



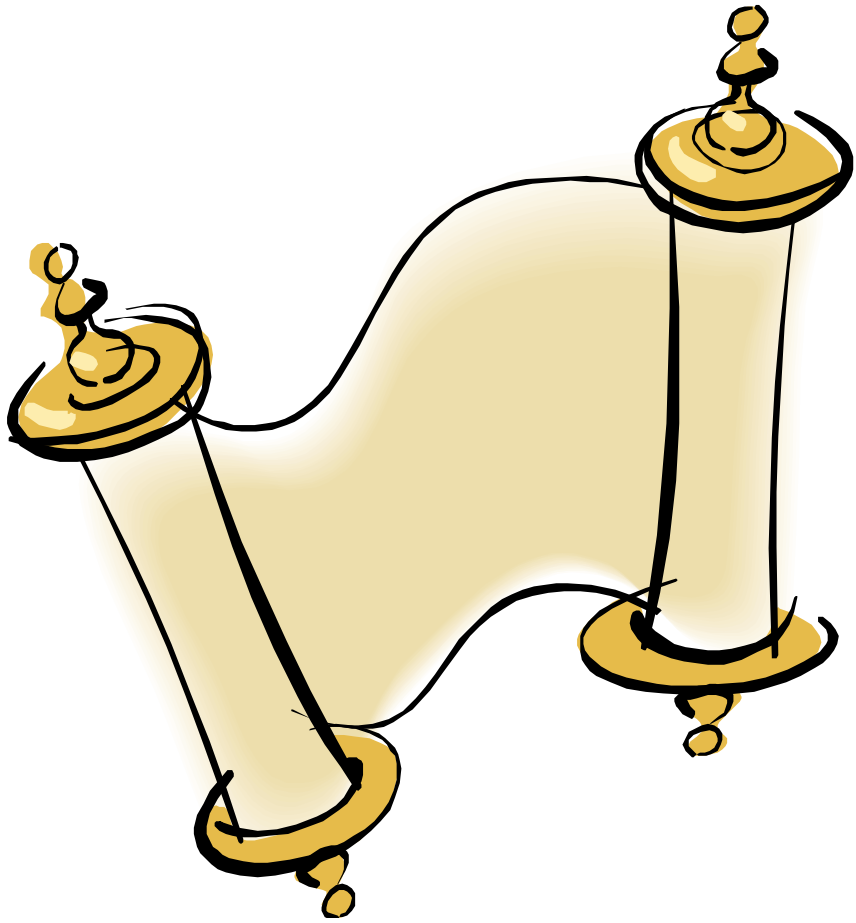
God and Israel



Frederick the Great (1712-86), a skeptic,
once asked his chaplain, "Can you give me
any good evidence that God exists?"

The chaplain answered, "Yes, the Jews!"





The Prophecies

Moses' Blessings & Curses
(about 1400 BC)

The Blessings – Leviticus 26

- “If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land.
- I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid...” (Lev 26:3-13)

The Curses – Leviticus 26

- But if you will not listen to me and carry out all these commands... then I will do this to you: I will bring upon you sudden terror, wasting diseases and fever that will destroy your sight and drain away your life. You will plant seed in vain, because your enemies will eat it. I will set my face against you so that you will be defeated by your enemies; those who hate you will rule over you, and you will flee even when no one is pursuing you.... If after all this you do not listen to me, I will punish you for your sins seven times over... (Lev 26:14-46)

The Promised Dispersion (The Diaspora)

- Just as it pleased the LORD to make you prosper and increase in number, so it will please him to ruin and destroy you. You will be uprooted from the land you are entering to possess.
- Then the LORD will scatter you among all the nations, from one end of the earth to the other.... Among the nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot... (Deut 28:63-68)



God's Promise to Keep His Covenant

- But if they confess their sins... I will remember my covenant with Jacob,... and I will remember the land. For the land will be deserted by them and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them.... Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not reject them or abhor them so as to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them.... But for their sake I will remember the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt... (Lev 26: 40-45)

God's Promise to Regather Them a 2nd Time

- In the Last Days, after the second diaspora:
- In that day the LORD will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left 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 sea. (Isaiah 11:11-15)
- For the Israelites shall live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol. Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days. (Hosea 3:4-5)

Israel Divided – 931 BC

- After three centuries as a league of 12 tribes, followed by a century as a united kingdom, the nation splits in two.
- Israel (Ephraim) the northern kingdom, rejects the rule of David's family and remodels its religion.
- Judah the southern kingdom continues with Davidic kings, Jerusalem temple and Levitical priests.



