

Is the 1948 Restoration of the State of Israel a Fulfillment of Bible Prophecy?

"And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea."
Jesus in Mark 9:42



Israeli soldier points his gun at a Palestinian child in Hebron City

I often find inspiration for a new article or Bible study when I see someone post something on social media that I consider to be in error. We should be lovers of truth. When we see something not according to the Scriptures, we should want to correct in love those that are in error.

One of my friends wrote on Facebook:

On May 14, 1948 Israel was reborn as a nation after 2,000 years. No one can deny that this was truly a unique event in human history. Never have a people who lost their statehood later become a nation after such a long period of time! Furthermore, this was the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy!

I commented on that Facebook post, "Please give us the reference of that prophecy."

He gave me several scriptures, but the only ones that could possibly apply are,

Zechariah 1:12 "Then the angel of the LORD answered and said, O LORD of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?"

Ezekiel 36:24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

Zechariah 1:12 is clearly referring to the restoration of the Jews in the land of Israel a few years after the 70 years of captivity. Ezekiel was a contemporary of the prophet Daniel during their captivity in Babylon. Ezekiel 36:24 would clearly be referring to Israel's restoration decreed by King Cyrus. The decree of Cyrus that the Jews can go back to Judah and Jerusalem and rebuild the temple was given about 537 BC. Israel was fully restored by the time of Jesus Christ.

*Matthew 15:24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the **house of Israel**.*

Why then would someone take prophecies that were fulfilled by the time of Christ and say they were fulfilled 2000 years after Christ? This is one of the doctrines of John Nelson Darby's dispensationalism! Dispensationalism makes a distinction between the Church and Israel. The Bible tells me the Church is a [continuation of true Israel](#), the people of God.

The article "[Was the Restoration of Israel in 1948 Prophetically Significant?](#)" brings out a good point:

"...the implication of positing 1948 as the fulfillment of Bible prophecy: It means that Israel remains God's covenant people. There is no way out of this. You cannot posit the events of 1948 as "prophetically significant" without thereby affirming that those events were in fulfillment of God's covenant promises to Israel. If God's covenant promises to Israel are / were being fulfilled, then, prima facie, Israel remains God's covenant people. So, if the restoration of Israel in 1948 was prophetically significant, there is no question that Israel remains God's covenant people today."

I believe the Bible makes it abundantly clear that God's covenant people today are *only* those who hold faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and their Lord Who died on the Roman cross for their sins to give them eternal life.

*John 1:12-13 But as many as received him (Jesus, the Word), to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: {13} Which were born, **not of blood**, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

Galatians 3:7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

The Book of Hebrews makes it clear that those in Christ Jesus are under a new covenant:

*Hebrews 12:24 And to **Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*

Did God give the children of Israel the Land of Canaan unconditionally?

NO! It was conditional on their obedience!

Leviticus 18:26 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you:

27 (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)

*28 **That the land spue not you out also**, when ye defile it, as it spued out the nations that were before you.*

Leviticus 20:22 Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out.

I searched on the Internet for a meme that said the 1948 restoration of the state of Israel is not a fulfillment of prophecy. I couldn't find any I liked as is, so I took one and modified it.

Did you know that the so-called Star of David is actually the symbol of the god Remphan?

The Star of Remphan



Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and **the star of your god Remphan**, figures which ye made to worship them: ... - Acts 7:43

Who Are The True Citizens of Israel?
Those in Christ Jesus!



The saints are those people who are sanctified in Christ Jesus be they Jews or Gentiles!

The New Testament Jesus Referred to is the Covenant with Many of Daniel 9:27

Matthew 26:28 NASB

for this is My blood of the **covenant**, which is poured out **for many** for forgiveness of sins.

Daniel 9:27a NASB

And he will make a firm **covenant with the many** for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering;

I was impressed by this meme but I don't like the NASB translation. This post is to show that the KJV teaches the same things.

In the verses below, the words "testament" and "covenant" are translations of the same Greek word, διαθήκη, transliteration: diathēkē, pronunciation: dee-ath-ay'-kay. In Strong's concordance, it is numbered G1242.

*Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the new **testament**, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

*Mark 14:24 And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new **testament**, which is shed for many.*

*Luke 1:72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy **covenant**;*

*Luke 22:20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new **testament** in my blood, which is shed for you.*

*Acts 3:25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the **covenant** which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.*

*Acts 7:8 And he gave him the **covenant** of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.*

The Greek word *diathēkē* is translated as

- covenants in Romans 9:4
- covenant in Romans 11:27
- testament in 1 Corinthians 11:25
- testament in 2 Corinthians 3:6
- testament in 2 Corinthians 3:14
- covenant in Galatians 3:15
- covenant in Galatians 3:17
- covenants in Galatians 4:24
- covenants in Ephesians 2:12
- testament in Hebrews 7:22
- covenant in Hebrews 8:6
- covenant in Hebrews 8:8
- covenant in Hebrews 8:9 (two occurrences)
- covenant in Hebrews 8:10
- covenant in Hebrews 9:4 (two occurrences)
- testament in Hebrews 9:15 (two occurrences)
- testament in Hebrews 9:16
- testament in Hebrews 9:17
- testament in Hebrews 9:18
- testament in Hebrews 9:20
- covenant in Hebrews 10:16
- covenant in Hebrews 10:29
- covenant in Hebrews 12:24
- covenant in Hebrews 13:20
- testament in Revelation 11:19

I hope I have proved to you that the words “covenant” and “testament” are translated from the same Greek word and used interchangeably. They are used interchangeably especially in the Book of Hebrews which uses insightful adjectives to modify the words covenant and testament.

- Hebrews 7:22 better testament
- Hebrews 8:6 better covenant
- Hebrews 8:8 new covenant
- Hebrews 9:15 new testament
- Hebrews 10:29 the blood of the covenant

- Hebrews 12:24 new covenant
- Hebrews 13:20 everlasting covenant

I, therefore, believe it to be absolutely correct to change the meme that appears at the beginning of this article by using the KJV translation of God's Word. And though the word covenant of Daniel 9:27 is not translated from Greek but from Hebrew, I think the Book of Hebrews clearly shows that both the Hebrew word and the Greek word have the exact same meaning because it refers to the Old Testament Covenant many times.

The New Testament words "testament" and "covenant" are translations of the same Greek word, διαθήκη, transliteration: *diathēkē*, and are used interchangeably in the New Testament. The Book of Hebrews connects the Old Testament covenant with the new covenant made by Christ .

Matthew 26:28

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Daniel 9:27a

And he (the Messiah of verse 26) shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease... (By Jesus' death on the Cross)