

## THE LAND BELONGS TO ISRAEL FOREVER!

“From the River to the Sea, Palestine Will Be Free” chanted by pro-Palestinian activists is commonly understood as a call for a Palestinian state which extends from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea – which is to say the state of Israel. This implies the dismantling and elimination of the Jewish state.

Perhaps the God of the Bible (YHWH – the covenant God of Israel) has something to say about this.

### **Jeremiah 7:7 (NKJV)**

**7** then I will cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers forever and ever.

God gave the land as a gift to the forefathers. And, He gave it to them “forever”. The phrase “forever and ever” is the strongest way possible, in Hebrew, to say FOREVER. It is used to describe God’s ETERNAL nature and character (cf. 1 Chron. 16:36, Ps. 90:2, 103:17). In fact, other than describing God’s eternal character, the only place it is used is here in Jeremiah in reference to God’s giving the land to the Jews FOREVER.

### **Psalms 90:2 (NKJV)**

**2** Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

### **Jeremiah 25:5 (NKJV)**

**5** They said, ‘Repent now everyone of his evil way and his evil doings, and dwell in the land that the Lord has given to you and your fathers forever and ever.

Because Israel has been under discipline for such a long time, people might think God no longer cares about the people of Israel or what happens to the land. That is a MAJOR ERROR! Joel makes it very clear that one of the reasons God is going to bring judgment on the entire world is because of what they have done to the Jews and the land of Israel.

### **Joel 3:2 (NKJV)**

**2** I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of

**My people, My heritage Israel**, Whom they have **scattered among the nations**; They have also **divided up My land**.

God has not forgotten! And in the last days, He is going to bring judgment on the entire world for how they have abused both the people and the land of Israel.

What is this anomaly of the Jewish people and its land, this eternal bond that almost two thousand years of exile failed to sever?

This is the work of God in keeping with His covenant promises. Israel in the land in blessing is a testimony to the ONE true God. Israel in exile is a testimony to the ONE true God. And Israel, in the process of her last days return to the land in blindness, is also a testimony to the truth of God's Word. All of this is in perfect accord with the prophetic Scriptures.

**A Jewish Rabbi** who lived in the 11<sup>th</sup> century asked why the first sentence of the Bible begins with the creation of the universe. Why not begin with the creation of the Jewish nation followed by their conquest of the Land of Promise. After all, relatively little space is given to the Creation Account in comparison to the history of Israel. So why start with creation?

Rabbi Rashi then answered his own question by saying that in the future the nations of the world would be prone to say to the Jews, *"You are thieves, you have stolen the land from the Canaanite nations."* So he said, *"God began the Bible with the Creation Account to in effect tell the world, 'I am the Creator of the Universe. Everything is mine. I choose to give the Land of Israel to the Jewish people.'"* (cf. Deut. 7:6-10).

Indeed, Creator God has given the land to Israel forever. This is His divine prerogative! Right now, the Jews are back in the land in blindness, but in the crucible of the last days drama and trauma they will finally come to repentance. But the Jews are back in the land to stay forever. It has to be so in order for last days prophecy to play out.

God will complete what He has started with Israel. He will yet fulfill all the LAND PROMISES made to the patriarchs. The wandering Jew will become the converted and settled Jew, forever dwelling in the Land of Promise. The Bible is clear God has given the land of Israel to the Jews FOREVER AND EVER!

The Middle East is a tinderbox of conflict and behind it are spiritual realities. The world (head up by Satan) seeks to destroy Israel. God is sovereign and will bring to pass what He has purposed. He will do so in spite of the Jews and their rebellion and in spite of the Gentile world and their rebellion. God is God and He will have His predetermined way! The conflict over the land of Israel is BIGGER than Israel – it's really all about GOD! The stage is being set for a GOD-THING that will shake the world to its core!

**Joel 3:16–17 (NKJV)**

**16** The Lord also will roar from Zion, And utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; But the Lord will be a shelter for His people, And the strength of the children of Israel.

**17** “So you shall know that I am the Lord your God, Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again.”

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