

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #43 – Israel in History and Prophecy

Note: Most information based on pages 301-311 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

Israel in Relation to the Dispensations

1. The history of Israel begins in Genesis 12 with the call of Abraham and is a major theme of the Old Testament.

Genesis 12:1-4a *“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. I WILL MAKE YOU INTO A GREAT NATION and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.’ So Abram left, as the Lord had told him...”*

2. In the New Testament gospels and the Acts, additional insight is given on the state of Israel in the first century, with other allusions to Israel both historic and prophetic in the rest of the New Testament.
3. Israel is involved in all the dispensations beginning with the dispensation of promise (see Doctrine #20, “The Dispensations”).
 - a. In the dispensation of promise, the covenant with Abraham lays the broad basis for all God’s dealings with Israel in subsequent generations.

- 1) The content of their divine revelation included God’s promises to Abraham:

Genesis 12:1-2 *“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.’”*

Genesis 13:16 *“I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted.”*

Genesis 15:5 *“He took him outside and said, ‘Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.’ Then He said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’”*

Genesis 17:6 *“I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.”*

- 2) The promise to Israel, Abraham's seed, that they would be a great nation and channel of the fulfillment of God's promise:

Genesis 15:18-21 *"On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram and said, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates—the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Ammonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites.'"*

Genesis 17:7-8 *"I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."*

Genesis 28:13-14 *"There above it stood the Lord, and He said: 'I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.'"*

Joshua 1:2-4 *"Moses My servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west."*

- 3) And a promise of blessing to the entire earth through Abraham:

Genesis 12:3 *"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

- b. The dispensation of "the law" beginning in Exodus 19 is the major dispensation of the Old Testament and conditions Israel's life until it is fulfilled on the cross. Most of Israel's recorded history relates to the dispensation of law.

- 1) The dispensation of the law begins in Exodus 19:3 and extends throughout the whole period up to the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, although the law ended in one sense at the cross.
- 2) Certain portions like the gospel of John and selected passages in the other gospels anticipated the present age of grace, however.
- 3) The Mosaic law was directed to Israel alone, and Gentiles *were not judged by its standards*. The law contained a detailed system of works including three major divisions:
 - a) The 10 Commandments (the moral law of God, Exod. 20:1-26);
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 - a) The 10 Commandments (the moral law of God, Exod. 20:1-26);
 - b) The Judgments (the social and civil laws of Israel, Exod. 21:1—24:11);
 - c) The Ordinances (the religious laws of Israel, Exod. 24:12—31:18).

- 4) The sacrificial and priestly system which was included was both gracious and legal.
- 5) Government in this dispensation was a “theocracy”, a government by God through His prophets, priests, and (later) kings.
- 6) The Mosaic covenant was also a temporary covenant, in force only until Christ should come.

Galatians 3:24-25 *“So the law was our guardian UNTIL CHRIST CAME that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.”*

- c. In the dispensation of “grace”, Israel shares with Gentiles the privileges of grace, both in salvation and as the rule of life.

Romans 1:16 *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.”*

Romans 3:22-24 *“This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”*

Romans 4:16 *“Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.”*

- d. In the future dispensation of “the kingdom”, Israel again takes a prominent role in possessing her promised land and being subject to Jesus Christ as her King.

Isaiah 2:1-5 *“This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: In the last days the mountain of the Lord’s temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. Many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.’ The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.”*

Isaiah 9:6-7 *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”*

Daniel 2:44-45 *“In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces. The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.”*

Zechariah 14:9 *“The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and His name the only name.”*

Luke 1:31-33 *“You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; His kingdom will never end.”*

3. Although disproportionately small compared with the Gentiles, Israel plays a prominent role in the entire history of the world from Abraham to the end (for further details, see Doctrine #20).

Israel in Relation to the Covenants

1. Closely connected to the dispensations are the biblical covenants.
2. Israel has a major role in each of the biblical covenants beginning with the covenant of Abraham in Genesis 12 (see Doctrine #21, “The Covenants”).

Genesis 12:1-3 *“The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.’”*

- a. The five covenants are major factors in Israel’s history and prophecy.
 - 1) As previously pointed out, the Abrahamic covenant is the basis for Israel’s program.
 - 2) The Mosaic covenant conditions the life of Israel in the dispensation of law and relates to all the Old Testament (read Exodus 20:1—31:18).
 - 3) The Palestinian covenant relates particularly to Israel’s possession and dispossession of the land, anticipating, however, the ultimate permanent possession in the millennial kingdom (read Deuteronomy 30:1-10).

- 4) The Davidic covenant conditions Israel's relationship to the Davidic kingdom and anticipates prophetically the future kingdom where Christ will reign on earth in the Millennium, with David resurrected and acting as His royal prince.

