

“End Times Study: Biblical Prophecy Update”

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Calvary Baptist Church

November 19th, 2023

Scripture

Joel 3:1-16

“For behold, in those days and at that time, When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then **I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and they have divided up My land.** They have also cast lots for My people, traded a boy for a harlot and sold a girl for wine that they may drink.

4“Moreover, **what are you to Me, O Tyre, Sidon and all the regions of Philistia?** Are you rendering Me a recompense? But if you do recompense Me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompense on your head. “Since you have taken My silver and My gold, brought My precious treasures to your temples, and sold the sons of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks **in order to remove them far from their territory,** behold, **I am going to arouse them from the place where you have sold them, and return your recompense on your head.** “Also I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a distant nation,” for the LORD has spoken.

9Proclaim this among the nations: **Prepare a war; rouse the mighty men! Let all the soldiers draw near, let them come up! Beat your plowshares into swords** and your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, “I am a mighty man.” **Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there.** Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.

12Let the nations be aroused and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, **for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.** Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread, for the wine press is full! The vats overflow, **for their wickedness is great.** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars lose their brightness.

16**The LORD roars from Zion** and utters His voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth tremble. But **the LORD is a refuge for His people and a stronghold to the sons of Israel.”**

Last Week

We looked at the Millennial Kingdom

This Week

There are a lot of destabilizing events in the world today

A serious instability in global relationships

The world conditions just “look bad”

Unrest in Ukraine with Russia

Unrest in the Middle East with Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Turkey

This week: **Growing vitriol toward Israel**

Turkish President Erdogan said:

"Israel, you possess atomic bombs, nuclear bombs and you threaten with them. We know all of this, the end is near for you."

<https://www.newsweek.com/erdogan-israel-hamas-gaza-views-million-1844272#>

Around the world, antisemitism is on the rise

We see pro-Palestinian rallies on college campuses -> there is nothing wrong with that

No one wants to see innocent civilians attacked by a military force

But Palestinian rallies have begun to cross the line

"From the river to the sea" -> congresswoman Tlaib

"Last week, her colleagues in the U.S. House voted to censure her for what the resolution characterized as "calling for the destruction of the state of Israel" and "promoting false narratives" about the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas"

A 69-year-old Jewish man was killed in Thousand Oaks, California - for showing up at a Palestinian rally

A Southern California college professor was charged Thursday with involuntary manslaughter and battery in the death of a Jewish protester during demonstrations over the Israel-Hamas war.

The anti-defamation league map of antisemitic incidents in 2023 is in your bulletin

Huge increase in antisemitism in the USA, especially since Israel attacked Gaza in response to Hamas's attack

President Erdogan called Israel a "Terrorist State" but will not "condemn" Hamas's attack

Russia was trying to keep from taking sides -> Iran / Syria are Russian allies and Putin/Netanyahu are friends

Even Russia has spoken out against Israel over the past weeks as the siege of Gaza continues into the 4th week

Well, antisemitism on the rise and then what does biblical prophecy tell us about Israel's future:

Isaiah 11:11-12

"Then it will happen on that day that the Lord will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His people, who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And **He will lift up a standard for the nations and assemble the banished ones of Israel and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."**

God will bring His people back to Israel from all the nations:

Isaiah 51:11-16

“So, the ransomed of the LORD will return and come with joyful shouting to Zion, and everlasting joy will be on their heads. They will obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. ”I, even I, am He who comforts you. Who are you that you are afraid of man who dies and of the son of man who is made like grass, that you have forgotten the LORD your Maker, Who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, that you fear continually all day long because of the fury of the oppressor, as he makes ready to destroy? **But where is the fury of the oppressor?**

14" The exile will soon be set free, and will not die in the dungeon, nor will his bread be lacking. "For I am the LORD your God, who stirs up the sea and its waves roar (the LORD of hosts is His name). **"I have put My words in your mouth and have covered you with the shadow of My hand, to establish the heavens, to found the earth, and to say to Zion, 'You are My people.'"**

God will again be the God of Israel

Hosea 11:10-11

“They will walk after the LORD, He will roar like a lion; indeed, He will roar And [His] sons will come trembling from the west. They will come trembling like birds from Egypt and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will settle them in their houses, declares the LORD.”

Settle them in their houses, God says

Jeremiah 16:14-15

“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,' 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.”

While this may have been originally understood as returning Israel from Babylonian captivity, here the prophet records “all the countries where He had banished them”

That is much more extensive than just Babylon

God will restore them to the land He gave their fathers

Where is that?

