

Does Israel
Still Have a
Place Today in
God's Future
Kingdom?



The Traditional
View in
Christianity Has
Been:
“No!”



Replacement Theology

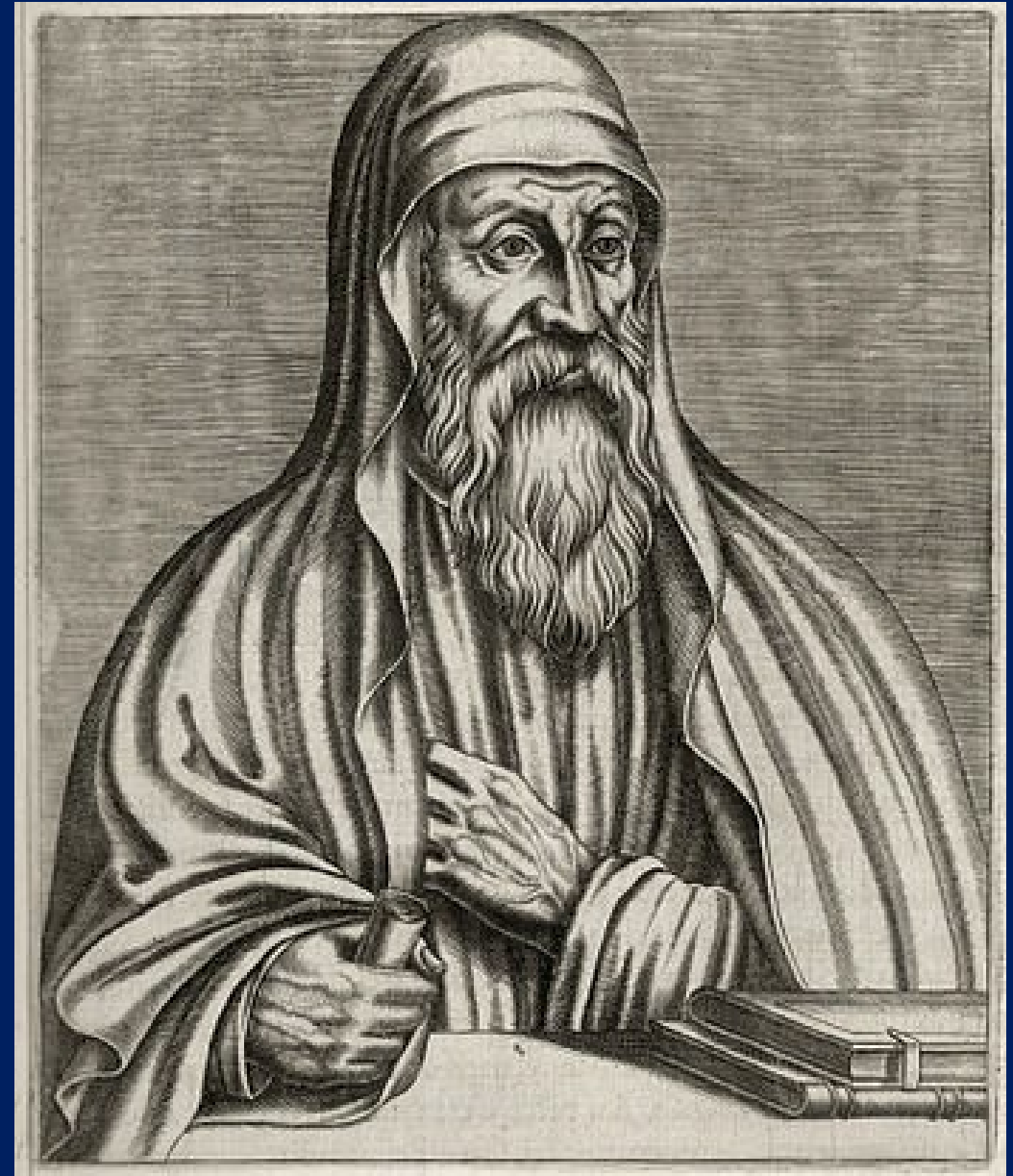
or more appropriately

Supersessionism

Early Church Fathers:

“And we say with confidence that they [the Jews] will never be restored to their former condition. For they committed a crime of the most unhallowed kind”

Origen (ca. AD 185-254)

