



**The God  
of B'nei-Israel  
Loves Arabs and  
All Peoples**

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What does the word "Israel" mean as it is used in the Bible?

What is the "Israel of God?"

Why does God require non-Jews to believe in a Jewish Messiah?

Has the Church replaced Israel in God's covenant with humanity?

How are the children of Israel God's "Chosen People?"

**Do not assume that you already know the answers.**

**Read this booklet for some fresh insights in a few pages.**

## **Declaration of Peace and Service**

We testify that Yeshua, son of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and David is our Savior and Redeemer by His shed blood for our sins. He is the King of Israel and King of Kings. We are His bond slaves to live by the holy scriptures of Israel, the Bible, which is the true teaching path to God.

From this day forth, we turn from our old ways and self as expressed in rebellion. We accept His precious paid offer of forgiveness and receive the promised Holy Spirit, who is now His living witness in our thoughts and deeds. Yeshua is the only peace to be found on earth today. In Him alone, we war not against flesh and blood but against the Evil powers of the air, the fallen ones of corrupted spirit. These enemies of all men and women seek to devour and destroy all that is life and human beginning with Israel, the chosen nation to bear His name among the families of the earth, His witness through whom He has revealed Himself in Word, in the Son of Man, and in Spirit.

Beginning with Israel, Yeshua comes soon to establish His reign over the earth by the strength of His own power apart from any human intervention attempted or undertaken, in His favor or against. By His grace and might shall He establish a homeland for every nation and tribe – Israel first with her Arab cousins next, as His healing rule proceeds from Jerusalem even as the healing rivers of life will flow from His throne to heal the earth from humanity's greedy corruption.

He comes soon to judge severely all who are not submitted to His perfect justice and love. Because His love covers a multitude of sins perfectly, we live today in peace with God and, as much as is possible, with all the families of humanity. We war not after sword or powers of this material world, for He alone is our shield and strength. In Him alone do we place our trust and defense, having no confidence in our own strength to save us from death.

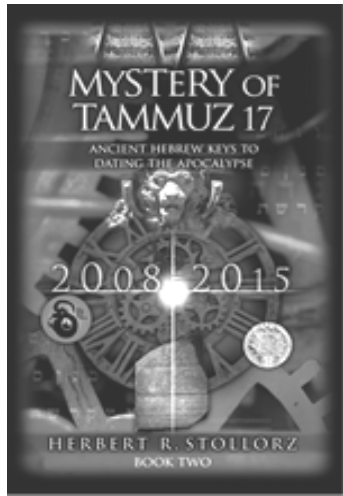
The end of this age is upon us! We petition you King of Peace to come soon! Let your Kingdom begin in me, but bring it soon to all nations in accordance with your sure word of promise and prophesy!

Christopher J. Patton, President  
Faith in the Future Foundation

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**Book Two: The 7 Years of Great Tribulation**

The Bible predicts the future, but scholars widely disagree on what the Bible says! How can the average person sort out fact from

fiction? Daniel 12:10 boldly states that the wise will understand prophetic chronology in the last days. Have those days already begun?

Retired hi-tech inventor and author Herbert R. Stollorz discovered that the dates of many key events predicted in the books of Daniel and Revelation fall between the years 2008 and 2018. Two of the keys that unlocked this mystery are the Hebrew Alphabet Number System and the Jewish feast and fast days. One of those fast days, Tammuz 17, commemorates the fall of Jerusalem prior to the destruction of God's Temple in Jerusalem.

Do not expect a theological treatise or the date for the return of Jesus Christ. Instead, you will read about the events of the soon-coming Great Tribulation described in detail and dated. The unique perspective of this applied scientist is revealed through the research methodology he used to unlock Bible mysteries built into the universe by God at the beginning of time. The same pragmatic approach that has helped to make functional hi-tech devices now provides challenging answers to questions like:

- How do you know that the Apocalypse will begin on December 21, 2008?
- How does 12 December 2012 link the Aztec, Chinese and Hebrew calendars?
- What has the jubilee (50) year gear between 1968 and 2018 got to do with the Bible's Rosetta stone and Daniel's 70 Weeks prophecy?
- How and when is the spirit world revealed to mortals? What are Antichrist's "Shock Troops"? Will mortal believers go through these trials?
- Why is it important to read both testaments of the Bible?
- How do Jewish festivals reveal the dates of the Apocalypse?

## Part 1: The God of B'nei-Israel Loves Arabs and All Peoples

Many reporters and writers have noted that the struggle in the Middle East between the Israelis and the Arabs is one between cousins, between anciently related peoples. The struggle between Arabs and Israelis is often depicted as the modern continuation of the biblical stories about inheritance and blessing between Ishmael and Isaac, Jacob and Esau. In other words, the seed of Abraham contending to see who would be the favored heir of a small strip of land given to Abraham.

Many of the social forces feeding this seemingly endless struggle today revolve around cultural issues, too. When the Jewish immigrations to the land of Israel began over a hundred years ago, they came from Europe, bringing European values and worldview. While Jewish immigrants to southwest Asia have come from all over the world, the predominant character of the modern State of Israel is democratically western European as contrasted to Arabian or central Asian Islamic. But even this cultural disconnect is not the cause of the problems between the Muslims, Jews and Christians. They are spiritual in both the social and personal dimensions.

