

Session 9: Why We Pray for the Salvation of Israel

I. THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL IS BURNING ON THE HEART OF JESUS

A. Many in the Church believe God is “finished” or “moved-on” with the nation of Israel and now is only focused on the Church. We believe that teaching is in error as it negates the numerous promises God made to ethnic Israel, presently unfulfilled. We believe that God has an end time plan that includes the Gentiles with the nation of Israel, bringing as many as possible unto salvation (Rom. 11:25–27).

²⁵ For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery...that [spiritual] blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer [Jesus] will come out of Zion [in Heaven], And He [Jesus] will turn away ungodliness from Jacob [Israel]... (Rom. 11:25-27)”

B. The topic of *the nation of Israel and its salvation* matters because it is burning on the heart of Jesus. (Isa. 62:1, 6–7; Zech. 2:10–12; 8:2–3; Mat. 23:37–39)

¹ For Zion’s sake I [Jesus] will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. (Isa. 62:1)

*²...I [Jesus] am zealous for Zion [Jerusalem] with great zeal; With great fervor I am zealous for her.’ ...
³ I will return to Zion, and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem... (Zech. 8:2–3)*

C. The apostle Paul said his desire was for the entire nation of Israel to be saved (Rom. 10:1). How did the chief apostle get this desire? Paul’s desire did not originate from ethnic zeal, but from Jesus and His plan.

¹ Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. (Rom. 10:1)

D. Jesus plans to live in Jerusalem, the capital of Israel and make it the epicenter of His rule on earth forever. From His throne in Jerusalem, He will expand His kingdom across the earth.(Zech. 2:10–12; 8:1-3; Jer. 3:17; Psalm 48:2; Mat. 5:35; Isa. 4:2; 9:6–7; 11:9–10; 25:6–8; 60:1–22; Zech. 6:12; Jer. 23:5).

¹⁷ At that time [the return of Jesus] Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the Lord... (Jer. 3:17)

*¹² Behold, the Man [Jesus] whose name is the **BRANCH!** From His place [in Jerusalem] He shall branch out [expand His rule and kingdom]... (Zech. 6:12)*

E. From Jerusalem, Jesus will enforce His victory at the cross, progressively removing the curse of sin and death, uniting heaven and earth together in order to prepare the way for the Father to come and dwell with us (1 Cor. 15:24–28; Eph. 1:9–10; 1 Cor. 13:12; Rev. 21:3).

²⁴ Then comes the end, when He [Jesus] delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He [Jesus] must reign till He [The Father] has put all enemies under His [Jesus’] feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that will be destroyed is death... (1 Cor. 15:24–26)

II. GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES - HIS NAME AND CHARACTER ARE TIED TO ISRAEL

- A. Israel's restoration matters because God has bound Himself by making covenants with Israel through Abraham, Moses and David. *He has set His reputation and ways on display for all to witness* (1 Cor. 10:11; Rom 11:22, 33; Ex. 32:12; Nu. 14:13–19; Isa. 12:5–6; 60:9a).
- B. Abrahamic (Gen. ch. 12, 13, 15 and 17). God promised to:
1. *Make Abraham's descendants a great nation* (Gen. 12:2). Abraham did not understand this promise to be spiritualized—this refers to ethnic Jews and is not yet fulfilled. Israel has not entered into the promise of being large in size or great in fame among the nations of the earth (Isa. 9:3; 26:15; 49:19–20; 60:22; Deut. 28:13; 26:19; Jer. 33:9; Isa. 27:6; 60:15; Psalm 48:2).
 2. *Give his descendants the land of Canaan from the river of Egypt to the Great River (Euphrates) forever* (Genesis 12:7; 13:14–15; 15:18–21; 17:8). Even under Solomon, Israel did not inherit the entirety of the land promised. The land given to Abraham is an estimated 65,000 sq. miles, the size of the state of Missouri while the land modern Israel presently possess is 8,000 sq. miles, the size of New Jersey.
 3. *Bless all nations of the earth through Abraham's offspring* (Genesis 12:3; 22:18; 28:14). All nations benefit from Israel who brought them Jesus. As the Church grows in influence, each nation receives a witness of the truth and a godly presence of salt and light. However, this blessing is only a downpayment of how Jesus' leadership will restore, guide, heal the nations. He will do much more through Israel as a human king when He returns (Jer. 3:17; Zech. 14:16; Isa. 11:10; 66:23; Isa. 2:2–4; 25:6–8; Ezek. 47:12; Rev. 22:2).
- C. Mosaic (Deut. ch. 28, 30; Lev. 18): *Israel was given ownership of the land of Canaan but in order to inherit the land, she must fear the Lord and follow His ways as prescribed in the Law, or be expelled from the land until a later time when God returns Israel to it. Only when Israel collectively receives Jesus as Lord will sin be removed and they will fulfill the Law through the Spirit* (Jer. 31:31–34; Ezek. 36:25–27; Isa. 4:2–6; Jer. 33:8; Rom. 11:25–26; Rom 8:4; 10:4; 13:8–10).
- D. Davidic (2 Samuel 7:12–16; 1 Chron 22:10; Psalm 89): *God promised He would establish David's dynasty and kingdom forever with an heir from his own body. A descendant of David will always rule in Jerusalem* (1 Kgs. 2:4; 8:25; 1 Kgs. 9:5; 2 Sam. 7:8–16), yet no descendant of David has been on Israel's throne for 2,500 years (Hos. 3:4–5). One day David's descendant, Jesus will (Isa. 9:6–7; 11:1, 10; Jer. 33:15, 17, 21–22).

III. ISRAEL'S SALVATION MEANS SALVATION FOR THE ENTIRE EARTH

- A. Paul makes it clear that the benefits we have received in the gospel is through Israel (Rom 11:17–24).

17 And ... you [Gentile believers], being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them [believing Israel], and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree (Rom. 11:17)

B. When Israel receives *the full blessings* from these covenants, *the entire earth will be blessed beyond measure* (Rom. 11:12–15). If we want world-wide salvation and God’s glory covering the earth, we should want Israel’s restoration! (Isa. 6:3; 11:9; Hab. 2:14)

¹² If their [natural Israel’s] fall is riches for the world... how much more their fullness... ¹⁵ For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? (Rom. 11:12–15)

C. Even in their unbelief, God has not revoked His promises. He will fulfill what He has spoken through His prophets to the last letter (Deut. 7:6–7; Isa. 14:1; Rom. 11:29; Mat. 5:17). See verses below.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (Rom. 11:29)

¹⁷ “Do not think that I [Jesus] came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. (Mat. 5:17)

D. *In the interim*, it is important for the Church to support God’s purposes for Israel in prayer among other ways (Isa 62:6-7; Psalm 122:6).

⁶ I have set watchmen [intercessors] on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace ...

⁷ And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. (Isa. 62:6-7)

E. To be effective in prayer, we must have understanding. The Lord promised his people would insight regarding His end time plans (Jer. 23:20; Dan. 11:33–34). To have insight, we must read the scroll and consider what He is written as well as ask for the Spirit’s help (Jer. 30:24; Ezek. 3:1–2; 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Cor. 2:8–10; Rom. 11:1–2, 25).

IV. PROPHETIC PROMISES FOR ISRAEL’S SALVATION

A. Deuteronomy

- 4:27-31 Israel’s end-time salvation
- 30:1-10 Israel will return from captivity and experience salvation
- 33:26-29 Israel will be delivered and saved by the Lord

