

BOOKLET N° 8 BIBLICAL TRUTH

ISRAËL

KEY EVENTS OF THE PAST AND FUTURE...

Incontestable proof of the end of time and the sign that the Messiah is near.

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ALREADY THIS LATE !

Today the eyes of ALL NATIONS are continually turning towards Israel and the Middle-East, since the massive return of the Israelite dispersed around the globe back to the Promise Land.

Why the sequence of this events in our XXth century ?

Are we soon to reach the time fixed by God to bring an end to a world that has rejected him, and the beginning of a new world ?

Without any doubt, for the proof amassed and the prophecies fulfilled collaborate this.

I have had the privilege to visit Israel about thirty times over the years, and have with some friends made research amongst the military, political and religious authority of the country.

I have been closely watching all the events since the war of independence of 1948 and studied Biblical prophetic texts concerning the people of Israel.

While editing this booklet i was attentive to the event taking place in Lebanon the battle between Palestinians, intervention of Syrians, death of Americans, French and Israeli soldiers, during the explosion of their

headquarters the mobilization of reservist in Israel and Syria, the arrival of 30 American warships amongst of which 3 aircraft carrier facing Beirut...

I have seen fit to write about this study on Israel so as to retrace the history of this people from it's origin to demonstrate BY WORD OF GOD THE BIBLE WHY the existence of the Jewish people and the << Promised Land >>.

It is no coincidence, but a deliberate purpose a plan of God for humanity, that each of us should be aware of.

What happens on earth has consequences on our life beyond the terrestrial and we need to understand by the Bible.

Why indeed the return of Israel to it's country and the wars between Israel and the surrounding countries ?

For centuries, the Jewish prophets, the Christ and the apostles had announced the accomplishment.

We are living in dramatically extraordinary times, for an unbelieving world, but full of hope for the authentic christians.

The very presence of the Russian's and American's with their advisers, their marine, their nuclear weapons in the most explosive region of the globe is the prelude of a confrontation on a worldwide level.

The atomic firelight is about to ignite soon. It is not a question of being fatalist, on the contrary, but lucid by examining at the same time biblical texts and the events in the world.

Everything is in place it seem for a massive destruction of men and the situation is deteriorating day to day. The balance of terror with an atomic chemical and biological armament may at anytime be broken, and God's judgement to bear on an ungodly world.

As christians, we should not be ignorant facing what is happening in Israel and for Israel's sake.

Of the Israeli people we have received the Bible, the Word of God and the knowledge of salvation, offered to all who believe in Jesus the Messiah.

Israel is God's chosen people, but they did not follow the way traced out by God for them.

Nevertheless, the nations by trying to annihilate her touches << the apple of God's eyes >> (Zechariah 5: 8-9) and attract the << anger >> of God.

ALREADY THIS LATE !

That was my reflection after the interview at the rabbinical college of Jerusalem with a rabbi who, the night before our meeting, had seen my colleague and myself in a vision. In which he was telling us that we are entered into the Messianic times and he was convinced that Elijah and the Messiah are already discreetly present in Israel, awaiting the moment of the accomplishment of the prophecies.

There is actually amongst the people of Israel many pretendent Messiah. I had a conversation with one of these false messiah at Jerusalem, for almost an hour.

With him trying to convince me of his authenticity.

Yet it seem that God is late according to the world's timing.

All that is happening in Israel and around Israel composed a serious warning to remind us that JESUS THE MESSIAH will return very soon, firstly to take away his disciples, before the great and dreadful catastrophe and to establish with his disciples and the chosen ones of Israel, his reign of peace.

Each time that serious events took place in the Middle-East, i get phone calls, most especially when Israel is engaged in a conflict, and each time am asked the same questions:

- << What do you think of the events ? >>
- << Is it the end ? >>

- << Is there going to be a world war ? >>

I hope that this biblical booklet by it's sober presentation will respond to the very important questions asked by those who felt concerned by the events of our times, it is indispensable to go back to the time of Abraham and retrace the journey of Israel up to our time.

ISRAËL AND THE CHOICE OF GOD

The history of the people of Israel cannot be compared to that of other people.

It continues over 4,000 years now without interruption. Half of which took place outside their national territory. They are the most extraordinary people, because of their destiny. It is the key which allows to understand the sense of past and future events.

It is neither race or religion the origin of the mystery that makes this people unique. But THE CHOICE OF GOD that determine this election as is asserted by this biblical texts:

<< The LORD your God has CHOSEN you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth. >> Deuteronomy 7: 6 ; 14:2.

<< The LORD has CHOSEN ISRAEL to be his treasured possession. >> Psalm 135:4.

<< The LORD once again will CHOOSE Israel. >> Isaiah 14:1.

<< Israel whom I have CHOSEN >> Isaiah 44:2 .

<< You only have I CHOSEN of all the families of the earth. >> Amos 3: 2.

<< The God of the people of Israel CHOSE our fathers . >> Acts 13: 17.

<< A people who live apart and do not consider themselves one of the nations. >> Numbers 23: 9.

Because of this choice, the search for the biblical revelation is essential.

God is sovereign. His choice always has a reason, and a purpose, and a sure outcome.

The Bible is the light that guides the fascinating journey of the people of Israel through the events of the past and the present. It permit us to situate the time that we now are and what awaits us tomorrow.

To understand the history of Israel, we must go back in time to its origin.

On the roads of the East

My friends and i journey by car, from Paris up to India. We followed the road that went from the north of Syria towards Iraq, following the Euphrates river that fertilise the lands it crosses. We stopped after Baghdad, at the ruin of Babylon, then of that of Ur. There we were controlled by armed Iraqi soldiers,

they accompanied and guided us amongst the remains of palaces and tombs of ancient kings, we rode to the top of the Ziggurat, by one the stone stairways. A kind of a three floor pyramid, which once housed a temple decorated with beautiful blue enamelled bricks.

This was the vestige, that was the center of the powerful Sumerian dynasty, that Abraham at the age of 75 years towards the north left his family at Ur following the meandering Euphrates.

This extraordinary man, whose faith in God is exalted in the Bible (Hebrews 11) is at the basis of the mystery of Israel.

<< You are the LORD God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham. You found his heart faithful to you, and made a covenant with him. >> Nehemiah 9: 7-8.

He had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold. (Genesis 13: 2)

He was accompanied by his father Terah, his nephew Lot, by Sarah his wife, his servants and their livestock.

On the East, from Iraq up to Pakistan, passing by Iran and Afghanistan, we came across endless caravans of oxen, goats, sheeps, and camel

loaded with paraphernalia. The whole tribe, men, women and children barefooted, as they move along to the slow pace of the livestock.

Seeing them, we could imagine the steps of Abraham during his long ride of 1000kms, going step by step, pitching tents on the edge of the tracks, as still do some Eastern tribes.

ISRAËL AND THE PROMISE OF GOD

Abraham received this order of God :

<< Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. >> Genesis 12 : 1.

And it was the adventure towards the country Israel.

<< It is by faith that < Abraham, when called, obeyed and left for a place he is to receive as an HERITAGE, and that he set-out for without knowing where he was going. It is by faith that he made his home in the PROMISED LAND. >> Hebrews 11:8-9.

After the death of his father, he left Haran with this promise of God :

<< I will make you **into a great nation**, and will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all the peoples of the earth **will be blessed through you**. Genesis 12: 2-3.

When he arrived in the land of Israel formerly called Canaan, God appeared to him and confirmed his promise by this words :

<< To your offspring I will give this land >> Genesis 12: 7.

He continued his walk towards the south, with all his troupe. Because of a great famine, they went down to Egypt where he returned from even more wealthier, with more livestock of sheeps oxen, donkey, camels and servants.

Back in Israel God renewed his promise to him in divers occasions :

<< All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.>> Genesis 13: 15.

<< I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.>> Genesis 15: 7.

<< I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river the Euphrates. >> Gen. 17: 18.

When he was 99 years old, God appeared to Abraham, once again and made a covenant with him :

<< This is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations... the whole LAND land of CANAAN, i give as an everlasting possession, to you and your descendants after you ; and I will be their God. >> Gen. 17: 1-8.

