

Israel, Prophecy, and Land Promises

2015

Land O' Lakes Bible Chapel

Why Prophecy???

- **1. Why is there so much controversy concerning prophecy?**
- **2. Why does Satan seek to confuse believers about prophecy?**



The Value of Prophecy

Prophecy is the divine stamp upon the
authenticity of Scripture.

Prophecy focuses upon the Lord Jesus
**Christ as the center of all biblical
history!**

Prophecy & the Character of God



Psalm 119:49 “Remember, the Word unto your servant upon which Thou has caused me to hope.”

Psalm 89:34 “My covenant will I not break, nor will I alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.”

- 1. Displays the Sovereignty of God**
- 2. Displays the Love of God**
- 3. Displays the Faithfulness of God**

Charles Rylie

“For the believer the knowledge of prophecy provides joy in the midst of affliction, cleanses and encourages holy living, and gives proof of the reliability of Holy Scripture. It gives facts about life after death and provides truth about the end of history. Prophecy draws our hearts out in worship to the God who is in complete control and who will accomplish His will in history. To slight prophecy is to miss these benefits.”

Sir Moses Montefiore(1785-1885)



- Queen Victoria's financial adviser
- Montefiore Medical Center, NY is named after him.
 - Political leader in London
- In 1855 he visited Israel and purchased a plot of land, it was the first land owned by a Jew in 1200 years.

Land of Israel & the Bible

1. 75% of the Bible speaks of Israel.
2. **Israel** is mentioned nearly 2,000 times in the Bible.
3. **“Jerusalem”** is mentioned over 800 times in the Bible. **Israel** is described as **“My Land”** 144 times.
4. The Land of Israel is called **“My Land”**, **“Glory of all Lands”**, **“Land which I Care For”**, **“Beautiful land.”**

Israel & The Land

- 1. Theodor Herzl (1853-1904)**
- 2. W. E. Blackstone (1841-1935)**
- 3. Balfour Declaration 1918 - “Her
majesty’s
government will do everything in her power to give a homeland to
the Jews...”**
- 4. General Edmund Allenby - 1918**
- 5. State of Israel - May 14, 1948**
- 6. The Six-Day War (June 5th-10th,
1967)**

Biblical Basis

Deuteronomy 32:8

Promise of Land

“When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.”

Matthew Henry (1662-1714)

Comments on Deuteronomy 32:8

“When the earth was divided among the sons of men, in the days after the flood, the God had Israel in His thoughts and in His eye;... designing this good land into which they were in due time to inherit...The Canaanites thought they had a sure title to the land, but God intended that they should only be tenants, till Israel, their landlords, came.”

Genesis 13:15

- “For all the land that thou seeest to thee will I give it forever...”

Genesis 17:7-8

“I will establish my covenant between Me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an **everlasting covenant**, to be a God unto thee, and thy seed after thee. And **I will** give unto thee and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a sojourner, **all the land of Canaan**, for an **everlasting possession**; and **I will** be their God.”

Genesis 15:18 & Joshua 1:3-4

“Unto thy seed **have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.”(15:18)**

“From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border.” (Joshua 1:3-4)



GREATER

ISRAEL

MATSOR

TURKEY

ARMENIA

AZERB.

Caspian Sea

SYRIA

LEBANON

ISRAEL

JORDAN

IRAQ

KUWAIT

SAUDI ARABIA

EGYPT

SUDAN

TURKMENISTAN

AFGHAN-ISTAN

PAK-ISTAN

IRAN

QATAR

U.A.E.

OMAN

Joel 3:1-2

“For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and [for] my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and *parted* my land.”