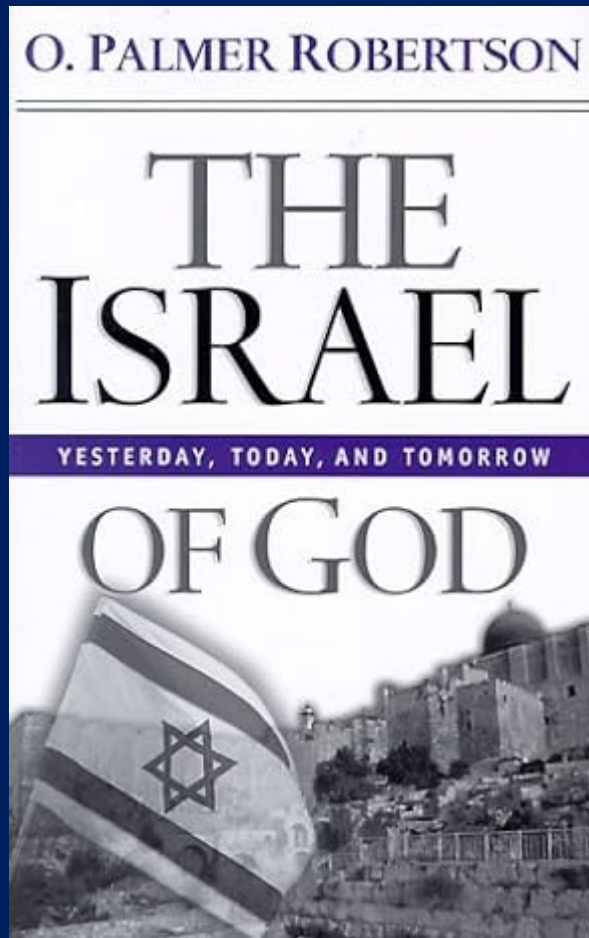


Martin Luther:

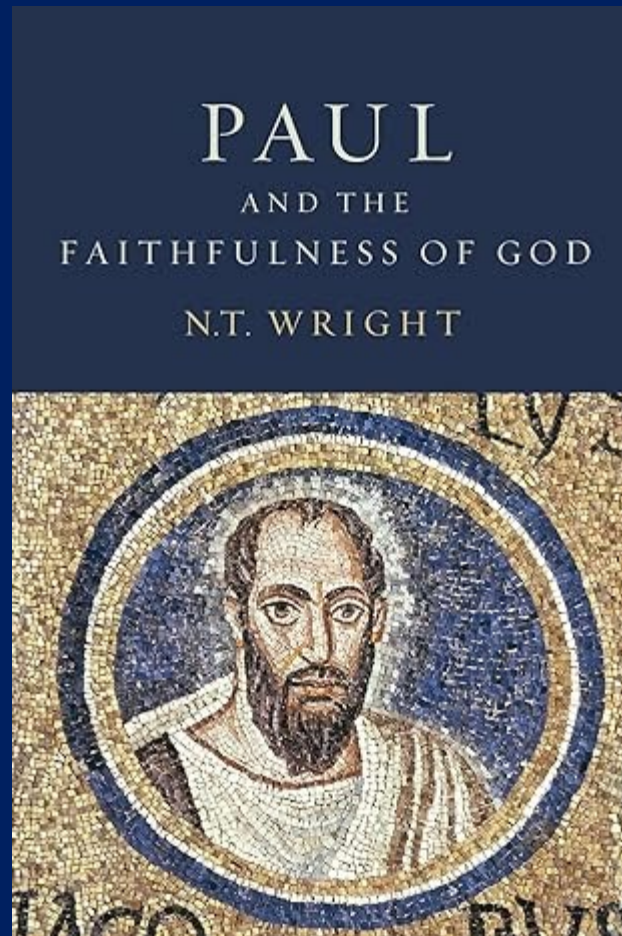
“Listen, Jew, are you aware that Jerusalem and your sovereignty, together with your temple and priesthood, have been destroyed for over 1,460 years?”
For such ruthless wrath of God is sufficient evidence that they assuredly have erred and gone astray. . . .
Therefore this work of wrath is proof that the Jews, **surely rejected by God,** are no longer His people, and neither is He any longer their God.”