2 Samuel 7:14-15 *"I will be his father, and he will be My son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But **MY LOVE WILL NEVER BE TAKEN AWAY FROM HIM**, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you."*

2 Samuel 7:16 *"Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before Me; **YOUR THRONE WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOREVER.**"*

Psalm 89:20-37 *"I have found David My servant; with My sacred oil I have anointed him. My hand will sustain him; surely my arm will strengthen him. No enemy will subject him to tribute; no wicked man will oppress him. I will crush his foes before him and strike down his adversaries. My faithful love will be with him, and through my name his horn will be exalted. I will set his hand over the sea, his right hand over the rivers. He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.' I will also appoint him my firstborn, the most exalted of the kings of the earth. I will maintain my love to him forever, and my covenant with him will never fail. I will establish his line forever, his throne as long as the heavens endure. If his sons forsake my law and do not follow my statutes, if they violate my decrees and fail to keep my commands, I will punish their sin with the rod, their iniquity with flogging; but I will not take my love from him, nor will I ever betray my faithfulness. **I WILL NOT VIOLATE MY COVENANT OR ALTER WHAT MY LIPS HAVE UTTERED.** Once for all, I have sworn by my holiness—and I will not lie to David—that **HIS LINE WILL CONTINUE FOREVER and HIS THRONE ENDURE BEFORE ME like the sun; IT WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOREVER like the moon, the faithful witness in the sky.**"*

- 5) The new covenant prophesied in the Old Testament relates to Israel's blessings in the kingdom and replaces and contrasts with the Mosaic covenant.

Jeremiah 31:31-33 *"'The time is coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will **NOT BE LIKE THE COVENANT** I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,' declares the LORD. 'This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,' declares the LORD. 'I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.'"*

- b. The detailed relationship of each of these covenants to Israel was presented in Doctrine #21.

The Old Testament History of Israel

1. Although properly the history of Israel begins with Jacob, who was given the name Israel, the history of Israel usually includes the life story of Abraham and Isaac, the grandfather and father of Jacob.
 - a. Abraham, originally a resident of Ur of the Chaldees, went with his father about a thousand miles northwest to Haran and there became a wealthy herdsman.

- b. Upon his father's death, in obedience to God, Abraham with his wife Sarah and his nephew Lot came to the promised land, another thousand miles toward the southwest from Haran.
 - c. In the Promised Land, God began to deal with Abraham.
 - 1) God had promised Abraham in the important Abrahamic covenant that he would become a great man, that he would be the father of a great nation, and that through his posterity the entire world would be blessed.
 - 2) As previously brought out in the study of the Abrahamic covenant (Doctrine #21), these promises have been literally fulfilled.
 - a) Miraculously, after Abraham and Sarah were too old to have children, Isaac was born.
 - b) Then in due time Jacob and Esau were born to Isaac and Rebekah, with Jacob the younger twin chosen by God to be the head of the nation Israel.
 - d. The account of the lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob takes up Genesis 12-50 and evidently is important to God especially, when taking into consideration that the whole creative narrative took only two chapters (Gen. 1—2), and the whole story of the fall into sin took only one chapter (Gen. 3).
2. From the divine standpoint, the history of Israel is the key to history as a whole.
- a. In keeping with the prophecy to Abraham in Genesis 15:13-14, Israel made her way to Egypt in the time of famine.
 - 1) They found their way prepared by Joseph, who had risen to great authority in Egypt.
 - 2) Abraham and his family were welcomed to the land of Egypt and were cared for during the lifetime of Joseph.
 - b. The Israelites' several hundred years in Egypt ended disastrously, however, when a change of rulership took away their privileged status, and they became slaves.
 - 1) In their bondage they cried to the Lord, and the Lord raised up Moses and Joshua to lead them out of Egypt into the Promised Land.
 - 2) Although Israel failed God at Kadesh-barnea (Num. 14), and they wandered for forty years in the wilderness as a result, ultimately God enabled them to conquer the land on the east side of Jordan and after Moses' death to cross the Jordan and conquer much of the Promised Land.
 - c. Their return to the Promised Land and establishment as a nation prospered through the lifetime of Joshua, but Israel soon departed from God and went on a moral spiral downward as recorded in the Book of Judges.
 - d. God then raised up Samuel the prophet, who in large measure reestablished Israel spiritually and laid the basis for the glories of the kingdom under Saul, David, and Solomon.

- e. Although Saul failed as the first king of Israel, his successor David as a great warrior was able to conquer much of the territory belonging to the Promised Land.
 - 1) David's son Solomon extended his sway until he put under tribute most of the area originally mentioned to Abraham, from the river of Egypt to the River Euphrates.
 - 2) His violation of God's command not to multiply wives and depend on horses for military strength (Deut. 17:16-17) prepared the way for the divided kingdom and the rapid decline of Israel's strength after him.
 - a) Solomon's children were raised largely by heathen wives who were unsympathetic to the law of God.
 - b) Shortly after Solomon's death, the ten tribes of the North (Israel) withdrew and had a succession of wicked kings.
 - c) God's judgment descended on them in the Assyrian captivity in 721 B.C.
 - 3) The two remaining tribes of the Southern Kingdom (Judah), although having some godly kings, followed the same downward course and were led into captivity in 605 B.C. by the Babylonians.
 - a) At the conclusion of the seventy years of the Babylonian captivity, in keeping with the promise recorded in Jeremiah 29:10, Israel again was able to go back to the land.
 - b) The Book of Ezra records the people's return and their struggles for twenty years to rebuild the Temple, and Nehemiah completes the story with the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem and the city itself about a century later.
- f. Israel back in the land, however, did not follow the Lord and was under the dominion of the Medes and Persians for 200 years; then she was caught in the warfare between Syria and Egypt after the death of Alexander the Great in 323 B.C.
- g. Meanwhile, the power of Rome began to expand with the conquest of Sicily in 242 B.C.
 - 1) Jerusalem itself was subdued by the Roman General Pompeius in 63 B.C.
 - 2) Israel was treated cruelly by the Romans, who carried off hundreds of thousands of Jews into slavery.
 - 3) Ultimately, on Roman authority Jesus Christ was crucified, and later (in A.D. 70) the city of Jerusalem was destroyed, with Israel subsequently scattered all over the world and driven from her homeland.
- h. It was not until the twentieth century that Israel began to return to her land and became reformed as a national entity and a recognized political state in 1948.

