

## Transcript – The Miracle of Israel In The Last Days

I want to talk this afternoon about the amazing miracle of the Nation of Israel. Because there is an expression that goes “Sometimes you can't see the forest for the trees.” That sometimes you're so close to something, you can't see what a miracle it is.

And like I was saying this morning, that for people that had eyes to see, the Bible talked about more than 2,000 years ago, that Yahweh would redeem the Nation of Israel. We know that Israel went into captivity by the Babylonians in 586 BC. We know that even about 140 years before that, around 721, 718 BC, the Northern Tribes of Israel, the House of Israel went into captivity. And some of the tribes actually escaped before that. They went to different areas around the world. Some of them are probably even in this room today.

But back in 1931, the Church of God 7th day ... probably one of the only unanimous things that the elders ever did, is that they sent Elder Dugger to Jerusalem to begin the end time work from Jerusalem. And the amazing part about it was, back in 1931, Israel still wasn't a nation yet. So, it's hard to think now we're 85 years past that. And like I say, whatever you focus on becomes most real to you. And now we're in an age where Israel has been there for almost 70 years. They're the fourth most powerful military in the world. They're a great producer of so many things.

So, it's hard for us to imagine, because none of us ... I don't think ... here are older than 85 years old; maybe there is somebody here. But that there was a world just a few years ago, a world that didn't have an Israel. That Israel for so long was more of a hope to the people that truly knew their Bible, because they knew about the end time. And of course, Christianity during that time, most of Christianity then and even today does not see any significance to the Land of Israel, or Israel being a nation again.

And matter of fact, it's amazing that when you look at this tiny little nation called Israel, that's about the size of the state of New Jersey in the United States, and there is more hatred against that little nation than anybody else on earth. And you say why? The Jewish people are very separated. They're not trying to overtake other lands. They stay separated no matter where they are. They help in any kind of disaster, as you saw here in the Philippines. Not that long ago you had the storm and they came here and they set up a field hospital.

Many of the Nobel Peace Prize winners are Jews, even though the tribe of Judah is only about 15, 16 million people, a tiny little tribe worldwide compared to the hundreds of millions of every other country on earth. And yet there seems to be a hatred for Israel like you can't imagine.

Now, it might be hard for you to understand it because everyone here loves Israel and most of the people in the Philippines love Israel. But if you go around the world, you'll see that that is not the case. But you would think in Christianity, you would think in Bible believing people that they would have a love for Israel and they really don't. The Baptists, the Methodists, the Catholics, you name it, you can go down the line from the top to the bottom. The vast majority of people today calling themselves Christian are totally anti-Israel. They have a total bias against Israel.

And it's a spiritual problem. And I've been at the Knesset before, sharing with the people there. I told them the problem is you're trying to solve a spiritual problem with the physical means and it's impossible. The problem

in Israel between the Jews and the Palestinians, it's not a physical problem. If it was a problem simply about land, you could solve it very easily.

Matter of fact, the Sinai Peninsula is much bigger than all of the Palestinian lands put together. It's at least two to three times the size of all the Palestinian lands, just the peninsula of Sinai. And recently, the President of Egypt offered the Palestinians that they would give them land in Sinai, double the land they have, and they would give them money, and they'd have their own land and help them build and give them everything.

Now you're living in the Gaza Strip, which per square foot and per capita is the most congested place on earth. They don't have clean water. They don't have proper sewer. People are living in streets, a lot of them are homeless. The unemployment rate is 60%. And yet they turn it down. *They turn it down. Why?* Because it's not a physical problem, it's a spiritual problem.

It's a spiritual problem because, like we talked about this morning, Jerusalem is the center of the earth; Jerusalem is where the Garden of Eden was; Jerusalem was where the Plan of Yahweh started; Jerusalem is where the Plan of Yahweh ends. Yahshua is the first and the last. He was there with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, and He'll be there with His remnant when He returns. And satan knows that. And satan is a counterfeiter, and satan is trying to destroy absolutely everything that Yahweh is doing. And Yahweh will not let him destroy it, but He will allow him to counterfeit.

And that's why in the end time, **Revelation 12:9** it says, *Satan has deceived the whole world.* It says to His people in Thessalonians, *because they loved not the truth, I send them strong delusion that they believe a lie.* And that's why we have to not just be seeking truth, we have to love truth. We have to love truth; we have to embrace truth.

So, I want to go over today some of the things to show you maybe and enlighten you a little more of the importance of Israel in these end times and show you the significance in the day we're living in. Because it all also fits in with prophecy. Matthew 24 and verse 32. Matthew 24 and verse 32. It says:

**Matthew 24:32-34** *But learn the parable of the fig tree when its branch becomes tender and it puts out leaves, you know that summer is near; so also you, when you see all these things, know it is near at the doors. Truly I say to you, In no way will this generation pass until all things have occurred.*

So here we see that Matthew 24 ... they call it the Olivet Prophecy. We see it in **Matthew 24**, we see it in **Luke 21**, we see it in **Mark 13**; the Synoptic Good News Messages, each one telling us a little different story. But they all basically tell us the same thing. It's telling us what's happening in the time we're living in now. That there will be false teachings; there will be a great falling away; there will be famines and pestilence and war. And then there will be all kinds of destruction coming; there will be earthquakes; there will be natural disasters.

So, Yahshua goes through the whole thing. And then at the end of this discourse, He gives them a sign so that the people that are living in that generation would know what to look for. He says, *Watch the fig tree ... Watch the fig tree.* Now why does He talk about the fig tree? You have to put your Hebraic mindset on. Because the fig tree isn't like other trees. The fig tree is very different. Where most trees you have winter come and the tree goes kind of dormant, and all the leaves come off. And then after winter, what happens? The leaves start

to come out. And then after the leaves are full, then you see a little piece of fruit. And then the fruit will come out and then it's green and then it turns color. It's a whole process.

But it's not like that with the fig tree. We just saw it right before I came here. We saw the first figs coming out. And you know what happens? You go from the winter where it's just sticks, to all of a sudden you see the leaf and the fig together. We have figs out already. I've seen the figs.