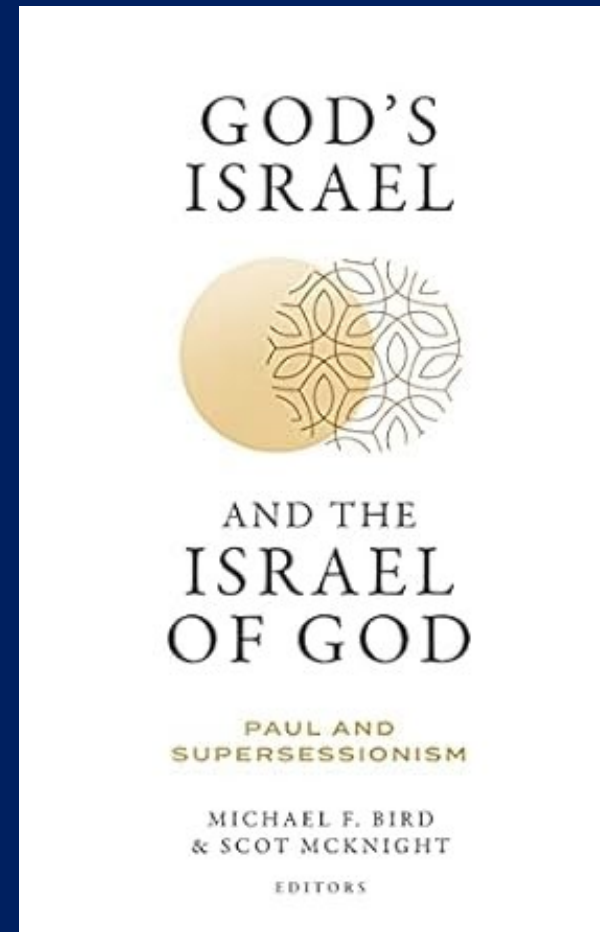
Arguing for Replacement Theology:



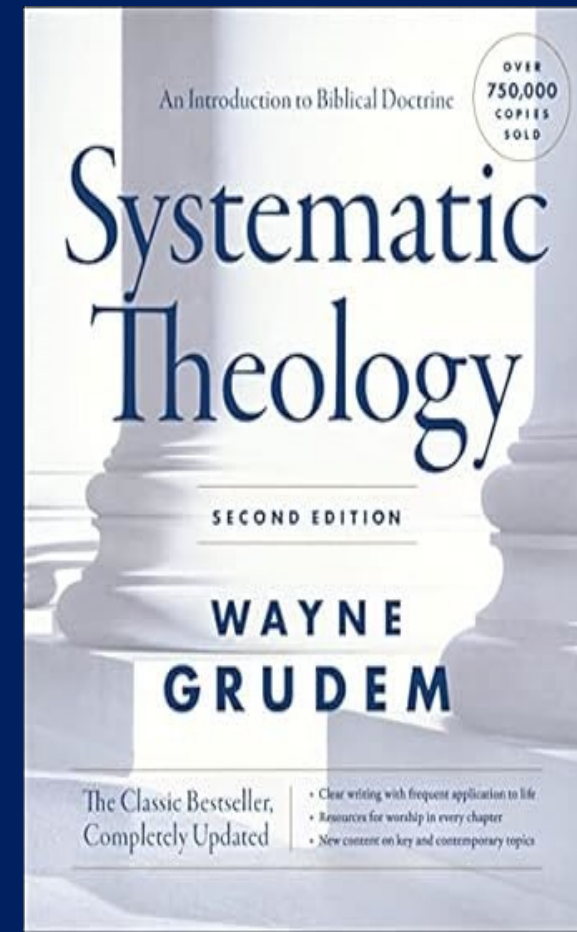
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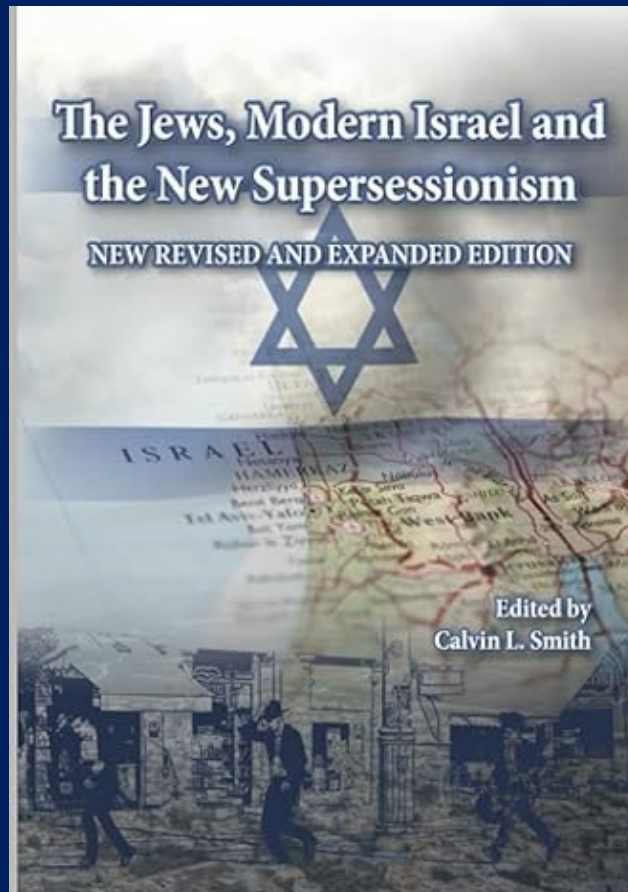


