



# Heartache & Hope in the Holy Land

July 2018

*An Amazing Fact: Israel is the only nation in history that has been dispossessed three times and yet survived as a distinct people and nation. Over a timespan of four thousand years, the Egyptians, Babylonians, and the Romans overran and scattered her people, yet today, Israel remains one of the most dynamic, prosperous, and free nations on earth. Is this coincidence or prophecy? Sadly, most Israelis today still do not realize that Jesus is the Messiah, the central figure of their prophecies.*



Dear friend,

I must tell you—it's a strange mix of hope and heartbreak to stand near the birthplace of the Messiah, to walk streets that virtually ooze with biblical history, and to know that the vast majority of souls, Jews and Muslims, in the Holy Land are clueless about Jesus. They simply don't know that He came to deliver them from an enemy far greater than Egypt, Babylon, and Rome combined.

That's why I want to thank you for opening the door for Amazing Facts to share the everlasting gospel in Israel. The Lord hasn't given up on our Jewish and Arabic friends in the Holy Land—in fact, we are reaching some of them even now!

## Historic Timing

It was certainly a historic time to be in the Middle East. This year marks Israel's 70th anniversary as a nation, and the United States just became the first major power to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. This move sparked deadly Arab protests and drew loud rebukes from many world leaders, including Pope Francis.

While we never felt we were in immediate danger, the Amazing Facts team could clearly see robust armed security everywhere and hear fighter jets booming overhead. Signs repeatedly warned us there were places we shouldn't go, and our guides even told us not to take pictures in sensitive security areas.

It's stunning to me that the faithless act of Abraham's hasty marriage to Hagar roughly four thousand years ago is still bearing bitter fruit today.

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## Flashpoint of Prophecy

Israel has been a focal point of God's prophetic fulfillment for ages. For instance, our Jewish tour guide directed our attention to a massive pile of stones by the old temple, explaining how these very rocks were tossed down by the Romans in AD 70, unwittingly fulfilling the prophecy Jesus made in AD 30: "I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down" (Matthew 24:2).

We also saw the location of the golden gate, the one Jesus passed through during His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Today it is walled up, fulfilling the promise of Ezekiel 44:2: "This gate shall be shut ... because the LORD God of Israel has entered by it." Amen!

It was exhilarating to stand in so many places where Bible prophecy became historical fact—and to be reminded that every word of prophecy in Scripture will come to pass. Soon and very soon, a powerful religious confederacy will rise up and enforce false worship, persecuting the saints because they keep God's commandments and have the Spirit of Prophecy—just as Revelation foretells.

And it is our solemn and awesome responsibility as God's people to share these truths with everyone. I know you agree that we have no time to waste!

## The Devil's Deceptive Doctrines

But as natural disasters (volcanoes, floods, earthquakes) and wars and rumors of war (Syria, Iran, Israel) mount up, Satan has twisted people's understanding of last-day prophecy. The devil's deceptive doctrines about a "secret rapture" and the rebuilding of a third temple are blinding people to the truth right before their eyes. Prominent Evangelical leaders have proclaimed that the opening of the new U.S. embassy is evidence for the approaching secret rapture and a third temple, where they say the antichrist will eventually be enthroned, fulfilling 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4:

*"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, ... who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."*

Little do they realize, the man of sin has already taken his place on the throne of God's temple, His church, claiming to be God! And once more, Protestant denominations are eagerly reaching across the gulf to unite with the him.

The pope recently called for prayers to Mary, the "Queen of Peace," for the unity of the church and for peace in the Middle East—and spiritualism is still rising among North American Christians. Who will warn deceived souls of these dangers?

## The Rampart of Truth!

Because of your support, Amazing Facts has been proactive in sharing the truth about prophecy in Israel and the rest of the Middle East for years on networks like Daystar, TBN, and Middle East Television.

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And the evidence that you're making a difference was easy to see as I walked the streets of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and beyond. Locals and tourists from around the globe boldly walked up to thank me for the ministry you're making possible every month.

For instance, I was stopped by a Baptist preacher from Chicago who said, "I need to thank you for your ministry. I was lost and out in the world, then I began watching your programs. You brought me to the Lord." Providential encounters like this happened at least a dozen times—even though I wore a baseball cap and sunglasses most of the time!



One precious soul named Philomena came up to tell me that she was baptized as a result of watching our programming in Israel. Overflowing with joy, she slipped me a donation for continued ministry.

The Lord also opened the door for me to preach twice in Jerusalem, plus record a powerful live message for national television!

One mission dear to my heart is to reach fellow Jews with the gospel. Thank you for providing the funds to meet this need. It was soul-wrenching to see so many Orthodox Jews praying at the Wailing Wall for the coming of the Messiah—yet profound to know that because of you, Amazing Facts is sharing that He has already come and liberated them from the captivity of sin!

While our new *Final Events of Bible Prophecy* sharing magazine was just released and our new *Kingdoms in Time* prophecy documentary is expected to be ready in August, we have more work to do, friend—and the time to do it is shorter than it has ever been.

## No Time to Delay!

As last-day prophecies explode off the pages of the Bible and into the headlines, it is vital for you and Amazing Facts to present a true picture so that everyone has an opportunity to embrace Jesus. Because of your love for souls, powerful prophecy programs are being aired on secular and religious stations around the world.



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Yet it will cost \$900,000 to keep these lifesaving messages going out strong every week this quarter, not only in America, but also in the Holy Land and beyond. Will you please ask God today what He wants to do through you this month to ensure more people can discover these essential truths and experience salvation? A gift of \$25 will help 163 souls like Philomena know Christ; \$250 can liberate 1,627 people hungering for meaningful answers. No gift is too small when cheerfully given to redeem souls for His kingdom!

Your gift of \$50, \$25, \$100, or more today will help get God's final warning message into more homes in the coming months. People are anxious in light of today's earthshaking events, and you and I can bring them the only peace that lasts. Please don't delay—your help is urgently needed.

When you send your gift this month, I want to arm you with an eye-opening presentation—the *Is Jesus Kosher for Jews?* DVD, with my friends and fellow Jews Steve Wohlberg and Jeff Zaremsky. Not only will it strengthen your faith, it could be a key to reaching someone you love for Jesus.

And don't forget to let me know your prayer request on the back of the enclosed reply card when you return your gift. It's my joy to pray for you as you pray that the Lord strengthen Amazing Facts for such a time as this.

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Doug Batchelor  
President, Amazing Facts

P.S. Being in Israel and sharing Jesus with Jewish and Arabic believers was a highlight of my life, but it was bittersweet knowing that so many souls are still mired in deceptions. I'm so grateful you opened the door to reach dear souls like Philomena, but please keep standing with me and grab hold of this opportunity to make a lasting difference in even more lives. Thank you in advance for your gift this month!



*One of the highlights of our Israel trip was for Pastor Ross and me to baptize 30 people in the Jordan River!*

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