

BIBLE FOUNDATIONS LESSON NO. 12

ISRAEL – GOD’S CHOSEN PEOPLE

God called Israel to be His heritage when He said to Abraham (Abram) in Genesis 12:3, “*And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*” It seems that the Jewish people have always been persecuted and oppressed. Although they were long ago driven from their God-given homeland and dispersed throughout the world, God promised in Ezekiel 11:17, “*...I will...assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.*” We know that God is true and faithful, for in Hebrews 10:23 we read, “*...for he is faithful that promised.*” God has kept His Word, having miraculously reestablished the state of Israel in May, 1948, and He is continuing to restore more and more Jewish people to their ancient homeland each day.

Since Israel's reestablishment, nearly every nation in the world has in some way opposed her, and surrounding Arab countries have waged many wars against the newly formed state. Though vastly outnumbered by belligerent forces, tiny Israel (about the size of New Jersey, or 1/7 the size of Colorado) continues to survive. This wouldn't be possible if she were not being supernaturally aided by God, who has given the Jewish people a will to live in their own ancient homeland.

In our newspapers, on radio and on TV we are given slanted opinions concerning what should be done with Israel, but we, as Christians, must go to God's Word, where we are told in Psalm 102:13, “*Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.*” In Zechariah 2:8 we read, “*...for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his (God's) eye,*” and in Romans 11:26 we find Paul saying, “*And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob (Israel).*” There are great things in store for Israel that extend far beyond this present age, and as we look to her future, we must remember to love and comfort her as God does (Isa. 66:10, 13).

MEMORY VERSE: Psalm 122:6

CHOSEN PEOPLE – PROMISED LAND – Why the Jews? Why Israel?

- 1.* Who should determine who is given the disputed land of the Mid-East? (**Jer. 27:5**)
2. **Isa. 43:1, 7, 21** – “*O Jacob*” ... “*I have created him for _____...This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth _____.*”
3. **Deut. 7:7-8a** – In order to show his miraculous power to the world, and since He would not share his glory with man, He chose the _____ of people to work through.
- 4.* **Deut. 32:8-10** – “*Jacob [Israel] is the lot [country, land] of God's _____... He kept him as the apple [middle, pupil, focus] _____.*” God set the bounds (borders and boundaries) of all the nations of the world according to _____ (**v.8**).
- 5.* **Gen. 12:3** – All the _____ of the earth shall be _____ through Israel.
- 6.* What will God do to those that curse and bless Abraham? (**Gen. 12:2-3**)
7. (a) God chose the Jewish people to be _____ and _____ for Him. (**Isa. 43:10**)
(b) Furthermore, in **Ex. 19:5-6**, God said they were a special treasure above all people and a kingdom of _____ and a _____ nation.
- 8.* What three men has God frequently identified Himself with in the Bible? (**Ex. 3:6, 16**)
(a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____
- 9.* Unto whose seed (ancestors) did God promise the land of Canaan? (**Gen. 12:5-7**)
- 10.* What did God make with his servant David? (**Ps. 89:3-4, 28-36**)

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11. List 6 punishments from God if Israel backslides. (Lev. 26:25-26, 31-33)

- (a) (c) (e)
(b) (d) (f)

Yet God, in Lev. 26:44-45, says that He will remember his _____ and will _____ away or _____ them utterly.

GOD'S EVERLASTING COVENANT AND PROMISED LAND

12.* Gen. 17:5-8 – God's _____ Covenant was to Abraham and his "seed after thee _____." God gave Abraham and his seed (descendants) _____ of Canaan for an _____ possession.
[Further proof – Gen 13:14 & 17, 15:18, 25:5, 26:3-4, 28:13.]

13. Match the following verses concerning the Everlasting Covenant with its key concepts: [challenge question]

- _____ 1. Jer. 31:35-37 a. The Jews will be corrected & punished but God will not put an end to them as a nation as other countries.
_____ 2. Jer. 32:37, 40, 42 b. The Jews will only cease to exist if the sun, moon, stars, sea cease to exist.
_____ 3. Jer. 46:28 c. The Jews survive because God doesn't change (His covenant).
_____ 4. Isa. 49:13-16 d. Greatly judged by God, now gathered and much good is promised.
_____ 5. Isa. 66:22 e. Judged because of sin, God's covenant is kept because He cannot lie and will keep His Word.
_____ 6. Mal. 3:6 f. Comfort and mercy upon his unbelievers; God can't forget His baby child.
_____ 7. Ps. 89:3-4, 30-37 g. The Jewish people will remain even unto the everlasting new heavens and earth.

14. Even in the Jewish migration and bondage in Egypt, God promised what two men that God would bring them back into the promised land? (Gen. 50:24, Ex. 6:4-9)

- (a) (b)

15.* Does God change His promises? (1 Kings 8:56; Ps. 33:11; Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8)

16.* What basic punishment of God is predicted in all of the following verses for a backslidden Israel? (Deut. 28:63-67, Ezek. 36:9-11, 17-20, Amos 9:9) _____

But it continues in Amos 9:14-15 and Ezek. 36:21-24 [and Ezek. 11:16-19, 20:33-37, all of Ezek. 37, Jer. 16:14-15, 30:3, 31:10] that God will do what with Israel _____

Why? (Ezek. 36:21-22) _____

17.* From how many directions shall the seed of Israel be gathered? (Isa. 43:4-6) _____

Does God promise to bring back all of Israel? (Micah 2:12) _____

18.* Shall the people of Israel be pulled up out of their land again? (Amos 9:14-15) _____

THE DEVIL AND HIS WORLD HATES ISRAEL AND WANTS TO POSSESS AND DESTROY IT

19.* The first thing Satan does after being unchained from the bottomless pit after the Millennium is to once again deceive the nations and attack the saints around _____ (Rev. 20:7-9, Zech. 3:2)

20. Ezek. 36:2-6 – “The enemy hath said against you Aha, ‘even the _____ possession.’ [temple mount, etc.] ...made you desolate and swallowed you up on every side and ye [Israel] might be a possession _____.” [Palestinians]

21.* Ps. 83:1-2 – “Oh God, ... _____ make a tumult and they that hate thee.....” From verse 4 and 12, give the three things the enemy wants to do to Israel:

(a)

(b)

(c)

22.* According to Joel 3:2, for what major sins against Israel will God judge the nations?

23.* Should the nations of the world decide Israel’s boundaries? If not, who should? (Deut. 32:8-9, Jer. 27:5)

24. From Isa. 41:8-20, write down the phrases of what God says He will do for Israel [hint: after every “I have” or “I will” – example verse 8 – “I have chosen,” verse 9 – “I have taken and called thee.”]

GOD LOVES ISRAEL AND JERUSALEM AND WILL DEFEND THEM

25. What are the two “I wills” of God contained in Isa. 49:25?

(a)

(b)

26.* Again, what are God’s two “I wills” concerning Jerusalem in Zech. 12:2-3?

(a)

(b)

27.* Who fights with God over Jerusalem? (Zech. 3:2)

28.* What will happen to the nations that come against Jerusalem? (Zech. 12:3 & 9)

29. Zech. 12:10 – God will then pour out the spirit of _____ upon the Jews and “they shall look upon me whom they have _____” and there shall be great mourning as they are enlightened as to their rejected Messiah. In Zech. 13:6-9, one will ask “What are these _____ in thine hands (and feet and side) and Jesus will answer, ‘I was wounded in the house of _____’” ...”smite the _____ [33 AD] and the sheep shall be scattered” [70 AD dispersion by Rome]. _____ (fraction) of the Jewish people will die during the tribulation but 1/3 will be refined as gold and be saved.

CHURCH UNDERSTANDING & ACTION PLAN CONCERNING ISRAEL

30.* (a) Has God cast away the Jewish people? (**Rom. 11:1, Isa. 41:9**)

(b) Shall Israel be saved? (**Rom. 11:26-27, Isa. 62:11**)

(c) The Church, by faith, was grafted into root and tree of God and the Jews can be _____
_____ (**Rom. 11:24**). Explain the mystery of **Rom. 11:25** that God doesn't
want us ignorant of _____.

31. **Eph. 2:11-22 & 3:1-9** speaks of another mystery (fellowship of the mystery in **3:3-4, 9**). This mystery is that the Gentiles (Church) are of the (**2:12**) “_____ of Israel;” and “_____ of the household of God” (**2:19**); and “_____ of the same body” (**3:6**); and that he hath made both the Church and Israel – the twain or both into _____ (**2:14-15**) like a marriage.

32. The Church is the Bride of Christ while Israel is the bride or betrothed unto _____ (**Isa. 54:5, Jer. 3:14, Hosea 2:19-20; Zech. 1:14-15**). This makes us of the same spiritual family or household of God.

33.* What city shall be made a praise in the earth? (**Isa. 62:7**)

34.* We shall rejoice with and give love and comfort to whom? (**Isa. 66:10, 13**)

35.* The Church has a responsibility toward Israel. Read each scripture and give two key action phrases for each concerning what we should be doing:

Ps. 102:13-16 – _____

Isa. 40:1-2 – _____

Isa. 62:1 – _____

Isa. 62:6-7 – _____

36.*(a) What does God promise to those who pray for the peace of Jerusalem and love her? (**Ps. 122:6**)

(b) God will _____ those that bless them. (**Gen. 12:3**)

37. In **1 John 3:18** God tells us not to just love in word and tongue but in _____ and _____.

ISRAEL



I. WHY DID GOD CHOOSE THE JEWS?

Ps. 135:4, Deut 7:6-8, Deut. 32:8-10, Isa. 43:7 & 21

II. WHY DID GOD CHOOSE THE LAND OF ISRAEL?

Ps. 132:13, Joel 3:17, Ez. 5:5, 38:12 - [world's center]

III. WHOSE LAND IS IT?

Jer. 27:5 / Jer. 12:10-11, Zech. 2:12, Joel 3:1-2

[Gen. 12:7, 15:7 & 18, 17:8, 25:5 & 29-34, 26:3-4, etc.]

