

The Proof of Who God is

The first verse in the bible says, *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"* Genesis 1:1, but how can we know for certain who that "god" is? In the days of the prophet Elijah, Israel had fallen into such a condition that they did not know who was God, whether Jehovah or Baal. 450 prophets preached Baal, while Elijah alone spoke for Jehovah. He called the congregation of Israel to gather at Mount Carmel along with the 450 false prophets, and said *"How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD (Jehovah) be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him...the God that answers by fire, let him be God"* 1 Kings 18:21-24. The false prophets prayed and prophesied for most of the day for Baal to send fire upon their altar, but *"there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded"* 1 Kings 18:29. After their failed attempt, Elijah prepared his sacrifice on the altar, prayed a thirty second prayer, and the fire fell from heaven and consumed the sacrifice. When the people saw the fire fall for Elijah, they fell on their faces to worship Jehovah, saying *"the LORD (Jehovah) he is the God."*

Baal has long since passed away into the annals of failed gods, but Jehovah, the Father of Jesus Christ, is still "the God." Today, there is another challenge as to "who is God." The worshipers of Allah are gathering against Israel. Many have been taught from childhood to hate both Christians and Jews. Some have committed mass murders with the cry of "Allahu Akbar," which means, "Allah is the greatest." In a world of eight billion people there are 2.1 billion Christians, 1.8 billion Muslims, and only 16.2 million Jews, of which 6.9 million live in the tiny nation of Israel. It is in Israel that it will be proven once again who God is.

Seven hundred years before the birth of Jesus, the prophet Isaiah gave us the "proof" of who is the living and true God as he tells how God watches over Israel.

"But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee." Isaiah 43:1-3

Four thousand years ago, God made an unconditional

covenant with Abraham, which reads like a "real estate contract." He said, *"Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates"* Genesis 15:18. Certainly this will be Israel's possession after the return of Christ to earth. In the meantime, God has established the nation of Israel as the proof He is *"the God."*

Although Israel has rejected Jesus as God's son, it does not annul this "real estate" covenant. Still, the Prophet Zechariah tells of a day when Israel will turn to Jesus, saying, *"...they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."* Zechariah 12:10.

God has called for the nations of all the earth to bring their witnesses. He said, *"Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the people be assembled: who among them can declare this, and shew us former things? let them bring forth their witnesses, that they may be justified: or let them hear, and say, It is truth."* Isaiah 43:9

Through the prophet Zechariah, God spoke of our day, saying *"In that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it"* Zechariah 12:3. Those who fight against Israel fight against God. We are quickly coming to another "Mount Carmel showdown" to prove to an ungodly world who does not know who is God. If Allah is God, serve Allah: but if Jehovah, the Father of Jesus Christ is God, serve Him. Israel is, has forever been, and will be, "the proof" of who God is. In this generation, every nation that fights against Israel will suffer horrific defeat, because God said, *"I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem"* Zechariah 12:9.

The existence of Israel is Jehovah's witness that He alone is God! *"Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God."* Isaiah 43:10-12



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