So, what Yahshua is saying is we have a lot of prophecies in the Bible. **Daniel 9** is a 70 weeks of year prophecy. And he said from the time that a ruler will give the decree to go back and restore the walls of Jerusalem, there will be 69 7's or 483 years. That's a long time. And we know that. We know that Artaxerxes gave the decree in 457 BC to go do this. We know exactly 483 years later brings us to 27 AD, the year Yahshua's ministry started. Amazing prophecy.

But this isn't a prophecy like that. This is not a prophecy for 100 years, 500 years, 1,000 years. He says it's going to happen quickly. It's going to happen in one generation. And when you look at just one prophecy in **Daniel 12, and verse 4**, *People will be going back and forth and knowledge will be increased*. To imagine that just a week ago I was thousands and thousands of miles on the other side of the world and I can get in a piece of metal and in a matter of 20, 30 hours with waiting time ... if it was a direct flight, maybe 14 hours ... I can be here in the Philippines on the other side of the world is just amazing. And you're way up there 30,000 feet in the sky going in a piece of metal. Who would have ever thought that 100 years ago, 200 years ago, 300 years ago?

*And knowledge will be increased*. Who would have thought the knowledge of computers and telephones and airplanes, all these things? It's amazing. We take it for granted because it's the normalcy bias. To us it's normal, we see it every day. And that's why I say we can't get to the point where these things that are amazing prophecies of Yahweh being fulfilled, we just think, oh there's no big deal about it because it's normal in our life because we see them every day.

So, Yahshua tells us though about the fig tree. And He's telling us, this is all going to happen in one generation ... it's going to happen in one generation. That this generation will not end until all these things happen.

And we talked about this morning, I'm not going to go to Psalm 102 right now, but we talked about **Psalm 102**. It starts out talking about the Holocaust. That that would be the beginning of the generation. That Judah is going to go through this great purifying before they come back into the Land. That 6 million Jews, a million and a half children, will be martyred, will be killed, suffer, burn their bodies, starving to death. One of the most horrific things we've ever seen is the Holocaust. But out of the Holocaust, what happens? Israel is a nation again, just like the prophecy says. Israel is a nation again.

Let's go to Jeremiah 24 because I want to show you Israel is indeed the fig tree. Jeremiah 24. It says:

**Jeremiah 24:1-3** *YAHWEH caused me to see, and behold, two baskets of figs set before the sanctuary of YAHWEH, after Nebuchad-nezzar king of Babylon had exiled Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, and the rulers of Judah, and the craftsmen, and the smiths from Jerusalem, and had brought them to Babylon. One basket had very good figs, like first ripe figs. And the other basket had very bad figs which could not be eaten*

*for their badness. And YAHWEH said to me, What do you see, Jeremiah? ... Yirmeyahu ... And I said, Figs. The good figs are very good, and the bad figs very bad, so that they cannot be eaten from their badness.*

**Jeremiah 24:4-7** *And the Word of YAHWEH came to me, saying, So says YAHWEH, the Elohim of Israel, Like these good figs, so I will acknowledge the exiles of Judah whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the Chaldeans for good. For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them again to this land. And I will build them and not tear down; and I will plant them, and not pluck up. And I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am YAHWEH. And they shall be My people, and I will be their Elohim. For they shall return to Me with their whole heart.*

And then it goes on to the bad figs, being the bad ones. And we see it in Israel today. I mean in Israel today, you have Jews there that are Zionists, that are there because they believe in these promises, that are fighting for their very survival, against a billion and a half Muslims that want to destroy them. They're trying the best they can. But then there's other Jews that are there, that are secular, homosexuals, right? It's very big in Israel, homosexuality. Do you know abortion in Israel is the highest per capita in the world? One out of every four Israeli babies are aborted, believe it or not.

So, there's a lot of bad things going on there, and that's what He said, there's going to be good figs and bad figs. So, we don't have to question Yahweh's Word because of this, it's prophesied. It's prophesied to happen. But what is exciting about it is, is that Yahweh foretold it thousands of years ago. And like I said, we are blessed that we are living today to see these things coming about with our eyes.

We are seeing the words of the Bible jump off the pages and come alive like we could have never imagined. Seeing the fulfillment of all these things ... not one prophecy, not two prophecy, but literally hundreds of prophecies for thousands of years that were only words in a book to look forward to are now reality in our time. I want to go to some of them to show you.

Let's go to Isaiah 35. Isaiah the 35<sup>th</sup> chapter. It says:

**Isaiah 35:1** *The wilderness and dry land shall rejoice for them; and the desert shall exult and bloom like the crocus.*

Drop down to verse 5. Well, I'll start in verse 4.

**Isaiah 35:4-7** *Say to those of a hasty heart, Be strong! Do not fear! Behold, your Elohim will come with vengeance; with the full dealing of Elohim, He will come (Y'shua\*) and save you. Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf opened. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. For waters shall break out in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. And the mirage shall become a pool, and the thirsty land will become springs of waters, in the home of jackals, in its lair, and the place for the reed and the rush.*

It's really interesting that it talks about water coming up in the desert and making the desert a garden again, like the Garden of Eden. Well, about 20 years ago down in southern Israel, in the desert, in the Negev, all of a sudden, Artesian wells that they didn't know were underneath the ground started coming up like volcanoes. And water gushing up in place to place just like it says here. And here it was a place that only 10 or 15 years

ago was a desert ... nobody lived there ... today are full communities. You could go down there, you can see the green, you could see the palm trees, you could see everything. And you see the Word of Yahweh coming about.

Because before people said it's only an analogy ... it's an analogy. **It's not just analogy, it's reality.** That we're seeing this, we're seeing the Word of Yahweh jump off the pages and the Word of Yahweh come alive like never before.

If we go to Ezekiel 36, Ezekiel 36:8 through 12. Ezekiel 36:8 through 12. Now this is talking about when Yahweh is going to send the people into captivity, and He's going to curse them. And then He said their land is also going to be cursed because of their sin. And starting in verse 8 of chapter 36.

