

Resurrection Sign

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12/7/2025



For Discussion: God Is Using Israel To Try To Get The Attention Of The World

(harbingersdaily.com; Oct. 11, 2025)

<https://harbingersdaily.com/god-is-using-israel-to-try-to-get-the-attention-of-the-world-yet-even-many-christians-are-not-listening/>

What was the #1 sign that Jesus was the Messiah?

His resurrection...

Matthew 12:39-40 – *An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

The resurrection of Jesus was the most important sign that He was indeed the Messiah.

- Jonah was a type of the Messiah being effectively in the grave for three days and nights before rising from the dead.

Why did so many people miss this sign?

Because their hearts were hardened and they were spiritually blind to the truth.

- It was too incredible to be believed so they refused to believe.
- People reject what is outside their worldview because their pride keeps them from letting go of it.

What is the #1 sign of the season of Jesus' return?

The resurrection of Israel...

Ezekiel 36:24 – *I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.*

How do we know Ezekiel 36:24 was not fulfilled by ancient Israel?

This has to be a regathering after the Diaspora caused by the Roman Empire due to the reference of *all countries*. The regathering from Babylon was only one country, Babylon.

- So, the prophecy of this regathering has to be modern Israel.

Why do so many people miss this sign of Israel's regathering?

Like those who were spiritually blind to the resurrection of Christ, those missing the resurrection of Israel are likewise spiritually blind.

- Christians are embracing replacement theology, which teaches that either the church has replaced Israel or it is the "real and true Israel."
- Many believe that modern-day Israel is just a result of political operatives after World War II, and thus have no prophetic significance.

How can Israel have been resurrected since they are mostly unbelievers?

The present unbelief of Israel does not mean that God has abandoned His promises; rather, it is part of His divine plan.

- Israel's initial regathering is supposed to be in unbelief. Israel's spiritual resurrection will come later, following being brought into their own land (v24):

Ezekiel 36:25-27 – *Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*

When will God spiritually restore Israel?

During the Tribulation, after the Church Age is complete and in heaven...

Romans 11:25 – *blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in* God immediately starts working through Israel again when the Church age is over as represented by the 144,000 of Revelation 7.

- The entire nation comes around to recognizing Jesus as the Messiah following the mid-point of the Tribulation when they have to flee at the Abomination of Desolation.

What are people doing when they embrace replacement theology?

They are making God's promises to Israel null and void...

Genesis 17:7-8 – *I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*

What are the ramifications of God revoking His promises to Israel?

If God can revoke His promises to Israel, what makes us think He will not do the same with His promises to the church?

So, is replacement theology heretical? Why?

Absolutely because it questions the faithfulness of God.

Numbers 23:19 – *God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent.*

God does not change His mind or revoke His promises:

Romans 11:29 – *For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

Since replacement theology is heretical, does this mean those who believe it are not saved?

Not necessarily; God knows who've truly trusted in His provision for eternal life... most who have embraced replacement theology are likely immature Christians who have been duped by their teachers.

How about those who teach replacement theology, are they saved?

God knows... some of these may also be immature Christians who should not be teaching...

James 3:1 – *My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.*

Those who teach false doctrine are in grave danger who will have to give an account. In some cases, Christians teaching false doctrine will face consequences in the here and now...

1 John 5:16 – *There is sin leading to death.*

What land was promised to Israel?

Genesis 15:18 – *On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: 'To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates'*

This will not be realized until the Millennial Kingdom but it reveals the heart of God.

How significant is the regathering of modern Israel?

It is unprecedented in history. Indeed, after Israel is spiritually restored, they will regard it as a greater miracle than their exodus from Egypt:

Jeremiah 23:7-8 – *'Therefore, behold, the days are coming,' says the Lord, 'that they shall no longer say, 'As the Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' but, 'As the Lord lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land.'*

What other fulfillment of prophecy set the stage for Israel's regathering?

The preservation of their unique culture despite generations of diaspora...

Malachi 3:6 – *I am the Lord, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.*

And that prophecy was due to this promise:

Jeremiah 31:35-36 – *Thus says the Lord, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The Lord of hosts is His name): 'If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the Lord, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever'*

Besides their regathering, how else has modern Israel fulfilled Bible prophecy?

Zephaniah 3:9 – *I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one accord.*

The Hebrew language has been restored for use by the common man. It was effectively dead even in the time of Jesus who spoke Greek and Aramaic.

- More evidence of Israel's resurrection! This too is unprecedented... Dead languages are not restored; they disappear into the dust bins of history.

Zechariah 12:3 – *And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.*

Worldwide hatred of the Jews. This was driven home following the Hamas attack on Israel October 7, 2023. Instead of sympathy for Israel, the world celebrated the success of Israel's enemy.

Zechariah 12:6 – *In that day I will make the governors of Judah like a firepan in the woodpile, and like a fiery torch in the sheaves; they shall devour all the surrounding peoples on the right hand and on the left, but Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place—Jerusalem.*

Israeli forces have won against superior forces in 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, and 1981. Today the Israeli Defense Force is the most powerful in the region and Israel is currently the only nation in the Middle East with nuclear weapons. God has protected Israel from its inception and has enabled them to build a military capability that has brought them security and stability.

- Indeed, she has grown her territory after every war and took Jerusalem back as a result of the 6-Day War in 1967.

What other prophecies have been fulfilled by modern Israel?

There are many other fulfilled prophecies such as:

- Restoration of the Land of Israel (Isaiah 35:1)
- The order of Jews returning (Isaiah 43:5-6)
- Desire to build a Temple in Jerusalem (Daniel 11:31)
- Israel beginning in one day followed immediately by war (Isaiah 66:7-8)
- Israel's flag a banner of King David (Isaiah 11:10)
- Modern Israel will be called Israel, not Palestine (Ezekiel 37:12)
- Modern Israel will be a Democracy (Zechariah 12:5)
- The motivation of Israel's enemies is to end them as a nation (Psalm 83:4)
- The nations will try to impose land for peace deals on Israel (Joel 3:2)
- Israel's enemies will be cursed (Genesis 12:3)

With all this evidence that God is preparing to work through Israel again, why don't churches teach this?

2 Peter 3:3-4 – *Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."*

One of the characteristics of the end of the Church Age is scoffing about the return of Jesus. This is a symptom of apostasy; the church has become compromised with the humanist culture and its evolutionary worldview.

- As spiritual blindness caused people to not believe the resurrection of Jesus in the 1st Century, they are also not recognizing the resurrection of Israel today.

What blessings are people missing out on by not studying Bible prophecy?

- It helps us look forward to our Blessed Hope (Titus 2:13)
- It helps us make sense of this crazy world (Isaiah 46:10)
- It provides motivation for holy living (1 John 3:2-3)
- It aids evangelism (Revelation 19:10)
- The Crown of Righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8)

What applications do we see from this discussion?

- The regathering of Israel is the greatest sign we are at the end of the Church Age.
- People are missing the resurrection of Israel due to spiritual blindness
- Replacement theology is heresy; there will be severe consequences for teaching this.
- Despite living in the Age of Scoffers, there are great blessings for those who study Bible prophecy