

Biblical Notes — Acts 3:21

21 – whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time. (21. ὃν δεῖ οὐρανὸν μὲν δέξασθαι ἄχρι χρόνων ἀποκαταστάσεως πάντων ὧν ἐλάλησεν ὁ θεὸς διὰ στόματος τῶν ἁγίων ἀπ' αἰῶνος αὐτοῦ προφητῶν)

"A fifth argument brings final confirmation to this position. Peter's own teaching in Acts 3:19-21 indicates that there is still going to be a future restoration of the nation of Israel. In verse 21 Peter states that when Jesus comes again, God will "restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets." The word "restore" in Acts 3:21 is the Greek noun (ἀποκαταστάσεως), the verbal form of which (ἀποκαταστήσει) is used in Acts 1:6 in the disciples' question to Jesus, "Lord are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" The repetition of this terminology for the restoration of Israel in 1:6 and 3:21, the repetition of the term χρόνος in both contexts (1:6 and 3:21), and the fact that the restoration spoken of in 3:21 was "promised long ago through his holy prophets" all indicate that the restoration mentioned in 3:21 is associated with Christ's return and refers to the future fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies concerning Israel."

—— W. Edward Glenny, The Israelite Imagery in 1 Peter 2, in *Dispensationalism, Israel and the Church: The Search for Definition*, eds. Craig A. Blaising and Darrell L. Bock (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 185-186.