

Israel's 73rd Birthday: Another Reason 2021 Could Be a Pivotal Year In Bible Prophecy

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MAY 14, 2021, marks Israel's 73rd birthday.

It is significant that 73 years have passed since the "fig-tree" was replanted and began to flourish in 1948 because Jesus says the generation who sees this occur will see all the end times events come to pass:

"Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near ... Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened" (Matt. 24:32, 34).

The clearest definition of a generation, or human lifespan, in Scripture is 70–80 years:

"Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away" (Ps. 90:10).

Counting the biblical maximum 80 years from 1948, the calculated upper limit of the fig-tree generation is 2028.

Subtracting 7 years, the presumed length of the final tribulation period, we arrive at 2021, a potentially pivotal year in Bible prophecy.

As summer 2021 draws near, the stage indeed appears set for tribulation events:

- The escalating controversy over Jerusalem has Israel and the Palestinian Hamas on the brink of all-out war (Zech. 12:2). Additionally, Russia has 100,000 troops amassed on the Ukraine border, China is threatening Taiwan, and Iran and North Korea are ramping up anti-US rhetoric (Matt. 24:6).
- The Abraham Accord peace deals facilitated by the Trump Administration have laid the groundwork for an ultimate peace agreement that will bring about sudden destruction (1 Thess. 5:3).
- The lifting of pandemic lockdowns has economies roaring back to life (Luke 17:26-28). Consequently, inflation is speeding up at its fastest pace since 2008, and shortages of many items are already widespread (Rev. 6:6).

Citing Jesus' admonition that "no one knows the day," many Christians consider it foolish or futile to speculate about the time of His return. However, God does not consider it foolish—He actually encourages us to calculate the general time via prophecies like the Fig-Tree Parable.

If our reckoning is correct, the Fig-Tree Parable points to 2021–28. What's more, prophetic timelines in Genesis and Daniel corroborate this timeframe:

- According to the genealogies in Genesis, the earth is presently, give or take a few years, 6,000 years old. Thus the calculated limit of the fig-tree generation, 2021–28, corresponds to the end of the sixth millennium, the time when Jesus is expected to judge the world and set up His Kingdom.
- In Daniel 9, an order to rebuild Jerusalem begins a countdown of 7 and 62 weeks to Messiah the Ruler (Dan. 9:25). Counting 69 weeks, or 483 years, from the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls by Ottoman ruler Suleiman in 1537–38 AD, we arrive at 2020–21. When we count only the 7 weeks from a modern plan to rebuild Jerusalem in 1970, we, again, arrive at 2021.
- In Daniel 12, it is inferred that Israel will be redeemed 1,335 days or years after an abomination that causes desolation is set up in the Temple area (v. 11). Counting 1,335 years from when construction began on the Islamic Dome of the Rock in 685–86 AD, we arrive at 2021. Counting 1,335 years from when construction was complete in 692–93 AD, we arrive at 2028.

Thus, eschatological timelines in Genesis, Daniel, and Matthew, recorded by different authors, during different eras, and employing vastly different calculations, point to the same 7-year period: 2021–28!

Having highlighted this remarkable concurrence, understand we are not setting a deadline for the Tribulation to begin. Because there are so many factors involved—interpretations, calendars, and ancient dating—the plain fact is that calculations can be wrong, even when grounded in Scripture.

At the same time, because there is so much at stake, and because the 2021–28 concurrence is so compelling, it would be negligent to not publish it as a siren or wake-up call (Ez. 33:6).

Jesus said when we see things coming together to look up because our redemption is drawing near (Luke 21:28).

As Israel turns 73, there have never been so many reasons to look up.

NOTES:

1. The biblical calendar date of Israel's Independence Day is Iyyar 5. Because most Jewish calendars erroneously reckoned Nisan 1 a month prematurely in 2021, they have Iyyar 5 corresponding to April 17 and thus celebrated Independence Day a month early. More on the biblical calendar and correct festival dates for 2021:

<https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/b1c82a902259495590a865b2bf038663/Calendar%20Confusion%20-%20Chapter%203%20-%20Summer%20Is%20Near%20-%20TW%20Tramm.pdf>

2. That 70–80 years is the timeframe allotted for Israel's redemption is foreshadowed by the Jews' liberation from ancient Babylon, a type of the world, after 70 years (Jer. 29:10).

