

G-d's Promises to Israel



Israel
Independence
Day

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NEIGHBORHOOD BULLY

Bob Dylan

Well, the neighborhood bully
He's just one man
His enemies say he's on their land
They got him outnumbered
'bout a million to one
He got no place to escape to
No place to run
He's the neighborhood bully

The neighborhood bully
He just lives to survive
He's criticized and condemned
For being alive
Not supposed to fight back
And have thick skin
Supposed to lay down and die
When his door is kicked in
He's the neighborhood bully

The neighborhood bully
Been driven out of every land
He's wandered the earth
An exiled man
Seen his family scattered
People hounded and torn
He's always on trial
For just being born
He's the neighborhood bully

Well, he knocked out a lynch mob
He was criticized
Old women condemned him
Said he should apologize
Then he destroyed a bomb factory
Nobody was glad
The bombs were meant for him
He was supposed to feel bad
He's the neighborhood bully

Well, the chances are against it
And the odds are slim
That he'll live by the rules that
The world makes for him
There's a noose at his neck
And a gun at his back
And a licence to kill him is
Given out to every maniac
He's the neighborhood bully

Well, he got no allies
To really speak of
What he gets he must pay for
He don't get it out of love
He buys obsolete weapons
And he won't be denied
But no one sends flesh and blood
To fight by his side
He's the neighborhood bully

Well, he's surrounded by pacifists
Who all want peace
They pray for it nightly
That the bloodshed must cease
Now, they wouldn't hurt a fly
To hurt one they would weep
They lay and they wait
For this bully to fall asleep
He's the neighborhood bully

Every empire that's
Enslaved him is gone
Egypt and Rome
Even the great Babylon
He's made a garden of paradise
In the desert sand
In bed with nobody
Under no one's command
He's the neighborhood bully

Now his holiest books
Have been trampled upon
No contract he signed
Was worth what it was written on
He took the crumbs of the world
And he turned it into wealth
Took sickness and disease
And he turned it into health
He's the neighborhood bully

What's anybody indebted to him for
Nothing, they say
He just likes to cause war
Pride and prejudice
And superstition indeed
They wait for this bully
Like a dog waits to feed
He's the neighborhood bully

What has he done
To wear so many scars
Does he change the course of rivers
Does he pollute the moon and stars
Neighborhood bully
Standing on the hill
Running out the clock
Time standing still
Neighborhood bully

WHAT ARE G-D'S PROMISES TO ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE?

I. G-D PROMISED TO ESTABLISH A
HOMELAND FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE

I. G-D PROMISED TO ESTABLISH A
HOMELAND FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE
A. G-D MADE A PROMISE TO ABRAHAM
AND HIS DESCENDANTS

Genesis 12:1-2
¹ Now the L-rd said to Abram, "Go forth from
your country, and from your relatives and from
your father's house, to the land which I will
show you; ² 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;

Genesis 12:3, 7

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." ⁷ The L-rd appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the L-rd who had appeared to him.

Genesis 13:12

¹² Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the valley, and moved his tents as far as Sodom.

Genesis 13:14-16

¹⁴ The L-rd said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; ¹⁵ for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever. ¹⁶ "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.

Genesis 26:1-2

¹ Now there was a famine in the land, besides the previous famine that had occurred in the days of Abraham. So Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines. ² The L-rd appeared to him and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; stay in the land of which I shall tell you.

Genesis 26:3-4

³ "Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham. ⁴ "I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;

Genesis 28:13-14

¹³ And behold, the L-rd stood above it and said, "I am the L-rd, the G-d of your father Abraham and the G-d of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants. ¹⁴ "Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 28:15

¹⁵ "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Genesis 35:9-11

⁹ Then G-d appeared to Jacob again when he came from Paddan-aram, and He blessed him.

¹⁰ G-d said to him, "Your name is Jacob; you shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." Thus He called him Israel.

¹¹ G-d also said to him, "I am G-d Almighty; be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come forth from you."

Genesis 35:12

¹² "The land which I gave to Abraham and Isaac, I will give it to you, and I will give the land to your descendants after you."

Psalms 105:8-11

⁸ He has remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations, ⁹ The covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac. ¹⁰ Then He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, ¹¹ Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion of your inheritance,"

I. G-D PROMISED TO ESTABLISH A HOMELAND FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE
B. G-D CONFIRMED IT WITH A COVENANT

Genesis 15:6-9

⁶ Then he believed in the L-rd; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷ And He said to him, "I am the L-rd who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess it." ⁸ He said, "O L-rd G-d, how may I know that I will possess it?" ⁹ So He said to him, "Bring Me a three year old heifer, and a three year old female goat, and a three year old ram, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon."

Genesis 15:10, 12-13

¹⁰ Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, and laid each half opposite the other ¹² Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, terror and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ G-d said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.

Genesis 15:14-15, 17

¹⁴ "But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions. ¹⁵ "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age. ¹⁷ It came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a flaming torch which passed between these pieces.

