

Why Should Christians Support Israel?

Genesis 12:3 *"I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed"*

As a Bible believing Christian, I firmly believe the Holy Scriptures to be the infallible Word of God. Sadly, this statement is considered controversial today, even by many of our Christian brothers and sisters around the world. But we simply cannot "cherry pick" the parts of scripture that we want to believe or agree with that make us "feel better" So many ministers today try to fill their pews by preaching a "Jacuzzi Jesus" of warm froth and bubbles. It's not about feelings it's about the never changing Word of God. In Paul's letter to Tim, 2 Tim 3:16 *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness"*.

And again in Romans Chp 15:4 he says, *"Everything that was written in the past was written so that we might have hope"*.

So, God has promised to bless any man, woman or nation that blesses His Chosen People. History shows us beyond doubt that every nation on earth that has blessed (helped, aided, supported, defended) Israel has received the blessings of God; equally, the nations that have cursed the Jewish people have, or will, sooner or later experience the curse, (wrath and justice) of God.

Long ago God chose Abraham and his descendants to be His special people. He expressed His love to them, and they in return were to be faithful to Him and bring the knowledge of the true God to the world. Of course, we know that much of the Bible is the history of Israel's disobedience to God and the terrible results of breaking His covenant and some churches and groups teach that the Church has replaced Israel because of this disobedience, but they need to consider the words of Paul in Romans 11:25 *"I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved". As it is written: (Isaiah 59:20) "The deliverer will come from Zion, he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."*

In so much of the Old Testament we are reminded that God did not forget Israel and that He will restore her. Isaiah 54:7-8 *"For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you, says the Lord your Redeemer."*

God scattered them. He is calling them. He will bring them back in the way that He said he would, fulfilling all His prophecies.

Anyone visiting Israel today will see these prophecies being fulfilled before their eyes. In Isaiah 35 we read, *"The desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose"* and of *"Streams in the wilderness"* Through advanced farming and state of the art irrigation systems the dry lands that have been in ruins for most of the last two thousand years are being turned into farms and gardens producing some of the most beautiful flowers and fruit in the world. Today Israel is a modern day miracle, a top source of food products, flowers and other goods, (too numerous and diverse to mention here), for many countries. *Amos 9:14 and I will bring my people Israel back from exile. "They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit"*. Amos also prophesied that there will be continued planting and harvesting. I can only say here "let those that have eyes go and see".

Sadly, so much Christian ignorance, poor teaching, and spiritual blindness towards certain parts of scripture breeds Anti-Semitism. This brings with it a very watered down and impoverished understanding of God's plan, of His love and commitment to and for the nation of Israel.

To me, just the simple fact that Israel still exists today is because of God's will. This tiny nation of eight million people, (six million Jews & two million Arabs, Christians and others) in a land the size of Wales, surrounded by over 350 million Arabs (who, in the main, desire its destruction), proves the existence of God, and that He still loves and protects her, and will finally and fully restore her.

Yes, there are some who teach that these "return scriptures" refer to the return from Babylon. But only a small number ever returned to the land from the tribes of Benjamin and Judah and hardly any from the ten tribes ever returned from the Assyrian captivity. Gods will is for them all to return.

Ezekiel 39:28 *"Then they will know that I am the LORD their God, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind."* God's eternal promises, to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob will be fulfilled.

Zechariah 10:6 "I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be as though I had not rejected them; for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them."

In 1998 Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made a speech at the Feast of the Tabernacles Conference in Jerusalem and said, "I can tell you that for the first time in the history of the Jewish people since the Second Temple period, in the next fifteen years the majority of the Jewish people will live in the Jewish land. If this is not the materialization of prophecy, then nothing is."

We are living in an ever darkening, topsy-turvy, upside down world, where black is white, white is black, good is bad, bad is good, night is day, day is night, where

anything and everything goes – apart from the truth. It seems as if the world cannot see the wood because of the trees.

“How odd of God to choose the Jews, but odder still for those who choose a Jewish God yet spurn the Jews.” W.E. Ewer/ Leo Rosten.

Christians should love and support the Jewish people in thought word and deed, not because they are better or more deserving, but because God commands us to. He chose them as His representative people to bring The Good News of the one true God to the world. Jesus was a Jew, the disciples were Jews. Without Israel and the Jews there would be no Christianity, no Churches, no New Testament, and no Sunday Schools - period. And if the church continues to turn its back on our Jewish roots then Genesis 12:3 will come to pass.

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