “shift” morphed into two ruling classes; “Pharisees” and “Sadducees.” Please review the following chart.

Understanding the Pharisees/Scribes and the Sadducees/Sanhedrin

<u>Pharisees</u> “Religious Leaders”	<u>Scribes</u> “Lawyers”	<u>Sadducees</u> “Religious Leaders”	<u>Sanhedrin</u> “Judges”
<p>Pharisees generally came from a “middle class” background and were well versed in the Law. They often were lawyers and likely to also be a “Scribe.” Pharisees believed in all the Old Testament books and were also Israel’s “teachers” (Rabbis). But they also believed in the “Oral Law” consisting of “oral traditions” and “revelations” passed down from generation to generation, which they “added” to God’s Laws. Therefore, the Pharisees “heaped” additional “rules” on their fellow Jews which they themselves were not able to carry. Pharisees believed that God would send a Messiah who would bring Peace to the world and would rule from Jerusalem. They also believed in a literal heaven and hell, and in a future bodily resurrection. In addition, they also believed in a “Divine Order,” that all circumstances and events which the Jews faced were divinely ordained. This included believing that all the “calamities” the Jews endured was a punishment by God for their not obeying His Law. The Pharisees also hated their counterparts, the Sadducees, except when they found a common enemy I.E. Jesus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">They Rejected Hellenism</p>	<p>The Scribes primary job was to copy the Scriptures, focusing on the details and “letter” of the law. However, by “adding” their “oral traditions” and “revelations” to God’s Law they were in fact disobeying the Law.</p> <p>Scribes also drafted legal documents, contracts for marriage, divorce, loans, inheritance, sale of land, etc.</p>	<p>Sadducees came from an “aristocratic,” “liberal” and “elitist” background. Sadducees were also most likely to be a “Sanhedrin” which meant they also served in a “Priestly” role. This is contrary to God’s Law which said that only the Levities could serve in a Priestly “role.”</p> <p>In addition, the Sadducees ONLY believed in the Torah; the first five books of the Bible and rejected ALL the other Old Testament Scriptures. They also did NOT believe in a future bodily resurrection and did NOT believe in a coming Messiah.</p> <p>Sadducees also held to a “free will” mentality and incorporated “free will” into their understanding and interpretation of the LAW. Therefore, by acting in a “Priestly” role and by “adding” to God’s Law, they were also breaking God’s Law. The Sadducees hated their counterparts, the Pharisees, except when they found a common enemy I.E. Jesus.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">They Accepted Hellenism</p>	<p>The Sanhedrin were made up of a council of 70 Jewish men called “Sadducees.” They were directly under the the “High Priest.”</p> <p>However, by “acting” in a Priestly role they were in fact disobeying God’s Law.</p> <p>The Sanhedrin also acted as the “Supreme Court” in legal and religious trials.</p>

I find it fascinating that the Pharisees believed many things you and I believe. They believed:
 God’s Word (Old Testament) Genesis to Malachi.
 God was going to send a Messiah.
 God created a literal Heaven and a literal Hell.
 God will resurrect the dead.

God ordained a “divine order,” I.E., The sun rises in the morning to the East and sets in the evening to the West. If you let go of “something,” gravity will make it fall, etc.
 The Pharisees also believed that all the calamities the Jews had endured (to date) were a punishment by God for not obeying “The Law.” So, what did the Pharisees do? They created MORE laws and added these “laws” to God’s Laws. Therefore, when Jesus Christ came proclaiming that He was the Messiah, the Pharisees did not “look” in God’s Word (Genesis to Malachi) and weigh the Scriptures with the “claims” of Jesus. Ultimately, the Pharisees failed to

“SEE” Jesus in God’s WORD. On the other hand, the Sadducees accepted “Hellenism,” while the Pharisees rejected it. Hellenism is a term used to describe the influence of Greek culture on the peoples the Greek and Roman Empires conquered. After the Jews returned from 70 years in exile in Babylon, the Jews sought to protect their national identity by following God’s Law.

About one hundred years after the Jews returned, Alexander the Great began conquering the “Known World,” leading to Greek culture’s influence permeating into Israel. The Sadducees accepted “Hellenism” and collaborated with their Gentile rulers (Greek and Roman) to maintain peace and ensure political clout. The bottom line is that Hellenism changed God’s ordained priesthood from the Levities to a Sadducee-controlled Sanhedrin. This resulted in God’s Law, the Law of Moses, being changed to reflect the Grecian laws. Today, Modern Judaism has its roots in the Pharisees and Sadducees. And instead of “Two Sects,” there are now hundreds, maybe even thousands of “sects” of Judaism. And each “sect” has its own “Rabbi” with its list of laws, rules, and regulations.

The Story of a False Messiah, The Jews Lose Jerusalem Again

After the Romans destroyed and decimated Jerusalem and the Second Temple, most people would have given up. But the Jews are not “most people”-they are God’s people. So, the Jews kept on “revolting.” And they also kept on losing. However, the Jews finally succeeded with a revolt called the “Bar Kokhba Revolt.”

Therefore, in 132 AD, “Simon Bar Kokhba” organized a large guerilla army and succeeded in throwing the Romans out of Jerusalem. It “appeared” to be a miracle and produced “relative peace” in Israel for about two and a half years. Therefore, many “Religious Jews” believed Simon Bar Kokhba was the “Messiah,” and he was given the nickname “Bar Kokhba” or “Son of Star,” which comes from the Book of Numbers (24:17): **“There shall come a star out of Jacob.”** The “Star” is a reference to the Messiah.

But in the end, Simon Bar Kokhba was NOT the Messiah, as the meaning of his name, “Bar Kokhba,” comes to light- “Son of a Lie.” Simon Bar Kokhba was a “False Messiah,” and God has much to say about “False Messiahs,” too.

“Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many.” Matthew 24:4–6

The Apostle Paul said.

“But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough...For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if

his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.” 2 Corinthians 11:1–15

Historical evidence shows that after the Romans lost Jerusalem to “Simon Bar Kosiba,” they were “hesitant” to meet the Jews in open battle. The “fighting attitude” of the Jews was unstoppable because they were willing to die for their faith. But the Romans returned to Simon Bar Kosiba and his fighting men in the city of “Betar” (southwest of Jerusalem). However, this battle turned out to be Simon Bar Kosiba’s “last stand” as the city of “Betar” fell on the “9th of Av” in the year 135. And the Jews lost Jerusalem again.

The Story of Razing, The “Temple Site” is Leveled

Whenever there are earthquakes, buildings are toppled to the ground. Men and machinery are brought to clear the “destruction” and level the ground so new structures can be erected. This is the thought behind what Turnus Rufus (a Roman officer) did to the site of the Second Temple on the “9th of Av.” He “cleared” the site so a Roman city called Aelia Capitolina could be built. The sin of Israel’s Kings, Priests, and teachers led Israel astray. Therefore, God used the Prophet Micah to prophesy that the Second Temple would be “leveled.”

“Then I said, “Listen, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of the house of Israel. Should you not know justice, you who hate good and love evil...Then they will cry out to the LORD, but he will not answer them. At that time, he will hide his face from them because of the evil they have done...They will all cover their faces because there is no answer from God...Hear this, you leaders of the house of Jacob, you rulers of the house of Israel, who despise justice and distort all that is right; who build Zion with bloodshed and Jerusalem with wickedness. Her leaders judge for a bribe, her priests teach for a price, and her prophets tell fortunes for money. Yet they lean upon the LORD and say, “Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us.” Therefore because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the temple hill, a mound overgrown with thickets.” Micah 3:1–12

Jesus also said the same thing.

“Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. **“Do you see all these things?” he asked. “I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; everyone will be thrown down.”** Matthew 24:1–2

The Story of Lies, The First Crusade is Declared

For thousands of years, Jews, Muslims, and even Christians have claimed that Jerusalem is their Holy City and that the Land of Israel belongs to them. So, who does “Jerusalem” belong to? Jerusalem, God’s Holy City, belongs to the God of the Bible. God gave the Jewish people Jerusalem in the Land of Israel. Therefore, the historical and Biblical evidence proves that the Jews lived in the “Promised Land” for thousands of years before any Christian or Muslim did. (see the sixth Covenant, “Land Covenant”). With that in mind, the Jews lost the Second Temple over five hundred years later and were banished to the “four corners” of the earth. The Muslims entered Jerusalem and took control. They built the “**Dome of the Rock**” on the Temple Mount.



The Muslims allowed Christians and Jews to make pilgrimages to visit Jerusalem and live there.

