

# 70 YEARS, 490 YEARS

## Part II

The Time of Israel's Restoration to Their Land  
The Prophets, Present-Day Bible Teachers

By Arlen L. Chirwood

As there was a return of a remnant of Jews from the Babylonian captivity in history, there has been a return of a remnant of Jews from a worldwide dispersion during modern times — occurring since May 14, 1948, when Israel declared statehood. And though both were/have been *allowed* by God and numerous parallels exist, *they really are not the same type restoration at all.*

Israel, in history, had completed God's required seventy years in Gentile captivity (Jer. 25:11, 12; 29:10-14). Israel, today, has not completed God's required four hundred and ninety years in Gentile captivity. Seven years yet remain (Dan. 9:24-27).

Israel could not return in history until God's required time in Gentile captivity had run its course; nor can Israel do so today.

The restoration of a remnant in history *was under God's direction, at His command*; the restoration of a remnant today *has been the result of a Zionist movement, under man's direction and command.*

God simply will not allow the Jewish people to return from their present dispersion among the Gentiles, *under His direction and command, until the full time covered by the four hundred and ninety years has run its course.* To state otherwise would have God acting contrary to His revealed Word, an impossibility.

A rather strange situation though exists in the world today. Most of the Bible students and Bible teachers studying about or giving any thought to Israel's place in God's economy, both present and future, attempt to see and teach that God is dealing

with Israel relative to a restoration to the land and that the land is being healed *during a time before the end of the four hundred and ninety years, before the Jewish people are brought to the place of repentance.*

But God's dealings with the Jewish people after this fashion *didn't occur during the seventy years in Jeremiah*, and God's dealings with the Jewish people after this fashion *are not going to occur during the four hundred and ninety years in Daniel either.*

God's requirements both places can only be seen to be *the same.*

Both could/can occur *only following the full time in view* (seventy years, four hundred and ninety years), and both could/can occur *only following repentance.*

Then, aside from the preceding, attempting to see and understand that which has been occurring in the Middle East and the world at large since May 14, 1948 as God restoring the Jewish people and their land in accordance with His numerous promises presents a *dispensational problem.* God is *not, He cannot be*, dealing with Israel in this respect today. Israel has been set aside while God, through His Spirit, calls out a bride to reign as consort queen with His Son in the coming kingdom. God will turn back to and deal with Israel *ONLY AFTER the Spirit has completed His work in this respect, ONLY AFTER the present dispensation has run its course.*

And of course numerous other things as well are out of line with popular thought today, *both among Christians in the world and among Jews both in Israel and those still scattered among the nations.*

1) The house of Israel — a reference to the people, their capital city, the Temple, and the land (all inseparably related) — has been left *desolate.* And the one who will complete this *desolation*, bringing it to an apex, has yet to appear (Dan. 9:26, 27).

He (Antichrist) will appear only when time covering the last seven years of Daniel's prophecy resumes, and he will bring *the desolation* in view to an apex toward the end of this time, during the closing days of Daniel's prophecy (refer Chapters I, II, "Your House Left

Desolate" [Parts I, II], in the author's book, MIDDLE EAST PEACE — HOW? WHEN?).

2) Healing for the Jewish people and their land will occur only *AFTER* two days, on the third day. It will be only *AFTER* two days, on the third day (*AFTER* 2,000 years, in the third 1,000-year period), that all three of God's firstborn Sons — Christ, Israel, and the Church (following the adoption) — will be raised up to live in His sight.

That occurring in the Middle East today is occurring near the end of the second day, not on the third day where it *MUST* occur (refer to Appendix III, "Three Days and Three Nights," in the author's book, ISRAEL — WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?).

3) Israel, *the slayer* typified in Num. 35, can avail herself of the ransom only *AFTER* a certain time (avail herself of the cleansing [atonement] seen in Num. 19, cleansing from contact with a dead body, the body of the nation's Messiah).

The time for this cleansing is seen in a two-fold manner in Num. 19. This cleansing can occur *ONLY* on the third or seventh day (three days dating back to the crucifixion, or seven days dating back to Adam), and it can occur *ONLY* following the death of the high priest (which can only be a reference to Christ's completion of His present priestly ministry in the sanctuary, preceding that time when He comes forth as the great King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek [refer to Chapters VII, VIII, "Time of Israel's Restoration" (Parts I, II), in the author's book, MIDDLE EAST PEACE — HOW? WHEN?]).

(Numbers chapter thirty-five alone would destroy all of the false teaching concerning God presently restoring the Jewish people to their land, with many seeing the land progressively being healed as well. And it wouldn't matter what form this teaching might take, for Israel's future cleansing, seen in this chapter, occurs *not only following Israel's national conversion but*

in connection with Israel's restoration to her land (Ezek. 36:24-32; 37:1ff).

