

ALIYAH IN THE BIBLE

The Return of the Jewish people to Israel – foretold many times in the Bible

“Words have power.” You’ve probably heard the expression before, but words really are more than just a series of letters. They can trigger feelings of enthusiasm, passion, hope, love, trust and confidence. Words can empower and comfort. But they can also generate insecurity, paralyze, injure or even destroy. Words have power, and there is power in their proclamation, in bearing witness to their message. To proclaim means to call out something. The Hebrew word קָרָא (qera), “to call, read out aloud” makes this clear.

We warmly invite you to speak God’s word out loud with faith – to call forth the return of the Jewish people to Israel.

God’s promise to the first person who made Aliyah: Abram / Abraham

Genesis 12:1–3

Now ADONAI said to Avram, “Get yourself out of your country, away from your kinsmen and away from your father’s house, and go to the land that I will show you. ***I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you, and I will make your name great; and you are to be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, but I will curse anyone who curses you; and by you all the families of the earth will be blessed.***”

Genesis 12:6–7

Avram passed through the land to the place called Sh’khem, to the oak of Moreh. The Kena’ani were then in the land. ADONAI appeared to Avram and said, ***“To your descendants I will give this land.”*** So he built an altar there to ADONAI, who had appeared to him.

Genesis 13:14–16

ADONAI said to Avram, after Lot had moved away from him, ***“Look all around you from where you are, to the north, the south, the east and the west. All the land you see I will give to you and your descendants forever, and I will make your descendants as numerous as the specks of dust on the earth — so that if a person can count the specks of dust on the earth, then your descendants can be counted.”***

God's promise to the next generation that they would return: Jacob

Genesis 28:13–15

I am ADONAI, the God of Avraham your [grand]father and the God of Yitz'chak. The land on which you are lying I will give to you and to your descendants. Your descendants will be as numerous as the grains of dust on the earth. You will expand to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. By you and your descendants all the families of the earth will be blessed. Look, I am with you. I will guard you wherever you go, and I **will bring you back into this land**, because I won't leave you until I have done what I have promised you.

God's covenant with Israel

Exodus 2:24

God heard their groaning, and **God remembered his covenant with Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov.**

Exodus 12:24–25

You are to observe this as a law, you and your descendants forever. **"When you come to the land which ADONAI will give you, as he has promised, you are to observe this ceremony."**

Promises regarding the restoration of Israel

Leviticus 26:42

Then I will remember my covenant with Ya'akov, also my covenant with Yitz'chak and my covenant with Avraham; and **I will remember the land.**

Deuteronomy 11:18–21

Therefore, you are to store up these words of mine in your heart and in all your being; tie them on your hand as a sign; put them at the front of a headband around your forehead; teach them carefully to your children, talking about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up; and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates — so that you and your children will live long on the land **ADONAI swore to your ancestors...**

1 Chronicles 28:8

Now therefore, in the sight of all Isra'el, the community of ADONAI, and in the hearing of our God, observe and seek out all the mitzvot of ADONAI your God, so that **you may continue to possess this good land and leave it as an inheritance to your descendants after you forever.**

Nehemiah 1:8-9

Remember, please, the word you gave through your servant Moshe, 'If you break faith, I will scatter you among the peoples; but if you return to me, observe my mitzvot and obey them, then, even if your scattered ones are in the most distant part of heaven, nevertheless, **I will collect them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen for bearing my name.'**

Psalms 53:7

If only salvation for Isra'el would come out of Tziyon! ***When God restores his people's fortunes, what joy for Ya'akov! what gladness for Isra'el!***

Psalms 147:2–3

ADONAI is rebuilding Yerushalayim, ***gathering the dispersed of Isra'el***. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Isaiah 11:11–12

On that day ADONAI will raise his hand again, a second time, to reclaim the remnant of his people who remain from Ashur, Egypt, Patros, Ethiopia, 'Eilam, Shin'ar, Hamat and the islands in the sea. ***He will hoist a banner for the Goyim, assemble the dispersed of Isra'el, and gather the scattered of Y'hudah from the four corners of the earth.***

Isaiah 41:8–10

But you, Isra'el, my servant; Ya'akov, whom I have chosen, descendants of Avraham my friend, ***I have taken you from the ends of the earth***, summoned you from its most distant parts and said to you, 'You are my servant' — I have chosen you, not rejected you. Don't be afraid, for I am with you; don't be distressed, for I am your God. I give you strength, I give you help, I support you with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 60:4–5

Raise your eyes and look around: ***they are all assembling*** and coming to you; ***your sons are coming*** from far off, ***your daughters being carried*** on their nurses' hips. Then you will see and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with delight; for the riches of the seas will be brought to you, the wealth of nations will come to you.

