

TIME SERIES NO.12

ISRAEL

**A WESTGATE
MONOGRAPH No.12**

ISRAEL

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INTRODUCTION

I have had the pleasure of visiting Israel –the land of the patriarchs and prophets, of Jesus Christ the Messiah and of His apostles.

Under Israel (Westgate monograph No.12) you will find a major apologetic developed from Isaiah 53 in the interests of bringing the most singular scripture in the Torah to the attention of the Jewish reader.

The immense benefits God conferred on this nation are briefly set out under the heads “God’s covenant and law”. The third benefit is “Scripture” attested in the deep inspirational prophecies of Isaiah, Daniel and Zechariah explored in relation to Messiah in the monograph.

A short detail on Israel’s claim of right to the land she now uneasily occupies is added for the interest of the reader.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION- EASILY IDENTIFIED
2. GOD’S COVENANT & LAW
3. ABRAHAM’S SEED
4. TWELVE VERSES IDENTIFY MESSIAH
5. DANIEL’S 173,150 DAYS
6. ZECHARIAH’S TELLTALE MARKS
7. POSTSCRIPT -THE STATUS OF ISRAEL

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INTRODUCTION –EASILY IDENTIFIED

Jewish people during the Second World War and before often adopted different names to avoid certain death. There are however racial features and indeed a special giftedness that marks this people out. Jewish winners of the Nobel Prize on a per capita basis exceed persons of all nations. Jewish people generally hold closely to tradition and steadfastly to their religious faith as represented by the synagogue and the Torah. Orthodox Jews worldwide cut a distinctive figure wherever they go and the corners of the beard, the prayer shawl, the striking black woolen coat and matching hat mark them out as special. The Lord God set His seal upon them by circumcision and desired them through all history to remain special to Him. He calls them “the apple of His eye”.

GOD’S COVENANT AND LAW

Almost 4000 years ago God called Abraham to leave Ur of the Chaldees. He made Abraham several promises noone else ever received. Then 3500 years ago He took Moses from nulrushes to the burning bush, and over the Red sea to Mt Sinai.

God promised Abraham He would make him a great nation and bless every people on earth through him(Genesis 12. 2ff). This promise is attendant upon the coming of Messiah and is largely fulfilled under the New Testament.

God promised Abraham that He would make his descendants as numerous as the stars and the sand and that they would possess the cities of their enemies (Genesis 22.17). This promise is to faith and has to some extent been realized through faith righteousness in the world. Its fulfillment awaits the millennium when myriads will shine in the brightness of faith through the long years of Messiah's kingdom.

God promised to Abraham that his seed would inherit the land to which he was directed when he left Ur. This land promise is reiterated several times as follows.

- (1) "To your offspring I will give this land". As a result Abraham built an altar at Shechem in Samaria. (Genesis12.7)
- (2) "All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever". This promise was given while Abraham lived at Bethel and appears to have relevance concerning territory visible from the heights towards Sodom and the south (Genesis 13.15)
- (3) When Abraham lived at Mamre following a dreadful vision demonstrating the 400 year Egyptian captivity. God promised Abraham possession of the land "from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates" (Genesis 17.18)
- (4) In Genesis 24.7 Abraham as an aged pilgrim who had little more than a graveplot reiterated to his son Isaac that God promised him that "To his seed He would give the land" and he appeared to be speaking of land as far north as Syria where Isaac would find a wife.
- (5) In Genesis 26.3 Isaac received like promise from God that all these lands of the covenant (Including

Philistine territory now known as Gaza) would become the possession of his seed.

- (6) Isaac in turn prayed that the blessing God conferred territorially might be known by Jacob and his seed so that they would “take possession of the land where they then lived as aliens”(Genesis 28.4).
- (7) In Jacob’s famous ladder dream God appeared to him and said His seed would be as the dust of the earth and spread out north south east and west and his people would possess Bethel. Also in his seed all people would be blessed (Genesis 28.13)
- (8) At that blessed place called Peniel near where I have stood God pronounced that He would give the area East of Jordan to Israel’s descendants and seed. This land was offered and retracted under the mandate-but will one day be engrossed in a new divine fulfilment (Genesis 35.12)
- (9) In Egypt Jacob reminded Joseph that God appeared to him at Luz when he returned from Padan-aram and promised him “the land of Israel for an everlasting possession to his seed” (Genesis 48.4).