The History of Israel and Fulfilled Prophecy

1. The history in the Old Testament is largely in fulfillment of the great prophecies of Scripture.
2. Literally hundreds of prophecies have been fulfilled.
3. In keeping with the prophecies given to Abraham, Israel became a great nation.
 - a. The Old Testament predicted three dispossessions of the land of Israel, and these were fulfilled
 - 1) Israel's descent into Egypt and subsequent bondage and release, and the return to the land,
 - 2) The Assyrian and Babylonian captivities which removed Israel once again from the land, and her subsequent return after seventy years in Babylon, and
 - 3) Israel's dispossession once again after the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.
 - b. The broad movement of Israel possessing the land and being dispossessed of it formed the important background for her entire history.

Genesis 15:13-16 *"Then the Lord said to him (Abram), 'Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. IN THE FOURTH GENERATION YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL COME BACK HERE, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.'"*

Deuteronomy 28:62-67 *"You who were as numerous as the stars in the sky will be left but few in number, because you did not obey the Lord your God. Just as it pleased the Lord to make you prosper and increase in number, so it will please him to ruin and destroy you. YOU WILL BE UPROOTED FROM THE LAND YOU ARE ENTERING TO POSSESS. Then the Lord will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other. There you will worship other gods—gods of wood and stone, which neither you nor your fathers have known. Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life. In the morning you will say, 'If only it were evening!' and in the evening, 'If only it were morning!'—because of the terror that will fill your hearts and the sights that your eyes will see."*

Jeremiah 25:11 *"This whole country (i.e. "Israel") will become a desolate wasteland, and THESE NATIONS WILL SERVE THE KING OF BABYLON FOR 70 YEARS."*

Deuteronomy 30:1-3 *"When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the Lord your God disperses you among the nations, and when you and your children return to the Lord your God and obey Him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and GATHER YOU AGAIN FROM ALL THE NATIONS WHERE HE HAS SCATTERED YOU."*

Nehemiah 1:8 “Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘IF YOU ARE UNFAITHFUL, I WILL SCATTER YOU AMONG THE NATIONS..’”

Jeremiah 9:16 “I WILL SCATTER THEM AMONG THE NATIONS that neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will pursue them with the sword until I have destroyed them.”

Jeremiah 18:15-17 “Yet my people have forgotten Me; they burn incense to worthless idols, which made them stumble in their ways and in the ancient paths. They made them walk in bypaths and on roads not built up. THEIR LAND WILL BE LAID WASTE, an object of lasting scorn; all who pass by will be appalled and will shake their heads. Like a wind from the east, I WILL SCATTER THEM BEFORE THEIR ENEMIES; I will show them My back and not My face in the day of their disaster.”

Ezekiel 20:23 “Also with uplifted hand I swore to them in the desert that I WOULD DISPERSE THEM AMONG THE NATIONS AND SCATTER THEM THROUGH THE COUNTRIES..”

Ezekiel 22:15 “I WILL DISPERSE YOU AMONG THE NATIONS AND SCATTER YOU THROUGH THE COUNTRIES; and I will put an end to your uncleanness.”

James 1:1 “James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, TO THE TWELEVE TRIBES SCATTERED AMONG THE NATIONS..”

4. Important to the history of Israel are the numerous prophecies concerning the character and destiny of Jacob’s sons (Gen. 49:1-28) and God’s future dealings with the twelve tribes of Israel.
5. Another important theme of prophecy and its fulfillment relates to the Davidic kingdom.
 - a. In keeping with the Davidic covenant, the throne is promised to David and his seed forever.

2Samuel 7:16 “Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before Me; YOUR THRONE WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOREVER.”

Psalms 89:36 “...that his line will continue forever and HIS THRONE ENDURE BEFORE ME like the sun.”

Jeremiah 33:20-21 “This is what the Lord says: ‘IF YOU CAN BREAK UP MY COVENANT WITH THE DAY AND MY COVENANT WITH THE NIGHT, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time, then My covenant with David my servant—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before Me—can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on His throne.’”

Daniel 7:14 “He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is ONE THAT WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED.”

- b. Promises both of blessing and cursing were fulfilled literally as God dealt with Saul, David, and Solomon and succeeding kingdoms of Judah and Israel.

The Prophecy of Israel's 490 Years

1. One of the major prophecies given through Daniel is recorded in Daniel 9:24-27. Here, according to the information given by the angel Gabriel to Daniel, "seventy weeks" or seventy sevens (490 years) were to comprise Israel's future history.

