

# *Israel – the Linchpin of Prophecy*

On May 15, 1948, the miracle of all miracles occurred. The nation of Israel was reborn, as foretold in the book of Isaiah, chapter 66, verses 8 and 9. “Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion (Israel) travailed, she brought forth her children. Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? Saith the Lord”.... Never in all of history has a country ceased to exist and then come back to life again as a sovereign nation.

But it happened to Israel! Why? Because it was prophesied in the Bible that the Lord would bring back His people to His land in the last days. “And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel and they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them... And I will plant them upon their land and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them saith the Lord thy God.” (Amos 9:14-15).

The clock started ticking. The countdown of the last generation had begun. Prophecy teachers for years have said that Jesus could have come back in any generation. This doctrine is totally false. Jesus, as foretold in the Bible, would come back to Israel from whence he left (Acts 1:11-12, Zechariah 14:4). Until 1948 there was no Israel to come back to.

And even though many attempts to destroy her have been made since her birth, Israel still stands and will continue to stand (Psalm 129:1-2) until Jesus, their real Messiah, also called the man of war (Exodus 15:3) comes back not only to fight for her (Zechariah 14:2-3) but to rule the world from Jerusalem for the next 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4).

The Lord’s dealing with Israel would not come easy and it would come in stages. First, she would physically be born as a nation, but still reject Jesus as her long awaited Messiah (Stage One). Then, she would endure war after war as a result of her unbelief and sin, culminating in the battle of Armageddon (Stage Two). Finally, when all hope seems lost, she would have her spiritual rebirth as a result of Jesus returning to destroy all of her enemies at the end of the battle of Armageddon (Stage Three).

## **Stage One – Israel reborn physically (Jeremiah 30:3)**

### **1948 – The Birth of Israel**

On November 29, 1947, by 133-13 majority, the United Nations voted that, beginning in May 15, 1948, if the Yishuv (the Jewish community in Palestine) agreed [and it did], there would be two independent states in Palestine, and the British mandate would end.

In May 1948, the Jews of Palestine declared an independent state in their ancient homeland. Arab armies immediately attacked. In a simple, solemn, emotional ceremony at a Tel Aviv art museum that began with the singing of “Hatikvah,” the national anthem, the state of Israel was proclaimed by the new Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, at 4 p.m. on May 14, 1948. The proclamation 67 years ago this past spring promised social and political equality for all inhabitants of the new nation, and Jewish leaders vowed to safeguard the sanctity of Muslim and Christian holy places. But there was little time for celebration in a city already blacked out to protect it from the Arab invasion everyone expected. The attack by six Arab nations came immediately, touching off a spiral of war and violence that continues to this day.

All along, it had been unclear whether Washington would support a Jewish state. President Harry S. Truman had initially opposed independence for Israel, fearing it would want U.S. military support. But in an example of how personal politics can get, Truman was persuaded to support the new state by Eddie Jacobson, his World War I buddy. Jacobson, who was Jewish, avoided publicity by sneaking into the White House, and received Truman’s pledge of support. After saying that he would “do what I think is right and let them all go to hell,” Truman formally recognized the Jewish state, two hours after Ben-Gurion’s proclamation in Tel Aviv. “In one of the most hopeful periods of their troubled history,” a *Times* correspondent wrote from Tel Aviv that day, “the Jewish people here gave a sigh of relief and took a new hold on life when they learned that the greatest national power had accepted them into the international fraternity.”

In 2010, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared that the prophecies of Ezekiel 37 have been fulfilled with the regathering of Israel. Netanyahu said that “Jews sprouted new branches and grew deep roots. Dry bones became covered with flesh, a spirit filled them, and they lived and stood on their own feet, as Ezekiel prophesied”. We live in momentous and tumultuous times, times of great change and upheaval. But it is also a time where the ancient prophecies are coming true, and the promise of the Holy God of Israel to regather His people in the last days is being abundantly kept.

- Ethiopian Jews in Israel are immigrants and descendants of the immigrants of the Beta Israel communities of Ethiopia, who now reside in Israel. Most of the community made aliyah from Ethiopia to Israel in two waves of mass immigration assisted by the Israeli government: Operation Moses (1984) and Operation Solomon (1991). (Zephaniah 3:10)
- ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) – Israel said Thursday it planned to start moving the remaining 18,000 Ethiopians of Jewish origin to Israel starting next week. (Psalm 68:31)
- Hundreds of American immigrants to Israel landed in their new homeland this morning after an all-night flight from the U.S. The group, organized by the organization Nefesh B’ Nefesh (“Soul to Soul”), comprised about 330 US and Canadian Jews.
- Submitted By: Chayah Click for Source Article Ninety-five members of Bnei Menashe, a group in northeastern India claiming descent from the lost tribe of Manasseh, are expected to immigrate to Israel tomorrow.
- Since the early 1990’s, some 800,000 immigrants have reached Israel from Russia and the former Soviet republics to make up more than 16 percent of the country’s Jewish population.
- The AP reports this week that Jews in France are fleeing by the thousands to return to their ancestral home of Israel, and Jerusalem its capital. More than 5,000 are on track to leave, the most since after the Six-Day War in 1967.