However, around 1095 C.E., a new group of Muslims called “Seljuk Turks” took control of Israel and Jerusalem. **This incident “ignited” a “war machine” called the “Crusades.”**

The stated goal of the Crusades was to conquer the Land of Israel for the benefit of the “Christians.” Therefore, on the “9th of Av,” Pope Urban II of the Roman Catholic Church declared the beginning of the First Crusade.

Eight Crusades were fought throughout the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries.

However, the Crusades were perpetrated by “lies.” Let us examine some of them.

To begin, Pope Urban II told the “Christians” in Europe to “Take up the cross” and become “Crusaders.” The word “Crusade” comes from the Latin word “crux,” meaning cross. However, “Take up the cross” is a misrepresentation of what Jesus said,

“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?” Matthew 16:24–28

Keep in mind that in Jesus’ day, the Cross meant ONLY one thing: death by the most painful and humiliating means human beings had developed to date. That is why the Romans forced convicted criminals to carry “their own cross” to the place of their crucifixion while they faced humiliation, ridicule, and scorn along the way. You will recall that Jesus carried “His cross” up to Golgotha. So, when Jesus said, “Take up his cross,” He meant it literally! Therefore, if you were convicted and punished to death by crucifixion, you would have to “take up ‘your’ cross” to the place of your crucifixion.

That said, the Pope lied to the “Crusaders” because he conveniently forgot to include the “connecting” verses “Deny yourself” “and follow me”-[Jesus]. Instead, the Pope took this verse out of context and said, “Take up the cross” and “Follow me,” the Pope. Then he added, “Go to Israel, fight the Muslims, and throw them out so we, the Christians, can have the Land.” The Pope convinced the “Crusaders” that it was their duty as Christians to “liberate” the Land of Israel for the Christians, sake. This is a lie. Israel belongs to the Jews-NOT, the Christians, and NOT any other people group.

I believe that if the “Crusaders” who were indeed Christians (most were not) had a Bible and read it, they would have never left Europe. But the Crusaders “conveniently” did not know or did not understand.

Another lie that Pope Urban II perpetrated on the “Crusaders” was diabolical. **He promised them “forgiveness of their sins” if they left Europe to fight the Muslims.**

However, ONLY Jesus can forgive sins.

“When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves...Who can forgive sins but God alone... and he said to them... Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...” He said to the paralytic, “I tell you, get up, take your mat, and go home.” Mark 2:1–12

Many of the “Crusaders” who went to Israel to fight the Muslims did so because they believed their sins would be forgiven. How sad!

Remember that the Crusaders went to war under orders from the Roman Catholic Church, which they believed was the “True Christian Church.” Not so! They also believed that the Pope was God’s true representative. Not so, either! In the Crusader’s attempt to capture Israel, tens of thousands of God’s people, the Jews, were killed, and numerous Jewish Communities were decimated. The killing of God’s people was made in the name of “Jesus Christ” by people “wearing” or adorning a “Cross” on their clothing and weaponry.

My study shows that the Crusaders were likely also singing Christian hymns as they slaughtered God’s people. The greatest tragedy is that today, many Jews are suspicious of Christians, the symbol of the cross, and the Christian Church. This is understandable! The reason is that Jews still equate Christians, the symbol of the cross, and the Christian Church with the Crusades.

Therefore, please tell your Jewish friends that the Crusades did NOT originate with the God of the Bible. The Crusaders were NOT Christ’s ambassadors.

In my study, it appears that the Roman Catholic Church may have had “other” motives in wanting to conquer Israel away from the Muslims. They used their “stated purpose” (which sounded spiritual but was Biblically diabolical) along with lies to manipulate tens of thousands of “so-called” Christians to do their bidding. They may have done this for “political and financial gain.” That said, lies and spiritual manipulation still occur within “Faith” circles. Take, for example, the term “Church,” which appears on many “buildings.” The word “Church” on a *building* does not mean the people in that “church building” are authentic Christians or that it is a “True Biblical Church.” Also, “Pastor” or other “designation” may appear after a person’s name. But that does not mean the person is a “True Christ Follower,” either.

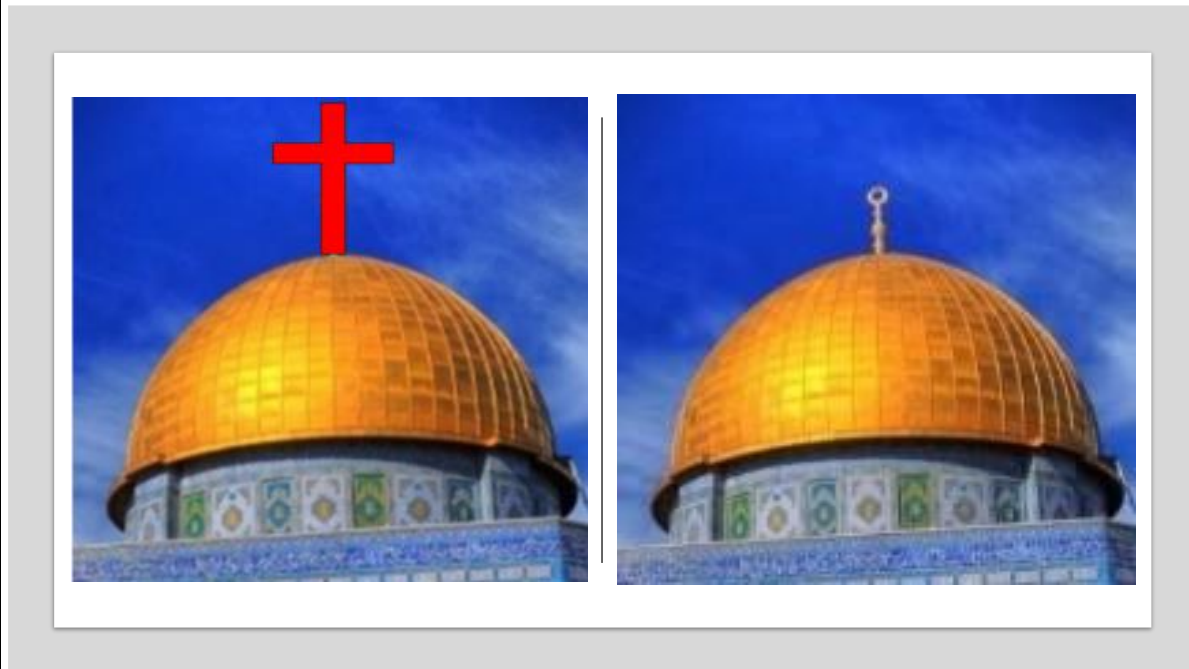
In conclusion, Pope Urban II acted treasonously against God, His Word, and His People by beginning the Crusades. He was a false prophet. Here is what Jesus said about “false prophets.”

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit, you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit, you will recognize them.”
Matthew 7:15–20

Here is what the Apostle Paul said.

“But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them. They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth...men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. But they will

not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone. 2 Timothy 3:1–9



The “Cross” was a symbol of suffering and shame during the time of the Romans. Then, during the Crusades, the “Cross” became a symbol of fear and dread as Jews and Muslims who saw it knew they would most likely be killed. Today, millions of people wear the “Cross” as jewelry to identify themselves as “Christ-followers,” those who do not know Christ. Therefore, just because you see a “Cross” adorned around somebody’s neck or affixed on a building does not mean that person or person(s) know Jesus Christ.

Interestingly, after the Crusaders captured Jerusalem in 1099, they put a “Cross” on top of the Dome of the Rock. It became a Church called the “*Templum Domini*,” the Temple of God.

In summary, the Crusades began under “false pretenses” by a “false church” and a “false leader”-Pope Urban II. The God of the Bible was NEVER a part of this “false campaign.” To call the “Dome of the Rock” with a Cross of top-Temple of God is a travesty.

For the Jews today, the fact that the “Dome of the Rock” sits on top of the Holy Ground where God’s TRUE Temple once stood is an “abomination.”

After the Muslims recaptured Jerusalem, the Dome of the Rock was re-consecrated as a Muslim shrine. A “crescent moon replaced the cross on top of the “Dome.” Interestingly, the symbol of a “crescent moon and star” has been adapted to the “Flags” of countries where Islam is a state religion or has a large Muslim population.

Finally, one defining “hallmark” of a TRUE Christian Church and Christ-follower is that they LOVE Israel and Jewish people. They will do everything in their power to BLESS Israel and the Jews. The

Crusaders did neither. Instead, they defiled God’s Land and killed God’s people. Therefore, the Crusades and the Crusaders failed for these and other reasons.

