

THE APPLE OF GOD'S EYE

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY ISRAEL?

- While there can be shades of meaning in each of these words, we can consider them synonyms (words that mean the same basic thing):
 - Israel
 - Jacob when referring to the nation and not Jacob himself
 - Hebrews
 - Jews, Jewish
 - Zion, Zionist hill in Jerusalem, used to reference the Jewish people
 - Chosen People
- The Nation of Israel began with ABRAHAM around 2,100 BC in Ur of the Chaldees
- It continued through Abraham's miracle son ISAAC, and Issac's son JACOB who had his name changed, by God, to ISRAEL.

THE MODERN NATION OF

ISRAEL



WAS RESTORED IN 1948

Deuteronomy 32:1-15

Deut. 32:1 ¶ Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

Deut. 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

Deut. 32:3 Because I will publish the name of the LORD: ascribe ye greatness

unto our God.

Deut. 32:4 He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Deut. 32:5 They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children: they are a perverse and crooked generation.

Deut. 32:6 Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? is not he thy father that hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?

Deuteronomy 32:1-15

Deut. 32:7 ¶ Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.

Deut. 32:8 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.

Deut. 32:9 For the LORD's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.

Deut. 32:10 He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness;

he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

Deut. 32:11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

Deut. 32:12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.

Deuteronomy 32:1-15

Deut. 32:13 He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;

Deut. 32:14 Butter of kine, and milk of sheep, with fat of lambs, and rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, with the fat of kidneys of wheat; and thou didst drink the pure blood of the grape.

Deut. 32:15 ¶ But Jeshurun* waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; then he forsook God which made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.

*JESHURUN (יְשֵׁרוּן, yeshurun). A poetic name used for Israel, both as a people and a place. Jeshurun is used only in poetry to refer to the complacent people of Israel (Deut 32:15; 33:5, 26), the place of assembly before Yahweh, and the chosen Servant (Isa 44:2).

I. The LORD God's Character is Impeccable*

- "Because I will publish the name of the LORD: Ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, his work is perfect: For all his ways are judgment: A God of truth and without iniquity, Just and right is he." Deuteronomy 32:3–4, KJV
- A. The Song of Moses (Deuteronomy 31:30-32:43)
 - This was to be a continual and perpetual reminder to the children of Israel of why they were there and for what God had done for Israel.

^{*} NOTE: Impeccable means faultless, perfect, sinless.

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 - "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. For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, And in the waste howling wilderness; He led him about, he instructed him, He kept him as the apple of his eye." Deuteronomy 32:8–10, KJV

* NOTE: Impeccable means faultless, perfect, sinless.

B. Though they were often shackled in unbelief, God has never turned His back to the people of Israel (Romans 11:1-3,23, 26-29).

"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life."

B. Though they were often shackled in unbelief, God has never turned His back to the people of Israel (Romans 11:1-3,23, 26-29).

"And they (ISRAEL) also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."

— Romans 11:23, 26–29 KJV

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God's impeccable character has been with Israel from the beginning!

