

THE DESTINY OF ISRAEL

Romans 11:25-27



“Action springs not from thought, but from a readiness for responsibility.” -Bonhoeffer

For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this **mystery**, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until **the fullness of the Gentiles** has come in. And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written:

*“ The Deliverer will come out of Zion,
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;
For this is My covenant with them,
When I take away their sins.”*

I. **THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL (25)**

john 12:40,41 | genesis 22:17-18 | sand & stars

For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this **mystery**, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel...” Rom 11:25

The rebirth of the nation of Israel is a mystery hidden in the miracles of God – who could imagine that a nation would rise from the ashes? Who would imagine that a nation would be born in a day?

“Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day? Or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion was in labor, She gave birth to her children. Isaiah 66:8

“First they came for the Communists, but I was not a Communist so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Socialists and the Trade Unionists, but I was neither, so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Jews, but I was not a Jew so I did not speak out. And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out for me.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

We are living in a day when we see a rising tide of anti-Semitism – it points to the lateness of the hour and calls on every one of us to stand straight and tall and exhibit courage and fortitude.

The mystery Paul refers to is the mystery of God’s plan for Israel – this mystery will see its fulfillment in the “Last Days”

The blindness referred to in this passage refers to the spiritual blindness --- it is partial and temporary. It will last until the *fullness of the Gentiles* has been fulfilled. Paul’s words are not based on human wisdom, but ON God – once you begin to move in Spirit of God -- depending “ON GOD” becomes the norm – the Hand of

God becomes evident in all that you do. **You become a Voice not an Echo – many men are echos – they sound like everyone else – just repeating what someone else says**

Human wisdom loses its luster ----- It is tarnished by time and shows its true character ---- Have you had an “ON GOD” moment lately? A moment when the only explanation was God? The circumstances leading up to the “ON GOD” moment may have been difficult – the challenges were beyond what you thought you could handle – and then you had an “ON GOD” moment – your faith shifted – your hope was restored – you felt the gentle breeze of God’s Spirit and you knew it all depended “ON GOD” – the God who, “gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did.” (Romans 4:17)

Abraham had one of those moments – God said,
I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants **as the stars of the heaven and as the sand** which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. **18** In your seed **ALL the nations** of the earth shall be blessed...” Gen 22:17,18

This is a two-fold promise – an earthly promise and a heavenly promise – the *stars of the heaven* point to a spiritual kingdom – the *sand of the seashore* point to an earthly kingdom. In this promise God was telling Abraham – that He was going to establish an earthly kingdom by the Jews and a spiritual kingdom through the Church.

By faith Abraham believed God and God made him the father of all those who believe, both Jew and Gentile. This mystery is great –

II. **THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES (25)** “until” | luke 21:24

Two Terms are important to Understand:

1. The Times of the Gentiles
2. The Fullness of the Gentiles

TIMES OF THE GENTILES

“Times of the Gentiles” began fall of Jerusalem (BC 606)

Luke 21:24 “And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the *times of the Gentiles* are fulfilled.”

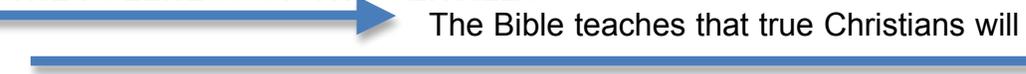
June, 1967 The Six-Day War. Jerusalem is liberated from Jordanian control and for the first time in 2500 years the Jews are in complete control of Jerusalem.

This was fulfilled at the 6 Day War – it was a prophetic turning point:

- ~Witnessed the miracle of God’s intervention
- ~Regained the Western Wall
- ~Recaptured Jerusalem

606 BC “Times of Gentiles” to 1967 (6 day war)

THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES

 The Bible teaches that true Christians will all be removed at the end of the age

(an event called the rapture), leaving behind a counterfeit church.

God has surely already begun to judge the U.S. It probably will get much worse. This will be primarily a national judgment.

Billy Graham said it well, **"If God does not judge America, He is going to have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."**

August 22, 1787, **George Mason** (Father of the Bill of Rights) made this prophetic statement **"Every master of slaves is born a petty tyrant. They bring the judgment of Heaven upon a country. As nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world, they must be in this. By an inevitable chain of causes and effects, Providence punishes national sins, by national calamities."**

"The Fullness of the Gentles" will be complete at the Rapture of the Church

God suspended his plan for the nation of Israel and incorporated both Jews and Gentiles into one body called the Church.