The Jews Want to Build a Third Temple

The Romans destroyed the Second Temple in 70 AD, so the Jews have NOT been able to observe this Feast Biblically for 2,000 years. The Jews need and want a Third Temple. But they can’t build it because the Muslim shrine “Dome of the Rock” sits on the **Temple Mount**.



What to do?

1967 and the Six-Day War

During the Six-Day War in 1967, the Jews regained control of the Temple Mount. But they didn’t remove the Dome of the Rock and rebuilt the Third Temple. “**Logic**” says they should have, but they gave up control to “Jordan.” So, the Jews are back to square one. They want a Third Temple, but the Dome of the Rock is on Temple Mount. **What to do?**



The answer is contained within the greatest prophecy in the Bible. Please review the file on our website, “Most Significant,” which provides details.

The Story of Jewish Money Lenders: The Jews are Expelled from England

To understand why King Edward I expelled the Jews from England, let us review what God instructed the Jews regarding money lending. One aspect of the Mosaic Law was that Jews were not to charge interest on any loans they made to each other.

“If you lend money to one of my people among you who is needy, do not be like a moneylender; charge him no interest. If you take your neighbor’s cloak as a pledge, return it to him by sunset because his cloak is the only covering he has for his body. What else will he sleep in? When he cries out to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.” Exodus 22:25–27

Also, at the end of every seven years, all debts in force amongst fellow Jews were to be canceled.

“At the end of every seven years, you must cancel debts...Every creditor shall cancel the loan he has made to his fellow Israelite. He shall not require payment from his fellow Israelite or brother because the LORD’s time for canceling debts has been proclaimed. You may require payment from a foreigner, but you must cancel any debt your brother owes you... The seventh year, the year for canceling debts, is near...If a fellow Hebrew, a man, or a woman, sells himself to you and serves you six years in the seventh year, you must let him go free. And when you release him, do not send him away empty-handed. Supply him liberally from your field, your threshing floor, and your winepress. Give to him as the LORD your God has blessed you. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt, and the LORD, your God, redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today.”

A Jew who had indentured themselves as an enslaved person could become a “servant for life.” “But if your servant says to you, “I do not want to leave you,” because he loves you and your family and is well off with you, then take an awl and push it through his ear lobe into the door, and he will become your servant for life. Do the same for your maidservant. Do not consider it a hardship to set your servant free because his service to you these six years has been worth twice as much as that of a hired hand. And the LORD, your God, will bless you in everything you do.” Deuteronomy 15:1–18

The Jews used a different “set of standards” than all the other “people groups.” “If one of your countrymen becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him as you would an alien or a temporary resident so he can continue to live among you. Do not take interest of any kind from him...You must not lend him money at interest or sell him food at a profit. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God. “If one of your countrymen becomes poor among you and sells himself to you, do not make him work as a slave. He is to be treated as a hired worker or a temporary resident among you; he is to work for you until the Year of Jubilee. Then he and his children are to be released, and he will go back to his own clan and to the property of his forefathers. Because the Israelites are my servants, whom I brought out of Egypt, they must not be sold as slaves. Do not rule over them ruthlessly but fear your God. Leviticus 25:35–43

That said, the mindset amongst the Christians living in Europe at the time (before the Jews were expelled) was that lending money and charging interest was un-Christian and sinful. However, the Bible never explicitly says you cannot lend money or charge interest. Instead, the Bible says you are a slave to the lender if you borrow. “The borrower is servant to the lender.” Proverbs 22:7

The Bible also says that if you borrow, then you should pay it back. “The wicked borrow and do not repay.” Psalm 37:21

Jesus also reiterates the main points regarding money lending. “Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. Matthew 5:42

“And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ lend to ‘sinners,’ expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” Luke 6:34–36

The Jews were not allowed to charge interest on money they loaned to fellow Jews. The Mosaic Law allowed Jews to lend money (with interest) to “foreigners,” who were Non-Jews and Christians. Therefore, that is what many Jews over many centuries did—they were money lenders.

In England, the “government” borrowed heavily from Jewish moneylenders. In fact, “William the Conqueror” offered the Jewish “Money Lenders” special status of protection and “declared” them to be subjects of the King. However, this “special status” came with a “cost.” Therefore, anytime the King needed money, he would impose a “special tax” against the Jewish moneylenders without Parliament’s approval. This system worked as long as the Jews were allowed to “make money” to pay the “special tax” when it was imposed. However, things became progressively more difficult for the Jews living in England as anti-Semitism continued to rise.

Then, in 1287, King Edward I preemptively seized all Jewish property and transferred all debts owed to the Jews to his name. This meant that any money owed to the Jews was now directly owed to King Edward I himself. What a despicable act! And then, on July 18, 1290, the “9th of Av,” King Edward I issued an “Edict of Expulsion.” Jews had until November 1st to leave England. Any Jews who remained after that date would be executed. And if you think that was bad enough, the Jews also had to pay “another” special tax before leaving. It is estimated that about 3,000 Jews were forced to leave England.

It is important to recall that God is in control, and His Promises are TRUE. One of God’s promises is revealed in the Abrahamic Covenant. God placed the Jews on the earth to Bless the Gentiles. In turn, the Gentiles are to Bless the Jews. Unfortunately, King Edward did not understand this Biblical Truth. So, he deliberately stole Jewish property, money, and wealth by expelling them from England. In actuality, he was also invoking God’s curses. However, this “despicable act” of stealing property, money, and wealth from the Jews had already occurred many times in Israel’s history. And the “same” would happen many times in the future. And though the Jews had been expelled from England, they would continue their role in money lending worldwide. The Jews would also return to England.

In 1798, Nathan Mayer von Rothschild (a Jew) founded The Rothschild Banking Family of England. The “Rothschilds” name would become synonymous with “Banking” as they created and owned many of the “Central Banks” throughout the world. **But their MOST significant role as “Zionists” was to help the Jews return to their God-Given Land-ISRAEL!**

The Story of America, The Jews are Expelled from Spain

After the Jews were driven out of Jerusalem in 70 AD, they were scattered to the “four corners” of the world. Sometimes, the “foreign” Countries the Jews lived in were kind to them, and sometimes they were not. And although many of these Countries had a strong “Church” presence, as a whole, the “Church” FAILED the Jews. One of the most significant failings of the “Church” was its attempt to “force” the Jews to convert to “Christianity.”

It is important to remember that you cannot force anyone to believe The Gospel of Jesus Christ and become a Christian. The Gospel is a personal choice that comes by God’s Spirit, “moving” in the heart of the “seeker.” A person may believe after hearing the Gospel preached in the context of a sermon or biblical teaching. Sometimes, they believe after reading the Gospels in their Bible. Or, other times, after a spiritual conversation with a friend.

And as far as “conversion” goes, it is also essential to understand that a Jew who believes the Gospel of Jesus Christ does NOT “forfeit their Jewish background. Nor do they forsake their Jewish traditions, including the Festivals, Shabbat, etc. Instead, Christianity brings everything Jewish into its TRUE perspective. A Jew who believes in the Gospel does NOT “convert” to Christianity. Christianity is the fulfillment of Judaism.

Also, remember that many different denominations exist within the “Worldwide” Church. Each denomination also has many distinctive leadership styles, music, and rituals. And, so long as a “Church” believes in the “Essentials” of the Gospel. Though they may differ in the “non-essential” doctrines (for purposes of this discussion), they are a Christian Church. It is also important to remember that not everyone who is part of the “Church” is a TRUE Christian. Therefore, if the “Church” understood what I said about “conversions” and what God’s Word says about how “Gentiles” should treat the Jews, I believe most of the “violence” against the Jews (and other people groups) in the NAME of the Church might have been avoided.

One denomination prevalent throughout Church History is the “Catholic Church.” Catholics sometimes get a “bad rap” from mainline denominations who say Catholics are not Christian. That is not true! I know “Catholics” who are born again-Spirit Filled-Bible believing Christians. You probably do, too.

With all this in mind, let us go back to Spain at the time of “Christopher Columbus,” where the “Catholic Church” had a dominant presence. Unfortunately, the Catholic Church “forced” the Jews to convert to Catholicism. It is estimated that over half of Spain’s Jewish population “supposedly” converted. However, most of these Jews continued to practice Judaism. The “Church” got “fed up” with these “faked” conversions.

Therefore, on March 31, 1492, King Ferdinand and his wife Isabella proclaimed that the Jews would be expelled from Spain. The Jews were given four months to sell their property, put their affairs in order, and leave. However, the Gentiles and even the Christians took advantage of the situation. Jews selling their homes (and private property) received much less than it was worth.