**Ezekiel 36:8-12** *But you, O mountains of Israel, you shall put out your branches and your fruit, you shall bear for My people Israel. For they are drawing near to come. For behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. And I will multiply men on you, all the house of Israel, all of it. ... Okay, not just Judah, all the tribes ... And the cities will be inhabited, and the wastes shall be built. And I will multiply men on you, and beast, and they will increase and be fruitful. And I will make you dwell as you formerly were, and I will do better than at your beginnings. And you shall know that **I am YAHWEH.** Yea, I will cause men to walk on you, My people Israel; and they shall possess you, and you will be an inheritance to them and will not any more increase their bereavement.*

And then He goes on to say how the fruits of the trees are going to be blessed and they're going to have a bountifulness, right? The book of Joel talks about before the swarming locusts ate everything away and Israel became like a desert wilderness, but now I'm going to give you back everything that you lost. And your place is going to be like the Garden of Eden again.

Does everybody in here know who the writer is Mark Twain? Samuel Clemens, Mark Twain? Mark Twain is a very famous American writer from the late 1800s. One of the most famous writers probably in the States, at least for that time. And Mark Twain had the opportunity in the late 1800s to go to the Land of Israel. And what he writes is, "This is the Promised Land? This is a desert wilderness. There's nothing here. Nothing is growing. There's no trees. It's absolutely empty."

The Kibbutz movement in Israel started in 1910. Kibbutz Degania on the Sea of Galilee was the very first Kibbutz, some of you have been there with me. There's a picture there of Kibbutz Degania from 1910, and it's very interesting because when you look at the picture of the Sea of Galilee, what stands out more than anything is there was **one tree**. One tree. Why is it important? Because there were no other trees there. Like Mark Twain said, it was a barren wilderness.

You know in 1948 when Israel became a nation, it was one of the top places in the world from malaria. That's the reason why ... beside the Sea of Galilee they had another lake, the Hula Lake, a little bit north of there ... they drained the lake because of malaria. Australia, who is a great friend of Israel, they gave the eucalyptus trees to Israel to suck up a lot of water and dry it out, dry out the swamps. But just about the top place in the world for its size for malaria.

When people came, the early Kibbutzim, who started coming from 1900, 1910, they were all young children. They were between the age of 18 and 25. And they have testimonies of some of them. And one child came, and he's coming there and the people said to him, "Do you still have money in your pocket? Go back on the boat. You can get to Jaffa by afternoon. There's a boat leaving. Get out of here. There's nothing here. This place is desert. It's deserted." That's back in 1900. Israel becomes a nation in 1948, and here it is today in just less than 70 years, Israel is one of the most fertile places on earth.

You go there, they are the top in the world, or one of the top in the world in organic growing. They have kibbutzim, 250 all over the country. They have fruit trees, beautiful things that they grow. All of this in a short time. Israel is a nation, like I said, less than 70 years.

Look at Syria, Syria's been a nation for 4,000 years. Look at Syria today. Syria is a mess, it is horrific over there. Look at Egypt, Egypt is a nation longer than 4,000 years. Egypt is a mess. I've been to Egypt. You're riding on the road, you see garbage everywhere, you see all these places that are half built. I said, what's going on here? That's what happens. Nothing's built. Terrible.

Jordan. Jordan has a major problem, no water in Jordan. You can go through most of Jordan, probably 80% of it is barren as you drive through the land there. And the only place that isn't barren is what? Where the tribes were. Where Manasseh ... the land of Manasseh, the land of Gad, that's the only part. Manasseh and Gad and Reuven, those are the only parts that are not barren over there.

But this is what I'm saying. We're seeing where Israel ... And you want to know something? In 1948, when Israel first came into that land in modern times, there was something even with the soil that it wasn't growing. And from doing nothing, just by Israel becoming a nation, the growing season turned back. Miraculously, Yahweh started having things grow again over there.

Do you know Israel is one of the top producers in the world of flowers? They export more than 5 million flowers every day. The flowers that the Arabs buy in the Arab nations, that they buy from Holland, they're flowers that are grown in Israel. They don't know it. They think they're buying flowers from Holland; they're Israeli flowers. They would probably burn them if they knew they were coming from Israel.

And that's why I say we take for granted. Israelis take it for granted, because they're living in it. And we can't take it for granted, Israel being a nation again. It's not only prophecy being fulfilled, it's Yahweh fulfilling His everlasting covenant. It's Yahweh preparing that Land for who? For us. He's preparing it for when Messiah returns that we're going to come there. And what He's doing in Israel, bringing it again like it was in the Garden of Eden at the beginning, is what He's going to do all over the earth. So, He's giving us great hope with this to be able to do that.

Ezekiel 36, if we drop down the verse now 35. Maybe I'll start in ... I'll start in 33.

**Ezekiel 36:33-36** *So says Adonai YAHWEH: In the day I cleansed you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the wastes shall be built. And the desolated land will be cultivated, rather than being a ruin in the eyes of all passing by. And they will say, This land that was desolated has become like the garden of Eden. And the wasted and desolated and the razed cities are fortified and inhabited. And the nations left all*

*around you shall know that I, YAHWEH, built the razed places and planted that which was desolated. And I, YAHWEH have spoken it and will do it.*

This was written back, like I said, more than 2,500 years ago and we've seen it now today. We've seen it since Israel's become a nation. We've seen these prophecies come true. A matter of fact, there's more than 50 prophecies about Israel that **already** have come to pass. That already have come to pass since Israel has been a nation starting in 1948. So, what an exciting time we live in.

