

# Book of Ezekiel: Structure

## ***Chs. 1-24***

- **Pre-586 B.C.**
- **Messages of Judgment**

## **Chs. 25-32**

Oracles Against the Nations

Destruction of Jerusalem

## ***Chs. 34-48***

- **Post-586 B.C.**
- **Messages of Restoration**

Ch. 33

# Book of Ezekiel: Structure

## ***Chs. 1-24***

- **Pre-586 B.C.**
- **Messages of Judgment**

Ezekiel

6:8-10

11:14-21

16:60-63

17:22-24

20:33-44

28:25-26

Statements of  
Restoration

## **Chs. 25-32**

Oracles Against the  
Foreign Nations

Destruction of Jerusalem

Ch. 33

## ***Chs. 34-48***

**Chs. 34-37: Future Hope**

**Chs. 38-39: Prophecy  
against Gog**

**Chs. 40-48: Vision of the  
New Temple**

34:11-16, 23-31: Restoration of the  
Sheep & Shepherd  
ch. 36: Renewal of the Land of Israel  
37:1-14: Vision of the dry Bones  
37:15-28 Sign-Act of the Reunification  
of the 2 Kingdoms

# Ezekiel's Messages

	Pre-586 B.C. Messages of Judgment	586 B.C.	Post-586 B.C. Messages of Restoration
<b><i>Covenant Relationship</i></b>	--had been severed because of the people's going after other gods	Prophecies Fulfilled	--covenant would be renewed with the people
<b><i>Land</i></b>	--people would be exiled from the land & the land would be desolated		--people would return from exile to the land & it would be rejuvenated
<b><i>Davidic Ruler</i></b>	--Davidic king would be taken captive		--a ruler from the line of David would be re-established on the throne
<b><i>2 Kingdoms</i></b>	(N. Kingdom had ended 1 721 B.C..) --S. Kingdom would come to an end		--Re-unification of the 2 Kingdoms (under the Davidic ruler)
<b><i>Jerusalem</i></b>	--city would be destroyed & abandoned		--the city would be rebuilt & re-inhabited
<b><i>Temple</i></b>	--the Glory of God would leave & the Temple would be burned down		--the Temple would be rebuilt & the Glory of God would return

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the LORD was upon me,  
and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD  
and set me in the middle of a valley;





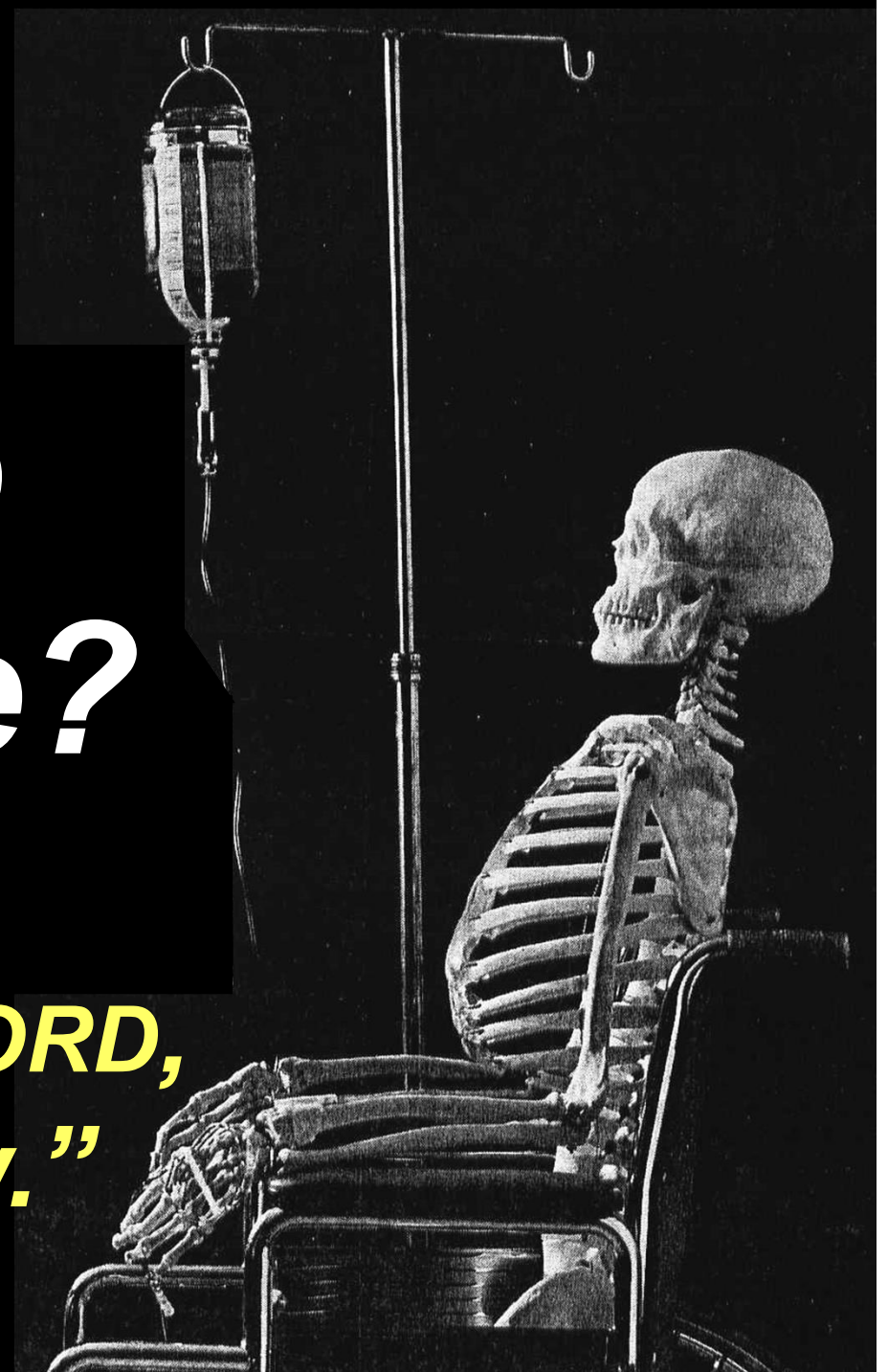
<sup>2</sup> He led me back and forth  
among them,  
and I saw a great many bones  
on the floor of the valley,  
*bones that were very dry.*



