

BCC Course on Biblical Eschatology
Week 4 = Israel's Place in Eschatology Scripture Preparation

Read: Gen. 12:2-3; Lev. 26; Deut. 4:25-31, 30:1-10; Isa. 49; Eze. 36-37; Rom. 11:11-29

Israel's Place in Bible Prophecy Eschatology

- Israel is significant not only in the past, but also in the present and in the future.
- Replacement Theology / Supersessionism has often led to the place of Israel in God's plans being ignored or distorted.

What is Israel?

- Ethnic: Descended from the promised seed line of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- National: Common ancestry, language, history, customs, law, etc.
- Territorial: Linked with the land of promise (Genesis 15:18-21)

Israel's Purposes

- Bless all families and nations of the earth (Gen. 12:2-3; 18:18; 22:18)
- Be a light and mediator to other nations (see Deut. 4; Exod. 19:5-6)
- The Scriptures (Rom. 3:2)
- From whom is the Messiah (Rom. 9:5)

Israel in Eschatology

- To be enslaved in Egypt for 400 years and then delivered with blessings (Gen. 15:13-14)
- Destined for the Promised Land (Gen. 12:6-7; 15:18-21; Joshua)
- Will disobey God and be dispersed / scattered to nations (Deuteronomy 30)
- In the Latter Days Israel to be gathered from the nations (Deut. 30:3-4)
- Israel to repent and be saved as a nation in latter days (Deut 30:2, 6)
- Israel to be restored to the Abrahamic Covenant, including the land of promise. (Deut. 30:5; Leviticus 26:40-45)
- Destruction of Temple with Babylon(586 BC) and Romans (AD 70)
- Israel missed Jesus (Luke 19:41-44)
- Times of the Gentiles continues (Luke 21:24b)
- Israel currently experiencing a partial, temporary hardening (Rom. 11:25)
- Will be in covenant with the Antichrist for a seven-year period (Dan. 9:27)
- Will experience the abomination of desolation and the wrath of the Antichrist in the Tribulation Period (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15-20)
- Will believe in Jesus and be saved in the Last Days (Rom. 11:26-27)
- Israel will be rescued (Zech 14; Matthew 24:30-31)
- Will bring more blessings to nations when she believes (Rom. 11:12, 15; Isaiah 2)

Israel's Place in Eschatology Discussion Questions

1. How important is understanding "Israel's Place in Eschatology" for properly grasping God's purposes?
2. What can go wrong if one does not understand the place of Israel in God's purposes?
3. What would you say to someone who says, "The church is the fulfillment of God's purposes for Israel so there is no future significance for national Israel in Bible prophecy"?