IV. SCATTERED & REGATHERED!

See Handout.

V. GOD'S EVERLASTING COVENANT!

See "How God Feels Toward Israel/Jewish People"

Jer. 32:37, 40, 42, Ezek. 37:26, Jer. 31:35-37, 46:28

Ps. 89:3-4, 30-37, Mal. 3:6, Isa. 66:22, 54:5-10, 49:13-16

VI. GOD'S TOWARDS ISRAEL

See "How God Feels Toward Israel/Jewish People"

Zech. 1:14-15, 2:8, Jer. 3:14, Hosea 2:19-20

VII. SATAN HATES GOD AND HIS PEOPLE!

Zech. 3:2, Rev. 20:7-9, Ps. 83

[Ps. 129, Micah 4:11, Zep. 2:8, Ezek. 36:2-6]

VIII. WE DARE NOT FIGHT AGAINST GOD'S WILL!

See "How God Feels Toward Israel/Jewish People"

Joel 3:1-2, Zech. 12:2-3, 8-9, Isa. 41:8-20

IX. ROMANS 9, 10, 11 & 15:25-27

X. THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL

John 10:16, Eph. 2:11-20, Eph. 3:3-9

Gal. 3:7-9, 14, 26-29

XI.  REQUIRES ACTION ACTS

Ezek. 37 - pray - speak over - prophecy - in Spirit

Romans 11 - provoke to jealousy

boast not, be not high minded, fear

continue in goodness & faith

be not ignorant of the mystery

Ps. 102:13 & 16 - arise & have mercy

Ps. 137:5-6 - prefer Jerusalem

Isa. 40:1-2 - comfort Jerusalem

Isa. 62:1, 6, 7 - hold not peace, watchmen on walls

**Ps. 122:6 - "pray for the peace of Jerusalem
they shall prosper that love thee"**

Esther 4:13-14 - for such a time as this

Gen. 12:3 - "I will bless them that bless thee"

Rom. 15:27 -

Eph. 2:12-19 -

HOW GOD FEELS TOWARD ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE

What is Your Stand?

God Defends Israel Today We Dare Not Fight Against God

Joel 3:1-2 – "...I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem. I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehosaphat, and will plead with them there for **my people** and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land."

Isaiah 34:8 – "For it is the day of the Lord's vengeance, an the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion."

Zech. 12:2-3, 8-9 – "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it...In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem."

Isaiah 41:8-20 – (8) "But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend. (9) Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away. (10) Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. (11) Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. (12) ...They that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. (13) For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, fear not; I will help thee. (14) Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. (15) Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument...(17)...I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. (20) That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the Lord hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it."

Isaiah 49:25 – "...for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children."

“Hath God Cast Away His People” – Israel?

Romans 11 – (1) "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? **God forbid.** For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham...(5) Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the

election of grace...(11) Have they stumbled that they should fall? **God forbid:** but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. (17) And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree: (18) **Boast not** against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root...(19) Thou wilt say then, the branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. (20) Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. **Be not highminded,** but fear: (21) For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. (22) Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. (23) And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, **shall be grafted in:** for God is able to graft them in again...(25) For I **would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery,** lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happening to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. (26) And so all **Israel shall be saved:** as it is written, there shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (27) For this is **my covenant unto them,** when I shall take away their sins. (28) As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are **beloved for the Fathers' sakes.** (29) For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance...(31) Even so have these also now not believed, that **through your mercy they also may obtain mercy...**(33) O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out.”

Eph. 2:12 & 19 – God even calls us believing Gentiles **fellow citizens** of the **commonwealth of Israel.**

Israel's Everlasting Covenant

Jer. 32:37, 40 & 42 – “Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely...And I will make an **everlasting covenant** with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me...For thus saith the Lord; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.”

Ez. 37:26 – “Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an **everlasting covenant** with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.”

Gen. 17:7-8 – “And I will establish my covenant between me and thee (Abraham) and thy seed after thee in their generations for an **everlasting covenant,** to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an **everlasting possession;** and I will be their God.”

Jer. 31:35-37 – “Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and the of stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be

measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord.”

Jer. 33:24-26 – “Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the Lord hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? Thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them. Thus saith the Lord: If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.”

Isa. 66:22 – “For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain.”

Isa. 54:5-10 – (5) “For **thy Maker is thine husband**...the Holy One of Israel...(7) For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee. (8) In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with **everlasting kindness** will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer...(10) For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but **my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.**”

Jer. 46:28 – “Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the Lord: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: **but I will not make a full end of thee**, but correct thee in measure; yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.”

Ps. 89:3-4, 30-37 – “I have made a **covenant** with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed will I establish **for ever**, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah...If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. **My covenant will I not break**, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. **His seed shall endure for ever**, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.”

Isa. 49:13b-16 – “...for the Lord hath comforted his people, and **will have mercy upon his afflicted**. But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her suckling child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet **will I not forget thee**. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.”

Malachi 3:6 – “For I am the Lord, I change not: therefore ye **sons of Jacob are not consumed.**”

Derek Prince stated: “Search out the scripture purposes of God for Israel and Jerusalem, and set ourselves to pray for fulfillment of those purposes.”

God's Love Toward Israel

Zech. 1:14-15 – "...Thus saith the Lord of hosts; **I am jealous for Jerusalem** and for Zion with a great Jealousy. And I am very sore displeased with the heathen that are at ease: for I was but a little displeased, and they helped toward the affliction." (See also Luke 13:34.)

Num. 24:1 – "...Balaam saw that it **pleased the Lord to bless Israel.**"

Zech. 2:8 – "(O Zion), For thus saith the Lord of hosts; after the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the **apple of his eye.**"

Jer. 3:14 – "Turn, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am **married unto you...**"

Hosea 2:19-20 – "And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, **I will betroth thee unto me** in righteousness, in judgment, in lovingkindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shall know the Lord." (Consider also the parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15.)

Our Responsibility Toward Israel

Ps. 102:13 & 16 – "Thou shalt arise, and **have mercy upon Zion:** for the time to **favour her,** yea, the set time, is come... When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory."

Isa. 40:1-2 – "Comfort ye, **comfort ye my people,** saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins."

Isa. 62:1 – "For Zion's sake will I **not hold my peace,** and for Jerusalem's sake I will **not rest,** until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth."

Isa. 62:6-7 – "I have set **watchmen** upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall **never hold their peace** day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, **keep not silence,** And **give him no rest,** till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

Ps. 122:6 – "**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.**"

Esther 4:13-14 – "Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and **who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**"

Gen. 12:3 – "And I **will bless them** that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."

I John 3:18 – "My little children, let us not **love in word,** neither in tongue; but in **deed** and in **truth.**"

Consider also the parable of the good Samaritan in Luke 10.

Compiled by Charles Mummert, 1991

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Why God Chose This Land Of Israel

