

## How Should We Respond to the Crisis in the Middle East?

Psalm 122:1-9 I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.” 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem, 3 Jerusalem, that is built as a city that is compact together; 4 to which the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD— an ordinance for Israel— to give thanks to the name of the LORD. 5 For there thrones were set for judgment, the thrones of the house of David. 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. 7 “May peace be within your walls, and prosperity within your palaces.” 8 For the sake of my brothers and my friends, I will now say, “May peace be within you.” 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

### 1. God had a \_\_\_\_\_ for a new nation.

Genesis 12:2-3 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; 3 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.”

- God needed a nation through whom He could send the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world, and He chose Israel.

### 2. God planned to \_\_\_\_\_ Israel after it fell.

Jeremiah 30:1-3, 8 The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 2 “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book. 3 ‘For behold, days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘when I will restore the fortunes of My people Israel and Judah.’ The LORD says, ‘I will also bring them back to the land that I gave to their forefathers, and they shall possess it.... It shall come about on that day,’ declares the LORD of hosts, ‘that I will break his yoke from off their neck and will tear off their bonds; and strangers will no longer make them their slaves.’”

Isaiah 66:8 Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Can a nation be brought forth all at once? As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons.

### 3. The Israelites are God’s chosen people and will \_\_\_\_\_ until the end.

Psalm 122:3-4 Jerusalem, that is built as a city that is compact together; 4 to which the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD...

Deuteronomy 14:2 For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 30:1-7 So it shall be when all of these things have come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call *them* to mind in all nations where the LORD your God has banished you, 2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey Him with all your heart and soul according to all that I command you today, you and your sons, 3 then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you... 5 “The LORD your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you

shall possess it; and He will prosper you and multiply you more than your fathers. 6  
“Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants,  
to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live. 7  
“The LORD your God will inflict all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you,  
who persecuted you.

Ezekiel 37:8 And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew and skin  
covered them; but there was no breath in them.

Ezekiel 37:14 I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life, and I will place you  
on your own land. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken and done it,” declares  
the LORD.’ ”

- Ezekiel 38-39 – The Battle of God and Magog
  - o Magog – Russia; Persia – Iran; Cus – Ethiopia/Sudan; Libya; Gomer – possibly  
Germany; Togarmah – possibly Turkey
- Ezekiel 39:7-8 My holy name I will make known in the midst of My people Israel; and I  
will not let My holy name be profaned anymore. And the nations will know that I am the  
LORD, the Holy One in Israel. 8 “Behold, it is coming and it shall be done,” declares the  
Lord GOD.

#### 4. God calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ Israel.

Zechariah 2:8 For thus says the LORD of hosts, “After glory He has sent Me against the  
nations which plunder you, for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye.

- So what does the Bible tell us to do?
  - Pray for the Peace of Israel: Psalm 122:6-9 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they  
prosper who love you. 7 “May peace be within your walls, and prosperity within your  
palaces.” 8 For the sake of my brothers and my friends, I will now say, “May peace be  
within you.” 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.
  - Bless the people of Israel.  
Genesis 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse...
  - Shine the light of Jesus in all you do.  
Matthew 5:16
- How will Jerusalem or the Jews ever have peace?
- Peace only comes through \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 5. \_\_\_\_\_ matter and need Jesus.

Acts 4:12 And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that  
has been given among men by which we must be saved.

- Consider John 3:16 – For God so loved the world...
- Who does the world include? The Palestinians and the Arabs.
- It includes every race and tribe and people on the face of the earth.
- Everyone who dies without Christ dies to a Godless eternity.
- As we pray for the peace of Israel, we should pray for the salvation of the lost.