The situation in the Middle East exemplifies in violent urgency the problems of the world, which is spiritually infused with an intertwined and indivisible force of good and evil. For God to "restore all things" as prophesied He must address the structural problems of human government as well as the inclinations of human nature. He does so through the seed of Abraham. The word "seed" in many languages is at once singular and plural. The Bible is the covenant promise of the Creator working through the children of Jacob, renamed Israel, as the plural sense of the seed and in the messianic son of David, King of Judah and then Israel, in the singular sense.

In fact the solution to this complex, multi-dimensional problem lies in Yeshua/Jesus, who was both fully human and fully divine. By His judgment and reign human governments will be overthrown and replaced with the Kingdom of God over the earth. Through His life, suffering, death and resurrection almost

two thousand years ago, the way was made to transform human nature. While we humans wait for the promised change in government, we are called to repent, submitting to the transformation of our natures into the image of the Son, through the Holy Spirit sent by, and being also, the Father after whom all of the redeemed righteous are named.

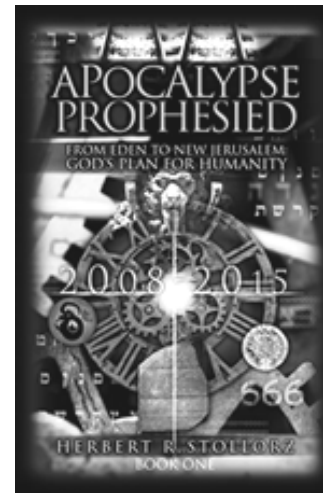
Part of the difficulties in comprehending and accepting the truths of the Bible come from how the word "Israel" is perceived by the hearer. The modern state of Israel may have its name in fulfillment of prophecy, but it is a fully human political organization, which is not by nature holy or always right. Furthermore, the Jewish people who represent that name among the family of nations have not always been good ambassadors for the Creator of the universe. They were born with the same twisted human nature we all inherit from our parents.

The name of Israel was given to Jacob because he overcame his selfish fears to trust and believe in God. The name of Israel represents God's promise being fulfilled; hence it is hated by the Enemy and his agents, Satan and the fallen angels or demons. In the history of Israel we see evil judged by the Creator and replaced, where the stubborn human will submits, with the righteous goodness of God's loving and merciful nature.

### **Babylonian Idolatry**

The story of how God will change human government goes back to the first worldwide judgment of humanity – the Flood. Human civilization since the Flood of Noah is rooted in Babylon. Babylon was founded by Nimrod, whose very name means rebel. (Genesis 10:10) A confederated army from the city states of Babylonian Shinar was the only enemy that Abraham ever raised his sword against in the rescue of his nephew, Lot. (Genesis 14:1-16)

It was at Babel that God confused the tongues of the families of Noah so that the world became divided into regions of tribal alliances independent of one another. Nimrod had tried to unite all of humanity to imitate the Kingdom of God; he called them to one place in order to make a name to replace the one name of God. (Genesis 11:1-6, 7-9) In response, God divided and



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At 70 years of age author Herbert R. Stollorz took a fresh look at the Bible. By using the same successful research techniques that produced a number of profitable hi-tech patents, he came up with some intriguing and pragmatic explanations of what the Bible has to say about the big questions about life on planet earth. Don't expect a theological treatise, rapturous escapism or a lot of footnotes. Instead, you will be challenged by his rational presentation of the soon-coming events that will change your life!

- What does the Bible and science tell us about God? Why did He create humans?
- Why will a loving God judge all nations with seven years of severe trials and tribulation leaving only about 10-20% alive at the end?
- What is the purpose for the Apocalypse? Why does it begin in heaven? What are angels? Can angels die?
- How does Noah's Flood help to date the Apocalypse?
- How might society's greedy exploitation of nature through genetic manipulation cause the Apocalypse to start even sooner?
- What makes Antichrist so different from all the previous world conquerors? Why is he so evil? What does number 666 mean?
- How will Jesus' coming 1,000 year government be structured so that true peace and justice finally becomes reality for all peoples?
- What happens when people die? What will hell be like?
- What will happen to Israel and the church during the Apocalypse? Why?
- What will the New Jerusalem be like? What does the rainbow really signify?

Those who enter into the faith of Jesus, submitting their mortal lives to His rule as revealed in His Word, are baptized into the covenants of Israel becoming sons of God. We are not yet born sons – just begotten or started on the path, for we are not yet resurrected to immortal perfection.

