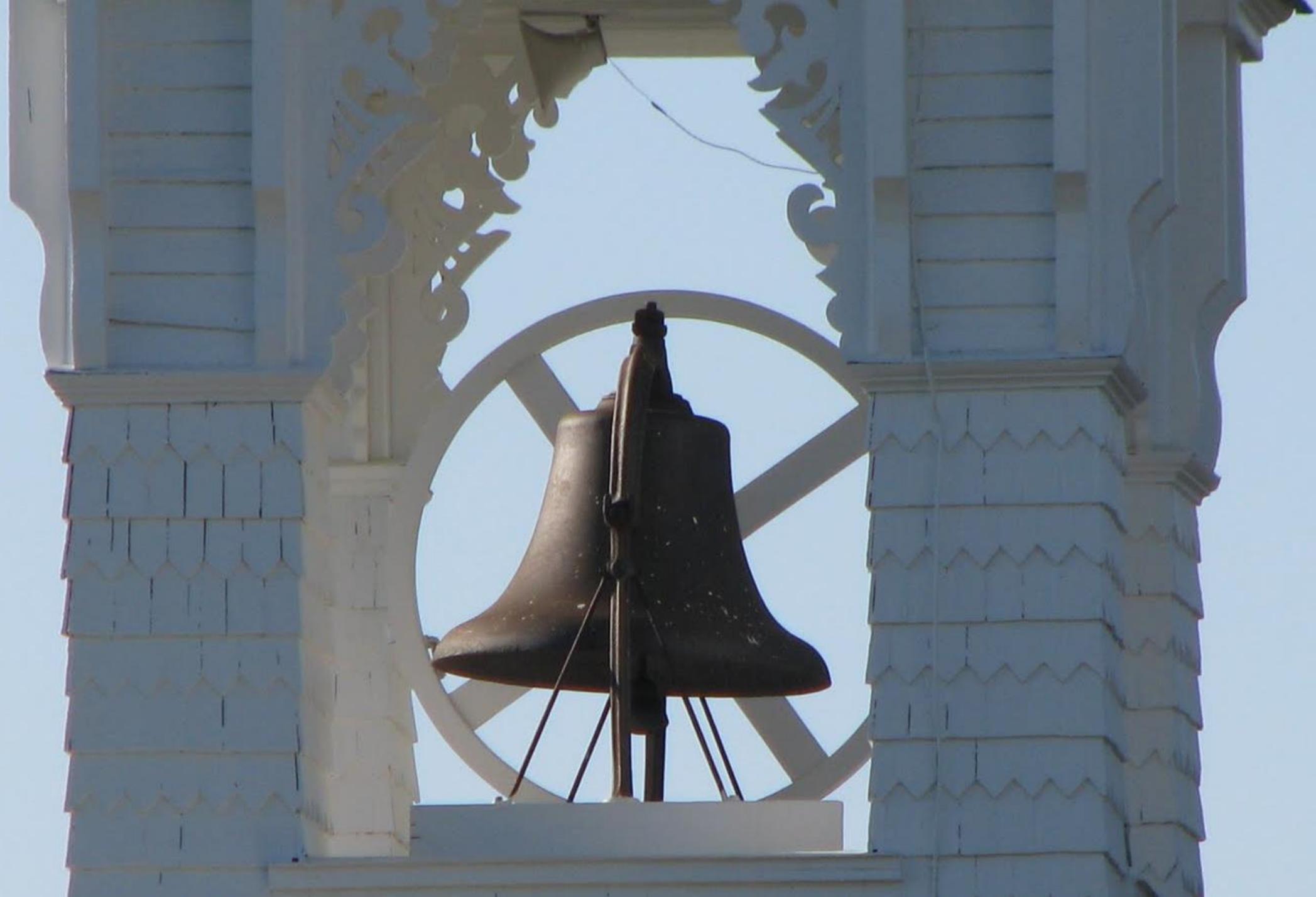
