STUDY GUIDE | WEBINAR

God's Prophetic Clock Is Ticking: The Significance of Israel and the Middle East

"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." (Isaiah 66:8, NASV)

I. A Nation Born in a Day

Despite the hatred that led to the massacre of six million Jewish victims during WWII, God still had a plan to restore His ancient covenant people to their land. The world would learn firsthand that nothing and no one could stand in His way. The U.N. resolution to partition the land and allow the Jewish people to reestablish the nation of Israel passed on November 29, 1947, and Jewish people around the world danced for joy.

A. Israel Becomes a Nation

While Israel's opponents continued to argue in the U.N., they were interrupted with the announcement that U.S. President Harry S. Truman officially recognized the new state of Israel and extended full diplomatic privileges. The U.S.S.R., eager to make sure the British never returned to the Middle East, shocked the world by quickly recognizing the nation of Israel as well! Yes, this is Israel, the only nation on earth to be born in a day through the supernatural intervention of God. He prepared the ancient home for His displaced covenant

people.

B. Thanksgiving for Prophetic Fulfillment

Holy and Mighty God, we marvel at the detail of Your ways. We declare that Your Word has not returned empty and void, but rather You have watched over Your Word to fulfill it. You brought a homeland for Your covenant people. We declare that the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah are true, and we rejoice in their fulfillment. Amen and amen!

II. When the Berlin Wall Came Tumbling Down

The dramatic scene unfolded on Thursday, November 9, 1989, barely a month after East Germany had celebrated its 40th and final anniversary as a country. Major news organizations from around the world showed up after jubilant Germans began to disassemble sections of the 103-mile-long Berlin Wall.

I will never forget watching television reports of East German youth tearing down the Berlin Wall. Nearly delirious with joy, they swung sledgehammers, iron bars, chisels, and anything else they could find. Emotions flowed freely in a frenzied attempt to topple the 12-foot walls that had separated Germany and imprisoned East Berlin for 28 years. It was a historic spectacle!

A. Communism becomes Commun-wasm!

1. A flight home from Tel Aviv, Israel

In 1986, when flying home from my first trip to Israel, I was given an upgrade to First Class. In a dramatic prophetic event while sitting next to a distinguished man, I asked him a probing question, "Do you want to know the next thing on God's Prophetic Calendar?" I opened my Bible and read to him the verses from Jeremiah 16 and 23. I proceeded to tell him that the persecuted Russian Jews living in the Land of the North would return to their homeland. I told him, "This is the next thing on God's Prophetic Calendar. The Soviet Union will be no more and the Jewish people living in

the Land of the North will be released to fulfill Biblical prophecy."

2. A prophetic word through God's seers

Before the "Wall came tumbling down," I participated in a prophetic gathering in Kansas City in which the prophetic statesman Paul Cain announced, "Communism is going to be commun-wasm." A few years before that, I had been ministering with seer prophet Bob Jones, and I heard him share that the Russian Jews would come forth from the Land of the North, and then after that time, "cities of refuge" would need to be set up. Sure enough, these initial prophetic words were fulfilled when the Wall came down!

B. Tearing Down Walls Through Intercession

Father, in Jesus' great name, we are grateful that the once-thought impenetrable Berlin Wall of Division came down in recent history. We take these biblical and historical examples of intervention through crisis intercession, and we declare that the Walls are still coming down in our day. We arise to be watchmen on Your Walls to give thanks for all that You have done and the extraordinary things you are about to do! Amen and amen!

III. The Winds Are Coming – Israel Awakening

A. The Winds Are Coming!

In early December 2006, I was supposed to fly to Long Island, New York to be the first speaker at the Open Heavens conference with revivalist Matt Sorger. Prior to my flight, I was feeling weak and needed to rest, so I took the day to rest and recover and regain my strength at my home in Franklin, Tennessee. As I lay there in bed that day, the Holy Spirit kept telling me, "The winds are coming! The winds are coming!" I did not understand what He meant. All day long as I rested, I heard the same declaration, "The winds are coming!"

The next day I was back in strength and ready to fly. On the first leg of my

flight from Nashville to Baltimore, we encountered unusually strong winds. The plane was bouncing around like crazy. When we finally landed safely in Baltimore, the plane was shuddering and shaking. As it turned out, the entire East Coast was affected by this weather pattern, and all the airports in New England had closed down. That meant I would have to layover in Baltimore for an entire day. That night, lying awake in my hotel bed, I heard the same words once again, "The winds are coming." What? More winds?