The promise of God includes three predictions :

1. BE A PEOPLE

2. POSSESS A COUNTRY

Be a **Source OF BLESSING** for the whole world...

These predictions had their realization a first time. It will finally see it's accomplishment a second time in our twentieth century as a sure sign of the soon coming Jesus the Messiah.

Accomplissement of the promise of God

1. THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL :

- Birth of a people

Abraham, centenaria, had of his wife Sarah an only son : Isaac. He was the promise child. Genesis 17:19; Galatia 4:23.

Isaac married the charming Rebecca. they had twins: Esau and Jacob. By exchanging a dish of lentil for the right of the first born, Jacob took advantage of his brother, Jacob later elaborated a plan with the help of their mother to steal his brother's blessing. After which he had to run for his life lest his brother Esau seek revenge, he fled to his uncle Laban in the north-west Mesopotamia. Twenty years later, he return to Israel accompanied by Leah and Rachel his wives, his servants and maid-servant, and his livestock. God had given him this order :

<< Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you. >> Genesis 31:3. He reconcile with his brother Esau. Gen. 33:4

When he arrived at the promise land, God said to him :

<< You will no longer be called Jacob, but Israel. >> Gen. 35:10.

In this time of the end, is it not surprising that with the proclamation of the existence of the Jewish state by the prime minister Ben Gourion, May 15 1948, the name of Israel was given to him ? Commencement and recommencement of history, exile and return with their striking similarities. Is it an hasard ? A coincidence ? Certainly not, But God's purpose !

It is at Bethel, in the north of Jerusalem, that God renewed to Jacob, the promise made to Abraham, and said to him:

<< I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and increase in number; A NATION and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will come from your body.

<< The LAND I GAVE to Abraham I also GIVE TO YOU and your DESCENDANTS AFTER YOU. >> Gen. 35:11-12.

1- The 12 tribes of Israel in Egypt and in the desert of Sinai.

Jacob had TWELVE SONS who gave their names to the twelve tribes of Israel. Gen. 35:23-26.

One of his son Joseph, was sold by his brothers to Ishmaelite merchants who took him to Egypt.

After all his trials and imprisonment, Joseph was named governor of the land by Pharaoh. He later had his father and all his family brought to Egypt. They were more than 70 persons who came to Egypt, where they lived and prosper as free men in Goshen a region that was particularly fertile where they could raise livestock.

But after the death of Joseph, the Pharaoh persecuted the Israelites, who had greatly multiplied and become exceedingly numerous. Exodus 1:7,12.

It is during this period of great distress that God aroused Moses whose name means << draw out of water >> one of the bible's well known historical figure. He was a prince of Egypt, learned in all the Egyptians science, but he remained committed to his people and at the age of 40 years, he fled into the desert of Sinai where God spoke to him for the very first time: << I have seen the suffering of **MY PEOPLE** who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their oppressor... I have come down to deliver them from the hands of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious LAND... Now, so am sending you to Pharaoh, to bring MY PEOPLE, THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL out of Egypt. Exodus 3:7-10.

The people left Egypt miraculously under the direction of Moses. After crossing the Red Sea, this great prophet, transmitted to them the law received of God on Mount Sinai.

In the desert where about 600.000 men, not counting the women and children.

The first phase of the PROMISE was realized: the descendants of Abraham had really become a PEOPLE who during forty years of wandering in the desert because of their sins, had learned under Moses how to be a nation God's own particular PEOPLE.

2. POSSESSION OF A COUNTRY

MOSES died on Mount Nebo, where God spake with him for the last time and said : << Go up into the Abarim Range to Mount Nebo in Moab, across from Jericho, and on that day God made him view Canaan : << The land I am giving to the Israelites as their possession : << you will not go in because you broke faith with me, you and your brother Aaron in the presence of the Israelites. >>

Deuteronomy 32:48-52.

It is Joshua that Moses laid hands-on in the presence of the people to succeed him. By designating him as the new leader, he told him :<< You must go with THIS PEOPLE, into THE LAND that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them.>> Deu.31:7.

After the miraculous crossing of the Jordan, of which the waters upstream stopped flowing and piled up in a heap a great distance away. For the whole army, and the people with their livestock to cross over, the city of Jericho was taken and the conquest of the country of the promise was quickly made.

The people of Israel now had a COUNTRY. The second aspect of the promise became a reality.

This conquest is it not similar to that of our days ?

The chief of the General Staff Yigael Yadin that led the Israelis army to victory in 1948 received a colleague, and i in Jerusalem, at his home. He told us about the conquest of Israel: << At the time of Joshua, this conquest begun by a war as with all conquest and immediately continued by peaceful coexistence, despite the battle that were engaged from time to time,was led to independence... if considering what is going on today in Israel, i see in fact the opposite in the process, the Israelite started by settling in Israel and it was only at the end of a long process imposed by the international political situation that led to wars. **The outcome was that there now exist a kind of KINGDOM OF ISRAEL covering roughly the same area as the first. >>**

Installed in their homeland, the Israelites rejected the theocracy established by Moses, and they gave themselves to kings, as the nations around them.

With king David who made JERUSALEM the capital, and king Solomon, his son, who build the magnificent TEMPLE, their achievement made manifest the glory of the people of Israel. It was this earthly glory by all the wealth and splendor that led all civilization concentrated in the country, and the divine glory by the high degree of spiritual inspiration and piety, a richness that was transmitted notably through the Psalms.

3- THE BLESSING

This blessing is firstly of spiritual order.

It amount in two words : Bible and Messiah. The Bible, Word of God, inspired and written to make known the Messiah, the living word made flesh for the salvation of the world.

- The Bible

Israel has been chosen by God, to transmit the knowledge of creation and the creator, of the fall of man and of the redeemer of his soul.

It is from Israel that the message of God to man came forth and spread to the extremity of the earth.

<< The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

>>

Isaiah 2:3.

By writing the Bible, the descendant of Abraham became a blessing to the entire earth.

Widespread from Jerusalem to all the nations of the earth translated in over 1.500 languages diffused in tens of millions of examples, the Bible is THE BOOK that brings spiritual blessings to all who reads and believe the message it carries.

It is in Israel and by the Israelite that revelation of the UNIQUE GOD was revealed in the Bible, Word of God. Here are some citations :

Psalms 86 :10 : << YOU ALONE are GOD >>

Isaiah 44: 6 : << APART FROM ME there is no God >>

Malachi 2 :10: << Have not ONE GOD who created us ? >>

In the course of a meeting with a scribe who asked him what was the first commandment, Jesus the Messiah answered : Hear O Israel, the LORD OUR GOD IS ONE; and LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind >>.

Satisfied to have heard Jesus cite this great confession of Israel, the scribe added : << Well, said teacher, you are right in saying that GOD IS ONE and there is no other but Him ... >> Mark 12: 29-32.

Saul of Tarsus was one of the first known Messianic Jews later Baptized as the apostle Paul wrote in his first epistle to Corinthians, chapter 8, verse 5 and 6 :

<< **THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD.**

Indeed there are many gods and many lords, yet for us, THERE IS BUT ONE GOD, THE FATHER, from whom all things came and for whom we live, there is BUT ONE LORD , JESUS THE MESSIAH, through whom all things came and through whom we live. >>

It is by Israel that God reveal himself to the world as the UNIQUE GOD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, of Jacob. Exodus 3: 6. The people of Israel recalls in its great confession, << Shema >> repeated everyday, morning and evening.

<< LISTEN O ISRAEL : THE ETERNAL ONE OUR GOD IS THE ONLY GOD.>>

The Messiah

After the six days war, at Pentecost in 1948, mingled with the Jews celebrating the gift of the Torah to Moses, seven weeks after the Exodus from Egypt. Families were at Zion from the day before, they slept under the arches of the buildings located near the site of the David's tomb. Others were arriving all day and it was a back and forth of thousands of Jews from various nations. I did interviewed a few and all spoke to me of the Messiah.