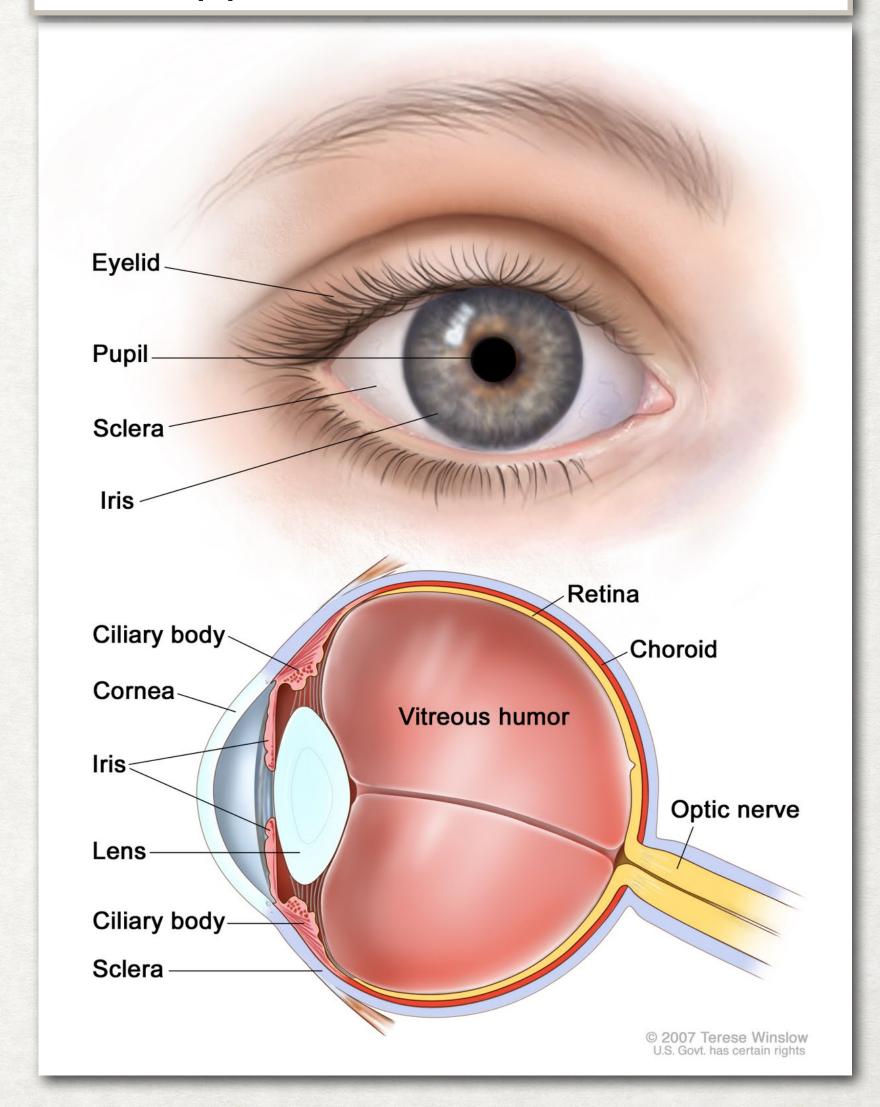
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II. The LORD God's Choosing of Israel

"Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. 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. For the LORD'S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye." (Deuteronomy 32:7–10 KJV)

- The Bible has 5 references to this. Our text in Deut. 32 is the first.
- Psa. 17:8 ¶ <u>Keep me as the apple of the eye</u>, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,
- Prov. 7:2 Keep my commandments, and live; and my law as the apple of thine eye.
- Lam. 2:18 Their heart cried unto the Lord, O wall of the daughter of Zion, let tears run down like a river day and night: give thyself no rest; let not the apple of thine eye cease.
- The apple of the eye, the pupil, was something that people defended with all of their might.
- If damaged, they could be blind for the rest of their life.