1995, 2020

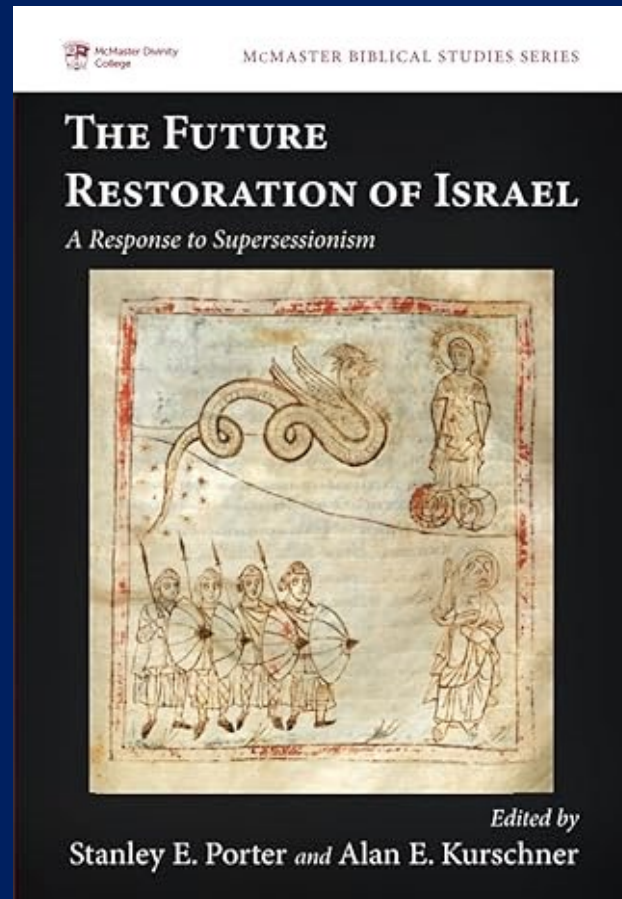
Arguing for Israel's Future Restoration:



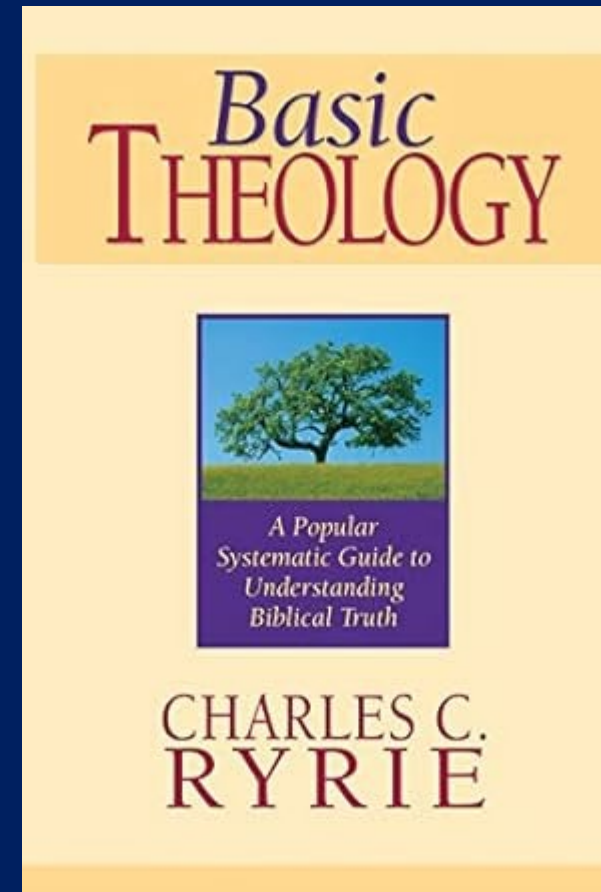
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What Exactly is Replacement Theology? (or Supersessionism)

Two Primary Forms:

- 1. Punitive supersessionism**
- 2. Economic supersessionism**

What Exactly is Replacement Theology? (or Supersessionism)

Punitive Supersessionism:

Israel has been *replaced* by the Church as the people of God on account of Israel's disobedience and punishment by God, especially in light of her rejection of Christ.