- << I came from Morocco as patriot during the war of independence of 1948. I lived the capture of Jerusalem. We waited for the Messiah to bring peace... >>

- << All night we prayed for the Shalom (peace) . we are waiting for the Messiah from one moment or the other. It is the time. Only the Temple remains that's all. With God nothing is too hard, he will do it. >>

- << The Messiah will come. I went to Israel with my father who is a rabbi >>

- << I fought in the war of independence, that of 1956 and that of 1967. If there again be war, i will not hesitate to participate, i have faith in God and i am awaiting the Messiah >> .

It is was impressive to see these Jews of Turkey, of Yemen, of Iraq, of Poland, of Tunisia, of Marocco, etc. Gathered in the same joy, merge into one nation, awaiting the Messiah.

The return of the Jews to the Promise Land is the surest sign of the imminent coming of the Messiah. But who is the Messiah they expect ? And of whom the journalist A. Semama of Kol Israel told us after the Six day War : << So many incredible, unimaginable, things happened which lead us to say, now is the highlight of the arrival of the Messiah... There remain only the missing figure of him! He will certainly come at any given moment now. Then it will be over! >>

The Messiah, the prophets have foretold.

The word MESSIAH designate in the old Testament the one that is anointed with oil as holy, who acquired the particular sense << representative >> of the royal lineage of David.(Psalm 2:2) The one that receive this anointing was primarily THE KING, and THE HIGH PRIEST, and sometimes THE PROPHET : Jesus was all of this, and he was given the name of JESUS-CHRIST. The word << CHRIST >> comes from the greek Christos, which correspond to the hebrew MACHIAH (pronounced machiar) which means ANOINTED or MESSIAH. Jesus-Christ therefore is said in hebrew: YESHUA HAMASHIACH ; we say in English JESUS THE MESSIAH.

it was in Israel that he was born of the Israelite Virgin Mary. The prophet Isaiah predicted : << Therefore the Lord himself give you a sign : The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14. *

The prophet Micah specified his place of birth : << But you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, though you were small among the clans of Judah, out of you

will come for me the one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origin are of old, from the ancient times. >> Micah 5:1.

YECHOUA-HAMACHIAH, JESUS THE Messiah is Israelite.

He was born an Israelite. He lived in Israel. He accomplished his mission in Israel. He died in land of Israel, at Golgotha. He's coming back will be to the save the people of Israel and to establish his reign of peace on the earth.

He is both the SUFFERING-MESSIAH of nearly 2000, years ago and the MESSIAH OF GLORY of tomorrow.

The author of the epistle of the Hebrews said :

<< He has appeared **the first time** for all ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. He will appear **a second time**, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. >> Heb. 9:26-28.

By Israel God has made known his ONLY SON, JESUS THE MESSIAH. Not surprising that Jesus himself said:<< SALVATION IS FROM THE JEWS>>

John 4:22

His coming is the hinge between the old and the New Testament, he was announced in the Old, revealed and manifested in the New and is the central event, capital in the life of the people of Israel.

- The church

During the time of the birth of Jesus the Messiah, Israel was under the Romans occupation. In Spite of that the Jews practised freely their religion. In the exercise of his mission, Jesus moved freely throughout the country, teaching in the synagogues and in the Temple where he taught with authority, healing the sick.

The Jews arrested him at Gethsemane, at night, was judged and delivered over to the Romans to be crucified.

The death of Jesus on a small hill called Calvary, outside the wall of Jerusalem, is the foundation, of the church.

By his sacrifice, Jesus << Purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people. Revelation 5: 9.

Had he not said before his death : << When I will be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me. >> John 12:32.

The prophet Isaiah described him with this words : << A MAN OF SORROW... wounded for our transgressions...>> Isaiah 53:3-6.

The Church at its beginning was solely composed of persons believing in Jesus the Messiah come in the flesh to give His life for the remission of sins, and all these believers were JEWS.

The apostles were JEWS and they announced the Good News of salvation to samaritans, to Greeks, Romans and to all the then known nations of that time. And so the church was founded by the Israelit.

Paul, back from one of his many missionary journey, was received at James's pastor of the Church at Jerusalem who said : << You see brothers, how many THOUSANDS OF JEWS HAVE BELIEVED, and all of them are zealous for the law. >> Acts 21:20.

But in some towns, the Jews refuse to believe in the message of the New Alliance. they sometimes violently opposed the apostles.

Many Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas... but others were OPPOSED to Paul's message. (Acts 13:43-45) << Great number of Jews and Greeks believed... but those of the Jews WHO BELIEVED NOT stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. >> (Acts 14: 1-2)

This facts recur several times. (Acts 17: 5 ,13)

While the grace of God was accepted by growing numbers of << gentiles>> the jews kept at a distance, which prompt the apostle Paul to say : It is to you FIRSTLY, that the Word was to be announced; but since YOU REJECTED, it by that you have judged yourselves unworthy of eternal life, see, we now turn to the gentiles. >> (Acts 13:46)

The RESPONSIBILITY OF ACCEPTING Jesus as the Messiah and Savior was first given to the NATION OF ISRAEL:

<< The Savior is ascribe to Israel, to the descendant of David, and according to the promise. It is to the SONS OF ABRAHAM that salvation was first of all given.>> Act 13:23-26 and 3:12-26).

Only a part accepted it. Why not the whole nation ? This is where the mystery of this callousness comes in and the Salvation of ALL ISRAEL at the end of time when the Messiah will return in glory:

<< I do not want you to be ignorant of the mystery, brothers, 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 so ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED >>

Romans. 11:25.

Today all men can be blessed by Jesus the Messiah, ours are the patriarchs, and from us is traced the human ancestry of Christ. Rom. 9:5.

The requirement for all, jewish and non-jewish alike are as follows:

<< BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS AND YOU WILL BE SAVED. >>
Acts 16:31.

<< For God so loved the world that he gave his ONLY SON, that WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM shall not perish but have ETERNAL LIFE. John 3:16.

<< All the families on earth shall be blessed through you. >> Genesis 12:3.

The Church does not replace Israel. GOD DID NOT REJECT HIS PEOPLE. >> Rom.11:2

That is why the existence of the people of Israel and its presence today in the Promiseland incorporate facts that should not be ignored, through Biblical revelation.

THE EXILE

in his old age king Salomon allowed himself to be lead into idolatry, by his numerous pagan wives. so the Lord said to Solomon :

<< Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant... which I commanded you, I will certainly tear the kingdom away from

you... but I will give you one tribe for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem whom I have chosen... >> 1 Kings 11:11.

After the death of Solomon, 10 tribes revolted against Judah. They started by refusing to worship in the Temple in Jerusalem. They built Shechem in Samaria as the new place of worship, there they started worshipping the golden calf and many other idols created by their own hands. The kingdom was divided in two.

This decline from the faith to the living God revealed through Abraham, ended up separating God from his people, despite repeated calls to repentance by the prophets, lead to disaster and exile.

God sternly warned his people:

<< After you have had children and grandchildren and have lived in the land a long time, if you then become corrupt and make any kind of idol, doing evil in the eyes of the LORD your God and provoking him... The LORD will SCATTER you AMONG THE PEOPLES >> Deuteronomy 4: 25-31.

<< Because they have forsaken my law... they have followed after the Baals... I WILL SCATTER THEM AMONG NATIONS that neither them nor their fathers have known. >> Jeremiah 9: 13-16.

The kingdom of the 10 tribes was destroyed by the Assyrians who deported the population, in 720 BC. As to the second kingdom including the tribes of Juda and of Benjamin, they in turn also knew devastation, 134 years later. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylone, invaded Jérusalem. Broke down the walls, looted and burned the Temple. He carried off thousands of Jews into captivity.

The return to the Promise Land The tribes of Judah and of Benjamin After 70 years of Captivity

Jeremiah prophesied this come back :

<< This is what the LORD says : when seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you

back to this place... I will BRING YOU BACK FROM CAPTIVITY >> (Jeremiah 29: 10-14.) The Israelite obtained from Cyrus, the new king of Babylon, the right to return to their country and to their Land. He restituted all the articles of worship that king Nebuchadnezzar carried off from the Temple in Jerusalem.