Now whilst there are higher spiritual blessing accorded to the patriarchs in Christ the promises of God to the Jewish people await to be fulfilled and I do not doubt that when Israel comes into her full heritage the nations will rejoice and with her every people on earth will be blessed.

THE MAN MOSES

The baby in the bulrushes became the greatest lawgiver in the world under God. He was a Levite who by providence came under the protection of Egypt’s most powerful Queen Hatshepsuh. Chief of Egypt’s southern forces(according to Josephus) he refused the allurements of Egypt’s fabulous wealth

and led the people of the Jews across the Red Sea to worship at Sinai. He spent 40 years in the palace, 40 in the Midianite desert near Akaba as a shepherd and 40 leading Israel through numerous desert locations to the borders of the promised land. Moses was herald of judgment to Pharaoh in plagues that were aimed at Egypt's false gods among which were the River god, Apis the bull (cf. cattle murrain), Beelzebul god of flies, the Frog god and Ra the Sun god (cf. the darkness). Moses was given the direction to institute Passover with the slaying of a lamb for a household. This prefigures the death of the Lamb of God for the world - examined further in the Isaiah 53 verses. The daily Manna in the desert and the Rock from which sprang life-giving water are a few other examples of how Israel's experience was united to the life of her Messiah before His birth. Moses is famous for his song hailing God's triumph and deliverance from Pharaoh. The Song of the Lamb (Apocalypse 15.3) by parallel hails the victory of Christ and the deliverance of saints from Satan. Moses on Sinai was given plans for the offerings priesthood, ark and tabernacle with its furniture –all these were a manner of uniting the nation and her testimony to the coming Christ. The five books of Moses record 120 conversations of God with Him. Genesis tells of the expeditious 6 day creation of all things and of the patriarchs; Exodus is the story of escape from Egypt and its sequel; Leviticus contains the laws and offerings and ordinances for feasts and atonement; Numbers recounts Israel's desert pilgrimage and the tasks of the Priests and Levites - also something of the nation's travels including their faith when Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness. Finally Deuteronomy (the second law giving) details religious and social law for judges, kings, debt cancellation, law against spiritism, marriage rules, protection for accidental manslaughter and so much more splendid provision God

given and so advanced it is respected today. Moses is well deserving of his renown. The Lord talked intimately with him on the mount of transfiguration prior to his own Exodus at Jerusalem as the Lamb of God.

ABRAHAM'S SEED

BEN JOSEPH

The many references to Abraham's blessing centre on one person termed "the seed" and this seed is not one of the patriarchs nor is it the nation in solidarity, it is MESHIAH. It has always to be borne in mind that although Jesus "who was called the Christ" was widely known and accepted in the first century Jewish community as Rabbi BEN JOSEPH. However the historical and literary evidence that he was the son of Joseph is unmistakably flawed. The narrative of the birth of Yeshua confirms that the well-known figure of Joseph the carpenter of Nazareth recognised that the baby Mary carried was not his if for no other reason but that he had no intimacy with the world famous virgin Mary. Luke, a leading Gentile researcher of the day, recorded for posterity the exact evidence and detail of the birth of Yeshua and the fact that his identification was truly with Mary Heli (for that was the virgin's patronymic) but Matthew Levi tells us that after the angel of the LORD visited Joseph in a dream he engaged to be Jesus' adoptive parent or *in loci parentis* father. Joseph is described by Levi as "a just man who wanted to break the engagement contract with Mary" to spare her embarrassment at the forthcoming Huppah ceremony. It was divine action in the shape of a visit from the angel of the LORD that deterred Joseph from such action. A leading priest of the time called *Symeon* who is believed to be the *son of Hillel* – one of Israel's greatest ever teachers predicted when Jesus was brought before him by Joseph and Mary that "this

child is set for the falling and rising again of many in Israel and for a sign that shall be spoken against”. Such a statement of his father would have made *Gamaliel, Symeon’s son and the leading rabbi of his day*, very cautious about condemning the followers of Jesus – and indeed the researches of Luke inform us that Gamaliel later successfully advised the Sanhedrin not to proceed further against the Christians after the resurrection with the sombre warning words “lest you be found to fight against God.” Luke, by the way, also records a most significant fact-that Mary Jesus’ mother was descended from Heli and he in turn was descended from David by direct line. Thus Jesus is “the seed” of Abraham by his mother.

