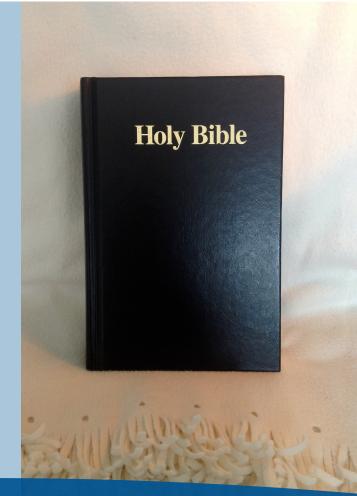
# Unlock the passages of the Bible for yourself

# Learn to Read the Bible More Effectively

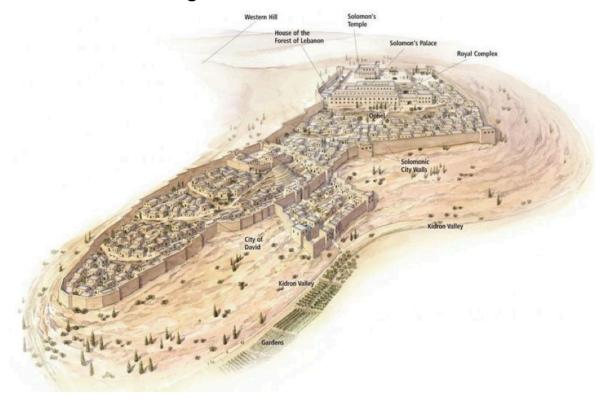
EXPLORING
BIBLE
TEACHING ON
THE KINGDOM
OF GOD



The kingdom of Israel in the past was the Kingdom of God-"the kingdom of the LORD":-

(1000 BC)

I Chronicles 28:5 And of all my sons, (for the LORD hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.



390 YEARS LATER Jeremiah the prophet began to warn them for 40 years that if they did not repent, God would send the Babylonians to destroy the kingdom and the temple. But like the bible prophets in general who foretold the Babylonian destruction of "the kingdom of the LORD" they also prophesied of a final permanent restoration, such as:-

# Jeremiah 23

- 5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David **a righteous Branch**, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.
- 6 In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- 7 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;
- 8 But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

"THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS" must be Messiah-Christ

So the future establishing of the Kingdom of God over Israel will begin with Christ's return. It was in the 'purpose' of God from the beginning, and foretold in the Prophets throughout the Old Testament; but it was not "made flesh" until the future King was born, and it will only become reality when he, (Christ) returns. The promise of these things was made known in the Old Testament and related to Mary by the angel Gabriel as follows:

# Luke 1

- 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall **give unto him the throne of his father David:** 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob **for ever**; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

But when Christ came he did not take the throne of his ancestor David, but was crucified, of which the Apostle John comments:-

# John 19

- :34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.
- :35 And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.
- :36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.
- :37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

John here refers to an end time prophecy in Zechariah which shows that the one so pierced is going to return, as::

#### Zechariah 12

- :9 And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. [Armageddon]
- :10 And I will pour upon **the house of David**, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and **they shall look upon me whom they have pierced**, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

The New Testament confirms this promise regarding Christ, as:

# **Revelation 1:7**

Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and **they also which pierced him**: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

So Christ is to be the great king promised in the prophets, as:

# Zechariah 14

- :2 For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.
- :3 Then shall **the LORD go forth, and fight** against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.
- :4 And **his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives**, which is before Jerusalem on the east,.....

Christ's association with the Mount of Olives is strong; he used to sleep there, he was arrested there, he ascended to heaven from there. When he next stands there it will be to deliver Jerusalem from imminent destruction in the battle of Armageddon, and dramatic upheavals will occur; as the rest of verse 4 foretells:

**Zechariah 14:4** "....and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."

This epoch is at the battle of Armageddon (spoken of in Revelation 16:16). We read on in:

# Zechariah 14

- 9 And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.
- 10 All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem: and **it shall be lifted up**, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, and from the tower of Hananeel unto the king's

When mount Zion, with Jerusalem is "**lifted up**", and restored with a new Temple, the remnant of the nations will come and pay homage to Christ and the temple, as this chapter further says:

# Zechariah 14:16

"And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship **the King**, **the LORD of hosts**, and to keep the feast of tabernacles."

The nations will have to send delegations annually to re affirm their subjection to Israel and her Messiah-King; otherwise:

#### Zechariah 14

- 17 And it shall be, that whose will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain.
- 18 And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles.

We read also of this time in:

#### Amos 9:11

In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

# Isaiah 41

- 8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of **Abraham my friend.**
- 9 Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away.

