

# THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL

## SESSION FOUR – COREY STARK

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### VI. THE ROLE OF GENTILES: PROVOKING ISRAEL TO GODLY JEALOUSY

A. God will ensure that everyone is burdened by the issues surrounding the nation of Israel (Zech. 12:3). Jesus requires the Church to stand with Israel in their coming persecution (Rev. 12:17; Dan. 7:21, 25; 8:24; 11:33-35; 12:7). Corrie ten Boom is a godly example of those who stood with Israel in the midst of her persecutions. The whole family went to prison and died, except Corrie who lived to tell the story.

***Zech. 12:3 In that day... I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone [burden] for all peoples...***

B. Our most costly and glorious assignment is bringing the Gospel to the Jewish people. The Church will not only stand *for* Israel but *with* Israel in her persecution (Rev. 12:13-17). This will be the “litmus test” of our faith in the end-times and one means by which the Jewish people will *see Christ* in us (Gal. 2:20; Rev. 12:11), thus removing the blinding darkness and bringing them into the light of salvation (2 Cor. 3:14-16).

***Rev. 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman [Israel], and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring [Church], who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.***

***Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me...***

C. The intensity of this conflict is the optimum context to unite believing Jews and Gentiles into the “*one new man*” (Eph. 2:14-16; 3:1-10). Many believers will be brought to full maturity and purified (Dan. 11:32-33; 12:10), while others fall away, even denying their faith (1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Thes. 2:3; Rom. 11:20-22).

***Eph. 2:15 To create in Himself one new man from the two [Jews and Gentiles]...***

D. The Church will provoke Israel to *godly jealousy* to know Jesus (Deut. 32:21; Rom. 11:11; 10:19) by producing mature fruit from the *olive tree* of Israel (Mt. 21:33-46; Rom. 11:17, 24). The Gentiles will:

1. *Provide refuge* for Jewish people in flight, due to global persecution (Jer. 16:16; Rev. 12:6, 14).
2. *Share resources* with them (Rev. 12:6, 14).
3. *Perform miracles* of multiplying food, healing, prophesying like Israel’s O.T. prophets (i.e. Elijah).
4. *Godly character* by resisting sin in a world filled with deep darkness (Isa. 61:1; Rev. 9:21).
5. *Transcendent lifestyle* of walking fearlessly in the face of death, due to the hope of the resurrection.
6. *Stand with God’s purpose for Israel* through anointed intercession (Isa. 62:6-7; Ps. 122:6), prophetic singing and declaration (Jer. 31:7-10), celebration and comfort (Isa. 40:1-2).

E. The evaluation of the nations is based in part on their response to Jesus’ leadership concerning Israel.

***Mt. 25:31 “When the Son of Man comes... He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him... 34 Then the King will say... 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ 37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when...’ 40 And the King will answer... ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’ 41 Then He will say... ‘Depart from Me, you cursed... 45 inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these you did not do it to Me.’***

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### **VII. PART THREE: ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED**

***Rom. 11:26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer [Jesus] will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob [Israel]...”***

A. This happens in context to Jesus’ return and the Millennium. All Israel being saved means that *literally 100%* of the Jewish people who survive the Great Tribulation judgments will be “born again” and believe in Jesus as their Messiah (Jer. 31:1-14, 33; 32:38; Ezek. 11:20; 36:28; 37:23, 27; Zech. 13:9).

***Jer. 31:1 “At the same time... I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.”***

B. Jesus delivers the remnant in Israel in *one day* (Isa. 66:8; Rom. 11:26-27), bringing a *1/3 of the land* (Zech. 13:8-9) and *1/2 of the city* (Zech. 14:2) through the purifying fire of the Tribulation (Mal. 3:2-3).

***Isa. 66:8 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. 9 Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?” says the Lord.***

C. God will continue to pour out His Spirit on “all flesh” *before* Jesus returns, leading to the salvation of many Jewish people (Acts 2:17-19). Today, there are more Jewish people who are being saved than at any time in history. There are about 250,000 messianic believers worldwide. There’s approximately 125,000 are in the USA, 60,000 in Russia and Ukraine and 10,000 in the land of Israel.

