

## Questions / Answers

1. Which nation came from Abraham's descendants?  
*The nation of Israel, later called the Jews.*
2. Which land did God promise to Jews? What was the capital city?  
*The land of Israel. Jerusalem was the capital city.*
3. What did the Jews do when God sent His Son to be their saviour and king?  
*They rejected him and crucified him.*
4. How were the Jews punished in AD 70?  
*Jerusalem was destroyed by the Romans and the Jews were turned out of their land and scattered into all countries of the world.*
5. How long were the Jews scattered in all countries of the world?  
*For nearly 2,000 years.*
6. What terrible thing happened to the Jews during World War 2?  
*Hitler killed more than 6 million Jews.*
7. What happened on May 14 1948?  
*The state of Israel was established and Jews started to return to their land.*
8. What will happen to the Jews in Israel just before Jesus comes back?  
*Many nations will come to fight against Israel. Jesus will save them.*
9. Do the Jews believe in Jesus now? What will Jesus show the Jews?  
*No they don't believe in Jesus. He will show them his wounds.*
10. Who will be king of the Jews? Who will rule over the 12 tribes?  
*Jesus will be king of the Jews. The 12 apostles will rule the tribes.*

## Memory verses

Deuteronomy 7:6      Jeremiah 31:10      Zechariah 12:10

## Discussion

Talk about the promises God made to Abraham and David. Discuss how God has been working out His purpose to fulfil these promises.

## Writing

Write about what happened in AD 70 and what happened in 1948.

# CBM Senior Lessons



## Lesson 49 Israel in God's purpose

**READING** Deuteronomy 7:6—10; 28:64—67; Jeremiah 31:8—10;  
Ezekiel 37:21; Zechariah 12:9—10; Matthew 19:28

### LESSON

God's purpose is to fill the earth with people who know the glory of God and show His character in their lives. God has been working out His purpose from the beginning.

God chose a very faithful man called Abraham. God promised Abraham that his descendants would become a great nation. Abraham's descendants became the nation of Israel and were God's special people. God chose the land of Israel to be the land where His kingdom would be established.

In the time of Moses God gave the 10 commandments to the nation of Israel. God made a special covenant (agreement) with them. God promised that Israel would be His special people and He would be their God. He would bless them and take care of them in the land He had promised them. The people promised to love God and keep His commands. But God said that if Israel disobeyed Him and worshipped other gods He would turn them out of their land.

In the time of David, the great king, God chose Jerusalem to be the capital city of Israel. He promised David that one of his descendants would reign on his throne for ever.

After many years the people of Israel became very wicked. They disobeyed God's laws and worshipped idols. God sent the great nations of Assyria and Babylon to take them away from their own land as captives. But God promised that they would return to their own land from Babylon after 70 years. God took away the crown from the last king. He said that there would not be another king of Israel until a righteous king came to rule. That king will be Jesus Christ when he comes to rule over God's Kingdom on earth.

The people of Israel, later called the Jews, returned from captivity and lived in the land of Israel again. But they did not have their own king. They were always ruled over by other nations.

God sent His son, the Lord Jesus Christ to be the Saviour and King of the Jews. But most of the Jews rejected Jesus. Jesus taught the people about the Kingdom of God. He told many parables about the coming Kingdom. But most of the people, and especially the rulers, did not believe him.

Jesus knew that the rulers would kill him, so he told them what would happen because they rejected him. Jesus prophesied that Jerusalem would be destroyed because of the wickedness of the Jews. Jesus wept over the city and said that it would be besieged, the people would be killed and Jerusalem destroyed.

The Jewish leaders plotted against Jesus. They arrested him and accused him falsely before Pilate. The Jews shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" They said, "His blood be on us and on our children." So Jesus was crucified.

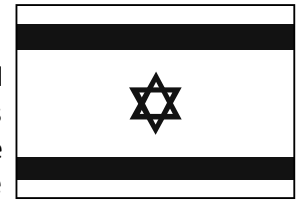
The murder of God's son was the greatest act of wickedness by His people. Jesus had prophesied about the coming destruction of Jerusalem. At that time Israel was ruled by the Romans. In AD 70 a strong Roman army besieged Jerusalem. They captured and destroyed the city and the Temple. Many of the people were killed. The Jews were turned out of their land and scattered into nations all over the world.

All the Jews were turned out of their land. Many were sold into slavery. The Jews were scattered among all nations of the world. The Jews have remained scattered for nearly 2,000 years. They have suffered great persecution in the countries where they lived. 📖 **Read** Deuteronomy 28:64-67. These verses tell of the sufferings that would come on the Jews because they disobeyed God. They would be scattered among all nations of the world. They would have no rest. They would live in fear of their lives day and night. This is exactly what happened to the Jews.

God punished His people for their wickedness. But He has not forgotten them. He did not punish them for ever. Before they were scattered God promised that one day He would bring them back to their own land.

God has kept the Jews as a separate people in all the countries where they have been scattered for nearly 2,000 years. This century God has been working behind events in history to bring His people back to their land, as He promised. During World War 2, Germany persecuted the Jews. More than 6 million Jews were killed by Hitler. At the end of the war, the world was so horrified by what had happened to the Jews that they gave the land of Israel back to the Jews as their national homeland.

On May 14 1948 the State of Israel was established, and Jews all over the world rejoiced. Since that time Jews have returned to Israel from all over the world. The Jews have their own flag and their own money. The national language is Hebrew.



*The Jewish flag*

The Jews have worked hard on the land, which was neglected and barren. Now it is fertile, well farmed and highly productive. Israel has developed a thriving economy and many successful industries.

Every day Jews are returning to the land of Israel. Every day God is working out His purpose and bringing His people back to their own land, as He promised. There are now over 6 million Jews in the land of Israel.

God's people are now back in their own land after nearly 2,000 years. The establishment of the State of Israel and the return of the Jews to their land is the greatest sign that the coming of Jesus is near. We can see God working out His purpose every day as His people return.

Today most of the Jews do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God. They do not believe that God brought them back to their own land. They think they have done it by their own strength.

The Jews are surrounded by enemies. The Arab nations hate them and want to destroy them. At the time of the end many nations will come to fight against the Jews. Then Jesus will return and save his people, the Jews. Jesus will show the Jews the holes in his hands and feet from when he was crucified. He will show them the place where the sword pierced his side. Then the Jews will believe. They will mourn because they rejected Jesus and did not believe in him.

Jesus will rule over the Jews in the land of Israel. Jews who are still living in other countries will return to the land of Israel. The Jews and the land of Israel will be the centre of God's Kingdom on earth. Jesus will rule from the capital city, Jerusalem.

This will fulfil God's promises to Abraham. Abraham will be raised from the dead. He will live for ever in the land of Israel which God promised him. David, too, will be raised from the dead. He will see God's promises to him fulfilled with Jesus ruling from his throne in Jerusalem. David will be a prince, helping Jesus to rule the Jews from Jerusalem. Jesus promised the 12 apostles that they would sit on 12 thrones ruling over the 12 tribes of Israel. They also will be raised from the dead to rule over the tribes of Israel in God's Kingdom.