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## In Trust With The Gospel

## Elder Keith Ellis

## A Spiritual Nation

Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, [and] the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts [is] his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, [then] the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD. [Jer 31:35-37 KJV]

Between AD 70 and 1948 there was no nation of Israel as it perceived today in the land of Palestine.

Yet, all the the ordinances of the sun, moon, and stars did not depart from God, did they?

These facts force us to consider the nature of Israel in our text. It cannot be the nation setup in 1948. No way.

I believe this promise of God. Israel has never ceased to be a nation before Him. But I dare tell you it is not a nation like that nation you picture in Palestine today. That nation ceased to exist for almost 1900 years.

It is a people set apart to worship Him. It is a spiritual seed.

Listen to this.

Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they [are] not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, [are they] all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these [are] not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed. [Rom 9:6-8 KJV]

The children of the flesh, these are not the children of God. These are not included in the Israel we are attempting to portray to you. The children of promise are the seed mentioned in our text in Jeremiah. These are the true Israel that has never ceased to be a nation (people) before God.

Who is a true Jew any way? Yes there are fake Jews. (See Rev 2:9 & 3:9)

For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither [is that] circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of God. [Rom 2:28-29 KJV]