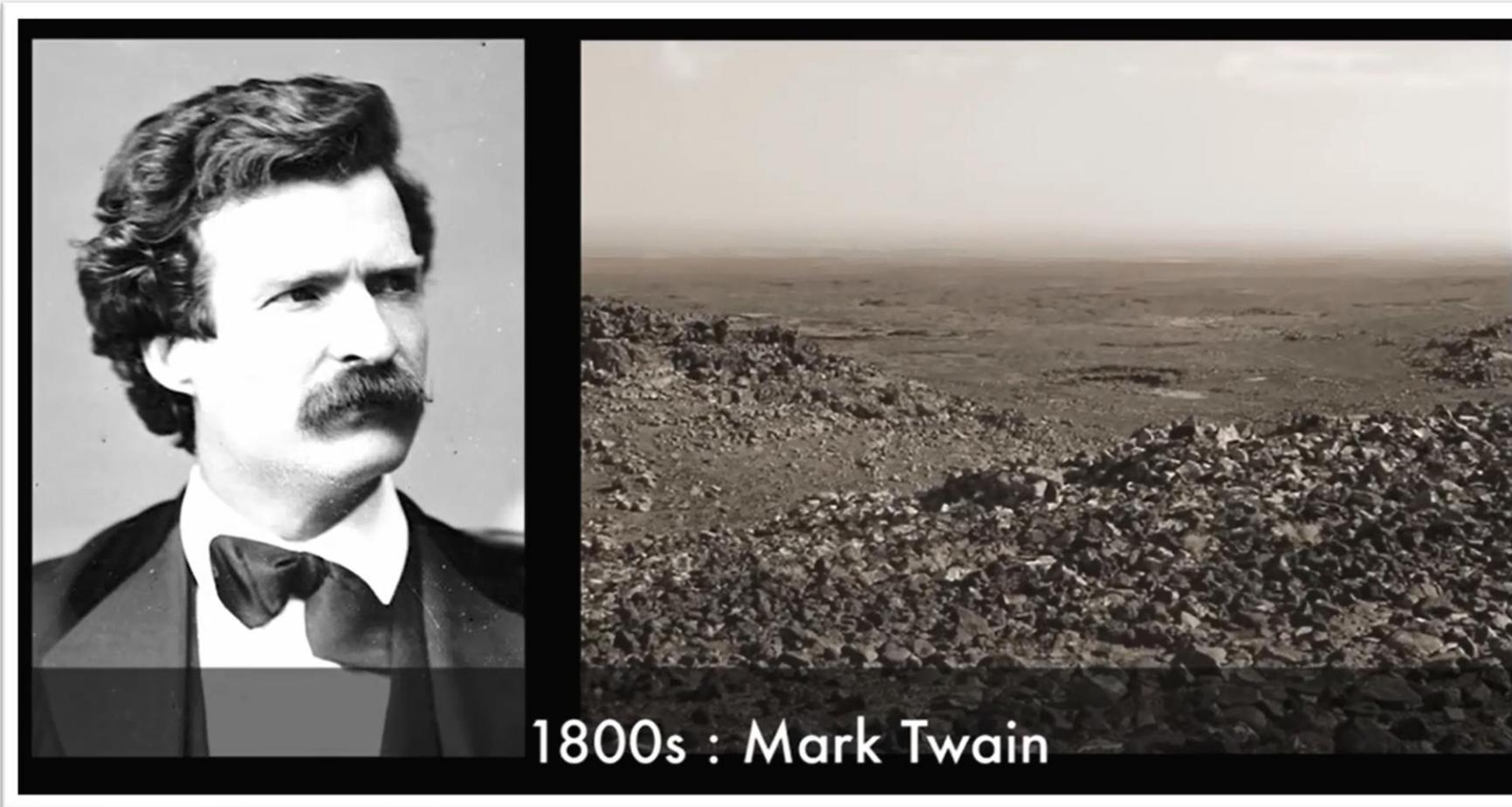