**Thus, Paul wrote that even though we are yet biologically distinct as mortal people – being either male or female, Jew or non-Jew, slave or free, we are indeed one in Christ because there is only one Holy Spirit.** Because of this ultimate spiritual unity, we are called to a life of peace and service towards believer and unbeliever while we walk the earth in the shroud of our mortality under the protective eyes of God. In this context read Paul's famous analogy comparing the material and spiritual dimensions of Israel to olive trees in Romans chapter 11, and remember, for His own name's sake

**indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. (Psalms 121:4)**

### **What is, "Faith in the Future Foundation?"**

*The Foundation proclaims the Good News that Jesus the Messiah will soon return to reign over a redeemed kingdom of Israel and all nations in justice and peace.*

Faith in the Future Foundation is a private charitable organization (501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code) dedicated to advancing peace in the Mideast and the world through the evangelism of nonbelievers to Jesus Christ and not to any denomination. The foundation also seeks to encourage and expand the horizons of those who already accept the Bible as God's Word and revelation of His mercifully loving and righteous plan for humanity. It is a railroad train dedicated to delivering the oracles of God to any and all who would receive them for as long as God gives us the means and ability to do so.

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scattered the families of man by confusing their languages so that the growth of collective human power would be delayed. Even so, throughout the ages the Enemy has inspired great military leaders to try to unite the world as one in order to oppose the truths of God. Now civilization has again reached the point of "nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them," and God will once again intervene in the affairs of nations to judge them.

The clearest picture of this evil idolatry is given in the book of Daniel. In Daniel Chapter 2 the story is told of Nebuchadnezzar's vision of a huge statue of himself, an idol with a head of gold, a chest and arms of silver, and abdomen and thighs of bronze, legs of iron and feet of iron mixed with clay. This idol prophetically pictures the development of the conquering state or empire. It stands for Babylon, Persia, Alexander and Hellenism, Rome and the endtime rise of western civilization over the rest of the globe through trade and warfare. That this idol is hated by God is clear by its destruction from a "stone cut without hands" that grows into a mountain, the "mountain of the LORD." (Isaiah 2:2)

Every political state since then has been a manifestation or attempt at world government under one name in opposition to God. Their historical and prophetic existence is pictured in Nebuchadnezzar's vision as revealed by Daniel. They have all been tools of Satan at the core even though God has used political states to accomplish His purposes. Remember, Satan seeks to rule all completely so that he can destroy all. God seeks to rule all so that He may give us life eternal with a quality worth experiencing forever.

Today, thousands of years later, humanity indeed approaches a state of world unity through international finance and trade that makes this phrase, "now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them" alive with potent fulfillment. Unfortunately, the direction of human civilization is implosion by self-centered materialism typified by greed and religious practices that glorify human wisdom and power even as they sanctify sin. For this, judgment comes soon upon the earth. God will redeem His Creation from the destructive hand of human socio-political organizations operating under the spiritual rule of the "god of this world." (2Corinthians 4:4)

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So what is the tool of Babylonish idolatry through which humanity collectively rebels against God? The political state. And what is the ultimate power of the political state but its military, which is the state's monopoly in the use of physical force. This force is used to obtain and control wealth, which is used to seize further political power. This vicious, corrupting circle of perverted power infects all nations, and the Jewish people are no exception. The State of Israel is not a creation of the biblical God of Israel but of the United Nations, which seeks to rule the entire world. Its enforced reign will enslave all peoples and deny them freedom to worship the One Creator. This is the socio-political enemy that is the tool of the spiritual enemy, Satan the devil who prefers to appear as an angel of light - as the glorious god of this world.

How does the Bible talk of these truths? Through the choosing of the children of Israel as His own nation, the Creator reveals what He intends to do. Not that the ancient Israelites or modern Jewish people are holy or more righteous than any other nation. They are not. Often God complained about their nature and mentioned that they were less than other nations. But God's way is to choose the despised and weak of the world in order to perfect the manifestation of His power and truth that we humans can not boast. (1Corinthians 1:26-31) Pride is our greatest fault.

The Creator had to choose some one nation as a material window through which He could reveal Himself to all peoples because of the huge gap in comprehension that exists between His spiritual realm of the *Heh* dimension and our material earthly one of *Daleth*. Similarly, Yeshua was born a Jew because an individual can only be born into one nation, one tribe and one woman, Miriam/Mary. God's choice was rational by necessity, too. Yeshua was born into the chosen tribe of Judah so that the infant would be reared in a family and culture founded on the teachings of the Creator. Thus, the helpless child would not be forced into sin as a baby due his parents' ignorance of or due to some form of cultural alienation from righteousness as defined by God.

In the days of the prophet Samuel the children of Israel rejected God as their king and chose to establish a kingdom for themselves in Saul. (1Samuel 8:4-7) Samuel warned them of the oppression that they had chosen to be like the other nations, but

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Since His death and resurrection, those who do believe are empowered to also become the children of God, though this certain spiritual transformation is only experienced through the clouding obscurity of our weak and mortal flesh in this material dimension. This miracle becomes reality only by the will of God and by His power.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:12-13, NASB)

**One does not inherit eternity by becoming a member of the mortal nation of Israel.** The only advantage the children of Israel have had is the necessary fact of physical proximity in the material dimension of time and space.

This is true whether one considers biological and cultural heritage, access to the holy writings and to the land where the plan of God unfolded, or being the clay from which Messiah was born. Eternal redemption does not depend upon bloodline. It cannot be attained by the power of the fleshly spiritual life force, nor can it be earned because a person desires it, wants it, wills it or sacrifices his life for it.

**Proximity to the unfolding of God's plan for all humanity does not equal superiority or indicate any favoritism.** The nation of Israel was God's covenant people - not His indulged upon "pet people."

