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God Keeps His Promises to the Jewish People



By Steven J. Hogan

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Some people think God's plans for Israel were invalidated by their crucifixion of Christ, but that's just not true! God's plans are still valid, and one of the primary reasons we know this is because He has already carried out His promise to bring back the **Jewish people** to their land, and this sets the stage for the fulfillment of the rest of His promises to them. And what happens to the Jews relates directly to what happens to the church. Matt. 24:4-22, Luke 21:10-28, 2 Thess. 2:1-19, Rev. 7:1-14, Rev. 12:13-17 all show God's side-by-side plans with the Jews and the Christians in the end-times.

Another reason we know God has not given up on His plans for the **Jewish people** is that there are at least 20 New Testament passages that talk about their future. And these passages are in the New Testament because they're part of God's church age / kingdom age

plans. Last week we looked at 10 of them and today we will look at 10 more. These verses, in addition to a large number of other Old Testament prophecies, prove that God will fulfill His promises to the Jews. Let's go over them:

* **Luke 21:20-24** – *"When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near… these are days of vengeance… they will fall by the edge of the sword and will be led captive into all the nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."* Jesus predicted the future of the **Jewish people**, that Jerusalem would be destroyed, which happened in 70 AD, and that the Jews would be scattered all over the world. But in the last 140+ years, a great multitude of Jews have miraculously come back to their land. That means the times of the Gentiles will soon be fulfilled, and that a large remnant of Jews will soon be saved. Ezek. 36-37, Rom. 11:25-27

* **Matthew 19:27-28** – *"Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."* Jesus tells the apostles their reward for being His followers, that they will rule with Him, specifically that they will be judging the 12 tribes of Israel. This occurs during the millennial kingdom, *"in the regeneration"* (physical new birth – Rom. 8:20-21). This is more evidence that God has a future for Israel and the **Jewish people**, as was promised in the Old Testament, especially in the Psalms and Prophets. Psalm 37:9, 22, 29; Psalm 105:6-11; Ezekiel 37:21-28

* **Romans 11:25-27** – *"A partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fulness of the Gentiles has come in, and so all Israel will be saved, just as it is written 'The Deliverer will come from Zion, He will remove ungodliness from Jacob. This is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins."* During this church age, the **Jewish people** are experiencing a partial hardening of heart and, therefore, are not as receptive to the gospel as the Gentiles. At the end of this age, *"the*

fulness of the Gentiles" will have come in, Christ will return, the church will be raptured, the world will be judged, and a large number of **Jewish people** will be saved. Psalm 130:7-8, Isaiah 45:17

*** Romans 15:7-13** – *"Christ has become a servant to the circumcision* (the Jews) *on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers* (Abraham, etc.)*, and for the Gentiles to glorify God… 'Therefore, I will give praise to You among the Gentiles, and I will sing to Your name… Rejoice O Gentiles, with His people… Let all the people's praise Him… He* (Jesus) *who arises to rule over the Gentiles…'"* The **Jewish people** have a magnificent future, and that's because God will carry out His incredible promises for them. Vss. 7-13 speak of a very important aspect of their hope, and Gentile Christians will share in that hope, which is that all believers, both Jew and Gentile, will unitedly be worshiping the Lord Jesus in the ages to come. Might God fill your heart with this hope. "*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope."* Romans 15:13

Hebrews 8:8-12 – *"'Days are coming', says the Lord, 'when I will affect a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah… I will put My laws into their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they shall be My people… for all will know Me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.'"* The book of Hebrews was written to Jews, many of whom were wondering about God's plans for them. The New Covenant, the key part of these plans, first written down in Jer. 31:31-34, is quoted here in Heb. 8. It's true that God made this covenant with Israel, with the Jews, but during this church age, its primary beneficiaries are the Gentiles. God wanted the **Jewish people** back then and throughout this age to know that He has not forgotten His promise to them. And at the end of Daniel's 70th week, which isn't long from now, all Israel, all Jews, will share in this *"new covenant"* promise, and be saved, be forgiven of all their sins. Daniel 9:24-27, Isaiah 45:17, Ezekiel 37:21-28

Hebrews 11:13, 39-40 – *"He* (Abraham) *lived as an alien in the land of promise… for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God… All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance… all these… did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect."* God continues to assure the **Jewish people** that He has not cancelled His plans for them. Heb. 11 speaks of believers who were, and still are, expecting the fulfillment of these plans. And in this church age, both Jewish and Gentile believers are looking forward to that time when Christ comes back, when all believers will be *"blessed by Him"* and *"will inherit the land"* (Ps. 37:22, Matt. 5:5). Vss. 39-40 tell us an amazing truth, that promises to the Old Testament saints will be carried out in conjunction with His promises to the church. God wants you to know that His plans for all His people are converging, are coming together in the end-times. Matthew 24:15-31