<sup>3</sup> He asked me,  
“Son of man,

*Can these  
bones live?*

I said,  
*“O Sovereign LORD,  
you alone know.”*



4-5a Then He said to me,  
“Prophecy to these bones  
and say to them,



*‘Dry bones,  
hear the word  
of the LORD!  
This is what  
the Sovereign  
LORD says  
to these bones:*

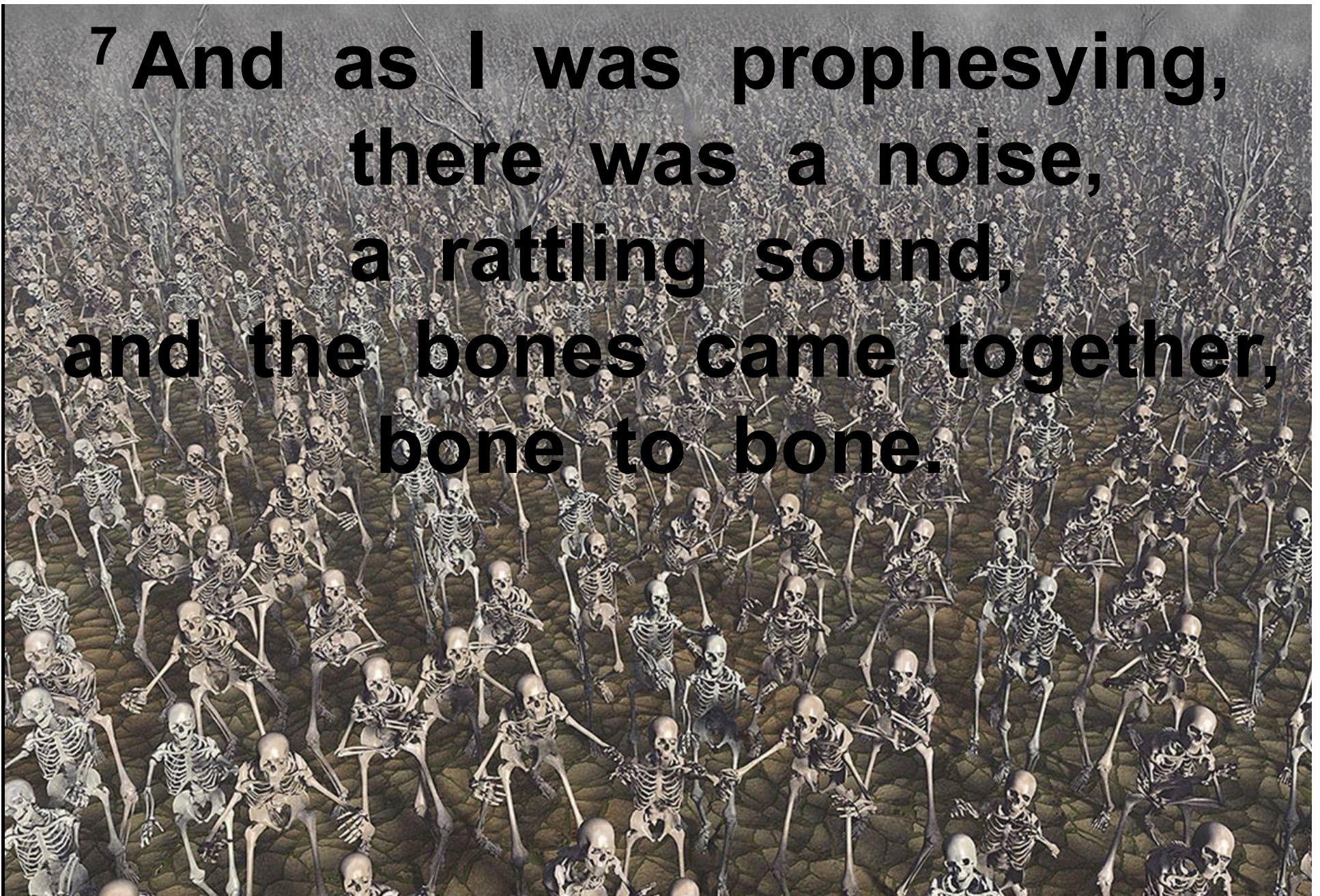
5b-6 “I will make breath enter you,  
and I will attach tendons to you  
and make flesh come upon you  
and cover you with skin;  
I will put breath in you,  
and you will come to life.