The "apple" of the eye is the PUPIL

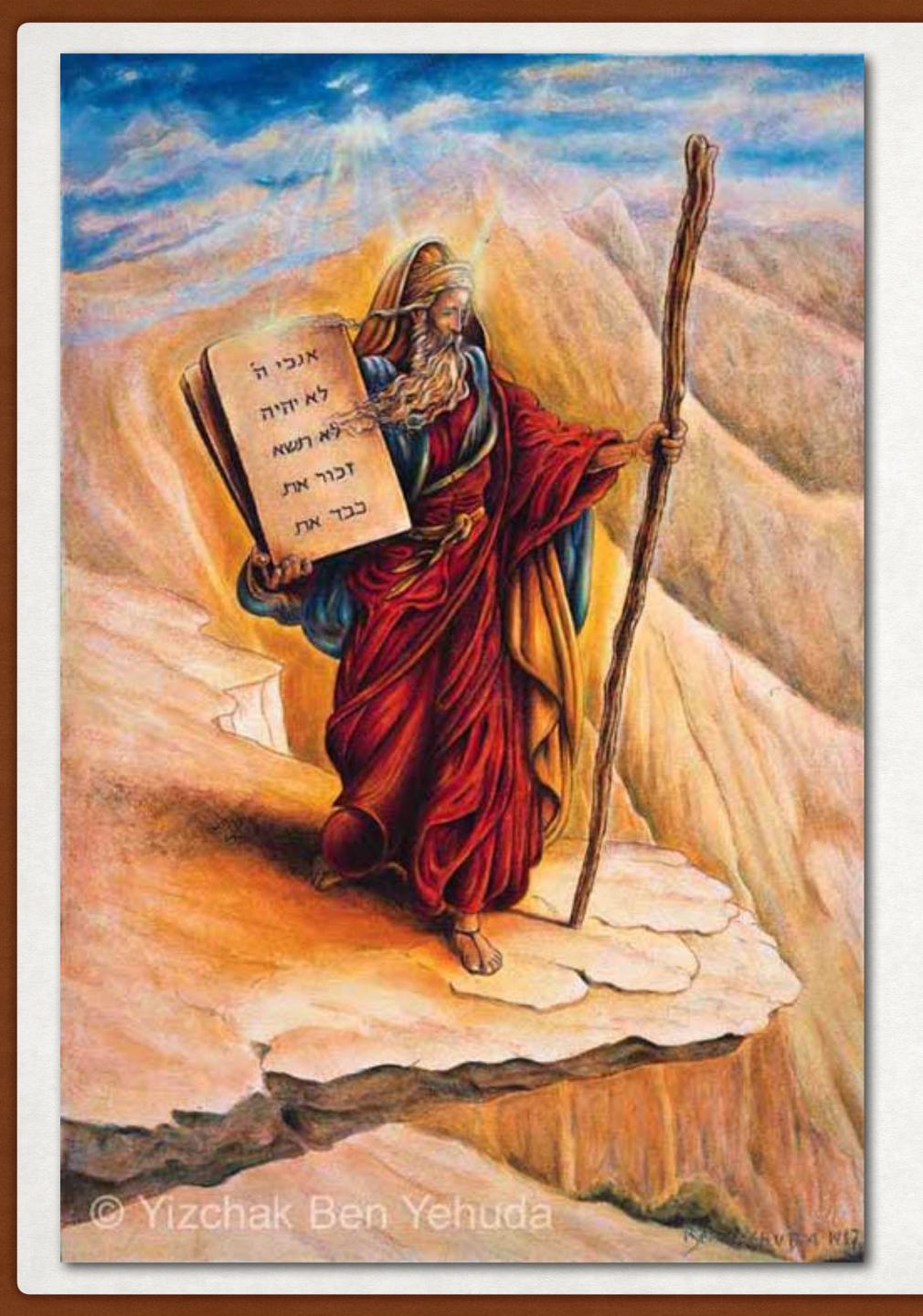


The final reference to the apple of God's eye tells us something about Israel.

For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

— Zechariah 2:8

QUESTION: What does this tell us about God's care for Israel?



II. The LORD God's Choosing of Israel

"The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;" (Deuteronomy 7:7–9 KJV)

- I. The LORD God's Character is Impeccable
- II. The LORD God's Choosing of Israel
- III. The LORD God's Covenant with Israel

"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." (Genesis 12:1–3 KJV)

III. THE LORD GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

A. The Basics

- "Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation," Genesis 12:1-2a
- The land was the land of Canaan, the Promised Land, which is Israel.

B. The Blessings

- "...and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." — Genesis 12:2b-3
- This is still binding and in effective TODAY!

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- The modern-day nation of Israel is the most hated nation and people in the world.
- Antisemitism (hatred of Jewish people) has skyrocketed in the United States and around the world.
- 6,000,000 Jewish people were murdered by Hitler and the Nazis during World War II
- Today, the Jewish people have been driven out of practically every Middle Eastern Nation.