Isaiah 43, Isaiah 43 and verse 5. Isaiah 43 and verse 5. He says:

**Isaiah 43:5-6** *Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your seed from the east, and I will gather you from the west. I will say to the north, Give up! And to the south, Do not hold back! Bring My sons from afar, and bring My daughters from the ends of the earth;*

Now it's very interesting. After the Holocaust, Israel becomes a nation, right? There's only about maybe half a million Jews that are living there. Amazing story that we'll get into in a few minutes of how they fight that war. But where do most of the people come when Israel becomes a nation? Well number one, the day that Israel declares that they're a nation, the Arab world, 500 million Arabs at that time declare war on Israel. And not only do they declare war on Israel, they expel every Jew from those nations.

I personally know people that were expelled from Egypt, from Iraq, from Iran, Jews. So once Israel declares statehood somewhere around 250,000 or even more than that, 500-600,000 Jews are expelled from the Arab nations around them. Just with nothing, they go with the shirt on their back, they lost all their property, they lost everything.

And they came like it says here. They came to come back to Israel. Some of them that lost everything, they came from the East. And they came from Persia, Iran, they came from those areas, Iraq. Some of them came from America, and Europe, the Ashkenaz, they came back from the East. But what about the North and what about the South?

Amazingly enough in 1989, we all know the Iron Curtain came down. President Ronald Reagan in the 1980s had, not a physical war, but an arms race going on with Russia, with Mikhail Gorbachev, and basically broke the back of Russia. And in 1989, what we know as the former Soviet Union breaks apart. And when the former Soviet Union breaks apart, what happens? Remember, Israel's a tiny nation, only a few million people. From 1991 till about the year 2010, more than a million point two Russian Jews from Russia, Ukraine, all those areas from the North all come back to Israel. Amazing, amazing story how it happened, a lot of them coming.

From the South. Ethiopia has Ethiopian Jews that are there living in Ethiopia. And the country says, "We'll allow you to leave. We'll allow you to go back to the nation there." There were several thousand of them. They get to the airport and they say, "We're not letting you go." These people, they had such a heart for Israel, they had such a vision to look forward that they said, "We're not going back. We'll stay at this airport and die at this airport. We are not going back." And they lived at that airport **for more than a year** until a miracle happens: Israel comes with 35 airplanes and the largest airlift that we know on record, they take these people back home.

Like it says, they come from the North, they come from the South. And why is that touching to us? Because you're waiting for the same. **You're waiting for the same.** And in Yahweh's timing, He will take you home. What we have to do is we have to not only prepare, but we have to believe. We have to believe that it's going to happen. And if we believe it's going to happen, Yahweh will make it happen. And these people, they were convicted. They were convicted that there was no other way to go.

There was a boat called *The Exodus* that before Israel became a nation in the 40s, right at the end of World War II, they had a boat there and Jews were coming from Cyprus and these areas by boat over to Israel. And they found out and they stopped them. And this boat that had something ... it was a boat that should have had 200 or 300 people, had something like 800 people there with women and children. And they said, "You're not going." They found out they were Jews, they said, "You're not going over there." And they said, "We're not leaving this boat." And they said, "We're going on a hunger strike. And we would rather die on this boat than go back to where we came from."

These are people that never saw the Land. These are people that never even saw a picture of the Land. But the hope they had in their heart that the Word of Yahweh was true and there was something there that Yahweh had for them was enough to say, "We will die on this boat before we go back." And some of them did, some of them died on that boat. And finally, the British said, "Okay, we'll let you go." And that boat, that *Exodus*, went over there.

My partner that works with me with the Ambassador for Israel program, Dani Mor, he runs the biggest program in Israel, it's called, for Jewish people, Taglit. And they bring Jewish youth all over the world to Israel to help them connect with their heritage. And when he found out I'm doing that to the Ephraimites, it was a perfect marriage. He said, "Wow, I want to work with you. We have the same heart here."

Dani, back in the 1990s, replicated that *Exodus* boat. They got a boat, they filled it with people, and they brought all the Jewish youth on that boat to come over, just like those people did in 1945. And not only that, they got some of the original people that were on that boat that were old now that went with them, telling the stories every night what they went through. They got the Israeli Navy to make believe they were like British and stopped the boat just like they did, and saying, "Stop. This is the commander. Give up now." And they made it so real to them that it changed the life of those children. Many of them wound up making Aliyah, came to the Land after that.

And we have to have that same faith. We have to have that same encouragement. We have to never, ever give up because this is our promise. And you know what? In this world, Yahshua said, *We will have trouble ... we will have trouble.* You're going to have sickness, you're going to have money problems, even at times we're going to have death. But none of that will deter the plan that Yahweh is working in this end time.

Because whether some of you die and you're going to be buried here and wait for the resurrection, or some of you will get to the Promised Land now and be waiting at the Mount of Olives when Yahshua returns, we're all going to be there when He returns. And we can't let anything get in the way of that. We can't let anything sway our minds. We can't let anything take our hope.

And I'll tell you, I'm excited now. I've been doing this 20 years now; I'm just as excited now, if not more than the day I got there. And I thank Yahweh that I have the extra blessing of being there in Israel and seeing it with my eyes every day. And I've never, ever, ever stopped being amazed. When we lived on Kibbutz Ginosar, on the Sea of Galilee, every single Friday me and my wife would go there at sunset and thank Yahweh and say, "Wow, I can't believe that we have the blessing of every Shabbat when that sun is setting we're here on the Sea of Galilee, where Yahshua walked on that water." What a blessing that it is.

Every time we drive to Jerusalem, whether I'm going to a feast or I'm going to a meeting at the Knesset, I get choked up every time I'm driving there and I'm ascending up to Jerusalem because it is Yahweh's set apart city. And we have to keep that zeal.

There's people, believe it or not, that have come into this ministry because they say they love Jerusalem, they say they believe in what I'm doing, and some of them not only have left us, some of them wind up becoming Jews. Some of them wind up hating the Jews. I've had people that left us and all of a sudden, two months later, they're almost like white supremacists and they hate Jewish people. And I think, how could that happen? You were in Jerusalem; you saw with your eyes. How on earth can that happen? *He who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.* And I just thank Yahweh every day of my life that He's opened up my mind to this. That I understand what He's doing and I glorify Him for this great work that He's doing with Israel in the end time.