MATTHEW
BAPTIST CHURCH
ORGANIZED 1871

MATTHEW
BAPTIST CHURCH
ORGANIZED 1871





"Palestine sits in sackcloth and ashes. Over it broods the spell of a curse that has withered its fields and fettered its energies." Innocents Abroad 1869



For 2000 years Israel is just a Bible story

Created a problem for the
understanding specific prophecies
that talked about a future with
Israel restored.

Israel Returns



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.

⁴ 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. ⁵ He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors.

⁶ The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love Him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

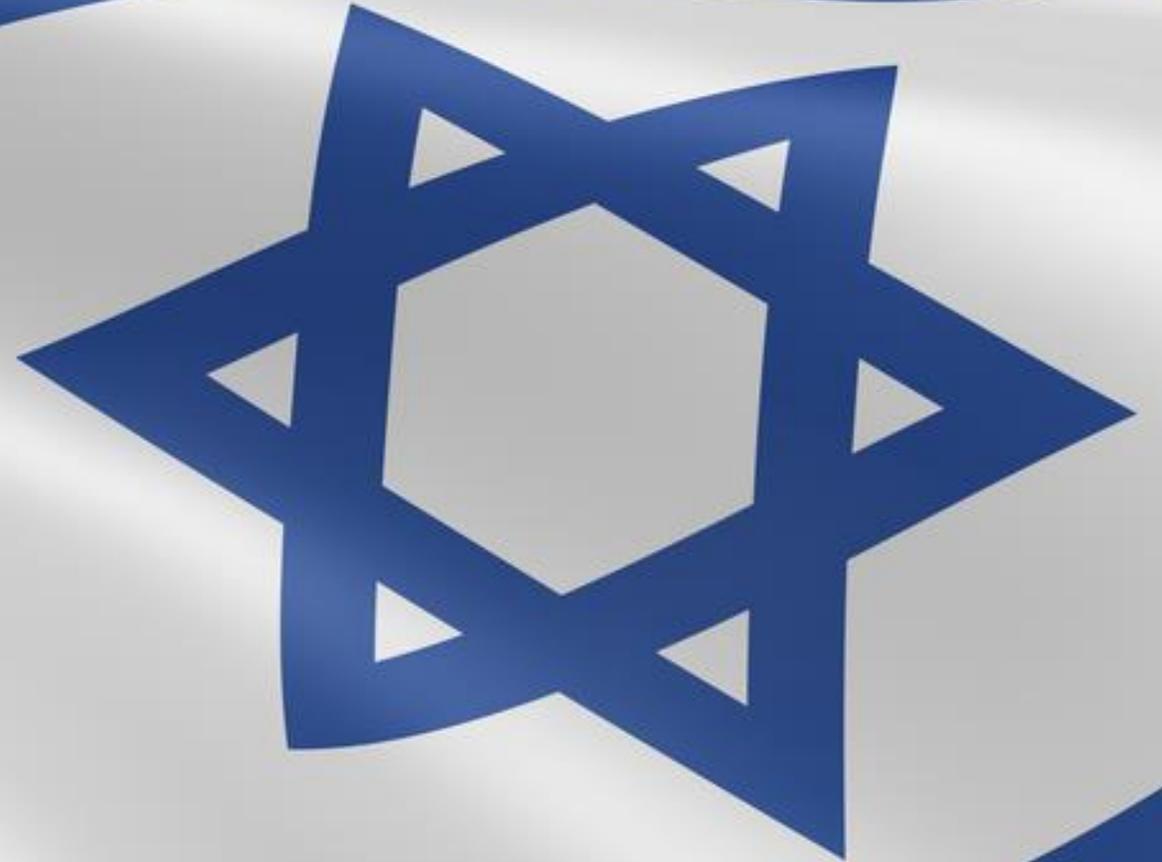
Deuteronomy 30:3-6 (NIV)

Israel and the Church; a new paradigm

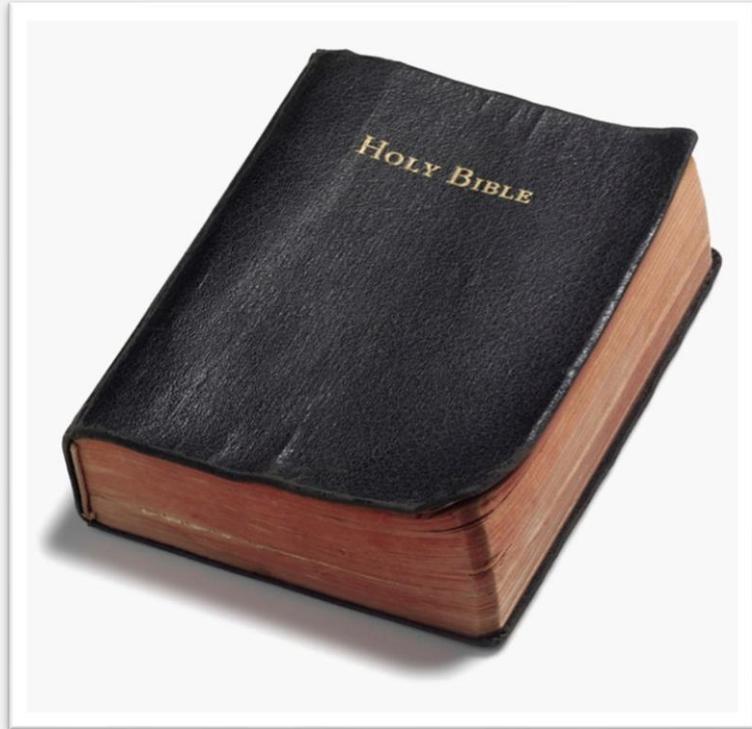
What does this mean for the Church?
(pew study)