Rise of Assyria

- Meanwhile, Assyria, to the East, develops an aggressive empire which reaches the Mediterranean coast.
- Using great cruelty to terrorize their opponents, they overrun the nations in spite of coalitions against them.



Fall of Israel – 722 BC

- Samaria, the capital of the Northern Kingdom, is taken, and its survivors exiled.
- Since then, only a minority of Israelites have lived in the land.
- Surprisingly, the Southern Kingdom survives, though much reduced, when the Assyrians are unable to take Jerusalem.



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- 612 BC, the Babylonians take Nineveh, destroying the Assyrian Empire.
- Judah conquered in 606 BC.
- 587 BC Jerusalem and Solomon's Temple destroyed
- 537 Persians take over and send Jews back to Jerusalem. Few go.

Captivity in Babylon

Between the Testaments



- 332 Alexander the Great conquers Asia Minor in one year and takes territory all the way to India, dying at age 33
- The Persian Empire is taken along with Judah.
- Alexander treats Jews well because they showed him a prophecy about himself in Daniel.
- After his death, his three generals divide the kingdom

The Greek Empire

Antiochus Epiphanes

- One of these generals, Seleucus, founds a dynasty that eventually controls Judea.
- One of his descendants, Antiochus 4, considers himself a manifestation of Zeus, and tries to destroy Judaism.
- Miraculously, the Jews are able to stop Antiochus and win their freedom under the Maccabees.





- The Jews are able to keep their freedom for less than a century.
- Two of the Maccabean descendants fall to fighting over who will rule, and Rome intervenes.
- The Triumvir Pompey sides with one of them, takes Jerusalem, and the Jews become vassals of Rome and one of their provinces

The Romans Take Over

The Promised King Arrives and is Rejected

God took 'holy nation' status away from Israel for a time:

- Matthew 21:43 - Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.
- Matthew 23:37-39 - “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

A Believing People are being Called Out for the Coming Kingdom

- Abraham's blessing falls on the church:
 - “so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.” (Gal 3:14)
- The Kingdom is yet to come:
 - “Thy Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matt 4)
- But God is calling out his people for the coming Kingdom from the nations:
 - Jesus answered and said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” (John 3:3)

Israel Scattered the 2nd Time



- In 66 AD, the Jews revolt against Roman oppression; initially they are successful.
- But the Romans bring in more legions, take the outlying areas, and besiege Jerusalem.
- In August of 70 AD, the city is taken.

Destruction of the Jewish State

- Over one million Jews die in the war & siege.
- The rest are sold into slavery, glutting the slave market, as Moses predicted in Deut 28:68.
- The final resistance is put down at Masada in 73 AD.
- The Romans build an arch to celebrate their victory.



Expulsion Predicted

- Then the LORD will scatter you among all nations.... Among these nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. You will be in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life.
(Deuteronomy 28:64-66)

The Jews Will Ultimately be Grafted Back In

- Romans 10:19 - Again I ask: Did Israel not understand? First, Moses says, "I will make you envious by those who are not a nation; I will make you angry by a nation that has no understanding." {Deut. 32:21}
- Romans 11:25-26 - 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.



The Promise of Isaiah 11:11 To Restore the Jews Remained Moribund for 1900 Years

- John Darby – 1800-1892, established dispensationalism, rejecting the notion that God was done with the Jews and that the church was fulfilling all of God's promises to the Jews.
- Theodore Herzl – 1895, established modern Zionism
- 1895-1910 - Several wealthy Jews fund a small contingent settling in Palestine. But very few Jews were willing to settle in an Arab land.