Because if not, what would our hope be? If our hope is only in this world how miserable we are, right? Let us eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow you die. But we have a greater hope. We have a greater hope in that Promised Land that Yahweh is redeeming, not just for this generation but for a thousand-year millennium and then eternity. That eternity, Jerusalem will be the center of the earth. We may be going out to other planets, other galaxies, other universes, but Jerusalem is always going to be the center of the earth. Jerusalem is always going to be the Garden of Eden.

Zechariah 1. Book of Zechariah. Starting in verse 12, it says:

**Zechariah 1:12** *And the Messenger of YAHWEH answered and said, O YAHWEH of Hosts, until when will You not have pity on Jerusalem, and on the cities of Judah, against which You have cursed these seventy years?*

**Comment:** It's very interesting because it talks about in Zechariah that in this time we're living in now when Judah comes back to the Land, he says that every man will be against his neighbor. And Arabs and Jews are neighbors, they're brothers, and that's the way it is. And this is very interesting because we're coming on the 70th Shavuot since Israel's been a nation, next year. And here it is. We're almost coming to this time where we can understand what we're saying, for 70 years they're going through this problem, why did you allow it? And listen to what Yahweh says.

**Zechariah 1:13-17** *YAHWEH answered the Messenger who was talking with me with good words of comfort. So the Messenger who was talking with me said, Cry out, saying, So says YAHWEH of Hosts: I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Mt. Zion, with a great jealousy. And with great anger I am angered at the haughty nations; in that I was but a little angry, and they gave help for evil. And YAHWEH says this: I have returned to Jerusalem with compassions; My house shall be built in it, says YAHWEH of Hosts, and a line shall be stretched over*

*Jerusalem. Cry out again, saying, So says YAHWEH of Hosts: My cities shall again overflow with goodness, and YAHWEH will yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem.*

So very, very clear Yahweh is saying, "Yes, I see what's going on, and I'm not happy about it. It's part of prophecy, Judah is going to have to go through a chastising." Because like we said, there's some bad things going on in that Land. So just like in Bible times, there will be a chastisement. But Yahweh is not going to give that Land up. And Yahweh is angry at the neighbors there, the Arab neighbors who are trying to take advantage of His chastisement to Judah by overcoming and overtaking that Land.

Zechariah 2 and verse 10. He says:

**Zechariah 2:10-12** *Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion. For, lo, I come; and I will dwell among you, says YAHWEH. And many nations will be joined to YAHWEH in that day, and they shall be My people. And I will dwell among you; and you shall know that YAHWEH of Hosts has sent Me to you. And YAHWEH shall possess Judah, His portion in the holy land, and He shall **again choose Jerusalem.***

So, it's very interesting because we know as Ephraim, the tribe of Ephraim, that we are the Bride of Messiah. We know that, Yahshua is the Bridegroom and we're the bride. But here it says the tribe of Judah is set apart for Yahweh. The tribe of Judah is set apart for Yahweh. *He will possess Judah, **His portion** ... Yahweh's portion ... in the Holy Land.*

Zechariah 12 and verse 2 ... Zechariah 12 and verse 2. He says:

**Zechariah 12:2-3** *Behold! I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling to all the people all around, and it shall also be against Judah in the siege against Jerusalem. And it shall be in that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the people; all who lift it will be cut in pieces. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it.*

Now again, what an amazing prophecy when you really think about this, right? We're living in a global world. You have major cities; you have New York, you have Paris, you have London, right? You have Beijing, you have Hong Kong. You have all of these major cities in the world. Is anybody fighting over any of these cities? No. And some of them are really important cities. Belgium just had a big terror attack there.

Jerusalem produces nothing. If you go there, you see it's a beautiful place religious-wise, but it produces nothing. It's stone. It doesn't produce olive oil; it doesn't produce petroleum. Why would Jerusalem be a stumbling stone to all nations? Right?

Remember the Gulf War here, back in the '90s, when Saddam Hussein went into Kuwait, and the whole world came against them. Why? Because you can't stop the flow of oil, it's too important to the global community. There is **nothing** in Jerusalem logically that we can think of that would make all the nations want to fight over it, except that Yahweh's Word says it.

And that's the amazing part of the prophecy, because Jerusalem is the only city, international city, worldwide, that every single leader of the world has an opinion on. Nobody has an opinion on New York. Nobody has an opinion on Paris. Nobody has an opinion on London. But everybody has an opinion on Jerusalem, because He says, *Jerusalem will be a stumbling stone to all nations.* But be careful who lifts it, because there's consequences to it.

And like I said, there's nothing there. There is nothing of value there to the world's mind that we can think of. To our mind, there's a lot of value, because Yahweh is dwelling there. To satan, he wants it because he wants to mimic what Yahweh has. So, there's a great spiritual battle there, but on a physical realm, you can't understand that if you're reading that and thinking about it, until you're living it and you see it. And that's the exciting part. Even though it's tough for the Jews living there, exactly what Scripture said has happened. You couldn't write it. If you were the best writer in the world, you couldn't write a script like this!

Because how on earth can Israel, a nation that doesn't attack other nations, that doesn't bother anybody, that only helps, how on earth when they get their nation again, would they ever go to war with anybody? It wouldn't make sense. Except when they get their nation back, there happens to be 5 million Palestinians there that hate them and want to kill them. Like I said, the greatest writer in the world couldn't write this. And that's the way it is. That's the way it is.

There's a story that they tell in Israel. That they say that this person, he dies and he's at the resurrection and he gets before Yahweh, and he says, "Yahweh, what's going on here? You're supposed to be not respecter of person. You're supposed to treat everybody equal. And yet your Word says the Jewish people are the chosen people and the Jewish people are the blessed people, and the Jewish people have the best of this. Why is that?" He said, "No, no, I'm not a respecter of person. Wait till you see the neighbors I give them. Then it'll equal out. Wait till you see the neighbors I give them."