Then you will know  
that I am the LORD.”





**<sup>7</sup> And as I was prophesying,  
there was a noise,  
a rattling sound,  
and the bones came together,  
bone to bone.**





**8a And I looked,  
and tendons and flesh  
appeared on them,  
and skin covered them.**



<sup>8b</sup> But there was no breath in them.



<http://cache4.asset-cache.net/gc/154947807-silhouette-of-man-lying-across-sunset-gettyimages.jpg?v=1&c=IWSAsset&k=2&d=QePvWYihFtoPV6JJjn682Q5k9bGamkr%2BtMTsJEa7BLdXnnL8ZNPoubrSqtwpkQb4>



<sup>9</sup> Then He said to me:



“Prophecy  
to the breath ...

*‘This is what  
the Sovereign  
LORD says:  
‘Come from  
the four winds,  
O breath,  
and breathe  
into these slain  
that they may  
live.’”*



<sup>10a</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me,  
and breath entered them;  
they came to life



## Genesis 2:7

And Yahweh God fashioned the human  
(out of) the dust from the ground,  
and he blew into his nostrils (the) breath of life,  
and the human became a living being.”



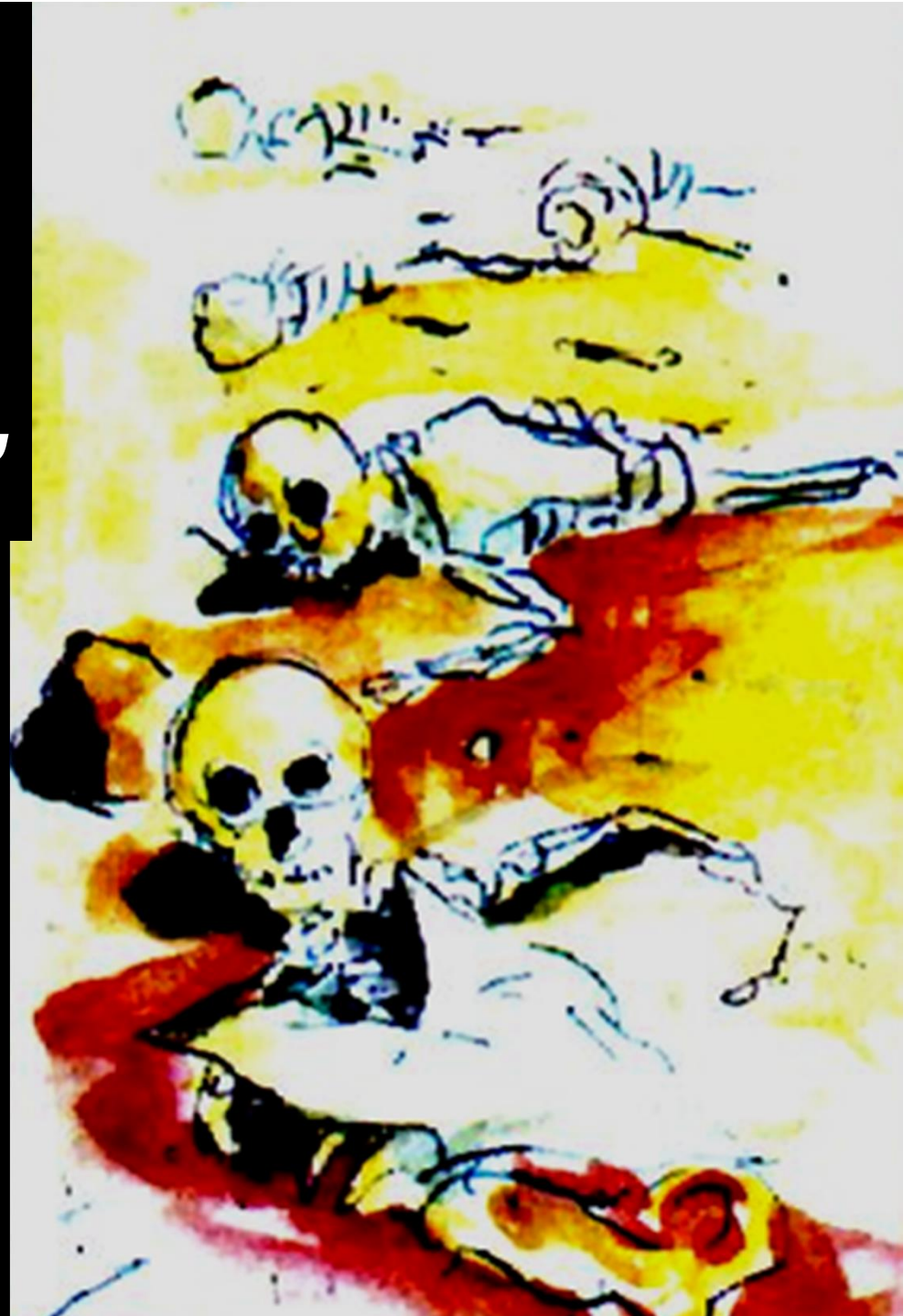


10b and they stood up  
on their feet  
- - a vast army.