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one [spiritually] in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's [spiritual] descendants, heirs according to [spiritual dimension of the] promise. (Galatians 3:26-29, NASB) [Brackets added for clarity.]

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creation of the new heavens and new earth. (Revelation chapters 21-22)

The second reason is that mortal Israel has served as the interface or enabling catalyst of communication and grace between God and humanity. For this reason the children of Israel as a nation have and will experience greater judgment and reward in this material dimension. They will both endure somewhat greater trials and enjoy somewhat greater blessings.

This truth does not justify anti-Semitism, nor does it in any way reduce the judgment of all nations according to the standard of the Father's character and nature. Eternity is inhabited by perfection alone. The physical universe of material time and space was created for us to learn these lessons, often through suffering, so that we might enter into an eternity of productive, loving bliss.

The heavenly concept of Israel unites all of the families of humanity into one people. This Israel of God supersedes the imperfect nation that God used as His clay to establish a way to bring all peoples into the perfect love of His presence forever. (Galatians 6:16) Thus, when Paul writes the short phrase "Israel of God," he means "the sons of God, by the Holy Spirit of God according to His covenant promises to Abraham."

## The Plan of God Summarized in John 1

When the true Light of God - Yeshua the Messiah and Son of the God of Israel - came into the world, no one in the world recognized their Creator. Yeshua's own neighbors did not recognize the spiritual Word of God even though they had been given the written Word of the Torah, prophets and writings.

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:10-11, 14, NASB)

the Israelites insisted on having their own political state. The modern political state is no different. The modern State of Israel is not divinely ordained but the choice of the Jewish people. This statement is also true for the United States, the United Nations, the European Union, China, India, the World Trade Organization, The Vatican, Japan or Saudi Arabia - just to name a few other political organizations that are states, para-states or super-states.

God may use a political state just as He will use any imperfect person - or even a donkey, but that does not mean that God has endorsed everything about that state as a whole. In fact some of the greatest evils done in the name of God have occurred when people combine religious fervor with politics. From this we have suffered the Vatican's inspired European Crusades and the Nazis' Third Reich, for example.

What happened in the Crusades is typical of all human history. The Popes in Rome called for spiritual crusades in the name of Christ in order to obtain earthy power and wealth. It was the Catholic Church's solution to European lords continuously battling each other at the expense of the common people. "Unite and go fight the Saracens," he said. "Besides, it's more profitable!"

What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask

You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? (James 4:1-4)

As proof that greed and power were the real motivations behind the Crusades, all one needs to do is to read the histories of the various crusades closely. You will not find much Christ-like

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behavior in any of them. In fact more Christians and Jews probably died at the hands of these "Christian Soldiers" than Moslems, so it was not even a genuine military expedition against the armed forces of Islam. Thus, it should not surprise anyone that current military actions by "Christian" European powers in the Mideast are driven by objectives other than military and motives other than altruistic liberation in the name of spreading "democracy."

Who is the enemy here? It is not a human being. The Enemy is the god of this age, of this world. Satan inspired the idolatry of the political state with its human warrior-king in opposition to the Kingdom of the Creator God. Just as the ancient children of Israel self-corrupted to the desire for a human king in Saul, so all nations desire a conquering warrior to lead them. The Prince of the power of the air empowers proud leaders with charisma and the appearance of wealth to lure the simple farmers and small business people to their own destruction. That destruction comes both directly as a consequence of violence and indirectly from the horrendous cost of war's waging. A chain of successive empires from Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to Cyrus to Alexander to Julius Caesar, Augustus, Hadrian, Constantine and others lead right up to the future when Antichrist in the name of the universal god will again seek peace through military and economic oppression. This is why God must replace the modern political state with His own divine king and kingdom.

### **The Spiritual Enemy and True Battle to Submit**

People who are true believers, submitted to God, oppose sin wherever it is found and the Enemy wherever he operates. They do not hate people who sin or who are deceived by Satan. Thus, much of the anti-Jewish sentiment found in the world today can be explained as spiritual rebellion against the will of God.

The anti-Semitism so common to the world is simply a specific expression of humanity's general rebellion instead of submission to God's will as revealed in His Word. It is one of many possible sins or symptoms that a person's human nature needs reformation. The prophet Jeremiah and the Apostle Paul both had insightful comments on the heart of each of us as persons:

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Through faith in Him, God creates an eternal Israel of the heavenly dimension that does not replace the temporal one of the earthly dimension. This is why we find that both dimensions of Israel will exist in the multi-dimensional fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham and his descendants in the millennium.

For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. (Hebrews 2:11-18, KJV)

While all nations will be incredibly blessed by peace and abundance during the millennium, the children of Israel will receive a double portion as the representative firstborn of all nations. There are two reasons. First, the government of the Kingdom of God will be located in Jerusalem. Yeshua's thrones will be there from which He will rule Israel and rule the nations, as described in chapter 9 of *Apocalypse Prophesied*. The Holy City of Jerusalem will float like a pyramidal satellite above the natural city, located in the heart of the land promised to Abraham and his chosen descendants. The heavenly city of Jerusalem comes down to earth at the end of time during the

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Regardless of biological and cultural heritage, the believer becomes a son, a beneficiary of the biblical covenants in the Son of God. Through the Holy Spirit, we have communion together with the Father and the Son as one fellowship. (I John 1:3) Because Israel (the natural nation of mortals) was created by covenant, so the immortal nation is created by covenant. Both are called Israel because it is the covenant name for the human side of the agreement. It is one covenant operating in two dimensions simultaneously throughout history, but the material dimension will come to an end with the close of the millennium.