The World's Population Mapped by Latitude and Longitude

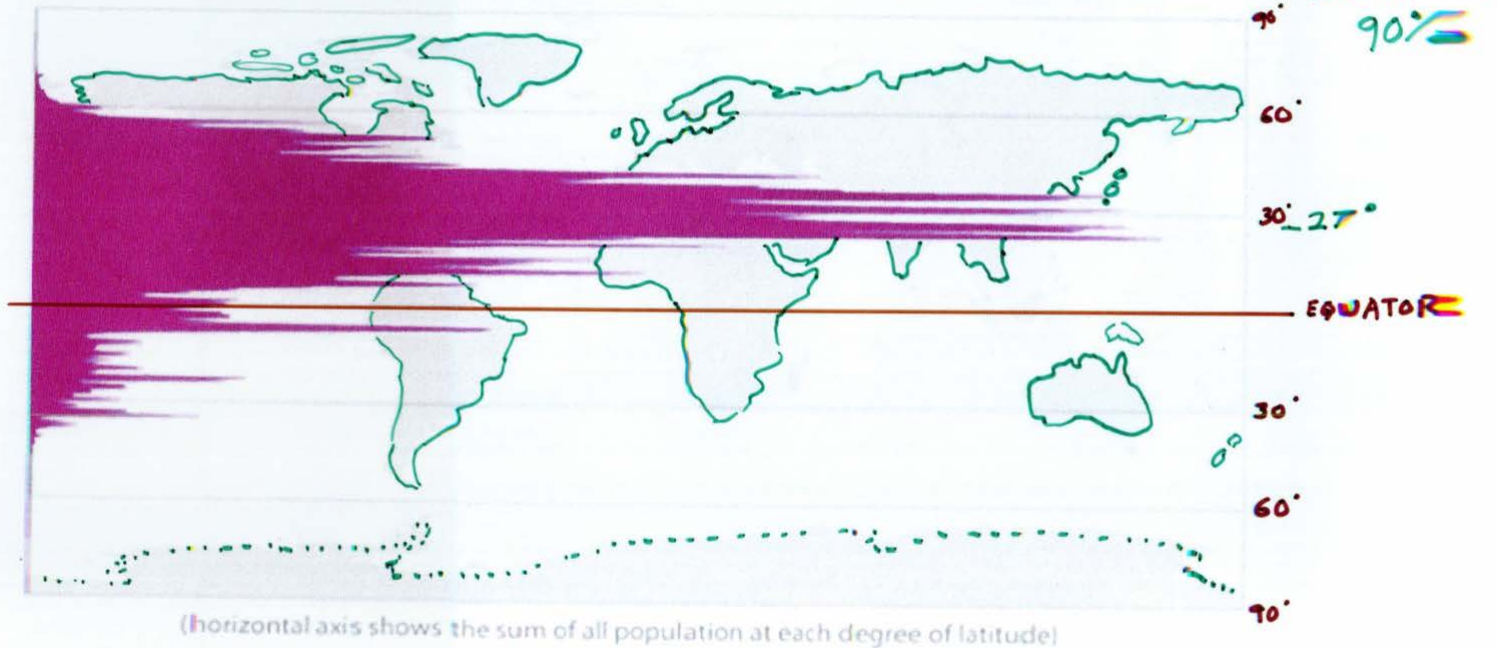
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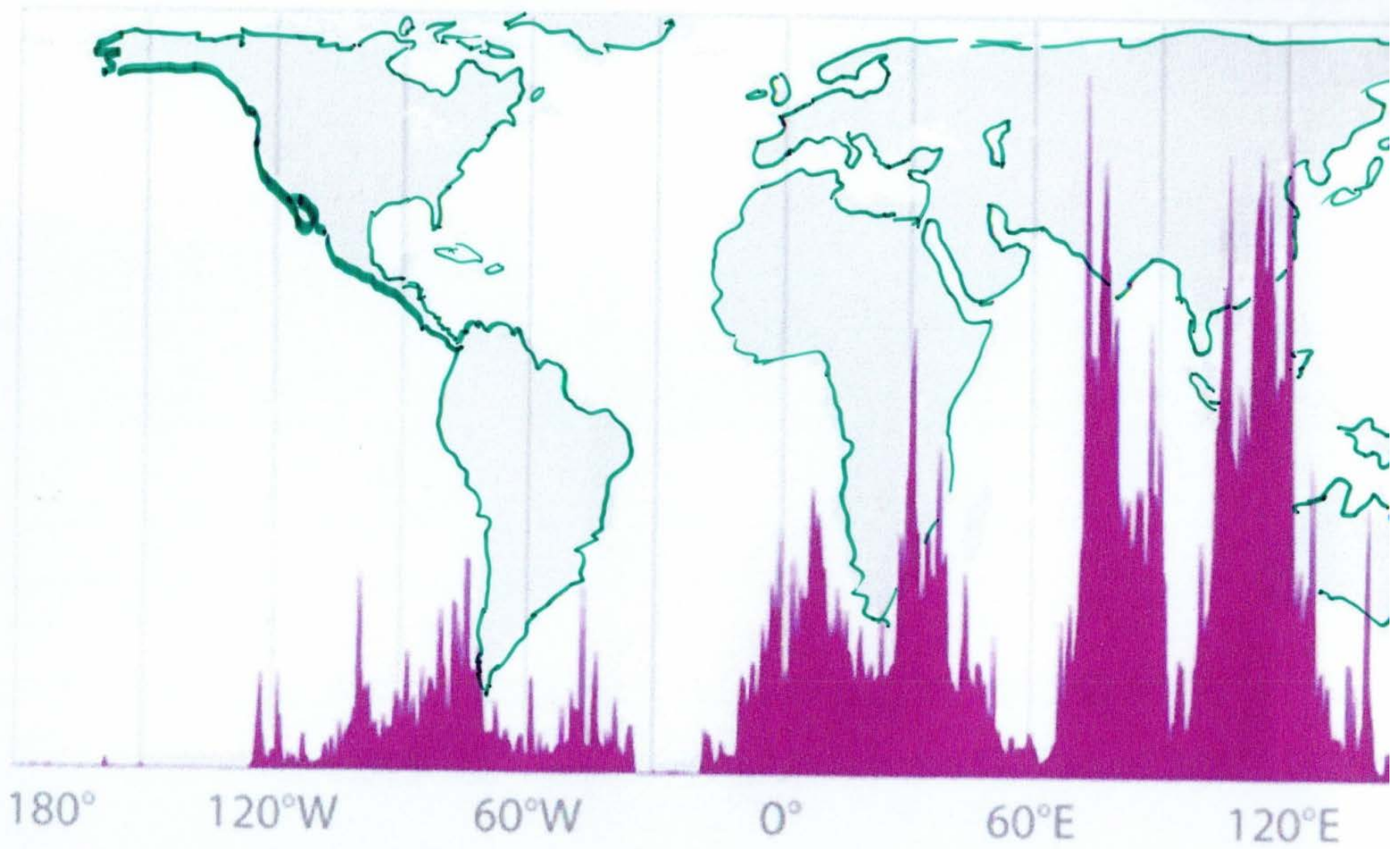
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The World's Population in 2000, by Latitude

