

May 2008



Order your
Israel menorah!



Dear Fellow Lovers of Zion!

Happy 60th Birthday, Israel!

The State of Israel turns 60 on May 14, 2008. Israel is a nation that was born in a day, as prophesied by the Jewish prophet Isaiah 2,500 years earlier. Israel is a modern-day miracle! No other people has been scattered among other nations and cultures and then miraculously resurrected in its own land thousands of years later. Only Israel! Israel exists by the sovereign will and plan of God:

*"Who has heard such a thing?
Who has seen such things?
Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day?
Or shall a nation be born at once?" (Isaiah 66:8)*

Yes. At 4:30 PM on Iyyar 5, 5708 (Jewish calendar), David Ben-Gurion read the Foundation Scroll of the State of Israel in the Tel Aviv Museum Hall, followed by Rabbi Fishman who pronounced the traditional *Shechechiyanu* blessing: "Blessed art thou, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe, who has kept us alive and preserved us and enabled us to reach this season." It was the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that brought forth this newborn nation.

Unfortunately, the celebration was short-lived. The next day, six neighboring Arab nations attacked Israel with the cry, "We will stop when we have pushed you into the sea!" 650,000 Jews were surrounded by 40,000,000 Arabs. One and a half million Arabs were armed. 80,000 Jews in Jerusalem were cut off from the rest of Israel. Had the God of Israel brought the nation to the point of birth and abandoned the baby? No! God came to Israel's rescue and began to fulfill His promise of restoring the land, the people and even the language of His holy nation.

On this, Israel's 60th year as an independent state, we want to follow the Lord's example of assisting and supporting Israel. The letter of the Hebrew alphabet whose numerical value is 60 is *samech*. The literal and pictorial meaning of *samech* is to support, to prop, to aid or to assist. Picture a stake supporting an olive tree laden with fruit. That's *samech*. That's us—and Israel. *Samech*, ס, is a round, closed letter. One rabbinic interpretation of *samech* is that the perimeter denotes God, who has no beginning and no end: the Protector of Israel. The interior is Israel, the one dependent on God. The closed circle of *samech* is also said to represent God's protection of His children as a surrounding wall of fire: "For I," says the Lord, "will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst" (Zechariah 2:5).

Since Israel's rebirth on May 14, 1948, the population has increased nearly tenfold, from 650,000 to over 6,276,883 today. Almost half the increase is due to *aliyah*, Jewish people immigrating to Israel from other countries. God, through the prophet Ezekiel, had foretold this end time phenomena: "But you, O mountains of Israel, will produce branches and fruit for my people Israel, for they will soon come home. I am concerned for you and will look on you with favor; you will be plowed and sown, and I will multiply the number of people upon you, even the whole house of Israel..." (Ezekiel 36:8-10-NIV).

The Physical Restoration of Israel

So much could be said about Israel being restored to the Land, and the Land being restored to Israel. (We have selected a few resources for you to explore this fascinating fulfillment of Bible prophecy more in depth. Please consider ordering them.) Crucial to understanding the issue of Israel and her Land, are three facts: 1) The Land belongs to God, 2) God chose to give the Land to the Jewish people, and 3) God is a covenant-keeping God. *"He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth. He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel for an everlasting covenant, saying, 'To you I give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance'."* (Psalm 105:7-11) (See also: Genesis 13:15, Genesis 15:18, Genesis 26:3, Genesis 35:12, Genesis 48:4, Deuteronomy 1:7, 11:24, Joshua 1:4; you can find many more as well!)

While it is true that the Lord uprooted His people from their land due to Israel's unfaithfulness, He always had a plan in His heart to restore them. Deuteronomy 28:58-64 details for us what God said would happen to His people if they did not obey Him, and turned to other gods. They were indeed scattered from one end of the earth to the other as the Assyrians, Babylonians and Romans conquered them. Following the Roman conquest of 70 A.D., there was no nation of Israel for nearly 2,000 years—just a valley of dry bones! But, in the fullness of time, God breathed on these bones, and life entered them: *"Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.' They indeed say, our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off! Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord...I will put My spirit on you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land...'"* (Ezekiel 37:11-14).

