

**“PROMISES ARE LIKE BUBBLES;
THEY ARE EASILY BROKEN.”**

f.001.tiff

LET'S LOOK AT ISRAEL FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES:

I. SPIRITUALLY

f.002.tiff

'NOW THE LORD SAID TO ABRAM, “GO FROM YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR KINDRED AND YOUR FATHER’S HOUSE TO THE LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU. ²AND I WILL MAKE OF YOU A GREAT NATION, AND I WILL BLESS YOU AND MAKE YOUR NAME GREAT, SO THAT YOU WILL BE A BLESSING. ³I WILL BLESS THOSE WHO BLESS YOU, AND HIM WHO DISHONORS YOU I WILL CURSE, AND IN YOU ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.” —GENESIS 12:1-3

f.003.tiff

“BRUCE WALTKE OBSERVES, ‘THE THEMATIC CENTER OF THE PENTATEUCH.’ WHILE THE FIRST ELEVEN CHAPTERS OF GENESIS FOCUS PRIMARILY ON THE TERRIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN, GOD’S PROMISES TO ABRAM IN GENESIS 12 FOCUS ON THE HOPE OF REDEMPTION, OF RESTORED BLESSING AND RECONCILIATION WITH GOD. GOD IS GOING TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF SIN AND EVIL, AND HE IS GOING TO ESTABLISH HIS KINGDOM ON EARTH.

f.004.tiff

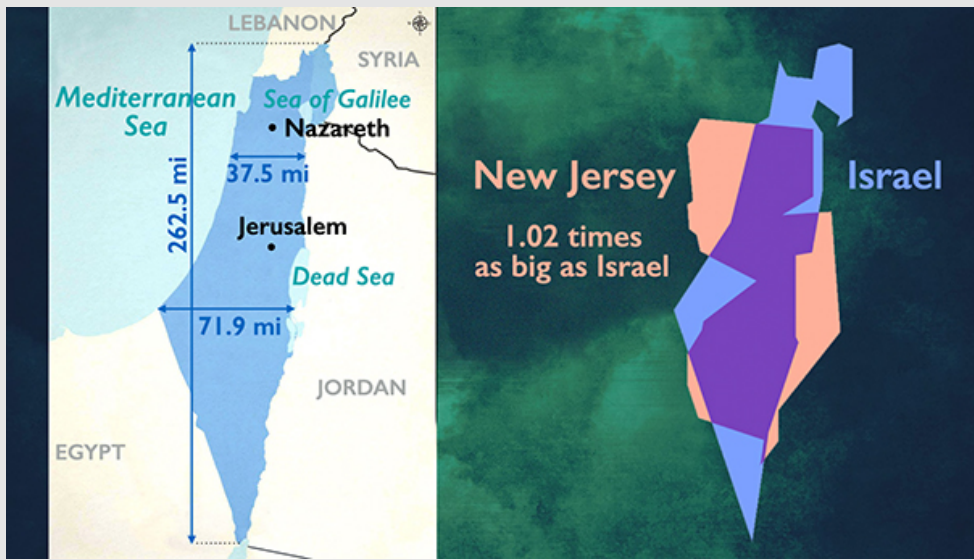
HOW HE IS GOING TO DO THIS BEGINS TO BE REVEALED IN HIS PROMISES TO ABRAM. AS WE PROCEED, THE ESCHATOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GOD'S PROMISES TO ABRAM AND HIS DETERMINATION TO BLESS ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH WILL BECOME CLEARER. AS WE WILL SEE, THIS BLESSING WILL COME THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOD'S KINGDOM. FROM THIS POINT FORWARD IN GENESIS, 'THE WRITER'S PRIMARY CONCERN IS TO TRACE THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOD'S RESOLUTION TO BLESS.' ”

f.005.tiff

LET'S LOOK AT ISRAEL FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES:

2. GEOGRAPHICALLY

f.006.tiff



f.007.tiff

“THE UNIQUENESS OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL IS... ‘GEO-THEOLOGICAL’ AND NOT MERELY CLIMATIC. THIS IS THE LAND WHICH FACES THE ENTRANCE OF THE SPIRITUAL WORLD, THAT SPHERE OF EXISTENCE THAT LIES BEYOND THE PHYSICAL WORLD KNOWN TO US THROUGH OUR SENSES. THIS IS THE KEY TO THE LAND’S UNIQUE STATUS WITH REGARD TO PROPHECY AND PRAYER, AND ALSO WITH REGARD TO THE COMMANDMENTS.” —ELIEZER SCHWEID