Resurrection of Hebrew

- As settlers returned to Palestine, the question of language arose. What should they speak? Arabic? Yiddish?
- Eliezer ben Yehudah felt they would best be united by reviving ancient Hebrew.
- His dictionary was published in 1909, and he became the Noah Webster of Hebrew.

ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב/בּ	א
חית	זין	וּ	הָא	דָּלֶת	גִּמֵּל	בֵּית/בִּית	אֵלֶף
het	zayin	vav	he	daled	gimel	bet	'alef
ħ	z	v	h	d	g	b/v	'
[x~χ]	[z]	[v/w]	[h~ʔ]	[d]	[g]	[b/v]	[ʔ]
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
ע	ס	נ	מ	ל	כ/כּ	י	ט
עֵין	סִמְךָ	נוּן	מֶם	לָמֶד	כָּף/כַּף	יוֹד	טֵית
'ayin	samekh	nun	mem	lamed	kaf/khaf	yod	tet
ʾ	s	n	m	l	k/kh	y	t
[ʔ]	[s]	[n]	[m]	[l]	[k/x~χ]	[j]	[t]
70	60	50	40	30	20	10	9
			ש/שׁ	ר	ק	צ	פ/פּ
			ת			צָדִי/	פֶּא/פֶּה
			תו/תָּךְ	רֵישׁ	קוֹף	צָדִיק	
			taw	resh	qof	zadi	pe/fe
			t	r	k	z	p/f
			[t]	[ʁ~ʀ]	[k]	[ts]	[p/f]
			400	300	200	100	80
Final consonants							
	ץ	ף	ן	ם	ך	ךּ	ךּ
	צָדִי סוֹפִית	פֶּא סוֹפִית	נוּן סוֹפִית	מֶם סוֹפִית	כָּף סוֹפִית	כָּף סוֹפִית	כָּף סוֹפִית
	zadi sofit	pe sofit	nun sofit	mem sofit	khaf sofit	khaf sofit	kaf sofit
	final zadi	final pe	final nun	final mem	final khaf	final khaf	final kaf
Common orthography additions (mainly for foreign borrowings)							
וּ/וּו	תּ	צ׳	ר׳/רֵעִי	ח׳	ז׳	ד׳	ג׳
w	th	č	qh	kh	ž	dh	ǵ
[w]	[θ]	[tʃ]					

1939 God Sends Walter Clay Lowdermilk to Restore the "Land of Milk and Honey"

- Rhodes scholar "Walter Clay Lowdermilk. An American expert on land usage, he formulated and popularized the most successful techniques of soil reclamation and watershed management around the globe."
- "By 1939, however, when Lowdermilk arrived in the country, it was largely an environmental disaster. As he recounted in his 1944 book Palestine, Land of Promise, "when Jewish colonists first began their work in 1882 . . . the soils were eroded off the uplands to bedrock over fully one half the hills; streams across the coastal plain were choked with erosional debris from the hills to form pestilential marshes infested with dreaded malaria; the fair cities and elaborate works of ancient times were left in doleful ruins." "Arab invaders from the desert brought a primitive culture that destroyed agriculture and eventually plunged Palestine into its "age of darkness."

Excerpt From: George Gilder. "The Israel Test."



Ottoman Empire

- By the early 20th century, the Ottoman Empire was in bad shape, "the sick man of Europe."
- It fell apart at the end of World War 1, where it had allied with Germany.





Foreign Office,
London.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you the declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

This Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any

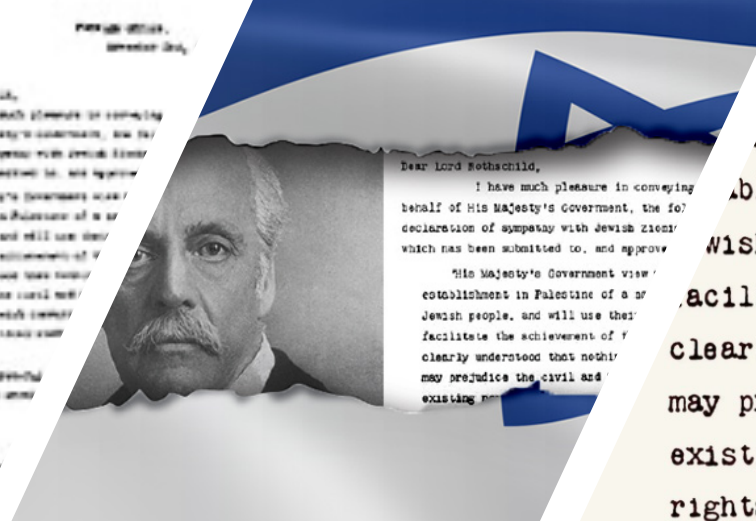


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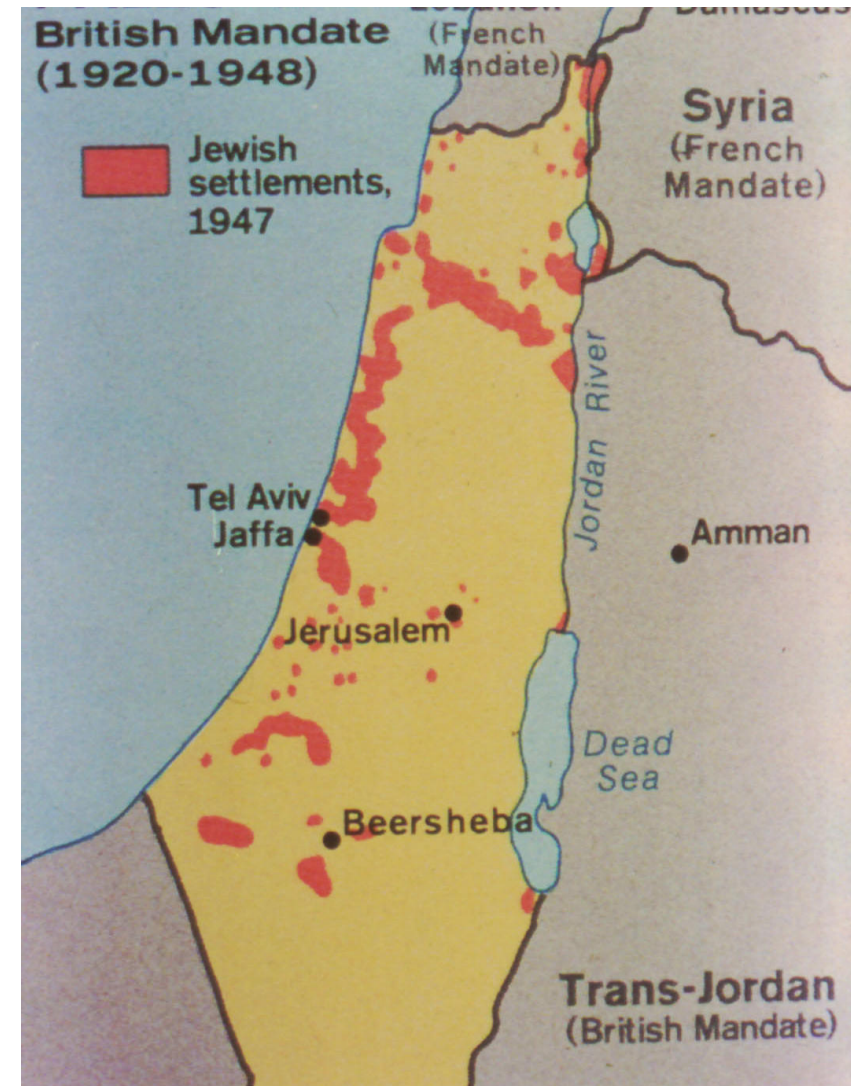
The Balfour Declaration

- Britain was given oversight of Palestine
- Britain was indebted to Chaim Weitzmann for his invention of Cordite, a substitute for gunpowder, which allowed Britain to survive the German blockade.
- Weitzmann asked that Britain use its mandate in Palestine to provide a Jewish homeland.
- As a result, in 1917 the British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour declared that the government's policy would be to favor the formation of a Jewish state in Palestine



The British Mandate

- From 1920 to 1948, Great Britain ruled Palestine under a mandate given it by the League of Nations.
- The map shows in red the extent of Jewish settlements in 1947, just before the mandate ended.
- Areas in yellow show the Arab settlement.