Daniel 9:24-27 *"SEVENTY 'SEVENS' (i.e. 70 X 7 years = 490 years) ARE DECREED FOR YOUR PEOPLE (i.e. "Israel") AND YOUR HOLY CITY (i.e. "Jerusalem") to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy. Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."*

- a. Daniel was told (9:24), "SEVENTY WEEKS (490 total years) are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy."
- b. The prophecy was to begin with the command to restore and to build Jerusalem (Dan. 9:25), and 483 years of the total of 490 years were to be fulfilled before the Messiah the Prince would come.
 - 1) While scholars have differed greatly in their interpretation of this passage, probably the best view is to begin this period of 490 years with the time of Nehemiah's reconstruction of Jerusalem in 445 B.C.
 - 2) It would then culminate about A.D. 32, approximately the time when Christ died on the cross. Recent scholarship has placed the death of Christ as late as 33 A.D., although most interpreters date it A.D. 30 or earlier.
- c. According to Daniel's prophecy, after the Messiah Himself was to be cut off—which would occur after the 483 years but apparently before the last seven years of the prophecy—Jerusalem itself would be destroyed (Dan. 9:26).
 - 1) This historically was fulfilled in the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.
 - 2) It is implied in Daniel's prophecy that there is a considerable period between the end of the 483 years, or the 69 "weeks," and the beginning of the last seven years, or seventieth "week," as it includes two events separated by forty years.
 - 3) The last week was to be characterized by a covenant apparently made with a future prince related to the people who destroyed the city.

- 4) As the people who destroyed the city of Jerusalem were Romans, “the prince that shall come” (Dan. 9:26) will apparently be a ruler of a revived Roman empire.
 - 5) Many interpreters view this as still a future event which will occur after the church has been raptured.
- d. This future ruler will make a seven-year covenant with the people of Israel described in Daniel 9:27.
- 1) The covenant will be broken in the middle of the week, and the last three and one-half years will be a time of persecution and trial for Israel.
 - 2) This period is the subject of extended prophecy in Revelation 6-18 and ends at the second coming of Christ in Revelation 19.
 - 3) Of special interest is the prediction that this future ruler will cause sacrifice and oblation to cease and will make the Temple desolate.
 - 4) This implies a future temple in Jerusalem and a resumption of the sacrificial system of Moses by Orthodox Jews in the period preceding the second coming of Christ.
- e. It is significant that the first 483 years have been literally fulfilled.
- 1) Jerusalem was rebuilt in the first 49 years as indicated in Daniel 9:25.
 - 2) The Messiah was cut off after 483 years.
 - 3) The events of the last week are yet future and provide a chronology for the end time leading up to the second coming of Christ.

Prophecy Concerning the Advent of the Messiah

1. From 1 Peter 1:10-11 it is clear that the prophets of the Old Testament were unable to distinguish the two advents of the Messiah.

1 Peter 1:10-11 *“Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, TRYING TO FIND OUT the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST and THE GLORIES THAT WOULD FOLLOW.”*

2. So perfectly was the present age a secret in the counsels of God that, to the prophets, the events which were fulfilled at His first coming and those which are yet to be fulfilled at His second coming were in no way separated as to the time of their fulfillment. Isaiah 61:1-2 is an illustration of this.

Isaiah 61:1-2 *“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn...”*

- a. When reading this passage in the synagogue of Capernaum, Christ ceased abruptly when He had concluded the record of those features which were predicted for His first advent (Luke 4:18-21), making no mention of the remaining features which are to be fulfilled when He comes again.

Luke 4:14-20 *“Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised Him. He went to Nazareth, where He had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day He went into the synagogue, as was His custom. And He stood up to read. THE SCROLL OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH WAS HANDED TO HIM. Unrolling it, He found the place where it is written: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’ Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down...”*

- b. Notice that Jesus stopped reading at *“to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor”*, rather than continuing on to the remaining words of Isaiah 61:2 which says, *“...and the day of vengeance of our God”*.
 - 1) Because Jesus’ first coming was to offer salvation by “grace” to both Gentiles and Jews through the revealed mystery of the “church” (the “bride of Christ”), Jesus stopped at “the year of the Lord’s favor”.
 - 2) Jesus’ second coming will fulfill the words “the day of the vengeance of our God”!
 - 3) Needless to say, the Jewish audience in Nazareth did not understand why Jesus stopped reading the scroll when He did. They did not pick up on His “two-fold” mission that would be accomplished through two separate comings:
 - a) Dying on the cross to pay for mankind’s sins (first coming);
 - b) Coming a second time to punish mankind (who have rejected Him) for their sins.
3. In like manner, the angel Gabriel, when anticipating the ministry of Christ, combined as in one the undertakings which belong to both the first and the second advents.

Luke 1:31-33 *“You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end.”*

- a. According to Old Testament prophecy, Christ was to come both as a sacrificial, unresisting Lamb (Isa. 53:1-12) and as the conquering and glorious Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Isa. 11:1-12; Jer. 23:5-6).
- b. Considering these two extensive lines of prediction, there is little wonder there was perplexity in the minds of the Old Testament prophets as to the “manner of time” when all this would be fulfilled.

4. Old Testament Prophecy stipulated that the Messiah must be:

a. Of the tribe of Judah

Genesis 49:10 "THE SCEPTER WILL NOT DEPART FROM JUDAH, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs^f and the obedience of the nations is his."

b. Of the house of David

Isaiah 11:1 "A shoot will come up FROM THE STUMP OF JESSE; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."