Under the command of Zerubbabel, thousands of Israelites set-out for their home land singing songs of praise: << When the LORD brought back the captive to Zion, we were like men who dreamed...>> (Psalm 126). The Temple was reconstructed. The people were united, and at the cause of great effort and under very difficult circumstances, because of opposition to the rebuilding. Nehemiah was among those who actively saw to laying the foundation of the wall. about 60.000 men freed from captivity brought with them gold, silver and many other precious objects from Babylone. (Ezras 1 and 4)

The first deportation and the first destruction of the Temple could have led to believe the end of the people of Israel, but the promise made to Abraham was irrevocable, immutable. And the world was amazed to see the RETURN OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, the reconstruction of the Temple and the walls of Jerusalem, although only a part of the deported returned.

Other trials awaited the newly reinstalled people of Israel in the Promise Land. After the decadence of Babylonian empire, it was now the great greek king Alexander who subdued Judea under the authority of his generals. At his death Ptolemy succeeded him. He deported a part of the remaining population to Egypt. Then came the domination of the country by Antiochus IV who tried to impose his religion on the Israelites. This sparked an unimaginable uprising.

150 BC, a hand-full of jewish peasant rose against the Greek-Syrians conquerors. For thirty years it was a struggle resistance against the occupier, the heroic epic of the maccabees. When the enemy was finally chased out of the country the Temple was purified and worship was anew consecrated to the LORD. This dedication gave rise to an annual festival called << Hanukkah>> or << festival of light >> John 10:22

Having reconquered their freedom and their independence and led by the Hasmonean princes, the Jews experienced some internal conflicts. It was in that contest that Pompey, leaving Rome, found little resistance in invading Israel. The Roman occupation lasted still when at Bethlehem, Jesus the Messiah was born and the Savior of the world at the time of mandatory census of all the inhabitants of the land by order of the Roman Emperor.

The destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans and the Dispersion of Israel among the nations

In the year 70, to quell revolts, the armies of the Roman emperor Vespasian, under the direction of Titus, entered Jerusalem after several months of siege. They set fire to the Temple by the Tenth Roman Legion, whose remains were found in the camp south of Jerusalem.

A million Israelites perished. Nine hundred thousand others were taken into captivity as slaves and sold on the markets of Alexandria. The prophecy of the Ancient Testament was accomplished :

<< In Egypt there you will offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves. (Deu. 28:68)

In the second century, there was a new uprising of the survivors remained in Israel. Bar Kochba claiming to be the Messiah was the leader of the revolt. After his defeat, he was rejected by all as an imposter.

The people were chased out of the country by emperor Hadrian who sent the plow on the location of the Temple, thereby fulfilling the Word of the Lord :

<< Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down. >> (Matthew 24 : 1-2)

and the prophecy of Micah :

<< Zion will be plowed like a field. >> Michan 3:12.

In the year 135. There remained only a handful of Israelis on the Promise Land. Jesus also prophesied :

<< When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near... There will be great distress in the land and wrath against the people. They will be taken as prisoners to all the nations... >> Luke 21: 20-24.

Outside his country, Israel kept the hope to regain by force. Many false Messiahs, of which Moses of Crete, Serenius Syria, David Rébubéni, Sabbatai Zevi and many others came forward with their mystical and beautiful promises, they have all vanish like smoke.

<< False Christ's and false prophets will appear >> Jesus announced. (Mark 13:22).

After all these failures, and bitter disappointments Israel maintains its unity through faith in the God of his fathers and the Torah.

1. ISRAEL HAD NO MORE HOMELAND

The few small communities that formed the Israel of today, Yavne near Gaza or at Safed, upper Galilee, were mostly pystiques communities, kind of religious schools. During the eighteenth centuries, only a small number of Israelites returned to their ancestral land until the national movement was born which gave it its independence in our twentieth century. Before this return to the Promised Land, difficulties persiste within nations !

2. SUFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AMONGST THE NATIONS

Often persecuted, tolerated in the << jewish quarters >>, the Israelites experienced great suffering announced by the prophets :

<< I will make their hearts so fearful in the lands of their enemies; that the sound of a windblown leaf will put them to flight. They will run as

though fleeing from the sword... Those of you who are left will waste away in the land of their enemies, because of their sins; also because of their fathers sins they will waste away. >> Leviticus 26: 26-39.

<< You will be uprooted from the land you are entering to possess. The LORD will scatter you among all the nations, from one end of the earth to the other... You will find no repose, no resting place for the sole of your foot. >> Deu. 28: 63-64.

3. ANTI-SEMITISM AND PERSECUTIONS

Anti-semitism has engendered numerous persecutions against Israel, throughout history.

In Europe, appalling massacres decimated the Middle Ages. They were driven from France, England, Spain... then returned when the storm of anti-semitism passed. In Russia, there was a real carnage, including Ukraine. One and a half million Israelites were deported to Asia in horrible suffering. The persecution unleashed by Hitler in 1933 resulted in the deaths of six millions Israelites in abominable concentration camps and crematoria.

In Israel, on Mount Herzl, (Mount of Remembrance) it is very impressionate to visit Yad Vashem complex containing the Holocaust History Museum.

Logically Israel should have disappeared from amongst the nations so hostile towards her. The fact that Israel is still a PEOPLE after so many persecutions is nothing short of a MIRACLE and goes to prove if need be that THE BIBLE, IS AUTHENTIC WORD OF GOD, and all that has been said concerning Israel past and future is true.

**THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL CAN NOT DISAPPEAR, FOR THEY
<< ARE >> CHOSEN OF GOD FOR A SPIRITUAL MISSION.**

Having failed to exterminate Israel by PERSECUTION, nations have tried to solve the problems of her presence in the world by means of the emancipation, assimilation and religion.

ISRAEL IS THE CHOSEN PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE << SET APART>> ACCORDING TO THE DIVINE WILL. In accordance with biblical revelations, the people will NEVER BE EITHER EXTERMINATED OR ASSIMILATED, BY THE NATIONS :

<< A people who live apart and do not CONSIDER THEMSELVES ONE OF THE NATIONS.>> Numbers 23:9

CURRENT REALIZATION OF THE PROMISE MADE TO ABRAHAM

**Compelling evidence of the imminent
return of the Messiah.**

Despite their emancipation within the nations, the ISRAELITES, realized that there still remain a destination to attain an accomplishment of the promise made to their fathers. Though scattered across the earth the people understood that they formed an indivisible whole, and that emancipation did not put an end to anti-semitism.

THE PEOPLE ISRAEL, are positioned over borders, creating uneasiness among the nations. This especially as the Israelites had not recognized Jesus as the Messiah and had transported their << Messianism >> through the time. They thought that they are accomplishing what they believe to be their divine mission towards the nations, trying to access the world government. But the vocation of Israel is primarily spiritual, and one of the conditions to make this come true is the return of the people to the Promise Land, according to the prophecies, especially that of the prophet Ezekiel :

<< The hand of the LORD is upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley, it was full of bones. >>

<< The Sovereign LORD said to me : Son of man, these bones a the WHOLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL. They say : Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone, we are cut off ! Therefore prophesy and say : This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and BRING YOU BACK TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL. >> Ezekiel 37: 1-12.

The dry bones symbolize the Israelites far from the Promise Land, sighing after the Messiah to be delivered from the yoke of the nations.

God promised to bring them back to Israel, and that is today a reality.

1. ALIYAH OR THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE IN THE PROMISED LAND.

Invited in 1968 to the inauguration of the first Zionist congress in REUNITED JERUSALEM, from that of Basel in 1897, i was impressed by the presence of about 800 jewish delegates from 52 nations.

The principal objective of this congress was the ALIYAH, which is to say the return of the people in Israel.