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The Nazi Holocaust

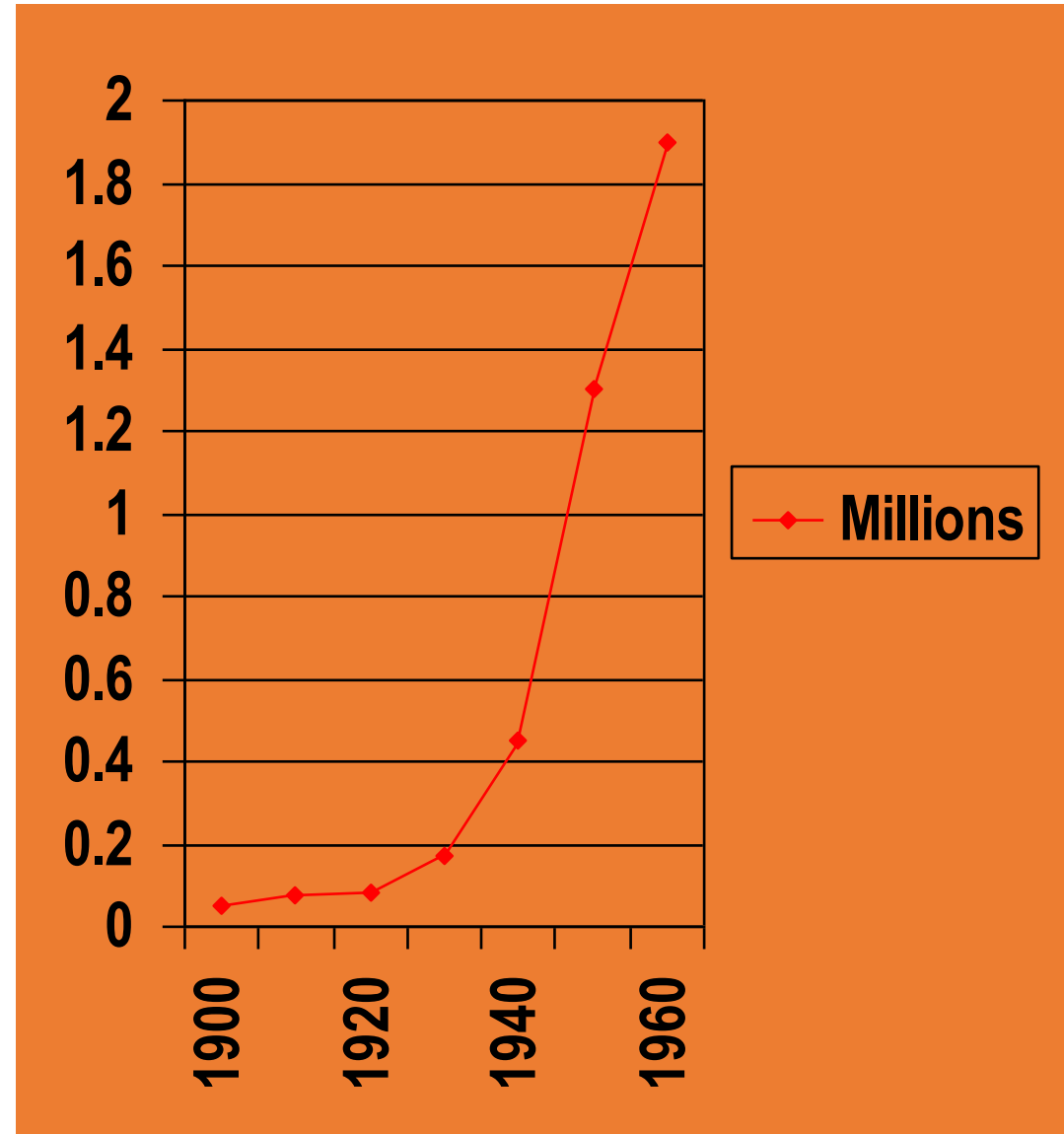
- Meanwhile in Germany, Adolf Hitler came to power with a strong anti-Semitic agenda.
- As the Nazis conquered Europe, they began an ethnic cleansing by killing Jews and some others.
- This began with firing squads, but soon progressed to gas chambers.