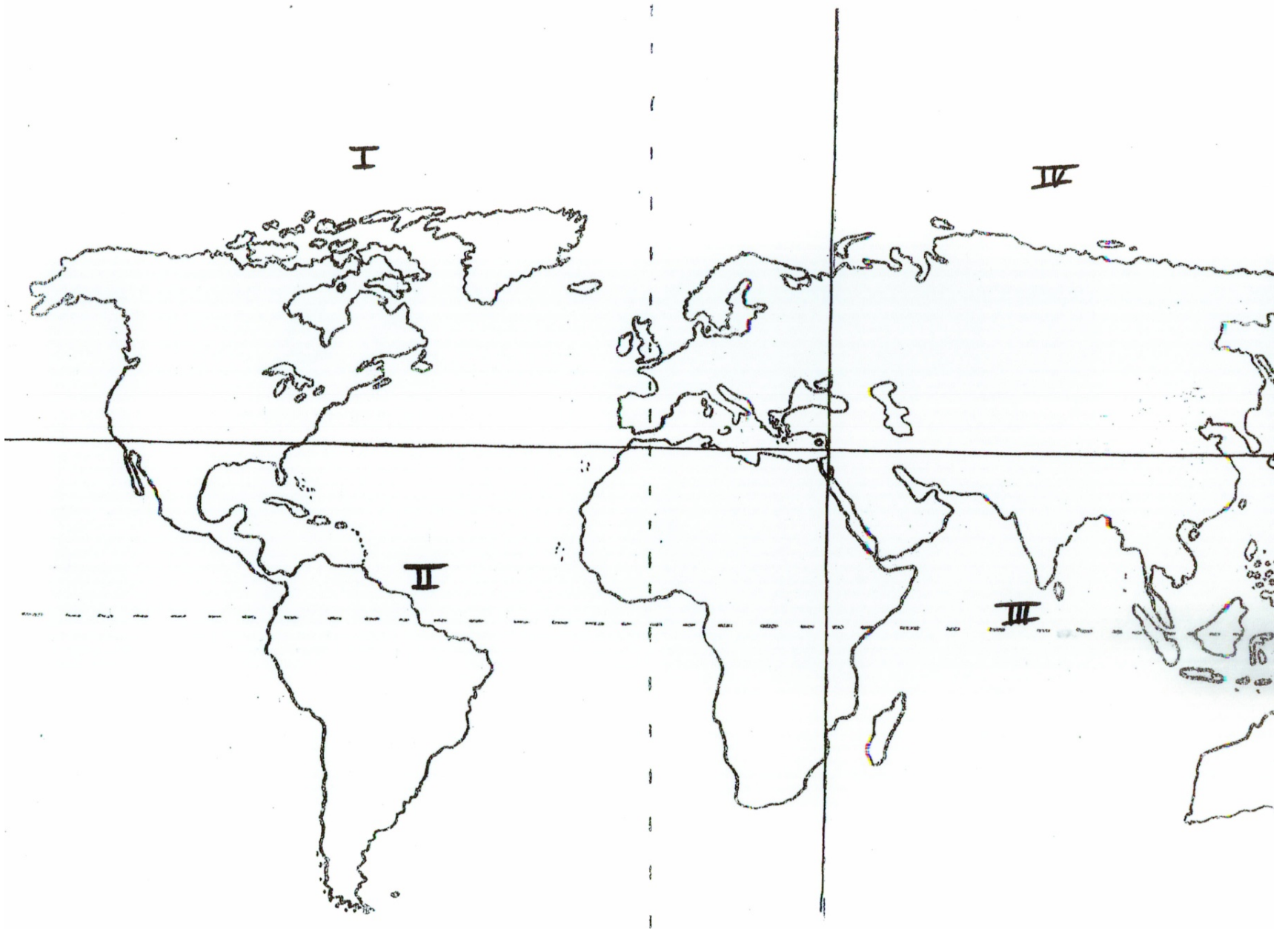


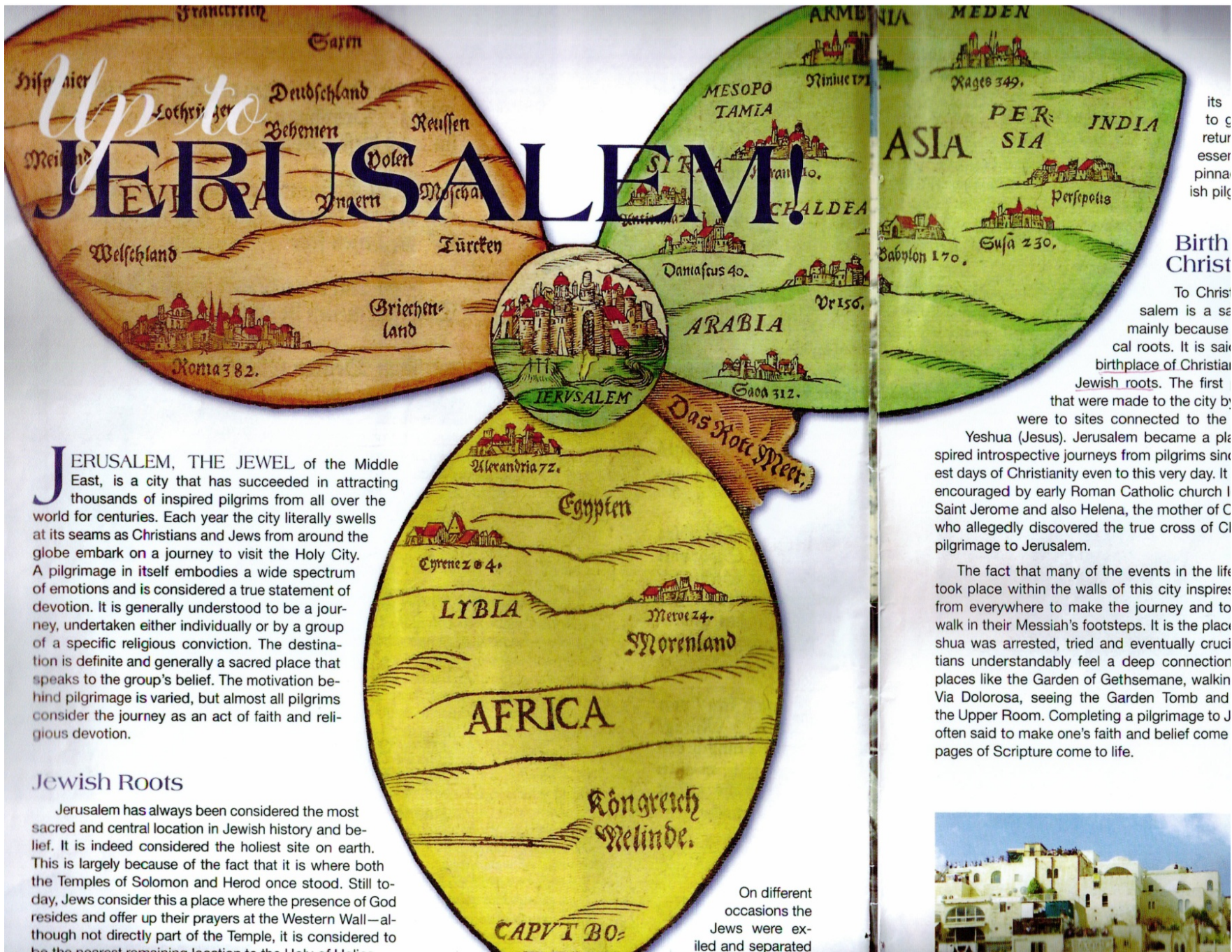
[Radical cartographer](#) and Harvard grad student **Bill Rankin** devised these fascinating maps, which show the sum of all population living at each degree of latitude or longitude circa 2000. As you can see above, there's quite a northerly bias: According to Rankin, roughly 88 percent of the

The World's Population in 2000, by Longitude



(vertical axis shows the sum of all population at each degree of longitude)





Up to JERUSALEM!

JERUSALEM, THE JEWEL of the Middle East, is a city that has succeeded in attracting thousands of inspired pilgrims from all over the world for centuries. Each year the city literally swells at its seams as Christians and Jews from around the globe embark on a journey to visit the Holy City. A pilgrimage in itself embodies a wide spectrum of emotions and is considered a true statement of devotion. It is generally understood to be a journey, undertaken either individually or by a group of a specific religious conviction. The destination is definite and generally a sacred place that speaks to the group's belief. The motivation behind pilgrimage is varied, but almost all pilgrims consider the journey as an act of faith and religious devotion.

Jewish Roots

Jerusalem has always been considered the most sacred and central location in Jewish history and belief. It is indeed considered the holiest site on earth. This is largely because of the fact that it is where both the Temples of Solomon and Herod once stood. Still today, Jews consider this a place where the presence of God resides and offer up their prayers at the Western Wall—although not directly part of the Temple, it is considered to be the nearest remaining location to the Holy of Holies.

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Birth Christ

To Christ salem is a sa mainly because cal roots. It is said birthplace of Christian Jewish roots. The first that were made to the city by were to sites connected to the Yeshua (Jesus). Jerusalem became a pl: spired introspective journeys from pilgrims since est days of Christianity even to this very day. It encouraged by early Roman Catholic church I Saint Jerome and also Helena, the mother of C who allegedly discovered the true cross of C I pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

The fact that many of the events in the life took place within the walls of this city inspires from everywhere to make the journey and to walk in their Messiah's footsteps. It is the plac shua was arrested, tried and eventually cruci tians understandably feel a deep connection places like the Garden of Gethsemane, walkin Via Dolorosa, seeing the Garden Tomb and the Upper Room. Completing a pilgrimage to J often said to make one's faith and belief come pages of Scripture come to life.

On different occasions the Jews were exiled and separated



ISRAEL SCATTERED AND REGATHERED

WHY ISRAEL WAS SCATTERED: Because of grievous sins, idolatry, harlotry and whoredom.

Jer. 31:8-10 & 28; Ez. 36:17-20 & 31; Jer. 30:11-15; Deut. 28:62-66; Lev. 26:23-33, 40-41; Isa. 54:5-10; Hosea 6:1; Amos 9:8-10; Ez. 11:16; Ez. 20:23, 30, 39 & 43.

REGATHERED

FROM WHERE? From all the world, from one end of the earth to the other, north, south, east and west, from all nations, from the ends of the earth, from the four corners of the earth, from nations afar off, from the north country and coasts of the earth.

Jer. 31:8; Deut. 28:64; Isa. 43:5-6; Jer. 23:3; Ez. 11:16-17.

WHEN IS THE REGATHERING? End times, latter days [Jacob's trouble], after a long time without a temple or sacrifice, in the latter days, after two days [2,000 years].

Jer. 30:3, 5-11 & 24; Hosea 3:4-5; Hosea 6:1-3.

WHY REGATHERED? God will not forget His covenant, nor cast them away. For His everlasting love for Israel and mainly His name's sake.

Jer. 31:3, 32, & 35-37; Ez. 36:21-23; Lev. 26:42-45; Ez. 20:34 & 44; [Rom. 11:1 & 27].

WHAT THE REGATHERING LOOKS LIKE – The land flourishes, the cities are rebuilt.

Ez. 36:8-12, 29-30 & 33-36; Amos 9:14-15.

The enemy attacks against God's will and land.

Ez. 36:1-7; Jer. 30:10, 16, 20 & 23-24; Ps. 83; Zech. 12:2-3, 8-9; Isa. 41:8-20.

WHAT ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL REBIRTH? In the end, God will restore the spiritual faith and life of His people; a new covenant is made.

Ez. 37 – pray and prophecy for the Spirit to come; Jer. 31:33; Ez. 36:25-31; Jer. 30:8-22; Hosea 2:16 & 18-20; Hosea 3:4-5; Ez. 11:16-21; Ez. 20: 37-44; [Rom. 11:27].

THE SIN OF INDIFFERENCE SIN OF OMISSION

“Don’t excuse yourself by saying, ‘Look, we didn’t know.’ For God understands all hearts, and he sees you. He who guards your soul knows you knew. He will repay all people as their actions deserve.” – Prov. 24:12 NLT

“The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything.” – Albert Einstein

“Love will find a way, indifference will find an excuse.” – Anonymous

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” – Martin Luther King

“Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“For God so loved that he gave...” – John 3:16

listening to this Good News—the Good News about Christ.

¹⁸ But what about the Jews? Have they heard God's Word? Yes, for it has gone wherever they are; the Good News has been told to the ends of the earth. ¹⁹ And did they understand [that God would give his salvation to others if they refused to take it^d]? Yes, for even back in the time of Moses, God had said that he would make his people jealous and try to wake them up by giving his salvation to the foolish heathen nations. ²⁰ And later on Isaiah said boldly that God would be found by people who weren't even looking for him.^e ²¹ In the meantime, he keeps on reaching out his hands to the Jews, but they keep arguing^f and refusing to come.

11 ASK THEN, has God rejected and deserted his people the Jews? Oh no, not at all. Remember that I myself am a Jew, a descendant of Abraham and a member of Benjamin's family.

²² No, God has not discarded his own people whom he chose from the very beginning. Do you remember what the Scriptures say about this? Elijah the prophet was complaining to God about the Jews, telling God how they had killed the prophets and torn down God's altars; Elijah claimed that he was the only one left in all the land who still loved God, and now they were trying to kill him too.

⁴ And do you remember how God replied? God said, "No, you are not the only one left. I have seven thousand others besides you who still love me and have not bowed down to idols!"^a

⁵ It is the same today. Not all the Jews have turned away from God; there are a few being saved as a result of God's kindness in choosing them. ⁶ And if it is by God's kindness, then it is not by their being good enough. For in that case the free gift would no longer be free—it isn't free when it is earned.

⁷ So this is the situation: Most of the Jews have not found the favor of God they are looking for. A few have—the ones God has picked out—but the eyes of the others

have been blinded. ⁸ This is what our Scriptures refer to when they say that God has put them to sleep, shutting their eyes and ears so that they do not understand what we are talking about when we tell them of Christ. And so it is to this very day.

⁹ King David spoke of this same thing when he said, "Let their good food and other blessings trap them into thinking all is well between themselves and God. Let these good things boomerang on them and fall back upon their heads to justly crush them. ¹⁰ Let their eyes be dim," he said, "so that they cannot see, and let them walk bent-backed forever with a heavy load."

