

Lesson Notes:

Are we in the latter days? What do the prophets say?

One in four people believe we are living in the latter days. Even a higher proportion of Christians believe we are in the latter days of the age. Following is a synopsis of God's covenant with Israel, events prophesized leading up to the latter days and Ezekiel's War which is prophesized to occur in the latter days of the age.

Scriptural Principles

God's Covenant

- 1) **God's Covenant with Israel** – In **Genesis 12:1-3** God makes a covenant with Abraham telling him he will make his descendants a great nation and he will bless those that bless thee and curse those that curse thee.
- 2) **Moses confirms this covenant in Deuteronomy 7:6.**
- 3) **In Genesis 15:18 we find the bounds of the covenant.** God has given the children of Israel the land from the river in Egypt to the river Euphrates.
- 3) **This covenant is everlasting. In Genesis 17:7-8 God repeats his covenant to Abraham.**

Casting Away – As a result of their disobedience the children of Israel are cast out of the promise land.

- 5) **In Hosea 9:17 Israel is told she will be a wonderer of all nations.** Jews have wondered throughout the world for 2500 yrs. As predicted by Hosea.
- 6) **In Deuteronomy 28:64-66 Moses talks about the scattering of the Jews.**

Gathering of the Jews – After a period of 2,500 yrs. God re-gathers his people back to the land of Israel to form a nation.

- 7) **Isaiah tells us in Isaiah 66:8 that in one day God would make her a nation again.** This occurred precisely as prophesized on May 15, 1948 when the U.N. recognized Israel as a Nation again.
- 8) **Isaiah tells us in Isaiah 11:12 there will be a gathering of the Jews from all nations.** Ezekiel tells us in **Ezekiel 36:24-28** that God will bring the children of Israel back into their land. Since Israel became a nation again in 1948 millions of Jewish people have returned to their homeland from every nation in the world just as the prophets have predicted. Today 5.3 million call Israel their home.

9) Ezekiel tells us in Ezekiel 36:8-9; 35 that eventually Israel would be tilled and gardened. When Samuel Clemmons (Mark Twain) visited Israel in the middle of the 19th Century he commented on what a desolate barren place Israel was. Now Israel is a virtual garden. She is second only to California in Fruit and Vegetable production and her agricultural trade is close to \$1 Billion dollars each year.

War of the latter days

10) God would raise them an Army – In **Ezekiel 37: 1-11** we are told God would raise up a great Army again for Israel. This arise of an army “out of bones” could represent the rise of the nation of Israel out of the holocaust of WW II.

11) The war of the latter days – **Isaiah 66:15-16** and **Ezekiel 38:1-8** talks of a war in the latter days. With the fulfillment of prophecy in the re-gathering of the Jewish people back to Israel and the military alliance of the Arab world the stage is set for the war of latter days.