Jeremiah 33:20-21 "This is what the Lord says: 'If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time, then my covenant with DAVID MY SERVANT—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before Me—can be broken and DAVID WILL NO LONGER HAVE A DESCENDANT TO REIGN ON HIS THRONE.'"

c. Born of a virgin

Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: THE VIRGIN WILL BE WITH CHILD and will give birth TO A SON, and will call Him Immanuel."

d. Born in Bethlehem of Judea

Micah 5:2 "But you, BETHLEHEM Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, OUT OF YOU WILL COME FOR ME ONE WHO WILL BE RULER OVER ISRAEL, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

e. That He must die a sacrificial death by crucifixion

Isaiah 53:4-6 "Surely HE TOOK UP OUR INFIRMITIES and carried OUR SORROWS, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. BUT HE WAS PIERCED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and THE LORD HAS LAID UPON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL."

Psalms 22:16-18 "Dogs have surrounded Me; a band of evil men has encircled Me, THEY HAVE PIERCED MY HANDS AND FEET, I can count all My bones; people stare and gloat over Me. They divide my garments among them and cast lots for My clothing."

f. That He must rise again from the dead

Psalms 16:8-11 "I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT ABANDON ME TO THE GRAVE, NOR WILL YOU LET YOUR HOLY ONE SEE DECAY. You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

g. That He will come to earth the second time

Deuteronomy 30:3 *"THEN THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL RESTORE YOUR FORTUNES and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where He scattered you."*

h. That He will come on the clouds of heaven

Daniel 7:13 *"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one LIKE A SON OF MAN, COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into His presence."*

5. Jesus of Nazareth has fulfilled or will fulfill every requirement of prophecy concerning the Messiah as no other claimant can ever do.

Prophecy Concerning the Last Dispersion and Regathering of Israel

1. Most important in the Old Testament prophecies concerning Israel are those related to Israel's final dispersion and final regathering.
 - a. By the Assyrian captivity of the Northern Kingdom and the Babylonian captivity of the Southern Kingdom, and as a national punishment for sin, the whole house of Israel was taken from off the land and in due time was scattered among the nations of the earth.
 - b. This was in fulfillment of multiplied prophecies.

Leviticus 26:40-45 *"But if they will confess their sins and the sins of their fathers—their treachery against Me and their hostility toward Me, which made Me hostile toward them SO THAT I SENT THEM INTO THE LANDS OF THEIR ENEMIES—then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin, I will remember my covenant with Jacob and my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham, and I WILL REMEMBER THE LAND. For the land will be deserted by them and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them. They will pay for their sins because they rejected my laws and abhorred my decrees. Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land of their enemies, I WILL NOT REJECT THEM or abhor them so as to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them. I am the LORD their God. But for their sake I WILL REMEMBER THE COVENANT I MADE WITH THEIR ANCESTORS whom I brought out of Egypt in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the LORD."*

Nehemiah 1:8 *"Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'IF YOU ARE UNFAITHFUL, I WILL SCATTER YOU AMONG THE NATIONS...'"*

Jeremiah 9:16 *"I WILL SCATTER THEM AMONG THE NATIONS that neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will pursue them with the sword until I have destroyed them."*

Jeremiah 18:15-17 “Yet my people have forgotten Me; they burn incense to worthless idols, which made them stumble in their ways and in the ancient paths. They made them walk in bypaths and on roads not built up. THEIR LAND WILL BE LAID WASTE, an object of lasting scorn; all who pass by will be appalled and will shake their heads. Like a wind from the east, I WILL SCATTER THEM BEFORE THEIR ENEMIES; I will show them My back and not My face in the day of their disaster.”

Ezekiel 20:23 “Also with uplifted hand I swore to them in the desert that I WOULD DISPERSE THEM AMONG THE NATIONS AND SCATTER THEM THROUGH THE COUNTRIES...”

Ezekiel 22:15 “I WILL DISPERSE YOU AMONG THE NATIONS AND SCATTER YOU THROUGH THE COUNTRIES; and I will put an end to your uncleanness.”

James 1:1 “James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, TO THE TWELEVE TRIBES SCATTERED AMONG THE NATIONS...”

c. In no case would Israel’s national entity be lost even through centuries of dispersion.

Jeremiah 31:35-36 “This is what the LORD says, He who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar— the LORD Almighty is His name: ‘ONLY IF these decrees vanish from My sight,’ declares the LORD, ‘WILL THE DESCENDANTS OF ISRAEL EVER CEASE TO BE A NATION BEFORE ME.’”

Matthew 24:34 “Assuredly, I say to you, THIS GENERATION (i.e. “of Israelites”) will by no means pass away till all these things take place.”

2. They refused the divine offer and provision for their regathering and kingdom glory which was made by their Messiah at His first advent (Matthew 23:37-39); at Kadesh-barnea, where their wilderness experience was extended (Num. 14:1-45), their chastisement was continued and will be continued until He comes again.

Matthew 23:37-39 “O JERUSALEM, JERUSALEM, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, BUT YOU WERE NOT WILLING! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

John 1:11 “He came to that which was His own, BUT HIS OWN DID NOT RECEIVE HIM.”

3. At that time He will regather His people into their own land and cause them to enter into the glory and blessedness of every covenant promise of Jehovah concerning them.