And if it wasn't so true, it would actually be funny. But it is true. It is true. There's no other situation in the world like this, complicated like this. And nobody asked for it. The last thing the Jewish people wanted was five million Palestinians all over their new country. But Yahweh did it because its prophecy being fulfilled. And if it wasn't that way, Israel would build a wall, not to keep the Palestinians out, to keep themselves in. They are very, very content to be separated. All they want to do is work, have families; they're good people. But in the end time Yahweh has to have prophecy fulfilled.

And He even says in Jeremiah, *I will send fishers for them. I'll put hooks in their mouth if I have to.* In the end time, He's ready for World War III and the nations don't want it. And He says, "No, the time is now. I'll put a hook in your mouth if I have to do it. But you're going to go to war." And we're just about at that time. Jerusalem is a stumbling block to all nations, exactly like it says it here.

Drop down to verse 6.

**Zechariah 12:6** *In that day I will make the leaders of Judah like a hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire among cut grain. And they shall devour all the people all around, on the right and on the left hand. And Jerusalem will be inhabited again in her place, in Jerusalem.*

Jerusalem is in her place again. Jerusalem is a nation; the Nation of Israel is a nation again. The Sea of Galilee has boats out on it. And the Land of Israel is alive, it's living. Every week they're finding something new. They found recently, they just found wine from the time of King David. And they said, "We're going to start producing, not wine like you get today, the wine of the Bible, the real wine, from the very grapes that happened at that time." The olives they're reproducing, the grain they're reproducing. Not genetically modified

grain like you have, but the grain that they found from 3,000 years ago in Solomon's silos. And they're reproducing that there.

And you look at this scripture, right? He says, *the leaders of Judah will be like a hearth of fire*. When Israel was a nation, like Joseph said, they were only a nation out of this 6,000 years, about 800 years or so. That's the only time they're a nation. But all that time, they were not a strong nation. They had to make an alliance with the north or alliance with the south. Israel was never strong. Maybe in the days of David, they were somewhat strong, but not very, very strong.

But today, this nation that is not even 70 years old, that only has a few million people, they have the fourth most powerful military in the world ... In only 70 years, the fourth most powerful military in the world, which they never did when they were a nation before. It's against logic and reason to think ... that you would think it would take the 200 years just to get on their feet. Never mind with a few million people to be this Nation.

And yet the prophecy said it, and you're witnessing it, you're seeing it, you're living it. That their leaders are like a hearth of fire. Judah is stronger militarily than they've ever been, ever, even when they were a nation. And we're seeing it with our eyes, we're seeing these things come.

In 1948, and I know many people that are alive today, older Israelis, that I know, that I'm friends with, that were in the 1948 war. And Israel didn't want war. And a matter of fact, if you look at the partition plan ... because in 1948, when the United Nations voted to make a State of Israel, it wasn't only the State of Israel. It was they voted to divide the Land of Israel and make an Arab state, there was no such thing as a Palestinian in 1948. But they were going to make an Arab state and a Jewish state.

The Jews were only getting, something like not even half of the land. If you look at the partition, they only got this little piece here, and most of what they were getting was desert. All of the good lands: Samaria, Judea, was all given over to the Arabs. Now the Jews look at it practical and they say, "Well you know what, what do we have now? We have nothing. So even 40% is better than nothing. We'll take the deal." The Arabs that were getting the 60% and the better part of the land said, "No, we won't take it. We go to war."

Now here it is, Israel only has a few thousand soldiers; I think they had three tanks, hardly any guns. They were actually counting their bullets because they only had very minimal bullets. And they're fighting against **500 million Arabs**. The whole Arab world went to war against them. And against all odds, Israel won that war of independence ... against all odds.

The same with the '67 War. Here it is, remember, they're only a nation from 1948, not even 20 years went by, and already now all the Arabs that are double the size in 20 years, they're ready to attack Israel. So, if you've been 2,500 years in diaspora and you're only a nation for 19 years, you're thinking this could be it. And what they say is ... in Israel, they say "The last one to leave turn out the lights." And what that means is we're all going to die ... We're all going to die.

And there's stories where there were soldiers on the Southern Wall and they ran out of bullets, and that's what they said to each other. "The last one to leave turn out the lights." They knew they were gone. They started praying together. And as hundreds of Arabs were coming toward them, they looked up and they heard a

scream like they couldn't imagine. "Ah!" And there was cherubs there before them with flaming swords and the Arabs were running in the other direction. This is true. These stories are true that they hear.

Friend of mine, Gershon Salomon, who is the leader of the Temple Mount Faithful. They are an organization that's trying to rebuild the Temple. I've known him for many years. He's a Zionist. He was hurt in the '67 War, he walks around with a cane, he's a very old man. But he was on the top-five hit list of the Arabs.

And all of a sudden, he got shot and other people in his platoon got shot. And he went with one leg bleeding, dragging his leg, he went and carried all six of the people of his platoon to safety, and then he collapsed. He woke up and he looked and there was about ten Arabs around him all with their guns cocked. And again, he said he started praying. And as he prayed, he looked up and there were angels around him and those Arabs screamed and ran and their guns wouldn't shoot and they ran in the other direction.

You see story after story after story like this. When they were coming down from Sinai in the '67 War, all of a sudden ... they're coming through the Desert of Sinai, there's hundreds of tanks in a row ... and all of a sudden a tank appeared in the front that had an angel on it and it wasn't their tank. And the angel went in the other direction and all the tanks start following the angel. One Israeli tank did not follow the angel and went in the original way and the tank blew up.

So, we see that Yahweh has protected these people. In the Gaza War a few years ago, I wondered ... I talked to a friend of mine that was there in Gaza, and I said, "How is it that hardly any soldiers died?" They had houses that were booby trapped, they're doing all these things. He said, "Well, you're not going to believe it," he said, "but when we got into the city down there in Gaza," he said, "this woman popped out of nowhere. Nobody knew who she was. But she was dressed like a first century woman and she was speaking ancient Aramaic." And they said, "We couldn't understand everything. But she was telling us, "Don't go in that house its booby trapped. Go over here that's where they are."" And he said, "After we got everyone, she just disappeared."

