The Land GOD has given Israel

GOD spoke to Abraham when he was west of the Dead Sea: "Lift up now your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; for all the land that you see will I give to you, and to your seed for <u>ever</u>. — Arise, walk through the land according to the length of it and according to the breadth of it; for I will give it to you" (Genesis 13:14-17). "On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto your seed I give this land from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates" (Gen. 15:18). "And I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you; and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed:" (Gen. 12:3).

The same promise GOD gave to Isaac and Jacob: "The land that I gave Abraham and Isaac, to you will I give it, and to your seed after you will I give the land" (Gen. 35:12; 26:3-4; etc.).

One bright day GOD led Moses up on the top of mount Pisgah, east of the river Jordan, opposite Jericho, and shewed him the whole land from Lebanon unto the desert Negeb and unto the Mediterranean Sea and said, "This is the land that I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, Unto your seed will I give it" (Deut. 34:1-4).

To Joshua, Moses' attendant, GOD spoke, "Moses My servant is dead; and now, rise up, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I give unto them, to the children of Israel. Every place whereon the sole of your foot shall tread have I given to you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon to the great river, the river Euphrates, the whole land of the Hittites, to the great sea, toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border" (Joshua 1:2-4). Specifying the borders of the land of Israel, GOD said, "I will set your bounds from the Red Sea [$\eta \sigma \eta$] even unto the sea of the Philistines [the Mediterranean Sea], and from the wilderness unto the river [Euphrates]" (Exodus 23:31; and in Joshua 13:3: "From the Shihor, which flows before Egypt"). The northern border begins at mount Hor (near Batrun, about 43 km north of Beirut) on the Mediterranean Coast and runs eastward (Numbers 34:7-9; Joshua 13:5). This land GOD commanded His people Israel to conquer. The king of Jerusalem Adoni-zedek gathered the kings of the Amorites against Israel, but GOD cast down great hailstones from heaven upon them and destroyed them before Israel. (Read Joshua 10.) Afterwards the sons of Judah took Jerusalem (Judges 1:8).

When David became king (about 1000 B.C.), he first of all reconquered Jerusalem with the stronghold of Zion from the Jebusites and made Jerusalem the capital of his kingdom (2 Sam. 5:6-9). There king Solomon built the glorious temple of GOD on mount Moriah, where Abraham had sacrificed his son Isaac to GOD. (But GOD spared Isaac and showed Abraham a **ram** that was to be slaughtered in his stead; — cf. the Lamb of GOD in Isaiah 53.) When the northern tribes of Israel separated from the kingdom of Judah, Jerusalem remained the royal city of Judah, as GOD had promised David: "that David My servant may have a lamp always before Me in Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen for Myself to put My Name there" (1 Kings 11:36; 14:21). "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, will I put My Name for ever" (1 Kings 9:3; 2 Kings 21:7; etc.).

What GOD has given to the children of Israel, He has never taken back, nor given to any other people on earth. Whoever wants to take Jerusalem from Israel, fights against GOD Himself and will be judged by Him.

Every nation and every ruler who lifted up his heel against Israel, has been overthrown. Every one who did good to Israel, has been abundantly blessed by the Almighty with peace and prosperity. This law is dramatically illustrated by all examples in world history, with no exception, for GOD has <u>promised</u>, "I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you!" (Gen. 12:3; 27:29; Ex. 23:22; Num. 24:9.) IT IS NOT AT ALL THE TASK OF MODERN DIPLOMATS AND GOVERNMENTS TO DECIDE, WHAT SHALL BELONG TO ISRAEL AND WHAT SHALL BELONG TO THE PALESTINIANS, FOR GOD HIMSELF, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, HAS LONG AGO DECIDED THIS AND DECLARED HIS ETERNAL DECISION IN HIS HOLY WORD AS TO WHOM THE WHOLE LAND WEST OF THE RIVER JORDAN BELONGS FOR EVER, AND NO ONE SHALL DARE TO MOVE THESE LANDMARKS (Deut. 27:17; 19:14).

