

The Abiding Church of God

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Patently holding fast to the ‘all things’ faith which was once delivered to God’s Church—
The Kingdom of God in embryo—the people through and in whom Christ is working.

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Dear Co-workers and Brethren in Christ,

The news coming out of our nation’s capital is grabbing the attention around the world. Do we grasp why this news is so important and how it will impact future events and relations with various peoples for America going forward? This letter will help you to understand the gravity of this impactful announcement.

While former presidents Clinton, Bush and Obama all stated they believed Jerusalem to be the capital, none officially announced it. President Trump’s announcement and recognition is setting in motion the continuance of end-time events. Why would a western nation announcing their recognition of a Middle Eastern nation’s capital be news worthy and how does it relate to Bible prophecy?

What does this mean to Prophecy?

The relation to end-time prophecy is undeniable regarding President Trump’s announcement of recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of the state of Israel. However it is crucial to understand who the state of Israel is in Bible prophecy versus who many think they are in the world. The state named Israel is referred to in scripture as Judah or Judea in the last days (Matt. 24:16). The name “Israel” was actually the name given to the children of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh (Gen. 48:16).

The first time the words “Jews” is found in scripture is II Kings 16:6; in this account you find that the Jews and Israel are at war with one another. So, these are NOT the same people. The Jews today have grabbed a hold of the name Israel for two reasons:

1. They do not (fully) know who Israel are, in fact they think Israel (scattered in the diaspora) is non-existent—absorbed into other nations. While their own scriptures make clear that God will reunite both the Northern and Southern houses of Israel and that end-time events will include both the Israelite and Jewish nations.
2. They believe that the Messiah has not yet come and will come to restore Israel as a nation and since they are the only remaining descendants (in their eyes) they are the rightful beneficiaries of the name. The sentiment is sincere but wholly incorrect.

This announcement will be one more way to clearly define alliances among Jacob’s sons while unfortunately further frustrating the other families on earth who will believe this stance to merely be a political ploy or a waning superpowers desire to flex its muscles.

Who is “Israel”?

Some may wonder: Why does the United States President sharing his recognition of Jerusalem mean anything in the grand scheme of things? What is the relationship between these two peoples?

The British Commonwealth and the United States are the nations who make up what is the modern day House of Israel. These countries are: “the company of nations and a great nation” foretold by Jacob (Israel) who said his namesakes would be in future years (Gen. 35:10-11; 48:19-20).

The Northern House were exiled from the ‘Holy Land’ for disobedience to God’s laws, while the Southern House (Jews) were left behind...this started the diaspora (I Kings. 9:7, II Kings 17:18-24). Our exile and captivity were our own faults, not God’s and not those who enslaved us.

Notice these two peoples the Northern (Israel) and Southern (Judah) Houses would be represented in the latter days (Micah 1:5 – and Jerusalem is to be the capital of Judah). These nations will again be reunited as foretold in Ezekiel 37:15-17.

Many believe that the ten Northern Tribes are today lost (fully assimilated into other peoples) and/or insignificant small groupings of people scattered throughout the world. However that could not be true IF the promise to Abraham were to be fulfilled:

- Gen. 17:5 – Abraham: Father of many nations
- Gen. 22:16-18 – Will number as the sand of the seas and possess the gates of his enemies
- Gen. 49:22 – A blessing to the world, as a fruitful bough spilling over into other lands

Abraham's descendants would be of his 'son of promise'—his legitimate son Isaac (Gen. 22:2, 16) not from Ishmael (who also represents today a large portion of the world through his 12 sons – Gen. 17:20). The descendants of Israel (Jacob) were foretold to collectively identify and refer to themselves by Isaac's name (Gen. 21:12...for in Isaac shall your seed be called). Who today is referred to or named after Isaac? Those known as Isaac's sons (Saxons). This prophecy was later repeated again in the prophets and New Testament scriptures (Amos 7:16, Rom. 9:7 and Heb. 11:18). While all of the Jacob's descendants are from Isaac it was Joseph's two sons upon whom Israel placed his name (Gen. 48:16).

Many within the ten tribes knew who they were in the New Testament time period over 700 years after their exile into captivity and so did the Apostles (James 1:1, Matt. 10:6; 15:24)

The house of Israel would be a known and large portion of land in the end times (Matt. 10:23).

The house of Israel will again go into captivity (for disobedience to God's laws) in the end-times and be freed from captivity at the end of the tribulation but prior to the Day of the Lord. These peoples will be held in captivity in various places such as Germany and Egypt (Is. 10:20-23; 11:11, 16; 27:12, 13)

Prophecy states that Jerusalem will be surrounded with armies in the end-days. Surrounding is a method of protection (Luke 21:20). It is evident that other nations/peoples will wish to interrupt or harm the Jews and larger militaries will come to their aid, for a time.

How will this announcement be received?