Jeremiah 3:17–18

When that time comes, they will call ***Yerushalayim*** the throne of ADONAI. All the nations will be gathered there to the name of ADONAI, to Yerushalayim. No longer will they live according to their stubbornly evil hearts. In those days, the house of Y'hudah will live together with the house of Isra'el; they will come together from the lands in the north to the land I gave ***your ancestors as their heritage***.

Jeremiah 16:14–15

"'Therefore', says ADONAI, 'the day will come when people will no longer swear, "As ADONAI lives, who brought the people of Isra'el out of the land of Egypt," but, "***As ADONAI lives, who brought the people of Isra'el out of the land to the north and out of all the countries where he drove them***"; for I will bring them back to their own land, which I gave to their ancestors.' "

Jeremiah 23:3

I myself will gather what remains of my flock **from all the countries where I have driven them** and bring them back to their homes, and they will be fruitful and increase their numbers.

Jeremiah 24:6–7

I will look after them for their good, **I will bring them back to this land**; I will build them up and not tear them down, plant them and not pull them up. I will give them a heart to know me that I am ADONAI. They will be my people, and I will be their God; for they will return to me with all their heart.

Jeremiah 31:15–16

This is what ADONAI says: “Stop your weeping, and dry your eyes, for your work will be rewarded,” says ADONAI. **“They will return from the enemy’s land**; so there is hope for your future,” says ADONAI. **“Your children will return to their own territory.”**

Jeremiah 31:20

Set up road signs, erect guideposts, pay attention to the highway, the path on which you traveled. Come back, virgin Isra’el, come back to these cities of yours!

Jeremiah 31:34–35

This is what ADONAI says, who gives the sun as light for the day, who ordained the laws for the moon and stars to provide light for the night, who stirs up the sea until its waves roar — ADONAI-Tzva’ot is his name: **“If these laws leave my presence,”** says ADONAI, **“then the offspring of Isra’el will stop** being a nation in my presence forever.”

Jeremiah 32:41–42

I will take joy in them, so as to do them good. I will plant them in this land truly, with my whole heart and being. For here is what ADONAI says: “Just as I have brought this complete disaster on this people, so likewise I will bring on them all the good I have promised them.”

Jeremiah 50:4–5

“In those days, at that time,” says ADONAI, “the people of Isra’el will come, together with the people of Y’hudah. They will weep as they go their way, seeking ADONAI their God. They will ask the way to Tziyon; and, turning their faces toward it, will say, ‘Come, join yourselves to ADONAI by **an everlasting covenant never to be forgotten.**’”

Ezekiel 20:34

I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you were scattered, with a mighty hand, with a stretched-out arm and with poured-out fury.

Ezekiel 28:25–26

Adonai ELOHIM says, ***“Once I have gathered the house of Isra’el from the peoples among whom they are scattered, once I have shown my holiness in them as the Goyim watch, then they will live in their own land, which I gave to my servant Ya’akov.*** They will have security when they live there, building houses and planting vineyards; yes, they will live in safety, once I have executed judgments against all their contemptuous neighbors. Then they will know that I am ADONAI their God.”

Ezekiel 36:22–28

Therefore tell the house of Isra’el that Adonai ELOHIM says this: ‘I am not going to do this for your sake, house of Isra’el, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have been profaning among the nations where you went. I will set apart my great name to be regarded as holy, since it has been profaned in the nations — you profaned it among them. The nations will know that I am ADONAI,’ says Adonai ELOHIM, ‘when, before their eyes, I am set apart through you to be regarded as holy. For ***I will take you from among the nations, gather you from all the countries, and return you to your own soil.*** Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your uncleanness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit inside you; I will take the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my Spirit inside you and cause you to live by my laws, respect my rulings and obey them. ***You will live in the land I gave to your ancestors. You will be my people, and I will be your God.***’

Ezekiel 37:1–14

With the hand of ADONAI upon me, ADONAI carried me out by his Spirit and set me down in the middle of the valley, and it was full of bones. He had me pass by all around them — there were so many bones lying in the valley, and they were so dry! He asked me, “Human being, can these bones live?” I answered, “Adonai ELOHIM! Only you know that!” Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones! Say to them, ‘Dry bones! Hear what ADONAI has to say! To these bones ADONAI says, “I will make breath enter you, and you will live. I will attach ligaments to you, make flesh grow on you, cover you with skin and put breath in you. You will live, and you will know that I am ADONAI.”’” So I prophesied as ordered; and while I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound; it was the bones coming together, each bone in its proper place. As I watched, ligaments grew on them, flesh appeared and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. Next he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath! Prophesy, human being! Say to the breath that Adonai ELOHIM says, ‘Come from the four winds, breath; and breathe on these slain, so that they can live.’” So I prophesied as ordered, and the breath came into them, and they were alive! They stood up on their feet, a huge army! Then he said to me, “Human being! ***These bones are the whole house of Isra’el;*** and they are saying, ‘Our bones have dried up, our hope is gone, and we are completely cut off.’ Therefore prophesy; say to them that Adonai ELOHIM says, ‘My people! I will open your graves and make you get up out of your graves, and ***I will bring you into the land of Isra’el.*** Then you will know that I am ADONAI — when I have opened your graves and made you get up out of your graves, my people! I will put my Spirit in you; and you will be alive. Then I will place you in your own land; and you will know that I, ADONAI, have spoken, and that I have done it,’ says ADONAI.”