The purpose of the Fullness of the Gentiles is for God to create for Himself a Heavenly people called the church - fulfilling His promise to Abraham

Hebrews 12:1,2 "...we are surrounded by so great a **cloud of witnesses**, let us run with endurance the race that is set before us looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross..." IF Nick could speak to us now – what would he say? He would say "I'm surrounded by brothers and sisters that I never met on earth – I'm surrounded by relatives that I never knew – don't weep for me – I'm with Jesus – when I arrived in heaven – Jesus wiped every tear from my eye – Jesus said welcome to my house – instantly, without learning I understood what life was all about – I see it now – I wish I could tell you and encourage you to love Jesus with all your heart – I wish I could tell you that life is more than the track – the real race – the best race I ever had was the race to meet Jesus – I have finished the race – I have one the prize – it's not a shiny trophy – it's not a medal or cash – its so much more – I want that for you –I want for you today – it has to be knowing Jesus
Here's how you can know Jesus ([Invitation](#))

At that point I asked those 500 or so people who had packed into the Chapel to Receive Christ – I then asked them to indicate their decision for Christ – more than 60 people gave their hearts to Christ

III. **THE COMING REVIVAL (26-27)**

Zechariah 12:9-11 | Isaiah 59:20-21

And so **all Israel will be saved**, as it is written: *"The Deliverer will come out of Zion,
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;
For this is My covenant with them,
When I take away their sins."*

At some point in the near future, there is going to be a massive spiritual awakening in Israel that will grab the attention of the whole world – the news agencies will be jammed with news of Jews turning to the LORD --- it will be according to the promise found in this book, the Bible – both Old and Testaments testify of a coming days when – "All of Israel will be saved."

22 So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day forward...**29** And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,' says the Lord GOD." In Ezekiel 39:22,29

This national conversion will come about according to words of Ezekiel --- "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD." ~Ezekiel 37:14

Already there is evidence of a softening of the hearts --

On the plane to Houston en-route to DC – I was seated next to the Iranian man – my wife was seated, one row back, next to a **Jewish Woman** – another coincidence – we had moved our seats that morning – she also had moved her seat that morning.

In 1967 there were fewer than 2000 Messianic Jews in the US --- today there are more than 2 million.

There are more than 100 congregations in the land of Israel

Messianic Judaism is the fastest growing stream of Jewish religious life on the planet today. **It is reported by Jewish Rabbi's that more Jews have become born again in the last 18 years than in the last 18 centuries.** This movement is not the product of any person or organization but simply the work of God's Spirit in fulfillment of prophecy according to God's purposes and plans.

The character and work of God guides the path of Israel – This is a mystery that defies human logic – **The ways GOD** are past finding out – we are like clay in the hand of the Potter – he molds us He shapes US – but we NEVER leave His hand ---- His finger prints are unmistakable!

Whom God Chooses, by Henry F. Lyte

When God wants to drill a man,
and thrill a man, and skill a man,
When God wants to mold a man,
To play the noblest part;
When He yearns with all His heart
To create so great and bold a man,
That all the world shall be amazed,
Watch his methods; watch His ways.
How He ruthlessly perfects
When He royally elects!
How He hammers him and hurts him
And with mighty blows converts him
Into trial shapes of clay
Which only God understands;
While his tortured heart is crying,
And He lifts beseeching hands!
How He bends but never breaks
When His good He undertakes.
How He uses whom he chooses,
And with every purpose fuses him;

But every act induces him
To try His splendor out –
God knows what He's about!
Go then, earthly fame and treasure!
Come disaster, scorn, and pain!
In Thy service, pain is pleasure;
With Thy favor, loss is gain.
I have called Thee, Abba, Father;
I have stayed my heart on Thee.
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.

The blindness and hardening of Israel is in part until the fullness of the Gentiles come in –
There is a **National Conversion** coming to Israel – the phrase “all Israel will be saved” does not mean that every Jew who has ever lived will be saved – but that when the Redeemer returns – those living during those times will see Him, Receive Him and be Saved.

Zechariah 12:10 (Rev. 1:7)

10 “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only *son*, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

The Gospel message has been placed in the hands of the Gentiles - we hold the key that unlocks the mystery of God the unsearchable riches of the Kingdom

“God is looking for a man who will throw himself entirely on God. Whenever self-effort, self-glory, self-seeking or self-promotion enters into the work of revival, then God leaves us to ourselves.
~Ted Rendall

LIFE APPLICATION

- Are you on the fence?
- Revival begins with you

Listen/Study/Grow

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