

# Dispensationalism — Israel (Restoration)

## 1. RESTORATION OF FORTUNES

Jeremiah 30:1-3 NASB

The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, [2] "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Write all the words which I have spoken to you in a book. [3] For behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will restore the fortunes of My people Israel and Judah.' The LORD says, 'I will also bring them back to the land that I gave to their forefathers and they shall possess it.'"

Jeremiah 30:18-20 NASB

"Thus says the LORD, 'Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob And have compassion on his dwelling places; And the city will be rebuilt on its ruin, And the palace will stand on its rightful place. [19] 'From them will proceed thanksgiving And the voice of those who celebrate; And I will multiply them and they will not be diminished; I will also honor them and they will not be insignificant. [20] 'Their children also will be as formerly, And their congregation shall be established before Me; And I will punish all their oppressors.

Jeremiah 31:23 NASB

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "Once again they will speak this word in the land of Judah and in its cities when I restore their fortunes, 'The LORD bless you, O abode of righteousness, O holy hill!'

Jeremiah 33:6-7,10-11 NASB

Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them; and I will reveal to them an abundance of peace and truth. [7] I will restore the fortunes of Judah and the fortunes of Israel and will rebuild them as they were at first. [10] "Thus says the LORD, 'Yet again there will be heard in this place, of which you say, "It is a waste, without man and without beast," that is, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without man and without inhabitant and without beast, [11] the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, "Give thanks to the LORD of hosts, For the LORD is good, For His lovingkindness is everlasting"; and of those who bring a thank offering into the house of the LORD. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were at first,' says the LORD.

Ezekiel 39:25 NASB

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name.

Hosea 6:11 NASB

Also, O Judah, there is a harvest appointed for you, When I restore the fortunes of My people.

Joel 3:1 NASB

"For behold, in those days and at that time, When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,

Zephaniah 2:7 NASB

And the coast will be For the remnant of the house of Judah, They will pasture on it. In the houses of Ashkelon they will lie down at evening; For the LORD their God will care for them And restore their fortune.

Zephaniah 3:20 NASB

"At that time I will bring you in, Even at the time when I gather you together; Indeed, I will give you renown and praise Among all the peoples of the earth, When I restore your fortunes before your eyes," Says the LORD.

## 2. RESTORATION TO THE PROMISE LAND

1 Chronicles 16:13-18 NASB

O seed of Israel His servant, Sons of Jacob, His chosen ones! [14] He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. [15] Remember His covenant forever, The word which He commanded to a thousand generations, [16] The covenant which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac. [17] He also confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel as an everlasting covenant, [18] Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan, As the portion of your inheritance."

Psalm 105:6-11 NASB

O seed of Abraham, His servant, O sons of Jacob, His chosen ones! [7] He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. [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,"

Isaiah 11:11-14 NASB

Then it will happen on that day that the Lord 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. [13] Then the jealousy of Ephraim will depart, And those who harass Judah will be cut off; Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, And Judah will not harass Ephraim. [14] They will swoop down on the slopes of the Philistines on the west; Together they will plunder the sons of the east; They will possess Edom and Moab, And the sons of Ammon will be subject to them.

Isaiah 49:8 NASB

Thus says the LORD, "In a favorable time I have answered You, And in a day of salvation I have helped You; And I will keep You and give You for a covenant of the people, To restore the land, to make them inherit the desolate heritages;

Isaiah 52:1-3 NASB

Awake, awake, Clothe yourself in your strength, O Zion; Clothe yourself in your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; For the uncircumcised and the unclean Will no longer come into you. [2] Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; Loose yourself from the chains around your neck, O captive daughter of Zion. [3] For thus says the LORD, "You were sold for nothing and you will be redeemed without money."

Isaiah 60:21 NASB

"Then all your people will be righteous; They will possess the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified.

Jeremiah 16:15 NASB

but, 'As the LORD 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 24:6-7 NASB

For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them again to this land; and I will build them up and not overthrow them, and I will plant them and not pluck them up. [7] I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the LORD; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart.

Jeremiah 31:12,40 NASB

"They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion, And they will be radiant over the bounty of the LORD- Over the grain and the new wine and the oil, And over the young of the flock and the herd; And their life will be like a watered garden, And they will never languish again. [40] And the whole valley of the dead bodies and of the ashes, and all the fields as far as the brook Kidron, to the corner of the Horse Gate toward the east, shall be holy to the LORD; it will not be plucked up or overthrown anymore forever."