See the map in the bulletin that compares the original Promised Land vs. the current boundaries of Israel

They were promised land the size of California -> they currently only have land the size of New Jersey

This will change – article this week mentioned this: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/nov/18/these-are-biblical-lands-promised-to-us-jewish-settlers-in-west-bank-hope-gaza-conflict-will-help-their-cause>

What were the Israelites supposed to do when they entered the Promised Land?

Numbers 33:50-56

“Then the LORD spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jericho, saying, “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘**When you cross over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their figured stones, and destroy all their molten images and demolish all their high places; and you shall take possession of the land and live in it, for I have given the land to you to possess it.**”

54You shall inherit the land by lot according to your families; to the larger you shall give more inheritance, and to the smaller you shall give less inheritance. Wherever the lot falls to anyone, that shall be his. You shall inherit according to the tribes of your fathers.

55But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall come about that those whom you let remain of them will become as pricks in your eyes and as thorns in your sides, and they will trouble you in the land in which you live. And as I plan to do to them, so I will do to you.”

So, what happened?

Israel did not drive out the inhabitants of the Promised Land

Isn't it interesting that since 1948, Israel has been reestablished in the centre of “their land”

They're building settlements in the territories that were Palestinian -> West Bank next?

And now they are driving out the Palestinians from Gaza -> into Egypt to the South

Could it be that what Israel failed to do in Numbers 33 is happening in our modern times?

Yet, Israel is prophesied to be hated by those nations around them:

Psalm 83:1-8 (listen to the voices of Israel's oppressors)

“O God, do not remain quiet; Do not be silent and, O God, do not be still. For behold, **Your enemies make an uproar**, and those who hate You have exalted themselves. They make shrewd plans against Your people and conspire together against Your treasured ones.

They have said, “**Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, That the name of Israel be remembered no more.**”

For they have conspired together with one mind; Against You they make a covenant: The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites; Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assyria also has joined with them; They have become a help to the children of Lot. Selah.”

Matthew 10:22

“**You will be hated by all because of My name**, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved.”

Luke 21:17-19

"You will be hated by all because of My name. "Yet not a hair of your head will perish. "By your endurance you will gain your lives."

And now, let's look at the passage from Joel 3:

Joel 3:1-3

"For behold, in those days and at that time, When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and they have divided up My land. They have also cast lots for My people, traded a boy for a harlot and sold a girl for wine that they may drink."

God will judge the nations on behalf of His people and His inheritance, Israel

He will judge those who inhabit the Promised Land and **"have divided up My land"**

Joel 3:4-8

"Moreover, what are you to Me, O Tyre, Sidon and all the regions of Philistia? Are you rendering Me a recompense? But if you do recompense Me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompense on your head. "Since you have taken My silver and My gold, brought My precious treasures to your temples, and sold the sons of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks in order to remove them far from their territory, behold, I am going to arouse them from the place where you have sold them, and return your recompense on your head. "Also, I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a distant nation," for the LORD has spoken."

God will **"return your recompense on <their> heads"**

Joel 3:9-15

"Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare a war; rouse the mighty men! Let all the soldiers draw near, let them come up! Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, "I am a mighty man." Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there. Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones. Let the nations be aroused and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, tread, for the wine press is full; The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon grow dark, and the stars lose their brightness."

Judgment is coming for those nations; God will raise them up for battle against Israel

His winepress will be full of the men of the Arab nations around Israel

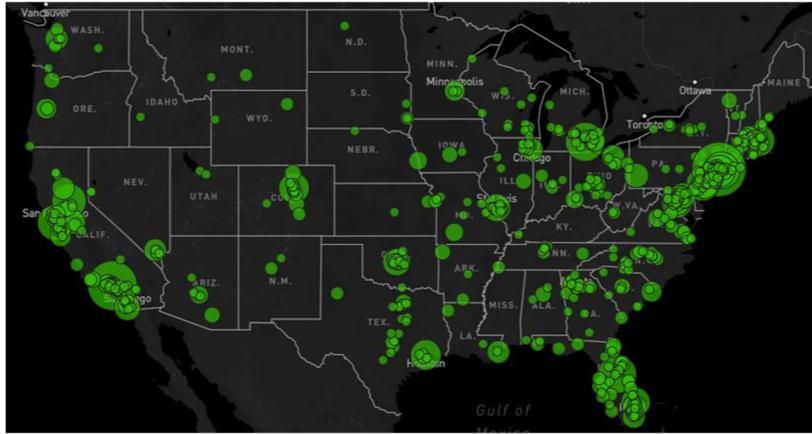
Why?

Joel 3:16

"The LORD roars from Zion and utters His voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth tremble. But the LORD is a refuge for His people and a stronghold to the sons of Israel."

Prayer - Benediction

Antisemitic incidents in 2023:



They were promised a land the size of California

They are in land the size of New Jersey