Zalman Shazar, former president of the state of Israel, said in his speech : << This incessant movement must bring our sons back to OUR homeland.>>

Dr Nahum Goldmann, who was the zionist founder and longtime president of the world Jewish congress said in his speech : << The uniqueness of the Zionist Movement is its historical foundation based on the covenant between Abraham and God... Israel is not like other nations, we do not have to be like other people, but a state which becomes A SPIRITUAL CENTER. >>

2. ARE THE TWELVE TRIBES BACK HOME ?

Serious research has been done and studies supported documents and reliable information, have been published. Among the books written about it, that of former president of the state of Israël Yitzhak Ben-Zvi is most interesting. It was published by Minuit editions under the title << THE SCATTERED TRIBES >> Today many Jewish communities of the << Diaspora >> dispersion or << galut >> - country of exile - are almost entirely transferred to Israel or Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland, Yemen, Iraq, Libya, Cyprus, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Syria, etc...

Today we may think that the TWELVE TRIBES are already represented in Israel despite the difficulties of naming all but the tribe of Levi, for all who are called Cohen, Kahn and Katz belong to this tribe.

The Iraqi community is the oldest Israelite community in the world. Its existence is dated to about 2,600 years, since the first dispersion. It would be one of the tribes of Israel.

Those of Yemen formed another tribe. But which ? They are unlike no other Jews : small, puny, thin, with very dark complexion, the face is thin, very religious, wearing beard and curls. This ancient community would also be the first dispersion.

That of India is also a very dark complexion tribe. They were discovered in 1951 by a delegation of the department of immigration of the Jewish Agency, in mission in India. We believe that these Israelites were the descendants of the tribe of Benjamin. At the time they were discovered, they speak Hebrew and followed the requirement of the << Torah >> and respected the Sabbath.

The Caucasus and the Kurds also form a special type.

The very ancient community of the island of Djerba in Tunisia which for centuries had always lived in isolation are now present in Israel. Are they also one of the tribes ?

Those of Georgia which according to an oral tradition, transmitted from father to son, descendant of the tribe of the kingdom of Samaria, have

regain Israël. The first group arrived in 1863. Today this community counts 6 synagogues in Jerusalem alone.

There are also those of Afghanistan which origine could be traced to the 10 tribes, namely that of Simeon and Ephraim.

The returning of the tribes to Israel. A sure sign that the coming back of JESUS THE MESSIAH will not be delayed.

Young people of all these tribes, separated from each other for century, are gathered today on the ancestral land, merge through school, work, military service... forming << ONE PEOPLE >>. The prophets had announced this return:

<< Isaiah 43: 5-7 : << I will bring your children from the east and GATHER you from the west. I will say to the north, give them up! And to the south, do not hold them back! Bring my sons from AFAR, and my daughters from the ends of the earth.>>

Isaiah 49: 12: << See, they will come from AFAR, some from the north, some from the west, and some from the region of the Aswan. >>

Jeremiah 30: 3: << I will bring my people Israel and Judah back from captivity and restore them to the Land I gave to their forefathers to possess, says the LORD. >>

Zechariah 8:4-5: << This is what the LORD Almighty says: once again men and women ripe of age will again sit in the street of Jerusalem, each with cane in hand because of his age. the street will be filled with boys and girls playing there. >>

This prophesy is accomplished. In the street of Jerusalem, i encountered men with white beards who looked like patriarchs and also women bent by the weight of age. In public parks and on the streets, i saw laughing children boys and girls, play with great freedom like all the children in the world. The prophet was inspired by God, **THE BIBLE SAY REMAINS THE ONLY TRUTH ! just open your eyes and contemplate the wonders of divine revelation, and understand that WE ARE LIVING THE SIGHS ANNOUNCED CONCERNING THE NEAR COMING OF JESUS THE Messiah. The prophecy was fulfilled in our days to the letter. It is impossible to ignore the reality that testifies in his favor.**

Zephaniah 3:20: << At that time I will gather you, at that time I will bring you home. I will give honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth. When I will restore your honor fortunes before your very eyes, says the LORD.>>

Amos 9:15: << I will plant Israel in their own land, **NEVER AGAIN TO BE UPROOTED. SAYS THE LORD. >>**

This gathering is according to the Bible, THE LAST. It will never again be followed by an exile. THE PEOPLE WILL NEVER BE UPROOTED FROM THE LAND, the prophet clearly said. What is actually happening in Israel, is therefore an accomplishment of the divine plan as announced by the biblical prophecies.

The resurrection of the Promised Land

God said to Abraham several times: << To your descendants I will give this land >>(Gen. 15:18)

If the Almighty God wanted this country to be the inheritance of Israel, who are we to contest with God ?

Peaceful coexistence is certainly possible and non-jews alike can live in the country.

While on a journey to Israel, aboard a cruise liner << Jerusalem >> i had the opportunity to speak with Prime Minister Ben Gurion who was on board he invited me to << come live in Israel, you will be welcome >> Anyone can become an Israeli, this should not be confused with an Israelite, that is to say one who is of jewish origin, with an Israeli inhabitants of the land of Israel.

That Palestinian is the one that at the time of the British occupation lived in the country called << Palestine >> since then, Arabs << Palestinians >> have chosen Israeli nationality.

According to the Bible, there can not possibly be any contesting, for the country of Israel has been << CHOSEN >> by God for the Israelites. That is where they should return to :

<< I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all countries and bring you back into your OWN LAND... you will live in THE LAND I GAVE TO YOUR FOREFATHERS... >> Ezekiel 36:24-28.

And the country that is given to our << fathers >> to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob and to their offspring : << On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abraham and said : To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrate. >> Genesis 15:18.

<< I will establish your borders from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert to the River. >> Exodus 23:31.

This limits were almost entirely attained during the time of King Solomon.

1. BIRTH OF ZIONISM AND THE BEGINNING OF THE RETURN

It began in 1882, when Dr L. Pinsker of odessa wrote a pamphlet << self emancipation >> which precognized a first return to agriculture in the land of Israel and the seconde, the unification of Israel as a nation.

Twelve years later, in 1894, Theodor Herzl wrote his little book, << The Jewish State >> which had a global impact. On the 29th of August 1897 in Basel was held the first Zionist congress during which Theodor Herzl reaffirmed : << WE MUST OBTAIN A NATIONAL IDENTITY. >>

A few years later appeared the personality of Dr Chaim Weizmann, a professor of chemistry in England, that made the discovery of an inexpensive way to make trinitrotoluene explosive a derivative of acetone. The British government offered him a reward for his useful discovery. Weizmann asked simply that << Palestine >> be the <<

homeland >> of Israel. This was granted him. This concession was the subject of a Governmental statement of the British Prime Minister, Lord Balfour, who gave his name to this historical fact. At the same time in 1917, Palestine was conquered from the Turks. The British General Allenby entered Jerusalem then. In 1922 the nations agreed to mandate England over Palestine in favor of the establishment of the national homeland of Israel. Immigration offices were open... but in 1939, a white paper was published, abolishing the Balfour Declaration as immigration were limited to 15,000 per year. This resulted in a terrible tragedy. Because at that time anti-semitism was making ravages in Germany and then throughout Europe. There was then illegal immigration. But the English prevented them from settling in Israel, imprisoned and deported them to Cyprus. Heartbreaking scene occurred, such as the tragic odyssey in 1947. The Exodus, ship bringing to Israel 4554 immigrants were sent back to France after coming under fire from British warship that killed seven and injured a 100. These Israelites had to return to Germany, where they had escaped the death camp, and reintegrate the camps for displaced persons.

The Mandate over Israel was finally abandoned by England in 1947 and then began the struggle between Arabs and Israelites.

Attacked by seven Arabs countries representing about 40 millions people, Israel, which at the time counted only 655, 000 souls, miraculously triumphed at the price, it is true, hard fighting and heavy sacrifice.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL was proclaimed on May 14, 1948 by Ben Gurion. He began his statement by saying : << The land of Israel was the birthplace of the jewish people. in this land was formed her spiritual, religious and national personality. Where the Bible was wrote and given to the entire world.

Ch. Weizmann was elected President of the State. The first act of his government was to affirm that the State of Israel will be open to the immigration of scattered Israelites in all the countries of the exile.

Alaw called << The law of Return >> stated that every Jew has the right to immigrate to Israel, for the purpose of the existence of this State, is to

gather his people, this massive immigration is called << THE GATHERING OF THE EXILES >>.