The Puritans of 17th century England were among those that sowed the seed of a Jewish homeland. In January 1649, Ebenezer and Joanna Cartwright petitioned the English government to transport "Israel's sons and daughters" by ship to the Land promised to them. In 19th century Britain, there were Evangelical Christians such as Anthony Ashley Cooper, seventh Earl of Shaftsbury, who dreamed of a restored Jewish homeland with Jewish people there to welcome back the Messiah Jesus! A Viennese journalist, Theodore Herzl, was used mightily of God in the rebirth of the nation. Following the First World Zionist Congress held in Basel, Switzerland in 1897, Herzl wrote in his diary: "At Basel I founded the Jewish State. If I said this aloud, it would be greeted with worldwide derision. In five years, perhaps, certainly in fifty, everyone will see it." Fifty years from that date, on November 29, 1947, the U.N. voted on the right of the Jewish people to have a homeland. A few months later, Israel was proclaimed a State! This supernatural rebirth can be seen as a fulfillment of the law of Jubilee: families returned to their lands as in Leviticus 25:10. Even before the nation came to be, a national flag was selected—blue and white like the talit or prayer shawl—and a national anthem, "*Hatikvah*," meaning "The Hope."

A Jewish scientist, Chaim Weizmann, also played a major role in Israel's physical restoration. When Britain was desperately short of gunpowder, Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty asked this brilliant Jewish chemist for help. Weizmann produced 30,000 tons of synthetic acetone that was used in the manufacture of gunpowder. The British Government wanted to reward his services. "There is only one thing I want," replied Weizmann, "a national homeland for my people." Britain responded with the Balfour Declaration of 1917 which stated: "His Majesty's Government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people..."

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had said through the prophets that His people would one day be regathered. The rebirth of Israel was **His** pre-ordained plan. While there had been a regathering of a Jewish remnant under Nehemiah following Israel's seventy-year exile in Babylon, the Lord refers

to a **second** regathering in Isaiah 11:11-12: *"It shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people who are left, from Assyria and Egypt, from Pathros and Cush, from Elam and Shinar, from Hamath and the islands of the sea. He will set up a banner for the nations, and will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."* Again in Jeremiah 31:10 the Lord proclaims, *"Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him as a shepherd does his flock'."* In Isaiah 43:5-6 we see a prophecy that has been fulfilled before our very eyes and continues even as you read this verse: *"Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, and gather you from the west; I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth'."*

The regathering of Israel is a holy happening.

The Place of Israel in God's Heart

Israel is still *"the apple of God's eye"* (Deuteronomy 32:9-10, Zechariah 2:8). He has not, nor will He ever forsake His chosen people. God remains Faithful, even when His people are not. This applies to His children of the New Covenant as well as to those of His First Covenant. His Love is unconditional and everlasting. Throughout the ages, godly men and women who love the Jewish Messiah Yeshua have felt the love that God has for Israel. One such man was Reverend Robert Murray McCheyne. We are fascinated by his story since it is possible that Jamie is related to him on her father's side. An article in the September/October 2007 issue of **Sword** magazine mentioned McCheyne's involvement in the restoration of the Jewish people to the Promised Land: "In 1839 the Scottish Christians joined in. In June that year a delegation led by Rev. Robert Murray McCheyne visited the Promised Land and the Holy City. Upon his return to Scotland, McCheyne stated in a sermon: 'The greatest glory and joy anyone can experience is to be like God, and to care first for the Jews is to be like God...The whole Bible shows that God has a special affection for Israel...There are some, of course, who will say that God has finished with Israel. But the whole Bible contradicts such an idea: 'Did God reject His people? By no means' " (Romans 11:1)!"

