

# Israel and Prophetic Signs

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Matthew 24:33 *it is near, even at the doors*  
Matthew 10:22 *And ye shall be hated*  
1 John 4:1 *Believe not every spirit, but*  
Zech. 12:2 *make Jerusalem a cup of trembling*  
Ezekiel 37:21 *I will take Israel from the among*  
Luke 21:24 *Israel shall be led away captive*  
Ezekiel 37:6 *I will put breath into dry bones*  
Zech. 12:9-10 *I will destroy all the nations that*  
2 Thess. 2:1-3 *Christ's return & gathered to Him*  
1 Thess. 4:17 *be caught up together with them*

**1** Jesus said not to set *dates* but to watch for *signs*—He wants us to be looking for Him. AV **Matthew 24:33**, “*So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.*”

**2** If our faith in Christ endures, we will be ready— AV **Matthew 10:22** “*Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.*”

**3** The fact that Jesus could return suddenly and in a split-second, compels us to keep our faith in Him; to maintain a right attitude toward everyone! We do not want to be taken by surprise. NKJV **1 Thessalonians 5:4** “*You, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.*”

**4** False prophets and teachers are everywhere today, so we need to ask if the message is pointing us to God as our Healer and Christ as our Savior— AV **1 John 4:1** “*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God.*”

**5** China’s population is 1.4 billion as of 2022, but Israel with the size of NJ has only a little over 9 million people. Jerusalem is mentioned more in prophecy than any other. Jesus *walked and taught and healed* in Israel and *gave* His life on the cross there. Jerusalem has been built, destroyed, rebuilt, and attacked more than any other city— but it *survives and thrives*.

**6** AV **Zechariah 12:2** “*Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.*”

**3** *And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.*”

**7** Jerusalem is the center of attention as we near the return of Christ. The on-going conflict between Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs will bring the world’s attention on a nation that is only nine miles wide at one point.

**8** The return of Jews to the Holy Land and Israel becoming a nation in 1948 is a *major* prophetic sign. The Jews were forced out of their land by the Romans in AD 135 and issuing a decree that any Jews in Palestine would be killed on sight—still God’s people survived.

**9** Scattered throughout the world, the Israelis have maintained their national heritage through seven-teen centuries of oppression, persecution, hatred,

and harassment because God loves them, and He promised to protect them.

**10** NKJV **Ezekiel 37:21** “*Thus says the Lord God: "Surely I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, wherever they have gone, and will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land."*”

The Zionist Council of 1948 proclaimed from Tel Aviv that Israel was a sovereign state. They appointed David Ben Gurion as Prime Minister and Dr. Chaim Weizmann as president of the provisional council.

United States and Russia recognized the new nation, and Israel was accepted as a member of the United Nations by a vote of 37 to 12.

**11** AV **Luke 21:24** “*[Israel] shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*”

**12** The *times of the Gentiles* began with the Babylonian captivity in 606 BC and will continue to the Tribulation. It is a miracle the Jews exist at all, and just as remarkable that in 1967 for the first time since the captivity, the Jews took control of Jerusalem—fulfilling prophecy.

**13** After winning Israel’s six-day war, General Moshe Dayan, after putting the Israeli flag on the Muslim Dome of the Rock which now occupies the place for the Jewish third temple, decided to remove the Israeli flag and give the Arabs control of that site.

**14** Although Israel had won the war the Arabs greatly outnumber the Israelis and the general thought it best to allow the Arabs to keep their holy

place. Had Israel kept control, the religious Jews would have dismantled the Muslim Mosque and rebuilt the Jewish temple.

**15** Jews find it hard to forgive the general for giving their sacred site to the Arabs, but the general may have fulfilled prophecy.

Although the Israelis control most of Jerusalem, they still do not control the Arab quarter and the temple site. The *time of the Gentiles* has not yet come to an end.

**16** The prophet says of the valley of dry bones **Ezekiel 37:6** NLT *“I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”*

*Breath* or *life* refers to the Holy Spirit giving a spiritual revival to Israel *if* and *when* the Jews accept Jesus as their Messiah.

**17** **Zechariah 12:9-10** NKJV says: *“On that day I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem. I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced.”*

**18** Decades have passed and Israel *still* rejects their Messiah. They have been challenged to **Ezekiel 37:4** *“Hear the word of the Lord!”* because for the revival to take place, Israel will have to accept Jesus as their Messiah.

**19** The fig tree budding means Israel is maturing—as if the tree were planted in 1914 (first *birth pains*—**Matthew 24**), but did not grow to a full tree until 1948.

We are now *in the season* of His return and seeing all these *things*—World Wars, famines, deadly

diseases, earthquakes, extreme weather, and Israel as a nation.

**20** AV **Matthew 24:33** *“When ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.”* The fig tree is budding, and Jesus is approaching—we are *in the season* of His return.

**21** The disciples asked *“When will this happen”* **Matthew 24:3?** Jesus said **34** *“This generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.”*

The *generations* could be—**1** That of the disciples who did not see Christ return; **2** The *generation* that went through WW I and most have passed on; **3** the *generation* when Israel become a nation with some still living; **4** and the *generation* of the Six Day War of 1967.

**22** Jesus wants us to be ready with a clear conscience and steadfast faith in Him. Many have predicted the time but have been wrong. One thing is sure—this present generation has more reason to believe Christ *could* return in a moment of time!

**23** Israel is prepared militarily and has nuclear power. It has an advanced anti-missile defense called the Iron Dome. Israel has a *weapons delivery system* that could destroy any country that would attack them—and its Arab neighbors know they are no match for them.

**24** The enemy nations that surround Israel are funded and armed by Iran and others who all share their hatred for Israel. These nations are determined to destroy Israel but will not succeed—all that come against Israel **Zechariah 12:3** *“shall be cut in pieces.”*

**25** Apostasy is a sign **2 Thessalonians 2:1-3**, *“Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and*

*our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, 2 not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 3 Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way”*—the antichrist is revealed first.

**26** *Apostasy* [*apostasia*] means a departure from faith in God. When the Rapture occurs **1 Thessalonians 4:17**, those whose faith is genuine *“will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.”*

**27** Those who are Christians in name only will be left behind, along with millions of unbelievers. **1 Timothy 4:1** *“The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.”*

**28** False teachers will attract a huge following by saying what people want to hear **2 Timothy 4:3-4**. *“For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine.”*

The apostle told Timothy to give *sound doctrine* because of so much wrong teaching and distorted grace messages.

**29** Jesus said to interpret the *signs*; be *ready* by being *faithful* to follow His directions—with a Christlike attitude toward everyone every day. The only way to be *clothed in righteousness* is to keep our faith and trust on the Righteous One!

**30** *“When you see all these things, you know that he is near, right at the door!”*



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