**11a Then He said to me:  
“Son of man,  
*These bones  
are the whole  
house of Israel.*”**

***They say,  
“Our bones  
are dried up  
and our hope  
is gone;  
we are cut off.”***





**12-14 This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ...**

***“I am going to open your graves  
and bring you up from them;  
I will bring you back  
to the land of Israel.  
Then you, my people, will know  
that I am the LORD  
when I open your graves,  
and bring you up from them.  
I will put my Spirit in you  
and you will live,  
and I will settle you  
in your own land.  
Then you will know  
that I the LORD have spoken,  
and I have done it.”***



# **Ezekiel 37:15-28** (Translation: KGF)

*Genre: Report of a Sign-Act*

## Divine Command to Perform Action

15 And the word of Yahweh (came) to me, saying:

16 "And you, Human,  
take a single piece of wood,  
and write on it:  
    '(Belonging) to Judah  
    and to the sons of Israel,  
    his companions.'

And take a single piece of wood,  
and write on it:

    '(Belonging) to Joseph',  
        the wood of Ephraim,  
    'and (to) all the house of Israel,  
        his companions.'

17 And bring them together,  
one to the (other) one,  
into a single piece of wood;  
and they shall be a unity in your hand.



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/galut5/3394048377/>



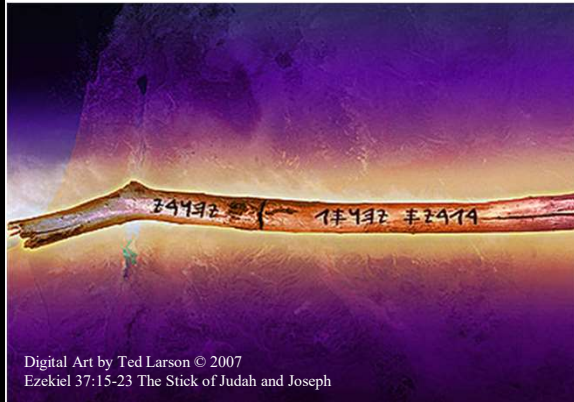
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/galut5/3395480799/in/photostream/>

# **Ezekiel 37:15-28** (Translation: KGF)

*Genre: Report of a Sign-Act*

Divine Command to Perform Action	Interpretation
<p>15 And the word of Yahweh (came) to me, saying:</p> <p>16 "And you, Human, take a single piece of wood, and write on it:     '(Belonging) to Judah     and to the sons of Israel,     his companions.' And take a single piece of wood, and write on it:     '(Belonging) to Joseph',     the wood of Ephraim,     'and (to) all the house of Israel,     his companions.' 17 And bring them together, one to the (other) one, into a single piece of wood; and they shall be a unity in your hand.</p>	<p>18 And when the sons of your people say to you, saying:     'Will you not tell us     what you (mean by) these things?'</p> <p>19 Say to them:     'Thus says the Lord Yahweh:     Behold I am taking the wood of Joseph,      which is in the hand of Ephraim,     and the tribes of Israel,     his companions,     and I will place them upon it,     (on) the wood of Judah,      and I will make them     into a single piece of wood,     and they shall be one in my hand.'</p>

20 And the pieces of wood  
upon which you will write  
shall be in your hand  
in their sight.



21 And say to them: `Thus says the Lord Yahweh:  
Behold I am taking the sons of Israel  
from among the nations where they have gone,  
and I will gather them from round about,  
and I will bring them to their land.  
22 And I will make them into a single nation in the land,  
on the hills of Israel.  
And a single king shall be king for all of them.  
And they shall no longer be two nations,  
and they shall no longer be divided into two kingdoms <>.  
23 And they shall no longer defile themselves with their idols,  
or with their detestable things,  
or with all their transgressions.  
But I will deliver them from all their <apostasies>  
with which they have sinned,  
and I will cleanse them.  
Then they will be my people,  
and I, I will be their God.  
24 And my servant, David, (will be) king over them,  
and he will be a single shepherd for all of them.  
And in my judgments they will walk,  
and my commandments they will keep,  
and they will do them.



25 And they will dwell in the land  
which I have given to my servant, to Jacob,  
in which your fathers dwelt.  
And they, and their children, and their grandchildren  
will dwell in it forever.  
And David, my servant, (will be) their ruler forever.  
26 And I will make a covenant of peace with them;  
it will be an everlasting covenant with them.  
And I will place them,  
and I will increase them,  
and I will place my sanctuary in their midst forever.  
27 And my dwelling place will be with them.  
And I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.  
28 And the nations will know that I am Yahweh,  
the one who sanctifies Israel,  
when my sanctuary is in their midst forever."

# To What Historical Events are these “Restoration Prophecies” referring?

## ***1) the 538 B.C. Return from Exile***

- **Covenant:**

Fact of the return indicates God’s “re-newing” the Covenant

- **Land:**

Return & Re-settlement of the Land

- **Temple:**

Rebuilt (rededicated in 516 B.C..)

