

WELCOME TO THE FUTURE -NOW-

[PART 14]

1917: GUINNESS AND THE LIBERATION OF JERUSALEM

Reading: **Jeremiah 1:12**

Introduction

- Bible prophecy is one of the great proofs that the Bible is truly the unvarnished Word of God.
- Centuries old prophecies becoming present day realities in God's perfect timing.
- [Leviticus 26] If Israel chose a path of national disobedience then God would subject them to **'seven times'** chastisement.
- Previously we've seen 7 times = 2520 literal years.
- This would be an age when Gentiles would reign or have authority over Jerusalem.
- Israel chose the path of national disobedience and the **'times of the Gentiles'** began in 604BC.
- Babylonians, Medo-Persians, Greeks, Romans, Saracens and Turks ruled Jerusalem.
- If Bible prophecy was true then we'd expect the **'times of the Gentiles'** to end in 1917.

1 The Role Of Henry Gratten Guinness

- Gratten Guinness was a grandson of Arthur Guinness the founder of Guinness brewery in late 1700 and early 1800's.
- He became a Christian, preacher and evangelist, wanting nothing to do with the family business.
- He loved Bible prophecy and wrote book, **'Light For The Last Days'** in 1886 declaring Jerusalem's liberation in 1917 based on his understanding of **'the seven times.'**
- Gratten died in 1910 without seeing his prediction happen but his book was being read by many.

2 The Crucial Year Of 1917

- The world was at war. Germany with the Turks vs the Allies, France and British empire.
- Jerusalem was under control of Turks who sided with Germany.
- NB. The Communist revolution led by Vladimir Lenin also occurred in 1917.
- In 1917 General Edmund Allenby tasked to take Jerusalem but he wasn't convinced it could happen.
- Another general, Beauvoir de Lisle made Allenby aware of what Gratten Guinness had said in his book about 1917 and Allenby was encouraged.

3 The Liberation Of Jerusalem

- Note the remarkable prophecy in [Isaiah 31:5]. "As birds flying..."
- Isaiah looks down the corridor of time and sees what looks like birds to him, delivering Jerusalem.
- He saw the planes of Royal Air Corps, number 14 bomber squadron.
- They dropped leaflets calling on Turks to surrender and amazingly they did before withdrawing.
- Jerusalem was liberated without a bullet or a bomb being fired right on time.
- The date: 9th December 1917.

4 Trouble - The Turks Re-think

- The Turks changed their minds and returned with their heavy guns and threatened to bomb Jerusalem if the Allies didn't leave.
- Allenby had the air force bomb the Turkish gun positions eliminating the threat.
- God had stood over His Word.
- Sadly, Gratten had died 7 years earlier and didn't get to see it himself.
- But his book had influenced and encouraged the British generals.

5 Lord Arthur Balfour

- In 1903 Balfour was British PM and had read Gratten Guinness' book and was suitably impressed.
- In 1917 Balfour was British foreign secretary under PM David Lloyd George.
- He called for the establishment of a national homeland for Jews.
- The '**Balfour Declaration**' paved the way for the Jews to return to their homeland after centuries.

6 Blessed Is He Who Waits For 1335 Days

- Consider the prophecy of [Daniel 12:12].
- In Turkish Muslim calendar, their calendar has a different starting point to our western calendar.
- On the Turkish Muslim calendar 1335 equated to 1917 on our western calendar.
- Bible prophecy: gloriously accurate and wonderfully dependable.

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