



**God's Heart for Israel**  
**Rabbi Jason Sobel - 12.10.2023**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

***"Our heavenly Father loves ALL people—Israelis and Palestinians!  
As followers of Jesus we must have His heart and embody His Spirit."***

**[Matthew 5:43-46]**

You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven....For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?

**[Acts 1:6]**

So when they gathered together, they asked Him, 'Lord, are You restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?'

**[Genesis 12:1-2]**

Then Adonai said to Abram, 'Get going out from your land, and from your relatives, and from your father's house, to the land that I will show you. My heart's desire is to make you into a great nation, to bless you, to make your name great so that you may be a blessing. My desire is to bless those who bless you, but whoever curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.'"

**[Genesis 15:18]**

On that day Adonai cut a covenant with Abram, saying, 'I give this land to your seed, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates River.'

**[Genesis 17:8]**

I will give to you and to your seed after you the land where you are an outsider—the whole land of Canaan—as an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.

The hand of Adonai was upon me. The Ruach Adonai carried me out and set me down in the middle of the valley. It was full of bones. He led me all around them. Behold, there were very many on the floor of the valley. Behold, they were very dry. Then He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I answered, "Adonai Elohim, You know."

**[Ezekiel 37:1-14]**

Prophesy over these bones," He said to me. "Say to them: 'Dry bones, hear the word of Adonai!' Thus says Adonai Elohim to these bones: "Behold, I will cause Ruach to enter you, so you will live. I will attach tendons to you, bring flesh on you and cover you with skin. Then I will put breath in you. You will live. You will know that I am Adonai. So I prophesied just as I was commanded. As I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, an earthquake. Then the bones came together, bone to its bone. I saw, and behold, there were tendons on them, flesh came up and skin covered them above, but there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the Ruach. Prophesy, son of man, and say to the Ruach, thus says Adonai Elohim: 'Come from the four winds, Ruach! Breathe upon these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied just as He commanded me. The Ruach came into them and they lived. They stood up on their feet, a vast army.

### **[Romans 11]**

I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected His people whom He knew beforehand Or do you not know what the Scripture says about Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?...For I do not want you, brothers and sisters, to be ignorant of this mystery—lest you be wise in your own eyes—that a partial hardening has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; Concerning the Good News, they are hostile for your sake; but concerning chosenness, they are loved on account of the father— for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

### **[Matthew 23:37-39]**

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem who kills the prophets and stones those sent to her! How often I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! Look, your house is left to you desolate! For I tell you, you will never see Me again until you say, 'Baruch ha-ba b'shem Adonai. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'

### **[Genesis 6:11]**

Now the earth was ruined before God, and the earth was filled with violence [hamas/חַמָּס].

### **[Genesis 6:13]**

Then God said to Noah, 'The end of all flesh is coming before Me, for the earth is filled with violence [hamas/חַמָּס] because of them. Behold, I am about to bring ruin upon them along with the land.'

### **[Luke 17:26]**

As it was in the days of Noah, so will it also be in the days of the Son of Man.

As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen? What will be the sign of Your coming and of the end of the age?"

### **[Matthew 24:3-8]**

Yeshua answered them, "Be careful that no one leads you astray! For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and will lead many astray. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must happen but it is not yet the end. For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. But all these things are only the beginning of birth pains.

## **Applications for the Week:**

Rabbi Jason said our responsibility as believers is to pray for Israel and Palestine. This week, take time to pray for God's protection, blessing and that Jesus would be revealed.

## **Discussion Questions**

1. What are some things you are expectant and waiting for in this season of life?
2. Why is it important to connect in the old and new? What is the significance of connection between the Old and New Testament?
3. What is God's heart for Israel and the Jewish people today? What is God's heart for Israel's neighbors?
4. If we are going to overcome obstacles, why must we "pray for those who persecute [us]?" How does that reveal the heart of God?
5. How does Jesus' life relive the Jewish story of deliverance and usher in restoration?
6. When you understand how much God loves Israel, even in their unbelief and failures, how does that make you feel as it relates to God's faithfulness to you and your relationship with Him?
7. How do we respond with truth in love, without rhetoric and in the spirit of Jesus?
8. When has God been a covenant keeper with you or your family?