3. Israel and Palestinians on brink of war:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9574147/Netanyahu-rejects-Hamas-ceasefire-plea-nine-commanders-neutralised.html>

4. Jared Kushner launches peace institute to advance Abraham Accords:

<http://www.jewishledger.com/2021/05/jared-kushner-launches-peace-institute-to-advance-abraham-accords/>

5. Inflation speeds up in April as consumer prices leap 4.2%, fastest since 2008

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/05/12/consumer-price-index-april-2021.html>

6. Food and product shortages becoming common: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/08/business/supply-chain-shortages-pandemic/index.html>

7. Another way the pandemic has set the stage for end-times events is that government mandates and restrictions have conditioned people to be compliant to the antichrist "beast" system that will arise after the Rapture (Rev. 13:15-17). At the same time, a positive effect of the lockdowns caused by the pandemic is that people have had time to reflect on priorities and repent before Judgment Day arrives. Thus, the pandemic could be seen as a merciful wakeup call by a God who wishes that none should perish (2 Pet. 3:8, 9). The lifting of lockdowns and return to normalcy may be a sign that the final period of grace is over.

8. According to D. Petavius, Creation occurred in 3983 BC, making the earth presently 6,003 years old.

The principle that Jesus is set to appear after 6,000 years is grounded in Scripture and was taught by the early Church Fathers. Barnabas, an Apostle who traveled and evangelized with Paul wrote: "In six days, or in six thousand years, all the prophecies will be fulfilled ... [Jesus] will destroy the Antichrist, judge the ungodly ... Then He will truly rest during the Millennial reign, which is the seventh day" (2 Pet. 3:8; Job 5:19; Matt. 17:2, 3; Ezek. 46:1; San Hedrin 97b; Epistle of Barnabas 15:7–9).

9. The walls currently surrounding Jerusalem were rebuilt by Ottoman Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent in 1537–38 AD:

[http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~cfh27/Jerusalem/Ottoman Sabils of Jerusalem.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1xvA1AADQq7qIwKITSHXP_TFLXuBbNBKWBKxXhdAPyumx5IH5zEB4M-wQ](http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~cfh27/Jerusalem/Ottoman_Sabils_of_Jerusalem.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1xvA1AADQq7qIwKITSHXP_TFLXuBbNBKWBKxXhdAPyumx5IH5zEB4M-wQ)

http://www.antiquities.org.il/jerusalemwalls/hstry_12_eng.asp

When we add Daniel's 7 and 62 weeks (483 years) and count from Suleiman's order to rebuild in 1537–38 AD, we arrive at 2020–21.

A later command to rebuild Jerusalem occurred in August 1970 when the master plan to rebuild Jerusalem was approved and made public:

https://unispal.un.org/DPA/DPR/unispal.nsf/eed216406b50bf6485256ce10072f637/cad07c91cf05ebf985256437005be684?OpenDocument&fbclid=IwAR2gg_xmU9dFahVmpMLESUG1XxHwINRHZ-9BZhEFoO4Uxz_GMZdT-GSHz8o

Counting Daniel's 7 weeks from the modern plan to rebuild Jerusalem, we arrive at 2020-21. Here is the math: The 7 weeks begin at Nisan 1971 because Daniel calls for 7 complete 7-year periods and Nisan is when biblical years begin. Counting Daniel's 7 weeks from Nisan 1971, we arrive at Nisan 2020. At this point, we add a year, a 50th, because a countdown of 7 x 7 always points to a 50th in Scripture. This is the pattern of Pentecost, the 50th day, and also the Jubilee, the 50th year (Lev. 23:15, 16; 25:8–10). Thus, Daniel's 7 weeks, counted from the going forth of the plan to rebuild Jerusalem in 1970, point to 2021.

For more details on Daniel's "weeks" timelines, see chapter 6 (Daniel's Weeks Prophecy) of *Summer Is Near*.

10. Daniel 12 (1,335) timeline: <https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-35306783/documents/5bd87a7c7d664f3e9c09a238b32742bd/Daniel%2012%20-%20Another%20Reason%202021%20Could%20Be%20a%20Pivotal%20Year%20In%20Bible%20Prophecy.pdf>

11. Interesting math linking the years 2021–28: Counting 80 years from May 14, 1948, we arrive at May 14, 2028. When we subtract 2,520 days, the biblical number denoting a perfect 7-year period, from this date, we arrive at June 20, the first day of summer and Pentecost in 2021.

12. God instructs us to sound the alarm when we see trouble approaching: "If the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes someone's life, that person's life will be taken because of their sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for their blood" (Ez. 33:6).