UN passes 14 anti-Israel resolutions in 2021, only 4 against all other countries North Korea, Iran, Myanmar, and Russia, for its activity in Crimea, are the only other countries to be officially condemned by the UN over the past year. Meanwhile, a draft resolution against the Syrian regime for its crimes against humanity was deferred. "The UN's assault on Israel with a torrent of one-sided resolutions is surreal," says Hillel Neuer, executive director of NGO UN

By Israel Hayom, December 20, 2021

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By Pamela Geller - on August 8, 2021

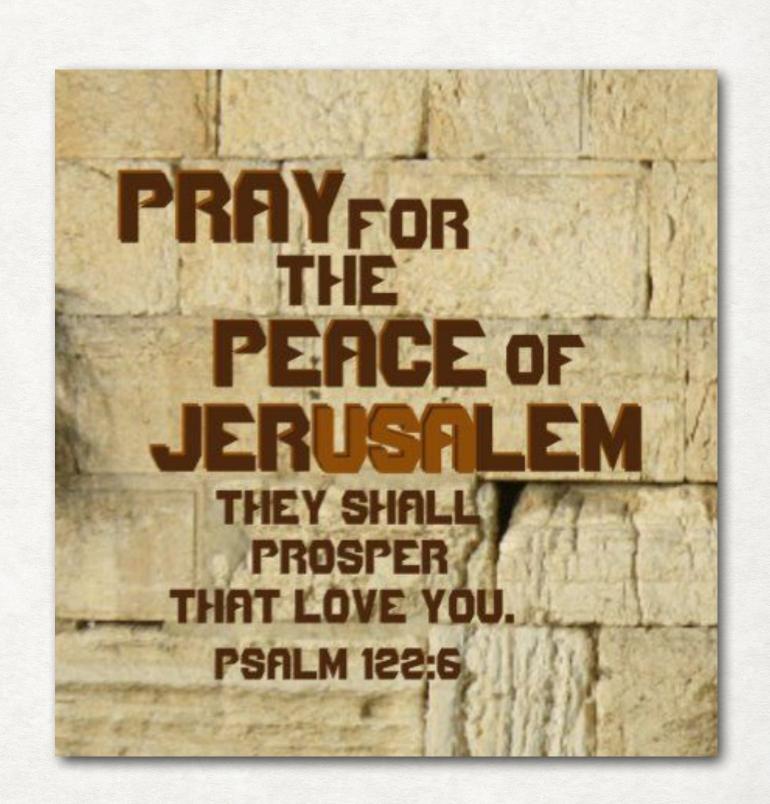
MONSTER THREATENS TO BURN DOWN NYC KOSHER BAGEL SHOP OVER JEWISH FLAGS

By Pamela Geller - on November 16, 2021

WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO ISRAEL

"...and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." — Genesis 12:2b-3

- Pray!
- "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." (Romans 10:1 KJV)
- "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen." (Romans 9:3–5 KJV)



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MANY CHRISTIANS
HAVE TREATED JEWISH
PEOPLE VERY POORLY
OVER THE YEARS, FROM
OVER THE YEARS, FROM
THROUGH MANY
OTHERS.

- Pray!
- Support Jewish people.
 - If someone makes antisemitic remarks, or starts talking about foolish conspiracies that are blaming the Jewish people for everything, SPEAK UP.
 - The Jewish people gave us the Word of God and the Lord Jesus!
- Educate yourself in the Word and about Jewish people.
- Be friends with a Jewish person.



"At the behest of our leader Herzl, I came to Basle to make preparations for the Zionist Congress. Among many other problems that occupied me then was one which contained something of the essence of the Jewish problem. What flag would we hang in the Congress Hall? Then an idea struck me. We have a flag — and it is blue and white. The talith (prayer shawl) with which we wrap ouselves when we pray: that is our symbol. Let us take this Talith from its bag and unroll it before the eyes of Israel and the eyes of all nations. So I ordered a blue and white flag with the Shield of David painted upon it. That is how the national flag, that flew over Congress Hall, came into being." — David Wolffsohn

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WHAT CAN I DO ?

- Where do you stand with Israel?
- Do you love Israel?
- Will you pray for Israel?
- Will you be a friend to Jewish people?