Jeremiah 32:40-44 NASB

I will make an everlasting covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put the fear of Me in their hearts so that they will not turn away from Me. [41] I will rejoice over them to do them good and will faithfully plant them in this land with all My heart and with all My soul. [42] For thus says the LORD, 'Just as I brought all this great disaster on this people, so I am going to bring on them all the good that I am promising them. [43] Fields will be bought in this land of which you say, "It is a desolation, without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans." [44] Men will buy fields for money, sign and seal deeds, and call in witnesses in the land of Benjamin, in the environs of Jerusalem, in the cities of Judah, in the cities of the hill country, in the cities of the lowland and in the cities of the Negev; for I will restore their fortunes,' declares the LORD."

Ezekiel 34:28-29 NASB

They will no longer be a prey to the nations, and the beasts of the earth will not devour them; but they will live securely, and no one will make them afraid. [29] I will establish for them a renowned planting place, and they will not again be victims of famine in the land, and they will not endure the insults of the nations anymore.

Ezekiel 36:8-12 NASB

But you, O mountains of Israel, you will put forth your branches and bear your fruit for My people Israel; for they will soon come. [9] For, behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you will be cultivated and sown. [10] I will multiply men on you, all the house of Israel, all of it; and the cities will be inhabited and the waste places will be rebuilt. [11] I will

multiply on you man and beast; and they will increase and be fruitful; and I will cause you to be inhabited as you were formerly and will treat you better than at the first. Thus you will know that I am the LORD. [12] Yes, I will cause men-My people Israel-to walk on you and possess you, so that you will become their inheritance and never again bereave them of children.'

#### Ezekiel 36:22-24 NASB

"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. [23] I will vindicate the holiness of My great name which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD," declares the Lord GOD, "when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight. [24] For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.

#### Ezekiel 36:28-36 NASB

You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God. [29] Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the grain and multiply it, and I will not bring a famine on you. [30] I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations. [31] Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations. [32] I am not doing this for your sake," declares the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel!" [33] 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "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. [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 LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places and planted that which was desolate; I, the LORD, have spoken and will do it."

#### Ezekiel 37:25 NASB

They will live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons and their sons' sons, forever; and David My servant will be their prince forever.

#### Ezekiel 38:8 NASB

After many days you will be summoned; in the latter years you will come into the land that is restored from the sword, whose inhabitants have been gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel which had been a continual waste; but its people were brought out from the nations, and they are living securely, all of them.

#### Ezekiel 39:25-29 NASB

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Now I will restore the fortunes of Jacob and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for My holy name. [26] They will forget their disgrace and all their treachery which they perpetrated against Me, when they live securely on their own land with no one to make them afraid. [27] When I bring them back from the peoples and gather them from the lands of their enemies, then I shall be sanctified through them in the sight of the many nations. [28] Then they will know that I am the LORD their God because I made them go into exile among the nations, and then gathered them again to their own land; and I will leave none of them there any longer. [29] I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel," declares the Lord GOD.

#### Joel 2:26-27 NASB

"You will have plenty to eat and be satisfied And praise the name of the LORD your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; Then My people will never be put to shame. [27] "Thus you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, And that I am the LORD your God, And there is no other; And My people will never be put to shame.

#### Joel 3:18-20 NASB

And in that day The mountains will drip with sweet wine, And the hills will flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah will flow with water; And a spring will go out from the house of the LORD To water the valley of Shittim. [19] Egypt will become a waste, And Edom will become a desolate wilderness, Because of the violence done to the sons of Judah, In whose land they have shed innocent blood. [20] But Judah will be inhabited forever And Jerusalem for all generations.

#### Amos 9:11-15 NASB

"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 LORD who does this. [13] "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "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. [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 LORD your God.

**Micah 2:12-13 NASB**

"I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together like sheep in the fold; Like a flock in the midst of its pasture They will be noisy with men. [13] "The breaker goes up before them; They break out, pass through the gate and go out by it. So their king goes on before them, And the LORD at their head."