The gathering of the Jews from all countries of the world into the Land of their Fathers in this century is a miracle of GOD before our eyes. It is the fulfillment of the Word of GOD through the prophets of Israel. Do you believe the Word of GOD, or not?

Read for yourself, what the Bible says about the gathering of Israel:

"Behold, days are coming, says the LORD, that it shall no more be said, As the LORD lives, who brought up the children out of the land of Egypt; but, As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither He had driven them. For I will bring them again into their land, which I gave unto their fathers." (Jer. 16:14-15; 23:7-8.)

"I will turn your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, says the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I have caused you to be carried away captive." (Jer. 29:14.)

"Behold, the days come, says the LORD, when I will turn the captivity of My people Israel and Judah, says the LORD; and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it." (Jer. 30:3.)

"I will go to give Israel rest. The LORD has appeared from afar to me, saying, Yea, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have drawn you with loving-kindness. I will build you again, and you shall be built, 0 virgin of Israel"

"Hear the word of the LORD, you nations, and declare it to the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a Shepherd His flock. For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and redeemed him from the hand of one stronger than he. And they shall come and shout for joy upon the height of Zion, and they will rejoice in the goodness of the LORD." (Jer. 31:2-12.)

All these prophecies GOD spoke more than 2500 years ago. Today they are being fulfilled before our eyes: Israel became an independent state in 1948, exactly seven times (= $7 \times 365 \times 1/4$ years) after the kingdom of Judah lost its independence in 610 B.C., at the death of king Josiah in the valley of Megiddo. Look, how precisely GOD fulfills His Word in spite of insurmountable hindrances:

"Fear not, for I am with you: I will bring your seed from the east, and gather you from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the end of the earth, every one that is called by My Name, and whom I have created for My glory: I have formed him, yea, I have made him." (Is. 43:5-7.)

"Who are these that come flying as a cloud, and as doves to their dove-cotes?" (Is. 60:8.)

"In My holy mountain, in the mountain of the height of Israel, says the LORD, there shall all the house of Israel serve Me, the whole of it, in the land; and there will I accept them, and there will I require your heave-offerings and the first-fruits of your offerings, with all your holy things. As a sweet savor will I accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples, and gather you out of the countries wherein you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you in the sight of the nations. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have brought you into the land of Israel, into the country which I lifted up My hand to give to your fathers." (Ezekiel 20:40-42.)

Now hear the Word of GOD about the mountains of Israel — that very area (West Bank), that many nations allot to a Palestinian state. GOD doesn't care what the nations decide, nor what the Pope says, for "behold, the nations are esteemed as a drop of the bucket, and as the fine dust on the

scales; He weighs the islands as fine dust. — All the nations are as nothing before Him; they are esteemed by Him less than a cipher, and emptiness." (Is. 40:15-17; Psalm 2:4-12.)

"Mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD GOD: Because the enemy has said against you, Aha and, The ancient heights have become our possession. — Therefore prophesy concerning the land of Israel, and say to the mountains, You mountains of Israel shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to My people Israel: for they are at hand to come. For behold, I am for you, and I will turn unto you, and you shall be tilled and sown. And I will multiply men upon you, all the house of Israel, the whole of it; and the cities shall be inhabited, and the waste places shall be built. And I will multiply upon you man and beast, and they shall increase and bring forth fruit; and I will cause you to be inhabited as in your former times, yea, I will make it better than at your beginnings: and you shall know that I am the LORD. And I will cause men to walk upon you, even My people Israel; and they shall possess you, and you shall be their inheritance, and you shall no more henceforth bereave them of children." (Ezekiel 36:1-2, 6-12.)

"Thus says the LORD GOD: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the nations, whither they are gone, and will gather them from every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one King to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all. — And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob My servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, they, and their children, and their children for ever: and David My Servant shall be their Prince for ever." (Ez. 37:21-28.)

"I will turn again the captivity of My people Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; and they shall make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be plucked up out of their land which I have given them, says the LORD your GOD." (Amos 9:14-15.)

