

The Ezekiel File



The Biblical prediction of the rebirth of Israel



EZEKIEL'S VISION OF THE REBIRTH OF ISRAEL

CHAPTER 37

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,

2 And caused me to pass by them around about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry.

3 And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest.

4 Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.

5 Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

7 So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

8 And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them

above: but there was no breath in them.

9 Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13 And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,

14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord.

The resurrection of Israel from the graveyard of the nations marked the first time since the days of King Solomon that a united Israel sat at the table of the nations. Did the Hebrew prophets foretell the exact year it would happen; 2483 years before hand? To appreciate the significance of this; tell me, what will happen to America in the year 4476?

It was revealed to Ezekiel that the nation of Israel would be punished for its sin.

CHAPTER 4

Thou also, son of man, take thee a tile, and lay it before thee, and portray upon it the city, even Jerusalem:

2 And lay siege against it, and build a fort against it, and cast a mount against it; set the camp also against it, and set battering rams against it round about.

3 Moreover take thou unto thee an iron pan, and set it for a wall of iron between thee and the city: and set thy face against it, and it shall be besieged, and thou shalt lay siege against it. This shall be a sign to the house of Israel.

4 Lie thou also upon thy left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it: according to the number of days that thou shalt lie upon

it thou shalt bear their iniquity.

5 For I have laid upon thee the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days: so shalt thou bear the iniquity of the house of Israel.

6 And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days: I have appointed thee each day for a year.

7 Therefore thou shalt set thy face toward the siege of Jerusalem, and thine arm shall be uncovered, and thou shalt prophesy against it.

Ezekiel 4:1-7 Thou also, son of man ... 390 days

I have appointed thee + 40 days

each day for a year. 430 days

It was revealed to Ezekiel that the nation would be punished for 430 years.

The total period of punishment would be 430 years of which 70 years would be spent in Babylon.

And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. Jeremiah: 25:11

According to the Encyclopedia Judaica, copyright 1972 page 1389 the 70 years of captivity in Babylon ended in 536 B.C.E. Out of a total decreed punishment of 430 years, 70 years deducted for punishment in Babylon, leaves a total of 360 years of further punishment.

A close examination of Israel's history shows us that THEY DID NOT REPENT. Moses in the book of Leviticus warned them what would happen if they disobeyed God.

AND IF YOU WILL NOT YET FOR ALL THIS HARKEN UNTO ME, THEN I WILL PUNISH YOU SEVEN TIMES MORE FOR YOUR SINS. Leviticus 26:18 Also see 26:21, 23-24.

Israel did not repent, therefore its punishment would be multiplied seven times.

$$\begin{array}{r} 360 \text{ years} \\ \times 7 \\ \hline 2520 \text{ biblical years} \end{array}$$

Israel, because of disobedience faced 2520 biblical years of punishment of 360 days each.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2520 \text{ years} \\ \times 360 \text{ days} \\ \hline 907,200 \text{ days of punishment} \end{array}$$

THE BIBLICAL CALENDAR WAS BASED ON A 30 DAY MONTH

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the window of heaven was opened. Genesis 7:11

And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month upon the mountains of Ararat. Genesis 8: 3, 4

From the 17th day of the second month to the 17th day of the 7th month were exactly 150 days. The biblical calendar was predicated on a 30 day month. Five months were equal to 150 days or a 30 day month.

Converting this figure into our calendar of 365.25 days and dividing into 907,200 days we have a total of 2483 years.

God repeated himself four times in Leviticus Chapter 26 that the Jews would be punished SEVEN TIMES for their sins. Look closely at verse 33

"AND I WILL SCATTER YOU AMONG THE NATIONS, AND WILL DRAW OUT A SWORD AFTER YOU: AND YOUR LAND SHALL BE DESOLATE, AND YOUR CITIES WASTE."

End of Babylonian Captivity 536 B.C.E.

The duration of worldwide
captivity and loss of national
sovereignty

+2483 Calendar years

1947

+ 1 year (No year

"0" one year between

1 B.C.E. and 1 C.E.)

1948

**SOMETHING DRAMATIC WOULD HAPPEN TO ISRAEL IN THIS YEAR. THAT WOULD SHOW THAT GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES!!!
PLEASE REFER TO NEW YORK TIMES HEADLINE MAY 15, 1948.**

The New York Times

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

LATE CITY EDITION
Printed and
published today
except on
Sundays and
holidays.
Copyright 1949 by The New York Times Company.
Published by The New York Times Company, 210 West 43rd Street, New York 36, N. Y.
Telephone: MU 2-1211

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DL XCVII, No. 32,994

THURSDAY

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1949.