Genesis 15:18

¹⁸ On that day the L-rd made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates:

I. G-D PROMISED TO ESTABLISH A HOMELAND FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE
C. G-D EXPRESSES HIS HEART

Isaiah 49:14-16

¹⁴ But Zion said, "The L-rd has forsaken me, and the L-rd has forgotten me." ¹⁵ Can a woman forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. ¹⁶ "Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.

Jeremiah 31:3

³ The L-rd appeared to him from afar, saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.

II. G-D PROMISED TO RAISE UP, PROTECT,
AND PRESERVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE

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AND PRESERVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE
A. THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

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B. THE PROMISE TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE

Isaiah 11:11-12
¹¹ Then it will happen on that day that the L-rd will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His people, who will remain, from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. ¹² And He will lift up a standard for the nations and assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Jeremiah 16:14-15
¹⁴ "Therefore behold, days are coming," declares the L-rd, "when it will no longer be said, 'As the L-rd lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' ¹⁵ but, 'As the L-rd lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.' For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers.

Jeremiah 31:35-37
³⁵ Thus says the L-rd, Who gives the sun for light by day and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; the L-rd of hosts is His name: ³⁶ "If this fixed order departs from before Me," declares the L-rd, "Then the offspring of Israel also will cease from being a nation before Me forever."

Jeremiah 31:35-37

³⁷ Thus says the L-rd, "If the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth searched out below, then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel for all that they have done," declares the L-rd.

Ezekiel 37:21-22

²¹ "Say to them, 'Thus says the L-rd G-d, "Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; ²² and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations and no longer be divided into two kingdoms.

Zechariah 8:7-8

⁷ "Thus says the L-rd of hosts, 'Behold, I am going to save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; ⁸ and I will bring them back and they will live in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be My people, and I will be their G-d in truth and righteousness.'

II. G-D PROMISED TO RAISE UP, PROTECT, AND PRESERVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE
C. THE MIRACLE OF ISRAEL

III. G-d PROMISED TO MAKE THE LAND PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL

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A. THE LAND IN THE PAST

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PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL

A. THE LAND IN THE PAST

B. THE PROMISE FOR THE LAND

Isaiah 35:1-2

¹ The wilderness and the desert will be glad, and the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² It will blossom profusely and rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the L-rd, the majesty of our G-d.

Amos 9:11-12

¹¹ "In that day I will raise up the fallen booth of David, and wall up its breaches; I will also raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old; ¹² That they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by My name," declares the L-rd who does this.

Amos 9:11-13

¹³ "Behold, days are coming," declares the L-rd, "When the plowman will overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; when the mountains will drip sweet wine and all the hills will be dissolved.

Amos 9:14-15

¹⁴ "Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel and they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them; they will also plant vineyards and drink their wine, and make gardens and eat their fruit. ¹⁵ "I will also plant them on their land, and they will not again be rooted out from their land which I have given them," says the L-rd your G-d.

Ezekiel 36:33-34

³³ "Thus says the L-rd G-d, "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places will be rebuilt. ³⁴ "The desolate land will be cultivated instead of being a desolation in the sight of everyone who passes by.

Ezekiel 36:35-36

³⁵"They will say, 'This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified and inhabited.'³⁶"Then the nations that are left round about you will know that I, the L-rd, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted that which was desolate; I, the L-rd, have spoken and will do it."

III. G-d PROMISED TO MAKE THE LAND PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL
C. THE LAND TODAY

III. G-d PROMISED TO MAKE THE LAND PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL
C. THE LAND TODAY

Isaiah 27:6

In the days to come Jacob will take root, Israel will blossom and sprout; and they will fill the whole world with fruit.

IV. G-D PROMISED TO REVIVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE SPIRITUALLY

IV. G-D PROMISED TO REVIVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE SPIRITUALLY

A. THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TODAY

IV. G-D PROMISED TO REVIVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE SPIRITUALLY

A. THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE TODAY

B. THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION PROMISED FOR ISRAEL

Ezekiel 36:24-26

²⁴"For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. ²⁵"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Ezekiel 36:27-28, 33

²⁷"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. ²⁸"You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your G-d. ³³'Thus says the L-rd G-d, "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities..."

Zechariah 12:10

¹⁰"I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

Zechariah 13:1

¹"In that day a fountain will be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹"Behold, days are coming," declares the L-rd, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the L-rd.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³³"But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the L-rd, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their G-d, and they shall be My people.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

³⁴"They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the L-rd,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the L-rd, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Conclusion

A. G-D WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO ISRAEL

A. G-D WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO ISRAEL

B. G-D WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO US

A. G-D WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO ISRAEL

B. G-D WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES TO US

C. G-D WILL BRING ABOUT ISRAEL'S
FUTURE KINGDOM

Romans 11:12, 15, 25

¹² Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be! ¹⁵ For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? ²⁵ For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery--so that you will not be wise in your own estimation--that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

Romans 11:26-27, 29

²⁶ and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION HE WILL REMOVE UNG-DLINESS FROM JACOB." ²⁷ "THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of G-d are irrevocable.

G-D HAS PROMISED TO
REBUILD THE LAND,
REVIVE HIS PEOPLE,
AND ESTABLISH THE
FUTURE MESSIANIC
KINGDOM ON EARTH

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