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

Printed by permission of Dennis Waltemeyer. This lesson was presented on September 16, 2012 and will be used in the Messenger for the next few months.

**ZIONISM**

Zionism is the movement the purpose of which is to establish the Jews in the land and to create a Jewish state. While some Jews have been in the land since the beginning of the dispersion, the latter part of the nineteenth century marks the point where a powerful movement was established in order to accomplish this task.

The man most responsible for establishing the Zionist movement was an eastern European Jew named Theodore Hertzl. He was a journalist working in Paris during the trial of a Jewish French army officer named Dreyfus. Dreyfus was accused of treason. The charges were entirely false and during the trial a huge amount of anti-Semitism was exhibited. Hertzl was also aware of all the pogroms, organized massacres of particular ethnic groups, in Russia at the time. He came to the conclusion that the only way the Jewish people would ever be truly safe was back in their land in their own nation. He founded the World Zionist Organization. His belief was that once the Jews were back in their own land another dispersion, or diaspora, could never happen again unless the whole world were to collapse. From our vantage point, we know that will happen during the Tribulation but Hertzl, of course, had no knowledge of this. Despite numerous obstacles, Hertzl persisted and he became convinced that the Jewish state had its beginnings during his lifetime. He was right. The regathering in unbelief began in earnest.

**THE FINAL REGATHERING IN BELIEF**

Jesus predicted this regathering in the Oliver discourse.

Matthew 24:31 <sup>31</sup>“And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and **THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds**, from one end of the sky to the other.

Mark 13:27 <sup>27</sup>“And then He will send forth the angels, and **will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven.**

Deuteronomy 4:29–31 <sup>29</sup>“But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and **you will find Him if you search for Him** with all your heart and all your soul. <sup>30</sup>“When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, **in the latter days you will return to the LORD your God and listen to His voice.** <sup>31</sup>“For the LORD your God is a compassionate God; He will not fail you nor destroy you **nor forget the covenant** with your fathers which He swore to them.

Deuteronomy 30:1–10 <sup>1</sup>“So it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind in all nations where the LORD your God has banished you, <sup>2</sup>and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your sons, <sup>3</sup>then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. <sup>4</sup>“**If your outcasts are at the ends of the earth, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you back.** <sup>5</sup>“The LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it; and He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. <sup>6</sup>“Moreover the LORD your God **will circumcise your heart** and the heart of your descendants, **to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul**, so that you may live. <sup>7</sup>“The LORD your God will inflict all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. <sup>8</sup>“And you shall again obey the LORD, and observe all His commandments which I command you today. <sup>9</sup>“Then the LORD your God will prosper you abundantly in all the work of your hand, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your cattle and in the produce of your ground, **for the LORD will again rejoice over you for good**, just as He rejoiced over your fathers; <sup>10</sup>if you obey the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and soul.

After being returned to the land in belief, the Jewish people will also return to the Word of God. Judaism as we know it today is not biblical Judaism; it is rabbinic Judaism. Jews do not study the Old Testament much; they study the Rabbis and their writings. After being regathered in belief, they will “listen to His voice” and “keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law...”

Isaiah 43:5–7 <sup>5</sup>“Do not fear, for I am with you; **I will bring** your offspring from the **east**, And gather you from the **west**. <sup>6</sup>“I will say to the **north**, ‘Give them up!’ And to the **south**, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring My sons from afar And My daughters **from the ends of the earth**, <sup>7</sup>Everyone who is called by My name, And whom I have created for My glory, Whom I have formed, even whom I have made.”

Isaiah 27:12–13 <sup>12</sup>In that day the LORD will start His threshing from the flowing stream of the Euphrates to the brook of Egypt, and **you will be gathered up** one by one, O sons of Israel. <sup>13</sup>It will come about also in that day that a great trumpet will be blown, and those who were perishing in the land of Assyria and who were scattered in the land of Egypt will come and worship the LORD in the holy mountain at Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 16:14–15 <sup>14</sup>“Therefore behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when it will no longer be said, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ <sup>15</sup>but, ‘As the LORD lives, **who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.**’ For I will restore them to **their own land** which I gave to their fathers.

Jeremiah 31:7–10 <sup>7</sup>For thus says the LORD, “Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the chief of the nations; Proclaim, give praise and say, ‘O LORD, save Your people, The remnant of Israel.’ <sup>8</sup>“Behold, I am bringing them **from the north country**, And I will gather them **from the remote parts of the earth**, Among them the blind and the lame, The woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together; A great company, **they will return here**. <sup>9</sup>“With weeping they will come, And by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters, On a straight path in which they will not stumble; **For I am a father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn.**” <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, And declare in the coastlands afar off, And say, “**He who scattered Israel will gather him And keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.**”

Jeremiah 32:37–40 <sup>37</sup>“**Behold, I will gather them out of all the lands to which I have driven them in My anger, in My wrath and in great indignation; and I will bring them back to this place and make them dwell in safety.** <sup>38</sup>“They shall be **My people**, and **I will be their God**; <sup>39</sup>and I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me always, for their own good and for the good of their children after them. <sup>40</sup>“I will make **an everlasting covenant** with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put the fear of Me in their hearts so that they will not turn away from Me.

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