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The Jews: Their Past, Present and Glorious Future



By Steven J. Hogan

~ A Saturday Morning Post #83 ~

You can't understand end-times' prophecy unless you understand God's working with the Jews. I believe you know their story, one that started about 4000 years ago with God promising Abraham a nation, land, and great blessing. This Jewish nation (Israel) was born in Egypt, and grew up and remained there for 400 years. Led by Moses, she miraculously escaped out of Egypt, and then was sovereignly stuck in the desert for 40 years. Finally, around 1400 BC, with Joshua leading the way, she entered and settled in the land God had promised her. **Genesis 12:1-2, 13:14-17; Exodus; Joshua; Acts 7**

Once in her land, instead of being a witness of God's glory to the world, Israel began adopting the sinful customs of neighboring nations. Led by judges, God continued to show His mercy, but did not hesitate in

disciplining her for her sin. Israel's best years were from 1010 BC to 930 BC, when David and Solomon were kings, and the whole world saw how God wonderfully blessed her. But she quickly went downhill, seen in her sinful and shameful idolatry. The nation split into two parts, Israel and Judah, which were led by kings, both good and bad. From around 860 BC to 600 BC, God-appointed prophets preached repentance, judgment and hope to the proud Jewish people, and during this entire period, God was amazingly patient with them. The time came when God had no choice but to punish them, resulting in the death of many Jews, with most of the rest being exiled to godless nations. **Judges, 2 Chronicles, Isaiah, Ezekiel**

During this time of exile, Daniel the prophet, who had been taken to Babylon, recorded some incredible God-given visions about the far-distant future of Israel, the end-times. Then after 70 years, the Jews began to return to Israel, resettling their land. But God's promises to the Jews about their future glory were not fulfilled at that time. **Daniel, Ezra, Haggai**

God's grand and glorious plans for His people were still unfolding. Most importantly, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to earth. This was His first coming, when He was born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, raised up disciples, died on a cross to pay for sins, and then rose from the dead. On earth for only 33 years, Jesus' work was finished, and He went back to His Father in heaven. This began the church age with large numbers of Jews and Gentiles were being saved. But it wasn't long before God's promised judgment of the Christ-rejecting Jews took place. Around 70 AD, Jerusalem was destroyed, and close to a million Jews were either killed or scattered around the world. God's plans for the Jews were suspended for a long time, but His plans for the church were continually being carried out. **Matthew, John, Luke 21:20-24, Ephesians**

What happened to the Jews? Many people said the Jews, because they had killed Christ, had forfeited their God-given promises. But God doesn't lie, and He didn't change His mind. Over 1800 years later, in the

late 1800's, God began regathering the Jews. With their religion, culture and language still intact, they started returning, coming back from all over the world, and resettling in their land. In the 1940's, through that mad-man Hitler, came Satan's slaughter of close to 6 million Jews. But in 1948, God used that massive and senseless killing to move world leaders to allow the Jews to once again be recognized as a nation. Since then, there have been many more wars, increasing anti-Semitism, and treaties too. By God's grace, the Jews have defended their land and continued to grow. In fact, in 1967, the Jews took control of Jerusalem, a dream come true. In the eyes of the world, Israel was becoming a very prosperous nation. **Ezekiel 36-37**

