

# BE READY: GOD KEEPS HIS WORD

Deuteronomy 7:9 reminds us of God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant. He commanded Ezekiel to comfort the Jews and prophesy of the coming judgment (Ezekiel 3:1-10). Ezekiel chapters 36 to 39 contain God's promises about ISRAEL, which showcases His supernatural power to fulfill what He said He will do. What promises can we see in these chapters?

## PROMISE OF RESTORATION [EZEKIEL 36]

God promised to restore the land not only for the sake of the Israelites but more importantly, to vindicate His holy Name which was profaned by His chosen people with their greed, immorality, idolatry, and bad testimony to the people surrounding them. God further promised that the land will be cultivated – from being desolate to being fortified and inhabited. The same prophecy is given in Isaiah 27:6. In 1867, Mark Twain wrote about how desolate the nation of Israel looked — it was completely barren! Today, Israel is the fruit capital of Europe. They are also gifted with innovations for agriculture such as the drip technology for watering plants. We see this promise being fulfilled right before our eyes!

## PROMISE OF RE-ESTABLISHMENT [EZEKIEL 37]

For 2,500 years, there was no country called Israel. When Judah fell in 586 BC, the Babylonian Empire took over and the Jewish nation ceased to exist. The prophecy of Israel's re-establishment is very significant because not only will God bring back the Jews to the land, but they will also have a coming King (Jesus) and they will be one nation. Israel has always been divided into two kingdoms and yet God's word prevailed. God brought back the Jews to their land (through the Belfour Declaration in 1917 and the Holocaust during World War II) and established them as a nation. On May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion declared the State of Israel as an independent country! If something impossible like that can happen, how much more

### this week's memory verse

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

MATTHEW 24:35

# END GAME BE READY: GOD KEEPS HIS WORD

should our faith and confidence be in God? Keep trusting God because His promise is sure to come!

## PROMISE OF PROTECTION (EZEKIEL 38)

After the declaration of Ben-Gurion, the neighboring Arab nations all surrounded the nation of Israel to eliminate the Jewish people. Israel had no tanks, no heavy artillery, and had a scarcity of armies. Various wars with the Arab nations took place (Arab-Israel War of 1948, Six-Day War of 1967, Yom Kippur War of 1973) – but Israel had always prevailed. They even took over Golan Heights, Jerusalem, and the Sinai Peninsula!

Ezekiel 38:1-6 tells us that there will be a confederation of nations (7 countries) that will form an alliance to attack Israel. They will try to capture spoil and plunder Israel. We see signs of this happening in current times, but we can have confidence in God's promise of protection to be fulfilled, because when God says He will protect Israel, He will do it. He will intervene supernaturally.

## PROMISE OF TRIUMPH (EZEKIEL 39)

In Ezekiel 39, God addresses the enemies of Israel and promises to bring complete victory for Israel and for His Name. Israel will be evangelized and will triumph over all her enemies. This is also prophesied in Zechariah 12:9-10, which describes an amazing victory to be led by none other than JESUS. God's grace will operate on the hearts of the Jewish people, and they will recognize Jesus as the One True King.

When God says something, He will do it! He can restore, reestablish, protect, and give us victory as we put our hope and trust in Him. May we be found faithful as we hold on to Him and His Word until we see His final victory!

### discussion questions

How can you respond when people say that Bible prophecies are just by chance?

How can we view God as faithful despite tragedies?

How can you use God's promises to reach out to your family and friends?

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#### Sundays

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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