

Israel in the Land as an Eschatological Necessity?

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Study Questions

1. What does it mean to say that the argument in this chapter is an indirect argument, not a direct one?
2. Do any of the passages discussed in this chapter (Dan. 9:24-27; Zech. 12, and Isa. 19:18-25) predict that Israel will some day return to the land of Palestine as a distinct Jewish nation with control over its political, military, and religious affairs? If so, which verses explicitly say that? If not, why are these passages at all relevant to the topic of this book?
3. In Daniel 9:26-27 who is "the prince who will come" and what is his relation to "the people of the prince" in verse 26?
4. According to Daniel 9:27, what will the prince do that will outrage and afflict the people of Israel and when will he do these things?
5. Why must Israel be a national, political entity in the land in order for Daniel 9:27 to be fulfilled?
6. What events does Zechariah 12 predict, and when will they most likely be fulfilled?
7. Why couldn't the events of Zechariah 12 still happen if there is no nation of Israel, but only Jews living in various countries around the world?
8. What does Jesus say in the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24-25) that confirms that Daniel 9:27 and Zechariah 12:10 are in fact going to be fulfilled? Similarly, does what Paul says in Romans 11:25-27 confirm either of these OT prophecies, and if so, how does it do that?
9. What nations are the subject of the prophecy in Isaiah 19:18-25, and how do we know that this prophecy has not already been fulfilled?
10. What changes will happen to the nations mentioned in Isaiah 19:18-25, and when will these predictions most likely be fulfilled?
11. Why can't Isaiah 19:18-25 be fulfilled if there is no Jewish nation of Israel and Jews are merely living in nations scattered around the world?