The Israelites streamed to build their country and they continue to arrive. Through the centuries, Israel had never ceased to aspired to regain his freedom and enter Zion. Without being aware of it, every Israelites was and is Zionist, feeling of divine inspiration. And the Almighty aroused men who had preached the return to Zion. Because of persecutions, the Zionist idea took and materialized it seem slowly as the hour approached the prophetic fulfillment of Israel's return to her country.

2. THE FIRST PIONNIERS

The zionist movement was already active in the last century. they created agricultural centers, Mikve Israel (Hope of Israel) in 1876 and Petah Tikva

(Gates of Hope) in 1879, and others it was the beginning of the Kibbutzim era.

Students leaving the university of Kharkov in Russia, following the << pogromes >> which made countless victims and came to settle in Israel as agricultural workers. This group took on the name of BILOU, forming the initials of the word of Isaiah 2:5 : << Beit laacov L'houv Vene- nel'ha >> which means << House of Jacob come let us walk >>. Many other groups followed. Even young girls abandon their studies and lander in feathered hats crinolines, gloves to the elbows and umbrella. But were soon transformed into courageous young girls who drove tractors, wielding pick and shovel, forcing the admiration of all who knew them.

Their hard labor soon paid off, a blessing that prepared the return and the gathering of the people of Israel back to their ancestral country.

In 1958, ten years after the proclamation of the State of Israel, two million Israelites populated the country. This number had more than double in 1994. They came out from over a 100 nations.

Since the opening of the Iron curtain, Russian jews, estimated at some 3 million in this country, arrived in Israel at the rate of 200,000 per year.

3. THE DEVASTATED LAND IS COME BACK TO LIVE

Under the occupation of the Turkish, the country was desert, cut trees, barren hills caused by erosion, a wasteland... Today the conquest of the desert is not a mirage, like the State of Israel is not a coincidence.

Isaiah 35: 1-2 : << The desert and the parched land will be glad, the wilderness will rejoice and blossom, like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.>>

2500 variety of flowers brighten the country. 450 species of birds sing joyfully to the resurrection of the fertile soil. Irrigation turnstiles watered constantly jets fields silvered by the rays of bright sunshine.

BIBLICAL PROPHECY seem to come to live as one walks through the land of Israel, it must be said, that as time goes along the people continues to work hard at the construction of the country, at her transformation and modernization.

Ezekiel 36 : 8-10, 33-34 : << Mountains of Israel, will produce branches and fruits for my people Israel... the desolated land will be CULTIVATED instead of LYING DESOLATE in the sight of all who pass through it.They will say : This land laid waste has become like the garden of Eden. >>

Still arid in 1880, the land of Israel knew only unfortunate fellahs who tried to draw meager harvests, until the arrival of the pioneers, everything changed. It was time for the << land >> and today, according to the prophecy, the DEVASTATED LAND IS CULTIVATED.

From Dan to Beer- Sheva, more than 100 million trees cast their shadows on the << holy land >> : pine, cypress, eucalyptus pulp, carob, apple, pomegranate, orange,apricot, plum, banana, olive, fig.They

transformed the bare skull of the mountain into towering forest. All this is possible, for God works behind man and with man for the fulfillment of his divine plans.

Huge fields are covered with orchards, vegetables, watermelons, tomatoes, corn, and wheat, sugar beets, vineyards. As for cotton, the seed was provided by an American billionaire Mr Hamburger, 50,000 hectares producing 100 millions of dollars of raw cotton per year. At the West of the Negev, 15, 000 hectares of land formerly deserted land, are now being sown. On the other hand, 6,000 hectares of land have been earned on the marshes of lake Hula the area is a nest of malaria, where rice, cotton, and sugarcane are cultivated.

Amos 9: 13 : << The days are coming, declares the LORD, when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman, and the planter by the one treading the grapes. >>

THE REAPER, PLOWER, the PLANTER... Yes, all this is being done in Israel today, and with the most advanced modern day technology! Today one can travel around the country on beautiful roads. The roads are restored and well maintained! And the desert is made a green land, watered by the Jordan and Yarkon is brought to the Negev through pipes-lines, some of which have a diameter of three meters, there is plenty of water, that makes all kinds of culture possible. As for the habitations, they are air conditioned by refrigeration through the use of solar energy.

Isaiah 58:12: << Your people will REBUILD ANCIENT ruins and will raise up the AGED-OLD FOUNDATIONS .>>

YESTERDAY : dry and barren land,

TODAY : verdant earth.

THE LAND OF ISRAEL is ALIVE AGAIN

The prophesy of Ezekiel about the dry bones coming out of the tombs is realized before our eyes.

<< This is what the Sovereign LORD says to this bones : I will attach tendons to you, and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin... >>

Ezekiel 37: 5-6.

The first part of the prophecy of Ezekiel is a reality today in Israel, who possesses : ITS CROPS its planted fields, fruit trees, its agricultural colonies, it's pipelines...

ITS ROADS terrestrial, sea and air.

ITS FACTORIES of cement, phosphates...

ITS SCHOOLS, university, and polytechnic.

HIS WAR ARMS, tanks, airplanes, its rockets, its famous personalities...

ITS GOVERNMENT, the knesset, ministers, ITS FLAG, its currency...There are also its synagogues, its << wall >> and the inscriptions of the revival announced by Ezekiel :

<< This is what the Sovereign LORD says : come from the four winds O breath, and breath into this slain, that they may live. >> Ezekiel 37:9.

The Spiritual resurrection

1. JUDAISM

One friday night at the appearance of the first star, i went from synagogue to synagogue in Meah Shearim, religious neighborhood of Jerusalem. From an

<< upper room >> came forth the echo of songs, prayers, recitations of the Torah spoke in chorus like the tumultuous noise of a rough sea waves.

The fervor of these young men, with their distinctive curly curl, that ran along their cheeks, praying fervently greatly impressed me. Dressed in their finest festive attire : caftan fur hat or little black cap placed almost at the back of the head, with arms raised towards heaven, swaying forward or to the right and left, clapping their hands while reciting the texts of the Torah, always oriented in the direction of the location of the Temple.

The summit of the Mount of Olives appeared on the horizon, behind the bars of the windows of one of the synagogues. I thought then of the text of Zechariah concerning the Messiah :

<< One that day his feet will rest on the Mount of Olives >>

Since the six day war, THE WALL OF LAMENTATION has become a large open air synagogue. In 1967, a few days after the victory there was a rush of about 250,000 Israelis who came crying and praying in a religious fervor that was described as supernatural. General Moshe Dayan, ripping a sheet of his notebook, wrote a wish or prayer according to the custom, then slipped it between two stones, since then, this place has become a sacred place of prayer and meditation for all Jews. Now, remains the Messiah.

We know that he came a first time, suffered and died outside the walls of Jerusalem for the salvation of all men, and that HE IS COMING BACK SOON A SECOND TIME as the GLORIOUS MESSIAH.

2. THE MESSIANIC

The Jew is not automatically saved because he is a Jewish or because he or she practice Judaism.

His salvation, as stated by the apostle Peter, is in repentance and a return to God through faith in Christ-Jesus:

<< Let all the peoples of Israel understand this, there is salvation in no other, but Jesus. >> Act 3: 10-12.

Shlomo Zeev Kaufman was raised in the faith of his father's. One day, by the grace of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, he had the sublime revelation of the living Messiah and recognized Jesus << Yeshua Hemachiah >> as the savior. His faith in the LORD's anointed did not distance him from his people, on the contrary it brought him closer. The fact that he was an Israelite who believed in Jesus-Christ, in no way detached him from the heritage of Abraham or from his country. Convinced that God wanted him Israel to be a witness among his people, he abandoned his medical functions in the then French colonial administration, and immigrated to Israel with his family in 1948.

Arrived in the middle of the war, he immediately went to work offering his service to his country, by nursing the wounded. Then he started his first

meeting at the street of the prophets- his fellow Israelites who shared his faith in Jesus and founded the first << Israeli Messianic Assembly >> church which was later officially recognized by the Ministry of Religion. With his linguistic knowledge- he spoke hebrew, yiddish, russian, german, french and english- he could better help messianic Jews arriving from the diaspora. On the spiritual level, this national messianic assemble did not depend on foreign missions.They encountered many incomprehension of both the Jews and the missionaries of various denominations.