In March of 2013, the Daily Mail reported that for the first time in Israel's modern existence, there were more Jews in Israel than anywhere else, including the United States. Census statistics revealed that Israel's total population has reached eight million, with the surge in the Jewish community thought to have been fueled by returning members of the diaspora.

## Stage Two – Wars culminating with the battle of Armageddon (Psalm 124:1-4)

1. Israeli war of Independence (November 1947 – July 1949) – Started as 6 months of civil war between Jewish and Arab militias at the end of the British Mandate of Palestine and turned into a regular war after the declaration of independence of Israel and the intervention of several Arab armies.
2. Suez Crisis (October 1956) – A military attack on Egypt by Britain, France, and Israel, beginning on 29 October 1956, with the intention to occupy the Sinai Peninsula and to take over the Suez Canal.
3. Six-Day War (June 1967) – Fought between Israel and Arab neighbors Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. The nations of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, and others also contributed troops and arms to the Arab forces. Following the war, the territory held by Israel expanded significantly.
4. Yom Kippur War (October 1973) – Fought from October 6 to October 26, 1973 by a coalition of Arab states led by Egypt and Syria against Israel as a way of recapturing part of the territories which they lost to the Israelis back in the Six-Day War. The war began with a surprise joint attack by Egypt and Syria on the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur.
5. 1982 Lebanon War (1982) – Began on 6 June 1982, when the Israel Defense Forces invaded southern Lebanon to expel the PLO from the territory. The Government of Israel ordered the invasion as a response to the assassination attempt against Israel's ambassador to the United Kingdom.
6. 2006 Lebanon War (summer 2006) – began as a military operation in response to the abduction of two Israeli reserve soldiers by the Hezbollah. The operation gradually strengthened, to become a wider confrontation.
7. Gaza War (December 2008 – January 2009) – Three-week armed conflict between Israel and Hamas during the winter of 2008-2009. In an escalation of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israel responded to ongoing rocket fire from the Gaza Strip with military force in an action titled "Operation Cast Lead".

Operations Pillar of Defense (Nov 2012) and Protective Edge (July – Aug 2014), Military offensives on the Gaza Strip due to rocket attacks.

*Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. Psalm 121:4*

The following article was taken from the Rapture Ready.com website:

### Iron Dome Operator: God Moved Missile We Couldn't Hit

*Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile system has been wildly successful during the current Gaza war, but on occasion it can and does miss incoming terrorist rockets. One would think that the 10 percent or so of Hamas rockets predicted by Iron Dome's radar to hit populated areas that are not intercepted would still cause significant Israeli casualties. But somehow, they don't. An earlier, unconfirmed report floating around the internet had a Gaza resident attributing the lack of Hamas accuracy to Israel's God moving the rockets off-course to protect His people. "We do aim [our rockets], but their God changes their path in mid-air," a Hamas commander was said to have told someone who wondered why Gaza-based militants can't seem to hit their targets. In remarks relayed to an Israeli news site (Hebrew), the Iron Dome battery commander recalled: "A missile was fired from Gaza. Iron Dome precisely calculated [its trajectory]. We know where these missiles are going to land down to a radius of 200 meters. This particular missile was going to hit either the Azrieli Towers, the Kirya (Israel's equivalent of the pentagon) or [a central Tel Aviv railway station]. Hundreds could have died. "We fired the first [interceptor]. It missed. Second [interceptor] It missed. This is very rare. I was in shock. At this point we had just four seconds until the missile lands. We had already notified emergency services to converge on the target location and had warned of a mass-casualty incident. "Suddenly, Iron Dome (which calculates wind speeds, among other things) shows a major wind coming from the east, a strong wind that...sends the missile into the sea. We were all stunned. I stood up and shouted, "There is a God!" "I witnessed this miracle with my own eyes. It was not told or reported to me. I saw the hand of God send that missile into the sea." Also last week, Col. Ofer Winter, commander of the Givati Infantry Brigade, described a mysterious fog that favorably covered him and his troops as they advanced on an enemy position in morning light, after their nighttime raid was postponed. Col. Winter labeled the covering as "clouds of glory." Earlier in the Gaza war, Col. Winter sparked heated national debate when he encouraged his troops to lead the charge against an enemy that "curses, defames and abuses the God of Israel." Col. Winter concluded his letter by praying that the "Lord your God go with you, to fight for you against your enemies and to save you."*

Even more wars are determined upon Israel as a result of Arab hatred. The Arabs are determined to take total possession of the Lord's land as prophesied in the following scriptures found in the Bible: Psalm 83:12, Ezekiel 35:10, Ezekiel 36:2,5.

