

The Melting Point of Gold and Israel's Day of Purification

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2018 MARKS two key anniversaries related to the Land of Israel:

- It has been 1,948 years since the Jews' expulsion from the Land in 70AD.
- It has been 70 years since the Jews' homecoming to the Land in 1948.

Expressed as an equation:

$$70 \text{ AD} + 1,948 \text{ years} = 2018$$

$$1948 \text{ AD} + 70 \text{ years} = 2018$$

The above equations (date + timespan = 2018) are noteworthy not only because of the mirror symmetry but also the connotation of the numbers 70 and 1948 in Scripture.

SEVENTY

In the Bible, the number 70 denotes redemption or an endpoint for Israel:

- The Jews were redeemed from captivity in Babylon in the 70th year (Jer. 29:10).
- God's plan of redemption for Israel is comprised of 70 weeks (Dan. 9:24-27).
- There are 70 jubilees from the redemption of the Hebrew nation at the Exodus to the calculated 6,000th year from Creation.
- A typical human lifespan is 70 years (Ps. 90:10). Correspondingly, Israel's greatest ruler, King David, died at the age of 70 (2 Sam. 5:4).

In addition to signifying redemption or an endpoint for God's people, the number 70 denotes *judgment* for those who do not know the Lord:

- Babylon was judged in the 70th year (Jer. 25:12).
- There are 70 jubilees from Egypt's judgment at the Exodus to the calculated 6,000th year from Creation.

And so, biblically, the number 70 signifies *redemption, an endpoint, and judgment*.

1948

In Scripture, the number 1948 is linked to the birth and rebirth of Israel:

- Abraham, the father of the Nation of Israel, was born 1,948 years from Creation.
- The 19th book and 48th chapter in the Bible (Psalm 48) describe the re-birth of Israel.*
- The numbers 19 and 48 add up to 67, which happens to be the year Israel's capital, Jerusalem, was restored.
- Bible scholars note that Israel's 1948 return to the Land is numerically/mathematically predicted in the Old Testament.**

One of the most fascinating links between the number 1948 and Israel is that gold is heated to exactly 1,948 degrees Fahrenheit during the refining process. That gold melts at 1,948 degrees is relevant to Israel because Scripture compares their deliverance during the Tribulation, i.e. Jacob's trouble, to the refining and purification process of precious metal:

"And I will bring the third part [of Israel] through the fire. I will refine them like silver and purify them like gold. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God'" (Zech. 13:9).

Israel's longest period of trial began when they were expelled from the Land of Israel in 70 AD. The Lord miraculously restored them to the Land in 1948—70 years ago, May 14. If the generation who witnessed the "leafing of the fig tree" is a typical one, spanning 70 years, Israel is about to enter into her final and most terrible period of purification.

"When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

NOTES:

* Rebirth of Israel in Psalm 48: http://www.provesgod.org/history_rebirth.htm

** 1948 rebirth of Israel mathematically predicted in Scripture: <http://www.wnd.com/2012/06/author-bible-predicted-date-of-israels-return/>