Three CENTS per copy

ZIONISTS PROCLAIM NEW STATE OF ISRAEL; TRUMAN RECOGNIZES IT AND HOPES FOR PEACE TEL AVIV IS BOMBED, EGYPT ORDERS INVASION

**PUSHES PLAN
CONSTRUCTION
MISSILE VESSELS**

**Asks House Committee
to Halt Work on
Ship, Destroyer Types**

65,000-TON CARRIER

**'Submarine Killers'
Strained in Plan for
\$300,000,000 Fund**

**C. P. TERRELL
Asks for
\$300,000,000 Fund**

**Heaviest Trading in 8 Years
Marks Stock Market Spurt**

**3,840,000 Shares Change Hands as Wave
of Bullish Enthusiasm Increases
Securities 1 to 7 Points**

The hectic days of the Minsk deal in volume on the New York Stock Exchange spread to 3,840,000 shares, the most in eight years since May 1949, as sentiment in the market turned to the "bullish" side in recent years produced an increase of 1 to 7 points in the market. Accompanied by a burst of bullish enthusiasm and widespread in almost a decade, the surge of buying orders on the Exchange that the reporting ticker tape lagged behind floor transactions by five minutes.

The closing of the 1947 high level at the approach of midday that confirmed the presence of a bull market to those who act by the charts, or averages. Early in the day, telegrams were sent by floor traders to the utmost. This condition existed for forty-five minutes in the final hour when the response to this ad-

AIR ATTACK OPENS U.S. MOVES QUICKLY

**Planes Cause Fires at Port—Defense Fliers
Go Into Action**

BORDER IS BREACHED: TRUCE AIM STRESSED

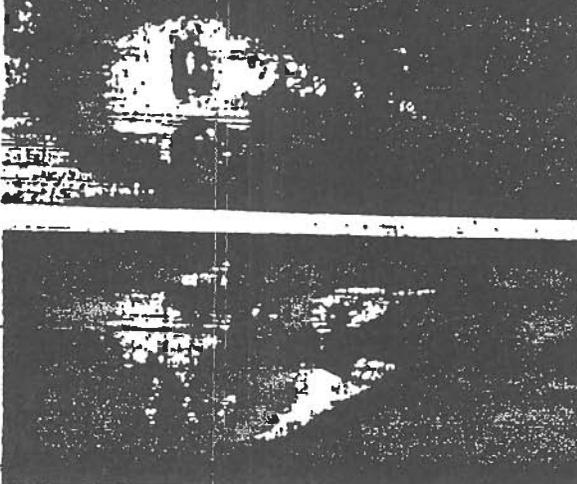
**Cairo Vanguard Takes Soviet Gesture to New
Colony—Trans-Jordan
Reports a Movement**

By the American Press
TEL AVIV, Palestine, Saturday, May 15.—Air raiders bombed this all-Jewish city at about dawn today.

First reports said there were "some casualties" near the power and light station.

[Cairo reported that Egyptian troops had been ordered to claim]

AT HELM OF THE JEWISH STATE



David Ben-Gurion
Prime Minister

THE JEWS RE

**Some Weep as
for Statehood
—White Paper**

HELP OF U. N.

**New Regime Hc.
Hand to Arabs—
Gesture Acclai**

Year of delectation
and Jewish state, Prop
By GUYE O'NEILL
TEL AVIV, Palestine,
May 15.—The Jewish
world's second strongest
force in the State of

In 536 B.C.E., after the fall of Babylon, Cyrus, king of Persia, who became the overlord of Judah, issued his famous declaration, which allowed those desiring to return to Zion to do so and to rebuild the Temple (see *Exile, Babylonian). The resettlement of the city and the rebuilding of the Temple were effected very gradually, as the surrounding nations were hostile to this activity. Only under Darius I in 515 B.C.E. did *Zerubbabel, the governor, and Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, succeed in completing the Second Temple. The city remained almost empty, however; its walls were breached and its gates were burned down. In 445 B.C.E. *Nehemiah son of Hacaliah, an important official at the court of King Artaxerxes, moved by reports of the miserable conditions in the Holy City, decided to leave the court and go to Jerusalem. He was appointed governor of Judah and was mainly responsible for the rebuilding of the city. He organized the inhabitants of Judah and took security precautions necessitated by the bitter opposition of its neighbors, especially the Samaritans. First he repaired the wall, following its original course in the period of the monarchy: "They that builded the wall and they that bore burdens laded themselves, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other held his weapon" (Neh. 4:11). He then took steps to populate the city by commanding the nobles and one tenth of the rural population of Judah to settle there. He decreed an annual tax of a third of a shekel for the maintenance of the Temple. He suppressed the Tyrian trading market set up outside the city on the Sabbath, erected a strong fortress (the *hirah*) north of the Temple, posted guards on the gates, and provided for the security of the city.

It was *Ezra the Scribe who was responsible for the restoration of the authority of the Mosaic Law and for making Jerusalem the undisputed religious center of Judaism. The rest of the Persian period is wrapped in obscurity. The many jar-handle inscriptions reading "Jerusalem" or "the city" show that it was an important administrative and fiscal center.