¹¹ Does this mean that God has rejected his Jewish people forever? Of course not! His purpose was to make his salvation available to the Gentiles, and then the Jews would be jealous and begin to want God's salvation for themselves. ¹² Now if the whole world became rich as a result of God's offer of salvation, when the Jews stumbled over it and turned it down, think how much greater a blessing the world will share in later on when the Jews, too, come to Christ.

¹³ As you know, God has appointed me as a special messenger to you Gentiles. I lay great stress on this and remind the Jews about it as often as I can, ¹⁴ so that if possible I can make them want what you Gentiles have and in that way save some of them. ¹⁵ And how wonderful it will be when they become Christians! When God turned away from them it meant that he turned to the rest of the world to offer his salvation; and now it is even more wonderful when the Jews come to Christ. It will be like dead people coming back to life. ¹⁶ And since Abraham and the prophets are God's people, their children will be too. For if the roots of the tree are holy, the branches will be too.

¹⁷ But some of these branches from Abraham's tree, some of the Jews, have been broken off. And you Gentiles who were branches from, we might say, a wild olive tree, were grafted in. So now you, too, receive the blessing God has promised Abraham and his children, sharing in God's

rich nourishment of his own special olive tree.

¹⁸ But you must be careful not to brag about being put in to replace the branches that were broken off. Remember that you are important only because you are now a part of God's tree; you are just a branch, not a root.

¹⁹ "Well," you may be saying, "those branches were broken off to make room for me so I must be pretty good."

²⁰ Watch out! Remember that those branches, the Jews, were broken off because they didn't believe God, and you are there only because you do. Do not be proud; be humble and grateful—and careful. ²¹ For if God did not spare the branches he put there in the first place, he won't spare you either.

²² Notice how God is both kind and severe. He is very hard on those who disobey, but very good to you if you continue to love and trust him. But if you don't, you too will be cut off. ²³ On the other hand, if the Jews leave their unbelief behind them and come back to God, God will graft them back into the tree again. He has the power to do it.

²⁴ For if God was willing to take you who were so far away from him—being part of a wild olive tree—and graft you into his own good tree—a very unusual thing to do—don't you see that he will be far more ready to put the Jews back again, who were there in the first place?

²⁵ I want you to know about this truth from God, dear brothers, so that you will not feel proud and start bragging. Yes, it is true that some of the Jews have set themselves against the Gospel now, but this will last only until all of you Gentiles have come to Christ—those of you who will. ²⁶ And then all Israel will be saved.

Do you remember what the prophets said about this? "There shall come out of Zion a Deliverer, and he shall turn the Jews from all ungodliness. ²⁷ At that time I will take away their sins, just as I promised."

²⁸ Now many of the Jews are enemies of the Gospel. They hate it. But this has been a benefit to you, for it has resulted in God's giving his gifts to you Gentiles. Yet the Jews

are still beloved of God because of his promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ²⁹ For God's gifts and his call can never be withdrawn; he will never go back on his promises. ³⁰ Once you were rebels against God, but when the Jews refused his gifts God was merciful to you instead. ³¹ And now the Jews are the rebels, but some day they, too, will share in God's mercy upon you. ³² For God has given them all up to sin^b so that he could have mercy upon all alike.

³³ Oh, what a wonderful God we have! How great are his wisdom and knowledge and riches! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his methods! ³⁴ For who among us can know the mind of the Lord? Who knows enough to be his counselor and guide? ³⁵ And who could ever offer to the Lord enough to induce him to act? ³⁶ For everything comes from God alone. Everything lives by his power, and everything is for his glory. To him be glory evermore.

12 AND SO, DEAR brothers, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living sacrifice, holy—the kind he can accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with a fresh newness in all you do and think. Then you will learn from your own experience how his ways will really satisfy you.

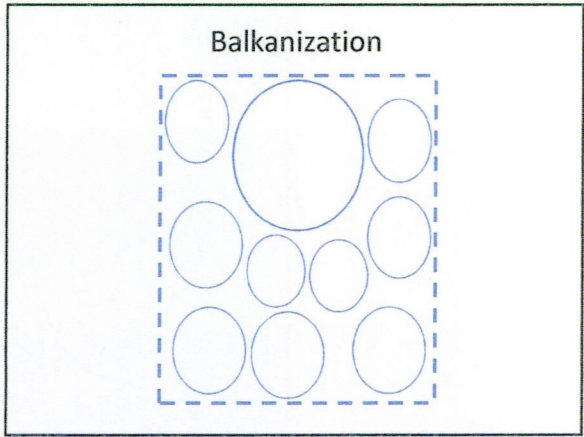
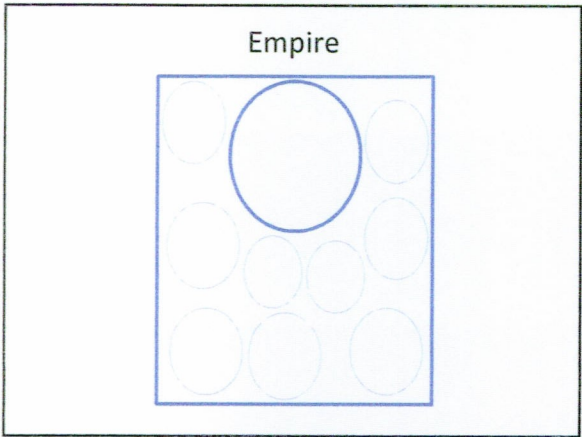
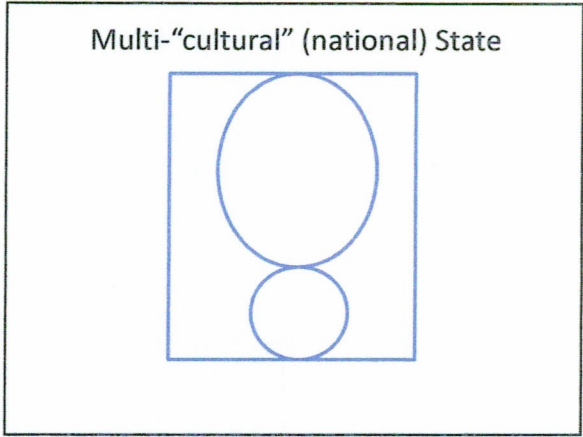
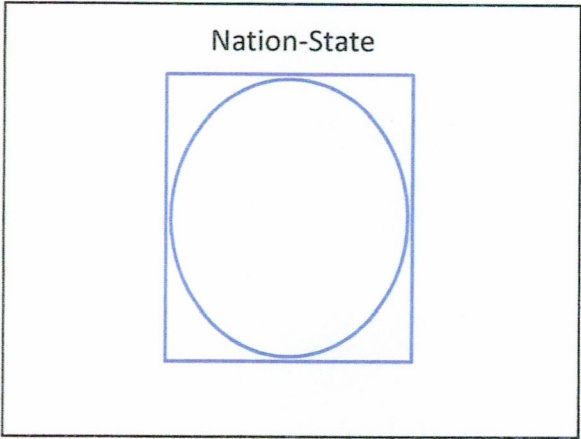
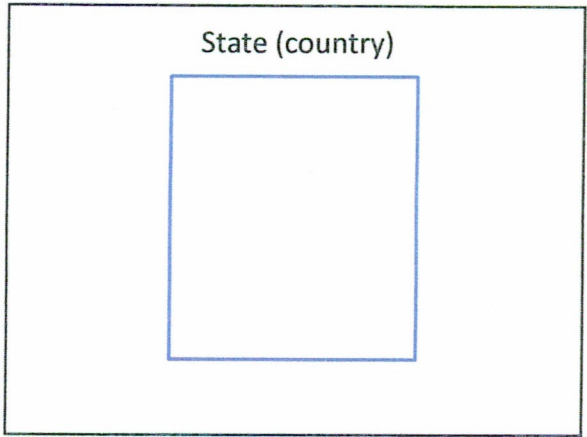
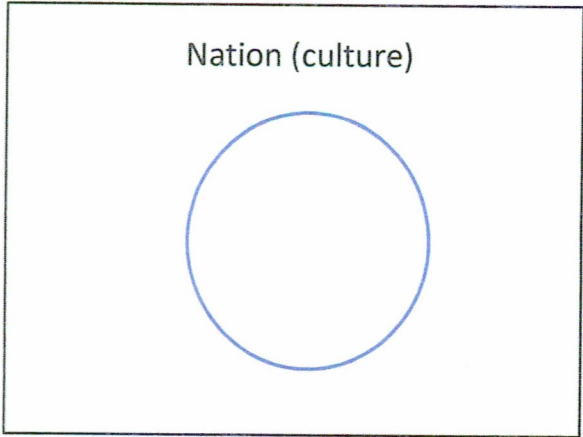
³ As God's messenger I give each of you God's warning: Be honest in your estimate of yourselves, measuring your value by how much faith God has given you. ⁴ Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of it, and it takes every one of us to make it complete, for we each have different work to do. So we belong to each other, and each needs all the others.