ISAIAH’S SCROLL IS THE OLDEST MANUSCRIPT WE HAVE

The oldest known Greek manuscripts of the complete bible date back to the 4th and 5th centuries of our era whereas the oldest Hebrew manuscripts go back to 900 AD – or they did until 1947. In that year at Ain Fashka a Bedouin boy threw a stone into a partially collapsed cave as he searched for a lost goat. He heard a ringing sound and climbed in to find a number of crushed jars with scroll ends sticking out of them. His Bedouin friends gathered them up and sold them to a Syrian Convent who then turned them over to the American school of Oriental Research. This fascinating discovery in the rain free area of the Dead Sea yielded well preserved documents 1000 years older than any others known to exist. When deciphered these scrolls read word for word as does our current *Book of Isaiah* in the bible. The parchment found was 24 feet long and consisted of sheets 15 inches by 10 inches sewed together and it was in ancient Hebrew script. Isaiah who himself was sawn asunder paints a glowing story in his scroll of the “suffering one” at the centre of history

developed in conjunction with the prophecy of Ueshua's virgin birth which we read in Isaiah Chapter 7. Rabbi YESHUA BEN JOSEPH himself made the first claim to be Israel's Meshiach and substantiated it by unique life-giving miracles and by presenting as Meshiach at the exact date Daniel referred to and not least by rising from the dead to the gross discomfort of Jewish leadership of the day. Writers who were taught by YESHUA BEN JOSEPH have made full use of the statements of the 7th century BC prophet's writings (in 412 references) within *their massive body of anecdotal evidence* which can be researched in the New Testament – and the statements or references they make ostensibly support the Messianic claim of their Master.

THE INCREDIBLE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH

The bold wording below is an English rendering I myself have made precisely reflecting the Masoretic text of Ben Asher which itself was copied from the same family of Spanish MSS used by Shemuel Ben Jacob to produce the No.782 Norzi codex. The text I refer to is known as Or 2626-8 and is held in the British Museum. It is a beautiful illuminated Sephardic manuscript of the 1482 Hebrew Bible. **The italicised font** represents my comments or Midrashim. I do apologise for my running commentary style which promiscuously merges text that learned Jewish readers would call the Kethibh and Qere but I defend myself by arguing that the distinct fonts used adequately separate the two. The narrative on the “suffering one” in Isaiah occupies only 12 verses of text but constitutes a very remarkable prophecy. It is on record that the treasurer of the Queen of Ethiopia circa 30-35 AD acquired a copy of the Torah and read this chapter but could not make head nor tail of it until it was explained to

him in the light of the(then) recent death and resurrection of Yeshua BEN JOSEPH.



Stylised lithograph of Antonio Ciseri's Nikodim Ben Gurion and Joseph of Arimathea (men of the Sanhedrin) doing honour to the body of Jesus. Guildhall Gallery, London

TWELVE UNFORGETTABLE VERSES UNMISTAKABLE IDENTIFY MESHIA'CH

1. Who has perfectly supported or trusted or "built upon" (*Hebrew Hiphil tense*) what we have heard and understood and to whom has the forearm or strength for war of the Living Lord been uncovered-made naked *We are first introduced to a servant. He rolls up His sleeves. Before he went to the cross Jesus rolled up his sleeves laid aside his robe and washed the feet of all his disciples. He put the capstone to a life of serving sick deranged and disenfranchised people. His apprenticeship as a carpenter at Nazareth saw him make "yokes" which were reputed to be the best and as Justyn Martyr mentioned to his Jewish friend Trypho Jesus lived to the motto "THOROUGH"*

