

Session 5

# A Biblical Approach to Standing with Israel

---

## A. Introduction

1. In order to have a Biblical approach to standing with Israel as the Gentile church, we need to understand Israel in the context of God's End-Time plans for her.
2. While other approaches may not be wrong (for example, viewing her solely from the perspective of being God's chosen nation), they may be incomplete and thus influence how we view Israel and our need to stand with her.
3. The reality is that we cannot fully understand Israel unless we understand the End Times, and we cannot fully understand the End Times unless we understand Israel.
4. As the door is opened to a process of discovering and understanding God's End-Time plans for Israel, we as the Gentile Church will have a better understanding of how to stand with her.
  - a. Daniel 12:4 and 9 say that there is divine information purposefully and strategically being withheld and concealed until the time of God's choosing.
  - b. Even though the Gentile Church may have been lacking in spiritual insight regarding End-Time matters and Israel in the past, God has been in this hour bringing more understanding and insight and opening up His Scriptures to His people.
  - c. Therefore, we need to approach the Word of God with a tender and teachable spirit as we study the prophetic Scriptures on the End Times and Israel.

## B. Definition of the "End Times"

1. The "End Times" refer to the final seven years of human history before the return of Jesus.
  - a. It is preceded by the "beginning of sorrows" (Matt. 24:8) and ends with Jesus' Second Coming (Matt. 24:30).
  - b. The approach that we are taking to stand with Israel has to come from the perspective of what will happen to her in these final seven years of human history, as laid out in God's Word.

### **C. Standing With Israel Requires a Biblical Paradigm of the End Times**

#### 1. Having a Correct End-Time Mindset

- a. A correct mindset to have regarding the End Times is to view it from a Biblical perspective, which views the events as true and literal.
- b. Many have approached the End Times from a purely intellectual perspective which has led to some wrong mindsets and conclusions:
  - i. Passages on the End Times have already been fulfilled historically;
  - ii. End-Time passages are mostly symbolic and not to be taken literally;
  - iii. End-Time events are perceived as totally irrelevant because the Church will be raptured prior to the Great Tribulation.
- c. This has resulted in confusion within the Body of Christ as to the different positions regarding the End Times, which leaves God's people spiritually unprepared for the challenges that are ahead.
- d. It is crucial for every believer to search out the Scriptures regarding the End Times and to develop clarity and understanding.

*Note: We encourage you to refer to our [Introductory Series on the End Times](#) to help start your journey to have a greater understanding of this coming reality.*

#### 2. Having the Right Approach to the End Times

- a. Instead of viewing the End Times from a predominantly negative and "doom-and-gloom" perspective, God desires us to approach the End Times with a biblical perspective and see it in the context of His overall redemptive plan.
- b. Ultimately, God's orchestration of End-Time events is His way of bringing forth the reality of "on earth as it is in heaven".
- c. These six things are some of the things that the End-Time events are meant to reveal and birth:
  - i. They reveal the unprecedented beauty of Jesus;
  - ii. They birth forth the victorious and empowered Church;
  - iii. They reveal God's passionate heart for the nations;
  - iv. They put an end to the enemies of God and persecutors of God's people;
  - v. They usher in the Millennial Kingdom and Jesus' actual rule on this earth;

- vi. They provide a glimpse of God's love as His Church works with Him in intimate partnership during the End Times. The fullness of which will be when God finally tabernacles with man in the Millennial Kingdom.
3. Understanding the Strategic Purpose of the End Times
- a. Many believers do not realise that God often uses trials and persecution to refine, purify and prepare His people.
    - i. God is using the events and crisis leading up to the End Times, and also during the End Times, to prepare an End-Time army of saints that is operating with a spirit of prayer and revelation who are fully informed and spiritually equipped to face the most troublesome time in human history (Matt. 24:21–22; Dan. 12:1; Jer. 30:7).
    - ii. This includes the raising up of the Isaiah 62 watchmen for Israel and a Church that will provoke Israel to jealousy
  - b. God will also use the End-Time events to refine the nation of Israel until she arises as the Holy Seed (Isa. 6:13) that will be worthy to partner with Jesus in His Millennial rule.
  - c. Thus, God is using the End Times to complete His work of redemption and restoration for mankind.
    - i. Ultimately, it is not Israel but Jesus who is at the centre of the End-Time events. It is about His plans, ways and process to bring restoration and fullness to the earth.
    - ii. As Israel plays a major role, the Gentile Church is called to love and stand with her because we love and stand with Jesus.

#### **D. 9 Essentials in Standing With Israel**

- 1. Gentile believers need to get serious about our mandate as a "House of Prayer" and start acquiring a lifestyle of prayer and fasting (Isa. 56:6–7).
- 2. As Gentile believers, we should begin to pray for the Jewish people regularly if we are not already doing so. God is clearly taking the initiative to gather an army of Gentile intercessors who will engage in serious non-stop prayer for the Jewish people.
- 3. As we pray for her, we can also ask God to give us a spirit of revelation about His heart for the Jewish people, and let us feel His zeal and love.
  - a. A simple but helpful practice is to begin to add the phrase, "and bless the Jewish people today," in our prayers for other subjects.

- b. The point is not the quantity or volume but to cultivate a heart for her. Those whom we pray for are those whom we will grow to love.
4. Gentile believers are exhorted to prophetically speak forth the future destiny of the Jewish people over them, in accordance to God's promises for her in His Word.
  - a. This is a picture of the End-Time Church walking in the Romans 4:17 reality — by faith, speaking about things that do not currently exist in the natural realm as though they did and operating with bold confidence that what they are speaking forth will surely be brought to pass.
  - b. God is yearning for a people to be raised up who would join Him in intimate partnership and pray in accordance to His heart's desire for Israel (Judg. 5:12).
5. We need to understand the sobering reality of not standing with Israel (Matt. 25:31–40). In light of Israel as a litmus test for nations, Gentile believers should pray for their nation to align with God and stand with her.
6. Pursue a clear understanding of End-Time events, as Israel will be in the vortex during those disruptive times. This will help us Gentiles to pray for her from a place of understanding.
7. Prayerfully seek the Lord about partnering (in prayer/ finances/ etc.) with a Messianic Ministry that is making an impact in Israel today.
8. Be open to the Holy Spirit's leading to visit a Messianic congregation in our area to connect with them as people who are on a journey of learning and who will pray for them.
7. When the opportunity arises, we can share our faith with unbelieving Jewish people and pray for God to turn their hearts toward Yeshua their Messiah.

## **E. Conclusion**

1. Having a Biblical approach to standing with Israel is crucial for the days ahead as End-Time events unfold in God's sovereign plan.
2. It is important that Gentile believers align with God and His heart for Israel and stand in the place of prayer for her.