Lev. 25:23 - “My Land”

Ownership of the Land

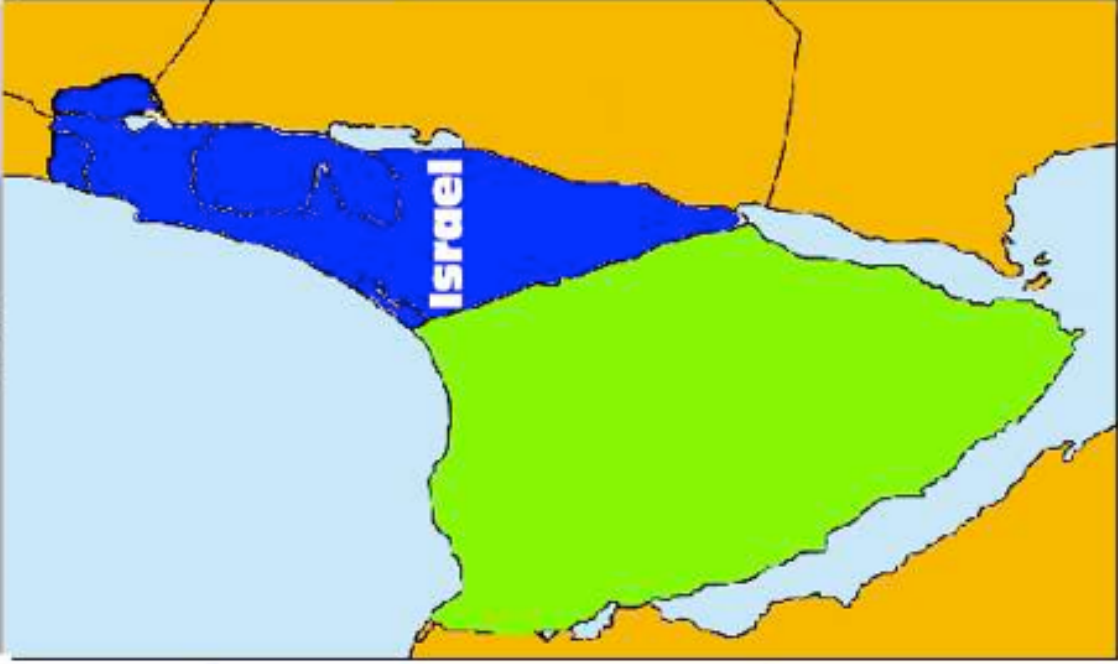
“...The Land shall not be sold forever, for the land is **My Land**...”

What Israel has given away - for peace

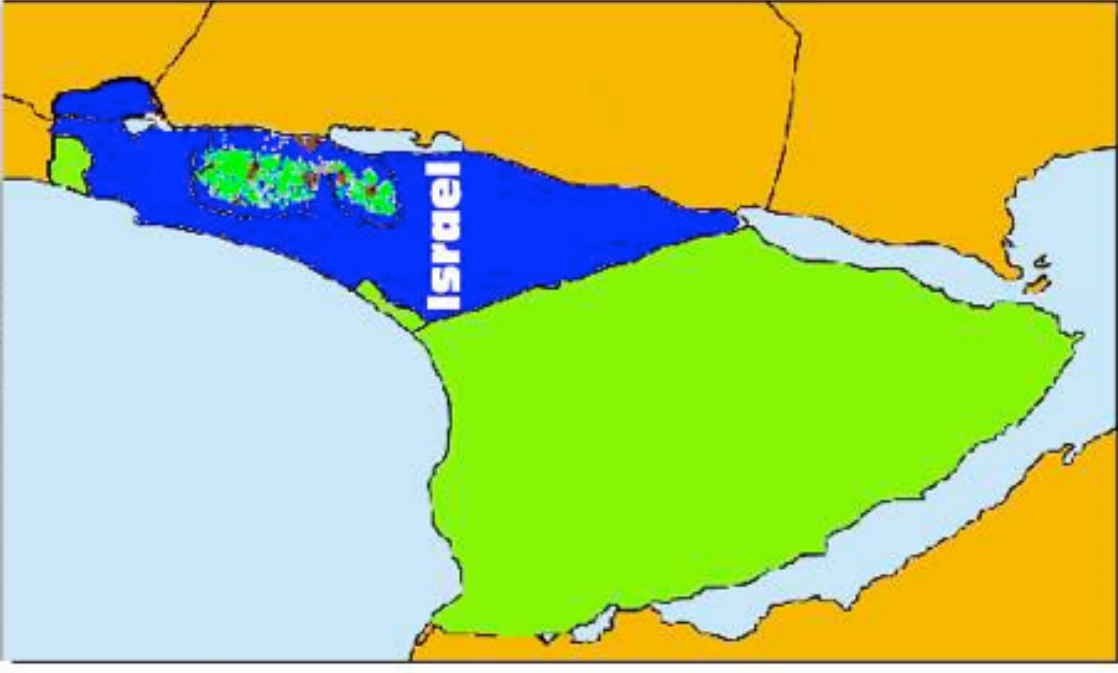
Israeli-controlled land,
1967



Israeli-controlled land,
1993



Israeli-controlled land,
2001



Jeremiah 2:7 - “My Land”