They called her Mother Rachel, Mother Rachel. And there's stories after stories like this, that we see that Yahweh is alive, and He's real, and He's protected, not only in ancient times, but He's protecting the Nation of Israel today. He's been there for these people. How could the people of the world hate Israel when this is happening? How could they say these bad things about Jews? It doesn't make any sense when Yahweh has been for these people.

Now again, like I said, unfortunately Israel is doing a lot of bad things and they're removing Yahweh's blessing on them because of the abortion and because of the homosexuality. But from 1948 until today Yahweh has protected them in every war. He's protected them. Story after story after story, the Yom Kippur War, all the wars, He's protected them like you can't believe.

Isaiah 30. Isaiah 30 and verse 17. He says:

**Isaiah 30:17** *One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of one. You shall flee from the rebuke of five, until you are left like a pole on the top of the mountain, and like a sign on a hill.*

*1,000 will flee at the rebuke of one.* Do you know they were coming from Sinai and all of a sudden, the Israeli soldiers were coming down there and they see one Israeli soldier and they see about a thousand Egyptian

soldiers all walking single file. And they're amazed. They're saying "What on earth is going on here?" So of course, when they get these soldiers in, they tie them up first and then they start debriefing them.

And they said to the soldiers, "This don't make any sense. There's one Israeli soldier, there's a thousand of you. Why didn't you just hit him over the head and take his gun?" And they said, "Oh, we weren't afraid of him, and we certainly weren't afraid of his gun. But when all those angels were around him, we were not going to touch him." True story ... true story fulfilling this scripture here. *A thousand will flee at the rebuke of one.*

Genesis 13, verse 14. Genesis 13, verse 14.

**Genesis 13:14-18** *And after Lot had separated from him, YAHWEH said to Abram, Now lift up your eyes and look on the place where you are, look northward and southward and eastward and westward. **For all the land which you see I will give to you, and your seed always.** And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can count the dust of the earth, then your seed also will be counted. Rise up! Walk through the land, in its length and in its breadth, for I will give it to you. Then Abram moved his tent and came and lived among the oaks of Mamre, which were in Hebron; and he built an altar there to YAHWEH.*

And that's why every year when the brethren come there, that's what we do. We do a pilgrimage. We walk from the south to the north. A lot of it we do it in buses, we don't walk the whole thing, but we walk a lot when we're out, to the east and to the west.

And we were there several years ago. There's a place called Gush Etzion. It's the very first settlement that was started there after 1967. And it's an amazing story because from 1910 when the Kibbutz Movement started, Gush Etzion was built up three times and three times it was attacked by Arabs. The last time was in the '48 Independence War, where they killed all of the parents there. And right before Gush Etzion fell, they knew that there was trouble. And they got all of those children and they got the children out of there. And every last parent died for that dream of Zionism. Every last parent died so that those children would live in a Land of Israel in a free land.

And in 1967 when they said, "You know what?" After they won the West Bank and they won the war unbelievably in six days, they said, "We're going to start settlements now because all of this land is our Biblical Land." And they said, "The first one we are going to start is Gush Etzion. That is where we're going to start because this is ... We're going to prove that the Arabs are not going to beat us." And they started that Kibbutz with the children of the slain parents. And they were numbered, they were all numbered. And it's amazing how the story goes there.

But those children, and we met some of them, that their parents died for them to be there. And we talked to one man who was a doctor from New York, very educated, very rich. And somebody asked him, he said, "Why on earth would you give up millions of dollars in New York City to come *here*?" And he pointed over to Hebron. And he said, "You see that place? That's where Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are buried, my forefathers." And he said, "I will die here on this mountain if I have to, because I believe in these promises of the Bible."

We need that same inspiration to us. This is what made Judah get their homeland, that they are willing to die for it; they're willing to sacrifice everything for it. And every day they live there, they have to fight under these circumstances for the homeland.

When Yahweh sent them into the Promised Land, when Joshua went in, they were 40 years wandering in the desert. And Yahweh didn't say, like the Wild West in America, "Go in and put your stake and take what's yours." He said, "You're going around this wilderness long enough. It's time for you to go into the Promised Land. But I have one thing to tell you. There's going to be Amorites and Perizzites and Jebusites and Hittites. You are going to have to fight for that Land. Because I want to see how much it means to you."

How much are we willing to fight for that Land? And I'm not talking about arms; I'm not talking about physically war. I'm talking about how much are we willing to sacrifice for that homeland? Because the homeland I'm reading, Judah is only one of 12 tribes. That is our homeland as well as it's their homeland. And the same that Yahweh brought Judah back should encourage us that we're on our way.

Nobody would have ever thought that after 2,500 years Israel would be a nation again. Where is it? Where are the Hittites? Where are the Amorites? Where are the Jebusites? They're in history books. But Yahweh took a nation that was dead, He took a nation that didn't exist anymore and He resurrected it because that's what His promise was. And He made this promise 4,000 years ago and that promise is alive today.

For Judah, it's alive in the Land, for us it's burning in our hearts, and every day we look toward Jerusalem and we wait for the day that Yahweh is going to bring us home. And as we see that Yahweh is fulfilling His Word, it should encourage us that our time is coming. Our time is coming very, very shortly.

Jeremiah 31:1. Jeremiah 31 and verse 1. Yahweh says:

**Jeremiah 31:1** *At that time says Yahweh, I will be the Elohim of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.*

*I will be the Elohim of all the families of Israel ... So, it's not just one tribe, it's all the tribes. Jeremiah 33 and verse 7. Jeremiah 33 and verse 7. Jeremiah 33 and verse 7.*

**Jeremiah 33:7** *And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and I will build them, as at the first.*

I will cause the captivity of Judah and Israel, both of them, 12 tribes, 12 brothers that will be living in the Land, living side-by-side, living together. Micah 4, verse 1 and 2. Micah 4 and verse 1 and 2.