5 Reasons the Church should care about Israel



#1 Our Bible is a Jewish book



- The Jews have been called the “people of the book” as they have faithfully preserved God's word for thousands of years.
- The scriptures we call the Old Testament are known to the Jews as the “Tanakh”, after the first letters of its three parts. **T for Torah**, the Teaching of Moses, the first five books. **N for Nevi'im**, the Books of the Prophets. **Kh for Ketuvim**, for the Writings, which include the Psalms and Proverbs.
- The New testament or the Brit Chadashah (New Covenant) is also written by primarily Jewish writers (Luke) and gives testimony to the life and ministry of Yeshua - Jesus.



“If you want to know whether a church holds to the literal interpretation of scripture, find out where it stands on Israel . Many churches have lost the connection between Israel and the church, divorcing it from its Jewish context .”

Dr. Jim Showers FOI





“It’s a tragedy because we've forgotten where we came from. Everything that defines our relationship with God comes from the Jewish people.”

Jürgen Buhler ICEJ President



#2 The church has not replaced Israel

Synagoga (synagogue) and Ecclesia (church) above the portico of the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris (c. 1240).

Synagoga is blindfolded by a serpent wrapped around her eyes, her crown is at her feet, and the tablets of the law are about to slip from her hand.



Replacement Theology

(supersessionism)

Teaches that the Church has replaced Israel in God's plan.

Adherents of Replacement Theology believe the Jews are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the Nation of Israel.



Replacement Theology

- Replacement theology teaches that the many promises made to Israel in the Bible are fulfilled in the Church.
- The prophecies in Scripture concerning the blessing and restoration of Israel to the Promised Land are spiritualized or allegorized into promises of God's blessing for the Church.



Replacement Theology

- Major problems exist with this view, such as the continuing existence of the Jewish people throughout the centuries.
- How do we explain why and how Israel reappeared as a nation in the 20th century after not existing for 1,900 years?





The Shoah

If Israel is not part of the plan of God, and there is no future for the Jewish nation, how do we explain the supernatural survival of the Jewish people over the past 2,000 years, despite the many attempts to destroy them?



The error of Replacement Theology

“If you preach Replacement Theology, you’re accusing God of being a liar.”

Malcom Heading

ICEJ co-founder

“You have to get around Romans 11 and 19, and the calling over the house of Israel cannot be changed”.

Romans 11

“to the Jew first”

I ask, then, has God rejected His people?

By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew.



Grafted into the Nation of Israel

“Remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you.”

- Paul believed the Church has not replaced Israel
- He cautioned Christians not to be arrogant towards the Jews
- Paul said salvation is of the Jews
- Paul believed that “Christians” were grafted into the chosen people





#3 Sin of Anti Semitism

- Early church fathers sought to separate Jew and gentile
- Persecutions followed
- Martin Luther “the Jews and their Lies”
- Church largely silent on the Holocaust

#4 Shared history shared destiny

- Christianity is built upon the foundation of Judaism
- There is a role and a purpose for Israel
- There is a role and purpose for the church.
- The church and Israel have a future together
- Anyone who bows before the God of Israel will see persecution





“The Bible clearly teaches God is not finished with Israel and it raises the question of theological malpractice to read what scripture says and not accept it at face value.”