Ownership of the Land

“I brought you into a plentiful
county,
to eat the fruit thereof and the
goodness thereof; but when you
entered, you defiled My Land.”

Jeremiah 16:18 - “My Land”

Ownership of the Land

“I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double, because they have defiled My Land...”

Deuteronomy 11:1-11

Divine Stewardship of the Land

“A land of hills and valleys...a Land which the Lord careth for; the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.”

Ezekiel 20:6

Divine Stewardship of the
Land

“...In the day I lifted up my hand,
brought them out of Egypt, a land I
had espied (chosen) for
them...flowing with milk and
honey...which is the *glory of all
lands...*”

What is the Future of Israel?

Is this modern day regathering to the land Israel permanent?

Will there be another dispersion as there was in the Old Testament?

What do the Scriptures say?

Israel's Re-Gatherings

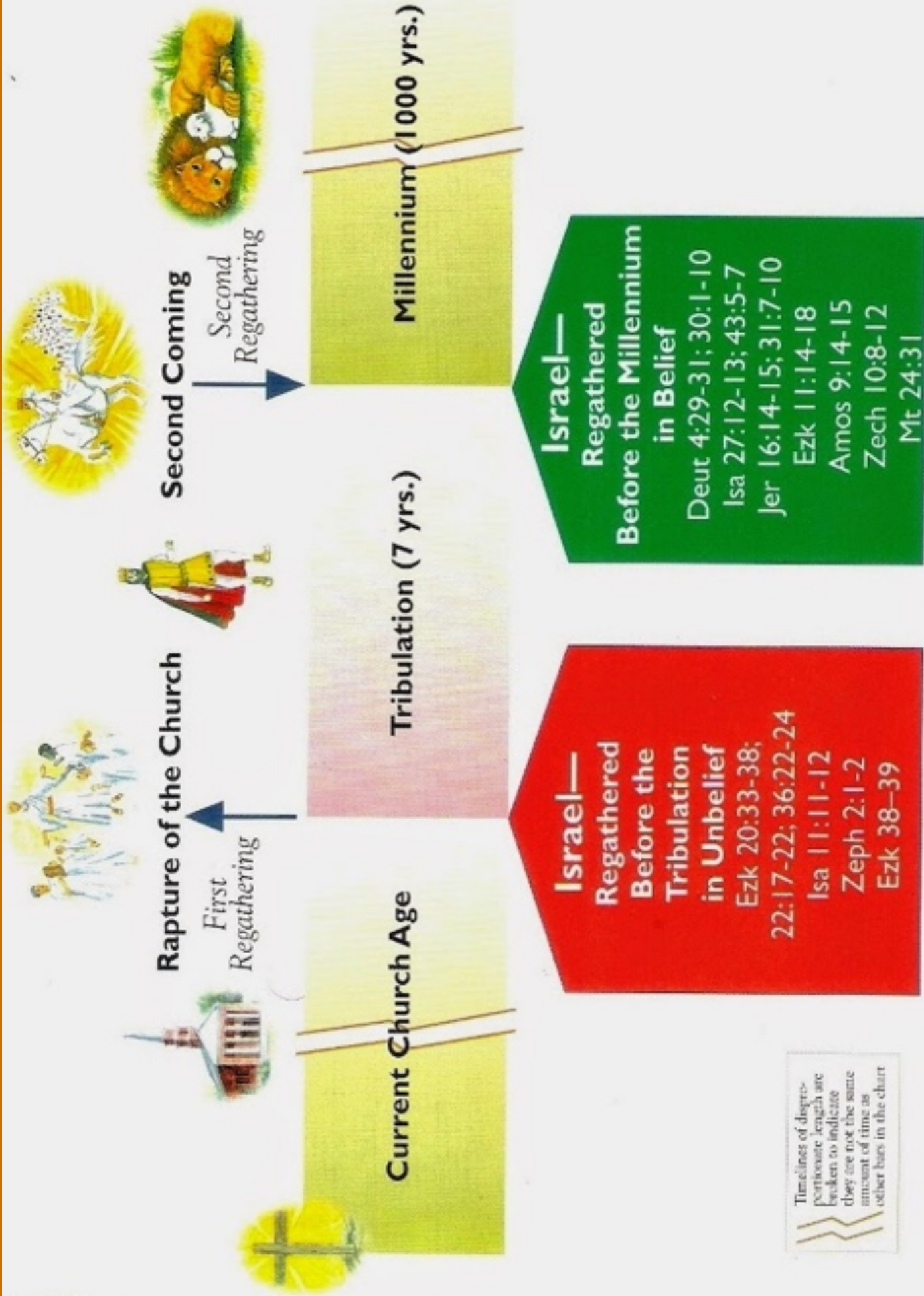
The Dispersions & “Re-gatherings” of Israel