Isaiah 11:11-12 “In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. He will raise a banner for the nations and GATHER THE EXILES OF ISRAEL; HE WILL ASSEMBLE THE SCATTERED PEOPLE OF JUDAH FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE EARTH.”

Deuteronomy 30:1-5 “When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God **DISPERSES YOU AMONG THE NATIONS**, and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and GATHER YOU AGAIN FROM ALL THE NATIONS HE SCATTERED YOU. Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD YOUR GOD **WILL GATHER YOU AND BRING YOU BACK**. He will bring you **TO THE LAND THAT BELONGED TO YOUR FATHERS**, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers.”

Jeremiah 23:3-8 “*I Myself WILL GATHER THE REMNANT OF MY FLOCK OUT OF ALL THE COUNTRIES WHERE I HAVE DRIVEN THEM AND WILL BRING THEM BACK TO THEIR PASTURE, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,*’ declares the Lord. ‘The days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days **JUDAH WILL BE SAVED AND ISRAEL WILL LIVE IN SAFETY**. This is the name by which He will be called: **The LORD Our Righteousness**. ‘So then, the days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when people will no longer say, ‘As surely as the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but they will say, ‘As surely as the Lord lives, who brought the descendants of Israel up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.’ **THEN THEY WILL LIVE IN THEIR OWN LAND.**”

Ezekiel 37:21-25 “This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I WILL GATHER THEM FROM ALL AROUND AND BRING THEM BACK INTO THEIR OWN LAND. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. They will no longer defile themselves with their idols and vile images or with any of their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people, and I will be their God. My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees. **THEY WILL LIVE IN THE LAND THAT I GAVE TO MY SERVANT JACOB**, the land where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children **WILL LIVE THEIR FOREVER**, and David my servant will be their prince forever.”

Matthew 24:31 “And He will send His angels with a loud trumpet call, and THEY WILL GATHER HIS ELECT FROM THE FOUR WINDS, from one end of the heavens to the other.”

Prophecy Concerning the End Time

1. As intimated in the brief study of Daniel 9:27, Israel will have a dramatic future role in end-time events leading up to the second coming of Christ.

Daniel 9:27 “He (i.e. “The Antichrist”) will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.”

2. According to Scripture, there are four major movements to Israel's future in relation to the end of the age.

a. *Israel was prophesied to be reconstituted as a political state.*

- 1) In order to make a covenant with the "prince that shall come," it was necessary for Israel to be formed again as a political state.
- 2) This, of course, was dramatically fulfilled in May 1948 when Israel was recognized as a nation and given a portion of the Promised Land as her possession.
- 3) In years which followed, her territories have been enlarged and her strength increased, until Israel today, although small in number, is a major factor in world affairs.
- 4) This is a prelude to other prophecies to be fulfilled.

b. *As indicated in Daniel 9:27, Israel will enter into a covenant with a Gentile Roman ruler of the Mediterranean, a covenant planned for seven years.*

- 1) This will introduce the covenant period in which Israel will have a measure of peace and security.
- 2) In this period, undoubtedly many more Jews will go back to the Promised Land, and Israel will prosper financially as well as politically.

c. *The covenant with Israel, however, will be dramatically broken in three and one-half years after it is formed, and Israel will become a persecuted people instead of a favored people.*

- 1) This is "the time of Jacob's trouble" and the "Great Tribulation".

Jeremiah 30:7 *"How awful that day will be! None will be like it. IT WILL BE A TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE, but he will be saved out of it."*

Daniel 12:1 *"At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. THERE WILL BE A TIME OF DISTRESS SUCH AS HAS NOT HAPPENED FROM THE BEGINNING OF NATIONS UNTIL THEN. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered."*

Matthew 24:21 *"For then there will be GREAT DISTRESS, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—AND NEVER TO BE EQUALED AGAIN."*

Revelation 7:13-14 *"Then one of the elders asked me, 'These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?' I answered, 'Sir, you know.' And he said, 'These are they WHO HAVE COME OUT OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'"*

- 2) Further attention to this period will be given in the next two doctrines.

- d. *Israel's glorious restoration in the millennial kingdom will follow the second advent of Christ and continue throughout the thousand years of Christ's reign on earth. (see verses of Scripture above!)*
3. The importance of understanding the four stages of Israel's restoration is seen in the fact that the first stage has already taken place and the second stage will most probably not take place until after the church is raptured.
 4. The stage is being set for dramatic end-time events in which Israel will have a major role.