Also, the Jews could not get anyone to repay the “loans” they had made. The “debtors” knew the Jews were on their “way out,” so they did not honor the repayment of their loans.

On July 31, 1492 (the 9th of Av”), the mandate was enforced. Any Jew who remained was executed and their property confiscated. God knew His People were going to be expelled from Spain, so He was working “behind the scenes.”

F

or months before the Jews’ expulsion, Christopher Columbus had “talks” with “Ferdinand and Isabella” about “blessing” an expedition with the “stated” objective of discovering “New Worlds” for Spain. Christopher Columbus not only needed “Ferdinand and Isabella’s” blessing but also financing and “letters,” which would guarantee his ships and crew “safe passage.” Therefore, two days after the Jews were expelled from Spain, Christopher Columbus set sail on August 2, 1492.

Interestingly, my research shows an ongoing “debate” over whether Christopher Columbus was a Jew. There are many “clues” that point to that possibility. Nevertheless, the hand of God was leading Christopher Columbus to the “New World”-AMERICA. God had in mind that America would become a “safe haven” for the Jewish people and (other people groups). America would be a “Land” where Jews could live and thrive until Israel was re-born.

The First “Evidence” of the Jew’s newfound freedom and security in America is demonstrated by the opening of the “First” Jewish Synagogue (see picture).



It was opened in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1790 and called “Touro Synagogue.” In a letter addressing this monumental event, President George Washington wrote, *“May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwells in the land continue to merit and enjoy the goodwill of the other inhabitants. While everyone shall sit safely under his own vine and fig tree, there shall be none to make him afraid.”*

The reference to a “vine and fig tree” comes from Micah 4:1-5

“In the last days, the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the LORD Almighty has spoken. All the nations may walk in the name of their gods; we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.”

The “Literal” meaning of these verses is that “One Day,” the Jews will find safety and peace under their vine and fig tree in Jerusalem. However, President Washington was implying a “figurative” meaning—in AMERICA— the Jews have FOUND safety and peace.

It is interesting to note that many of the “Founding Fathers” reference the Bible.

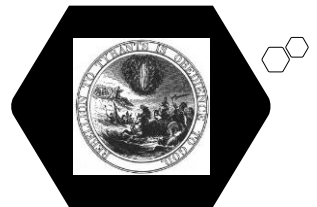
John Adams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, said, *“I have examined all religions, and the result is that the Bible is the best book in the world.”*

John Quincy Adams, the sixth President of the United States, said, *“My hopes of a future life are all founded upon the Gospel of Christ.”*

Samuel Adams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, said, *“The name of the Lord (says the Scripture) is a strong tower; thither the righteous flee and are safe [Proverbs 18:10]. Let us secure His favor, and He will lead us through the journey of this life and, at length, receive us to a better.”*

Also, the “Early Settlers” (Pilgrims) who settled in “New England” make references to the Bible. They viewed their emigration from England as a re-enactment of the Exodus from Egypt. To them, England was Egypt, the King of England was the Pharaoh, the Atlantic Ocean was the Red Sea, America was the Land of Israel, and the Indians were the Canaanites. They saw themselves as the NEW Israelites, entering the new “Promised Land.”

Many of “America’s Symbolisms” make references to the Bible. For example, the first design for the “Official Seal” of the United States (see picture) depicts the Jews crossing the Red Sea. The motto around the seal reads: “Resistance to Tyrants is Obedience to God.”



The “Liberty Bell” inscription at Independence Hall in Philadelphia is a direct quote from Leviticus (25:10). “Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.”



Many “Seals” from America’s first Universities reference the Bible. Harvard was America’s First University, founded in 1636 to train Christian Ministers. The motto on Harvard University’s

“Original Seal” is the Latin words “Veritas Christo et Ecclesiae,” which means “Truth for Christ and the Church.” Excerpts from Harvard’s original “Student Rules” include the following.

“Let every Student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3). And therefore, to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom. Let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of him (Prov. 2:3). “Everyone shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day, that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein, both in Theoretical observations of Language and Logic and in practical and spiritual truths, as his Tutor shall require, according to his ability; seeing the entrance of the word giveth light, it giveth understanding to the simple (Psalm 119:130).”

Princeton University was also started as a Christian University. Their Latin motto is “Dei Sub Numine Viget,” which means “Under the Protection of God She Flourishes.” its “Seal” contains an “Open Book” (Bible) and is inscribed with “Vet. Nov. Testamentum,” which refers to the Old and New Testament.

Yale University was also started as a Christian University. At the top of Yale’s “Seal” are the Latin Words “Lux et Veritas,” which means “Light and Truth.”



Underneath is an “Open Book” (Bible) with the Hebrew Words “Urim V’ Timum.”



To understand the “Urim” and “Thummim,” we need to look at the “High Priest” of Israel. Like all of Israel’s “Priests,” the High Priest comes from the Tribe of Levi. Pictured is the “Breastplate”

that the High Priest wore. Embedded in the breastplate were “Twelve Precious” stones. Each stone represented one of the “Twelve Tribes” of Israel. Located behind the breastplate was a “pouch,” which held “Two Stones” that were white and black. The white stone was called the “Urim,” and the black stone was called the “Thummim.”

“Make sacred garments for your brother Aaron, to give him dignity and honor...make a breast piece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban, and a sash... “Fashion a breast piece for making decisions...Make it like the ephod: of gold, and of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn and of finely twisted linen. It is to be square...Then mount four rows of precious stones on it. In the first row, there shall be a ruby, a topaz, and a beryl; in the second row, a turquoise, a sapphire, and an emerald; in the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; in the fourth row a chrysolite, an onyx, and a jasper. Mount them in gold filigree settings. There are to be twelve stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the twelve tribes... “Whenever Aaron enters the Holy Place, he will bear the names of the sons of Israel over his heart on the breast piece of decision as a continuing memorial before the LORD. Also, put the Urim and the Thummim in the breast piece so they may be over Aaron’s heart whenever he enters the presence of the LORD. Thus, Aaron will always bear the means of making decisions for the Israelites over his heart before the LORD.” Exodus 28:1–30

Therefore, in “matters of decision,” the High Priest would seek God and ask God to reveal His “Will.” Then the High Priest would reach into the pouch and pull out one of the two stones, either the “Urim” or the “Thummim.” It is believed that if he pulled out the “Urim” (White Stone), God’s answer was “Yes.” And if he pulled out the “Thummim” (Black Stone), God’s response was “No.”

It is essential to remember that God set up this system to reveal “His Will” through the High Priest. Therefore, the “Urim” and “Thummim” should NOT be confused with the “casting of lots,” “sorcery,” or “divination.” These are NOT God’s ways for Christians to seek “answers” from God. That said, when Yale’s “Seal” was developed, the message its “creator” wanted to reveal was, “Seek after God in ALL matters of decision.” It coincides with Yale University’s earlier “Student Rules” guidebook, which stated, *“Every student shall consider the main end of his study to know God in Jesus Christ and answerably to lead a Godly sober life.”*

America is a GREAT Country. MANY Jewish people (and other people groups) have made America “Great.” But we must also remember that the God of the Bible made His Covenants with the Jewish People. **America has been a “safe haven” for the Jews. Therefore, as America continues to BLESS the Jews (and Israel), America can count on God to BLESS America. In turn, may the Jews continue to BLESS the Gentiles. And may the Gentiles continue to BLESS the Jews.**

The Story of World War I, Germany Declares War on Russia

World War 1 was precipitated by the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his pregnant wife, Sophie Sarajevo, on June 28, 1914. One month after the Archduke's assassination, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia with the backing of Germany. Germany then declared war on Russia on August 1, on the 9th of Av. And within months, the "World" was at war. However, a MOST remarkable document concerning the "Jewish People" was written towards the end of the war. This document is known as the "Balfour Declaration."

The Story of a Madman, World War II, and the German "Final Solution"

In September 1939, the Nazis invaded Poland, and the persecution of the Jews began. However, it wasn't until August 2, 1941 (the "9th of Av) that SS commander Heinrich Himmler formally received approval from the Nazi Party for "The Final Solution." This would begin the "formal" extermination of over six million Jews-the Holocaust.

The United States did not join WWII until December 1941, after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Then, on July 23, 1942 (the 9th of Av), the mass deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto (Poland) began. These Jews were taken to the Nazi concentration extermination camp in "Treblinka" Poland. There, the Jews were either exterminated or "enslaved" to work for the Nazis until their bodies gave way. Then they were killed.