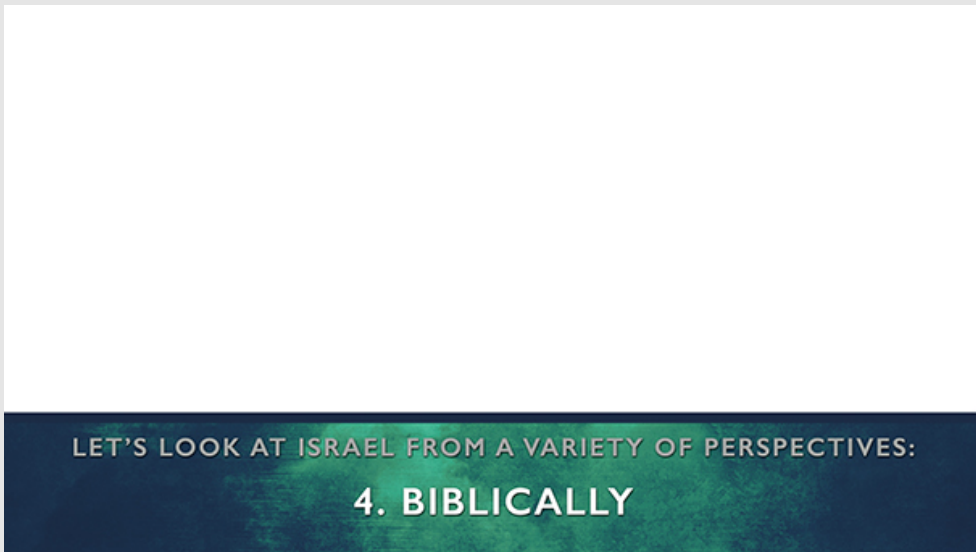
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f.009.tiff



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f.011.tiff



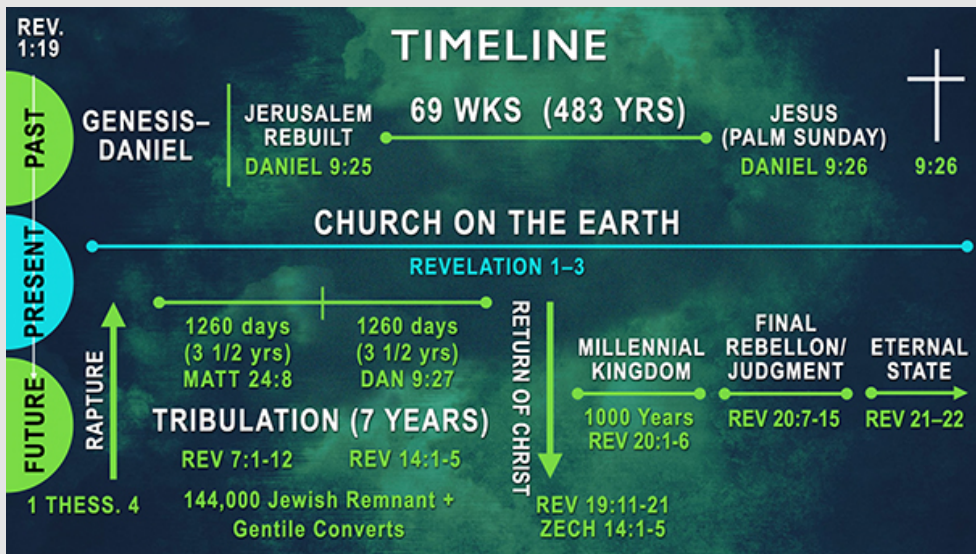
f.012.tiff

²THEN I SAW ANOTHER ANGEL ASCENDING FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN, WITH THE SEAL OF THE LIVING GOD, AND HE CALLED WITH A LOUD VOICE TO THE FOUR ANGELS WHO HAD BEEN GIVEN POWER TO HARM EARTH AND SEA, ³SAYING,

f.013.tiff

“DO NOT HARM THE EARTH OR THE SEA OR THE TREES, UNTIL WE HAVE SEALED THE SERVANTS OF OUR GOD ON THEIR FOREHEADS.” ⁴AND I HEARD THE NUMBER OF THE SEALED, 144,000, SEALED FROM EVERY TRIBE OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL.
—REVELATION 7:2-4

f.014.tiff



f.015.tiff

“DESPITE THE PLAIN AND UNAMBIGUOUS DECLARATION OF THE TEXT THAT THE 144,000 WHO ARE SEALED WILL COME FROM EVERY TRIBE OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL, MANY PERSIST IN IDENTIFYING THEM AS THE CHURCH. THEY CITE SEVERAL NT PASSAGES THAT ALLEGEDLY IDENTIFY THE CHURCH AS THE SPIRITUAL ISRAEL TO SUPPORT THE INTERPRETATION. BUT THE IDENTIFICATION OF ISRAEL WITH THE CHURCH IN THOSE PASSAGES IS TENUOUS AND DISPUTED.