- **Jerusalem:**

re-settled (538 B.C.) & rebuilt

- **Davidic Ruler:**

For a time, had a ruler from the line of David (Zerubbabel)

- **Re-Unification of Kingdoms:**

Peoples from all 12 Tribes are listed in the Return

# To What Historical Events are these “Restoration Prophecies” referring?

## 2) Jesus' 1<sup>st</sup> Coming & the establishing of the “Church” (Fulfilled in a “Spiritual” Manner)

- **Covenant** = “New” Covenant
- **Land** = Kingdom of God
- **Temple** = Body of Christ
- **Jerusalem** = City of God
- **Davidic Ruler** (Messiah) = Jesus
- **Re-Unification of Kingdoms** = Kingdom of God  
is composed of all peoples

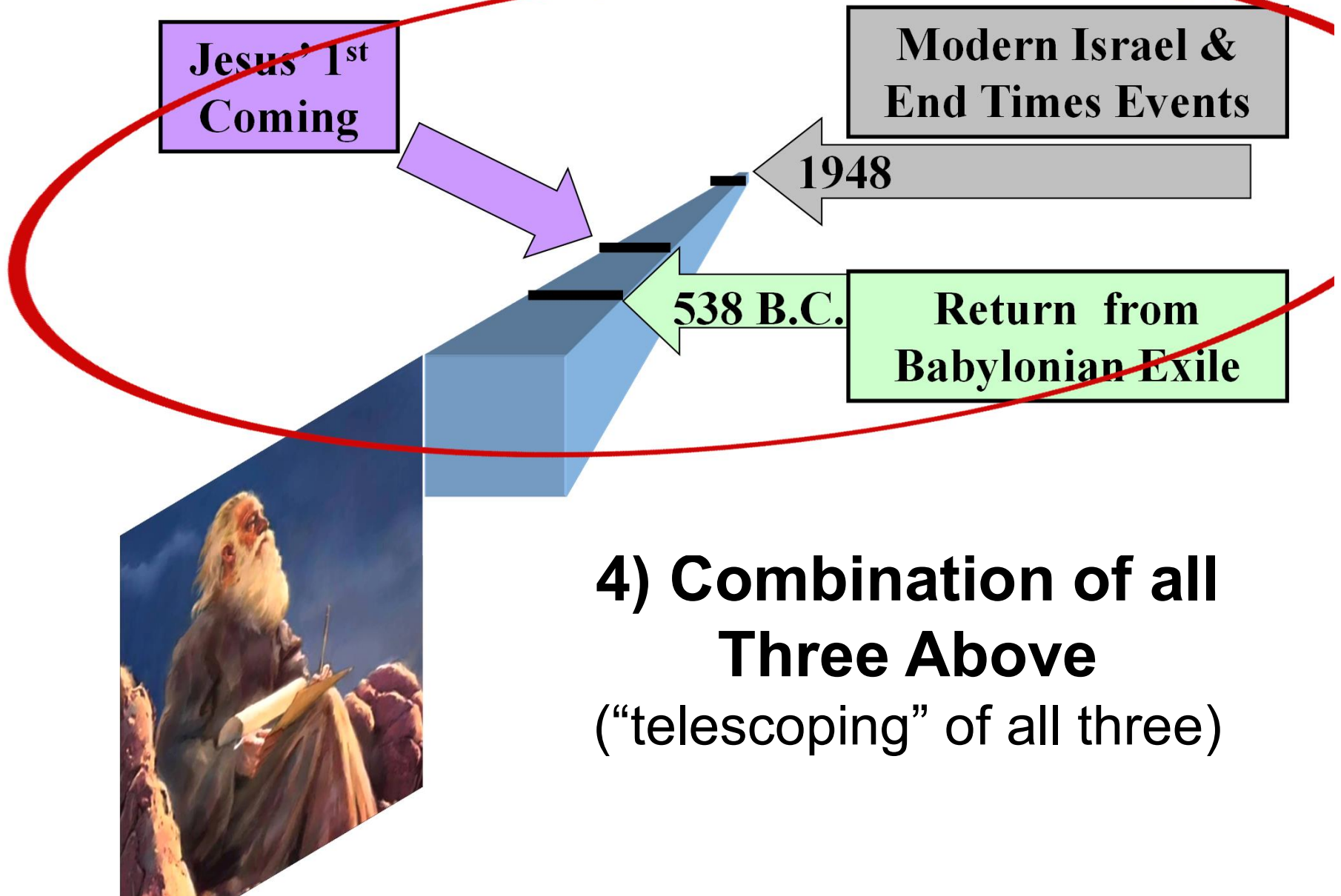
# To What Historical Events are these “Restoration Prophecies” referring?

## 3) the “End Times”

- Covenant:  
Dual Covenant Concept
- Land:  
Return to Land of Israel by Jewish people &  
Establishing of Nation of Israel (1948)
- Temple:  
Physical End-Times Temple yet to be Built
- Jerusalem:  
1967 Reunification of Jerusalem under the Israelis
- Davidic Ruler:  
Jesus (Earthly rule is projected into the Millennium)
- Re-Unification of Kingdoms:  
Territorial Occupation of Land area of both previous Kingdoms



# To What Historical Events are these “Restoration Prophecies” referring?



# Interpreting the “Fulfillment” of OT Prophecy

## **1) How does the inaugurating of the New Covenant in Jesus relate to the OT Covenants?**

--How many covenants are functioning since the 1<sup>st</sup> Coming of Jesus?