*** Revelation 7:1-8** – *"I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel: from the tribe of Judah twelve thousand were sealed…"* In the future, a large number of **Jewish people**, exactly 144,000, 12,000 from every tribe, will be sealed and set apart for Jesus Christ. This occurs during the 2nd half of Daniel's 70th week, close to the time of the rapture. We know this because Rev. 7:9-14 goes on to talk about the rapture, how a great multitude of Christians will come out of great tribulation and then be in in heaven worshiping God and Christ. Then Rev. 14:1-5 tells us that these 144,000 Jews become devoted worshipers and servants of Christ – *"The Lamb was standing on Mount Zion and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads."*

*** Revelation 11:1-15** – *"Get up and measure the temple of God… they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months. And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days."* This is another informative passage about the

future of the **Jewish people** in the end-times. Here are the main points:
– The events talked about in this passage take place in the holy city, the city of Jerusalem.
– The Jewish temple is to be measured, which means it will be rebuilt sometime in the future.
– Two godly, God-protected witnesses, probably Moses and Elijah, are performing miracles, and are prophesying, that is preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.
– The beast, the Antichrist, kills the witnesses, but after 3½ days, God raises them from the dead.
– The time frame for these events is forty-two months or twelve hundred and sixty days, which is referring to the second half of Daniel's 70th week, the last 3½ years.
– Immediately after these events, the seventh trumpet is blown, and soon after that, Jesus Christ, from the city of Jerusalem, begins His 1000-year reign upon the earth.

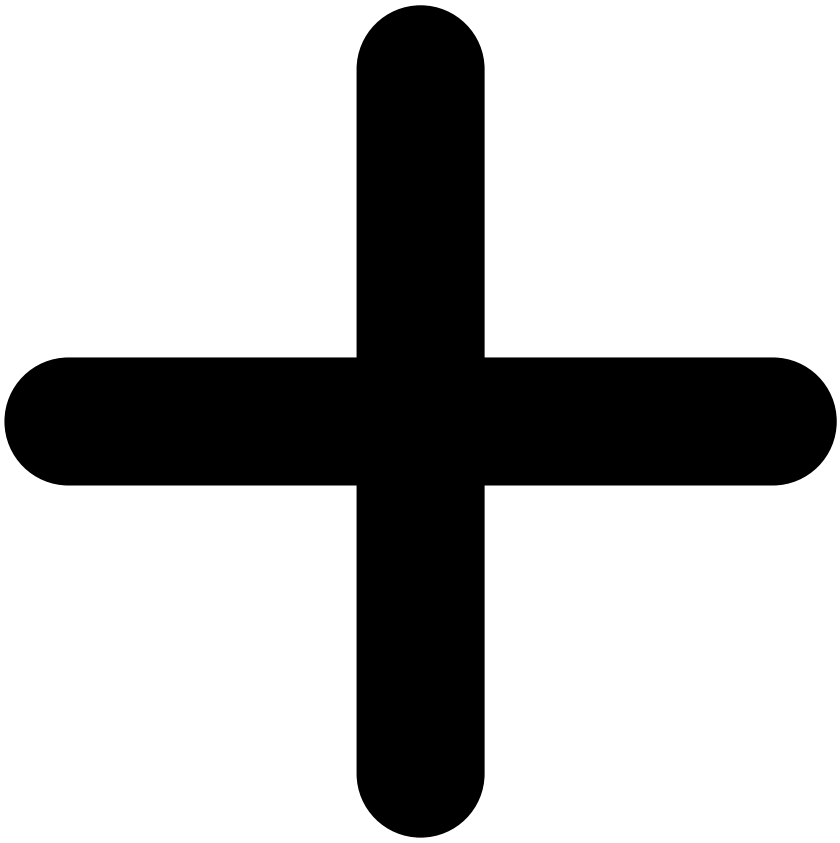
*** Revelation 20:2,3,4,5,6** – *"… a thousand years… the thousand years… a thousand years… the thousand years… a thousand years… the thousand years."* Many Old Testament promises to the **Jewish people** speak about the Messiah, the Christ, reigning over His kingdom. (2 Sam. 7:16, Psalm 2). These verses in Rev. 20 repeatedly and clearly tell us that the first part of Christ's coming reign will last exactly 1,000 years. Immediately after that, there's the eternal kingdom, when Christ and His Father reign over the world forever and ever. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28

*** Revelation 21:10-14** – *"… the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God… it had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel."* This describes the holy and eternal city, the new Jerusalem. The names of the twelve tribes of Israel are written on the twelve gates, which means the **Jewish people** are eternally important, and that God's promises to them will come to pass. All believers from all time will be living together in this

holy city, and be eternally worshiping and serving God.

At least 20 New Testament passages talk about the future God has for the **Jewish people**. You can't ignore them, or say they're not important, or that they're not true for Jews. Go back over them and study them. Might you see their relevance to both Jews and Gentiles, to believers from Old Testament times and the church age. Since we live in the end-times, we know these glorious plans for God's people will soon come to pass. And as a believer, you will see it all happen. *"I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning… saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all my good pleasure'; calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it."* Isaiah 46:9-11

P.S. I have many charts that really help you see the big picture for the Jewish people and God's plans for them. Here are four I would encourage you to look at: *"God's Plan for the Jews"*, *"Promises for the Jewish Remnant"*, *"Micah and the Millennial Kingdom"*, *"The Regathering of Jews to Israel"*.





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