HELLENISTIC PERIOD. Jerusalem submitted peacefully, with the rest of Judah, to Alexander the Great (332 B.C.E.), who confirmed the privileges of the city. The visit of the king as reported by Josephus, however, seems legendary. After the death of Alexander (323 B.C.E.), the city suffered as a result of a series of wars for succession. *Ptolemy I, king of Egypt, seized it and deported a part of its population according to a Greek historian, the conquest was made possible because the Jews would not go out to fight on the Sabbath. With the stabilization of Ptolemaic rule (301 B.C.E.), however, the relationship between Judah and Egypt improved, and a period of prosperity ensued. Judah had broad autonomy in domestic affairs and Jerusalem continued to be an administrative center. At the head of the administration were the high priests, descendants of Joshua son of Jehozadak, and the Council of Elders, which bore the Greek name of *Gerousia*. The high priest was not only the religious head of Jerusalem and Judah but also its political and administrative leader. The *Gerousia*, despite its Greek name, was a direct continuation of the Council of Elders of the Persian times. It was composed not only of Jerusalemites, but also of heads of clans from provincial towns. The Temple was the center of the religious and social life of Jerusalem. Due to its presence, many priests, scribes, and other officials

court and the gentile noble families in the empire and thus came under the sway of the Hellenistic way of life.

The Seleucid conquest in 198 B.C.E. was welcomed by the Jews. They helped besiege the Egyptian garrison in the Citadel and were consequently compensated by Antiochus III. A new charter was granted confirming the right of the Jews to live by the "laws of their fathers." The population was exempted from taxes for three years, and the priests and scribes were exempted in perpetuity. In addition, the king forbade the bringing of unclean animals and even the skins thereof into the city. On the surface the situation in Jerusalem seemed to remain as it had been under the Ptolemies as far as its administration, the character of its institutions, and social conditions were concerned. In reality, however, the Hellenization of the upper strata of the society was intensified. The priests and the secular leaders came closer in their thinking and way of life to the corresponding classes among the non-Jews and the Hellenistic influence seeped down to the lower classes. The leaders of the pro-Hellenistic movement who wanted radical changes were the houses of Tobiah and Bilgah. The traditionalists were headed by the high priest, Onias III, but even in his family there was a rent: his brother, *Jason, leaned towards the Hellenizers. The struggle became more and more polarized due to the general political situation and the financial crisis that resulted from the defeat of the Seleucid empire by Rome. The king strove to regain his power by aggrandizement of the cities in accordance with the Hellenistic tradition of the polis.

The official in charge of the Temple, Simeon of the house of Bilgah, made an effort to limit the powers of the high priest *Onias in the administration of the Temple, as well as in the economic life of the city. When his attempt failed, he turned to the Syrian governor and asked for his intervention. He pointed out that sums of money far beyond that required for ritual sacrifices were known to be in the Temple, and should, by right, be given over to the king's government. Thereupon, the king sent Heliodorus, his chief minister, to investigate. Onias opposed this move vigorously, pointing out that the monies did not belong to the Temple but were sums deposited there for safekeeping, and Heliodorus failed in his mission. Although there is no reason to believe that the king intended to harm the Temple or to intervene in religious affairs, the episode left a sediment of mistrust toward his government. Simeon continued in his attempts. There were riots in the streets of Jerusalem and Onias was compelled to ask the help of the government to maintain order.

In 175 B.C.E., with the ascent to the throne of *Antiochus IV Epiphanes, significant changes began to take place. His reign was marked by most energetic steps to Hellenize the empire. Antiochus indicated interest in the affairs of Jerusalem, and Jason seized the opportunity to convince the king to put him in the place of his brother, Onias III, as the high priest. Jason promised the king a considerable increase in taxes, as well as a large tribute, in return for his permission to make changes in the governing of the city. The two major reforms made by Jason, with the full support of the king, were the building of a gymnasium in Jerusalem and the change of the Jewish city into a Hellenistic polis (one of the many in the empire) to be known as

ISRAEL'S THIRD CAPTIVITY AND RETURN TO THE LAND

EZEKIEL 4:4-5

40 DAYS

40 YEARS

390 DAYS

390 YEARS

430 YEARS OF CAPTIVITY DECREED FOR ISRAEL

606 B.C.E. 536 B.C.E.

70 YEARS

BALANCE OF 360 YEARS REMAIN

BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

?

ISRAEL'S SECOND CAPTIVITY

70 YEAR BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

606 B.C.E.

536 B.C.E.



BABYLON
CONQUERS
ISRAEL

DANIEL 1:1

CYRUS FREES THE
JEWS TO RETURN
TO ISRAEL

EZRA 1:1-3

ISRAEL'S THIRD CAPTIVITY AND REBIRTH OF ISRAEL

606 B.C.E. 536 B.C.E.

MAY 14
1948

FIRST PERIOD
70 YEAR
BABYLONIAN
CAPTIVITY

SECOND PERIOD
(TO BE MULTIPLIED BY 7)
360 YEARS X 7 = 2520 BIBLICAL YEARS
(2483 CALENDAR YEARS)

BABYLONIAN
CAPTIVITY

PARTIAL RETURN
IN UNBELIEF

FINAL RETURN
FROM WORLDWIDE
CAPTIVITY