No Rest

- Among those nations you will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. There the LORD will give you an anxious mind, eyes weary with longing, and a despairing heart. You will live in constant suspense, filled with dread both night and day, never sure of your life. In the morning you will say, "If only it were evening!" and in the evening, "If only it were morning!" – because of the terror that will fill your hearts and the sights that your eyes will see. (Deuteronomy 28:65-67)

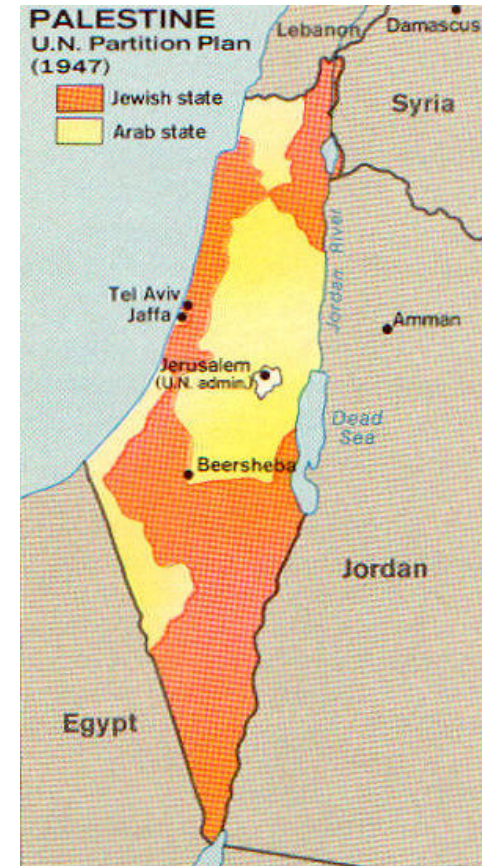
Flight to Palestine

- The holocaust led to a great migration to Palestine.
- Immigration is initially severely limited by Britain so as not to disturb Arab relationships
- But the tide of immigration reaches a flood after World War II



Palestine Partitioned

- With outright war developing between Arab and Jew, the British resign their mandate and call on the UN to draw up a partition.
- United Nations passes partition plan with 2/3 voting in favor.
- The Jews accept the partition, the Arabs don't.



Israel Reborn After 1,878 Years

- As the British withdraw, the Jews declare the formation of the State of Israel.
- For the first time since 70 AD, the Jews have a state of their own.
- Ezek 37:11-14 - Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"
- Dry bones live again!



Israel Wins The 1948 War

- Five Arab armies invade Israel on the day the British withdraw.
- Though none of the armies are world-class, they all have many weapons the Israelis do not.
- The Israelis fight back, often with primitive weapons such as Molotov cocktails.
- They are able to smuggle in some better weapons also.
- Yet their victory is viewed as almost miraculous even by many who do not believe in God.

Israel – 1948 to Present Day



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- Israel has fought multiple wars, all on Arab provocation, and has won each time and expanded.
- Zech 12:3 – “I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.”