What Exactly is Replacement Theology? (or Supersessionism)

Economic Supersessionism:

Old Testament Israel has served its purpose and is no longer needed. It was God's plan from the beginning that Israel's role as the people of God would expire with the coming of Christ and the establishment of the Church.

What Kind of Future For Israel Are We Talking About?

Future Salvation vs. Future Restoration

Some (but not all) who hold to Replacement Theology do believe in a future *salvation* of Israel (a revival) but not a future *restoration*.

Romans 11

- ¹ I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He?
Far from it! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham,
of the tribe of Benjamin.
- ² God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. . . .
- ¹¹ I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they?
Far from it! But by their wrongdoing salvation has come
to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.
- ¹² Now if their wrongdoing proves to be riches for the world,
and their failure, riches for the Gentiles,
how much more will **their fulfillment** be! . . .

Romans 11

²⁵ For I do not want you, brothers and sisters, 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.”

²⁸ . . . in relation to God’s choice they are beloved on account of the fathers; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

What Kind of Future For Israel Are We Talking About?

Future Salvation vs. Future Restoration

Some (but not all) who hold to Replacement
Theology do believe in a future *salvation*
(revival) of Israel but not a future *restoration*.


Bethel Bible's Statement of Faith on Eschatology:

XVIII. The Second Coming of Christ

We believe that the period of great tribulation is predicted to occur on earth,
and this will be climaxed by
the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth as He went,
in person on the clouds of heaven,
with power and great glory

to consummate His reign as king,
to lift the curse which now rests upon the whole creation,
and to give her the fulfillment of **God's covenant promises**
to **Israel**, the church and the nations.

At that time of Christ's millennial reign,
the whole world will be exposed to the knowledge of God.



**We affirm God still
has a plan for ethnic Israel.**

(Deuteronomy. 30:1-10; Isaiah 11:9; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Matthew 24:15-25, 46; Acts 15:16-17;
Romans 8:19-23; 11:25-27; Revelation 20:1-3)

Why is This an Important Issue?

God's Reputation is at Stake:

God has made promises to Israel that must be kept.

Our God-given Responsibility:

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a worker who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.” (2 Tim 2:15)

Proper Application of Hermeneutics:

We are to take into account all that God's Word says

What Bearing Do
Old Testament
Expectations of Israel
Have Upon the Issue of
Replacement Theology?

An Early Prediction of Israel's "Distress" in the Latter Days

(Deuteronomy 4:25-31 about 1406 BC)

²⁵ “When you father children and *have* grandchildren, and you grow old in the land, and you act corruptly, and make an idol in the form of anything, and do what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God to provoke Him to anger, ²⁶ I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today, that you will certainly perish quickly from the land where you are going over the Jordan to take possession of it. You will not live long on it, but will be utterly destroyed. ²⁷ The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD drives you. ²⁸ There you will serve gods, the work of human hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear, nor eat nor smell *anything*. ²⁹ But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find *Him* if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. ³⁰ **When you are in distress** and all these things happen to you, **in the latter days you will return to the LORD your God** and listen to His voice. ³¹ For the LORD your God is a compassionate God; He will not abandon you nor destroy you, **nor forget the covenant with your fathers which He swore to them.**

The Abrahamic Covenant

Clarification of Israel's Eventual "Distress"

(Jeremiah 30:5-9 about 588 BC - Time of Babylonian Captivity)

5 "For this is what the LORD says: 'terror, of fear, and there is no peace.

6 'Ask now, and see If a male can give birth. Why do I see every man *With* his hands on his waist, as a woman in childbirth? And *why* have all faces turned pale?

7 'Woe, for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is **the time of Jacob's distress**, Yet he will be saved from it. **8** 'It shall come about on that day,' declares the LORD of armies, 'that I will break his yoke from their necks and will tear to pieces their restraints; and strangers will no longer make them their slaves.

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

11 'For I am with you,' declares the LORD, 'to save you; For I will completely destroy all the nations where I have scattered you, only I will not destroy you completely. But I will discipline you fairly and will by no means leave you unpunished.' . . . **24** **In the latter days** you will understand this."