2. He will grow up as a sucker of an old tree (*Hebrew qmmy*) belonging to the face of God and as a root (*Hebrew vrvv* often used of the "lowest", "the controversial") out of the sun-baked white ground. No especial delineation of feature and no outstanding honour belongs to Him and

when we make ourselves look at Him it is not a sight we take pleasure in. *Here we have a Davidic root and the link with heaven set together and yet there is no evidence in the looks of Jesus of Nazareth that set him apart. The major clue to his being was his speech which was unerring together with his own challenge "Which of you accuses me of sin?" All servants are plain and Jesus was a true man and a plain man. He lived largely incognito. He warned the three who knew him best when once he appeared in his natural glory (By TRANSFIGURATION on Mount Hermon)not to speak to any man of his true identity until he had risen from the dead.*

3. Despised for who He was and declined or forsaken of men He was a heroic man of pain of body and sorrow of soul (Hebrew bak)and acquainted in body and mind with exhaustion or calamity or grief (Hebrew hl h)and it was as if we veiled our faces from Him. Despised for who He was and we did not value Him or reckon to Him what belongs to Him.

Jesus is said to be special in being able to bear suffering. Peter observed that throughout his crucifixion experience Jesus of Nazareth did not revile those who reviled him. Servants often have heavy roles and suffer exhaustion. In this Jesus was outstanding. In Samaria, in Gethsemane and at Calvary to quote but a few cases, he lived to the edge of physical endurance.

4. Surely He lifted the burden of our exhaustion, calamity or grief. He bore for those last months (as a mother a child in the womb)in His heart our sorrow of soul and pain of body and we imputed or reckoned to Him "meddling" or ""being smitten by calamity"; "having been smitten of God by a plague as a leper would be" and brought low.

This is precisely predictive of the current religious assessment of Jesus of Nazareth in his day. He was thought to be meddling in matters where He had supposedly no right. Few except his disciples at first conceived he might be who he said he was and claimed he was before Pilate – the son of God. Nemesis apparently overtook Him. What if that apparent nemesis was divine sovereign kindness to provide himself as a lamb for our sins? He was brought low. Indeed He was brought low but was it for our sakes and was it his avowed purpose? The irony was his body could never be found – his tomb was empty – and as he predicted after three days he built his body in resurrection into a temple that would never be cast down. After 40 days he ascended to heaven and promised to return but not till the end of the age.

5. He was pierced through (Hebrew *l|j*) for our falling away or breaking the covenant (Hebrew *[vp]*); He was broken in spirit (Hebrew *akd*) for our iniquity (Hebrew *mm*) [– taking what is not mine in a depraved or barefaced way – as Joseph's cup – Genesis 44.16 or cohabiting Exodus 21.10 – as in Ezekiel 21.30 "The crime of the end" or one without recovery – due final judgement) Did the servant interpose His precious life-blood to deal with the utter extremity of providing a scape-goat and a Passover for man? **The chastening or discipline of our peace (our total welfare – even yours dear reader) was on Him and by His striped blows (Hebrew *rbj*) we find healing for ourselves The uncanny precision of this Hebrew prophecy given by Adonai to Isaiah details what Roman flogging would do to the servant even before its very invention. Rome was founded 752 BC. Isaiah wrote circa 790-740. The "stripes" may be taken not alone as marks deep in the skin like **joining rivers** but may be taken as "joining that which is thrown down" in**

crucifixion and re-built in resurrection 3 days later.. So the WOUNDS are ghastly rivers of blood on the body but they would presently build the body of Christ's disciples into a mighty movement by the gift of the Holy Spirit at the first Pentecost – the Jewish feast of ingathering.