Single Covenant → Church

Dual Covenant → Church & → Jewish people

## **2) What type of fulfillment will occur?**

Singular (at one point in history)

Composite (“telescoping” / Interwovenly describes several events)

Multiple (Speaks of several distinct events)

Not Predicted, but Theologically Analogous

## **3) Must Prophecies be fulfilled on in a Physical manner, or can they be fulfilled in a Spiritual Manner**

(for which the “physical” description is metaphoric / symbolic)?

## **4) How does the New Testament speak about those Prophecies?**

e.g., Does the NT speak about a “physical” fulfillment to the Jewish people of those prophecies?

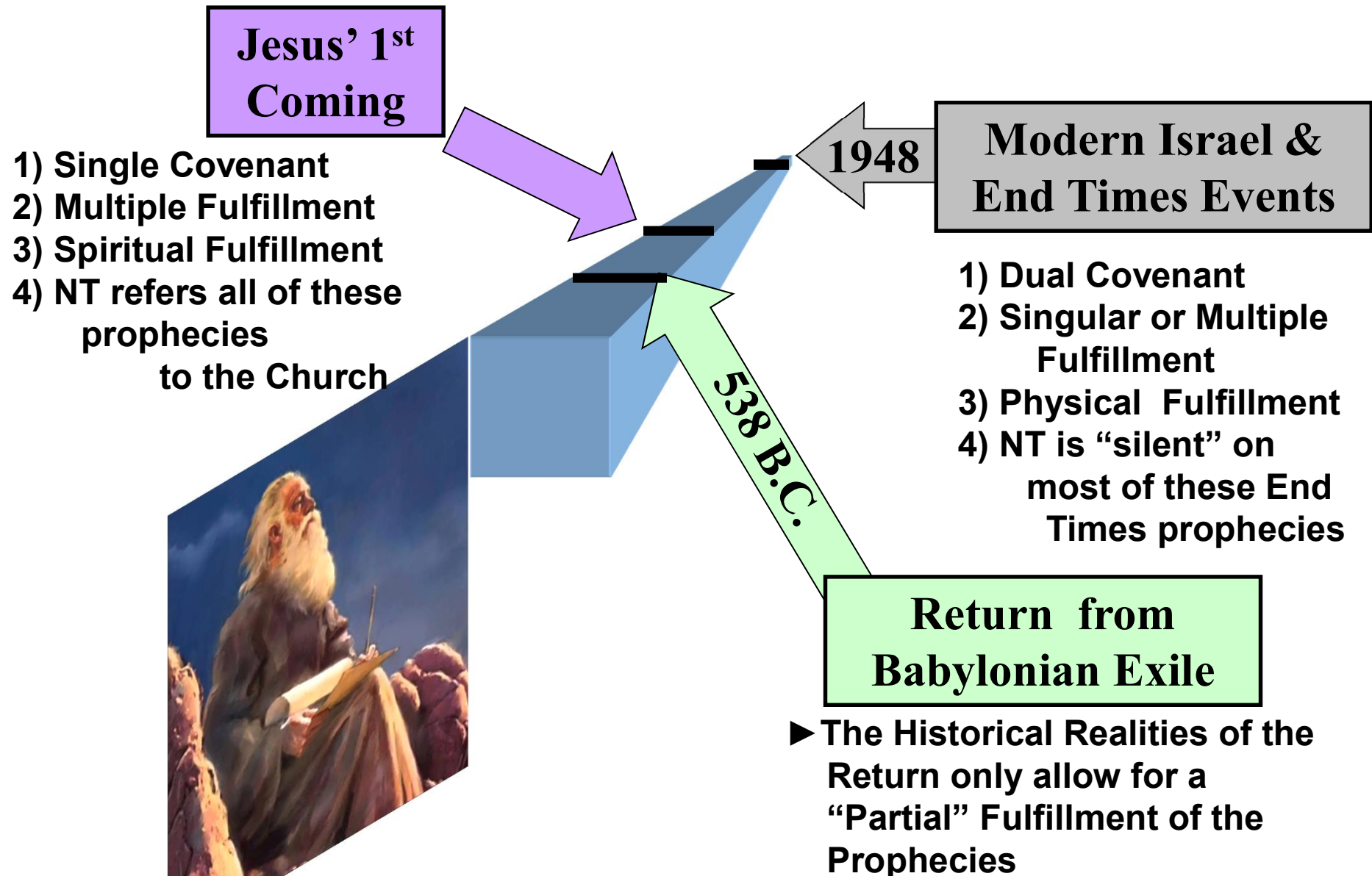
Is the physical “land” of theological importance in the NT?

Is the physical “Temple” of theological importance in the NT?

Which is more important in the NT, the Body of Christ

or the ethnic Jewish people as a nation?

# To What Historical Events are these “Restoration Prophecies” referring?



# Interpreting OT Prophecy

1) How does the inaugurating of the New Covenant in Jesus relate to the OT Covenants?

--How many covenants are functioning since the 1<sup>st</sup> Coming of Jesus?