- 1. Israel entered the land under Joshua**
- 2. Dispersion under the Assyrian and Babylonian Captivities.**
- 3. Return to the Land under Zerubbabel, Ezra, & Nehemiah(445 B.C.)**
- 4. Dispersion after AD 70 and Roman General Titus**
- 5. Israel Becomes a Nation - May 14, 1948**

Two End-Time Re- Gatherings

- 1 . In unbelief prior to the
Tribulation**
- 2. In belief prior to the
Millennium**

Israel - Two-Fold Re-Gatherings - Belief and Unbelief




Gathered in Unbelief

700 B.C.

Zephaniah 2:1

“Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired...before the fierce anger of the Lord come upon you...before the day of the Lord’s anger come upon you...”



A term referring to the
Tribulation period

Zechariah 10:10

Gathered in Belief

600 B.C.

- “I will bring them again also out of the Egypt, and gather them out of Assyria, and bring them into Gilead and Lebanon...”(10:10)
- “I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem and they shall be my people, and I shall be their God, in truth and righteousness.”(Zech. 8:8)

End-times Regathering Chart

First Regathering (Present)	Final Regathering (Permanent)
World-Wide	World-Wide
Return to Part of the Land	Return to all the Land
Return in Unbelief	Return in Faith
Restored to the Land Only	Restored to the Land and to the Lord
Sets the stage for Discipline (Tribulation)	Sets the stage for blessing (Millennium)

Isaiah 11:11-12

Regathering

1. Israel Re-gathering in Belief - Before Millennium

- Isaiah 11:11-12 “And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.”
-

1. This is the second “end-time” regathering.
2. The is a “world-wide” regathering.

The return from Assyria and Babylon are not pictured here because they were not “world-wide” .

Modern-Day Return to the Land

FIRST WAVE - 1949-1950 - “Operation Magic Carpet” 49,000 Yemenite Jews. In a secret operation 380 flights using British and US transport planes.

SECOND WAVE - from Western Europe, especially Germany

THIRD WAVE - One million Jews came from Russia in 1980s and 1990s

FOURTH WAVE - came from Ethiopia

Modern Return to the Land

Year	Percent % of Jews Worldwide	% Back in Israel
1882	1	0
1900	1	1
1925	3	6
1939	6	13
1948	13	20
1955	20	25
1970	25	30
1980	30	37
1990	37	42
2000	42	43
2010	43	
2012		

*Israeli Census Bureau of Statistics

Conclusion: Israel

“God will not cast away his people” (Romans 11).

The regathering to the land in 1948 is a fulfillment of a promise.

God’s movement concerning Israel is a barometer for His hand in end-times prophecy.