6. All we like a flock will go astray or wander (*The word is used for "apostasy"*) – **each man turning his face his own way but the Living Lord performed the "end of sin" to strike Him– to slay Him– to meet on Him or Himself.** *The “going astray” of the nation and people that the suffering one came to save is starkly predicted. The completion of the servant’s task notwithstanding brings with it a better hope – that when Israel turns back Messiah will return and in company with many Gentiles the chosen people whom Moshe directed to “a prophet like himself” will find JESUS of Nazareth to have a shepherd’s heart and all the look of EL ROEH*

7. He allowed Himself to be driven or harassed (*Heb Niphal reflexive vgn*) and **He allowed himself to be humbled or oppressed**(*Heb Niphal hn[*)and **He did not open His mouth. As a lamb having been caused to run like water** (*Hebrew l by*)**to the executioner and like a ewe or ewe lamb before her shearers is mute dumb or silent** (*Heb ml a*) **so He will not open His mouth** *The precision of the prophet makes the procession to Calvary like a river. One can imagine the people lining the route as the banks and the Christ being pressed along as the water of life going to the place where in the shedding of His blood a living fountain would be opened up for uncleanness. Jesus’ utter silence before Herod and his diffidence to make any defence before Pilate and his one word riposte to Caiaphas fulfils this prophecy precisely.*

8. From detention or the assembly of people at festival (Hebrew רח[) **and from judgement he was taken.** Here is the predicted timing and illegality of it all – at Passover a judgement was given on the Son of God by the then Sanhedrin. How shameful! Rules for holy observance were cast to the side in the frenzied rush to prosecute Jesus. **Who will continually speak or celebrate or meditate on this divine thing** (Hebrew jyc) -"the circuit of His life" "His thirty plus years", "the century He lived in", "his genetic origin"? (Hebrew רwd) **for He cut Himself off or axed Himself or excluded Himself from earth of the living ones – for the covenant breach or sin of my people He cut Himself off – for their sake.** The vicarious and wholly intentional action of Jesus was to “die for the people”. Jesus said “The son of man must be crucified and rise again the third day”. Those around Jesus were well aware that against advice “he set his face like a flint to go to Jerusalem”. His life purpose was to provide atonement (Hebrew rpk). Caiaphas, the high priest of the day, himself said of Jesus “Now consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people and that the whole nation perish not”(John 11.50 and 18.14). Who, then, was left that appreciated what he did? Isaiah in 8.16 answers his own question – the disciples!

9. He will give the unrighteous or fraudulent His sepulchre. He will give to the rich in the house of His death because He had done no violence and there was no betrayal in His mouth This appears to be a statement which is fulfilled in two ways. (1)The tomb of Christ would for a time fall into the hands of the temple guard who collapsed like dead men when the angel stood at the tomb as the Lord’s guard after Jesus arose. When they awoke these guards fled

and told their story but were paid “hush money” to promote the fraud that “his disciples stole the body”. This also the LORD foresaw and disarmed the disinformation by prophecy. (2) The second exact fulfillment is that a leading righteous Jew by the name of Joseph of Arimathea who stood up honestly in the sanhedrin to oppose the contrived plan to kill Jesus and Joseph provided the one he believed to be BEN DAVID with his own garden tomb which is still available to view and I myself have inspected it in detail. Joseph and another Sanhedrinist, Nikodeim Ben Gurion, probably an ancient ancestor of Joseph Ben Gurion, provided burial clothes and 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes for Jesus’ burial.

10. And the Lord is willing or inclines to continually smite Him with stripes crushing His spirit He makes Himself sick... (cf Micah 6.13 where God makes Himself sick by striking others – clearly in awesome crucifixion He turned to making Himself sick for them! The Hebrew *yljh* Hiphil has the reflexive meaning) because You will place His soul or physical life as an offering – that by which one contracts guilt (Numbers 5.7-8) (Hebrew *mva*)

*The placing of the life of Messiah is described by the Hebrew verb *mmc* which means "to constitute" "lay as a foundation" and "name Him" – also "to pledge" "to treasure for the future" and "to prepare" This is the counsel of the divine will in eternity past. Thus the act of the death of Christ though the result of agent provocateurs both Gentile and Jewish was the grand design of our maker to issue a pardon to the sinner who receives His provision of himself as a lamb exactly as Abraham said when he saw the future provision on Mount Moriah. Abram said to Isaac “God will provide himself a lamb”. Incidentally, the “place of the skull” where Yeshua was crucified is like the temple area part of the ancient scarp*

of Mount Moriah which was bi-sected by the present road that circles the old city's northern boundary past the Damascus gate.