King David, talking to God, expressed His heart for Israel as recorded in 1 Chronicles 17:21-22: *"And who is like Your people Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people—to make for Yourself a name by great and awesome deeds, by driving out nations from before Your people whom You redeemed from Egypt? For You have made Your people Israel Your very own people forever; and You, Lord, have become their God."*

Israel and the Church

The New Covenant makes it abundantly clear that Gentiles, who were once without Messiah, strangers from the commonwealth of Israel and the covenants of promise, *"having no hope and without God in the world,"* become part of the household of God through the blood of His Son. (See Ephesians chapter 2.) Non-Jewish believers have been grafted into the Olive Tree of Israel. (Read Romans chapter 11.) The Church has not replaced Israel in the plan of God, nor is the Church the "new Israel." God's covenants and promises to Israel are eternal. They have **not** been taken away from Israel and given to the Church! These and other erroneous ideas are part of Replacement Theology, a traditional doctrine of the historical church from about the 4th century A.D. This false teaching espouses the ideas that the Church has replaced the Jews in God's plan of redemption, and that the blessings and promises of the Bible are for the Church, while the curses are for the Jewish people. The establishment of the modern State of Israel is explained as a political accident rather than a literal fulfillment of Bible prophecy. A natural extension of Replacement Theology is the "Road Map" which denies God's promises to Israel and the Jewish people, especially the promises of a Land. God will yet have His way. He said through the prophet Amos: *"I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them, says the Lord your God (Amos 9:14-15)."*

God even promises in His Word that as long as there is a sun, a moon and stars in the sky, and waves roaring in the sea, the seed of Israel will be a nation before Him! (See Jeremiah 31:35-37.) No other nation in the world has that promise from the God of the Universe.

Israel and the Palestinians

Who are the Palestinians? There is much confusion concerning their identity and their right to a state within Israel. We hope to clarify, and speak truth that will set us all free. In an article in **Israel Today**, February 2008, by Ludwig Schneider, the author explains that the word Palestinian is the Latin term for Philistine. Today's Palestinians, however, are not descendants of the Philistines who were defeated in 332 B.C. "The modern concept of the 'Palestinian people,' using the same root word as the Philistines, appeared for the first time in 1964. It was created by the late PLO leader Yasser Arafat, who sought to unite various terrorist groups under this collective name to fight against Israel." The name makes sense, since the Philistines were a warlike people and archenemies of Israel, with such heroes as Goliath. In fact, since the Philistines were Israel's enemies, the Roman Emperor Hadrian renamed Israel Syria Palestina in 135 A.D. That is how Israel came to be known as "Palestine," even though there was never a nation called Palestine within the borders of the Holy Land.

The Palestinians, actually a mixed race, from Iraq, Egypt, Syria and Jordan number around 4.5 million. The Arab nations surrounding Israel could absorb them easily, but they refuse to do so, even though they have the same culture, religion and language. The Palestinians have as their goal **all** of Israel. They are not interested in just a part of it. They want full control over East Jerusalem, and the Old City, including the Temple Mount and the Western Wall. They want Israel's return to her pre-1967 borders, all of Judea and Samaria, and more! They got Gaza—The world has seen what happened. Rockets rain down on a daily basis over Israel's southern towns as Gaza has become a Palestinian terrorist stronghold. Why doesn't the world realize that the Jewish state is not an "occupier" of "Palestinian" land? Israelis have always welcomed Arabs as citizens of their country. They want peace. But what are they to do when the Palestinians make no offers to stop terrorists or any kind of concessions?? Do you remember the 8 year old boy in Sderot, Osher Twito, the budding soccer player who lost a leg and had the other injured when a Kassam rocket exploded near his home in this southern Israeli town? Our Jewish Jewels family sent \$1,000.00 to the Twito family, which is being used to purchase a battery powered car/tractor/vehicle especially made for children. (Mercy Mission money that came in while we were in the Land). Osher's older brother was also seriously injured in the February 2008 attack. Did you know that the Palestinian terrorists actually target Jewish schools and playgrounds? This is fact! Pray, pray, pray, and please educate others!