Israel's Suffering at the Hands of the Antichrist ("Little Horn")

(Book of Daniel – 6th Cent. BC - During the Babylonian Captivity)

⁸ While I was thinking about the horns, behold, **another horn, a little one**, came up among them, and three of the previous horns were plucked out before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like human eyes, and a mouth uttering great *boasts*. . . .

²¹ I kept looking, and **that horn** was **waging war with the saints** and prevailing against them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the time arrived when the saints took possession of **the kingdom**.

²⁵ And **he** will speak against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be handed over to him for a **time, times, and half a time**. ²⁶ But the court will convene *for judgment*, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. ²⁷ Then the sovereignty, the dominion, and the greatness of *all* the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; **His kingdom** *will be* an everlasting kingdom, and all the empires will serve and obey Him.' *(Daniel 7:8, 21-23, 25-27)*

Israel's Deliverance from her Time of Distress

(Zechariah— ca. 520 BC - After the Babylonian Captivity)

Zechariah 12: ² “Behold, I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes staggering to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah. ³ It will come about on that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will injure themselves severely. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it.

Zechariah 14: ¹ Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoils *taken from* you will be divided among you. ² For **I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem** to battle, and the city will be taken, the houses plundered, the women raped, and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be eliminated from the city. ³ Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle.

Israel's Deliverance from her Time of Distress

(Zechariah— ca. 520 BC - After the Babylonian Captivity)

Zechariah 14: ⁵ And you will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains will reach to Azel;

Then the LORD, my God, will come, *and* all the holy ones with Him! . . .

⁹ And **the LORD will be King over all the earth**; on that day the LORD will be *the only one*, and His name *the only one*. ¹⁰ All the land will change into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses. ¹¹ *People* will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for **Jerusalem will live in security**.

Israel's Repentance That Precipitates God's Deliverance

Hosea 5:14: ¹⁵ I will go away *and* return to My place Until they acknowledge their guilt and seek My face; **In their distress they will search for Me.**

Joel 2:30-32: ³⁰ “I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, Blood, fire, and columns of smoke. ³¹ “The sun will be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² “And it will come about *that* everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; **For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be those who escape,** just as the LORD has said, Even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

Zechariah 12:10: ¹⁰ “And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and of pleading, so that **they will look at Me whom they pierced;** and they will mourn for Him, like one mourning for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.”

Tribulation . . . Resurrection . . . Kingdom Inauguration

(Daniel 12:1-3 – ca. 535 BC - After the Babylonian Captivity)

¹ “Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise.  **Great Tribulation!**

And there will be **a time of distress** such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time **your people**, everyone who is found written in the book, **will be rescued**.

² And many of **those who sleep** in the dust of the ground **will awake**, these to everlasting life,  **Resurrection!**

but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting contempt.

³ And those who have insight **will shine** like the glow of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

 **Kingdom Imagery**
(See Matthew 13:43)

Israel Restored in the Land Under Messiah Jesus

(Ezekiel 36-37 – ca. 585 BC - During the Babylonian Captivity)

Ezekiel 36:24–28

²⁴ For I will take you from the nations, and **gather you from all the lands**; and **I will bring you into your own land**. ²⁵ 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 And **I will put My Spirit within you** and bring it about that you walk in My statutes, and are careful and follow My ordinances. ²⁸ And **you will live in the land** that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 37:24–25

²⁴ “And **My servant David will be king over them**, and they will all have one shepherd; and they will walk in My ordinances, and keep My statutes and follow them.
²⁵ And **they will live on the land** that I gave to My servant Jacob, in which your fathers lived; and they will live on it, they, and their sons and their sons’ sons, forever; and My servant David will be their leader forever.

Summary & Conclusions

1. Replacement Theology (Supersessionism) is the view that the Church has replaced Israel in God's Program.
2. Some who hold to Replacement Theology acknowledge that there may be a future mass conversion of Jews to Christ (Rom 11), but not a regathering to the land or special role in the millennial kingdom.
3. Proper hermeneutics insist that we take into account the many predictions for Israel found in the Old Testament.
4. The Old Testament is clear: God will fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant with Israel, and there will be both a mass conversion of Israel at the close of the Tribulation as well as a regathering of Israel to the land for a special role in the millennial kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Does Israel
Still Have a
Place Today in
God's Future
Kingdom?

YES!