After Adolf Hitler, SS Officer Adolf Eichmann was one of the most pKingal orchestrators of the "Final Solution." He was also probably the most notable Nazi executioner.

It's important to note that General Eisenhower decided to visit as many Nazi concentration camps as he could at the end of World War II. He wanted to document the camps, "Lest We Forget."

General Eisenhower envisioned a time in the "future" when the Nazi atrocities might be denied. Therefore, he ordered the filming and photographing of the Nazi concentration camps as they were liberated. He also made it a point to be photographed with horrible "images" to prove the concentration of "death" camps indeed existed. Therefore, we should thank God for General Eisenhower's "foresight" in "documenting the Nazi atrocities. He was right! Today, we are living in a time when "many" are denying that the Holocaust even happened.

But it did happen!

You have most likely seen pictures of the emaciated bodies of the Jews rescued from the concentration camps or ages of dead Jews, their "skin and bones" lying in open graves. With that in mind, there can be no doubt that Ezekiel prophesied about the Holocaust and the Jewish People's return to the Land of Israel.

“The hand of the LORD was upon me...and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “O Sovereign LORD, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.’” So, I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them, and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” So, I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ Therefore, prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.’” Ezekiel 37:1–14

Sound Trumpets: In 1948, Israel was Reborn

Prophetically, “Three Things” must occur before Jesus Returns.

1. The Land of Israel must be returned and controlled by the Jews.
2. The Jewish People must return to their Land-Israel.
3. The “City of Jerusalem” must be under Jewish Control.



With the above in mind, the Jewish people suffered during the DARK period of the Holocaust. However, the Jewish people’s “Great Suffering” also produced Great Empathy following the war’s end. The “NATIONS” were “stirred” as they saw the pictures of:

- ❖ The ovens had incinerated hundreds of thousands of Jews.
- ❖ The massive gravesites were where dead Jews had been mercilessly thrown in.

❖ The emaciated bodies of Jews who had miraculously survived.

Therefore, on **May 14, 1948**, the United Nations voted to give the Land of Israel to the Jewish people-The State of Israel was re-born. The Jewish people who had been scattered to the four corners of the world (after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD) began returning to Israel. **It was and is “Still” time to rejoice with the sounding of Trumpets.**

“All you people of the world, you who live on the earth, when a banner is raised on the mountains, you will see it, and when a trumpet sounds, you will hear it... At that time, gifts will be brought to the LORD Almighty... to Mount Zion, the place of the Name of the LORD Almighty.”
Isaiah Rebirth

Interestingly, the Prophet Isaiah prophesied about this miraculous “event” of Israel’s rebirth.

“Before she goes into labor, she gives birth; before the pains come upon her, she delivers a son. Who has ever heard of such a thing? Who has ever seen such things? Can a country be born in a day, or a nation be brought forth in a moment?” Isaiah 66:7–13

The “Land” the Jewish People were given, “ISRAEL,” is the “Same Land” God had promised his People and the “Same Land” the Jewish People had “Occupied” thousands of years earlier.

Another of God’s “Repetitive Cycles”

There is no denying that God had the year “1948” in mind from the very “beginning.” God knew that in 1948, Israel would be Reborn. Therefore, God caused and allowed all “human events” to occur, leading to this Biblical and historical event: Israel’s Re-Birth.

That said, there is no denying a “repetitive cycle” of numbers, dates, events, times, and seasons in the Bible. For example:

The 14th day after the first full moon of every Spring is “Passover.”

Throughout Israel’s history, God rescued His people from the consequences of their sins. He restored and blessed them, but God’s People always fell back into a pattern of sin.

God’s People would come to the Tabernacle and the Temple to sacrifice an animal because of their sins. It was never-ending. But **this “repetitive cycle” was finally broken** when Jesus Christ, the “Sinless One,” came. Jesus is the “Spotless Lamb” who sacrificed Himself Once and for **ALL** (for you and me) on Passover.

I asked the question. Is the number “1948” found in the Bible? The answer- “It is not.” But there are “hints” of the number “1948.” But “1948” is incredibly significant in Jewish and Modern History. Let us take a look.

To begin, we know the “genealogical records” of the Bible are very accurate, indicating “**who begat who.**” Therefore, there are no disputes regarding “The People” in the genealogies. The Bible also provides “information” that allows us to determine the “age” of each person in the lineages. But there are “calendar issues,” so no one can be 100% certain of everyone’s exact age.

Let us consider the “Timeline” between Adam and Abraham. Some have studied the different options and believe there are “1948” years between Adam and Abraham. Others have concluded it is a different number. But generally speaking, the range of discrepancies is small within a “range” of plus or minus 50 years. Therefore, it is within the “realm of possibility” that the “Timeline” between Adam and Abraham could be “1948” years.

Now, let us consider the “Timeline” between Jesus and the Rebirth of Israel. How many years are there between the two? Again, no one knows because of calendar issues, including not knowing exactly when Jesus was born. But generally speaking, the “range” of discrepancies is plus or minus 5-10 years. Therefore, it is within the “realm of possibility” that the “Timeline” between Jesus’s birth and the “Rebirth” of Israel could also be “1948” years. That is something to think about!

Sound the Trumpet, Israel Recaptures Jerusalem, in 1967

Though “Israel” had been Re-Born, and Jews were returning to the Land, “Jerusalem” was not under Israeli control. But yet again, it came to pass by God’s incredible miracle-working power. On **June 7, 1967**, after the “Six-Day War,” God enabled the Jews to recapture Jerusalem.

Some paratroopers descended into Jerusalem after they entered through “The Lion’s Gate” and captured the “Western Wall.” In the center of the photo is Rabbi Shlomo Goren, chief rabbi of the IDF. And as you can see, he is blowing a Shofar.



After the Western Wall was “captured,” it is said that Rabbi Goren was the “first” person to have blown the Shofar (God’s Trumpet) at the “Western Wall.” And as Rabbi Goren blew the Shofar at the “Western Wall,” he quoted the following verse, which was given to Moses on Mount Sini.

“When you go into battle in your own land against an enemy who is oppressing you, sound a blast on the trumpets. Then you will be remembered by the LORD your God and rescued from your enemies.” Numbers 10:9

It was at this MOMENT that the prayers of the Jews for thousands of years were answered. **Jerusalem is NOW under Jewish Control. And again, Jerusalem has been “redeemed.”**

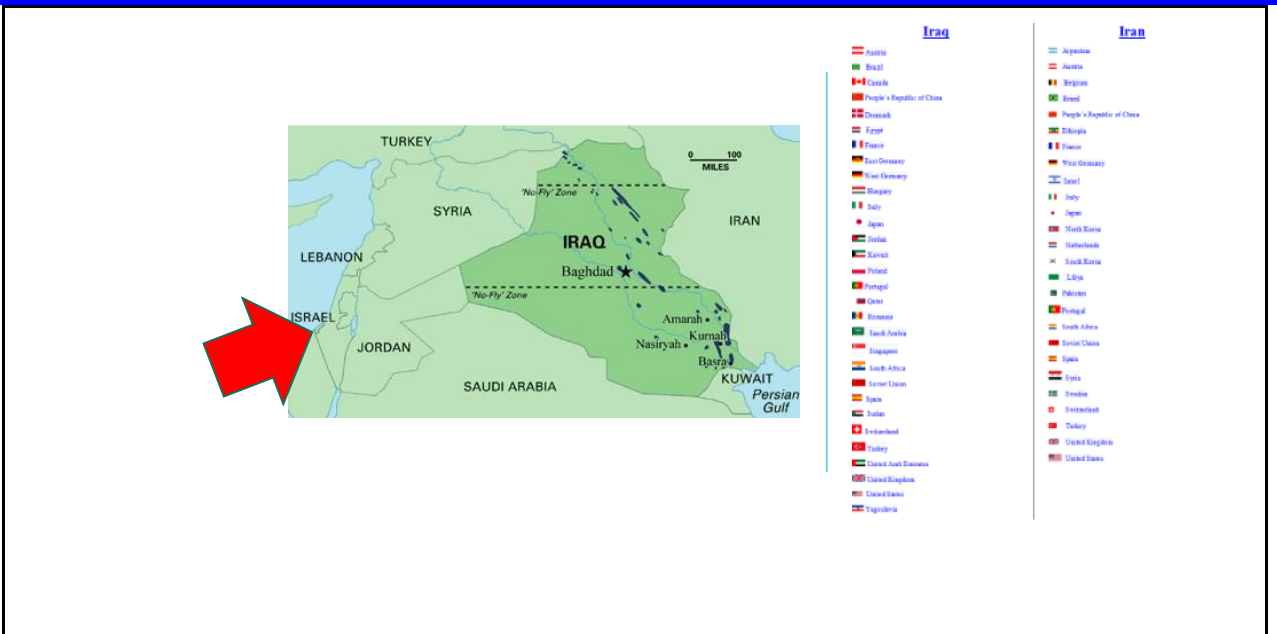
“The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will

be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution, he will come to save you.” Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds, and papyrus will grow. And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it. No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.” Isaiah 35:1–10

Notably, this “miracle” of Israel regaining control of Jerusalem was another of “God’s Repetitive Cycles.” You will recall that in the story of Gideon, The People of God marched around the “City of Jericho” for “Six Days.” And then, on the seventh day, God gave them victory and “The City.” The same happened to “Israel.” They fought for “Six Days,” and on the seventh day, God gave Israel the victory to include capturing Gaza and the “Territories” in the “West Bank,” known by their Biblical names of “Judah” and “Samaria.”