Prophecy Concerning the Messianic Kingdom and the Day of the Lord

1. In respect to the amount of Scripture involved, there is no theme of Old Testament prophecy comparable with that of the Messianic kingdom.
2. Lying beyond all the predicted chastisements that are to fall on Israel is the glory which will be hers when her people are regathered into their own land, with unmeasured spiritual blessings under the glorious reign of their Messiah-King.
 - a. This vision was given to all the prophets.
 - b. As certainly and literally as Israel, in fulfillment of prophecy, was removed from the land and caused to suffer during these many centuries, so certainly and literally will she be restored to marvelous blessings in a redeemed and glorified earth (Isa. 11—12; 24:22—27:13; 35:1-10; 52:12; 54—55; 59:20—66:24; Jer. 23:3-8; 31:1-40; 32:37-41; 33:1-26; Ezek. 34:11-31; 36:32—37:28; 40:1—48:35; Dan. 2:44-45; 7:14; Hos. 3:4-5; 13:9—14:9; Joel 2:28—3:21; Amos 9:11-15; Zeph. 3:14-20; Zech. 8:1-22; 14:9-21).
3. Old Testament predictions concerning the kingdom are often a part of the predictions concerning the return of the King.
4. When these two themes are combined into one, it is termed “the day of the Lord,” which refers to that lengthened period extending from the rapture of the church and the judgments following this event on the earth, to the end of His millennial reign (see Isaiah 2:10-22 and Zechariah 14).
 - a. There are a number of indications that the day of the Lord will begin as soon as the rapture of the church occurs.
 - b. The major events of the day of the Lord, accordingly, seem to include the Great Tribulation and God's judgments on the world preceding the second coming of Christ, as well as the judgments which attend the second coming of Christ and the entire thousand-year reign of Christ on earth.
5. Because many of the great prophecies were not fulfilled by the time the Old Testament was completed, the additional revelation of the New Testament is essential to presenting the complete and detailed account of both many fulfillments of the Old Testament and also many prophecies yet to be fulfilled.

6. The story of Israel in history and prophecy has to a large extent been fulfilled, but great future events are yet ahead.
7. Evidence is accumulating that the end time when Israel will again come into its own is very near.
8. Additional details are given in the doctrines which follow.

Loris First Baptist Church
“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”

Doctrine #43 – Israel in History and Prophecy

1. Read Pages 1-19 from the Doctrine#43 Study Guide by next Wednesday.

2. Answer the following Questions about “Israel” as you read:

a. Israel in Relation to the Dispensations

1) When does the history of Israel begin in the Bible? (page 1, top)

2) True or False. Israel is involved in all the dispensations beginning with the dispensation of promise.
(page 1, middle)

3) What was God’s promise to “Israel” as Abraham’s seed?
(page 2, top; Genesis 12:2, 15:18-21, 17:7-8, 28:13-14; Joshua 1:2-4)

4) In which dispensation is most of Israel’s history recorded? (page 2, middle-bottom)

5) True or False. Because of the rejection of their Messiah, Israel was excluded from the dispensation of “grace” and instead, God began working only with the Gentiles.
(page 3, top-middle; Romans 1:16, 3:22-24, 4:16)

6) In the future dispensation of “the kingdom”, in what way does Israel again take a prominent role amongst the nations? (page 3, bottom; Isaiah 2:1-5, 9:6-7; Daniel 2:44-45; Zechariah 14:9; Luke 1:31-33)

- 7) True or False. Although disproportionately small as compared with all the Gentile nations, Israel has and always will play a prominent role in the history of the world. (page 4, top-middle)

b. Israel in Relation to the Covenants

- 1) What are “5” major covenants that play a factor in Israel’s history and prophecy?
(page 4, bottom-page 5, middle)
- 2) What are some of the conditions of the “New Covenant” that God promises to make with Israel in the future? (Jeremiah 31:33)

c. The Old Testament History of Israel

- 1) With whom does the history of “Israel” properly begin with? (page 5, top)
- 2) From the “divine” standpoint, what is the “key” to history as a whole? (page 6, middle)
- 3) Israel’s exodus out of Egypt, entry into the Promised Land, and establishment as a prosperous nation was eventually ruined by a departure from God and their moral spiritual decline that are primarily recorded in what book in the Old Testament? (page 6, bottom)
- 4) Who was the king of Israel that was able to extend the borders of Israel and put most of their neighbors under tribute from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River? (page 7, top)

- 5) What violations of God's commands concerning "kings" prepared the way for the divided kingdom and the rapid decline of Israel's strength? (page 7, top; Deuteronomy 17:16-17)

- 6) What happened shortly after Solomon's death? (page 7, top-middle; also 1Kings 12)

- 7) What nation destroyed Jerusalem and took the Southern Kingdom of Judah into captivity in 605 B.C.? (page 7, middle)

- 8) What part of Israel's history is recorded in the Book of Ezra? (page 7, middle)

- 9) What two rival warring countries was Israel caught between after the death of Alexander the Great? (page 7, middle-bottom)

- 10) Who was the Roman general that subdued Jerusalem in 63 B.C.? (page 7, bottom)

- 11) In what year did the Romans destroy the city of Jerusalem and scatter the people of Israel all over the world? (page 7, bottom)

- 12) In what year did the prophecies of Israel returning to her own land and becoming a national entity again become fulfilled? (page 7, bottom)

d. The History of Israel and Fulfilled Prophecy

- 1) The history in the Old Testament is largely in fulfillment of what? (page 8, top)

- 2) What are the three dispossessions of the land of Israel that were predicted in the O.T. and fulfilled? (page 8, top; Genesis 15:13-16 Deut 28:62-67; Jer 25:11, 18:15-17; Ezekiel 22:15; James 1:1)

- 3) Important to the history of Israel are the numerous prophecies in Genesis 49:1-28 concerning the character and destiny of “whose” sons? (page 9, middle)

- 4) What is a promise of God to David that makes up a significant prophecy that will affect the future of Israel and the world? (page 9, bottom; 2Samuel 7:16; Psalm 89:36)

e. The Prophecy of Israel’s 490 Years

- 1) One of the major prophecies concerning the nation of Israel was given through the prophet Daniel and was based on “seventy weeks” which calculates out to how many “years” of Israel’s history and future? (page 10, top; Daniel 9:24-27)

- 2) When was the prophecy about Israel given to Daniel to “begin” according to the angel Gabriel? (page 10, middle; Daniel 9:25)

- 3) How many years of Israel’s prophecy given to Daniel is yet to be completed since the Messiah Himself was “cut off”? (page 10, bottom; Daniel 9:26)

- 4) The future ruler spoken of in Daniel 9:27 will make a covenant with Israel for how many years?