Through the perseverance of this assembly the whole country was enlightened.

I personally had the joy of having Zev Kaufman as a friend. He shared with me his faith, his discouragement, but also his hopes. He was a pastor and a prophet, a wonderful man of God.

He would not use the word << evangelical >> to describe his community he chose to adopt a language that is accessible to his people. He wanted to stay intergrated with his people as the apostle Paul who wrote: << I too am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, and of the tribe of Benjamin >> Romans 11:1.

The term << messianic >> is now used to designate all the jews who show faith in Jesus as the Messiah, anointed of God, the Savior.

In our days, the Spirit have started to blow and thousands of Jews around the world believe that Jesus is truly the Messiah. The more and more Jews consult and read the New Testament.

I had the pleasure of encountering at his home, professor Flusser who teaches the New Testament at the university in Jerusalem. Is not that amazing?

WHAT EVENTS ARE WE TO EXPECT IN ISRAEL AND IN THE WORLD

- We are waiting for the Messiah !

The Jews were saying, after the six day war in 1967. But before he comes, what events are to expect ?

The return of Israël to the Promised Land is a reality that confirms the authenticity of the prophetic texts of the Bible. To understand what is now going to take place, it is necessary to pay attention to prophecies that concerns the attitude of the Nations towards Israël.

First follow the course of events that has occurred in our twentieth century as so many successive steps towards an outcome that will soon be!

In 1917. creation of the Jewish National Home in Palestine. Balfour Declaration. The Turks were expelled from Jérusalem by the British General Allenby.

1947. Decision by UN of the partition of Palestine between Arabs and Jews.

1948. Proclamation of the foundation of the Jewish State called << STATE OF ISRAEL >> War of independence.

1949. JÉRUSALEM declared capital of Israel in spite of the opposition of the of the United Nations.

1956. War against Egypt with the support of the U.R.S.S. to use atomic bomb. The world came very close to a new world war.

1967. SIX DAY War. Jérusalem reunited. The Jews accessed to the wall of Lamentations.

In 1973. Yom Kippur war. Israël advanced up to the Suez Canal in the south, and up to 60 km from Damascus to the north, in the Golan.

1977. The visit of Sadat to Jerusalem. He amazed the whole world, by declaring that. << There will be more wars... my cousins. >>

In 1980. Begin, on behalf of the Israeli parliament declares : << Jérusalem is united forever, the capital of Israel, forever Jewish. >> Khomeini soon in Iran threatens to trigger an Islamic holy war to reclaim Jérusalem.

1982. Sinaï was returned to Egypt for the price of peace, after the decisions taken at Camp David's in the US, between Sadat and Begin. Arab countries called for the United Nations to exclude Israël.

In 1983. Israeli offensive against the Palestinians implanted in Lebanon called << Peace in Galilee. >>

This battle has for consequence the fratricidal massacres between Lebanese and Palestinians.

The arrivals of the peacekeeper and the multinational force, including the powerful United States strike force did not prevent new tragedies. Kamikazes, suicide men, launched their cars packed with explosives against American headquarters. French and Israelis who collapsed, resulting in the death of more than 300 soldiers and officers.

During these years, there have been two world wars that of 1914- 1918 and 1940-1945, here and there the conflicts in various part of the globe Asia, African, American, European. In a century the world has completely changed countenance and Israël occupies the central place in the international stage.

The attack against Israel and The 3rd world war in preparation

Two facts are the prelude

1. NUCLEAR ALERT

The day of Yom Kippur, day of atonement in Israël, day in which fates are sealed.

In 1973, in the day of Kippur, Egypt put into action 2,000 tanks and 2,000 artillery and threw 200 waves of bombers with the intention to destroy Israël.

In Turn, Syria joined in the battle 1,300 tanks in a front of 30 km. It was the biggest battle in the history of tanks.

The head of the coalition attacks against Israël was none other than Russian, this Northern people called Gog by the prophet Ezekiel, and by so doing sealed its fate.

During these hostilities, a powerful Russian military intervention was quickly established. That was when the US launched a solemn warning to the Russians, by putting in alert all their gigantic nuclear strike force.

The Israeli army had a successful start. This ended the explosive military tension that shook the world.

The time has not yet come for the prophecy of Ezekiel, chapter 38, to be fulfilled. This was only the prelude to what will be the final act before the coming of the Messiah.

DISCOVERY OF THE WEAPON OF GOG IN LEBANON

In 1983, that is about 10 years later the Israelis, during their advance into the Lebanese territory discovered an enormous underground tunnel in which were stored weapons sufficient to equip an army of half MILLION SOLDIERS. The goal was to invade Israël and destroy her. These weapons came from Russian, that is to say a Nordic power seeking to overcome Israel.

The invasion, which was about to be realized, aborted because early intervention on Israeli soldiers destroyed the project. But since the Russians have restored and enhanced weapons in Syria where there were already 7,000 tanks, 6,000 armored vehicles, 4,400 artillery pieces, 1,400 combat aircraft, a large number of ground-air missiles and ground-ground all this massed on Israel's borders.

This confirms that the apocalyptic events can occur unexpectedly and the nuclear holocaust of world war III is inevitable and close at hand.

This is not about being fatalistic but lucid and attentive to what the Bible announced.

Biblical prophecies concerning Israël are directly linked to the historical, geographical and Spiritual context of the people. That is why we must give our full attention to events and prophecies related thereto.

- The prophecy of Ezekiel concerning the attack of Gog.

During his captivity in the Babylonian empire about 600 years before Christ, Ezekiel prophesied in chapters 37, 38 and 39 of his book, the events that concern our time:

1. The return of the people to the promised land. Ez. 37:1-10,21 ; 38:8,12.
2. The rebirth of a country long deserted. Ez. 38:8,12.
3. The events ranging from Israël, that will shake the world. Ez. 39:22;39:2-6.

But who really is Gog?

<< Set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog the chief prince of Rosh of Meshech and of Tubat >> Ez.28:2.

Historically and geographically the character of Gog has been identified and there is no doubt that this head of << Magog >> is a country located in the far north over Israel. Rosh, means << supreme leader >> "Meshech and Tubal denote peoples of the far north, always relative to the geographical situation or location of Israël.

This is confirmed in Ezekiel 38:15 and 39:2 :

<< You will come from your place in the far north, you and many nations with you.... I will bring you from the far north and send you against the mountains of Israel >>.

PEACE AND SUDDEN RUIN

When during the days of communism i was in Moscow to evangelize the Gypsies, i went to the great synagogue on a Sabbath, and i talked with

Jews, both young and old alike. At my question: << Would you like to return to Israël ? >>, their answer was without hesitation : We would all love to>> !

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the collapse of the Iron curtain and perestroika allowed the opening of the border to Jews wishing to visit Israel. Visas were granted and by that hundred or thousands have since journeyed to the << Land Promised >> to Abraham and his descendants. At that time the Gulf War broke out, after the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi army under the dictator Saddam Hussein. The impressive military force in tanks, aircraft, missiles, warships, and soldiers in the region or the Middle East was such that it was like a prelude or what will happen on a global scale in the attack against Jérusalem. The danger of the use of chemical weapons, bacteriological and nuclear, bacteriological and nuclear, and the Scud rockets launched by Iraqis over Israel made the world shudder. The fall of communism, the opening of borders in Eastern Europe, the exodus of Jews from Russia and Ethiopia and Albania and the Gulf War, are all events that demonstrated that Bible prophecy is true and that the world situation can change unexpectedly (Luke 21: 34) We have entered the final phase prophesied by the Apostle Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5: 2: << For when they say peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them. >> A peace process begun between Israel and its neighbors as was done for peace with Egypt. The precarious peace providing Israel with secure and recognized borders according to Article 242 of the United Nations will be followed by a catastrophe on a Planet scale. Here are prophecies to be seriously consider about the outbreak of the "sudden destruction of humanity":(Zac 12: 2-3.) << I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples all nations shall be gathered against it" (Rev. 16: 14-16.) "The spirits of demons will go out the kings of the earth to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. >> (Luke 21: 35-36) << That day will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always, that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen ... >>When Gorbachev was still in power in Russia, he said: << We are all on board the same ship, the planet earth, let us be careful of shipwrecking because there will be no second Noah's ark. >> The sinking will come when the nations hostile to Israel decide to attack by surprise. The whole world will be

ablaze as was predicted by the Apostle Peter: << The day of the Lord will come like a thief; on that day, the heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be dissolved. "(II Peter 3: 10)There will, contrary to what Gorbachev said, a second Noah's Ark, called << the rapture of the Church.>> Before the sudden destruction, Jesus would miraculously removed his disciples on the clouds of heaven, sparing them the anguish of nations that Jesus spoke in Luke 21: 25-26.