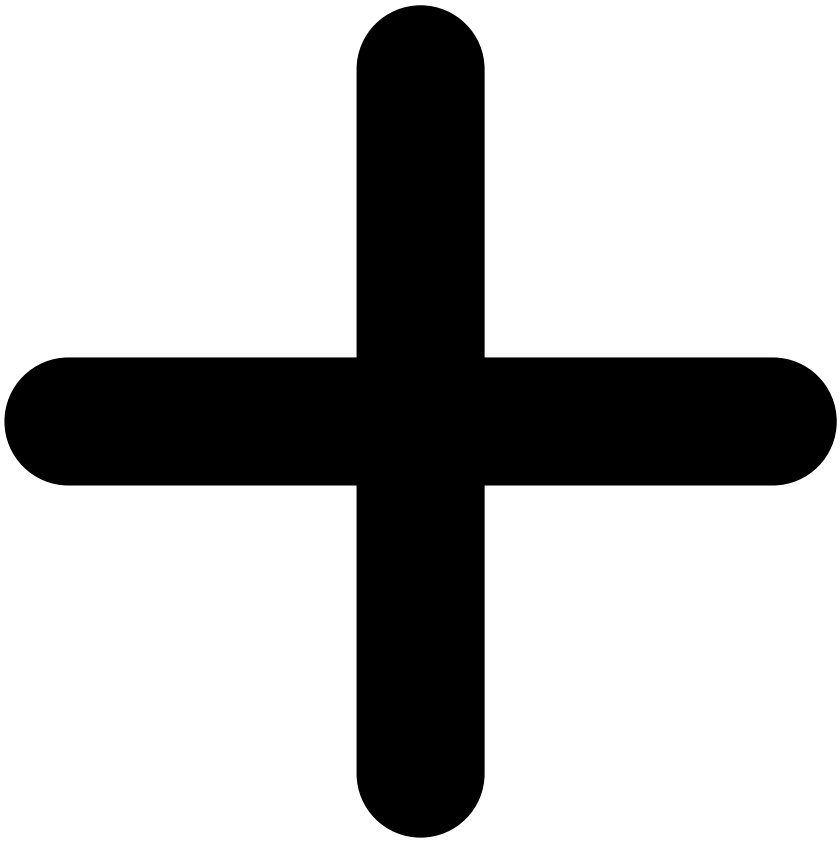
Now in 2018, with Jews numbering 6.5 million in Israel, God continues to carry out His end-time plans. Not long from now, at the beginning of Daniel's 70th week, the Jews will sign a treaty, but it will be a bad deal, a deal with the devil. Yes, they will offer sacrifices in their newly-built temple, but these will come to a sudden stop when the Antichrist, showing his devilish colors, is revealed, and desolates the temple. This beast of a man, this enraged Antichrist, will go chasing after the Jews, but many will escape to a safe and God-protected place. The great tribulation affecting the Jews will then be directed at the Christians. **Daniel 9:27, Matthew 24:9-26, 2 Thessalonians 2:3-5**

Soon there will be the second coming of Christ. The first event will be the rapture, the physical redemption of Christians, when they are suddenly taken from earth, gloriously transformed, and immediately brought to Christ. Right after that, the day of the Lord begins, God's punishment of sinners still living on earth. This first phase of God's wrath will be finished at the end of Daniel's 70th week, at which time Christ returns to redeem the surviving remnant of Jews, this being a spiritual redemption, the salvation of their souls. **1 Thessalonians 4:15-17, Revelation 7-9, Isaiah 45:17, Romans 11:25-27**

The second phase of God's devastating and deserved wrath will then be poured out upon the Antichrist's kingdom, the enemies of the Jews.

Then begins the millennial kingdom, a time when the Jews will repopulate the world, and aided by glorified Christians, will help Jesus Christ reign over the world for 1000 years. A most glorious and magnificent period this will be, for God's promises to the Jews will be fulfilled, Christ will be perfectly, lovingly and powerfully ruling, and there will be peace on earth. **Psalm 67:3,4,7** – *"Let the peoples praise You, O God… Let the nations be glad and sing for joy… God blesses us* (Jews)*, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him."* **Psalm 47, Psalm 72**

P.S. As I have said, understanding God's working with the Jews is so important for you to be able to clearly understand end-times prophecy and God's working with the church. I would encourage you to read or review Post 19, A Short Summary of God's Working with the Jews, as well as Article 8, A Summary of the Prophetic Work of God, from the Time of Abraham to Christ's Millennial Kingdom.



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