...He will see seed, lengthen His days and the "pleasure" of the Lord will finish well or be successful in His hand
Yeshua BEN JOSEPH was unmarried. He had no natural family. His desire was for seed of another kind – disciples who would share his kingdom so that in turn from all the world he would gather the largest family ever built and a brotherhood of love who share his eternal salvation. We should not mistake this humble person Yeshua for a misguided idealist – he reminded his judges that they would see him returning one day in glory and whilst dying confidently advised the crucified thief beside him who asked to be included in his kingdom “You shall be with me in Paradise.” He met with his disciples many times after he rose from the dead and his constant message was “It behoved Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations beginning at Jerusalem.”

11.He shall see prophetically ahead beyond the travail vexation and exhaustion of his soul, and rest. By His personal acquaintance my righteous servant will perfectly accomplish (Hiphil of qydxy)the JUSTIFICATION belonging to great numbers of people and He will carry the "heavy burden" of their depraved defrauding sins (Hebrew lbs "to bear penalties others deserve – cf. Lamentation 5.7"Our fathers sinned and we bear their punishment")The pivotal teaching of Habakkuk the prophet was picked up and expounded by Paul the apostle in Romans chapter 5 and then again highlighted by the reforming priest Martin Luther. It became the chief article of modern

Christianity. In a word it means that you can forget everything else in religion if you do not have “standing” with God through the merits of one who took your place as God’s lamb in the Passover that eclipses the rescue from Egypt for it is the rescue of the eternal souls of mankind. If God provided his son for the salvation of the world and we set aside that provision we forfeit the only rights we have and throw away our eternal security. We act like Esau who sold his birthright for a mess of pottage.

12. For this reason I will continually divide evenly the booty that is His in the house of the great and he will divide the booty with those who become strong. (cf Jeremiah 38.2 "His life shall be a booty")

Those who understand warfare and economics will realise that “profit” is vital to investment and “spoil” or booty” is the prize of warfare. What is here being stated is that the death of Christ will yield history’s most massive bonanza of good. Along with it comes the bringing to God of multiple millions of people of many nations who share the joy of being forgiven. They realise the power of a new life by the Holy Spirit of God entering their souls to confirm in them new life and endeavour after holiness. This is the experiential side of the benefits from the death of the “suffering one”. Together with this is an intimacy in prayer with the living ascended Lord who is termed by Paul our Great High-Priest. And beyond all of these is the glory and joy of being part of his invisible kingdom which will become visible and worldwide at his return. This last is the ultimate gain that Yeshua BEN JOSEPH BEN DAVID envisaged when he went to Jerusalem to give his life for others. Today the signs he himself gave as recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 21 and the Apocalypse of John show the immanence of his return and

call us to cast our lot with the Christ of God in a day when “multitudes are in the valley of decision” and the pre-liminary coming of Yeshua to take those who have received him as Saviour to heaven before unprecedented trials which the prophets term “Jacob’s trouble” strike the earth. Subsequently with the armies of heaven he shall come to rule this earth for the golden era and Israel shall be the first totally responsive nation and thereupon he shall judge the nations as a shepherd separates sheep from goats amid them all and centre his empire on Jerusalem.

5. DANIEL’S 1ST COMING OF MESSIAH IN 173,880 DAYS

A most exceptional prophecy open for all the world to read is to be found in Daniel 9 25-26. This prophecy was given by the angel Gabriel and came from the throne of Almighty God who understands times and seasons like no other.

Whilst the prophecy is open to read the Talmud forbids the study of certain parts of the Old Testament. One of the passages that is so banned is Daniel 9. The deterrent in the Talmud reads “Cursed be the man who calculates the time of the coming of the Messiah”. The Rabbis explain that the prohibition was put in place because of possible unbelief that might arise from incorrect calculations causing disappointment.