JÉRUSALEM

**<< Cup of intoxication for all the
surrounding peoples,
an immovable rock
for all the nations >>**

Zechariah 12:2-3

In 1946, the fate of Jerusalem was handed to the UN by the government in London.

During the 1948 war, Jerusalem was divided into two and it lasted 19 years. I visited the Old City of Jerusalem while the Jordanian guards kept watch day and night with their weapons on the walls. The transition in the new city was through the Mandelbaum Gate and it was unwise to have Israeli visa on one's passport. The visa was on a separate sheet.

In 1949, the United Nations tried to place Jerusalem under international status. The Governments of Jordanians and Israelis opposed it.

The rock became immovable!

During the conflict in June 1967, 7 in the morning, the speaker of the Israeli radio announced in a voice choked with emotion: "The Old City is taken and our troops, let us pray at the Wall of Lamentations.

<<That was the main news of war.>>

Prime Minister Ben Gurion said in his kibbutz in the Negev: "Jerusalem is now reunited.<< We desire that she remains united. >>

The Israeli radio journalist Scemama made this statement:

<< Since 2,000 years, Jews dreamed of the return to Jerusalem and suddenly, in the space of a few hours, Israel was in possession of that which she Longed for. >>

<< At present, there is no more old and new city, but Jérusalem, >> says a deputy mayor of the city.

The reunification of Jerusalem has made the city an even more immovable rock for the peoples and truly a reeling cup for the Arab nations round about her, as the Temple Mount is for them the third holiest site after Mecca and Medina. They have their mosques of Al Aqsa and Omar.

Jews have no more Temple since he was burned in 70 AD by Roman troops and Yona Malachy's Ministry of Religion says:

<<No Messiah, no Temple. When the Messiah comes, he will then do whatever he wants.>>

The Lord had predicted that Jerusalem will again come under the rulership of the Jews, <<Jerusalem, he said, will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled >>Luke 21: 24

Jerusalem is still not <<the city of peace,>> but the prophet Isaiah said:<< Rejoice with Jerusalem. I will extend to PEACE like a river and the glory of nations like a torrent. >> Isaiah 66: 10-12

Prior to this, suffering continues! for Jerusalem, an immovable rock, the nations want to remove, to control, to attacking. Zechariah 12: 3-9

They are preparing. The wick is already on. We do not know the length, but when she touches Jerusalem, the powder keg will jump, igniting the world in an atomic fire, placing it under the judgment of God.

THE CHURCH BEFORE, ISRAËL AFTER THE ULTIMATE CONFLICT

Despite the existence of the Church, the people of Israel remains the "chosen" people of God, for "God has not rejected his people Israel" Romans 11: 1. The Church and Israel does not have the same destiny. It is clear in Scripture that Christians who form the Church are not destined for "wrath". 1 Thessalonians 5:9 They will not see the frightful final cataclysm. The Bible says: "If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, also believe that God will bring with Jesus and WITH HIM those who died. Here indeed what we say unto you by the word of the Lord, we the living, will not advance those who are asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. After this WE THE LIVING, which remain will be removed TOGETHER WITH THEM ON the clouds to MEET THE LORD in the air, and so we will ALWAYS BE WITH THE LORD." 1 Thessalonians 4: 14-17.

This will take place before the "sudden destruction of nations" to which no unbeliever can escape. 1 Thessalonians 5: 3. The promise of the rapture applies only to believers, those who believe that Jesus the Messiah died for them on the cross and through faith in Him have become the children of God.

But what will become of the people of Israel ?

They will at first attack and it will be "a time of distress" for him. Jeremiah 30: 7. Today Israel is living a relative security. However it remains vigilant as it is aware that the threat is still there. It feels strong against surrounding nations but powerless before the Soviet colossus. He knows like other nations relative peace due to the balance of terror.

When Russia, even by interposed country will attack Israel to "lay hands on the resettled ruins" (Ezekiel 38: 11), when she "will advance against MY PEOPLE ISRAEL, AGAINST MY COUNTRY" says God then it will be tragic for Israel "throughout the country, says the LORD, two thirds shall perish, and the other third will remain." Zechariah 13: 8.

In Jerusalem, we mentioned this text to a rabbi who said to us: "yes, but also two thirds of other nations.<< Einstein the scientist had he not also said that if the bomb was employed at a new world war, two thirds of humanity would perish?"

Israel has been through many trials since its feet tread the soil of the Promised Land, and here the prophet Daniel announces to the people "a time of distress, such as never been since the nations exist "(Daniel 12: 1). This is confirmed by Jesus himself: << There will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world, >> adding, << After these days of distress ... the powers of heaven shall be shaken ... then the Son of man will appear in heaven, coming on the clouds in great glory. >> Mast. 24: 21-39

But a promise was given to Israel: << He shall be delivered >> Jeremiah 30: 7, when "The Lord on that day will set his feet on the Mount of Olives" Zechariah 14: 4

He will establish His kingdom of peace, for "he will proclaim peace to the nations" Zechariah 9: 10. He is the stone that strikes the feet of clay and iron of the statue of Daniel (Dan. 2: 31-35)

This will be the restoration of all things. Acts 3: 21. Messianic times announced by the prophets will at last finally come : The Messiah will "judge between the nations, and settle the disputes of many people ... and THEY WILL NOT TRAIN FOR WAR ANYMORE . "Isaiah 2: 4 and Micah 4: 4

"Justice will be the girdle of his loins" Isaiah 11: 5.

"All nations shall serve him" Psalm 72: 11.

This will be the THOUSAND YEARS reign of Jesus the Messiah. Those who by faith in Him will have been redeemed by Him will reign on earth with Him. Apocalypse 20: 6 and 5: 10.

The Jews then have fulfill the mission for which God has "chosen" them and they will go through all the earth to proclaim the WORD OF GOD to all nations. Apocalypse 7: 4 Moses had he not prophesied: "You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." The Messiah will be "King of all the earth" and "Jerusalem will be safe," Zechariah 14: 9 and 11.

The promise made to Abraham is found definitively accomplished since all nations will be blessed a final time under the reign of Jesus the Messiah-King. "Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek Jehovah God the Celestial Armies in Jerusalem ... In those days, ten men of all languages of the nations will grab a Jew by the hem of his garment and say, we will go with you, because we learned that GOD IS WITH YOU. "Zechariah 8: 22-23 and 14: 16-19. There will be "one shepherd and one flock" John 10:16.

LET'S BE READY TO MEET THE MESSIAH

Israel awaits the Messiah, but still does not know that the awaited Messiah is Jesus of Nazareth. But you know and you are now convinced that the return of the Israelites in the Promised Land is a sure sign that he will soon be back, as he promised. Did not he himself said :
<< I WILL COME BACK >> John 14: 3

The events unfolding in Israel and around Israel are so many warnings to say << Be prepared >>. << The Lord is near >> Philippians 4: 5 << When these things begin to take place, Jesus said to his disciples, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near. >> Luke 21: 28-36.

What the prophets, Jesus and the apostles announced are now taking place. Put into practice the recommendations of Jesus: << Watch and pray always that you may be accounted worthy to escape these things that will happen and to stand before the Son of man >> Luke 21: 36.

<< Our citizenship is in Heaven, from where we eagerly await a Savior our Lord Jesus Christ. >> Philippians 3:20.

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