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***ISRAEL IN THE LAND—DEUTERONOMY 28***

Printed by permission of Dennis Waltemeyer. This lesson was presented on  
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Ezekiel 11:14–18 14Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 15"Son of man, your brothers, your relatives, your fellow exiles and the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those to whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, 'Go far from the LORD; this land has been given us as a possession.' 16"Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Though I had removed them far away among the nations and though I had scattered them among the countries, yet I was a sanctuary for them a little while in the countries where they had gone." ' 17"Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries among which you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel." ' 18"When they come there, they will remove all its detestable things and all its abominations from it.

In addition to the promise to regather the people of Israel in belief, the above Scripture is noteworthy for God's declaration of His divine protection of the Jewish people in the midst of all the persecutions during the dispersion. The preservation of the Jews has been a marvelous demonstration of God's grace. They have been forced into ghettos where they could easily be murdered and otherwise persecuted but also where they were preserved as a distinct ethnic group of people. They probably would have been fully assimilated into the peoples of the world centuries ago if they had been allowed free access to society wherein they could have intermarried. They were murdered by the Roman Catholic Church during the Crusades and the Russians have instituted numerous pogroms against them. Of course, the Muslims have been murdering Jews since Mohammed, but through it all, God has preserved them as a distinct people, His people.

Zechariah 10:8–12 8"I will whistle for them to gather them together, For I have redeemed them; And they will be as numerous as they were before. 9"When I scatter them among the peoples, They will remember Me in far countries, And they with their children will live and come back. 10"

I will bring them back from the land of Egypt And gather them from Assyria; And I will bring them into the land of Gilead and Lebanon Until no room can be found for them. 11"And they will pass through the sea of distress And He will strike the waves in the sea, So that all the depths of the Nile will dry up; And the pride of Assyria will be brought down And the scepter of Egypt will depart. 12"And I will strengthen them in the LORD, And in His name they will walk," declares the LORD.

Ezekiel 37:21–28 21"Say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; 22and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations and no longer be divided into two kingdoms. 23"They will no longer defile themselves with their idols, or with their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions; but I will deliver them from all their dwelling places in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them. And they will be My people, and I will be their God. 24"My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances and keep My statutes and observe them. 25"They will live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons and their sons' sons, forever; and David My servant will be their prince forever. 26"I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will place them and multiply them, and will set My sanctuary in their midst forever. 27"My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people. 28"And the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forever." ' "

Jeremiah 30:1–3 1The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 2"Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book. 3'For behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will restore the fortunes of My people Israel and Judah.' The LORD says, 'I will also bring them back to the land that I gave to their forefathers and they shall possess it."

## UNDERSTANDING THE TIMELINE

The Tribulation cannot begin until the seven-year covenant is made (Dan. 9:27) between antichrist and Israel. The covenant cannot be enacted with Israel unless the state of Israel exists; therefore, a Jewish state must exist before the Tribulation can begin.

Daniel 9:27 27"And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

Since there are only two regatherings (Is. 11:11-12), then it is significant that Israel is back in the land at this time. They will not be, they cannot be, removed from the land before the Tribulation occurs. They will be dispersed again at the midpoint of the Tribulation when the antichrist desecrates the Temple, an occasion Christ Jesus called the abomination of desolation.

Matthew 24:15–22 15"Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. 17"Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. 18"Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. 19"But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20"But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. 21"For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not

occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. 22"Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

Revelation 13:14–15 14And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. 15And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Jerusalem will be a stumbling stone and an object of the world's attention in the end times. This could not happen unless and until Israel is back in the land and back in Jerusalem. Even though Israel was back in the land in 1948, they were not back in Jerusalem until 1967. Israel cannot be removed from Jerusalem prior to the Tribulation.

Zechariah 12:2–3 2"Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. 3"It will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely

injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it. Part 5 in February.

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