Dr. Jim Showers FOI

#5 Loving what God loves

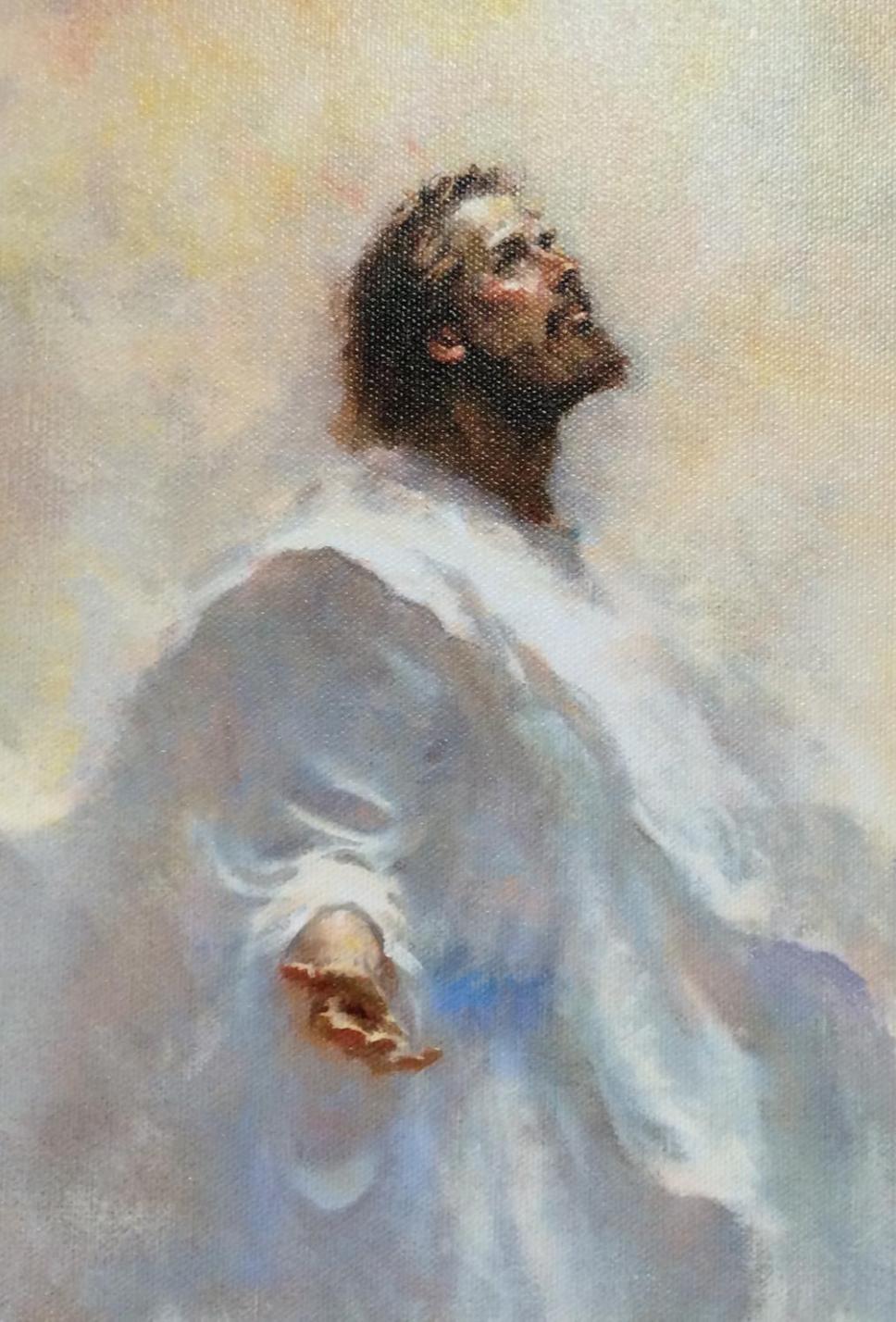
For this is what
the LORD Almighty says:
“After the Glorious One
has sent me against the
nations that have
plundered you—for
whoever touches you
touches the **apple of His
eye**—” (Zachariah 2:8)



Nations will be judged on how they treated Israel (Joel 3 NIV).

“I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.”





