

IMPORTANCE OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION: SECTION 3: THE CHURCH & ISRAEL

1. THE CHURCH: What is the role of the church?

- i. My view is the church is raptured by the time of the tribulation.
- ii. 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17 also the silence after Revelation 3...the church is no longer mentioned.
- iii. The church will encounter the signs and the things associated with leading up to the Second Coming tribulations.
- iv. The Anti-Christ will be born and on the scene during the last days leading up to the tribulation period...although the church may or may not be aware of whom the Anti-Christ is; we should be vigilant for indicators, but not false accusations.

2. ISRAEL & JERUSALEM: What role does Jerusalem/Israel play in End Times?

- a. Jerusalem and Israel being the focus of world attention is another sign.
- b. Fall of the nation of God in 70 A.D. Jerusalem and Israel ceased to exist.
- c. November 2, 1917 – Balfour Declaration – Israel grew under the oversight of the British empire...this declaration declared the Palestine region (Israel) the national home for Jewish people. This was all made possible because Dr. Chaim Weizmann came up with a way to rapidly make TNT that led to the end of WWI...the Great War. Weizmann as for his homeland restored. And the rest is history.
- d. May 14, 1948 – Israel becomes a sovereign nation...ever since they have been the center of attention. Even now!
- e. Why have the Jews after 70 A.D. fall of Jerusalem and after being totally driven out of Israel in 135 A.D. by the Romans survived to this day...BECAUSE GOD PROMISED and it is PAR OF HIS PLAN.
- f. 1967 Israel took charge of Jerusalem.
- g. “Knowing the Season” – referring to the Generation it will happen is what most believe. So if we can identify particular signs – “War, famines, earthquakes, and Israel becoming a nation” you are close at hand...so are we that generation? Matthew 24:34 “This generation will not pass away...”
 - i. So what generation could it be?
 1. Disciples Generation – obviously not. But they were always ready. Some thought it would be in their generation.
 2. WWI - 1914
 3. Israel as a Nation 1948
 4. Jerusalem in 6 day War – 1967
 - a. You pick...but it seems like the writing is on the wall. Again, we can only know the season...not the

hour. Are we close? Does this make since? I think the “evidence” or “signs” look real.

- b. What is a generation? Lot of room for debate here. He could return in our lifetime. The world setting and situations sure do look align up with key historical events.

h. TEMPLE MOUNT?

- i. The Original Temple (King David & King Solomon) – Harrods Temple -destroyed 70 A.D....3rd Temple established during End Times?
- ii. Daniel 7:13-14 – Son of Man...bulk of Daniel deal with the end of human history.
- iii. Daniel 11; 2 Thess. 2:4; Rev 11:1-2; Rev 13:4-5...will the lawless one, beast, Anti-christ built it?
- i. Is modern day Israel connected with Ancient prophecies about Israel? Does God still look at Israel and the Promised Land in a unique way? If the answer is yes...then Israel plays a key role in the end times.
- j. Ezekiel 36 and Isaiah 11
 - i. Ezekiel – First Jewish Dispersion
 - ii. Ezekiel 36:8 – Israel shall return even though (36:20)
 - iii. Assyria @721 BC; Babylon @587 BC – Took the temple mount from Israel.
 - iv. In this situation God wanted to restore His people and He did for the Messiah to return.
 - v. Ezekiel 36:34-31
 - 1. Restoration of the Land. God promise this land toe Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. So is this land still special to God?
 - vi. Ezekiel 37 – Dry Bones – God will give life to Israel
 - 1. The spiritual condition of modern day Israel is not the question...for they are far from God...they are secular, missed their messiah, and have multiple religions in the land.
 - 2. God can raise up life to the dry bones. Instead the issue is does God still hold a covenant with His people Israel or is his concern only the church or are they connected? Is the Promised Land key or not? I think it is! I think Israel will play a role in the end times...the region is special to God.
 - 3. Believing in a sovereign God and seeing how Israel has re-gathered as a nation from all over the world in our generation is unbelievable. It could be the beginning of bringing life to dry dead bones. I believe it was God’s hand that made this happen. He is responsible for Israel becoming a nation in the late 1940’s.
- k. Is Israel as a nation a sign of Prophecy?

- i. 1948 – United Nation declared Israel a sovereign nation.
- ii. 1967 – Israel took control of the Temple Mount.
- iii. Matthew 24:32 – are we “in the season”? Are we the “Generation”? The question is if...? If we are in the season then what? What does a generation mean?
- iv. Psalm 102 – Holocaust possibly...Shoah – Sacrifice...like the Temple with a burnt sacrifice. Did the holocaust get God’s attention? Just a thought...Just a question? Did it play into the end times picture?
 - 1. Was God’s perceived silence over His people actually part of His plan?
 - 2. I realize that Psalm 102 is a radical interpretation...but it is a possibility that the Holocaust set things into motion and God knew it would come and even foretold of it.
 - 3. If Psalm 102 is about the Holocaust of His Chosen people, that is an amazing prophecy....could it be?
 - 4. HOLOCAUST – Day of distress, in smoke, scolded, willowed away (starvation), forget to eat, bones cling to flesh, and they will use my Name as a curse against Me.
 - a. Does this kind of bring Holocaust pictures to mind?
 - 5. Vr. 12 -13 – Bring hope.
 - 6. Vr 16-18 – God’s rebuttal...final generation of history and literally a last generation.
- v. Jeremiah
 - 1. Jeremiah 32:27
 - 2. God will bring back Israel as a nation.
 - 3. Jeremiah 44 – to Restore the Promised Land.
 - a. Land f Benjamin
 - b. Judea
 - c. Samaria
 - d. Jerusalem
 - e. Coastal Planes
 - f. Negev Desert.
- vi. PSALM 83 – Enemies of Israel
 - 1. In biblical days this alliance of enemies did not exist...so is this futuristic? Does it reflect modern day alliances of the Middle East Arab nations?
 - 2. Where are the 10 people groups in modern days? Is this the Arab Muslim nations that surround Israel? Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Oman, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, Syria, Iran etc.)