

“Zionism” is described, as “the movement that revolutionized modern Jewish history,” by the former Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu. He goes on to say in his book, A Durable Peace, Israel and Its Place Among the Nations, that to Theodor Herzl (the founder of Zionism) and other leading Jewish men of his day, “Mt. Zion in the heart of Jerusalem symbolized the reestablishment of the Jewish state in which the scattered Jewish people would reassemble and begin anew its national life.” There were many circumstances that preceded Zionism that helped to increase its appeal, like the longing of the Jewish people to return to their land, and the calling of religious leaders to the Jewish masses for national salvation. Because of the recent rise in anti-Semitism in Europe, a national homeland, would also give the Jews someplace to go and get away from persecution.¹

Several times in previous lessons, “Zion” could have had three different meanings: the national identity of the people, the city of Jerusalem, or the land of Israel itself. When I first began study for this chapter, I really thought the “Zion” referred to here was just the city of Jerusalem. Now, I’m not so sure and I presently think we can give all three meanings to the “Zion” referred to in this chapter. You decide this week for yourselves after studying. Either way, God has called this nation, this city, this land, to a Spirit filled existence. Have the Jews returned to their God and are they filled with the Spirit today or have they just merely returned to the physical land and God’s Spirit will move them towards the future He has for them in the land in the Millennial Kingdom? Remember that a Remnant always exists. Again, either way, the people have returned to the land a second time from the four corners of the world and they will not be cast out again*

Day 1 – Israel’s Return to the Land – Isaiah 11, Zechariah 12-13

During the surge of Anti-Semitism in Europe in the late 1930’s and early 1940’s, the British controlled the land of Israel and the number of Zionists moving there. Some Jews from Germany and other nations that Hitler would eventually overrun, took transportation to the land of Israel, but were turned back once they arrived. The British would allow only so many transplants into the land per month and there were too many fleeing to the land. Those who were turned back eventually ended up in the concentration camps and the gas chambers of the Holocaust.

Please read Isaiah 11:11-15 once again. We studied Isaiah 11 in Part 1 of this study.

Our first clue in the timing of this return of Israel to the land is found in Isaiah 11:11. Of what “day” does the Scripture speak? And when will that “day” be in relationship to history and to us?

*There are some who say, like J. Vernon McGee, that Israel has not returned to the land in faith and therefore the nation of Israel will be dispersed to the nations once again.

Prior to this time of Isaiah's writing, the nation of Israel had not been taken captive. They lived in captivity in Egypt before they entered the Promised Land, but they had not been kicked out of their land before, survived as a nation, and reentered it at another time.

How many times would the nation be kicked out of the land, according to the Scripture?

How many times would the nation be returned to their land, according to Isaiah 11:11?

Isaiah 11 says a certain people of the nation of Israel will return to the land. Who are these people? What are they called? Why are they called this?

From where will God call them? What are the common names for all of these nations today?

Has part of this prophecy not come to pass or is it yet to come to pass? Is this part still future for Israel today?

Now I would like you to read Zechariah 12:10-14.

Is this time period that Zechariah refers to here, yet future for Israel? In 12:11, we have another reference to "in that day." What day is this?

Tell me what "national repentance" looks like for Israel from this passage of Scripture.

Zechariah 13:9 tells us that God will bring a third of the people through the fire and refine them as silver is refined and test them as gold is tested. And yet, Jeremiah 31 tells us that in the end, all the Jews will be saved? How can you reconcile these two verses?

What will happen to Israel in their day of national repentance, according to Ezekiel 36:24-37? Is this the day Isaiah refers to in chapter 62 when the Jews will finally be filled with the Holy Spirit of God and become a holy nation, a holy city, and a holy land?

Day 2 – For Zion’s Sake – Double-spaced Worksheet - Isaiah 62

Please mark the following words or ideas in your own unique way:

Zion and Jerusalem as one marking - also synonyms & pronouns

salvation

righteousness

any word or words that have to do with light, i.e., “a torch that is burning,” “your glory”

nations

marry, marries, married

any reference to God – note body parts that are used in descriptions

rest

Now, please read the entire text of chapter 62 three times.

Can you make any lists from the text of chapter 62? If so, then put the lists in the margins of the text on the double-spaced worksheet and in the space below.

Days 3 – 4 – Questions on Isaiah 62

Why will God not keep quiet? And what will He not keep quiet about?

What salvation is present in Zion?

God will not keep quiet for Zion’s sake until her righteousness goes forth like brightness and the nations see that righteousness. God will not keep quiet for Zion’s sake until Zion’s salvation goes forth like a torch that is burning and the kings of the nations see its glory. So, when will these two things happen and when will God be quiet?

How was God manifested in Old Testament times when He traveled around with His people in the wilderness?

God will not keep quiet until all the earth has heard of His salvation. It is not His desire that anyone should perish.

Why will God give Zion a new name that only He knows at the time Isaiah is writing? Think “covenant” here.

Let’s check out some new names that God will give out to others that are recorded in other places in the Scripture:

Christ’s new name - read Revelation 3:12

Christ’s new name – read Revelation 19:12

The One Who Overcomes’ new name – read Revelation 2:17

The One Who Overcomes’ - read Revelation 3:12

Remember, only God knows this new name for the Messiah as mentioned above for this verse, Revelation 3:12.

How important are these names? Again, think “covenant” here.

Girls, when you get married, do you get a new last name? Is marriage a covenant?

There are two other new names used for Zion in Isaiah 62:4. What are they? In the KJV of the Bible, Isaiah 62:4 reads as thus, “Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzi-bah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married.” Hephzi-bah” means “delightful.” KJV

Week 6, The Holy Spirit in the Kingdom, Holy Nation, Holy City, Holy Land

God will give a new name to Zion because He has made a New Covenant with His people and they will no longer be a “forsaken,” people, they will be called “Delightful,” and their land will be “married.”