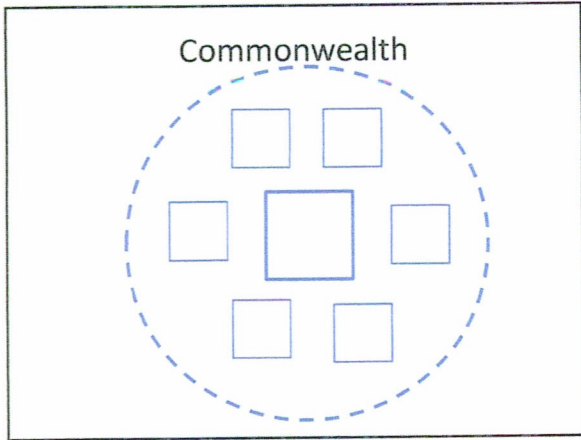
⁶ God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, then prophesy whenever you can—as often as your faith is strong enough to receive a message from God. ⁷ If your gift is that of serving others,

K.J.V.
"Provoke them to jealousy"

d Implied. e Isaiah 65:1. f Literally, "disobedient, obstinate." 11a 1 Kings 19:18.

b Literally, "shut up all unto disobedience."





Fellow Citizen

Fellowship

THE TOP EIGHT REASONS WHY Every Christian Should Go to Israel

1. You Will Never Be the Same

Millions of Christians have traveled to the land of the Bible over the last four decades and had their faith and biblical knowledge enhanced in transformative ways. Over the years I have had countless Christians tell me that their trip to Israel changed their life. There are so many different reasons why Christians are blessed and inspired by travel to Israel that it is an absolute must for anyone with the time and means to go there.

2. Your Bible Will Come Alive

In Israel we begin to study the Bible not just devotionally, or doctrinally, but as a history book—an extremely accurate one backed by archaeological finds. We read the Bible not just for spiritual meaning, but trace the stories on maps and visit the archaeological remains of many of the cities. The Bible becomes so real that it literally stands up and takes on a third dimension as an accurate, historical account from which we learn many spiritual lessons.

3. Encounter God in a New Way

God is not limited to any one location and, therefore, we can pray from anywhere in the world and experience His presence in our lives. But, there is something to be said for taking a spiritual pilgrimage to get away from everyday life and seek the Lord with new fervor. A trip to Israel is the perfect getaway to seek the Lord. Walking where Jesus walked, hearing His words anew, seeing the illustrations from everyday life that He used, and understanding His teachings at new levels often leads to special encounters, even healings, that stay with the traveler when they return home.

4. Meet the True Jesus

As much as we like to think that we read the Bible as it is intended, most of us are highly influenced by our surroundings and understand the Bible in our own cultural context. That is why for centuries, European art depicted Jesus with a fair complexion, blond hair, and blue eyes. Studying the life and words of Jesus in Israel puts him in the correct cultural and religious context. He was the Jewish Messiah who said of Himself that He was sent to the lost sheep of Israel. His parables, teachings, and lifestyle cannot be fully understood without the Hebraic context in which He ministered.

5. Experience Prophecy Fulfilled

While traveling in Israel we are surrounded by prophecy fulfilled and the faithfulness of God to His Word. We see that the Jewish people have been gathered from the North, the South, the East and the West; from every nation to which they had been dispersed; first by ship and then by planes; and assisted by the Gentiles; all just as the Bible foretold. God is fulfilling His promises made to the Jewish people, which means Christians can also trust Him. He is a faithful God and His Word is true!

6. See a Modern Miracle

The birth and existence of Israel is nothing short of a miracle. Out of the ashes of the Holocaust and the dust of the desert, in just over 65 years, they have created a thriving and prosperous country that is leading the world in innovation, technology, science, medicine, security, agriculture, and water conservation and production. This little country of some 8 million people is making the world a safer and better place. What a miracle!

7. Touch the Apple of His Eye

Many Christians understand from their Bible that the Jewish people are God's Chosen People, but may have little appreciation for what that has meant for them. The Jewish people have carried a calling that no other people group on the face of the earth carries; it is to be the vehicle of God's redemptive plan. This calling put them directly in the line of fire and they have suffered much throughout history as a result. To meet Israel's face to face and speak blessing and encouragement to them is often the highlight of a Christian's trip to Israel.

8. Learn How to Pray

Isaiah 62: 6-7 instructs us to be watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem and to pray day and night until God's promises to the Jewish people, which will bless the world, are fulfilled. After visiting Israel, understanding the security situation, sensing the spiritual tension, and getting to know the people and God's promises to them, one will be able to intercede for the peace of Jerusalem with greater effectiveness, and experience the privilege of partnering with God in prayer for the people of Israel, the region, and in fact, the world.

WHY JERUSALEM BELONGS TO THE JEWS

by Michael Utterback

I live on a hillside in southern Jerusalem with an unobstructed view of the Old City, just two miles away. Farther south, about three miles from my home, is the town of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus and the boyhood home of David. In David's early years as a shepherd-boy, he roamed these Judean hills in search of grass for his flock. It was from this ancient hill he gazed upon Jerusalem sitting majestically on the southern slope of

Mount Moriah, inhabited by the Jebusites. Even as a young man there was something about that place that captured his heart.

Seven years after he became King, David ordered Joab, commander of his army, to take the city. Joab and his warriors stealthily entered the water system, climbed up through a conduit and overthrew the Jebusites in 1004 BC. From that moment on Jerusalem became the capital of the Jews.



A few years later God gave intricate instructions to King David to build a temple on Mount Moriah for God to dwell with His chosen people. It was David's son, King Solomon, however, who finished and dedicated the magnificent structure. After which, it became the center of Jewish life. The first Temple stood for over four hundred years before being destroyed by the Babylonians.

Seventy years later, according to

prophesy, the Jews returned to Jerusalem, their capital, and built another temple to God. For the next 600 years it once again became the center of Jewish life until the destruction of the Temple and the sacking of Jerusalem in 70 AD by the Romans. Thus began the 2000-year period in Judaism called the dispersion.

When Israel was reborn seventy years ago, it made perfect sense that Jerusalem would, once again, be restored to the Jews as their capital. Because

of strong Arab objection, the nations of the world rejected Israel's claim and classified Jerusalem as an "international city."

Undeterred, the Israelis built their parliament in Jerusalem. Their Prime Minister, President and most members of Knesset live in Jerusalem. All political meetings with foreign dignitaries take place in Jerusalem. Recently, President Trump finally

(Continued on page 2)

WHY JERUSALEM BELONGS TO THE JEWS

continued from page 1

challenged the hypocrisy of the nations by proclaiming Jerusalem the capital of the Jews and vowing to move the United States Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Vice President Pence, while here, revealed the Embassy would be moved no later than the end of 2019.

The Undeniable Connection of Jews to Jerusalem

- First and foremost, God directed the Jews and only the Jews, to come up to Jerusalem three times each year for biblical feasts. No other city was ever mentioned in God's command.
- Jews have never claimed any other city and have never relinquished their God-ordained right to Jerusalem. There has always been a remnant of Jews living in Jerusalem.
- For thousands of years, when Jews pray, they always face Jerusalem just as Daniel did while in Babylonian captivity. (Interestingly, there are apps you can use that point towards Jerusalem, specifically made with the Jews in mind).
- For 2000 years, at the end of Passover every year, no matter where Jews celebrate this feast, the final prayer is, "Next year Jerusalem." It is also recited at Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year.
- In scripture, the Jewish Prayer Shawl was to have wide bands of blue in them; however, since the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, Jews wear them with black bands as a symbol of mourning.
- During a Jewish wedding, the groom stomps on a glass signifying the destruction of Jerusalem; in the midst of celebration, there is an element of sadness. The groom then recites a portion from scripture: "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget her cunning."
- No Jewish weddings are allowed during the three weeks leading up to Tisha B'Av, a most sacred day of mourning. Both Temples were destroyed on this day, the 9th of Av.

- Jesus said, "This IS the city of the Great King." When He comes back, the only city on the planet He will ascend to is Jerusalem. Jesus is Jewish.
- Jerusalem is mentioned 811 times in the Bible.

Jerusalem Doesn't Belong to the Arabs or Muslims

- God never included Arabs in the distribution of the land of Israel, only the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Jerusalem has never been an Arab capital, even during the 1300-year occupation of the Arabs.
- Muslims face Mecca when praying, with their backsides pointing towards the Temple Mount.
- Jerusalem is not mentioned in the Quran, not once!
- Muslims claim Mohammad, in the Quran passage called The Night Journey, journeyed to the furthest mosque; then from there, ascended to heaven to meet Allah. The Al-Aqsa Mosque (translated: "furthest mosque") on the temple Mount, is where they claimed he came. The problem they have with this, is that Mohammad died fifty years before the Al-Aqsa Mosque was built. *Further Mosques*
- Even the Palestinian Liberation Organization, in their charter, never claimed that Jerusalem was their potential capital.

Final thoughts: God is making good on His promises. He said Israel would be a nation when He returned. It is. He said the Jews would come home to Israel and rebuild its ruins before He came. They are. In spite of the raging conflict over this city, God will have His way. Jerusalem is the capital of the Jews.

PERSPECTIVE

Michael Otterbock

Ministry to Israel - Church of God

Norma Mummert

From: owner-cfi-wpl@grmi.org on behalf of ListAdmin [listadmin@cfijerusalem.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2012 4:46 AM
To: CFI WPL
Subject: [CFI-WPL] OnWatch Prayer Letter: February 2012

Christian Friends of Israel



ONWATCH *Jerusalem*

"I HAVE SET WATCHMEN ON YOUR WALLS, O JERUSALEM; THEY SHALL KEEP, HOLD THEIR PEACE DAY OR NIGHT. YOU WHO MAKE MENTION OF THE LORD, DO NOT KEEP SILENT, AND GIVE HIM NO REST TILL HE ESTABLISHES AND TILL HE MAKES JERUSALEM A PRAISE IN THE EARTH." (Isaiah 62:1-2)

February 2012 / Jewish Year 5772

"And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun"

(Exodus 17:11-12 NKJV).