***Acts 2:17 In the last days, says God, I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh... and it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.***

### **VIII. JESUS’ TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO THE CITY OF JERUSALEM AND ISRAEL’S DELIVERANCE**

A. Rev. 19:11-21 describes Jesus’ great victory at the battle of Jerusalem, ending the Armageddon campaign with the 7<sup>th</sup> bowl (Rev. 19:17-21). All the kings of the earth gather to *make war* against Jesus (Rev. 17:14; 19:19), whom they believe is a *false Messiah*, functioning as an “angel of light” (2 Cor. 11:14).

***Rev. 19:11 Behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire and on His head were many crowns...***

B. After crying out for Messiah (Isa. 63:15-19; 64:1-5), Jesus arrives at the Mount of Olives. Like Moses splitting the Red Sea, Jesus splits the Mount to deliver the people from the end-time Pharaoh (Antichrist).

***Isa. 64:1 Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down!***

***Zech. 14:1 The day of the LORD is coming... 2 Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. 3 Then the LORD will go forth and fight... as He fights in the day of battle. 4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives... and the Mount... shall be split in two... 5 you shall flee through My mountain valley... Thus the LORD will come, and all the saints...***

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C. Stunned by sudden victory, after all hope was lost, the people of Israel begin singing, “*Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*” (Zech. 9:9; Mt. 21:9; Mk. 11:9-10; Jn. 12:13). However, not yet knowing the true identity of their Deliverer, they begin to ask, “*Who is this King of Glory?*” (Ps. 24:7-10).

***Ps. 24:7 Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. 8 Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.***

D. Jesus prophesied to the leaders of His generation saying, “*you shall see me no more until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD’*” (Mt. 23:39). Remaining true to His word, the Holy Spirit will begin to open their eyes, as they sing and they will ask the questions, “*Who is this King of Glory?*” (Ps. 24:7-8) and again, “*What are these wounds in Your hands?*” (Zech. 13:6). Then as Jesus replies, “*Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends*” (Zech. 13:6), Israel will “*Look upon the One whom they pierced*” (Zech. 12:10-14) and recognize that this is in fact Jesus of Nazareth, their own brother whom their fathers murdered! They will then begin to “*mourn for Him, as for an only son*” and in receiving Jesus as their Messiah, “*all Israel will be saved*” (Zech. 13:1, 8-9; Rom. 11:26-27).

***Zech. 12:10 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.***

***Zech. 13:6 And one will say to Him, ‘What are these wounds between Your hands?’ Then He will answer, ‘Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.’***

E. Just as Joseph was betrayed and left for dead by his own family, then later revealed to his brothers with tears and joyful reconciliation, so also Jesus will be reunited with His own family again!

***Gen. 45:15 And [Joseph] kissed all his brothers and wept over them, and... his brothers talked with him.***

## **IX. PART FOUR: THE FULLNESS OF ISRAEL LEADS TO GOD’S GLORY FILLING THE EARTH**

***Rom. 11:12 If their fall is riches for the world... how much more their fullness... 15 For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?***

A. The *fullness of Israel* (v. 12) will lead to God’s glory filling the earth in the Millennium (v. 15). The fullness of Israel includes the *full number* being saved (Zech. 13:8-9; 14:2; Isa. 66:8; Rom. 11:26), who walk in the fullness of *divine wisdom, godly character* and *supernatural power* thus, completing the “*one new man*” (Eph. 2:14-18), and therefore, fulfilling the *fullness* of God’s purpose for Israel as a nation.

***Hab. 2:14 For the earth will be filled with... the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.***

B. In the Millennium, Israel will be the “burning lamp” that God has desired (Isa. 60:3; 62:1; Jn. 5:35).

***Isa. 62:1 For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns.***

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C. All the nations will travel to Jerusalem to worship God and learn about His ways directly from Jesus (Isa. 2:1-4; Jer. 3:17; Zech. 8:1-23). If they refuse, He will correct them by withholding rain (Zech. 14:16-19).