More Calamities Concerning Israel Occur on the 9th of Av...

**The Story of Revival and “Great War” to Come,
Iraq Walks Out of Talks with Kuwait**



From 1980-1988, Israel’s neighbors to the North, Iraq and Iran, were at war. The bitter conflict began when President Saddam Hussein of Iraq invaded Iran. Saddam was a brutal dictator and often used chemical weapons during the war. He also used chemical weapons against his people. It was also a costly war for both sides, with an estimated death toll of over a million people.

Please look at the RED arrow pointing to the “little sliver” of land, ISRAEL.

The chart shows which Countries supported Iraq and which supported Iran. Though not a World War, most of the World’s “superpowers” participated in supplying financing, armaments, or logistical support.

Interestingly, you will notice that Israel supported Iran (logistically). Though Israel was enemies of Iran, they hated Saddam Hussein more. Also, please keep in mind that many of Iran’s citizens love the Jews. Their government HATES Israel.

The Iraq and Iran conflict was economically costly, and Saddam could not repay the borrowed loans to finance the war. So, in July 1990, Saddam “preemptively” accused Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates of flooding the oil market and driving down oil prices. He also accused Kuwait of stealing billions of dollars of oil from wells along Iraq’s border. Kuwait countered by claiming Iraq was trying to “muscle” neighboring Countries (including Kuwait) into writing off billions of dollars in debts Iraq had accumulated from the war. President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt tried to broker peace between Iraq and Kuwait in Saudi Arabia.

However, Iraq walked out of the peace talks after just “one session” on the 9th of Av. The ramifications of these failed peace talks would have deadly consequences for Israel.

It was clear from the beginning that Saddam had no intention of desiring “peace” with Kuwait. Instead, he wanted Kuwait’s immense wealth and oil resources. Therefore, within two days of the failed peace talks, Iraq’s “massive” army invaded Kuwait and took complete control. This barbaric act infuriated the United States, other World Powers, and the United Nations. Within weeks, the United Nations Security Council formally demanded that Iraq withdraw from Kuwait. Saddam refused, and The Persian Gulf War (also called “Operation Desert Storm” and “Operation Desert Shield”) began in January of 1991. The first U.S.-led air offensive obliterated Saddam’s airplanes and tanks. This was followed by a larger and more complex ground offensive than WWII’s “D-Day” invasion.

Interestingly, many of Iraq’s neighbors who had supported Saddam during the Iraq-Iran war were now his enemies. They had joined the US-led “Coalition” against him. So, what did Saddam do? Saddam launched a series of “scud” missile attacks on Israel and inflicted many casualties in Israel’s largest City, Tel Aviv. Fearing that Saddam’s “scud” missiles might be carrying chemical weaponry, Israel planned its retaliation, and that’s exactly what Saddam was counting on. Saddam knew that Israel’s retribution would be swift and sure. Neighboring Countries that had joined the US-led “Coalition” would be forced to decide. Though they hated Saddam for invading Kuwait, they hated Israel even MORE. Therefore, Saddam counted on them leaving the “Coalition” and helping him fight against Israel. Saddam Hussein, indeed, was a “madman.”

Thankfully, the United States “talked Israel down,” and Israel did not retaliate, and it averted WWII in the Middle East.

Besides being a certifiable “madman,” Saddam Hussein often compared himself to King Nebuchadnezzar. Saddam had repeatedly indicated his desire to rebuild Babylon (Iraq) to reflect the same splendor as King Nebuchadnezzar. Saddam was well on his way to restoring his “Palace” to emulate King Nebuchadnezzar’s Palace. Sadly, Saddam never read the book of Daniel, chapter four. Had he read and understood, he would have realized that King Nebuchadnezzar was a “madman,” too. However, King Nebuchadnezzar turned his heart to the Living God, and God healed his mind and restored his “sanity.” King Nebuchadnezzar then issued a “decree” declaring that the God of Daniel, the God of the Bible, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had become King Nebuchadnezzar’s God, too.

By February 1991, Coalition forces had successfully expelled the Iraqi Army from Kuwait. The Iraqi Army was so fearful of the United States military that they just gave up without a fight. To them, we were like “Giants,” and they were like “grasshoppers.” However, Saddam successfully evaded capture. Then, the tragedy of “9-11” struck “home” in 2001. Our government, believing that Saddam had “some part” in it, made his capture “Job One.” Therefore, in December 2003, the “madman” was found hiding in a “hole” like the RAT that he was. Thankfully, he was tried and executed by hanging, just like Haman in the story of Ruth.

That said, it is no surprise to anyone who has read the Bible that “Israel” is the central Country mentioned in the Bible. Jerusalem is the “City of God,” where God chose to “reside” on earth. However, Iraq is the second most mentioned Country in the Bible. In the Bible, Modern-day Iraq is called Babylon, the Land of Shinar, Mesopotamia, and Chaldea. Also, the Northern part of Iraq is called “Assyria” in the Bible. The port of Babylon is of great interest, called “Ur,” and is the hometown of Israel’s Patriarch Abraham. Let us take a look.

“This is the account of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot. While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth. Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram’s wife was Sarai... Now Sarai was barren; she had no children. Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Haran, they settled there. Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Haran. The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people, and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse, and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” So, Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated, and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem...The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring, I will give this land.” Genesis 11:27–12:9

Many Biblical accounts occurred in “Iraq,” including the story of King Nebuchadnezzar, King Belshazzar, and Daniel in “Babylon.” However, one of the fascinating stories about Iraq is the story of Nineveh. You will recall that God told “Jonah” to go and preach to the “City of Nineveh.”



Nineveh was in the upper part of “Mesopotamia” (Iraq) and was home to the Assyrians.

Here’s the Story...

God commanded Jonah to preach “The Message of God’s Redemptive Grace” to the City of Nineveh.

“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it because its wickedness has come up before me.” Jonah 1:2

Jonah knew that the Ninevites were EVIL people. He also knew that if he preached God’s “grace and mercy,” they would respond, and God would “save” them. He did not want that to happen, so Jonah boarded a ship heading to Tarshish in the opposite direction of Nineveh.

“But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He weSeadown to Jopps, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD.” Jonah 1:3

There is a big storm on the boat, “lots” are drawn, and everyone on board blames Jonah for the storm. Jonah asks to be thrown overboard, and he is, “saving” the ship and the crew. God causes a BIG fish to swallow Jonah, and he remains in the belly of the BIG fish for three days.

“Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm... But the LORD provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.”
Jonah 1:15-17

In the belly of the Big fish, Jonah has a change of heart; he repents, and God causes the BIG fish to vomit Jonah out onto the dry ground, “saving” him.

“From inside the fish, Jonah prayed to the LORD his God. He said: “In my distress, I called to the LORD, and he answered me. From the depths of the grave, I called for help, and you listened to my cry. You hurled me into the deep, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me...But you brought my life up from the pit, O LORD my God. “When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, LORD, and my prayer rose to you, to your holy temple...But I, with a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the LORD.” And the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.” Jonah 2:1-9

Jonah goes to Nineveh and preaches, and the entire City of Nineveh (over 140,000 people) is “saved” as they repent and turn their hearts to the God of the Bible.

“Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.” Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh... The Ninevites believed God... When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne...Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh...Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence... When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.” Jonah 3:1-10

Despite his preaching success, Jonah becomes angry, has depression, and is suicidal. God makes a “special vine” that “saves” Jonah. But Jonah is still angry with God for His grace and compassion towards the Ninevites. So, God again reveals His compassion for that “great city.