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; that at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: but now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Ephesians 2:11-18, KJV)

While He walked the earth in fleshly mortality, Jesus actually lived in both the heavenly and material dimensions at the same time. (Read John 5:17-47) He also died in both dimensions at the same co-temporal and co-eternal instant. Thus, the Son of Man and Son of God bridged the gap between those presently separated realities. He is thus, the only Mediator between God and humanity. (1 Timothy 2:5; Titus 2:11-15)

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The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick (wicked – KJV); who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. And if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the Spirit is alive because of righteousness. He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells within you. (Romans 8:6-11)

Only the Bible tells us of this great truth that human nature is naturally opposed to God and resists submission to His will and laws. In the history of the children of Israel, God makes it plain that evil is natural to people and that such a nature is unacceptable to Him. It is a fact that each person must accept, regardless of present nationality or religious persuasion. It was the Creator's decision to reveal Himself to the world as the God of the Israelites. It was not the Jews' or the Arabs' choice, nor is it anyone else's.

If part of the process of that revelation requires a love for of those God used to bring salvation to all and practical support of His promises to them, so be it. God's covenant promises of salvation come through Israel. It is through a Jew, Yeshua/Jesus, that human nature is changed and human governments will be judged and removed. In speaking to the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus stated this truth in John 4:22-24:

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You worship that which you do not know, we worship that which we know, for salvation is from the Jews...God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth

The Creator of the universe is the God of the Bible, who in Roman times was worshipped by the Jewish people. Yeshua describes the one God as one Spirit revealed in one true Word that has come through the Jewish people, the descendents of Jacob/Israel and Abraham.

It is through the Jew, Yeshua, that God provides the way of escape for every person, the way by which our natures may be transformed into conformity with His own. This is why the Bible says in John 3:3-16 that people must be born again in the Spirit through faith in Yeshua the Messiah (Jesus Christ) in order to inherit eternal life. This eternal inheritance will be on earth as is made plain in Revelation chapters 21 and 22. Paul expands on these principles of the need for and means of human transformation in Romans 8:

However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh -- for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. (9-14)

It is only possible to submit to God by repenting of sins through faith in Christ Jesus, whose blood atones for them. Thus

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## The God of B'nei-Israel Loves Arabs and All Peoples

By Christopher J. Patton

according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:1-10, KJV)

Jesus is the one Mediator between God and humans. (1Timothy 2:5) As a biologically Jewish son of the covenant originally made with Abraham and embellished through Moses and the prophets, Jesus qualified to participate in the Israelite covenants. Yeshua was born into the covenant people, and He fulfilled its terms and conditions perfectly.

**Through and in Yeshua/Jesus, the non-Jewish believer is connected to the covenant promises without needing to become an Israeli.** By faith in Messiah, he or she can fully participate in the full hope of the eternal promises otherwise reserved for circumcised members (after the flesh) of the theocratic commonwealth of Israel.

Through the Savior, the believer encounters and partakes in the perfection of Israel. By faith and the promised gift of the Holy Spirit, we come to dwell in Him who has overcome the Evil One, sin and death. Our hope is secured and guaranteed if our faith is real, though imperfect. We are saved by faith in Yeshua and not by works, metaphysical mantras nor correct knowledge/theology.

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counsel of his own will: that we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. (Ephesians 1:3-14, KJV)

Then in chapter 2, Paul explains why and how Jesus is the only way and means of salvation. People are born naturally bound in sin due to the spiritual heritage inherited from Adam and Eve. Mortal life is powered by the breath of life or life force spirit represented in the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam and Eve's choices have left all humanity bound in sin destined to die because we are naturally incapable of pure good or holiness.

Yes, by our own spiritual power and physical discipline we can accomplish much good in this material world. In fact we should. We can have good feelings and even purpose to accomplish much that is commendable, but nothing a person can bring into being is pure to the point of abiding forever in the holy perfection of love as defined by the Father.

Because of humanity's inescapable death, human nature is driven by self-preservation, which is a form of the fear of death. In some manner Satan, who is the prince of the power of the air, has strong influence over mortals through the natural spiritual life force of good and evil. This rebellious angel has the power of death, which can only be obliterated by one's mystical participation in the death and resurrection of Christ by faith. (Hebrews 2:14-15)

Jesus as the Son of God proves the means by which the believer receives the Holy Spirit. He or she will live forever into the ages to come and inherit all of the New Heavens and New Earth jointly with the Godhead. Through the enabling agency of the Holy Spirit, Jesus works now to create holiness within His mortal and fallible disciples to accomplish good works that will abide forever.