We are witnessing a cosmic battle between the God of Israel and the God of the Palestinians, and all radical Islam. As Murray Dixon says in his excellent book, **Israel: Land of God's Promise**: "Israel is the eye of the Islamic storm that is intent on taking the world for Allah." Psalm 83:4 is coming alive in our day as the charter of the Palestinian Liberation Organization continues to call for the complete destruction of Israel: "...Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more." Will Israel's enemies succeed? No. God Himself will defend Israel. He says to her: "No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn..." (Isaiah 54:17).

Israel's Future

Just as there has been a physical restoration of Israel, there will be a spiritual restoration. This was prophesied thousands of years ago, and is coming to pass in our day: "And 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, that you may live" (Deuteronomy 10:6). And again, another promise which follows Israel's return to the Land: "Then I will give them a heart to know Me, that I am the Lord; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole

heart" (Jeremiah 24:7). As of fall 2007 there are over 12,000 Jewish believers in Yeshua and over 100 messianic congregations in the Land of Israel. God's remnant in Israel is ready to shout, "*Baruch haba b'shem Adonai*" ("Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord")—a necessary prelude to the return of Messiah (Matthew 23:39). As more and more Jewish people receive their Messiah, there will be life from the dead (major revival) for the nations. (See Romans 11:15.)

Jerusalem is destined to be a burden to all nations. We are already seeing this happen. Everyone wants a piece of Jerusalem, God's favorite city. He is not caught by surprise: "*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*" (Zechariah 12:3).

At some point, God will judge the nations on the basis of their treatment of Israel: "*I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land*" (Joel 3:2).

Damascus, a breeding ground for terrorists, will one day cease to exist: "*The burden against Damascus. Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, and it will be a ruinous heap*" (Isaiah 17:1).

So much is yet to happen. But the final word is a good word. Israel will one day again be a blessing, and a light to the nations. She has a glorious future in God: "...*Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore*" (Isaiah 2:2-4).

God bless you for standing with Israel and the Jewish people!

Love in Yeshua,

Neil & Jamie

Jewish Jewels Television Airtime Schedule - May 2008

LOCAL TV STATIONS

<u>STATE:</u>	<u>CITY:</u>	<u>STATIONS:</u>	<u>AIRTIME:</u>
AK	North Pole	KJNP TV 4	TUE 6:00 PM
CA	Sonora	PUBLIC ACCESS 8	MON 8:30 PM
FL	Tampa/St. Pete.	WCLF TV 22	SUN 2:30 PM
FL	Orlando/Cocoa	WTGL TV 45	SUN 1:30 PM
FL	Miami/Ft. Laud.	WHFT TV 45	THU 11:30 AM
FL	Tallahassee	WVUP TV 45	SUN 1:30 PM
FL	West Palm Beach	WFGC TV 61	SAT 10:30 PM
GA	Columbus	WYBU TV 16	SUN 2:30 PM
IA	Dubuque	KFXB TV 40	SUN 1:30 PM
IL	Peoria	FAITH ALIVE CH 20	FRI 6:00 PM
MO	New Bloomfield	KNLJ TV 25	SUN 1:30 PM
NJ/NY	NJ/New York	WMBC TV 63	SUN 4:00 PM
OH	Columbus	WSFJ TV 51	SUN 3:30 PM
OR	Portland	K26GJ TV 26	SUN 12:00 PM
OR	Salem	K21GX TV 21	SUN 12:00 PM
PA	Philadelphia	WFMZ TV 69	SUN 9:30 AM
SC	Greenville	WGGG TV 16	FRI 10:30 AM

SATELLITE NETWORKS

Dish Network
 DGUARD - SUN 3:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 9707]
 WHMBSAT - SUN 3:00 PM (EST) [Ch. 9719]

DirecTV
 World Harvest TV (WHT) - SUN 3:00 PM (EST) [Ch. 367]

God TV - The GOD Channel
 WED 4:30 AM (GMT) & 6:30 AM (Jerusalem)