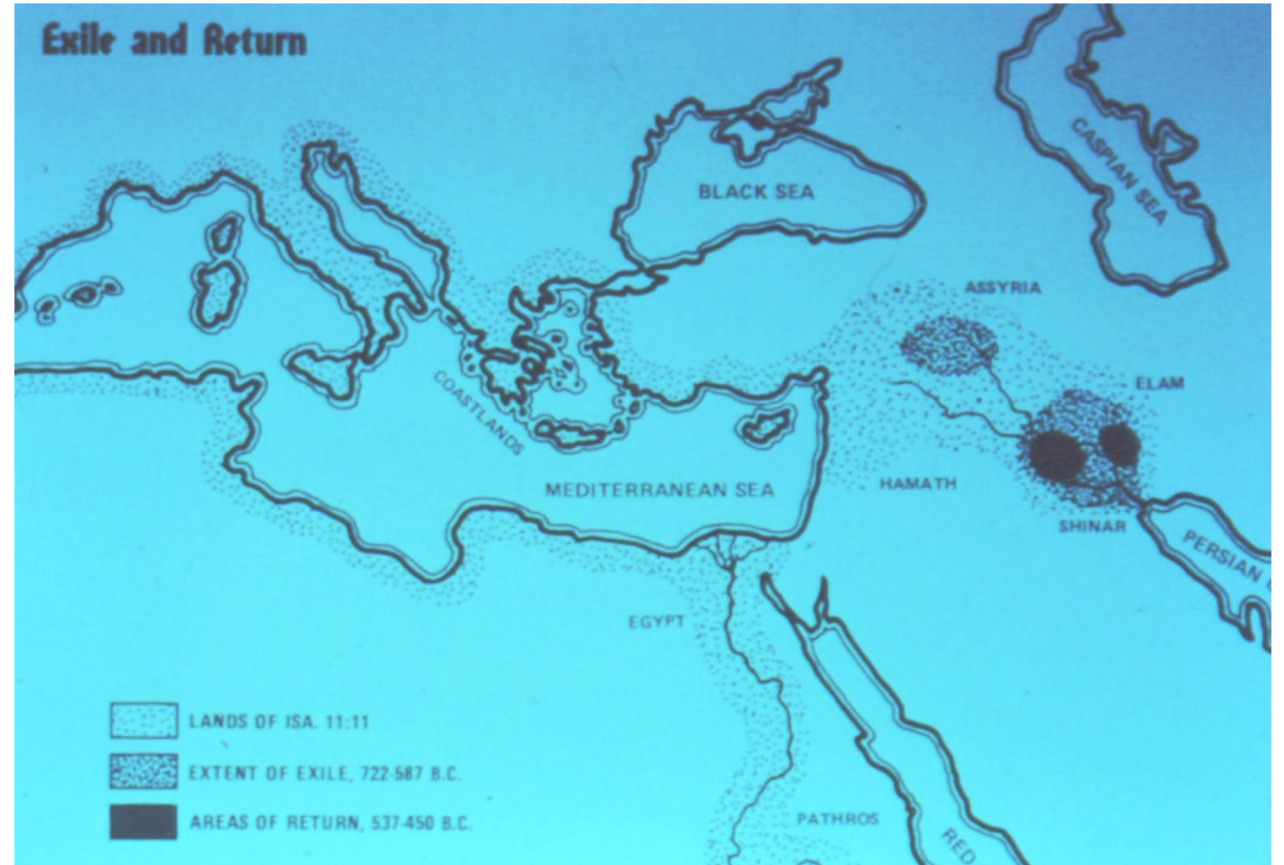
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Summary to Date

- Hosea 3:5 speaks of a return, and of Israel seeking the LORD their God and David their king. This seems to be in process.
- Isaiah 11 speaks of a second regathering, and this seems to be in progress.
- The Bible predicts continual problems for the Jews and their land until the Messiah returns.

Exile and Return

- The places named in Isaiah 11 correspond to:
 - Egypt
 - Iraq
 - Iran
 - Syria
- The “coastlands of the sea” correspond to:
 - North Africa
 - Europe
 - America?