***Isa. 2:2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established... and shall be exalted... and all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways..." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. (Zech. 8:1-23)***

### X. PAUL'S URGENCY FOR ALL TO UNDERSTAND AND NOT BE IGNORANT (ROM. 11:25)

A. Paul wrote Romans 11 to *assure* the mostly Gentile Church of Israel's future role and glory in the Millennial Kingdom, to give insight into God's *requirement* of standing with them in their future persecution, and to give *warning* of the positive and negative consequences of our choices that are eternal.

***Rom. 11:18 Do not boast against the branches... 20 Do not be haughty, but fear [carefully weigh this subject Rev. 11]. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches [Israel], He may not spare you either [believers in Rome]. 22 Consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.***

B. Paul warns that *ignorance* (v. 25), often progresses to *arrogance* (v. 20), which promotes *passive indifference* (being silent in refusing to help Israel) that can escalate to *active resistance* (helping those who persecute Israel), which can lead to being *cut off by God* (v. 22). Being "cut off" by God (v. 22) is not so cut and dry, having many layers and complexities. However, the *primary warning* is that the "arrogant" will not be able to endure the pressure of standing with Israel in persecution. Some may deny their faith, while others may even stand with Israel's persecutors, imagining that they are doing service for God (Jn. 16:2)!

C. Many in Europe had no forethought of persecuting Jewish people during Hitler's reign, yet they did. This is a warning to the Church. All will be forced to make their decision for Israel known (Zech. 12:3). For many, standing *with* Israel means entering her persecutions. For others, choosing safety requires standing *with* her persecutors. There is a special blessing for those who stand with Israel (Ps. 122:6; Gen. 12:3)

### XI. HOW DO WE PRAY FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE?

A. Our prayers for Israel can be summed up in the *command to pray* for the *peace* of Jerusalem (Isa. 62:6-7).

***Ps. 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. 7 Peace be within your walls, prosperity within your palaces." (Isa. 62:6-7)***

***Rom. 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved!***

B. Our greatest prayer should be for the *spiritual peace* of the nation of Israel (Rom. 10:1), understanding that none will find true and lasting peace until they *turn* and *agree with* Jesus (Josh. 5:13-15), the Prince of Peace, thus removing the veil from their minds by the light of the glory of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 3:14, 16).

***2 Cor. 3:14 Their minds were blinded. For until this day the veil remains unlifted in the reading of the O.T., because the veil is taken away in Christ... 16 when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.***

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C. We should also pray for *social peace* (economic, relational etc.) and for *political peace*, including protection for believers in the land (Zech. 2:5). We should pray for the safety of *believers* and *non-believers* from the threat of terrorism and protection from political aggression. We don't promote the political agenda of secular politicians, but we do actively resist politics that seek to destroy the Jewish people (Ps. 94:20).

D. Ultimate peace will *only come* when Jesus reigns as the *King of Israel* in the Millennial Kingdom. However, we need to contend for the gospel to go forth in power and authority both *in the land* of Israel and among the Jewish people *in the nations* across the earth today. Ask God to release an *anointed witness* of Jesus throughout the nations that will *provoke the Jews to jealousy* (Eph. 6:19-20; Col. 4:3-4; Rom. 11:14).

E. Principle: *What God will do in fullness then, He will do now in part if we ask* (Acts 2:17-19).

F. The LORD is calling *all believers* to *agree* with, boldly *proclaim* and continually *pray* for His purposes concerning Israel to be accomplished (Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6-7, 10-12; Joel 2:17; Rom. 10:1), while *fearlessly standing* with them through their persecutions and *actively resisting* the attacks of the enemy against them.

***Isa. 62:6 I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall not hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of [remember, call upon or pray to] the Lord, do not keep silent, 7 and give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.***

***Jer. 31:7 Thus says the Lord: “Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, ‘O Lord save Your people, the remnant of Israel!’... <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, ‘He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him [direct, protect, provide] as a shepherd does his flock.’”***

***Isa. 40:1 “Comfort My people!” says your God. <sup>2</sup> “Speak comfort to Jerusalem...”***

G. There is a *special blessing* for all who stand with God's heart for Israel (Gen. 12:3; 27:29; Num. 24:9).

***Gen. 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” (Ps. 122:6)***