

# Hebron Baptist Church



## God's Chosen People

“Now the Lord had said to Abram:

‘Get out of your country,  
From your family  
And from your father’s house,  
To a land that I will show you.  
I will make you a great nation;  
I will bless you  
And make your name great;  
And you shall be a blessing.  
I will bless those who bless you,  
And I will curse him who curses you;  
And in you all the families of the  
earth shall be blessed.’” (Gen. 12:1-3)



The covenant promises that God made to Abraham are just as true today as they were then. Old and New Testament passages refer to the Lord God as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (e.g., Gen. 50:24; Ex. 3:15; Acts 7:32).

Isaiah proclaimed that God could never forget Israel because: “I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands” (Isa. 49:16). Jeremiah stated that the Jewish people would exist as a nation forever (31:35-36). And Zechariah warned that: “he who touches you touches the apple of His eye” (2:8).

Numerous prophets declared that in the End Times, a great remnant of the Jews will be saved when they accept Jesus as their Messiah (e.g., Isa. 10:20-22; Jer. 31:1-7; 31:34; Dan. 12:1; Hosea 2:14-20; Micah 7:18-20).

“He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.” (Luke 1:32; Rev. 20:4) Jesus Christ will sit on the throne in Jerusalem during the millennial kingdom.

## The Promised Land



What are the biblical boundaries?

“On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: ‘To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates.’” (Gen. 15:18; 17:8)

“From the northern border along the road to Hethlon at the entrance of Hamath, to Hazar Enan, the border of Damascus northward... (Eze. 48:1)

“...by the border of Gad, on the south side, toward the South, the border shall be from Tamar to the waters of Meribah by Kadesh, along the brook to the Great Sea.” (Eze. 48:28)

The Jewish people have yet to own all the land, but they will in the future. God’s promise to Abram is an irrevocable gift.

## Christmas in Bethlehem



For decades, thousands of tourists have traveled to Bethlehem for Christmas, to visit Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity. But, this year the decorations and festivities are being cancelled due to the Israel-Hamas war. It is being done “in honour of the martyrs and in solidarity with our people in Gaza,” said Palestinian city officials.

There are an estimated 2.9 million Palestinian Arabs and approximately 468,300 Israeli Jews living in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem). Arabs live under limited self-rule and Israeli military rule.

Despite the significance of Bethlehem to Christians and its high religious tourism during the Advent season, the city is majority Muslim. The Christian population of Bethlehem has steadily declined since the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Many Christians have fled the area due to persecution and religious harassment.



Amir Tsarfati has been an international Bible teacher since 1999. His ministry, Behold Israel, provides reliable and accurate reporting on the developments in Israel and the region. Amir’s live updates and teachings, based on God’s Word, sift out the truth on current events amidst global media bias against Israel.

Amir is a Jewish follower of Jesus who was born in Jerusalem. His current home in Galilee overlooks the Valley of Megiddo (Armageddon). He formerly served as a major in the Israeli Defense Forces, and now has two children serving in the IDF fighting the Hamas terrorists.

*This will be the last issue of the Senior Newsletter. After four years, I will be stepping away from the ministry team at the end of 2023.*

*I am a teacher at heart - 26 years in Christian high schools and 8 ½ years teaching our senior ladies' Sunday School class. Teaching is my passion.*

*God has also given me a love for the Jewish people and Israel. I want to spend more time studying and following what is happening in Israel, along with her enemies and allies. To know where we are on God's prophetic timeline, keep your eyes on Israel.*

*Happy Hanukkah, Paulette Lyon*