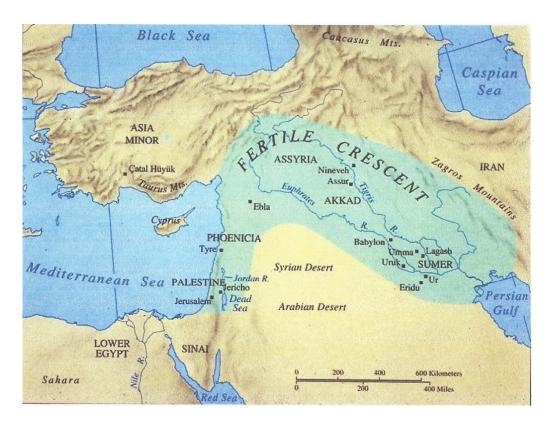
These events involve the fulfilling of the promises to Abraham, of which we read:-Genesis 15:7

"And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee **this land to inherit it.**"

The promised land is then defined in verse 18 as:-

# Genesis 15:18

"In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of **Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:**"



The Euphrates, the southern river of the fertile crescent, flows from Turkey, Through Syria and Iraq to the Persian Gulf. This is the territory, from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf, promised **to Abraham** and his promised descendant **Christ**; as Paul explains in:-

#### Galatians 3:16

"Now **to Abraham** and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is **Christ**."

This promise of the land as a Kingdom and Paradise to Christ is sure:-

# Galatians 3:15

"Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto."

ALL WHO ARE OF ABRAHAM'S FAITH SHALL INHERIT WITH HIM. YOU WILL SEE THIS IF YOU READ ALL THIS CHAPTER, eg:

Galatians 3:9 "So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."

So we have seen that the Kingdom of Israel, as The Kingdom of God, is to be restored by Christ at his return. Much detail is given in the prophets about the Kingdom:-

#### Micah 4:

- 1 "But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of **the house of the LORD** shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it **shall be exalted above the hills**; and people shall flow unto it.
- 2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
- 3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

This is one of many passages that show that as well as ruling Israel as the future Kingdom and Paradise of God, Christ will also rule over all the nations, which shall form a great empire **subject** to the Kingdom of God-of Israel:

#### Micah 4:

**8** And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the **first** dominion; **the kingdom** shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

When the nations are pacified there will be no more anti semitism, but rather Gentiles will actively seek the favour of the Jews out of fear for the God of Israel, as:-

#### **Zechariah 8**

- :22 Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD.
- :23 Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

When gentile nations see how Israel has become the Kingdom and Paradise of God, they shall realise that they had better watch their step:-

# Jeremiah 33:

- 7 "And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first.
- 8 And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me.
- 9 And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it".

Jerusalem will then be blessed as we read in:-

# Isaiah 60

- 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.
- 3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
- 7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on **mine altar**, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

#### Isaiah 60

- 8 Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows? [Jews returning]
- 9 Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.
- 10 And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee.
- 11 Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.
- 12 For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

Some might say, seeing as the Jews rejected Jesus, and are a rebellious and stiffnecked people, how can this be? We get the answer in:

# Ezekiel 36

- :23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen [the nations] shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.
- :24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

# Ezekiel 36

- 26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
- 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.
- 28 And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God."

The land and people of Israel will be more blessed than any other, of which it is written:

# Isaiah 11

- 6 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.
- 7 And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- 8 And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

But these blessings will distinguish the Promised Land from the nations, at large as: **Isaiah 11** 

- 9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.
- 10 And in that day there shall be a root **of Jesse**, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; **to it shall the Gentiles seek:** and his rest shall be glorious.
- "of Jesse" The royal house of Judah began with King David, the son of Jesse, and culminates in Christ who descends form David, through his mother Mary.
- "to it shall the Gentiles seek". The nations will seek the favour of Christ the king, and he will welcome their homage when they come to Mount Zion as:

#### Isaiah 25

- 6 And in this mountain shall the LORD of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined.
- 7 And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.
- 8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.
- 9 And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Yes; the way of salvation from death, will then be made known to those gentiles that come to Zion to learn it so that "he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations." This will apply to modern day 'Christian countries' as well, even "all nations" need instruction regarding Christ and the Gospel.

The Millennial reign of Christ on earth, will bring again an age of miracles and wonders, such as the re-appearance of the Sheckanah Glory-the pillar of cloud and fire, as:

#### Isaiah 4

- 2 ¶ In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped **of Israel**.
- 3 And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:
- 4 When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.
- 5 And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defence.
- 6 And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.

The chosen race shall no longer be cast off, but shall be restored as the head of the nations, such that gentiles will fear and seek the favour of the Jews, as:

# Isaiah 65

- 19 And I will rejoice in **Jerusalem**, and joy in **my people:** and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.
- 20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed
- 21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.
- 22 They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for **as** the days of a tree are the days of my people, and **mines elect** shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
- 23 They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them.

24 And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy **in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD**.

# Ezekiel 36

35 And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.36 Then the heathen that are left round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.

We mentioned that to Abraham were the promises made, and so Israel will be urged to recall these things:

#### Isaiah 51

2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

3 For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like **Eden**, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

Paradise involves having many trees

#### Isaiah 41

- **18** I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.
- **19** I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the box tree together:
- **20** That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it.

Great fruitfulness shall be upon Israel, the land of the Kingdom of God:

# Amos 9:13-15

- "13 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.
- 14 And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.
- 15 And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God."

Natural Israel will be "the head" of the nations, but Christ, Abraham and the believers of The Faith of Abraham will be the immortal rulers of that age, such is the Kingdom of the Gospel