***TO WHOM***

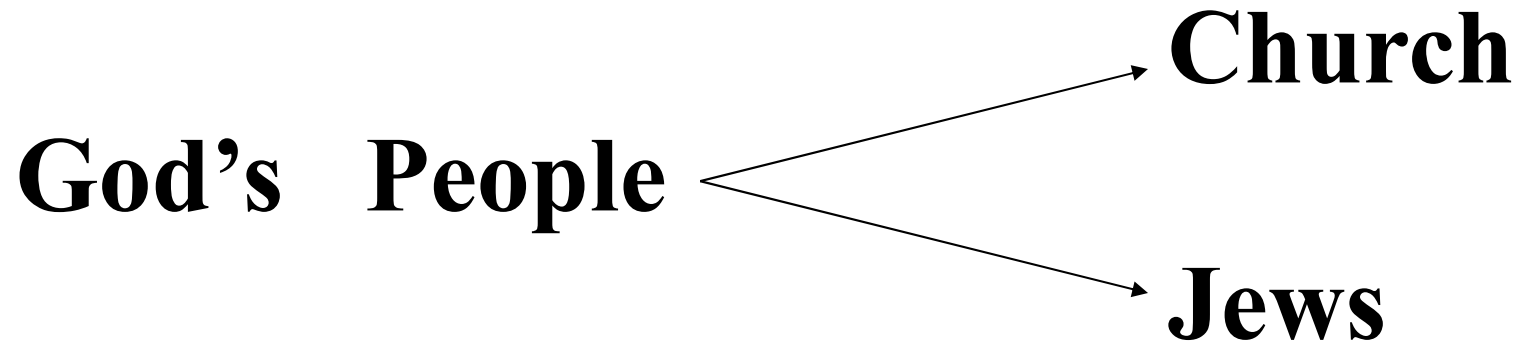
**does the Prophecy *Apply*?**

***→ the church***

***→ or modern day Israel***



# ***Dual Covenant Perspective***



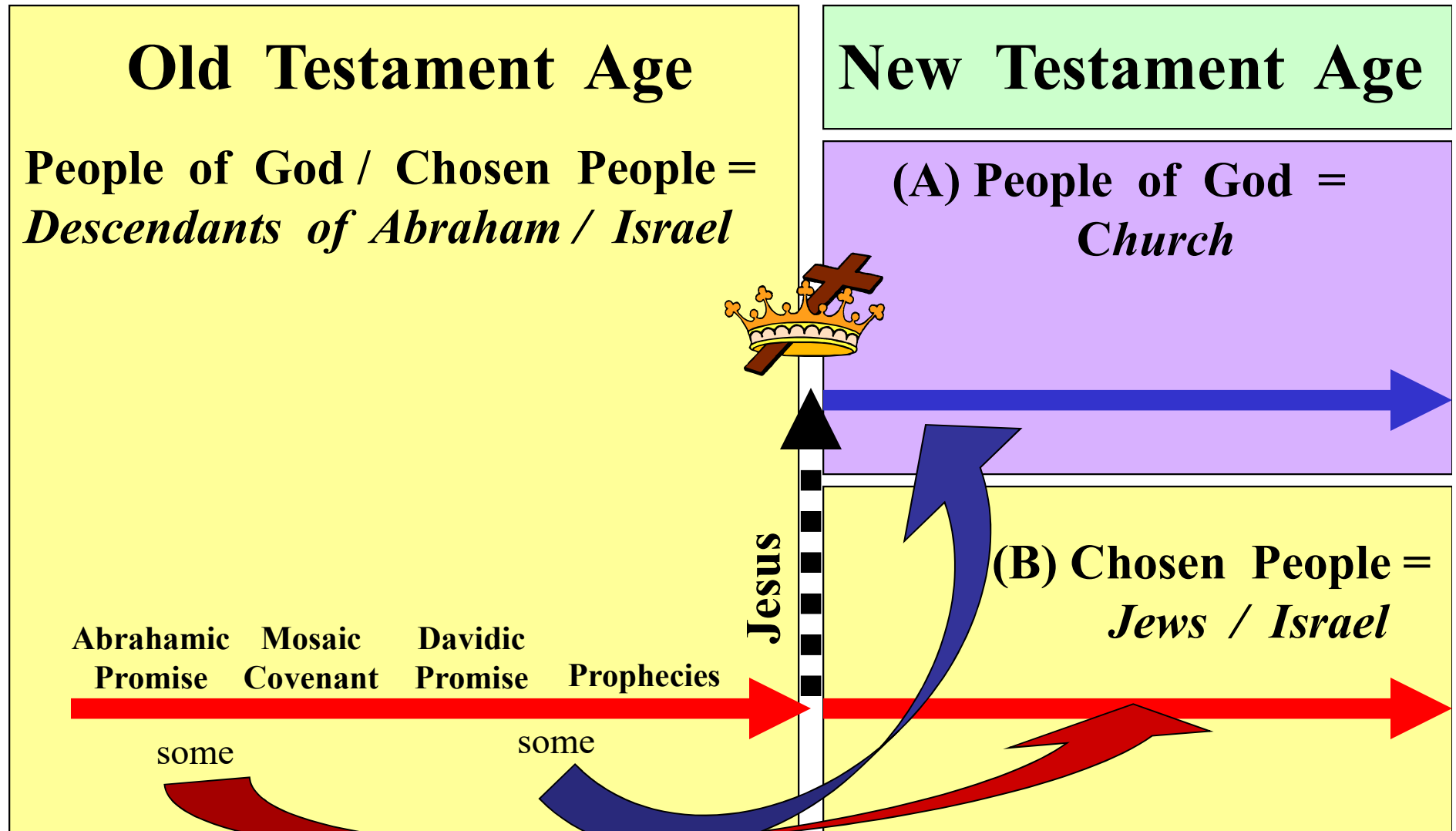
***TO WHOM***  
**does the Prophecy *Apply*?**