Besides getting a new heart and a new name, what else will Jerusalem become in Isaiah 62:3?

Make a list of what will eventually happen with or to Zion? See Isaiah 62:5-12.

Who are the watchmen over Zion’s walls, who will never keep quiet in Isaiah 62, and who reminds the LORD to establish and make Jerusalem a praise in the earth?

Why does God use the phrase, “the Spirit and the bride say, Come.” in Revelation 22:17?

How does God describe the true Believers in Revelation 19:6-9?

Are you one of the watchmen who remains in constant intercession for Jerusalem? Have you heard, “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem?” Have you seen pictures of the Jewish men praying at the Wailing Wall? For what are they praying? For what are you praying?

The watchmen are told to give God no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. What does this say about the need for constancy in your prayers? How important are your prayers?

What two body parts does God use to explain His power to answer the prayers of His saints in Isaiah 62? Are these the same body parts used of God’s power anywhere else in Isaiah 58-61?

Who will eat the produce of the land and who will drink the wine that comes from Zion in God's sanctuary?

Who will praise the LORD for sustenance from their own land?

Why is the eating and drinking of the produce from the land so important?

What else does God implore the "holy people" to do in Isaiah 62:10? How can they do this? Or, does God implore the Holy Spirit to do this?

What will happen to the ends of the earth during this time according to Isaiah 62:11?

There is a collection of names mentioned in Isaiah 62:12 that the Israelites will be called in this Millennial Kingdom. What is this collection of names?

Earlier, we said this, "God will not keep quiet until all the earth has heard of His salvation." It is not His desire that any should perish? Will salvation be offered to all peoples and then the end will come? What is your definition of the end?

Day 5 – Personal Application

How much time do you spend praying for the peace of Jerusalem?

What is the peace of Jerusalem?

How much time do you spend praying for the salvation of the nations of the world? Do you pray for them collectively like a blanket prayer or do you pray for individuals in each of the nations?

How much do you know about the nations for whom you are praying? Do you think having knowledge concerning each of the nations for whom you pray, will help you pray for these people more effectively?

Where can you find out more information on people groups and how to pray for them more effectively?

So, now that you've completed this lesson, do you think the "Zion" spoken of in Isaiah 62 is the to-be-Spirit-filled nation, the to-be-Spirit-filled land, or the to-be-Spirit-filled city or do you think it could be all three? Write your thoughts below.

What does the Holy Spirit have to do with Zion?

Please record the theme of Isaiah 62 on the respective double-spaced worksheet and on the Isaiah-Theme-Summary chart in the appendix.

ⁱ Benjamin Netanyahu, *A Durable Peace, Israel and Its Place Among the Nation*, USA, Warner Books, Inc., January, 2000, pp. 10-11.

TO ISRAEL: YOU ARE TO BE A SPIRIT-FILLED NATION

What has already happened to Zion?	What is left to happen to Zion in future?	How can the Church move Israel forward?
<p><u>Zion to return to the land</u> When? “in that day” - May 14, 1948 How many times will she return to the land? 2x -exodus out of Egypt-not a return -1st from Babylonian Captivity -2nd from Disapora How long will she be in the land this 2nd time? -no mention of 3rd return in Is. Also see Is. 62:8 Who will return? the remnant. See Is. 11:11-15</p> <p><u>God continues to speak for Zion</u> why? for Zion’s sake & the nations’ sakes until all have heard <u>re</u> His salvation</p> <p><u>Land is fruitful & produces because Zion is back in the land</u></p> <p><u>No longer called ‘forsaken,’ nor land ‘desolate,’ but called ‘My delight is in her’ and ‘married to the land’</u> Is. 62:4</p> <p><u>Watchmen on Wailing Wall to pray for peace of Jerusalem</u> Is 62:6</p> <p><u>Eating and drinking that which comes from their own land</u> Is. 62:8-9</p> <p><u>Zion will be a royal diadem</u> or Zion will regain her power of administration or self rule Is 62:3</p>	<p><u>Zion to return to God</u> When? “in that day” - maybe the last day, last hour before Jesus comes again Who is Zion? -the remnant? See Is. 11:11-15 -all those <u>who remain</u> ? (the remnant) from the lands of Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, who will see that salvation is through the Jews through Jesus Christ Who will repent in ‘that day?’ See Zech. 12 -all Israel: kings, priests, commoners <u>God will finally be quiet when all the earth has heard re His salvation & Jesus comes back</u> Is. 62:1 <u>Zion will receive a new name</u> - 3 new names: Jesus, Zion, the Overcomer in the church - those who overcome have all three names written on their forehead <u>Zion will receive a crown of beauty</u> or Zion will receive admiration from other nations Is 62:3 <u>Zion to be called a holy people, redeemed, not forsaken</u> Is 62:4, 12</p> <p><u>Salvation will come to Zion & the daughter of Zion</u> Is. 62:11-12</p> <p><u>Jesus Christ will be their Savior & come to dwell w/ them</u></p> <p><u>All Israel will be saved</u></p>	<p><u>Get her ready for wedding day w/</u> -righteous acts of the saints -continuing the testimony of Jesus -continuing to drink from the water of life</p> <p><u>Worship God alone</u></p> <p><u>Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, the nations</u> -pray for Jesus to come back -pray that all Jews will be saved: knowing about Israel, the Jews, specific prayer requests for individuals, supporting missionaries, being missionaries -pray for all nations’ peoples to be saved: knowing about those nations, the people-groups, specific prayer requests for individuals, supporting missionaries, being missionaries</p>