**Were God's Land
Promises to Israel
Fulfilled in Joshua 21:43?**

Joshua 21:43-45

• **“So the Lord gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they possessed and lived in it. And the Lord gave them rest on every side, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers, none of their enemies stood before them; the Lord gave all their enemies into their hand. No one of the good promises, which the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.”**

Gary DeMar

Preterist & Replacement
Theology Leader

• “The text says nothing about the restoration of Israel to her land as a fulfillment of some covenantal obligation. *All the land promises that God made to Israel were fulfilled” (Josh.21:43-45).*

— Land Days Madness: Obsession of the Modern Church (Power Springs, GA: American Vision, 1999), p. 322

Keith Mathison

Replacement
Theology Leader

- “Joshua 21:43-45 explicitly declares that all the land that God promised Israel was given to them... God fulfilled the promises He made to Abraham.”

—*Dispensationalism: Rightly Dividing the People of God?*
(Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 1995), p. 27

How Should We Interpret Joshua 21:43-45?

- A Testimony to God's Faithfulness!
- Joshua 21:43-45 must be understood within the overall context of the entire book of Joshua, not as a proof text. The broad context is that Israel was only partially true to their charge, while God was unconditionally faithful to His Word.

Prophetic Promises

- 1. The land promises to Israel are everlasting.
- 2. The land promises to Israel are future
- 3. The land promises to Israel are stated throughout the Old Testament.
- Amos 9:14-15 - “Also I will restore the captivity of My people Israel; and they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them...’I will also plant them on their land, and they will not be rooted out from their land which I have given them’, says the Lord your God.”

John Walvoord

Commentary on Joshua
21:43-45

• “The Lord had not failed to
keep his promise, even
though Israel had failed by
faith to conquer all the land.”

—John Walvoord,

*Bible Knowledge Handbook, All The Prophecies of Scripture
Explained in One Volume, (Wheaton IL: Victor Books, 1990),*

P. 44

Matthew Henry

Commentary on Joshua
21:43-45

“Israel’s experience of God’s faithfulness is here on record... “there failed not any good thing, no, aught of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel,” all in due time came to pass (v. 45) ... (here we find) The inviolable truth of God’s promise, and the performance of it to the utmost...” —*Commentary on the Whole Bible, vol. 2* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1991), p. 78

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are poor has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.6 billion.

There are a number of reasons why the number of people in the world who are poor has increased. One reason is that the world's population has grown rapidly. Another reason is that the world's economy has not grown fast enough to keep pace with the population growth.

There are a number of things that can be done to help reduce the number of people in the world who are poor. One thing is to help the world's economy grow faster. Another thing is to help the world's population grow more slowly.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's economy grow faster. One thing is to help the world's countries to attract more investment. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their infrastructure.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's population grow more slowly. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their health care. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their education.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to attract more investment. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their legal system. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their government.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their infrastructure. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their roads. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water supply.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their health care. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospitals. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their doctors.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their education. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their schools. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their teachers.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their legal system. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their courts. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their lawyers.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their government. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their elections. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their politicians.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their roads. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road construction. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road maintenance.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their water supply. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water treatment. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water distribution.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their hospitals. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital construction. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital equipment.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their doctors. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their medical education. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their medical research.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their schools. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their school construction. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their school equipment.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their teachers. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their teacher education. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their teacher salaries.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their courts. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their court construction. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their court equipment.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their lawyers. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their law education. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their law research.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their elections. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their election administration. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their election security.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their politicians. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their political education. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their political research.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their road construction. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road design. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road materials.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their road maintenance. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road inspection. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their road repair.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their water treatment. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water filtration. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water disinfection.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their water distribution. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water pipes. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their water pumps.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their hospital construction. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital design. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital materials.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their hospital equipment. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital furniture. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their hospital machinery.

There are a number of things that can be done to help the world's countries to improve their medical education. One thing is to help the world's countries to improve their medical curriculum. Another thing is to help the world's countries to improve their medical faculty.

Replacement Theology

- **“God is finished with Israel, and has replaced Israel as a people with the church.”**
- **“We believe that the church is essentially Israel. We believe that the answer to, “What about the Jews?” is, “Here we are.” There, we are again one people. In His holy and heavenly temple there is neither Jew nor Greek, male nor female,... There, we are all together, the Israel of God, princes with God.”**

—From Table Talk

magazine, Spring of 1999, p. 2 , by R. C. Sproul Jr., editor