**Zephaniah 3:14-20 NASB**

Shout for joy, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! [15] The LORD has taken away His judgments against you, He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; You will fear disaster no more. [16] In that day it will be said to Jerusalem: "Do not be afraid, O Zion; Do not let your hands fall limp. [17] "The LORD your God is in your midst, A victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy. [18] "I will gather those who grieve about the appointed feasts- They came from you, O Zion; The reproach of exile is a burden on them. [19] "Behold, I am going to deal at that time With all your oppressors, I will save the lame And gather the outcast, And I will turn their shame into praise and renown In all the earth. [20] "At that time I will bring you in, Even at the time when I gather you together; Indeed, I will give you renown and praise Among all the peoples of the earth, When I restore your fortunes before your eyes," Says the LORD.

**Zechariah 14:1,9,11 NASB**

Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you will be divided among you. [9] And the LORD will be king over all the earth; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one. [11] People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security.

### **3. RESTORED RELATIONSHIP WITH YAHWEH**

**Isaiah 52:6 NASB**

Therefore My people shall know My name; therefore in that day I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.'"

**Jeremiah 30:17 NASB**

'For I will restore you to health And I will heal you of your wounds,' declares the LORD, 'Because they have called you an outcast, saying: "It is Zion; no one cares for her."'

**Jeremiah 30:22 NASB**

'You shall be My people, And I will be your God.'"

**Jeremiah 32:38-40 NASB**

They shall be My people, and I will be their God; [39] and I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me always, for their own good and for the good of their children after them. [40] I will make an everlasting covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put the fear of Me in their hearts so that they will not turn away from Me.

**Jeremiah 33:8-9 NASB**

I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me, and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned against Me and by which they have transgressed against Me. [9] It will be to Me a name of joy, praise and glory before all the nations of the earth which will hear of all the good that I do for them, and they will fear and tremble because of all the good and all the peace that I make for it.'

**Ezekiel 34:30-31 NASB**

Then they will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are My people," declares the Lord GOD. [31] "As for you, My sheep, the sheep of My pasture, you are men, and I am your God," declares the Lord GOD.

**Ezekiel 36:25-28 NASB**

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. [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 God.

Matthew 23:39 NASB

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!"

#### **4. RESTORED DAVIDIC THRONE**

Jeremiah 30:9 NASB

But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them.

Jeremiah 30:20-21 NASB

'Their children also will be as formerly, And their congregation shall be established before Me; And I will punish all their oppressors. [21] 'Their leader shall be one of them, And their ruler shall come forth from their midst; And I will bring him near and he shall approach Me; For who would dare to risk his life to approach Me?' declares the LORD.

Ezekiel 34:23-24 NASB

"Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd. [24] And I, the LORD, will be their God, and My servant David will be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

Luke 1:32-33 NASB

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; [33] and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

#### **5. NATIONAL CONVERSION**

Jeremiah 23:6 NASB

"In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, 'The Lord our righteousness.'

Matthew 23:39 NASB

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!"

Romans 9:27 NASB

Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, "Though THE NUMBER OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL BE like THE SAND OF THE SEA, IT IS the REMNANT THAT WILL BE SAVED;

Romans 11:23 NASB

And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

Romans 11:25-27 NASB

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; [26] and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "The DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB." [27] "This IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, When I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS."

#### **6. GOD IS NOT FINISHED WITH ISRAEL**

Matthew 19:28 NASB

And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Luke 22:28-30 NASB

"You are those who have stood by Me in My trials; [29] and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you [30] that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Acts 1:6-7 NASB

So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" [7] He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

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"In general, in all the prophecies of the Old Testament that speak of the apostasy and the return of the Jews; more specifically, in Zechariah 12 and Romans 11. Romans 11 speaks of a national conversion, that is, a conversion of the majority, by which naturally it is not also said that then all individuals of that majority will be saved. But what is meant is something as a whole, something national, for Paul clearly distinguishes the conversion of the "remnant according to election" [Rom 11:5] from the salvation of "all Israel" [v. 26]"

— Vos, Geerhardus, and Richard Gaffin. *Reformed Dogmatics: Ecclesiology, the Means of Grace, Eschatology* – e-book, (Lexham Press, 2014), 1135.