- 5) How long will the covenant be in place before the “ruler who will come” breaks his covenant with Israel? (page 11, top; Daniel 9:27)

- 6) True or False. A close study of “the future ruler” spoken of by the prophet Daniel (i.e. “the Antichrist”) leads one to understand that there must be a future temple built in Jerusalem before Christ returns again. (page 11, middle; Daniel 9:27)

- 7) True or False. All of the prophecies of Daniel concerning Israel as recorded in chapter 9, verses 24-27, have been completed and already fulfilled just as Scripture predicted. (page 11, middle)

f. Prophecy Concerning the Advent of the Messiah

- 1) What did Peter reveal about the prophets of the Old Testament and their understanding about the Messiah? (page 11, bottom; 1Peter 1:10-11)

- 2) What verses of Scripture was Jesus reading from in Luke 4:14-20 which demonstrated how closely related the Messiah’s first and second advents were revealed? (page 12, top-middle)

- 3) The biblical words “...and the day of vengeance of our God” will be fulfilled when? (page 12, middle)

- 4) What was the two-fold mission of the Messiah that Jesus’ Jewish audience had a hard time grasping? (page 12, middle-bottom)

5) According to Old Testament prophecy, Christ was to come in what two ways?
(page 12, bottom; Isaiah 53:1-12; Isaiah 11:1-12; Jeremiah 23:5-6)

6) According to Isaiah 7:14, the Messiah of Israel must be born “how”?

7) According to Micah 5:2, the Messiah of Israel must be born “where”?

8) According to Psalm 22:16-18, the Messiah of Israel had to die by what method?

9) According to Psalm 16:8-11, the Messiah of Israel had to do what?

10) True or False. Jesus of Nazareth has fulfilled or will fulfill every requirement of prophecy concerning the Messiah as no other claimant can ever do. (page 14, top)

g. Prophecy Concerning the Last Dispersion and Regathering of Israel

1) According to Jeremiah 9:16 and 18:15-17, what is an important prophecy of the Old Testament that was fulfilled when the Assyrians destroyed the Northern Kingdom of Israel in 722 B.C. and the Babylonians destroyed the Southern Kingdom of Judah in 589 B.C.?

2) True or False. Because of their unfaithfulness to God, their idolatry, and their rejection of the Messiah when He came to them, the nation of Israel has been abandoned by God and His chosen people are now the “church”. Israel is only a “spiritual” nation in God’s eyes now. (page 15, middle; see Jeremiah 31:35-36)

- 3) What does God promise He will do as a sign of the “last days”? (page 15, bottom; Isaiah 11:11-12)

- 4) True or False. According to Ezekiel 37:21-25, in the future God is going to bring back the 10 tribes of Israel and reestablish the Northern Kingdom of Israel, while also bringing back the 3 tribes of Judah and reestablishing the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

h. Prophecy Concerning the End Time

- 1) According to Scripture, what are the four major movements to Israel’s future in relation to the end of the age? (page 17, top – page 18, top)

- 2) According to Jeremiah 30:7, the “Great Tribulation” period that involves the last 7 years of Israel’s unfulfilled prophecy is also called “what”? (also see page 17, middle-bottom)

- 3) When understanding the four stages of Israel’s restoration in relation to the end of the age, we know the first stage has already taken place (Israel was reconstituted as a nation in 1948). When will the second stage probably take place according to prophecy? (page 18, top)

- 4) True or False. Current world events and political movements are setting the stage for dramatic end-time events in which Israel will have a major role. (page 18, top)

i. Prophecy Concerning the Messianic Kingdom and the Day of the Lord

- 1) In respect to the “amount” of Scripture involved, there is no them of the O.T. prophecy comparable with which subject? (page 18, top-middle)

- 2) True or False. As certainly and literally as Israel, in fulfillment of prophecy, was “removed” from the land and caused to “suffer” during these many centuries since Christ has risen from the grave, Israel will certainly and literally be “restored” to marvelous blessings in a redeemed and glorified earth. (page 18, middle)

- 3) What does the term “the day of the Lord” refer to? (page 18, bottom; Isaiah 2:10-22 and Zech 14)

- 4) When do most conservative scholars believe “the day of the Lord” will begin? (page 18, bottom)

- 5) True or False. Because many of the great prophecies were not fulfilled by the time of the O.T. completion, the additional revelation of the N.T. is essential to presenting the complete and detailed account of both many fulfillments of the O.T. and prophecies yet to be fulfilled. (page 18, bottom)

- 6) True or False. Evidence is accumulating that the “end times”, when Israel will again come into its own, is very near. So the church needs to keep itself “prepared” and “watching”.
(page 19, top; Matthew 24:42)