The following quotes were taken from Chosen People Ministries newsletter (August 2015) and Rapture Ready.com:

- Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Mahmoud Abbas' advisor on Religious and Islamic Affairs publicly stated that Israel WILL BE DESTROYED – and military options to make that happen are being considered right now!
- The PA's Supreme Sharia Judge also declares Islam explicitly FORBIDS Israel's existence – he says Islamic law prohibits Israelis holding even ONE MILLIMETER of land!
- And a leader of Iran's Military Guard (Hamas) says "erasing Israel off the map" is a "non-negotiable."
- Meanwhile ISIS' self-styled Muslim "caliph" (leader of an Islamic state), Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, says, "Islam was never for a day the religion of peace. Islam is the religion of war." He insists every Muslim in the world is obligated to take up arms!
- Syrian President al-Assad states that there will be NO PEACE with Israel until "occupied" land is returned in full – and he supports militant groups that violently oppose Israel's right to exist.
- The USA is negotiating with Iran, despite Ayatollah Khomeini's published 9-point plan to eliminate Israel and his insistence that "The barbaric Jewish state has no cure but to be annihilated."
- Jews will worship devil, be exterminated by Muslims, says al-Aksa hate preacher

Sheikh Kahaled Al-Mughrabi, an ...Islamic cleric who teaches...at al-Aksa mosque...saying that at the end of days Muslims will exterminate Jews. Al-Mughrabi first explained that "Children of Israel...will be forced to...build the Temple...outside al-Aksa Mosque...A Temple...to worship the Devil." ...the Children of Israel will all be exterminated, the Anti-Christ will be killed and the Muslims will live in comfort for a long time,"...

Two or possibly three more wars must be fought by Israel. (1)- a possible Psalm 83:1-8 war where Israel's military destroys all of her surrounding enemies. This war sets the stage for (2)- the Gog-Magog war prophesied in Ezekiel chapters 38 & 39, where Israel has torn down all of her walls that she has built in the last 15 years due to terrorist attacks and is dwelling in safety (Ezekiel 38:11). Then Israel will endure her most horrific war as all nations of the world gather to fight against Jerusalem for (3)- the battle of Armageddon (Joel 3:2, 13-16).

The stage is already being set for the Gog-Magog war as a result of Russia moving into the middle east:

#### *Gog Moves in Next Door to Israel (taken from Rapture Ready.com)*

*I find it amazing that we have arrived at the point where Russia is right next door to Israel. In the 1980s, prophecy watchers skipped over the 1000 mile gap; when they showed Russia going from the Black Sea to Northern Israel. It is also stunning that Iran is now a close ally of Russia. The Biblical description of the Gog army as being vast in size implies that at some future date Russian forces will flood into Syria. By establishing a forward operating base in Latakia, this move is now possible. I strongly believe that the Rapture will occur ahead of the Gog-Magog war. Because the invasion of Israel by a Russian-led coalition would be such a game changer for prophecy, the Church needs to be removed before this event takes place.*

Why will Russia attack Israel in the last days? The answer can be found in Ezekiel 38:12... "To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land." What 'goods' is the Bible talking about?

Recently, Israel has discovered huge energy deposits estimated in the trillions of dollars off the coast of Haifa in the Mediterranean Sea. Now, Israel has just discovered huge oil deposits in the Golan Heights estimated to be in the billions of barrels. Not to mention the trillions of dollars worth of minerals (sulfur, magnesium, bromine, potassium, chlorine, iodine, calcium, zinc) found at the bottom of the Dead Sea. All of this wealth will make little Israel a tempting target in these last days.

The following articles were taken from Rapture Ready.com:

#### **Potentially game-changing oil reserves discovered in Israel**

HAIFA, Israel – after Israel complained for years that it was surrounded by oil-rich states but didn't have a drop within its own borders, it appears there's a big-time turnaround with the announcement Wednesday that massive oil reserves have been located in the Golan Heights, close to the country's border with Syria..