The Jews are the family of Jesus (Revelation 22:16 NIV)

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

Israel and the Church

- Ignore
- Reject
- Embrace





Seeing the faithfulness of God

Many Prohecies are being fullfiulled in recent days



God is building up Zion

Only place in the world where the deserts are receding



Ezekiel 36 “Garden of Eden”

Har Carmel



Garden of Eden

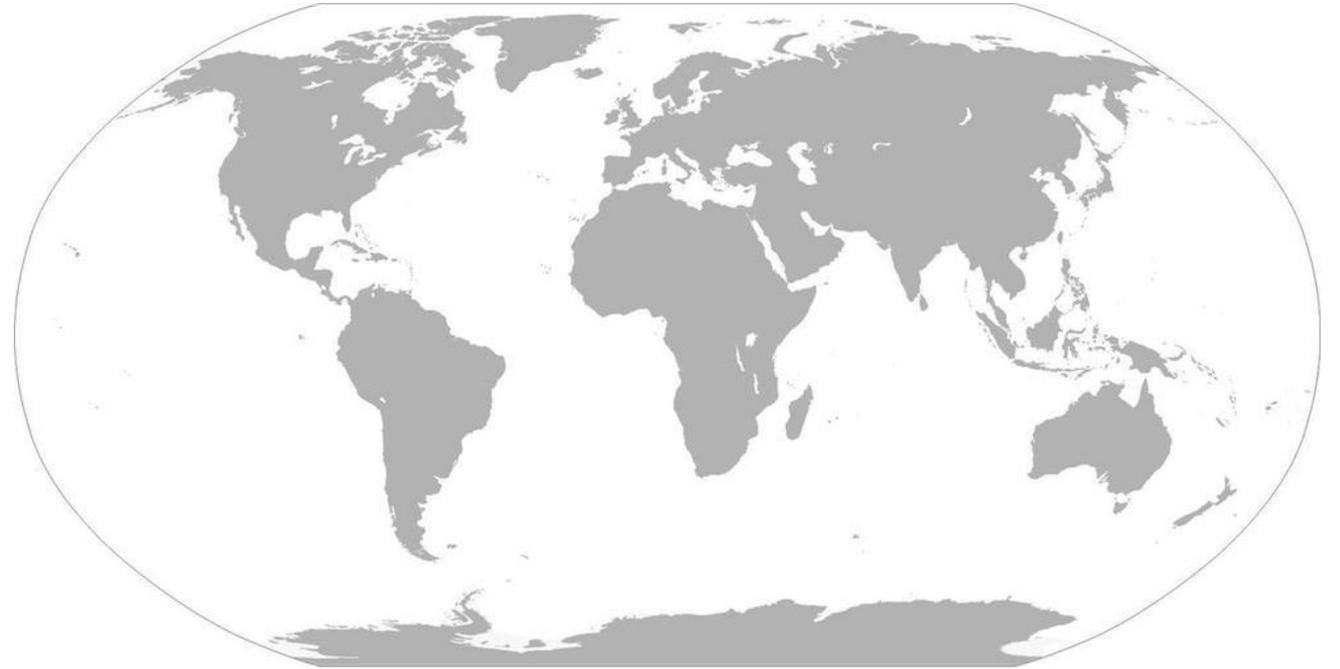
³⁴ The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. ³⁵ They will say, “This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.” ³⁶ Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.’

(Ezekiel 36)

Return of the Exiles

“In that day the Lord will reach out His hand a second time to reclaim the surviving remnant 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 Mediterranean. 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”

(Isaiah 11:11-12)





God is restoring Israel as promised

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when it will no longer be said, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,’ but it will be said, ‘As surely as the LORD lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to the land I gave their ancestors”

(Jeremiah 16:14-15)

Operation Moses

- Covert operation to rescue Ethiopian Jews.
- Thousands have made Aliyah beginning in the 1980's and continues today even with the Covid restrictions!



The nations are coming

Isaiah 2:1-3 (HCSB)

In the last days, the mountain of the LORD's house will be established at the top of the mountains and will be raised above the hills. All nations will stream to it, and many peoples will come and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us about His ways so that we may walk in His paths." For instruction will go out of Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.



God is faithful (we are witness)

- Israel represents the fulfilment of God's promises to the Jewish people
- We believe that the Spirit of God is sweeping the earth drawing people's attention to Israel
- This is the season of Messiah





The faithful gather in Jerusalem



The great miracle of Israel

- Impossible Prophecies fulfilled in our time
- No greater proof of God's faithfulness other than Israel
- We should be excited!



Psalm 102

“You will arise and have compassion on Zion For it is time to show favor to her ; The appointed time has come...”



God is building Zion today

The nations will fear the
name of the LORD,
all the kings of the earth
will revere Your glory.

For the LORD will rebuild
Zion and appear in His
glory.