**Micah 4:1-2** *But it shall be in the end of the days, the mountain of the house of YAHWEH will be established on the top of the mountains; and it shall be lifted up from the hills; and peoples will flow onto it. And many nations will come and say, Come, and let us go to the mountain of YAHWEH ... Mount Zion ... and to the house of the Elohim of Jacob. And He will teach us from His ways, and we will walk in His paths. For the Torah will go forth out of Mount Zion, and the Word of YAHWEH from Jerusalem.*

**Micah 4: 3-4** *And He shall judge between many peoples, and will decide for strong nations afar. And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift a sword against nation, nor shall they learn war anymore. But they shall each one sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and there shall be no more trembling. For the mouth of YAHWEH of Hosts has spoken it.*

This is our great hope. This is what we're looking for. Isaiah 62 ... Isaiah 62.

**Isaiah 62:1-3** *For Zion's sake, I will not be silent; for Jerusalem's sake, I will not rest; until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and Y'shua\* as a burning torch. And nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. And you shall be called by a new name which the mouth of YAHWEH shall name. You also shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of YAHWEH, and a royal head dress in the hand of your Elohim.*

**Isaiah 62:4-7** *No longer shall be called Azubah; nor shall your land any longer be called Shemamah. But you shall be called, Hephzibah; and your land, Beulah. For YAHWEH delights in you, and your land is married. For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall your sons marry you. And as a bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so your Elohim shall rejoice over you. I have set watchmen on your walls, O Yerushalayim. All the day and all the night they shall not always be silent; you who remember YAHWEH, **keep not silent. And give Him no rest to Him** until He sets up and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*

**Comment:** Are you fulfilling this? Are you're praying day and night and reminding Yahweh and nagging Him? Please bring us home! Because like in **Daniel 9** Yahweh is not going to bring us until we want it, until we want it with all our heart, our mind, our soul and our strength. And that's what He says in the end time, in the days we're living in, when my people cry out to Me, and we repent of our sins and we beg Him to bring us back, He says then He will remember the covenant with Abraham and the covenant with Isaac and the covenant with Jacob, and He will remember the Land. He will remember the Land.

**Isaiah 62:8-10** *YAHWEH has sworn by His right hand, and by the might of His arm: Surely I will no longer give your grain as food to your enemies; and the sons of a stranger shall not drink your new wine for which you have labored. But those who have gathered it shall eat it, and praise YAHWEH. And they who have collected it shall drink it in My holy courts. Pass! Pass through the gates; prepare the way of the people! Raise up! Raise up the highway; clear it from the stones; lift up a banner ... Right? This is messianic ... over the people.*

**Isaiah 62:11-12** *Behold, YAHWEH has made it heard to the ends of the earth; Tell the daughter of Zion, **Behold! Y'shua\* comes!** Behold! His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. And they shall call them, The Holy People, the Redeemed of YAHWEH. And to you it shall be called, Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.*

Psalm 122. We'll end here shortly. Psalm 122 ... Psalm 122.

**Psalm 122:1-5** *A Song of Ascents; of David. I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of YAHWEH. Our feet shall stand within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built like a city that is joined to itself. There the tribes go up, the tribes of Yah; to the testimony of Israel; to give thanks to the name of YAHWEH. For the thrones of judgment were established there, the thrones of the house of David.*

**Psalm 122:6-9** *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; those who love you shall prosper. Peace be within your walls; prosperity in your towers. Because of my brothers and my companions, I will now say, Peace be upon you. Because of the house of YAHWEH, our Elohim, I will seek your good.*

Yahweh will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. Are we blessing Jerusalem? Are we praying for Jerusalem? Are we praying for the redemption?

Psalm 37:3 and 4 ... Psalm 37:3 and 4. He says:

**Psalm 37:3-4** *Trust in YAHWEH and do good; live in the land and feed on faithfulness. And delight yourself in YAHWEH, and He may give you your heart's desire.*

*Trust in Yahweh and be good and live in the land and feed on faithfulness.* Yahweh promises us if we're faithful, we'll be in that Land. We will be there; we will be part of this restoration that He's doing.

Last scripture is Deuteronomy 11 ... Deuteronomy 11, starting in verse 10. Deuteronomy 11, starting in verse 10.

**Deuteronomy 11:10-12** *For the land to which you are going, to possess it, is not like the land of Egypt, from where you came, where you sowed your seed and watered it with your foot, as a garden of herbs. But the land which you are entering to possess it is a land of hills and valleys, drinking water from the rain of heavens; a land which YAHWEH your Elohim cares for; for the eyes of YAHWEH your Elohim are always on it from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.*

Equinox to equinox. It's about the calendar. That it is the Land of Israel that Yahweh is watching from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. That this tiny little spot, in what they call Eurasia, going toward from Europe to the Middle East to Asia, that Yahweh has set apart for His people. That He has set apart a Land that has hills and valleys, that is practical and functional, that has all the harvest fruits, to bless His people. And all Yahweh wants us to do is be obedient and get these blessings.

And here it is, we've gone through thousands of years of history. We've gone through disobedience of our forefathers. We've gone through terrific and horrific diaspora. But now we're living in the time of redemption. Like I say, there's a time for everything. There's a time for peace, there's a time for war. There's a time to plant, and there's a time to take up. And here we're at the time of redemption. There's a time for captivity, there's a time for redemption.

We're at the time where Yahweh has already started. Where like I said today, we are reading prophecies that you're not only hearing with your ears, you are seeing with your eyes. You're seeing the amazing things that Yahweh is doing in the Land of Israel in these last days. And we're part of it. We're part of His remnant congregation, we're part of what He's doing, and He's waiting there to receive our blessing.

So, may Yahweh bless each and every one of you. It's wonderful being here in the Philippines with you. Like I said, I love the Filipino brethren, I love your spirit, I love your heart. I thank you for your dedication and I thank you for your support. And I look forward to the day that we won't have to say next year in Jerusalem, because every one of us will be there. Yahweh bless. Shabbat Shalom.