## **Single Covenant Perspective**

**God's People → Church**

# *Dual Covenant Perspective*

**God's People = (1) Church & (2) Jews**



## **Abrahamic Promise:**

**>> Literal Descendants of Abraham**

**>> Land: Current “Divine Right” to it**

## **Temple:**

**(e.g., Ezekiel chs. 40-48)**

**>> Physical Temple will be Rebuilt  
in Jerusalem**

## **Prophecies Restoration to the Land:**

**(e.g., Ezekiel chs. 34-39)**

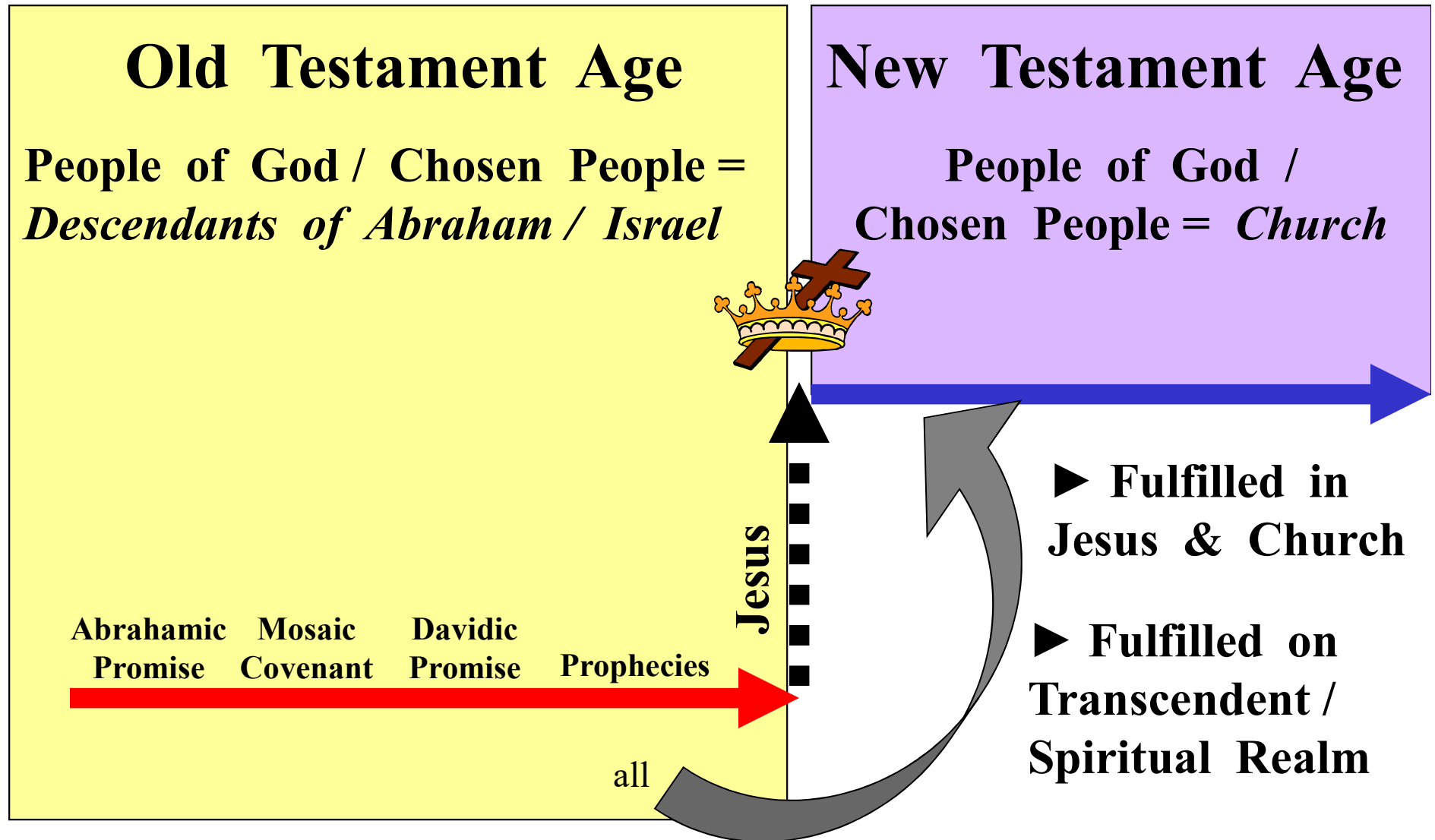
**>> 1948**



**Israel**

# Single Covenant Perspective

**God's People = Church**



† **Abrahamic Promise = Church:**  
**Spiritual Descendants**  
**Land = Spiritual Kingdom of God /**  
**Heaven**

† **Mosaic Covenant = Fulfilled in**  
***New Covenant***

**Hebrews 8** (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> By calling this covenant “new,” he has made the first one obsolete;  
and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.

† **Davidic Ruler = Jesus**  
**who sits on his heavenly throne &**  
**rules over Kingdom of God**

† **Temple = Believers & Corporate Church**