“But Jonah was greatly displeased and became angry... Now, O LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.” But the LORD replied, “Have you any right to be angry?” Jonah went out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade, and waited to see what would happen to the city. Then the LORD God provided a vine and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the vine. But at dawn the next day, God provided a worm, which chewed the vine so that it withered. When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah’s head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die and said, “It would be better for me to

die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Do you have a right to be angry about the vine?” “I do,” he said. “I am angry enough to die.” But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this vine, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. But Nineveh has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left, and many cattle as well. Should I not be concerned about that great city?” Jonah 4:1–11

Now, let us circle back to the “Gulf War,” which was the first war to be broadcast “Live” on television. Cable Networks displayed the “Gulf War” to the World in “real-time.” This led many to speculate that the “Gulf War” was the war of Armageddon spoken about in Revelation.

When you tour Israel, you will stop to see the “Valley of Megiddo,” the location for the future “Battle of Armageddon,” I share the view with many Biblical Scholars that the “Gulf War” wasn’t Armageddon. Instead, it was a “picture” of the “Great War” to come. This FINAL “Great War,” or war of Armageddon, will consist of a “coalition” of countries coming together to destroy Israel. But they WILL Fail.

However, there is another “Great War,” which will come before the Battle of Armageddon. It is called the war of “Gog and Magog” and is revealed in the book of Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39.

“The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal; prophesy against him and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. I will turn you around, put hooks in your jaws, and bring you out with your whole army—your horses, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde with large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords. Persia, Cush, and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets, Gomer with all its troops, and Beth Togarmah from the far north with all its troops—the many nations with you. “Get ready; be prepared, you and all the hordes gathered about you, and take command of them. After many days you will be called to arms. In future years you will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in safety. You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land. “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On that day, thoughts will come into your mind, and you will devise an evil scheme. You will say, “I will invade a land of unwallled villages; I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people—all of them living without walls and without gates and bars. I will plunder and loot and turn my hand against the resettled ruins, and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land.” Ezekiel 38:1–12

Most Bible scholars believe that the Countries mentioned in Ezekiel are those found on this map. As you can see, most of them are in Turkey. Note that except for Russia, all are “Islamic” Countries.



It is clear from Ezekiel that the war of “Gog and Magog” will occur after Israel has been “Re-Gathered,” as Jews from many Nations have come back to live in a “Land” that was once desolate.

This “regathering” began on May 14, 1948, when Israel was re-born. It is also clear that Israel is living in “safety.” It is important to note that “safety” does not necessarily mean Israel does not have enemies. Instead, it means that Israel is a “Power” with the resources and capabilities to “fearfully” ward off any aggression against Her. It is also clear that the MAIN purpose of the war of “Gog and Magog” will be to “plunder and loot” or to “take a spoil” AWAY from Israel. However, “spoil” is not identified. Israel’s only “true” Natural Resource (besides the BRAINS of Her People) is the minerals from the Dead Sea. These “Dead Sea Minerals” are used to make various “health-related” products. Maybe abundant “oil” reserves or other “mineral” reserves will be found in Israel, and Her enemies want them. But I do not believe the “Gog and Magog” war will be over that.

Here is another thought to consider. Israel has turned a vast desert into lush green pastures. Israel produces more food than it uses and is an “exporter” of many types of fruits and vegetables. Israel could do this because of the extensive infrastructure and desalinization facilities it has built. Over 80% of Israel’s water supply comes from the “Mediterranean Sea,” which has been “desalinized.” However, Israel’s neighboring Countries do not have desalinization facilities in place. So, what would happen if there were a water drought in these Countries? Without water, vegetation cannot grow, and animals raised for food cannot survive. Therefore, Israel’s “Ocean Waters” and desalination facilities become unbelievably valuable. So, this could be the “spoil,” which is the precipice for the war of “Gog and Magog.” Again, we do not know.

Interestingly, some Bible Scholars believe that the war of “Gog and Magog” is the battle of Armageddon or even a “part” of the battle of Armageddon. I (like many Bible Scholars) do not believe that because the war of “Gog and Magog” consists of Countries who come against Israel to “take away a spoil.”

The battle of Armageddon is a coalition of Countries and Nations who come against Israel to “alienate” Her. Also, we know that the battle of Armageddon is the FINAL “Great War.” It makes sense that the “Gog and Magog” war will be a “Great War,” which precedes the battle of Armageddon. Also, though we know that the battle of Armageddon “will” occur within the “7 Year Tribulation” period, we do not know when the war of “Gog and Magog” will appear. It may arise before or even during the “Tribulation.” Nevertheless, we know that in both the “Great Wars” of “Gog and Magog” and Armageddon, God will intervene, and Israel will WIN!

Interestingly, the term “Gog and Magog” is also mentioned in the book of Revelation.

“And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss and locked and sealed it over him to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended. After that, he must be set free for a short time. I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years. When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. In number, they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false Prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” Revelation 19:11–21:8

Admittedly, there is a lot in the Bible I do not understand. I certainly do not understand every aspect of the 1,000 (millennial reign). This is signified by God’s “Seventh Feast” – Tabernacles. But what I do understand is that for 1,000 years, the “New Earth” will be inhabited by believers, living in “New,” perfect, “glorified” bodies. I also understand that ALL “Nations” will worship and glorify God in the “New Jerusalem.”

Based on these earlier truths, I believe that “Gog and Magog” in Revelation does NOT refer to a coalition of countries (book of Ezekiel) who conspire to begin a war against Israel. Instead, I believe John is using “Gog and Magog” in a “figurative” form to illustrate the term “spoil” and the “taking away of a spoil.” Therefore, what is the “SPOIL” that Satan and his demons (whose numbers are like the sand of the seashore) would like to take away? It is God’s People!

After Satan and his demonic powers are released from the Abyss, they will attempt to “take away” God’s most precious “SPOIL”—His People—the people of God.

“They go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God’s people, the city he loves (New Jerusalem).”

Of course, Satan will not win, just as he does not win the earlier Great Wars of “Gog and Magog” and Armageddon. God sends down FIRE from heaven and devours Satan and his demons, who endure an eternity of torment. GOD WINS! End of Story!

The Story of Islamic Retaliation, a Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires is Bombed

When the Jews were expelled from Spain, MANY Sephardic Jews moved and formed “colonies” in the region, which became Argentina. Interestingly, Argentina is the largest country in Latin America, with the highest number of Jewish residents (over 200,000).

Also, after WWII, it is believed that many Nazis immigrated to Argentina. The most famous was Adolf Eichmann, who lived near Buenos Aires until 1960. Israeli agents tracked him down and abducted him from a Buenos Aires suburb. They took him to Israel for “War Crime” trials. Adolf Eichmann was found guilty and hanged on June 1, 1962.

A recently released movie about his capture from Argentina to Israel was called “Operation Finale.” I highly recommend seeing it!

“Hezbollah” is a militant and political organization, and its chief enemies are the United States and Israel. They are widely believed to receive support from Iran, Israel’s most formidable enemy. In February 1992, Israel had “Hezbollah” Secretary-General “Sayed Abbas al-Musawi” assassinated.

One month later (in March 1992), in “retaliation,” a suicide bomber drove a truck into the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing many people, including several Israelis. An Islamic group linked to Iran and Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack.

Then two years later, on July 18, 1994 -the 9th of Av, a suicide bomber drove a truck loaded with explosives into the “Argentine Israelite Mutual Association” (AIMA), a Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, killing eighty-five people, including Israelis and injuring hundreds more.