B. Isaiah

- 11:10-16 God will assemble outcasts of Israel and unify them
- 29:14,17-24 Revival with signs and wonders with many new converts
- 30:18-33 Israel will understand the Lord; creation supernaturally restored and altered
- 32:15-19 Peace and restoration for Israel upon the Lord’s return
- 33:2-6, 17 Release of grace and power upon Israel in the end-time shaking
- 35:1-10 Revival will come with power and miracles with grace to make His people holy
- 42:10-17 Prayer for Jesus to stir up His zeal as a man of war in the end times
- 43:1-7 There will be worldwide revival with protection from evil and Israel’s return
- 44:1-5 God’s blessings will flow on His thirsty people and they will be His

- 45:17, 22-25 God will cause all to bow before Jesus in Israel and the nations
- 51:3-11 God's power will be demonstrated again like it was in the days of Moses
- 54:1-17 God renews covenant with Israel, increase of descendants and revival in land
- 56:6-8 God will build the house of prayer for Israel's full salvation
- 59:19-21 The Lord will raise up a response against Israel's enemies and reclaim His people
- 60:1-62:12 Picture of Israel's restoration and glory
- 63:7-64:12 Isaiah's intercession for Israel's salvation
- 66:7-14;18-21 God will answer prayer for Israel's restoration

C. Jeremiah

- 3:14-20 Return of the remnant and unity of Israel. Shepherds with bridal paradigm
- 16:14-21 Deliverance from the land of the north unto the release of the great harvest
- 30:16-23 God will cleanse Israel from sin and release great blessing to them
- 31:1-14 God's power and mercy released to Israel in the end times
- 32:37-42 God's power and mercy released to Israel in end times
- 33:6-26 Blessing and power will come when God restores His people
- 50:4-5; 19-20,34 Israel will seek the Lord and experience His salvation

D. Ezekiel

- 11:17-20 God will gather Israel from the whole world to redeem them, give them a new heart
- 16:60-63 God will restore Israel and remove shame forever
- 20:33-44 God will purge and cleanse end time Israel
- 34:11-31 God will fully restore Israel
- 36:22-38 God will fully save Israel
- 37:1-28 God's covenant and blessing manifested in unity and power

E. Hosea

- 2:14-23; 3:5 God will fully restore Israel
- 5:15-6:3, 11 God will release His full grace to Israel
- 14:1-8 God will freely heal and restore Israel

F. Joel

- 2:28-32 God will pour out His Spirit on all flesh
- 3:17-20 Israel will be holy and established by God

G. Zechariah

- 8:2-8 God will be zealous to restore Israel
- 12:10-13:6 God will save and cleanse Israel

H. Other OT passages

- Amos 9:11-15 The Tabernacle of David being rebuilt, evangelism and conversion of M.E. nations
- Haggai 2:6-9; 21-22 God will make Israel glorious when He shakes the nations
- Zeph. 3:8-20 God's glory will be restored to Israel
- Mal. 4:1-6 Jesus will be exalted as He heals Israel and sends Elijah with power

THE GLORY OF ENCOUNTERING GOD - WHY WE PRAY FOR THE SALVATION OF ISRAEL

TRANSMISSION CHURCH

— BRIAN BEESON

I. **Prophetic Prayers for Israel’s salvation and deliverance** (Isa. 63:15-64:12; Dan. 9:4-19; Mic. 7:7-20; Hab. 3:2-19; Ezra 9:5-15; Neh. 1:4-11; 9:5-38)

J. **Prophetic prayers from the Psalms** (Ps. 44; 45:3-5; 65;67; 79; 80; 83; 85; 86; 90:13-17; 102:12-22; 110:1-5; 122:6-7; 132:11)

K. **Romans**

- 10:1 Paul’s prayer for Israel to be saved
- 11:12-15 The fullness of the Gentiles and the fullness of Israel
- 11:25-27 All Israel will be saved at the second coming

V. PERSONAL REFLECTION - Pick one or two of the passages above. Study them. Pray from them.

As you meditate on them, reflect on these questions below.

1. What are some of the *promises* God has made to Israel related to the land and people?

2. *What would hinder* Christians from praying that God would bring these promises about? Where do you see these hindrances at work? Explain.

3. *What truths does the Church need* regarding His character or His plans in order to stand with these promises?