Ezekiel 37:21,25

Then say to them that Adonai ELOHIM says: ***'I will take the people of Isra'el from among the nations where they have gone and gather them from every side and bring them back to their own land.***

They will live in the land I gave to Ya'akov my servant, where your ancestors lived; ***they will live there — they, their children, and their grandchildren,*** forever; and David my servant will be their leader forever.'

Amos 9:14–15

"I will restore the fortunes of my people Isra'el; ***they will rebuild and inhabit the ruined cities; they will plant vineyards and drink their wine, cultivate gardens and eat their fruit.*** I will plant them on their own soil, no more to be uprooted from their land, which I gave them," says ADONAI your God.

Obadiah 20

Those from this army of the people of Isra'el exiled among the Kena'anim as far away as Tzarfat, and the exiles from Yerushalayim in S'farad, ***will repossess*** the cities in the Negev.

Zechariah 2:14–16

"Sing, daughter of Tziyon; rejoice! For, here, I am coming; and I will live among you," says ADONAI. When that time comes, many nations will join themselves to ADONAI. "They will be my people, and I will live among you." Then you will know that it was ADONAI-Tzva'ot who sent me to you. ADONAI will take possession of Y'hudah as his portion in the holy land, and he will again make Yerushalayim his choice.

Israel – a blessing for the nations

Acts 15:14–18

Shim'on has told in detail what God did when he first began to show his concern for taking from among the Goyim a people to bear his name. And the words of the Prophets are in complete harmony with this for it is written, "After this, I will return; and I will rebuild the fallen tent of David. I will rebuild its ruins, I will restore it, so that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, that is, all the Goyim who have been called by my name," says ADONAI, who is doing these things.

Romans 11:1–2

"In that case, I say, isn't it that God has repudiated his people?" Heaven forbid! For I myself am a son of Isra'el, from the seed of Avraham, of the tribe of Binyamin. God has not repudiated his people, whom he chose in advance.

The nations – called to be a blessing for Israel

Psalms 122:6–9

Pray for shalom in Yerushalayim; may those who love you prosper. May shalom be within your ramparts, prosperity in your palaces. For the sake of my family and friends, I say, “Shalom be within you!” For the sake of the house of ADONAI our God, I will seek your well-being.

Isaiah 49:22–23

Adonai ELOHIM answers: **“I am beckoning to the nations**, raising my banner for the peoples. **They will bring your sons in their arms and carry your daughters on their shoulders**. Kings will be your foster-fathers, their princesses your nurses. They will bow to you, face toward the earth, and lick the dust on your feet. Then you will know that I am ADONAI — those who wait for me will not be sorry.”

Isaiah 60:8–11

Who are these, flying along like clouds, like doves to their dovecotes? The coastlands are putting their hope in me, with the ‘Tarshish’ ships in the lead, to bring your children from far away, and with them their silver and gold, for the sake of ADONAI your God, the Holy One of Isra’el, who glorifies you. **Foreigners will rebuild your walls, their kings will be at your service**; for in my anger I struck you, but in my mercy I pity you. Your gates will always be open, they will not be shut by day or by night, so that people can bring you the wealth of nations, with their kings led in procession.

Isaiah 62:6–7

I have posted watchmen on your walls, Yerushalayim; they will never fall silent, neither by day nor by night. You who call on ADONAI, give yourselves no rest; and give him no rest till he restores Yerushalayim and makes it a praise on earth.

Jeremiah 16:16

“‘Look,’ says ADONAI, ‘I will send for many fishermen, and they will fish for them. Afterwards, I will send for many hunters; and they will hunt them from every mountain and hill and out of caves in the rocks.’”

Zechariah 14:16

Finally, everyone remaining from all the nations that came to attack Yerushalayim will go up every year to worship the king, ADONAI-Tzva’ot, and to keep the festival of Sukkot.

Matthew 25:40

The King will say to them, 'Yes! I tell you that whenever you did these things for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did them for me!'

Romans 15:27

They were pleased to do it, but the fact is that they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared with the Jews in spiritual matters, then the Gentiles clearly have a duty to help the Jews in material matters.

Isaiah 60:12

For the nation or kingdom that won't serve you will perish; yes, those nations will be utterly destroyed.

Isaiah 56:6–7

And the foreigners who join themselves to ADONAI to serve him, to love the name of ADONAI, and to be his workers, all who keep Shabbat and do not profane it, and hold fast to my covenant, I will bring them to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; ***for my house will be called a house of prayer for all peoples.***

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