"Superficial logic has continued to argue that there is no more uniqueness for the Jew and physical Israel. Since it is said Christ has broken down the barrier between Jew and Gentile [Eph. 2: 11-18]. Israel's election is finished, But this is not the logic of the New Testament. Although there is only one way of salvation for both Jew and Gentile, the New Testament teaches that the Jewish people do still have a unique place in the historical working out of God's redemption of the world in Christ. Although the Old Testament Prophecies regarding Zion and Israel do have a spiritual meaning this does not mean they have lost their literal meaning...."

— Howard Taylor, *The Continuity of the People of God in Old and New Testaments*, SBET 3 (Autumn 1985): 14-15.

"There can be no question that the prophets meant to communicate the promise of a national return of Israel to its land. To the extent that our hermeneutics are regulated by the principle of authorial intent, we are given ample reason to accept this literal rendering of what God, through the prophets, originally promised to his people Israel."

— Bruce A. Ware, *The New Covenant and the People(s) of God, in Dispensationalism, Israel and the Church: The Search for Definition*, eds. Craig A. Blaising and Darrell L. Bock (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 93.

"It is generally agreed that if the prophecies are taken literally, they do foretell a restoration of the nation of Israel in the land of Palestine with the Jews having a prominent place in that kingdom and ruling over the other nations."

— Lorraine Boettner, *Postmillennialism, in the Meaning of the Millennium: Four Views*, ed. Robert G. Clouse (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1977), 95.

"With equal vigor and force, all the prophets announce not only the conversion of Israel and the nations but also the return to Palestine, the rebuilding of Jerusalem, the restoration of the temple, the priesthood, and sacrificial worship, and so on. And it is nothing but caprice to take one feature of this picture literally and another "spiritually." Prophecy pictures for us but one single image of the future. And either this image is to be taken literally as it presents itself—but then one breaks with Christianity and lapses back into Judaism—or this image calls for a very different interpretation than that attempted by chiliasm. Such an interpretation is furnished by Scripture itself, and we must take it from Scripture."

— Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics: Holy Spirit, Church, New Creation*, ed. John Bolt, trans. John Vriend, E-Pub, (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008), 658.

"The concrete, earthly, material blessings must not be overlooked. Under the Prince of Peace of the house of David, Israel will live securely. There will no longer be war: bow and sword will be abolished (Hosea 2:18); horses will be cut off, chariots destroyed, strongholds thrown down (Mic. 5:10-11); and swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. All will sit down under their vines and their fig trees (Isa. 2:4; Mic. 4:3-4), for the kingdom is the Lord's and he is their stronghold (Joel 3:16-17; Obad. 21). The land will become extraordinarily fertile, so that the mountains will drip sweet wine and the hills will flow with milk. A fountain issuing from the house of the Lord will irrigate the dry land and turn the desert into a Garden of Eden. Wild beasts will be driven away, enemies will no longer rob the harvest, and all the trees, seasonably refreshed by gentle rains, will bear abundant fruit (Isa. 32:15-20; 51:3; 60:17-18; 62:8-9; 65:9, 22; Jer. 31:6, 12-14; Ezek. 34:14, 25-26, 29; 36:29; 47:1-12; Hosea 2:15, 18-19; 14:5-7; Joel 3:18; Amos 9:13-14; Zech. 8:12; 14:8, 10). An enormous reversal will occur, even in nature: animals will receive a different nature (Isa. 11:6-8; 65:25), heaven and earth will be renewed, and the former things will no longer be remembered (34:4; 51:6; 65:17; 66:22). Sun and moon will be altered: the light of the moon will be like the sun, and the light of the sun will be seven times its normal strength (30:26). Indeed, the sun and moon will be no more: there will be continuous day, for the Lord will be the people's everlasting light (60:19-20; Zech. 14:6-7). In the human world as well the change will be enormous. Once Israel is gathered, Palestine will resound with people (Mic. 2:12-13). The descendants of the children of Israel will be like the sand of the sea, and especially the progeny of the house of David and of the Levites will be multiplied (Isa. 9:3; Jer. 3:16; 33:22; Hosea 1:10). On account of the multitude of people and animals, Jerusalem will become immeasurable and will have to be inhabited like villages (Zech. 2:1-4). Many Israelites—after a number of them have been returned—will come to Jerusalem and share in the blessing of Israel (Jer. 3:14, 16, 18; Zech. 2:4-9; 8:7-8). Also the Israelites who have died will share in those blessings. All of Israel can then be said to have been brought back to life (Isa. 25:8; Ezek. 37:1-14; Hosea 6:2). Isaiah (26:19) and Daniel (12:2) announce that the defeated Israelites will arise from the sleep of death and at least in part awaken to everlasting life. Finally, all the citizens of the kingdom will reach a very advanced age. There will

