

Thursday Evening Bible Class. Regathering of the Jews

Additional contributions to supplement Brother Russel's

Introduction

18th June 2020

Point 1

We note that those who follow British Israelite ideas claim that the Jews in the land are from Judea/ Judah, but that true Israel is Ephraim and Manasseh – US and UK etc. (Apologies for lowering the tone) However, prophecy clearly includes Judea,/ Judah in the return and re-establishment in the land as in Isaiah 11:12 *And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together **the dispersed of Judah** from the four corners of the earth.* Again in Jeremiah 33:7 *And I will cause the **captivity of Judah** and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first.* So too Zechariah 8:15 *So again have I thought in these days to do well unto Jerusalem and to the house of Judah: fear ye not.* Malachi 3:4 *Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.* No apologies for repetition here, as these passages can be used against certain who are fixated upon this issue. We note in Luke 2:34 *And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;* Thus Simeon is describing the Jews at the time known as Judea/ Judah as Israel, and here prophecies of the rising again of them, see also Luke 1: 71 *That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us;* Clearly then Israel and Judah are in this respect interchangeable, but even if this was argued against, these prophecies show without any doubt that it was the hope and faith of the believers in the life time of Jesus Christ, that the nation – which was known as Jews, would be eventually restored after their fall.

Point 2

Zech 10: 8 *I will hiss for them, and gather them; for I have redeemed them: and they shall increase as they have increased.* Hiss: Heb Sharaq: to whistle, as in calling the sheep. 9 *And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again.* This passage seems to allude to the slow awakening of the desire of the Jews to return to their land. The slow emergence of Zionism which was sneered at by the Jewish establishment and Jewish religious alike, but nevertheless the seed was sown, and The Return slowly took root. In the end as history has shown us, despite the international barriers which were put up to prevent Jewish immigration, with even the British capturing Jewish refugee ships with decks packed with holocaust survivors, and then incarcerating these people in concentrations camps on Cyprus! That Jewish emigration which was once a trickle became a flood, as a direct result of the extermination of six million of their fellows. It was God's doing - Ezek 31:21 *And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, **I will take** the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land:* But how quickly this disparate ragtag population of undernourished, fearful people most suffering from PTSD, and other terrible psychiatric ailments as a result of their terrible persecution, in three years from the death camps, manage to defeat all the Arab armies who declared war on them? God turned them around, and gave them the strength needed, even though they returned in unbelief: Jer 30:17 *For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.* Isaiah 30:19 *For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee.*

Point 3

Next phase of return: the Annexation of the “West Bank” or as described in the Bible and as known by Israelis, as Judea and Samaria. Zechariah 8:8 And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness. Right now, half of Jerusalem is contested territory, claimed by Israel as being their Eternal Undivided Capital, but the rest of the world claims it is occupied land, not least the Palestinians who want it for their future state.

However, prophecy demands that Israel will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. It is true that this will occur when Jerusalem is razed to the ground, and a new house of prayer erected upon the ruins, but true liberation from Gentile control means annexation must take place. Ezekiel 36:11 And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you **after your old estates**, and will do better unto you than at your beginnings: and ye shall know that I am the Lord. It seems therefore that for prophecy to be fulfilled Israel should at control at the very least the territory it was inhabited. Note that in Ezekiel 38: 8 After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, **against the mountains of Israel**, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. Right now, Israel only possesses part of Hermon as a mountain. The main mountainous area is controlled by the Palestinian authority not the Jewish state, so why would Gog invade the Palestinian area when God is bringing him against His people? Clearly shows the Jews need to fully control and have the mountains of Israel – Judea and Samaria as part of their land.

Point 4

Ezekiel 36:11 And I will multiply upon you man and beast; and they shall increase and bring fruit: and I will settle you after your old

estates, and will **do better unto you than at your beginnings**: and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

- Israel's fertility rate of three children per Jewish woman is higher than that of any other country in the developed world, and the only fertility rate substantially above replacement.
- Israel leads the world in the number of scientists and technicians in the workforce, with 145 per 10,000.
- Banking Group KPMG, in a recent report says Israel lead the world in Agri – Tech and has managed to harness technology like no other country by “greening the desert, because that's the space where Israel produces 80 per cent of their milk, and 80 per cent of their food product is exported from.”
- Israel has the highest number of successful startups of any country per capita worldwide. As the Economist put it in 2010, within a few decades Israel has "transformed itself from a semisocialist backwater into a high-tech superpower
- Time does not permit to provide many more bullet points, such would be a worthy exercise, but serves only to glorify the flesh, - Jewish though it may be. The point being that Ezekiel 36, they are fully fleshed body of a nation, no longer a pile of dry bones. All we await is for the Spirit of God to be breathed into them to make them spiritually alive.

Point 5

Jeremiah 32:44 NIV - "Fields will be bought for silver, and deeds will be signed, sealed and witnessed in the territory of Benjamin, in the villages around Jerusalem, in the towns of Judah and in the towns of the hill country, of the western foothills and of the Negev, because I will restore their fortunes, declares the LORD.

It was official Ottoman policy until 1856 that no foreigners were allowed to purchase land in Palestine. Additionally, the Ottoman Empire particularly opposed Jewish settlement. Despite this during

the late 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, many successful land purchases were made through organizations such as the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association (PJCA), Palestine Land Development Company and the Jewish National Fund. Contrary to modern popular belief that the Jews stole the land from Palestinians, 52.6% of the lands were bought from big non-Palestinian landowners, 24.6% from Palestinian-Arab landowners and only 9.4% from the Fellahin. Additionally to investigate claims at the time, the Peel Commission reported that: "The shortage of land is due less to purchase by Jews than to the increase in the Arab population. The Arab claims that the Jews have obtained too large a proportion of good land cannot be maintained. Much of the land now carrying orange groves was sand dunes or swamps and uncultivated when it was bought".

Point 6

The return of the Jews is a modern miracle but is more than this. It is proof that God exists to all the doubters: Jeremiah 16:14 *Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;* 15 *But, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers.* People do not yet realise the significance of their Return, because people are generally so shallow, geopolitics, let alone religion does not feature in their small mindedness. The above passage shows of course that people in general will come to understand the significance when blindness has been removed from their eyes, and they will see the hand of God at work with His people. But more than this; as Paul has pointed out: Romans 11:2,15: *God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?* The fulness of the

Gentiles, that is their spiritual awakening, is tied to the restoring again of God's people, who will once again be a light to the world. Lastly, the restoration of the Jews, is God honouring His promises, and demonstrating the Truth of His Word: Ezekiel 36: 22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, thus saith the Lord God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, **but for mine holy name's sake**, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went....²⁴ For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.