I arrived in Long Island just in time for the closing session of the Open Heaven conference. During the worship, I was enjoying His presence. Suddenly I felt a wind blow across my face. In an instant, the atmosphere shifted, and I began to scribble down words of knowledge as fast as I could—people's names, cities, and diseases. The atmosphere was permeated with the spirit of revelation.

B. An Angelic Encounter – Israel Awakening

Then I felt the wind yet again. This time when I opened my eyes—whoosh—an angel suddenly appeared in front of me. The angel was carrying a shofar and wearing a glowing white robe with a gold sash that went from the left shoulder to the waist. On the sash I could read the words, "Israel Awakening." The angel blew the shofar right in my face and then vanished. I wrote down the encounter in a journal.

I went into a message and started to share about angels as I quoted Hebrews 1:7,14. I stopped, as I felt this divine pause. Next thing you know, Matt Sorger gets up and starts to share. He opens a journal where he had a picture drawn and a word written down from beforehand. He had drawn a picture of an angel and the Lord told him that, "Angels were coming with James Goll to the meeting tonight." We both opened our journals and showed them to the people, and we had a confirmation right there at an Open Heaven conference in Long Island, New York.

C. The Parallel Church Awakening

A parallel awakening has and will occur with both the Church of Jesus Christ and Israel taking her proper role in God's destiny. Restoration is in the heart of God. As the Jewish people return to their Land, God restores the Church to their land of promise as well.

D. The Gentle, the Rude, and the Great Awakenings

Historically, we have experienced the First and the Second Great Awakening, but we are crossing over into the beginning of the Third Great Awakening. The Body of Christ will be awakened by the supernatural activity of the Holy Spirit. She will be awakened to her strategic and sovereign role in the Last Days. The once sleeping Bride of Christ will be awakened to assume her rightful place of intercession and destiny in the purposes of God.

E. Welcoming the Winds of Awakening

Father God, in Jesus' mighty name, we welcome the winds of God into our lives, our families and our spheres of responsibility and authority. We call forth an invasion of heaven's angelic army into the earth realm. We declare that the supernatural movement of signs and wonders is already here. Use the gentle and even the rude awakenings to create the climate and culture for the Greatest Global Awakening, for Your holy name's sake. Amen and amen!

IV. Seven Reasons Why I Pray and Take a Stand for Israel

I have been interceding as a watchman for well over 40 years. With that vantage point, let me share with you some Biblical reasons why I pray and take a stand for Israel's destiny in the Middle East.

A. Israel Is Still the Apple of God's Eye

Deuteronomy 32:9–11 tells us, "For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob [Israel] is the allotment of His inheritance. ... He encircled him, He cared for him, He guarded him as the pupil of His eye. ... He spread His wings and caught them, He carried them on His pinions."

B. To Be in Union with God's Heart of Compassion

Psalm 102:13–14 aptly tells us, "You will arise and have compassion on Zion; for it is time to be gracious to her, for the appointed time has come. Surely Your servants find pleasure in her stones and feel pity for her dust."

C. To Establish Jerusalem as a Praise in the Earth

"On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; all day and all night they will never keep silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest for yourselves, and give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth." Isaiah 62:6–7

D. Our Prayers Work Together for Israel's Salvation

"I have great sorrow and unceasing grief in my heart. ... My heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation." Romans 9:2; 10:1

E. God Commands Us to Pray for the Peace and Welfare of Jerusalem

Psalm 122 must still be prayed and sung today, "May they prosper who love you. May peace be within your walls, and prosperity within your palaces."

F. Israel's Acceptance of Jesus Will Bring Life to the Entire World

Romans 11:15 says, "For if [Israel's] rejection [of Christ] is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?"

G. Jesus Linked His Second Coming to Israel's turning to Him

Matthew 23:39 recites Jesus prophesying before His death, "For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!"

Why pray and take a stand of action for Israel? Because Jesus said to, because Isaiah said to, because David the psalmist said to, and because the Holy Spirit is

saying to. There may be many other reasons to pray and act for Israel. Pick whatever reason you want but pray and take a stand for Israel!

V. Closing Prayer for Israel and the Middle East

Lord God, give us Your heart of compassion for Your people, Israel. Arise and have compassion on Your people. We pray that Your servants would take great pleasure in Israel and have Your heart of compassion for her condition. Give us Your heart, Lord, and let the apple of Your eye become the center of our vision. Hear our collective prayers, O Lord! Be gracious to Israel and all of Abraham's descendants—the people of the Middle East. Amen and amen!