Australian Christian Channel (ACC)
 THU 8:00 AM (AEST)

Digital Satellite Receiver
 World Harvest TV (WHT) - C-Band - Galaxy 16 -
 Transponder 15 - 99° W - SUN 3:00 PM (EST)

INTERNET www.jewishjewels.org www.acctv.com.au
View the following IPTV Services on www.skyangel.com:
 GTN - SUN 3:30 PM (EST) [Ch. 109]
 WHT - SUN 3:00 PM (EST) [Ch. 130]



The Uniqueness of Israel

Israel, a country about the size of New Jersey, with less than 1/1000th of the world's population, can boast amazing discoveries, remarkable inventions, and achievements in all arenas far disproportionate to its tiny size. We know it's the blessing of God!

The following is from: *You Tube* "Cool Facts about Israel" and "Cool facts about Israel: New and Updated Version;" **Israel: Land of God's Promise** by Murray Dixon, and **Inside Israel Newsletter**: Volume 2709.

- Israel has more museums and home computers per capita than any other country in the world.
- More than 85% of solid waste in Israel is treated in an environmentally sound manner. Also, Israel was the first to develop and install a large-scale solar power plant in California's Mojave desert.
- Israel holds the largest concentration of High-Tech industries in the world, in relation to its population.
- ICQ— The technology for AOL Instant Messenger was developed in 1996 by a team of four young Israelis. Also, Intel's new high-speed Centrino processor was developed in Israel, as was most of Microsoft's Windows XP and Windows NT operating systems.
- TransChip, an Israeli company, developed the first high resolution camera that fits into a single electronic chip, for use in cellular phones, and Israel's Given Imaging developed a video camera so small it fits inside a pill which you can swallow. It is used to help doctors diagnose digestive diseases.
- Israel is one of only eight countries in the world capable of launching their own satellites into space.
- Israeli engineers developed the world's first cell phone at Motorola's lab in Haifa, its largest research center in the world. They also pioneered Voicemail, SMS and other cellular phone services.
- Israel has the second largest number of companies trading on Wall Street after the USA, as well as the third highest rate of entrepreneurship and the highest rate among women and people over fifty-five.
- Checkpoint, an Israeli Company, pioneered Internet and network security technology such as the Firewall. The first PC anti-virus in the world was also developed in 1979 in Israel.
- Israel produces more scientific papers per capita than any other nation, 109 per 10,000 people.
- An Israeli company, M-Systems, is the brain behind DiskOnKey, the first and the most powerful portable keychain storage on the market. Every 10 seconds, someone in the world buys a DiskOnKey. DiskOnKey is breaking records, selling 250,000 units a month!!!
- Israel has the highest ratio of university degrees and more engineers and scientists per capita than any other country. Israel's Weizmann Institute was also chosen as the world's top university for life scientists.
- In relation to its population, Israel has the largest number of startup companies in the world. In absolute terms, Israel is second only to the USA in the number of startup companies in the world.
- An Israeli company, Teva, is now the world's largest maker of antibiotics, and one of the world's top makers of generic drugs, as well as America's largest drug supplier, producing one in every 15 prescriptions in the USA.
- According to industry officials, Israel designed the airline industry's most impenetrable flight security.
- Israel is the only country in the world that entered the twenty-first century with a net gain in its number of trees, made more remarkable because this was achieved in an area considered mainly desert.
- Researchers in Israel developed a new device that directly helps the heart pump blood, an innovation with the potential to save lives among those with heart failure. Also, Israeli scientists developed the first fully computerized, radiation-free diagnostic scanning device for breast cancer.
- A highly trained Jewish scientist and researcher, listening to a reading from the Torah in synagogue about holy anointing oil, had a hunch that this oil, prepared with cinnamon and other spices, played a role in preventing the spread of infectious agents in people. Initial experiments have proved his theory about **cinnamon** to be correct. This discovery has amazing potential to prevent and cure diseases.