no longer be in it “an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed” (Isa. 65:20; cf. Zech. 8:4–5). There will no longer be sickness, nor mourning, nor crying (Isa. 25:8; 30:19; 65:19); the Lord will even destroy death, swallowing it up in victory (25:7). Finally, the gentiles will share in that blessing of the kingdom of God. Woven throughout Old Testament prophecy is the thought that God will avenge the blood of his servants on his enemies. The prophets of God, therefore, announce God’s judgments over several peoples: Philistia, Tyre, Moab, Ammon, Edom, Asshur, and Babel. But the final effect of these judgments is not the destruction but the salvation of the gentiles: in Abraham’s seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed (Gen. 12:3). Granted, in one prophet it is more the political side of this subjection of the gentiles under Israel that comes to the fore, while in another it is the religious, spiritual side. All of them nevertheless expect that the rule of the Messiah will be extended to all peoples (cf. Pss. 2; 21; 24; 45; 46; 47; 48; 68; 72; 86; 89; 96; 98; etc.). Israel will, by hereditary right, possess the gentiles (Amos 9:12; Rev. 17–21). While they will be judged (Joel 3:2–15), everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved, for in Mount Zion is deliverance (Joel 2:32 KJV). The Ruler from Bethlehem will be great to the ends of the earth and protect Israel from its enemies (Mic. 5:3ff.). Still, the gentiles will go to Mount Zion to discover the ways of the Lord (Mic. 4:1–2). Ethiopia will bring gifts to the Lord in Zion (Isa. 18:7). Egyptians and Assyrians will serve him (19:18–25). Tyre will hand over its profits to the Lord (23:15–18), and on Mount Zion he will prepare for all peoples a feast of rich food (25:6–10). Indeed, the servant of the Lord will be a light also to the gentiles. His messengers will make known the Lord among the nations of the earth, and he will be served by them. The Lord’s house will be a house of prayer for all peoples. All will bring their sacrifices there, worship the Lord, and call themselves after his name. They will pasture Israel’s flocks and cultivate its fields, so that the Israelites can completely devote themselves as priests to the service of the Lord (Isa. 40–66, *passim*). When Israel has been restored and Jerusalem is the throne of the Lord, all the gentiles will be gathered there around the name of the Lord, bless themselves, and boast in the Lord (Jer. 3:17; 4:2; 16:19–21; 33:9). In the end all peoples will acknowledge that the Lord is God (Ezek. 16:62; 17:24; 25:5ff.; 26:6; 28:22; 29:6; 30:8–26). All the gentiles will bring their treasures to Jerusalem and fill the house of the Lord with splendor (Hag. 2:7–10). Peoples will come and say to one another, “Let us go to entreat the favor of the Lord.” “Ten men . . . will take hold of a Jew, grasping his garment and saying, ‘Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you’” (Zech. 8:21–23; cf. 2:11; 14:16–19). The people of the holy ones will receive dominion over all the nations of the earth (Dan. 7:14, 27). ”

— Herman Bavinck, and Bolt. *Reformed Dogmatics: Abridged in One Volume*. e-book, (Baker Publishing Group, 2011), 724–725.

“These messianic expectations of the Old Testament, as any reader can see at once, are of a unique kind: they limit themselves to a future blessed state on earth. While in the Old Testament it may sometimes happen that a believer will express the hope that after death he will be taken up in eternal glory, this expectation is individual and stands by itself. As a rule, the eye of prophecy is directed toward that future in which the people of Israel will live securely under a king of David’s dynasty in Palestine and will rule over all the nations of the earth.”

— Herman Bavinck, and Bolt. *Reformed Dogmatics: Abridged in One Volume*. e-book, (Baker Publishing Group, 2011), 725.

