

"Preach the word! be ready in season, out of season convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" – 2 Tim 4:2

## **REVIEW**

Two weeks ago, we looked at a 2-part series on the believer's present anticipation of the Rapture of the Church.

The return of Christ in the air for the Church is imminent after the fulfillment of three requirements:

1. Christ's preparation of a heaven place for the Church – The New Jerusalem – Jn 14:1-4

2. Taking out of the nations a people for His name – Acts 1:8;15:14

3. Accomplishing those preplanned works through all those that God has takes out of the nations – II Pet 3:9,15

## INTRODUCTION

#### What is happening to the Jews and Israel today?

Jewish pograms (organized massacre or persecution of a minority group) for the last 20 centuries

Attempted extermination of the Jewish people in WW2 by Nazi Germany

20/21<sup>st</sup> century "intifada" (holy wars) by the Middle East Muslims against Israel

Today's worldwide promotion of antisemitism ("from the river to the sea")

# ISRAEL'S EARLY HISTORY: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

Man's failure of obedience to God before the flood

Man's continued disobedience after the flood

God's sovereign choice of one man and his progeny to reveal His character and will

# ISRAEL'S EARLY HISTORY: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

(continued)

God's sovereign choice of one man and his progeny to reveal His character and will

God's choice was NOT based on Abram's works – cf Rom 4:1-5 (vs 5 "ungodly"= not devoted God could have chosen someone else – such as Lot

God's miracle provision of Abraham's progeny, Isaac The whole nation miraculously exists through Isaac

The 12 tribes of Israel exist though the miraculous salvation of Jacob (Gen. 32)

Jacob = "heel-holder", "supplanter" Israel = "prince with God" – one who has power with God

# ISRAEL'S PROMISED LAND (Promised to Abram)

#### Promise of this land to Abram

- \*Promised, but unclaimed Gen 13:14-18
- \*Promised again after Abraham's salvation with the land specifically described Gen 15:18-21

#### 3 captivities of the nation before they would claim the whole promised land

- \*1st captivity Egypt, while the land was being prepared for being conquered Gen 15:13-14,16
- \*2<sup>nd</sup> captivity Northern 10 tribes to Assyria over a 150 yr period I Chron 5:26. Southern 2 tribes to Babylon Jer 25:11-12
- \*3<sup>rd</sup> captivity General "scattering" among the nations Deut 28:63-65, Lk 21:20-24, Jam 1:11

#### **CONCLUSION**

Are these chosen people of God doomed forever?

Will they have to fight for their existence by their own strength and ingenuity?

Because to them, God no longer cares, or has been a historical myth passed down by ancestors

As we continue this important study, we need to remind ourselves:

God's timing is <u>not</u> our timing – 2 Pet 3:8 God ALWAYS keeps His promises – Isa 46:9-10