f.016.tiff

THUS, THEY CAN OFFER NO SUPPORT FOR SUCH AN IDENTIFICATION IN THE PRESENT PASSAGE... THE TERM, *ISRAEL*, MUST BE INTERPRETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS NORMAL OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT USAGE AS A REFERENCE TO THE PHYSICAL DESCENDANTS OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB. NOR IS THERE ANY EXEGETICAL REASON NOT TO INTERPRET THE NUMBERS 144,000 AND 12,000 LITERALLY.” —JOHN MACARTHUR

f.017.tiff

²⁵LEST YOU BE WISE IN YOUR OWN SIGHT, I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE UNAWARE OF THIS MYSTERY, BROTHERS: A PARTIAL HARDENING HAS COME UPON ISRAEL, UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES HAS COME IN. ²⁶AND IN THIS WAY ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED, AS IT IS WRITTEN, “THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL BANISH UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB”;

f.018.tiff

²⁷“AND THIS WILL BE MY COVENANT WITH THEM WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.”
²⁸AS REGARDS THE GOSPEL, THEY ARE ENEMIES FOR YOUR SAKE. BUT AS REGARDS ELECTION, THEY ARE BELOVED FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR FOREFATHERS. ²⁹FOR THE GIFTS AND THE CALLING OF GOD ARE IRREVOCABLE.
 —ROMANS 11:25-29

f.019.tiff

LET'S LOOK AT ISRAEL FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES:

5. CULTURALLY

f.020.tiff

EZEKIEL 37:11-14

f.021.tiff

“ISRAEL HAS RETURNED TO THE WORLD SCENE AND IS NOW MORE IMPORTANT, MORE STRATEGIC, AND MORE CRUCIAL TO FUTURE EVENTS THAN EVER SEEMED POSSIBLE. THE REBIRTH OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL HAS BEEN LIKE THE KEY PIECE OF A JIGSAW PUZZLE, ENABLING OTHER PIECES TO FALL QUICKLY INTO PLACE.”

—GEORGE SWEETING

f.022.tiff

LET'S LOOK AT ISRAEL FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES:

6. PROPHETICALLY

f.023.tiff

THEN I LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, ON MOUNT ZION STOOD THE LAMB, AND WITH HIM 144,000 WHO HAD HIS NAME AND HIS FATHER'S NAME WRITTEN ON THEIR FOREHEADS.

⁴...THESE HAVE BEEN REDEEMED FROM MANKIND AS FIRSTFRUITS FOR GOD AND THE LAMB, ⁵AND IN THEIR MOUTH NO LIE WAS FOUND, FOR THEY ARE BLAMELESS.

—REVELATION 14:1, 4-5

f.024.tiff

LET'S LOOK AT ISRAEL FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES:

7. PERSONALLY

f.025.tiff

“CERTAINLY AS ISRAEL’S PROMISES ARE BEING FULFILLED BEFORE OUR EYES, OTHER ASPECTS OF PROPHECY SUCH AS THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD IN CHRIST AND THE TRANSLATION OF LIVING SAINTS BECOME A REAL AND AN IMMINENT POSSIBILITY.” —JOHN F. WALVOORD

f.026.tiff

• GOD WILL KEEP HIS PROMISE TO YOU
— ASSURANCE —

f.027.tiff

²⁰FOR ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD FIND THEIR YES IN HIM. THAT IS WHY IT IS THROUGH HIM THAT WE UTTER OUR AMEN TO GOD FOR HIS GLORY. ²¹AND IT IS GOD WHO ESTABLISHES US WITH YOU IN CHRIST, AND HAS ANOINTED US, ²²AND WHO HAS ALSO PUT HIS SEAL ON US AND GIVEN US HIS SPIRIT IN OUR HEARTS AS A GUARANTEE. ²³BUT I CALL GOD TO WITNESS AGAINST ME—IT WAS TO SPARE YOU THAT I REFRAINED FROM COMING AGAIN TO CORINTH.
—2 CORINTHIANS 1:20-23

f.028.tiff

• GOD WILL SUSTAIN YOU
— ENDURANCE —

f.029.tiff

¹THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED
BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF WITNESSES,
LET US ALSO LAY ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT,
AND SIN WHICH CLINGS SO CLOSELY,
AND LET US RUN WITH ENDURANCE
THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US,
²LOOKING TO JESUS, THE FOUNDER AND
PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE
JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED
THE CROSS, DESPISING THE SHAME,

f.030.tiff

AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF
THE THRONE OF GOD. ³CONSIDER HIM
WHO ENDURED FROM SINNERS
SUCH HOSTILITY AGAINST HIMSELF,
SO THAT YOU MAY NOT GROW WEARY
OR FAINTHEARTED. ⁴IN YOUR STRUGGLE
AGAINST SIN YOU HAVE NOT YET
RESISTED TO THE POINT OF SHEDDING
YOUR BLOOD. —HEBREWS 12:1-4

f.031.tiff

• GOD WILL SAVE YOU
— DELIVERANCE —

f.032.tiff

... ¹²GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER,
WHO HAS QUALIFIED YOU TO SHARE
IN THE INHERITANCE OF THE SAINTS
IN LIGHT. ¹³HE HAS DELIVERED US
FROM THE DOMAIN OF DARKNESS AND
TRANSFERRED US TO THE KINGDOM
OF HIS BELOVED SON, ¹⁴IN WHOM WE HAVE
REDEMPTION, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

—COLOSSIANS 1:12-14

f.033.tiff