“The enemies of Israel are subjected to Israel, but in the process acknowledge that the Lord is God and serve him in his temple. This temple with its priesthood and sacrificial worship are visible proof that all the citizens of the kingdom serve the Lord with a new heart and a new spirit and walk in his ways. And the extraordinary fertility of the land presupposes a total transformation of nature, the creation of a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.”

— Herman Bavinck, and Bolt. *Reformed Dogmatics: Abridged in One Volume*. e-book, (Baker Publishing Group, 2011), 726.

“I think we do not attach sufficient importance to the restoration of the Jews. We do not think enough of it. But certainly, if there is anything promised in the Bible it is this. I imagine that you cannot read the Bible without seeing clearly that there is to be an actual restoration of the children of Israel... May that happy day soon come!”

— Charles Spurgeon (1834–1892) [C. H. Spurgeon, *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection, Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*, I, no. 28, 1855 (Albany, Oregon: Ages Software, 1998), 382.]

“I believe that the Jews shall ultimately be gathered again as a separate nation, restored to their own land, and converted to the faith of Christ, after going through great tribulation (Jer. 30:10–11; 31:10; Rom. 11:25–26; Dan. 12:1; Zech. 13:8–9).”

— J. C. Ryle, *Are You Ready For The End Of Time?* (Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2001), 9; reprint of *Coming Events and Present Duties*.

“Christ will come again to this world with power and great glory....He will take to Himself His great power and reign, and establish an universal kingdom. He will gather the scattered tribes of Israel, and place them once more in their own land....As He literally rode upon an ass, was literally sold for thirty pieces of silver, had His hands and feet literally pierced, was numbered literally with the transgressors and had lots literally cast upon His raiment, and all that Scripture might be

fulfilled so also will He come, literally set up a kingdom and literally reign over the earth, because the very same Scripture has said it shall be so (Acts 1:11; 3:19-21; Ps. 102:16; Zech. 14:5; Isa. 24:23; Jer. 30:3,18; Dan. 7:13-14)."

— J. C. Ryle, *Are You Ready for The End Of Time?* (Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2001), 22-24; reprint of Coming Events and Present Duties.

"It is high time for Christians to interpret unfulfilled prophecy by the light of prophecies already fulfilled. The curses of the Jews were brought to pass literally; so also will be the blessings. The scattering was literal; so also will be the gathering. The pulling down of Zion was literal; so also will be the building up. The rejection of Israel was literal; so also will be the restoration."

— J. C. Ryle, *Are You Ready For The End Of Time?* (Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2001) 49; reprint of Coming Events and Present Duties.

"All these [prophetic] texts are to my mind plain prophecies of Christ's second coming and kingdom. All are yet without their accomplishment, and all shall yet be literally and exactly fulfilled. I say "literally and exactly fulfilled," and I say so advisedly. From the first day that I began to read the Bible with my heart, I have never been able to see these texts, and hundreds like them, in any other light. It always seemed to me that as we take literally the text foretelling that the walls of Babylon shall be cast down, so we ought to take literally the text foretelling that the walls of Zion shall be built up—that as according to prophecy the Jews were literally scattered, so according to prophecy the Jews will be literally gathered—and that as the least and minutest predictions were made good on the subject of our Lord's coming to suffer, so the minutest predictions shall be made good which describe our Lord's coming to reign."

— J.C. Ryle, *Wheat or Chaff?* (New York: Robert Carter & Bros., 1853), 85.

"[For] virtually all Dutch theologians of the seventeenth century, 'the whole of Israel' indicated the fullness of the people of Israel 'according to the flesh': in other words, the fullness of the Jewish people. This meant that there was a basis for an expectation of a future conversion of the Jews—an expectation which was shared by a large majority of Dutch theologians."

— J. Van Den Berg, *Puritan Eschatology*, 140.

"This same belief concerning the future of the Jews is to be found very widely in seventeenth-century Puritan literature. It appears in the works of such well-known Puritans as John Owen, Thomas Manton and John Flavel. ... It is also handled in a rich array of commentaries, both folios and quartos – David Dickson on the Psalms, George Hutcheson on the Minor Prophets, Jeremiah Burroughs on Hosea, William Greenhill on Ezekiel, Elnathan Parr on Romans and James Durham on Revelation: a list which could be greatly extended."

— Iain Murray, *The Puritan Hope*, 43.