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world,

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sanctified by the Son, we, who are otherwise totally unworthy, may receive the Spirit of God that enables us to submit the flesh and live by the Spirit. In this way we become conformed into the image of God's righteousness so that we may inherit eternity with Him and live forever in joyous love. (Romans 8:29) This would be impossible for anyone not conformed to the image of God, for God defines by His being and nature what may live eternally in joyous light with peace and justice, though possessing omnipotent power.

The socio-political issues of the Middle East revolve around the same question that faces each of us in our daily lives: who is sovereign? This is just another reason why what happens in Israel today is important for us to understand as individuals no matter what nationality we claim or were born into.

The Bible teaches that our citizenship is in heaven. (Philippians 3:20-21) We become ambassadors of a heavenly kingdom. (2Corinthians 5:20) What ambassador wields a sword? They do not fight in armies, and so Paul can teach us to live in peace with all men as much as is possible as well as to submit to the unjust rulers and political states of this age. (Hebrews 12:14; Romans 13:1-8) True believers do not engage in violence or war against their fellow human beings – no matter how just the cause.

### **An Inheritance in Israel for those who are Not Jewish**

In my observations I note that the state of Israel has so far been undefeated when defending herself. This has not always been the case when that state has gone on the offensive. This is because God has promised the land of Canaan to the children of Jacob/Israel, so He will defend them. In Zechariah's prophecies about the last battles fought by human armies, all of the nations of the world lay siege to Jerusalem and the nations of Judah. In chapters 12 and 14 the remnant of the Jewish people are helped by God in the fight in their defense. The Scripture indicates that these armed conflicts take place before Messiah comes, before Yeshua is recognized for who He is. Thus, the Jewish fighters are not likely to be born again yet as spiritual believers in their God. Nevertheless, many of them will serve the true Creator sincerely

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in their works instead of Antichrist and the false, universal god of this world.

The Creator has promised that He would bring all of the descendants of Jacob back to their land in the last days, and He has. He has promised that they will not be removed, and they will not - not by force or by any other means! However, this does not mean that Arab Palestinians, Druze or anyone else will lose their land because they are not children of Israel. In fact the Bible promises otherwise. The Messiah Yeshua guarantees the inheritance of all those who live in peace with the children of Israel and with their God. During the millennium, Isaiah 19:19-25 predicts that an alliance of Egypt, Israel and Assyria (Iraq) will be the source of blessing to all of the other nations, leading them in the worship of the God who made Himself known in human history through to the children of Israel.

The Bible is plain that the land of Israel was historically given to Isaac, who was offered up in sacrifice (Genesis 22). Islamic tradition teaches that it was Ishmael, not Isaac, as is celebrated annually in the Islamic feast of *Idh Il Adha*. Prophetically, anyone who desires to inherit the land of Israel must do so through Jesus, the true seed, who is to be the King of a restored Israel in Jerusalem and in her ancient lands. Arabs, Palestinians and others (aliens) who choose to live in peace with their Jewish neighbors will retain their properties and pass them on to their children. (Isaiah 14:1; Ezekiel 47:22-23) There is the rest of the world for everyone else (a pretty big place), and that includes the Arab nations.

When the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and again choose Israel, and settle them in their own land, then strangers will join them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob. (Isaiah 14:1)

You shall divide it by lot for an inheritance among yourselves and among the aliens who stay in your midst, who bring forth sons in your midst. And they shall be to you as the native-born among the sons of Israel; they shall be allotted an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel. And in the tribe with which the alien stays, there you shall give him his inheritance," declares the Lord GOD. (Ezekiel 47:22-23)

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How does a non-Jew qualify to participate in the Israelite covenants? Through obedient faith in the atoning sacrifice and resurrection of Yeshua as revealed in the whole Bible.

Through Yeshua/Jesus, the believer receives the free gift of the Holy Spirit, who enables the transformation of human nature through the creation of a new spiritual identity in Christ. This process is the foundation of one's eternal inheritance as predestined in God's plan from the beginning. The inheritance here referenced is our eternal, heavenly bodies, fit together in service under the Father as part of the Kingdom of God. (Read 1Corinthians 15.)

Here are some selected verses from Ephesians. Note the central role and focus of Jesus as Messiah. When the believer sincerely submits and gives all to Him, he receives all in Him:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: that in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: in whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the

as 4 (*Daleth*, for the material dimension) + 5 (*Heh*, for the heavenly dimension) = 9 (*Teth*, the age of the millennium).

During this time of peace and abundance promised to the natural descendants of Jacob, Jesus will rule over all of the nations of the earth in His dual role as the Son of David king of Israel, and as Son of the Creator, who rules as the King of the kings of all the families of humanity. When the millennium ends at the coming of the Father, the Great Judgment precedes the New Heavens and New Earth. With this new creation God fulfills all of His promises.

## Israel in Yeshua/Jesus

In the 53<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Isaiah the prophet relates a startling vision of the Messiah's first coming to His nation as the "**Suffering Servant.**" Jewish commentators usually state that this section of Scripture refers collectively to the nation of Israel.

