# I will bless those who bless you (Israel), and I will curse him who curses you (Israel). Genesis 12:3

Our nation faces many consequential challenges that should keep us in prayer and propel us to action. One issue unfolding before us is the unraveling of U.S. support for Israel. We believe uncompromising support for Israel is critical at this moment in history and therefore we need to pray, and we need to act. *Tony Perkins* - Family Research Council Most people today are afraid, confused, and dismayed at the unprecedented turn of events of our world which appears to have gone insane. They don't know what to do and so they are looking for answers but not finding any because they aren't looking at the only source that can give them what they are looking for, which of course, is the Word of God, the Bible.

So let's open our Bibles to a place where the disciples were asking questions to the Lord Jesus Christ who knows all the answers because He is omniscient, there is nothing that He doesn't know.

#### **QUESTIONS and ANSWERS**

Matthew 24:1-3 And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. 2) And He answered and said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down." 3) And as He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

### **BIRTHPANGS**

Matthew 24:4-9 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. <sup>5</sup> "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. <sup>6</sup> "And you will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. <sup>7</sup> "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.<sup>8</sup> "But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs. <sup>9</sup> "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations on account of My name.

#### THE TRIBULATION

Matthew 24:10-16 "And at that time many will fall away and will deliver up one another and hate one another. <sup>11</sup> "And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many. <sup>12</sup> "And because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> "But the one who endures to the end, he shall be saved. <sup>14</sup> "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations, and then the end shall come. (Middle of the Tribulation) <sup>15</sup> "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains;

Matthew 24:17-22 let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house; 18) and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak. 19) "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days! 20) "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath; 21) for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. 22) "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.

Matthew 24:23-28 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There He is,' do not believe him. 24) "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. 25) "Behold, I have told you in advance. 26) "If therefore they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go forth, or, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe them. 27) "For just as the lightning comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be. 28) "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Luke 17:36-37 "Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other will be left." <sup>37</sup> And answering they said to Him, "Where, Lord?" And He said to them, "Where the body *is*, there also will the vultures be gathered."

Unbelievers will be taken to a place called "Torments" where they will be held until they will be judged at the Great White Throne and then they will be tossed into the Lake of Fire forever.

Believers will remain on the earth. They will be the ones who will populate the Millennium for 1,000 years.



When Jesus Christ returns <u>at the **Rapture**</u>, all **Church Age believers**, both living and dead, will rise to meet Him in the air and so we will always be with the Lord. There will be no battles or blood shed associated with this return.

However, <u>at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent</u>, Jesus Christ will return to earth where He will win a massive battle over His enemies (**unbelievers**), which will leave behind an enormous number of corpses and a huge amount of blood which will attract vast numbers of vultures.

#### What Should Believers be Doing?

<u>2 Timothy 3:12-14</u> And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 13) But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14) You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them;

<u>Psalm 31:23-24</u> O love the LORD, all you His godly ones! The LORD preserves the faithful, and fully recompenses the proud doer. 24) Be strong, and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the LORD.

#### What Will Happen to Unbelievers?

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 ... that is, the one (antichrist) whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10) and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11) And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false, 12) in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

One thing is certain, even though, the entire world has millions and millions of people who are antisemitic towards Israel and who support the loathsome vermin of Hamas who butchered, raped, burnt, and tortured innocent Jewish men, women, children, and babies; and even though every nation on earth will some day join together in order to annihilate Israel, Israel will remain a nation and they all will be destroyed.

Israel will not be defeated, she will remain a nation, and she will not be removed from the land that God promised to her!

#### **Scripture Validation**

Jeremiah 31:35-36 Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day, And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The LORD of hosts is His name: 36) "If this fixed order departs From before Me," declares the LORD, "Then the offspring of Israel also shall cease From being a nation before Me forever."

These verses are stating that if the sun, moon, or stars change the fixed order they have been using from time in memorial (which is impossible), then the offsprings of Israel will cease from being a nation before God (which also is impossible).

Jeremiah 30:10-11 'And fear not, O Jacob My servant,' declares the LORD, 'And do not be dismayed, O Israel; For behold, I will save you from afar, And your offspring from the land of their captivity. And Jacob shall return, and shall be quiet and at ease, And no one shall make him afraid. 11) 'For I am with you,' declares the LORD, 'to save you; For I will destroy completely all the nations where I have scattered you, Only I will not destroy you completely. But I will chasten you justly, And will by no means leave you unpunished.'

Isaiah 11:11-12 Then it will happen on that day (the Second Coming) that the Lord will again recover the **Second Time** with His hand The remnant of His people, who will remain (from the Tribulation). From Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. 12) And He will lift up a standard for the nations, And will assemble the banished ones of Israel (the Northern Kingdom), And will gather the dispersed of Judah (the Southern Kingdom) from the four corners of the earth.

The First Time that the Lord recovered His people from the four corners of the earth was when Israel became a nation on May 14, 1948 after two thousand six hundred years of exile. The Nation of Israel will not be defeated and driven away from their homeland because the verses above will not allow it. If Israel were to be defeated, they would be dispersed throughout the four corners of the Earth. But the Scriptures say that the Jews will be gathered back to Israel from around the world two times. The First regathering occurred in 1948 and the Second regathering from around the world will occur when Jesus Christ returns to earth (at the Second Advent), after the Tribulation. That leaves no room for another regathering of the Jews back to their homeland.

Israel has been attacked many times by Egypt, Babylon, Medes, Persians, Rome, Ottomans, Germany, and the United Kingdom, and every one of these countries went into decline and never again had the power they once had and many went into the dust bin of history.