Thus, to see the Jewish people being restored to the land today after any fashion — even in their unbelief, to later be dealt with by God [as some see matters having occurred since May 14, 1948] — is *an impossibility* on the basis of this one chapter in Numbers alone. Such would have God acting contrary to His revealed Word.

According to any Scriptures dealing with the subject, Israel's national conversion occurs *FOLLOWING Christ's return BEFORE the Jewish people have been restored to their land.*

This, for example, is seen in *the type during Moses' day, or in the order of the fulfillment of the seven festivals in Lev. 23.*

Thus, Israel's national conversion [fulfilling the first Jewish festival, the Passover] *will occur while the Jewish people are still scattered among the nations; the cleansing, which many often confuse with the former, occurs subsequent to Israel's national conversion, in connection with the Jewish people being restored to their land [having to do with activities occurring on the second and sixth of the Jewish festivals — the festivals of Unleavened Bread and Atonement; ref. Pt. 6, next column].*

4) The Jewish people cannot be restored *UNTIL* they have acquired *ALL the wealth possessed by the Gentiles.*

Jacob, in the type (Gen. 28:15-31:3), as the Jewish people today, tried to return to the land before he had acquired all of Laban's wealth (Gen. 30:25ff). But he couldn't. The heavens remained closed, and God did not speak to Jacob during the entire time of his exile, not until he had acquired *all* of Laban's wealth and not until it was *time* for him to return.

*THEN... And ONLY THEN...* (Gen. 31:1-3).

The Jewish people today have returned to the land through *MAN'S EFFORTS* in a Zionist movement, *DURING* their time of exile, *BEFORE* acquiring *all* of the Gentile's wealth, *BEFORE* the *time* God speaks to them in this respect.

When God restores His people to the land, it will occur *during His time*, not during their time. And they will be restored *through Divine power*, not man's power, *never to be uprooted again* (Amos 9:11-15).

The remnant presently in the land has been restored *BEFORE* the time through other than Divine power; and they, having been restored in this means, will, of necessity, be uprooted from their land once again (Matt. 24:15ff; Luke 21:20ff; Rev. 12:6, 14ff [refer to Chapter VII, "Time of Israel's Restoration," in the author's book, ISRAEL — WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?]).

5) Israel's restoration can occur only following Christ's return at the end of the Tribulation, which will be *AFTER the full four hundred and ninety years have run their course* (refer to Chapters III, IV, "Moses and Elijah in That Day" [Parts I, II], in the author's book, COMING IN HIS KINGDOM).

6) The seven Jewish festivals in Lev. 23 form what could be called, "The Prophetic Calendar of Israel," and none of these festivals has been fulfilled insofar as Israel is concerned.

And they must be fulfilled in a sequential order, following Christ's return (*e.g.*, the first festival is the Passover; Israel has slain the Lamb, but they have yet to apply the blood). Thus, the very first of the seven festivals remains unfulfilled (refer to Appendix II, "The Seven Jewish Festivals," in the author's book, WE ARE ALMOST THERE).

As previously stated, prevalent thought in Christian circles today relative to the restoration of the Jewish people to the land in the Abrahamic covenant has to do with a false teaching concerning that which has been occurring in the land of Israel and the world at large since May 14, 1948.

To date, some 6,000,000 Jews have returned, and large parts of the land have been reclaimed for agricultural purposes.

Most Christians involving themselves in the matter today — many referring to themselves as

"Christian Zionists" — erroneously look upon that which has been occurring since the spring of 1948 as *God progressively restoring the Jewish people and their land in accordance with His numerous promises in the Old Testament to do so.*

In this respect, the whole of the matter is rather amazing — though not relative to the Jewish people returning to the land in the Abrahamic covenant, for a remnant (which, as we know today, will have resulted from Zionism) must be in the land when Antichrist appears on the scene. Rather, the amazing part has to do with the vast numbers of Christians, who should know better, completely misunderstanding what is happening and, resultingly, making a mistake of this magnitude, one with far-reaching, negative ramifications.

It is amazing that *ANY* Christian with an open Bible would make this mistake, though understandable because of the working of the leaven in Christendom over two millenniums of time, resulting in few Christians today studying Scripture after the manner in which it has been written and structured (Matt. 13:33).

But what can perhaps be seen as even more amazing than the preceding is the fact that *MOST* of the Christians involving themselves in this facet of Biblical studies are making this mistake, though again somewhat understandable for the reason previously given.

And this is not something minor in Biblical studies. Rather, *this is something major, very major.* This is something which can only have a *dire, negative impact upon a Christian's outlook and understanding of the present and future place which the Jewish people occupy in God's economy.*

Then, part and parcel with the preceding are the numerous pastors and Bible teachers caught up in this false ideology who are misleading the masses. It's not a pretty picture when one begins looking at what's presently happening in this respect in Christendom, but that's how matters exist nonetheless.

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