While there could be a symbolic application of this prophecy to a nation used by God to fulfill His purposes for humanity, it clearly relates to a single person when read literally. When combined with Ezekiel 34 and other biblical verses, the picture is plain that God must save humanity Himself, beginning with the clay He chose, the children of Israel (Jacob). The leaders and people are incapable of spiritually redeeming themselves or anyone else. This is why God sent His Son born of Mary by the Holy Spirit without measure. (John 3:33-35)

A short Jewish commentary on this vital focus of a divine, yet fully human, Savior is found in Ephesians, a book of the New Testament. Read chapters 1 and 2 especially. Here Jesus' role in God's ancient plan from the beginning to redeem all of humanity is plainly related to the tribes and concept of Israel.

Ephesians begins with a clear recitation that the full blessings of God comes to the believer of any ethnic affiliation by His grace and purposed will through a plan instituted before the ages of the material universe. People can only become holy and without blame through faith in the redemptive sacrifice of the Jewish Messiah because God's promised way of salvation for all humanity is mediated only through the biblical covenants He made with Abraham to create Israel.

## The End Draws Near

Soon a painfully forced peace will come to all peoples, including Israelis and Palestinians. This temporary peace will not come from the true God of the children of Israel because it will not be accompanied by a change in human nature. Therefore, it will not bring real peace, prosperity or safety. These blessings will only come to all when Yeshua/Jesus returns to replace the idolatrous political states of this world under the control of Satan the true Enemy. At the same time He will also wash the entire globe in the healing waters of the Holy Spirit. Those alive then will experience a global baptism unlike anything God has done to date. Most alive will become transformed in their natures so that they may live in submission to God even as the Son did unto His death as an example for us.

In the meantime, we must resist the temptations of temporal power or to take up the sword, just as Yeshua did when tempted as a young man. (Matthew 4:8-10) We must serve Him in peace and love as He leads us. He did not live in a just world, and neither do we. Justice will only fully come with His return as the righteous Judge. In the meantime, we should peacefully work for justice and appreciate what may be accomplished through nonviolent diligence. And yes, we should share the heart of God's love for all nationalities through diligent prayer and caring evangelism of every person and nationality, beginning with the Jews.

Those who believe God know that the true seed is Yeshua/Jesus and that peace is only found in Him. "*And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.*" (Galatians 3:29) In Him only are eternal life and the enjoyment of all blessings. Jesus is the inheritance all peoples should contend for and not a strip of land smaller than Connecticut, or the material wealth of natural resources.

Until Messiah returns, the policies of nations are best served by alignment with God's purpose and program as plainly stated in dozens of scriptural references - not to mention the big picture context of Israel's historical and prophetic narrative. There are no exceptions to this principle. It applies to the United States, to China, to Russia, to Iran and Egypt - as well as to Palestinians and Israelis. There is no blessing outside of the will of God.

## Part 2: The Concept of Israel in the Bible

### The Importance of Context

Just to mention the word "Israel" is to rouse emotions – either positively or negatively! What does the word "Israel" mean as it is used in the Bible? Do not assume that you already know.

The truth is that most only comprehend some aspects of this concept's complex and richly multihued implications. Whether spoken or written, "Israel" too often conjures meanings not biblical or Godly. This observation is true as applied to scholars as it is for the general public. The fact that Israel is also the name for a modern nation-state further complicates the emotional impact of the word and causes many unnecessary controversies in religion and politics.

The constant presence in "Israel" is that of the Creator of heaven and earth. God's name and eternal purpose for humanity is intertwined with this term. **The shifting variable that must be determined is the nature of His connection or how God is involved each time the word "Israel" is used.** The use of the word "Israel" must be understood within its proper context.

### Natural and Spiritual Dimensions of Promise

The concept of Israel, like many other biblical concepts, must be understood in its proper material or spiritual biblical contexts. God's purpose, presence and performance pervade both the physical dimension of material time and space as well as the metaphysical dimension of the heavenlies. Just as the material creation exists to fulfill a spiritual purpose, so a material Israel exists from which God will fulfill His material and spiritual promises to humanity.

In modern history the Jewish people represent the remnant descendants of the material (mortal, biological or natural) children of Israel. Israel as a concept can be compared to the **clay** from which the Master Potter forms His vessels. First, the potter must dig out some clay from the pit. Only some of the clay can be chosen. There is too much in the world or even in one deposit to work with all of it. The children of Jacob were the

relate to the biological descendants of Jacob as well as how they relate to those who are not biological descendants of Abraham but are his children according to faith. These persons conduct their lives in imitation of his example of faithful obedience and courage of principle. (Galatians 3:19-29)

The Bible is first the holy book of those who accept and participate in the Creator's promises by their faith. Secondly, it records the story of the tribes and nations who are biologically related to those with whom the God of Israel has made His promises. It is the Word of God spoken and written down for all ages. As originally uttered, it cannot be broken. It contains the promises of eternal life through Messiah to all on the condition of faith as proclaimed openly from the sincere heart and lived daily in accordance with its teaching commandments and ordinances.