"Cry, saying, Thus says the LORD of Hosts: I am jealous for Jerusalem and for Zion with a great jealousy, and I am wroth exceedingly with the nations that are at ease; for I was only a little angry, but they have overstepped all limits. Therefore thus says the LORD: I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: My house shall be built in it, says the LORD of Hosts, and the line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem. Cry further, saying, Thus says the LORD of Hosts: My cities shall yet overflow with prosperity, and the LORD shall yet comfort Zion, and shall yet choose Jerusalem." (Zech. 1:14-17.)

"Jerusalem shall be inhabited as a city without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein; and I, says the LORD, I will be unto her a Wall of Fire round about, and will be the Glory in the midst of her. Ho, ho flee from the land of the north, says the LORD; for I have scattered you abroad as the four winds of the heavens, says the LORD. Ho! escape, Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon. For thus says the LORD of Hosts: After GLORY, has He sent Me unto the nations that made you a spoil; FOR HE THAT TOUCHES YOU TOUCHES THE APPLE OF HIS EYE:" (Zech, 2.)

ISRAEL, do not fear the nations: SEEK ONLY THE PLEASURE OF GOD:

"Sing aloud and rejoice, daughter of Zion; for behold, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of you, says the LORD. — And the LORD shall inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land, and shall yet choose Jerusalem. Let all flesh be silent before the LORD; for He is risen up out of His holy habitation:" (Zech. 2.)

"Thus says the LORD of Hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, yea, I am burning with jealousy for her. — Thus says the LORD of Hosts: Behold, I will save My people from the land of the sun-rising and from the land of the sun-setting; and I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; and they shall be My people, and I will be their GOD, in truth and in righteousness." (Zech. 8:1-8.)

Now read what GOD will do to all the enemies of Israel:

"Thus says the LORD, who stretched out the heavens, and laid the foundation of the earth, and formed the spirit of man within him: Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of bewilderment unto all the peoples round about, and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be aginst Judah. And it shall come to pass in that day that I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone unto all the peoples: all that burden themselves with it shall certainly be wounded, and all the nations of the earth shall be assembled together against it. In that day, says the LORD, I will smite every horse with astonishment, and his rider with madness; but I will open Mine eyes upon the house of Judah, and will smite every horse of the peoples with blindness. - In that day will I make the leaders of Judah like a hearth of fire among wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the peoples round about, on the right hand and on the left. — In that day will the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that stumbles among them in that day shall be as David; and the house of David as GOD, as the Angel of the LORD before them. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look on ME WHOM THEY PIERCED, and they shall mourn for HIM, as one mourns for an only son, and shall be in bitterness for HIM, as one that is in bitterness for a firstborn son." (Zech. 12.)

Also upon Rosh and its allies the LORD will reveal His glory, when they will suddenly attack Israel: "Behold, I am against you, 0 Gog, prince of Rosh [= Russia], Meshech, and Tubal; and I will turn you back, and drag you along, and I will cause you to come up from the uttermost north, and will bring you upon the mountains of Israel. And I will smite your bow out of your left hand, and will cause your arrows to fall out of your right hand. You shall fall upon the mountains of Israel, you, and all your bands, and the peoples that are with you: I have given you to be meat for the birds of prey of every wing, and to the beasts of the field. You shall fall on the open field; for I have spoken it, says the LORD GOD. — And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there for burial in Israel, the valley of the passers-by to the east of the sea; and it will block the way of the passers-by; and there shall they bury Gog and all the multitude; and they shall call it, Valley of Hamon-Gog. And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying them, that they may cleanse the land; and all the people of the land shall bury them; and it shall be to them for renown in the day that I shall be glorified, says the LORD GOD. — And I will set My glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see My judgment which I have executed, and My hand which I have laid upon them. And the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their GOD from that day and forward." (Ezekiel 38 and 39.)

EVERYONE WHO ACCEPTS THE HOLY BIBLE AS THE WORD OF GOD, NOW KNOWS, THAT ALL THE LAND WEST OF THE JORDAN RIVER + THE GOLAN HEIGHTS BELONG TO ISRAEL FOR EVER.

Ulf Oldenburg Gärtnerweg 33 D-86825 Bad Wörishofen