Chapter 38 and 39 of Ezekiel tells of an invasion against Israel which is called the Gog and Magog invasion that most believe will take place during the Tribulation. Three countries of that invasion have the modern names of Turkey, Russia, and Iran. It is very interesting that these three nations have come together for the first time ever to stand together against Israel. <u>Zechariah 12:6</u> In that day I will make the governors [not a king or a prince] of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place -- Jerusalem.

# <u>Zechariah 12:9</u> "It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

The wars prophesied by Zechariah had to occur between 1948 and the coming of Messiah, and several of the wars that have already occurred were exactly as the prophet foretold. The overwhelming victories of tiny Israel over vastly superior armies of Egypt (on the left hand) and Syria and Jordan (on the right hand) in 1948, 1967, and 1973, amazed the entire world.

The day after David Ben Gurion declared Israel to be an independent nation on **May 14,1948**, Egyptian airplanes bombed Tel Aviv. Within the week the combined armies of Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq moved to take over the cities of the north and in the Galilee area. Experienced and battle tested Arab forces armed by England moved across the Jordan to occupy Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

In the meantime, a large Egyptian army moved across the Sinai to occupy Gaza and take Tel Aviv. There appeared ti be bi wat the poorly trained and equipped Jewish fighters could withstand the might of a combined army of five Arab states. General George Marshall warned Ben Gurion that the Israeli forces would be liquidated within seventy-two hours, but miraculously, Israel won, astounding world military experts. The Independence War lasted about six months.

Israel had no tanks, no air-force, no artillery, and no war ships. How could the Jews win over such overwhelming forces? They believed the promise of God, <u>Zechariah 12:6.</u> The <u>Six Day War</u> of 1967 Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, Morocco, and Iran (8 countries) invaded Israel and it only took six days for Israel to defeat her enemies.

The <u>Yom Kippur War of 1973</u> When Israel finally got their defense forces to the battle fronts, they faced a monstrous army but within two weeks, the bulk of the Arab armies were destroyed or in retreat.

President Harry Truman made the USA the first nation to accept Israel as a nation. Over the years, Israel has become our closest ally and we have supported each other, but our current President has taken us in a different direction.

The entire world is in chaos as millions of people openly show their hatefulness towards the Jews as they spew out the venom of antisemitism. Every person and every country must choose to stand with: Hamas and the Palestinians supported by Satan, or choose to stand with Israel - supported by God.

It could be that God will judge countries according to the decision they make concerning their attitude towards Israel. I wonder how God will judge us?

# **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

Ezekiel 38 reveals that Turkey, Russia, and Persia/Iran will attack Israel during the Tribulation. Persia retained its name until 1935 which was changed to Iran. (Islamic Republic of Iran).

These countries have never come together before like they have recently and they all have something that unites them, their hate for Israel.

The ancient names for Saudi Arabia are mentioned in **Ezekiel 38:12-13.** Saudi Arabia is now helping Israel.

The Shaw of Iran was overthrown in the Iranian Revolution on February 11, 1979.

The strip of land by the Mediterranean Sea was given to the Palestinians in 2004 by Ariel Sharon who was the Prime Minister of Israel. He had the IDF soldiers, force Israelis out of their homes in order to give it to the Palestinians.

The first thing the Palestinians did was to vote to have Hamas be their government. The word "Hamas" means violence. It appears that the battle that is described in Ezekiel 28 and 29 will take place before the mid point of the Tribulation. Zechariah 14:1-3 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, And your spoil will be divided in your midst. 2) For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; The city shall be taken, The houses rifled, And the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, But the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3) Then the LORD will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle.

This battle will take place at the end of the Tribulation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent.

**Revelation 20:7-9** Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison<sup>8</sup> and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. <sup>9</sup> They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

This is the last battle that Satan will wage against God and His people.

# Restors' Point of View (PPOV) no. 297. Prophecy Update. 4-19-24. Drs. Andy Woods...



Paul Richard Wilkinson, For Zion's Sake: Christian Zionism and the Role of John Nelson Darby, Studies in Evangelical History and Thought (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2007), 65.

"Christian Palestinianism is an inverted mirror image of Christian Zionism. All the basic elements of Christian Zionist eschatology are reversed, so that the Bible is seen to be Christian, not Jewish, the land of the Bible is Palestine not Israel, the Son of God is a Palestinian not a Jew, the holocaust is resented not remembered, 1948 is a catastrophe not a miracle, the Jewish people are illegal occupiers not rightful owners, and biblical prophecy is a moral manifesto and not a sign post to the second coming. Despite enlisting support from the theological community and seeking validation the overriding thrust of Christian rriding thrust of Christian Palestinian ism is political, not biblical."

1:00:12 / 1:12:45

Pastors' Point of View (PPOV) no. 297. Prophecy Update. 4-19-24. Drs. Andy Wo Christian			24. Drs. Andy Woods 🕓 🥕 Christian
		Zionism	Palestinianism
	Bible	Jewish (Rom. 3:2)	Christian
	Land	Israel (Matt. 2:21)	Palestine
	Jesus	Jewish (Rom. 9:5)	Palestinian
	Holocaust	Remembered	Resented
	May 14, 1948	Miracle	Catastrophe
1	Jewish people (Land)	<b>Rightful owners</b>	Illegal occupiers
	Bible Prophecy	Signpost: Second Coming	Moral Manifesto
	General thrust	Biblical	Political
	Paul Richard Wilkinson, For Zion's Sake: Christian Zionism and the Role of John Nelson Darby, Studies in Evangelical History and Thought (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2007), 65.		
C C C C			