PRAYER

"When Amalek made war against Israel, Moshe stood with his hands aloft supported by Aaron and Hur. The Midrash (a story or investigative study which is a homiletic method of Biblical exegesis) wonders what benefit this brought the Israelites, and it answers that when the people saw Moshe in a posture of prayer they realized that victory would only be possible with the help of God" (Rabbi Dr. Raymond Apple, the Great Synagogue, Australia). As Christians we need more Biblical exegesis of the Word of God from the original language of Hebrew to receive a better understanding of the context and true meaning of God's Word. Over the centuries the forefathers used a homiletic method called eisegesis, which ultimately leads to heresy by reading "into" the Word instead of "pulling out" from the Word from the original Hebrew through exegesis. When you read "into" you are likely putting things into the Word that really are not there, but through exegesis you "pull from" the original meanings. This is the best method.

The Rabbi continues to tell us that if we ask the question: "Does this mean that any time that people stretch out their hands to heaven there will be a miracle and everything will turn out all right?... We must respond in two ways. One: if you know you are fighting for God you will make a superhuman effort of will, and that in itself is a Divine miracle. Two: prayer is a secret weapon that strengthens human hands...when someone is ill, they need the best possible doctors...but prayer—on the part of the patient and their family, as well as from the doctors and nurses—improves the quality of the treatment and care. It brings into the case the highest Doctor of all...*Ani HaShem Rofecha*: 'I the Lord am Your Healer' (Exodus 15:26)."

Sometimes we get excited about praying for Israel and we form prayer groups or prayer chains to

intercede for her. However, like Moshe's arms, our own arms may be weary from the day's work, or the day's troubles and trials; we may be emotionally weary and cannot carry on as we had hoped to do. It is during these times that we need to supernaturally call upon God to help us with extraordinary strength directly from Him in order for us to walk out our calling as "Watchmen on the Walls for Jerusalem." The days we live in are sufficient for much warfare, and heroes of the faith and faithful intercessors are few these days. We need to stand with our hands raised up with the support of others around us. We need to seek out a group of like-minded people who are followers of the Lord Yeshua and who are "called" to carry Israel through the coming battles, as the "spirit of Amalek" is still making war against Israel even today.

We are living on the brink of something so big that Israel will need every able-bodied Bible-believing Christian who loves her to pray—even though we may be weary—and to rally together and mobilize millions of Christians around the world to be Aaron and Hur for the Jewish nation.

Since modern-day Amalekites are probably trained in evil warfare, "the best of our men grow remiss in prayer, their hands are weak and hang down through the corruption of their hearts, the power of unbelief, the temptations of Satan, and lack of immediate answers to prayer—or through long delays of it—and then the enemy gets an advantage over them (*Gill's Exposition of the Bible*). If we look at Aaron's stone he sat upon as the Rock of Israel we need to also stand upon (Yeshua), then we will keep our eyes turned upward until God brings Israel the victory. When the victory finally comes for Israel, may there be many to whom the Lord will be able to say, "Well done my good and faithful servant" (denoting steadiness of faith through prayer).

Every one of us need the Lord, who was the strength of Moses, and who is the "strength of Israel" (1 Samuel 15:29) to keep us strong in the Spirit, even though our bodies may be weak at times and our flesh weary. "There is a growing incitement against Israel...the Palestinian appointed Mufti of Jerusalem appeared on an official Palestinian Authority television program recently and cited the Islamic tradition that Jews must be murdered en mass in order to bring about Judgment day" (*Front Page Jerusalem*). There is also a rise in the ugly spirit of anti-Semitism again (national and "Christian") as well as the anti-Israel Left in Europe. If an ungodly world behaves in an anti-Semitic way it is not so difficult to understand. However, when the Christian world fails to come alongside Israel in a supportive manner to promote truth and the reality on the ground, we are faced with a different issue altogether.

The Amalekites of Moses' time attacked Israel and cursed her. The clue in the first sentence of Balaam's declaration, "How shall I curse what God has not cursed?" comes to mind. Christians are in possession of Bibles which teach us the opposite of cursing Israel. "I will bless those who bless My People" (Genesis 12:3). God says again and again he will restore His ancient people to the land of their forefathers (Leviticus 26:40-46) and that He will, in His Time, heal and cleanse them from all unrighteousness (Ezekiel 36:22-28). If the Almighty has not cursed His People, do we as Christians, dare to? Some are very bold to try to prove that supporting Israel is evil. Wherever Replacement Theology rules and is proclaimed by different denominations and persuasions in Christendom, they will proclaim God is finished with Israel. But we know that is not true! This theology is tantamount to declaring that Israel is cursed by God and the opposite to what He promised He would do with His People. Should Israel be alone at a time like this? Should we not take a lesson from Moses and Aaron and Hur when they helped Israel "fight the battle" of the Amalekite cursors of Israel? Verbal assurances are good, but it will take steadiness in our faith in the Holy Bible's promises regarding Israel to keep our arms lifted up in prayer and intercession for the Jewish nation. This is the call of the Watchmen!

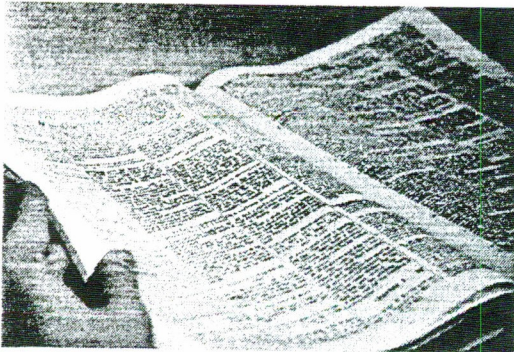
Norma Mummert

From: owner-cfi-wpl@grmi.org on behalf of ListAdmin [listadmin@cfijerusalem.org]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 8:11 AM
To: CFI WPL
Subject: [CFI-WPL] OnWatch Prayer Letter: July 2012



*"I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me..." Habakkuk 2:1. "...be therefore sober, and watch unto prayer"
(1 Peter 4:7).*

*"The role of a watchman is vital to a full understanding of the work of God in the end time"
(The Good News magazine).*

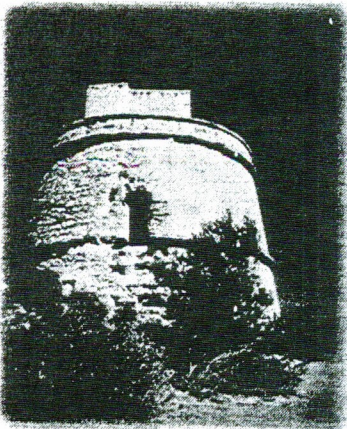


Habakkuk was the eighth of the twelve Minor Prophets and a contemporary with Jeremiah and Zephaniah. Habakkuk...comforts and lifts up his people, as one would do with a weeping child, bidding him be quiet...(Luther). Habakkuk was most likely a Levite. He "saw" it (his prophecy) with the inner eye opened by the Spirit..." (www.bible-history.com/eastons).

When Habakkuk stood on his watch, he took his stand at his post and stationed himself on the watch tower booth to listen to what the Lord was saying to him. "Watches were periods into which the time between sunset and sunrise was divided. They are so called because **watchmen** relieved each other at each of these periods of standing watch. There are frequent references in Scripture to the **duties of watchmen** who were appointed to give notice of the approach of an enemy (2 Samuel 18:24-27; 2 Kings 9:17-20; Isaiah 21:5-9). They were sometimes placed for this purpose on **watch-towers** (2 Kings 17:9; 18:8)....The watches of the night were originally three in number, (1) "**the beginning of the watches**" (Lamentations 2:19); (2) "**the middle watch**" (Judges 7:19); and (3) "**the morning watch**" (Exodus 14:24; 1 Samuel 11:11), which extended from two o'clock to sunrise. But in the New

Testament we read of four watches, a division probably introduced by the Romans. (Matthew 14:25; Mark 6:48; Luke 12:38)" (Matthew George, M.A., D.D., "Biblical Meaning for 'Watches' Easton's Bible Dictionary").

"For which of you, intending to build a **tower**, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have [sufficient] to finish [it]?" Luke 14:28, Just as those who need to count the cost of building a tower, before we receive the responsibility of being Watchmen on the fortifications of Jerusalem we need to "count the cost" or calculate this significant role well. Once we commit to being Watchmen, our role becomes vitaly important to keep the watches going around the world at all hours of day and night. We must remember that a tower was built for many reasons but often it was to escape danger below...God is a shelter, a strong tower for all of us and we must stand at that post and never relent to the danger of perils. "**For thou hast been a shelter for me, [and] a strong tower from the enemy**" Psalm 61. We must always pray the Word and then we will be in line "with the Word" for each and every situation that appears on the horizon. Our duty (as stated above) is to watch unto prayer, be serious and steady...engaging in regular prayer for Israel...giving of ourselves in thoughtful and earnest prayer with the combined prayers of multitudes around the world. The God of Heaven will take pleasure in answering those impassioned pleas. Joining with other Watchmen, we throw a mantle of protection and safety over His precious Jewish people. As we look forward to the kingdom reign, God will set up His Kingdom that will never be destroyed - a kingdom that no one will ever conquer --- a kingdom that will shatter all other kingdoms and stand forever as an indestructible sign to the entire world: THE GOD OF ISRAEL WILL REIGN FROM JERUSALEM!....We must realize that the battles through the spirit of prayer are going to be some of the most difficult we have ever entered into ...but God's Promises are as sure and certain as my description of His Kingdom. We must stay awake and alert at our Watchman's booth...as Habakkuk certainly did. He began to discern the vision of the problems around him that he saw, as the Lord gave it to him. When we pray His Word in regard to Israel and the People it is only a matter of time before slowly, steadily, surely, the time will approach when our prayers will be answered—for God is always on time. The righteous prayer warrior trusts in Him and goes on praying.