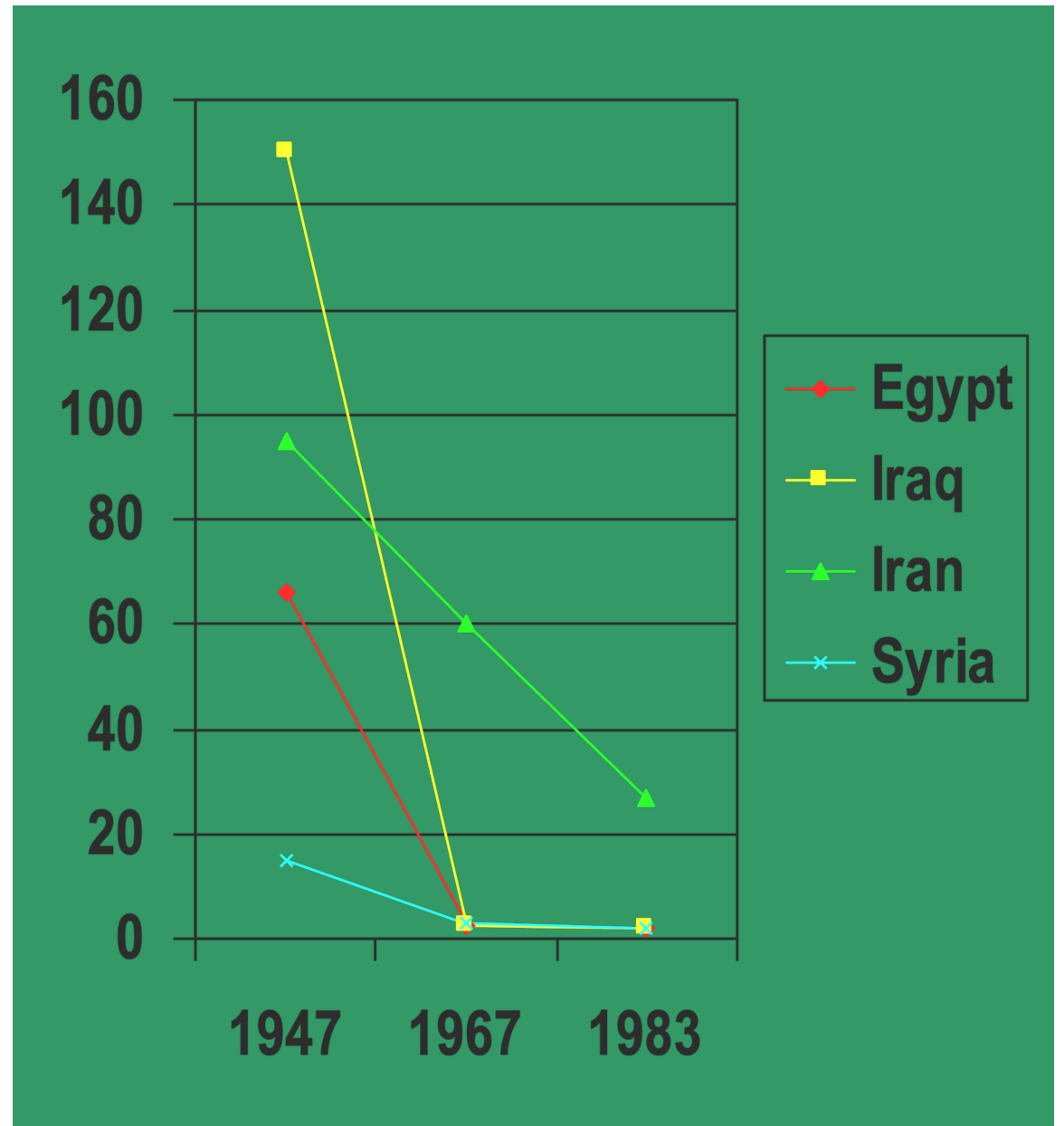
Isaiah 11 Fulfilled

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God has Restored the Jews to the Land

- The holocaust reduced the number of Jews in Europe. Six million died. Many survivors went to Israel.
- Anti-Jewish feeling in Arab countries caused most Jews to leave, many to Israel.
- God's prophecies regarding Israel have been fulfilled in detail.



What about
the church?

- Some prophecies about Israel have a dual fulfillment in Israel and the Church
- USA embraced the promises and called itself the “New Israel” and has been blessed for 244 years.
- To be continued...



To Be Continued...