



ISRAEL: HIS STORY

God's Truth about Israel As A Journey Through Scripture

Isaiah 46:3, 9-11: “Listen to Me, O house of Jacob, and all the remnant of the house of Israel, you who have been borne by Me from birth and have been carried from the womb. . . .⁹“Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, ¹⁰declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, **‘My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure;’** ¹¹Calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it.”

*God elected a certain nation to be His bonds slave, and through that nation a knowledge of His salvation is to come to all the world. The history of that nation is a record of awful idolatry and backsliding. They remained neither true to God's prophets nor to God Himself, **but in spite of everything, the fulfillment of God's purpose for the nation of His choice is certain.** The election of the nation by God was to be the instrument of salvation to the whole world. The story of their distress is due entirely to their deliberate determination to use themselves for a purpose other than God's.*

~Oswald Chambers, *So I Send You*



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

To Make a Name for Himself

David's Prayer

2 Samuel 7:23: And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people and *to make a name for Himself*, and to do a great thing for You and awesome things for Your land, before Your people whom You have redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, from nations and their gods?

David's Prayer

1 Chronicles 17:21: And who is like your people Israel? God, You came to one nation on earth to redeem a people for Yourself, *to make a name for Yourself* through great and awesome works by driving out nations before your people You redeemed from Egypt. (HCSB)

To Show His Glory

Isaiah 44:21-23: “Remember these things, O Jacob, and Israel, for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant, O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me. ²²I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud and your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.” ²³Shout for joy, O heavens, for the LORD has done it! Shout joyfully, you lower parts of the earth; break forth into a shout of joy, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it; for the LORD has redeemed Jacob and *in Israel He shows forth His glory*.

To Bless all the Families of the Earth

Genesis 12:1-3: Now the LORD said to Abram [who was a Gentile from Ur], “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you; ²and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; ³and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. *And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.*”

To bring Salvation to the Gentiles

Romans 11:11-12, 15: I say then, they [the Jews] did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression *salvation has come to the Gentiles*, to make them [the Jews] jealous. ¹²Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment [full inclusion] be . . . ¹⁵For if their [the Jews] rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their [the Jews] acceptance be but life from the dead?

To Make Messiah a Light to the Nations

Isaiah 49:6-7a: He [The LORD] says, “It is too small a thing that You [Messiah] should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; *I will also make You [Messiah] a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.*” ⁷Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and its Holy One, to the despised One, to the One abhorred by the nation, to the Servant of rulers, “Kings will see and arise, princes will also bow down, because of the LORD who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel who has chosen You.”

Luke 2:29b-32: According to Your word; ³⁰for my [Simeon’s] eyes have seen Your salvation, ³¹which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²*a Light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.*”

Acts 26:23: “. . . the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead ***He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.***”

John 1:4, 9: In Him [Jesus the Messiah] was life, and the **life was the Light of men.** . . .⁹There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

John 8:12: Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “***I am the Light of the world;*** he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

To Receive, Write and Preserve the Word of God Throughout the Centuries

Romans 3:1-2: Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the benefit of circumcision? ²Great in every respect. First of all, that ***they were entrusted with the oracles of God.***

1 Kings 8:56: “Blessed be the LORD, who has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised; ***not one word has failed of all His good promise,*** which He promised through Moses His servant.

Joshua 1:8: This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that ***you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it;*** for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

2 Timothy 3:16-17: ***All Scripture is God-breathed*** and is useful for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NIV)



The Election and Preservation of the Jewish People

Moses speaking to Israel

Deuteronomy 4:7, 32-39: For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him? ³²Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. ***Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it?*** ³³Has any people heard the voice of God speaking from the midst of the fire, as you have heard it, and survived? ³⁴Or has a god tried to go to take for himself a nation from within another nation by trials, by signs and wonders and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? ³⁵To you it was shown that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him. ³⁶Out of the heavens He let you hear His voice to discipline you; and on earth He let you see His great fire, and you heard His words from the midst of the fire. ***Because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them.*** And He personally brought you from Egypt by His great power, ³⁸driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in and to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today. ³⁹Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that ***the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other.***

Deuteronomy 14:2: For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and ***the LORD has chosen you to be a people for His own possession*** out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 26:18-19: The LORD has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; ¹⁹and that ***He will set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor***; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the LORD your God, as He has spoken.”

The Birth of the Nation of Israel through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel)

Genesis 12:1-3: Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father’s house, to the land which I will show you; ²and ***I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you***, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; ³and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

Genesis 15:5: And He took him outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and ***count the stars***, if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “***So shall your descendants be. . .***”

Genesis 17:5, 19: “No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ¹⁹God said, “. . . ***Sarah, your [Abraham’s] wife will bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac***; and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.”

Genesis 25:21, 26b: Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD answered him and ***Rebekah his wife conceived. . .*** ²⁶***so his name was called Jacob. . .***

Genesis 32:28: He [an angel (see Hosea 12:4) wrestling with Jacob] said, “***Your name shall no longer be Jacob, but Israel***; for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed.”

The genealogical record continues through Jacob’s son Judah receiving a specific blessing. This prophecy speaks of the royal line that would come from Judah, setting the stage for David’s kingship and ultimately