Through Moses at Mount Sinai, the Eternal One not only revealed His nature through the Ten Commandments, He also constituted a nation with Himself as its temporal King in prophetic anticipation the Eternal Kingdom to come. The primary biblical focus is on God as King choosing to liberate His subjects (Israel) as promised from the Egyptian enslavement of sin and death. Indeed the Israelites include the biological descendants of Jacob, but **Israel is defined as those who accept God's covenant, so even at Sinai Israel included those who joined themselves to God who were not biologically descendants of Israel.** The Bible does not focus so much on the specific persons liberated because God intends to liberate all people.

God will use the soon-coming Apocalypse to sift through the families of humanity, choosing those who would submit to His will in order to populate the prophesied millennial age of peace and justice under the reign of Jesus/Yeshua. In the plan of God, this 1,000 years of peace, justice and prosperity transitions from the material dimension of time and space to the heavenly dimension. Under God's perfect government reigning over all nations, the heavenly dimension becomes co-apparent with the material one. This relationship is summarized in the Hebrew Alphabet Number System notation for the millennium as the Teth (9) Age of God's plan. (<http://www.apocalypse2008-2015.com/hebrewmystery.html>) The equation may be expressed

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God said further to Abraham, "Now as for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations." (Genesis 17:1-9, NASB)

From the time of God's covenant promises to Abraham, the Bible tracks the biological genealogy of Jesus, the descendant son of David, Jacob, Isaac and Abraham. God changed Jacob's name to Israel because that grandson of Abraham overcame his spiritual doubts and struggled in faith with God believing that the Almighty would keep His promises. **Thus, Israel means "one who struggles" with his humanity to claim God's promises or "over-comer."**

At this point in the history of divine revelation, the Bible links the name "Israel" to God's promises to humanity. The material aspects of those promises relate to the natural descendants of Jacob and the spiritual aspects to the faithful of all nations.

Although the spiritual aspects of God's promises are from eternity past, they were designed to bless all the families of humanity, but they have always applied or been offered to the descendants of Jacob first – today's Jewish people. In one sense this chronological precedence can be understood as proper courtesy to the relatives of His servants. From the perspective of practical reality, God's servants' first audiences have almost always been their relatives and neighbors.

## The God of Israel

**The Creator God of the Bible often identifies Himself as the God of Israel or as the God of the children of Israel. This is because He is the God of covenant promises and the God of those with whom He made those promises, including their descendants.**

The Bible is the book of God's covenant promises to His people created by those promises, Israel. So those who live by the Bible are also an "Israel," the people of the Bible by faith. Some of God's promises to His Israel have conditions of obedience and/or restrictions attached that concern only some specific families. Parts of the New Testament discuss these issues in detail as they

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clay separated from the rest of the families of humanity for the potter's raw material.

But not even all of the clay dug out is suitable to be used. Even if a lump of clay is set on the potter's wheel, the vessel made from it may be flawed in some way so that it is thrown away unused. In the analogy below, God is the Master Potter. The raw clay that meets with His approval, He fashions and places in service according to His divine wisdom. Some of these vessels see more frequent and more honorable service than others.

Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something on the wheel. But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make.

Then the word of the LORD came to me saying,

"Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?" declares the LORD. "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.

"At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it; if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.

"Or at another moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to build up or to plant it; if it does evil in My sight by not obeying My voice, then I will think better of the good with which I had promised to bless it. (Jeremiah 18:3-10, NASB)

God's promises to humanity are universally rooted in the original sin of Adam and Eve. When they chose the forbidden tree, they separated themselves and all of their descendants from the Creator. Because of this sin, Adam and Eve were driven out of Eden. Because of this sin, all of us have been born to experience suffering, strife and death in a fallen world of good and evil.

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God in His mercy promised that a Seed would come from "the other side" who would also be fully a child of Eve. This child born would redeem humanity by providing a way back to God's presence in the eternity of the heavenly dimension, which will be totally re-created anew in the final stage of His plan. In order for one mortal Servant-Savior of God to be born, He must have ancestors and other relatives, who will be biologically alive - both before His natural life, during it and after it.

To select and prepare the human "clay," God first had to choose human material He could work with. Then He had to bless and protect the chosen tribes from which He would one day birth promised Seed. As history unfolded, God defined and refined these promised blessings through and with His faithful servants. First, Noah was chosen so that the Savior could be born without biological corruption - a natural descendant of Adam and Eve. In Abraham God unconditionally provides a place for the relatives of His promised Seed to live in relative abundance according to their faithfulness. The Almighty also repeated His promise to Adam and Eve that through this One will come eternal blessings to all the families of earth. Yeshua is the ultimate vessel made by the divine Potter from the muddy clay of Israel.

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you;

And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; thus they came to the land of Canaan.

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Abram passed through the land as far as the site of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. Now the Canaanite was then in the land. The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12:1-7, NASB)

The Creator made a binding covenant with Abraham that was not dependant upon a weak and sinful humanity for its success. God took that upon Himself to guarantee the success of His plan regardless of the general spiritual weakness of those He had to deal with. This meant that God blessed the relatives of the line of descendants He was preserving, whether they deserved it or not. As the clay, they were blessed materially because from them would be born the Savior of all. He did it to honor His name and fulfill His purposes.

Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him,

"I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless. I will establish My covenant between Me and you, and I will multiply you exceedingly."

Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying, "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you will be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.

"I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you. I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. I will give to you and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."