The calculation I now refer to was done by Sir Robert Anderson K.C.B. LL.D. and achieved the greatest possible accuracy. Details were provided by the Astronomer Royal G.B Airy whose team worked on Largeteau’s Tables and *Connnaissance des Tems* data at the Royal Observatory. The results were afforded by Greenwich on June 26 1877 and collated with biblical and scholarly facts by Sir Robert. I can happily report that neither Dr.Airy nor Sir Robert suffered any untoward effects from their calculations and their efforts

have also the unintended consequence of serving to show the irrelevance of the Talmudic curse.

The historic prediction is twinned with an edict in respect of the autonomy of Judah given under the authority of Atraxerxes Longimanus II on Nisan 1 445B.C. being the 14th of March and designates Messiah's appearance to Israel as Prince within 69 prophetic weeks(each week being 7 years). Thus Israel were to expect Messiah to present Himself to the nation in 483 years time.

Jewish seasons are moon orientated and the new moon of B.C.445 (and *the "start-the-clock date for this prophecy) is 7 hours 9 minutes A.M. on 13 March 445 B.C.* 483 years allowing for the intercalation of 116 leap years and for the variant Julian and Solar calendars(corrected in 1752 when our English calendar corrected September 3 to be the 14th of that month. This inconsistency is perpetually corrected by the addition of one day every four years by the Gregorian reform) and that B.C.1 to A.D.1 is not two but only one year.

Under this ancient prophecy of Gabriel given to Daniel then *the stop-the-clock date is 6April 32A.D.* which is the date when our Lord Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem to the cries of Hosannah from the welcoming crowds who waved palm branches and cried "Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord". No one other than Jesus called "The Christ" has ever risen from the dead with such marks as Zechariah describes and even more cogently no-one other than Jesus Ben David adopted son of Joseph could ever after fulfil the date of presentation to Israel as Jesus did according to the New Testament records in Matthew 21 1-11 Mrk 11.1-11, Luke 19 28-44 and John 12.12-19 The case rests.

6. ZECHARIAH'S 2ND COMING OF THE CRUCIFIED

Quite remarkable prophecies for the attention of Israel today in respect of Messiah and His return to Jerusalem are made by the prophet Zechariah.

FIVE AMAZING PROPHECIES OF CHRIST

(1) “I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.on that day I will set out to destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem and 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 and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child...the land will mourn each household apart.”(Zechariah 12.1-14 selected)

(2) Upon Messiah’s arrival at His coming on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 13.16)

“But he [*a common man*] said to him ‘Why are these calamitous wounds [*t#wkm*] in your arms?’ and He will say ‘Because I was smitten or struck in the house of my amiable friends’.”

(3) The Roman sword or spear thrust into Christ’s side is predicted. “O sword, awake against My Shepherd and against My Fellow, My Warrior or Prevailer-cum-Associate” whispers the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd and the flock will disperse or scatter””(Zechariah 13.7)

(4) “And it shall become **historical reality** in the land” whispers the LORD “that two portions in it shall be severed and **expire** [[wg] in it and the third portion will remain in it. And I will cause the third portion to come through fire and they will be purified ones as the purifying of silver and tested ones as the testing of gold. He (the third portion) will call on my name and I will answer him. I will say ‘He is my people’ and it(the third portion) will say ‘The LORD is my God’”
(Zechariah 13.8-9) *By end time calamity the nation of Israel is decreased by two thirds during the time of Jacob’s trouble.*

(5) “I will gather all nations against Jerualem to fight against it...then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations...on that day His feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west forming a great valley. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the Lord my God will come and all the holy ones with Him...**on that day** there will be no light, no cold or frost (A day reminiscent of the one when Jesus died!). It will be a unique day without daytime or nighttime - in the evening there will be light. ..**on that day** living water will flow out from Jerusalem half to the eastern (Dead) Sea and half to the western(Mediterranean) Sea in summer and winter. The Lord will be king over the whole earth. **On that day** there will be one Lord, and his name the only one.”
(Zechariah 14.2-9 selected)

