



Read Through The Bible In A Year

Week 29 – Israel: The Apple of God’s Eye [Zechariah 2:8](#)

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. Hebrews 10:36

1. Looking Back - The Kingdom splits due to Solomon’s excesses and the people’s apostasy. Judah is bad; Israel worse. God raises up prophets to speak to the people and urge them to repent before it’s too late.

2. What happened in this week’s reading July 12-18 (pp. 878-911)

a. Isaiah Prophecies About Restoration and the Messiah” (878) From the Daily Bible:

Isaiah’s prophecies serve further to help the people look forward to the coming of the Messiah and his everlasting kingdom of justice, righteousness, and salvation. The restoration messages are in an appropriate context for the messianic prophecies. Just as Israel has been a suffering servant of God, so too the Messiah will be a suffering servant for all people, including Gentiles. Just as Israel will be restored in prosperity, so too will the faithful believers of all time be blessed in the Messiah’s kingdom. And just as the oppressors of God’s people are themselves to be destroyed, so too will God’s judgment eternally destroy the wicked. And yet for the righteous, God is preparing a place where all will be eternal joy and peace. So in many ways the present punishment of Israel and her promised restoration are analogous to the Messiah’s kingdom, the final judgment at the end of time, and the eternal home of the saved.

b. The coming messiah (879)

c. Creator’s Strength (881)

d. Israel specially chosen (882)

History of Israel

- God gave land to Jews through Abraham--- Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 17:7,8)
- God warned Jews of curses if they were disobedient, but He would ultimately restore the land
- God’s Covenant with Arabs (Genesis 17:20)
- Israel became a nation after Exodus. Became an empire under David
- Taken off into captivity because of its sin. Reestablished nation post-exilic
- Occupied by Greeks in 331 B.C.; Occupied by Romans in 30 B. C.
- Loses identity as a nation in 70 A.D. Jews dispersed (Diaspora)
- Islam replaces Christianity as major religion ~7th Century
- Zionist movement begins in late 19th Century
 - Theodor Herzl. Goal: Home in Palestine for Jews
- Balfour Declaration 1917
- After WWI Britain takes control of Palestine
- Jewish immigration and Arab resistance increase
- In 1948 UN makes Israel a state; Jerusalem divided
- War and conflict since

The U.S. on Israel

Replacement Theology

- e. Israel to be Redeemed (886) Rebuilt (891)
- f. Cyrus to be instrument (891, 892)
- g. Babylon will Fall (895)
- h. Isaiah 53 (906)

53:1 Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

53:2 He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

53:3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

53:4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

53:6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

53:8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken.

53:9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

53:10 Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

53:11 After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.