"the goal of God's work as Consummator is that future reign of shalom in which the economy of difference and mutual dependence [between Israel and the nations] initiated by God's promise to Abraham and Sarah is fulfilled in a way that brings fullness of life to Israel, the nations, and to all of creation. Three strands of biblical testimony combine to illuminate this vision of final consummation."

— Soulen, *The God of Israel and Christian Theology*, 131.

"The fact that a number of Reformed theologians do indeed believe there will be a future conversion of Israel (e.g., Beza, Vos, Holwerda, Venema, Horton) is taken by dispensationalists as confirmation of the inconsistency supposedly inherent in amillennialism because of a conflict between a literal interpretation of passages about Israel and the spiritualizing and allegorical hermeneutic that amillennial Christians allegedly utilize elsewhere when interpreting prophecy."

— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 16.

"Even though Bavinck and Berkhof were wrong about Israel, their eschatological opinions have largely withstood the test of time. This assertion is supported by the fact that even their contemporary critics find it noteworthy that they were wrong about Israel, and this comes as a matter of some surprise! Of all the different schools of interpretation associated with Bible prophecy, dispensationalists should be especially careful not to make too much of Bavinck's and Berkhof's comments regarding Israel, given the well-known propensity of many popular dispensationalist writers to make eschatological predictions that do not come to pass."

— Kim Riddlebarger, *A Case for Amillennialism*, (Baker Books, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013), 17.

"For Christians whose eschatology is different from the kind just described, who are deeply concerned about their relationships with the Jews, Jerusalem is one of the most difficult problems they must face. Christians may prefer to look at the city as a negotiable subject, involving populations, political advantage, access to holy places, and the like. If, however, their Jewish counterparts are to be understood, the theology of Jerusalem, with its intimate relationship to most Jews' hopes for their future, must be taken into account even though it may not be fully accepted."

— Donald Gowan, *Eschatology in the Old Testament*. e-book, (Bloomsbury Academic, 2000), 20.

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“And what the people of the Jews shall say and do, when they see Him coming in glory, has been thus predicted by Zechariah the prophet: “I will command the four winds to gather the scattered children; I will command the north wind to bring them, and the south wind, that it keep not back. And then in Jerusalem there shall be great lamentation, not the lamentation of mouths or of lips, but the lamentation of the heart; and they shall rend not their garments, but their hearts. Tribe by tribe they shall mourn, and then they shall look on Him whom they have pierced; and they shall say, Why, O Lord, hast Thou made us to err from Thy way? The glory which our fathers blessed, has for us been turned into shame.”

— Justin Martyr, *Certain Fulfilment of Prophecy*, Chapter LII.

“It will be fitting for the Christian to rejoice, and not to grieve, at the restoration of Israel, if it be true, (as it is), that the whole of our hope is intimately united with the remaining expectation of Israel.”

— Tertullian, *On Modesty*, Chapter VIII.—Of the Prodigal Son

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Zechariah 8:7-8 NASB

Thus says the LORD 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 God in truth and righteousness.'

Zechariah 10:6,8 NASB

“I will strengthen the house of Judah, And I will save the house of Joseph, And I will bring them back, Because I have had compassion on them; And they will be as though I had not rejected them, For I am the LORD their God and I will answer them. [8] “I will whistle for them to gather them together, For I have redeemed them; And they will be as numerous as they were before.

“All these messages of restoration looked beyond the historical return from Babylonian exile. Those spoken before the Babylonian return, no doubt, had significance for this nearer event. But their complete fulfillment, indicated by the extent of the promise and the presence of the new covenant and the messianic king, demanded an eschatological understanding. There are other predictions having more specific reference to the return from Babylon (e.g. Jer 24:4–7; 29:10–14; Eze 36:8–15), but even these are not totally devoid of reference to the final restoration.”

— Robert L. Saucy, *The Case for Progressive Dispensationalism: The Interface Between Dispensational and Non-Dispensational Theology* - eBook, (Zondervan Academic, 2010), 235.

“The plight of those departed to Babylon has become a kind of model or symbol of the plight of all the scattered and dispossessed Jews who formed the Diaspora...So the return to Jerusalem and to Mount Zion became the classic image of how Israel’s restoration would take place.”

— Ronald Clements, *Old Testament Theology*, 144–145.