*The beam that shines from Zion hill shall lighten every land;
The King who reigns in Salem’s towers shall all the world command (v.9)
Among the nations He shall judge-His judgments truth shall guide;
His sceptre shall protect the just and quell the sinner’s pride.*

*No strife shall rage nor hostile feuds disturb those peaceful years;
To ploughshares men shall beat their swords, to pruning hooks their spears
No longer hosts encountering hosts shall crowds of slain deplore;
They hang the trumpet in the hall and study war no more*
Scottish paraphrase

7. POSTSCRIPT ON THE STATUS OF MODERN ISRAEL

LEAGUE OF NATIONS MANDATE

After World War I under the treaty of Versailles numerous non-arabic nations of the former Ottoman Empire were transitioned to statehood by supervisory powers as Britain and France. There were 26 mandates in all. The League of nations favoured the establishment of a national home for the Jews and issued a determination on 24 July 1922 based on the San Remo and Sevres accords in April and August of 1920. The geo-physical area included the current west bank of the Jordan river and all of present-day Jordan. The plan was subject to variation if it should prove there were fewer Jews than could occupy the land donation. This proved so and consequently an award was made to the Saudi Hashemite family in lieu of the service of the Arab peoples (cf. Lawrence of Arabia).

THE BRITISH MANDATE DIES

The British were tired of war after the 1914-18 struggle and their finances were heavily constrained. A messy struggle developed between Irgun and the interim Israeli leadership and the British military. At sea there was large and avoidable loss of life of returning settlers because Britain enforced unrealistically low immigrant quotas. Britain *de facto* said “We are getting out”. The supervisory role of the Mandate

was up in the air and incomplete. Israeli national independence was declared by the Ben Gurion administration.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

This body made an endeavour to enter the vacuum and sent fact-finders who developed a schema for dividing Israel into 6 portions. Three of these were contiguous and ran north east to south west and were proposed as a homeland for the Arab styled “Palestinian” people. The 1948 pan Arab onslaught on Israel forced the withdrawal of the delegates. Curiously British military personnel heavily supported the Jordanians during the 1949-67 period even leading early assaults on the New Jewish State.

ISRAEL ACCEPTS POST 1948 PARTITION TERMS

In generous style Israel accepted the terms involving an Arab homeland but the Arab people refused them in an avaricious quest for the entire mandated territory. Under the UN security council Jordan supervised an area including Samaria and a section of Judea and Jerusalem was internationalized.

THE GREEN LINE AFTER THE 1969 WAR

The 6-day war when Israel was attacked on Yom Kippor and undertook its own defense evented in a decisive reversal by the hurricane intervention of Lyndon Johnston responding to Golda Meir’s mayday phonecall. Lyndon remembered that as a boy he was told by his mother that one day he should have an opportunity to help the Jewish people. He grasped it with both hands. Article 52 of the UN charter legitimises national self defense so the Security Council could not act to define borders. Fighting ended on the so-called “green line” recognized only by Britain and Pakistan. The Jordanian

hegemony ended. Jerusalem came under Israeli control. Boundaries construed were as in the mandate. Sinai was returned to Egypt. Under Article 25 of the UN charter the *de facto* situation was recognized. The West Bank and Gaza continued as inhabited and were governed by the Palestinian authority; its status “ownerless” or “owned by Israel”. In Real Politic it is administered by Israel.

RESOLUTION 242

After numerous drafts the final wording was that “Israel should withdraw from territories conquered. The Soviet Union insisted on “All” territories. The United States and United Kingdom said “No” to “Some territories” and the diplomats arranged it to read simply “territories”. They agreed to disagree. Actually Israel withdrew from 99% of the territories.

THE PRESENT POSITION

Israel is constituted under the terms of the Original League of Nations mandate and settled under resolution 242. There is no such thing as settlement treaties in international law but under Article 49 of the UN Charter clause 6 there is provision that no occupying power shall deport or transfer part of its population. Israel has never contravened this clause except in ejecting Jewish settlers from their land. Over against the acquisitive aspirations of the Arab-Palestinian people and now considerable requirements of the growing Jewish communities a complex and uneasy territorial demography obtains.

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