In recent years massive natural gas reserves have been discovered and developed off the Mediterranean coast of Israel. But political wrangling over who gets which piece of the financial pie has caused a delay in benefits from the find.

The Lord is already preparing for both the Gog-Magog war and the battle of Armageddon. In the Gog-Magog war, the Lord will not only use the fowls of the air, but every beast of the field to devour His enemies after they have been killed (Ezekiel 39:4, 17-20). At the battle of Armageddon, the Lord will call all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven to gather themselves unto the supper of the great God after Jesus destroys all of the antichrist's armies that have been gathered together to fight against Him as he returns from Heaven.

**Jesus kills, they eat! ALLELUIA!**

The following articles can be retrieved by Googling "Flesh Eating Birds in Israel".

#### **Flesh-Eating Birds gather in Israel**

- Gary Fisher, the founder of Lion of Judah Ministries has discovered some interesting insights in the book of Ezekiel. Gary recently visited Israel and says he witnessed firsthand, the gathering of the birds described in Ezekiel 39:17-20. After hearing of this report last night on the radio I googled for more info and found that this has been reported to being increased over the last 6 years.

- Some years ago the following article appeared in the Christ for Nations Magazine:

*Increasing numbers of vultures are already circling in the Valley of Armageddon, according to a startling report in the Next Visitors to Planet Earth, by Rabbi Michael Esses. Also – some are reporting that these birds have increased their birth rate; maybe because of the availability of food but either way let us look up and rejoice for our redemption draws near. Then let us call others to repentance and to look up also.*

- **Signs of the End Times? – Birds of Prey**

*A booklet titled 101 Last Days Prophecies published by Eternal Productions lists "birds of prey" in Israel as one of the Last Days prophecies. You can see an online version of the booklet on the "101 Prophecies" page on Eternal Productions web site. Number 58 of their 101 says, "It is a little known fact that Israel is the bird migration capital of the world." Do you find that interesting? According to the booklet, "During the spring and fall migrations, billions of birds fly over Israel. Many of these migratory birds are raptors – carrion (dead flesh) eating birds of prey. In fact, 34 species of raptors migrate over Israel." If you search the internet on birds of prey in Israel, there's a lot of interesting information. I even found some bird-watching tours that visitors can take. This fact itself is not a prophecy of the End Times, but the booklet links the fact to Scripture verses that talk about many birds gorging themselves on the flesh of God's enemies – people who fight against God in the final battle of the End Times. Here are three such verses: Ezekiel 39:4: "Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured."*

*Ezekiel 39:17: "And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood." Revelation 19:17-21 [17] And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; [18] That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the*

flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great." [19] And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, [who is, in verse 16, the "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS"] and His army. [20] And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. [21] And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."

### Stage Three – Israel's spiritual rebirth (Romans 11:25-27)

1. **Zechariah 12:10-11,14** And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon. All the families that remain, every family apart, and their wives apart.
2. **Ezekiel 39:22, 25-29** So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day and forward. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made *them* afraid. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; Then shall they **know** that I *am* the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.
3. **Jeremiah 32:37-41** 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 they shall be my people, and I will be their God: And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them: 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. Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.
4. **Zechariah 13:8-9** And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.
5. **Ezekiel 36:24-28** For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.
6. **Jeremiah 31:31,33-34** Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall **all know** me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

**Keep your eyes on Israel!** This one sign! Yes, this one sign, Israel born again as a nation and surrounded by her enemies tells us just how close we are to the Rapture of the church and our going home to be with the Lord. Israel is over 67 years old and in more peril now than she has ever been in since her rebirth in 1948 when 6 Arab nations tried to drive her into the sea.

With America, one of Israel's only allies turning against her and favoring the Arabs, the prophecy of the Lord gathering **all** nations to fight against Jerusalem is rapidly coming to fruition (Zechariah 14:2). "Then, the Lord shall go forth as a mighty man to destroy and devour those nations at once," (Isaiah 42:13-14).

"Knowing therefore the time, and that the days are growing short, it is high time to awake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11-12), give your whole heart to Jesus, and receive Him (John 1:12) as your Lord and Saviour today, while there is still time (2Corinthians 6:2). He is your only hope of salvation (John 14:6). He became that when he suffered and died on the cross, then rose from the dead 3 days later (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

Our Saviour and Israel's Messiah are one and the same. Soon, Israel will come to know this and we will all worship the Lord together. But, whether you accept Him or reject Him, one thing is certain, "Every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father," (Philippians 2:10-11). "Rejoice in the Lord alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice." (Philippians 4:4). Israel is back and Jesus is not far behind! (Psalm 102:16)

AMEN!