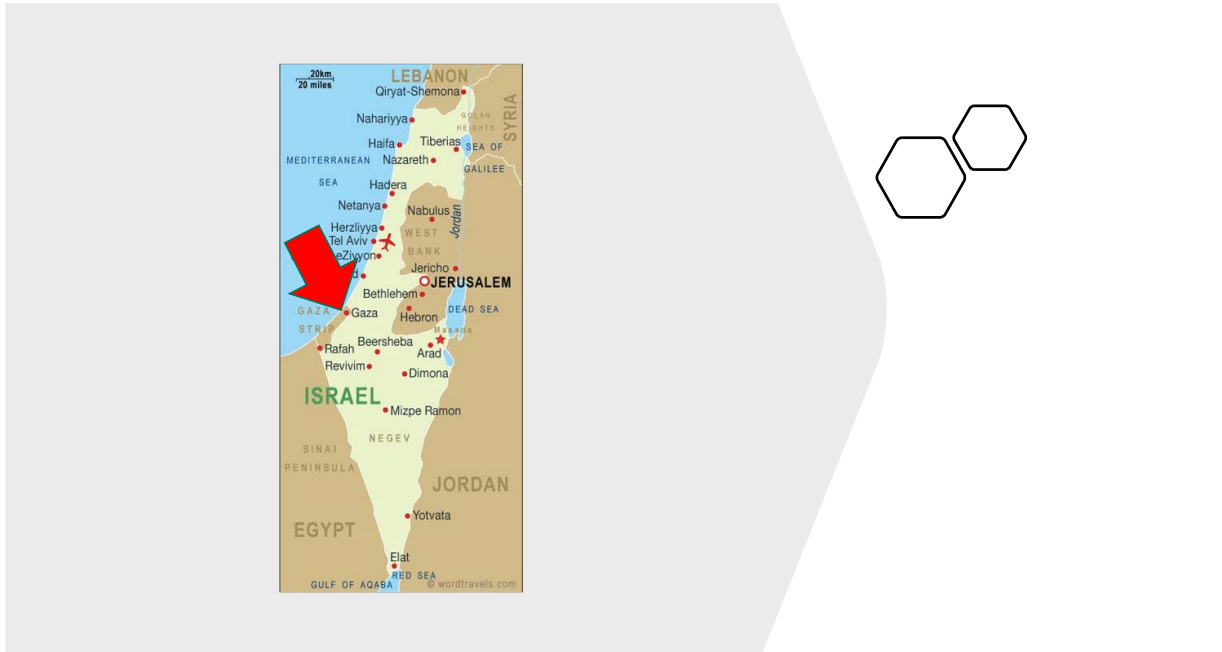
Then, the day after the AIMA attack, another suicide bomber attacked a Panamanian commuter plane, killing all 21 passengers, including 12 Jews. Then, eight days after the AIMA attack, the Israeli embassy in London was car-bombed.

Then, thirteen hours later, a car bomb exploded outside a Jewish community center in London. Again, it is believed that Hezbollah had a part in the bombings.

Today, the conflict between Israel and Iran continues. Iran’s attempt to produce or buy a nuclear bomb is of great concern.

The Story of the Palestinian Conflict, Israeli Settlements Evicted from Gaza

An earlier map showed how small Israel is compared to the other countries in the Middle East. The RED arrow is pointing to the “Gaza Strip.”
Now, notice how tiny the “Gaza Strip” is.



After the “6 Day War” in 1967, Israel gave control of the “Gaza Strip” to the Palestinians. Though the Palestinians controlled Gaza, Israeli settlements flourished in Gaza, as did the hostilities toward the Jews. Their main contention is that ALL of Israel belongs to them. So, in February 2005, Israel’s “Knesset” enacted the expulsion of ALL Israeli settlements in Gaza. In August 2005, on the “9th of Av,” Israeli citizens who had refused the government’s “compensation packages” to vacate Gaza voluntarily were evicted from Gaza by Israeli security forces. Though there is no Israeli presence in Gaza today, Israel still provides Gaza with its water, electricity, and other utilities.

The Palestinians have chosen NOT to build Gaza (see map) like the Jews have built Israel. For example, the Palestinians could build luxury residences on the Sea’s shoreline with Gaza’s coastal access to the Mediterranean Sea. Many foreigners love to live by the Mediterranean Sea, and the cost would be much less than comparable homes “By the Sea” in Israel. They could also build hotels and have active tourism to grow their economy. I have read that many Countries and venture capitalists would be happy to provide aid for the “re-building” of Gaza. However, the Palestinians continue their hatred toward the Jews. Much of this hatred is fueled by “Hamas,” a militant and political organization that is the “controlling power” in Gaza. It is also widely believed that Iran funds Hamas. Therefore, the Palestinians in Gaza live in “Third World” conditions.

Two years after removing Israeli settlements from Gaza, the radical Palestinian group “Hamas” took over control. Hamas would launch rocket attacks into Israel from time to time. However, on October 7, 2023, Hamas invaded several Northern Israel settlements, killing over 1,200 Israelis, taking 200 hostages, and committing acts of barbarianism not seen since the Holocaust.

In summary, ONLY the Hand of Almighty God could have orchestrated the “timing” of Israel’s calamities, which all occurred on the 9th of Av. On one level, these calamities should make you sad. But on another level, it should lift your faith. The Jews are “Survivors.” NO Country, Person,

or institution will annihilate the Jews, though many have tried, and many will continue to try. God is in Control! God has NOT forsaken His People, Israel. Here is what the Apostle Paul has to say.

“Again, I ask: Did they [ISRAEL] stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring! I am talking to you, Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I make much of my ministry in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?” Romans 11:11–16

As we wrap up our study of Israel’s calamities, which all occurred on the 9th of Av, it is interesting to note that they remember these calamities on “Tisha B Av,” Israel’s National Day of Prayer. The book of Lamentations (the Prophet Jeremiah wrote) is read aloud in Jewish Synagogues. Jeremiah was a witness to the destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem. As you read the following Scriptures from Lamentations, you can FEEL Jeremiah’s PAIN (his “Lament”).

“How deserted lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations! She, who was queen among the provinces, has now become a slave. Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are upon her cheeks...After affliction and harsh labor, Judah has gone into exile...All who pursue her have overtaken her in the midst of her distress. The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to her appointed feasts...The LORD has brought her grief because of her many sins... “Look, O LORD, on my affliction, for the enemy has triumphed.” The enemy laid hands on all her treasures; she saw pagan nations enter her sanctuary— those you had forbidden to enter your assembly. All her people groan as they search for bread; they barter their treasures for food to keep themselves alive. “Look, O LORD, and consider, for I am despised...In his winepress, the Lord has trampled the Virgin Daughter of Judah. “This is why I weep, and my eyes overflow with tears. No one is near to comfort me, no one to restore my spirit. My children are destitute because the enemy has prevailed...See, O LORD, how distressed I am! I am in torment within, and in my heart, I am disturbed, for I have been most rebellious... All my enemies have heard of my distress; they rejoice at what you have done...My groans are many, and my heart is faint.” Lamentations 1

“How the Lord has covered the Daughter of Zion with the cloud of his anger! He has hurled down the splendor of Israel from heaven to earth; he has not remembered his footstool in the day of his anger...In fierce anger, he has cut off every horn of Israel. He has withdrawn his right hand at the approach of the enemy...He has multiplied mourning and lamentation for the Daughter of Judah...The LORD has made Zion forget her appointed feasts and her Sabbaths; in his fierce anger, he has spurned both king and priest. The Lord has rejected his altar and abandoned his sanctuary...My eyes fail from weeping, I am in torment within, my heart is poured out on the ground because my people are destroyed... “Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty, the joy of the whole earth?” All your enemies open their mouths wide against you; they

scoff and gnash their teeth and say, “We have swallowed her up. This is the day we have waited for; we have lived to see it.” Lamentations 2

“I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness, and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD’s great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore, I will wait for him.” The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD...Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love...Why should any living man complain when punished for his sins? Let us examine our ways and test them and let us return to the LORD. Let us lift up our hearts and our hands to God in heaven and say: “We have sinned and rebelled, and you have not forgiven...I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit. You heard my plea: Lamentations 3

“Those who once ate delicacies are destitute...Those nurtured in purple now lie on ash heaps. The punishment of my people is greater than that of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment without a hand turned to help her...The kings of the earth did not believe, nor did any of the world’s people, that enemies and foes could enter the gates of Jerusalem. But it happened because of the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests, who shed within her the blood of the righteous...Our end was near, our days were numbered, for our end had come...Rejoice and be glad, O Daughter of Edom, you who live in the land of Uz. But to you also, the cup will be passed; you will be drunk and stripped naked. O Daughter of Zion, your punishment will end; he will not prolong your exile. But, O Daughter of Edom, he will punish your sin and expose your wickedness.” Lamentations 4

“Remember, O LORD, what has happened to us...Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, our homes to foreigners. Women have been ravished in Zion and virgins in the towns of Judah...the young men have stopped their music. Joy is gone from our hearts; our dancing has turned to mourning...Woe to us, for we have sinned! Because of this, our hearts are faint, because of these things, our eyes grow dim for Mount Zion, which lies desolate... Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may return.” Lamentations 5

In conclusion, at the heart of many of these calamities was a hatred for the Jewish people. Therefore, it is incongruent for a **Christian** to hate Israel and the Jewish people and to curse them. If you study history in each of the previous stories, those (individuals and countries) who cursed the Jews were dealt with severely. It was also true throughout the Bible and certainly is evident today. The Bible is categorically true— “One Day” all of “ISRAEL” will “Believe” and will be “saved.”