Watchmen walked around the city and the walls at night..

A sentinel was usually stationed in the tower of the first gate. When David was at Mahanaim awaiting the result of the battle with Absalom, Scripture says: "***And David sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone***" (2 Samuel 18:24). This space between the gates was used for many purposes. (*Manners and Customs of Bible Lands*).

Let us see this space as a gateway for the praisers who will "***enter his courts with thanksgiving in their hearts***"...spurring the Watchman on duty to press on in his role as

a guardian of Israel in the spiritual realm of prayer.

As we pray this month we see that as God is planting the Jewish people in their homeland, **"with [his] whole heart"** (Jeremiah 32:41) there are many "robbers" trying to swallow up the inheritance of the Jewish people. They start fires, still stop up wells, plug up or blow up oil flow and spoil the Land with evil plotting and schemes. May God distress their devices, frustrate their plans and save them from deception.

Let's Take Up Our Watch Together

- **PRAISE GOD** for continuing to bring His People Home to the Land of Israel. More new immigrants are coming to the Land. Pray for CFI as we continue to meet newcomer's needs when they first arrive home. (See projects below that you can be a part of). "And it shall come to pass...I will return, and have compassion on them and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land" (Jeremiah 12:15).
- As our map shows, Israel sits in the middle of hostile nations. Yesterday's headlines from *Sky News* said *"Israel Preparing for Action in Syria."* Former Mossad Chief Danny Yatom is deeply concerned that the Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad may deliberately give Hizbullah chemical weapons, or that they could end up in the hands of terror groups. (Study Isaiah chapter 17).
- Other headlines read *"Gas Masks in Israeli Schools."* Drills are taking place around the country as Syria has begun moving parts of its vast arsenal of chemical weapons out of storage facilities. It has undeclared stockpiles of sarin nerve agent, mustard gas and cyanide. A definite reason to watch closely. *"Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word"* (Psalm 119:161).
- Another headline reads: "Iranian Leader: *"We must prepare for End of Times."* Iran's supreme leader is telling his nation it must prepare for war...and his message is based upon the coming of the last Islamic messiah...We must prepare the environment so that the great leader will come." The latest report of the International Atomic Energy Agency indicated that Iran has enough nuclear material for at least five nuclear weapons...but does nothing to stop it.
- Turkey has joined the ranks of key Biblical texts that point to a renewed Turkish power...numerous world events are aligning with what the Biblical prophets spoke about.
- **THANK GOD** that in these perplexing and disturbing times of our life that He is preparing a People of God...a Bride...and that Bride will be shining in righteousness and purity and have a love for her Groom's family: the Jewish people. Jesus tells us in verse 16 to remember again that He is of David's



Root and his Descendant...and then says "**The Spirit and the Bride say 'Come'...drink the Water of life without charge**" (Revelation 22:17).

- As major denominations in the United States continue to talk about divestment from Israel and a rift between Anglo-Jewry and the Church of England takes place, we are of the opinion that God is definitely using Israel as a plumb line that will eventually divide the Church into the Bride and the Apostate church: those who stand with Israel and those who separate from her will be an important issue. "**Wherewithal shall a young man (or old men too) cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word**" (Psalm 119:9).
- **Pray for discernment** in the Church and that they would understand the Islamic mentality for Al-Mohammedi in his recent book stated: "*I have pledged and made a firm promise to the Caliphate of the United Muslim Nations International that I will do my utmost to Islamize all of the West within a short period of time*"...He encourages his followers to "feel the spirituality of an Islamic revival"...He then stated: "*None will resist, you will submit! Islam will conquer the hearts of all Christendom, this is a definite reality.*" Another Islamic group pledged this month: "*We will wipe Christianity from the face of the Earth.*" (Unity Coalition for Israel, 7/13/2012). "**Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame**" (Revelation 16:15).
- Finally, pray earnestly for the salvation of Israel and the Jewish people. We see so much happening by the Hand of the Lord, but at the same time, there is much that displeases the Lord in the Land (i.e. acting like the nations, abortions, homosexuality, and corruption). "**I cried with my whole heart: hear me, O Lord...I cried unto thee; save...**" (Psalm 119:146-147).

I love the true Bride of the Messiah and pray that many in the traditional churches around the world will open their spiritual eyes, read the Word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to their hearts. My heart breaks at some of the ungodly things that are happening in local churches, synods, conferences and among church leadership. I pray for repentance, sorrow for what we have done to God's Chosen People and a turning around and heading toward the shining light trying to lead us in the right way. As I use the prayer of Habakkuk as my guide, my prayer is: "**O Lord, now that I have heard the reports, I will continue to worship you in awe for the fearful things you are going to do. In this time of our deep need (for the Church, the Bride of Messiah, the nation of Israel and the world), please help us as you have in years gone by. Show us your power to save....in your wrath, remember mercy**" (Habakkuk 3:1).

Until He Comes,

Sharon Sanders

Co-founder/Director

Christian Friends of Israel-Jerusalem

Compromise elusive in Middle East peace effort

Concerning the Middle East peace plan, I constantly hear the press state that both sides in the process must compromise and give in for there to be peace. I ask a question, however: What has the PLO ever given to Israel to earn its trust?

So far the peace process has been all very one-sided. Israel has given strategic land from its tiny nation only one-seventh the size of Colorado.

It has been pressured to recognize a permanent and hostile enemy in its midst. At Oslo, Israel's previous leadership even acquiesced in arming a Palestinian "police force" of 30,000 ex-terrorists with automatic weapons, which have now been turned on them.

Since the 1967 war, Israel has guaranteed all faiths access to their places of worship, even when it means that they as

a Jewish people don't have access to their only holy site — the Temple Mount. This means they can never rebuild their temple, unless Muslims are willing to share the sacred hill.

If Yasser Arafat and the Palestinians would finally like to offer something tangible to the peace process, let them offer Jews access to the Temple Mount to rebuild their temple.

If there is supposedly enough room for two peoples in one land, then there should be enough room for two places of worship on one hill.

CHARLES E. MUMMERT
Arvada

Denver Post
Oct 19, 1996

Piece by piece, Israel is giving away its chance for a lasting peace

If there were ever any people on earth who should know that appeasement doesn't work with those intent on their destruction, it should be the Jewish people. Have too many decades passed; have too many World War II-era Jewish survivors died; has history been too easily forgotten?

In the 1930s and '40s, the Nazis kept promising the world peace if only one more piece of land in Europe was turned over to them. They had half of Europe before the Allies realized that appeasement doesn't work with those who want war.

Now once again history repeats itself. The Labor Party in Israel continues to turn over one piece of strategic land after another in the

desperate hope for peace. The PLO's removal of the clause from its charter calling for the destruction of all Jews in Israel comes years after first being promised, yet it comes just in time to try to cause the re-election of Prime Minister Shimon Peres because he promises yet more land for peace. Most analysts feel it is just an insincere political maneuver to gain more land and power.

George Habash (the No. 2 man in the PLO) has stated, "Israel is impossible to live in peace with . . . one cannot co-exist with the Zionist entity. We cannot strike it with one decisive blow. Therefore we must pursue a tactical campaign in order to achieve our strategic goals by stages . . . We seek to establish

a state which we can use in order to liberate the other parts of the Palestinian state." Dozens of quotes from other leaders, including Yasser Arafat, support this strategy. At the moment, it seems as if this strategy is working.

Again, my Jewish friends (no, the world) hope for peace through appeasement. My fear is that we are repeating the mistakes of history again. The PLO and many Moslem leaders do not sincerely want peace, just pieces. I wish they did, but I would just be wishing on a falling star.

Chuck Mummerl
President of ACTS
(Active Christians
Targeting Anti-Semitism)
Arvada

Surely we can't ask Israel to give land to the Palestinians

President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker now want to give Saddam Hussein the very "linkage" they said they would not give during the war. This threatens to destroy the only democratic nation and true ally the United States has in the region.

At the moment of our supreme victory, we are now ready to force Israel to turn over half the nation to the PLO. We are about to award land to the same Palestinians who supported Saddam Hussein and tortured and killed many Kuwaitis, and whose new symbol is the Scud missile. If we want to help a deserving people, why not negotiate for the Kurds who have been brutalized by Iraq?

The area in question is called Judea

and Samaria, the West Bank, or the occupied territory, depending on who you ask. Israel originally didn't desire the area, but obtained it through five defensive wars — wars of aggression against her. Turning this area over to the PLO or Palestinian organizations would lead to future wars against Israel.

Without control of its ancient area of Judea and Samaria, Israel would have to give up the much-needed water of the Jordan River, which is also a good defensive boundary. This tiny nation would become even smaller — only 10 miles wide at its narrowest spot. How could one defend it when an enemy could send a tank, jet or rocket across the remainder of Israel in a few minutes? This would only

encourage future wars, not prevent them.

Bush is also asking Israel to give up its capital of Jerusalem, where there has been freedom of religion to all groups for the first time in centuries only since Israel has held it.

Is this how we show our thanks to our ally Israel?

Israel's long suffering in not retaliating against Scud missile attacks gave America and the coalition a chance to win this quick victory. Do we now turn around and gut her — this small ally no much bigger than Kuwait?

Do we again win the war and partially lose the peace in a nearby allied country?

CHARLES MUMMERT

Arvada