Neighbors of Israel: The move of embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem will be taken as an offense to the Palestinian and Muhammedist occupiers living in and around Israel. They realize that it further adds credence and validity to the state of Israel in the eyes of world superpowers.

Some may even claim that this decision could derail peace talks, however it is important to note that a train cannot be termed derailed if it never set on tracks. Furthermore, the Palestinians have never collectively been interested in peace with Israel and only provided a select few who truly desired such and these were later martyred or politically removed by their own. This decision was not to enflame the surrounding peoples of Israel but rather to cease placating the feelings of the school yard bullies and allow a recognized state to declare for themselves what city is their capital.

Imagine if Mexico and Canada refused to recognize Washington D.C. as our capital but rather felt Kansas City, MO. would suffice; would their beliefs have any bearing over our decision of which area will be our capital?

Supporters of Announcement: Some say now that this decision is long overdue, but that too is partly untrue. This decision happened right on time. God is more than just taking the pulse of world affairs; He is orchestrating thoughts which power actions over this world's leaders (Dan. 4:17).

The Jews: Will likely be split down the middle as often they are in any announcement and/or stance political or otherwise. While some will be overjoyed to have this support from the leader of the free-world others will likely believe it to be better an unspoken or action-less position; wishing that our current administration had maintained the decade's long status quo rather than upsetting the applecart. Regardless however where they stand they all will soon find that the growing issue of anti-Semitism has just been ratcheted up one more notch.

Most of the world is oblivious of the high volume of discrimination and violence against Jews because of the on-the-whole spurious claims of discrimination against other groups. However anti-Semitism is not just on the rise but rather is leading the statistics exponentially worldwide. The irony of this announcement in support for Jews is that it will inevitably follow with hatred and a call for their worldwide removal.

The Pope and Catholics: The Pope will likely chime in because he sees himself as the ‘Vicar of Christ’ ruling over the Kingdom of God on earth. For this reason he will soon seek to set up a palace in Jerusalem (Dan. 11:45). His intended purpose for doing so will be to bring about peace in the region. While the name of Jerusalem may mean ‘City of Peace’ it will not see peace until Jesus Christ—the official emissary from heaven on behalf of the Kingdom of God returns. Upon His return He will rule from Jerusalem. It is important to grasp that the Pope is not just some religious figure but believes himself to be over (higher ranking) than the Kings of earth. He is a political leader along with a religious one; which is the worst kind of leader—a dictator—a position no man in the flesh should ever hold.

*Note about Vicar of Christ - it means “in place of Christ” not just “representative” as many assume. Jesus Christ currently works with mankind directly. Both I John 4:3 and II John :7 show that Jesus “is come” meaning He is currently here on earth, in spirit working through individuals and not needing of human priests to intercede on mankind’s behalf to have communication with Him. The evil teaching that the Pope is the Vicar of Christ is at best a religious pyramid scheme and in truth a continuation of shaman worship after which the Catholic (Universal-syncretic) church is patterned.

Will this announcement bring Peace?

This move will only bring peace in the sense that it is a continuation of end-time events toward Christ’s return; which will THEN bring the peace of the Kingdom of God. Prior to that happening though there will be a lot of talk about peace but only pseudo-fulfillment. Notice in Jeremiah both 6:14 and 8:11 that there will be plenty of talk about peace but no true tranquility because they have rejected God and not gone back to the old paths. Further we see in Ezekiel 13:10 that there will not be peace because their counselors and ‘builders’ of peace are using as “mortar” wrong ideas and failing concepts. Today many use social policies and compromised positions on which to stand and fail to understand that, except the Lord build the house the weary builders toil in vain (Ps. 127:1).

Is violence going to happen because of this announcement?

Most certainly yes, while it is yet too soon to say to what degree and when the reactions will take place. The table is set for worldwide disdain—regarding the recognition and fury from the Muhammedist’s—over a stronger stance of support for the Jewish homeland. No doubt many on the left will accuse the President of causing strife and being ignorant of the weight of his words. Yet they will fail themselves to realize that these past many years of deafening silence—failing to support the Jews while placating terrorists has created the volatile world in which we presently find ourselves. Peace is never reached by placating bullies or failing to face issues. Too many mistake the ticking of a time-bomb as peace because of its relation to the explosion but in fact, regarding a time-bomb, true peace is through diffusion not distraction. The left like Prime Minister Chamberlain signing the Anglo-German agreement with Hitler and stating “Peace for our time” is ignorant of the coming reality based on their political maneuvering rather than decisive leadership.

Make no mistake this announcement by the United States President is not by any means the curtain call but it does move the world closer to World War Three. This will for many cause consternation but for those seeking God’s Kingdom to be set up on this earth is a necessary evil towards the ultimate announcement of Revelation 11:15

The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

May God speed this day and we be ever overcoming so as have part in that next step of God’s plan.

In Christ’s service,
Michael Webster