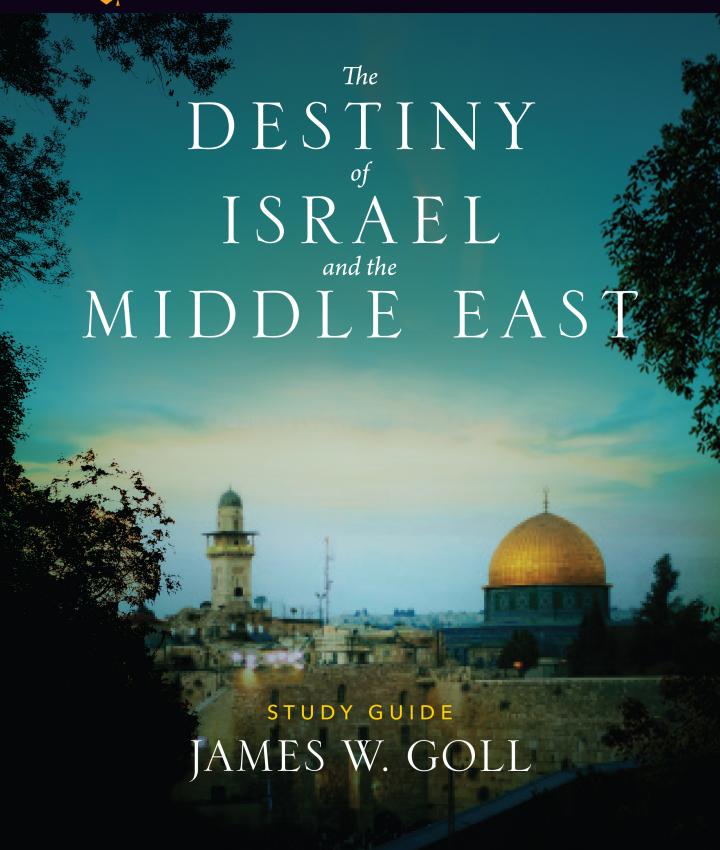


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-Mickey Robinson

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—Rick Ridings Founder, Succat Hallel



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The Destiny of Israel and the Middle East Study Guide is great for individual study in your own home, with a small group, or in a classroom setting. It also serves as part of The Destiny of Israel and the Middle East class at **God Encounters Ministries**, along with the complementary book, The Mystery of Israel and the Middle East, and 12 Class Sessions taught by James W. Goll. Visit www.GodEncounters.com for more information about this and many other lifechanging classes.

At the end of each detailed lesson are simple questions for your reflection and review. In the back of this study guide, you will find the answers to these questions to aid in your learning.

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Lesson One: The Birth of a Nation

"Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Can a nation be brought forth all at once? As soon as Zion travailed, she also brought forth her sons."

-Isaiah 66:8

I. THE REBIRTH BEGINS

A. The Return to the Land — A Gathering, a Scattering, and a Regathering

Over the years, the word *aliyah* has become very dear to both Jewish people and believing Gentiles alike. As prophetic Scriptures about the regathering of the Jewish people from the ends of the earth are fulfilled right before our eyes, the term has become a way of describing all that is involved in the process of returning to the homeland. *Aliyah*, simply put, means, "To go up, to ascend; to go from a lower place to a higher place."

Jeremiah 31:10 – "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare in the coastlands afar off and say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock."

Isaiah 11:11-12 – "It will happen on that day that the Lord will again recover the second time with His hand the remnant of His people who will remain from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And He will lift up a standard for the nations and assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth."

B. The Jewish History of Exile

The first exile took place under Babylonian rule. As for the second great exile, Roman forces serving under the Roman commander Titus destroyed and dismantled Jerusalem in August, A.D. 70, exactly as Jesus prophesied 37 years earlier. The Romans killed 600,000 Jewish residents and deported 300,000 more to locations scattered around the Empire.¹

Sixty-five years later Roman Emperor Hadrian's forces crushed the last Jewish uprising. Those forces hated and persecuted Jewish and Gentile followers of Christ. Some observers believe this might have helped plant early seeds of anti-Semitism in the fledgling Church.

C. Jerusalem Declared "Off Limits"

Hadrian's hatred for the Jews burned so bright that he changed Jerusalem's name to *Aelia Capitolina* (his given name was Aelius) and declared it "a Roman city forever which no Jew could enter under pain of death." He built a temple to Jupiter on the site of the former temple where sacrifices had been made to Jehovah.² Then he renamed the land *Syria Palaestina* (Latin for *Philistia*). Caesar overlooked one "minor" detail: Unlike the powerless gods of Rome, the God of Israel was and is alive and well.

The Jewish people in Jerusalem and Judea were recaptured, died violent deaths or were scattered to distant lands. This second dispersion following the death and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah lasted far longer than the first. It would not end after 500—or even 1,000—years.

D. The Backdrop of the Rebirth

- 1. Russian "pogroms," organized massacres or persecution of the Jewish people, began under hatred of Tsar Alexander III in 1881.
- 2. The term "anti-Semitism" enters the English language in 1882. It was defined as "hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic or racial group."
- 3. The devastated city of Jerusalem became the most contested urban real estate on earth, as for 2000 years various nations, empires and religious factions battled for its possession. All the while, its builders and original residents, the Jewish people, were forced to seek refuge in Gentile cities and nations around the world but could call none of them "home." That all changed in one day. 1813 years after the destruction of Jerusalem under Hadrian, a new nation emerged from the birth pangs of World War II and the horrible Holocaust, just as Isaiah prophesied.

II. THE FIRST OF THE FISHERMEN

During this time of rebirth, God sent prophetic voices of Christian and Jewish "fishermen" to His chosen people. These divine messengers never used force; gently and persistently, they warned the Jewish people and wooed them toward God's plan to deliver those who took heed. In virtually every case, His goal was to preserve a remnant and return them to their ancient Land of Promise.

A. A Prophetic Framework from the Prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah 16:16 (KJV) – "'Behold, I will send for many fishers,' saith the Lord, 'And they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.'"

B. Rabinowitz Establishes the First Messianic Congregation

Rabinowitz was a *Haskala*, or "Enlightenment," Jew who first searched for truth while studying the Talmud with a Chassidic rabbi and later sought understanding through extensive reading of more liberal writings by so-called enlightened Jewish teachers. As a prominent Jewish leader named Joseph Rabinowitz journeyed from Kishinev to Palestine (as Israel was called at that time), he was an unofficial delegate representing some like-minded Jews who wanted to see if Palestine was the right place to establish a Jewish homeland.

When Rabinowitz returned home, he studied the Hebrew New Testament. In Kishinev he told his Jewish friends about his Mount of Olives experience. He did not claim to know if the land of Palestine was the hope of the Jewish people. Then touching his chest, he would say, "This is the land, the land of the heart. It is what God wants us to obtain." He would sometimes add, "The key to the Holy Land lies in the hands of our brother, Jesus."³

In Kishinev, Rabinowitz and 40 families established the world's first modern-day Hebrew-Christian, or Messianic, congregation, called Israelites of the New Covenant.⁴ His ministry and writings had great impact in Russia and Europe and were known around the world.

C. Herzl Dreams of a Sovereign Jewish State

Fourteen years after Rabinowitz viewed the life-changing sunset in Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, Theodor Herzl, a Jewish attorney and writer, penned an essay titled "The Jewish State." That essay, published in 1896 and subtitled *An Attempt at a Modern Solution to the Jewish Question*, changed the course of Jewish history. Herzl dreamed of reestablishing a sovereign Jewish state on Jewish soil.

D. Zionist Congress Meets in Basel

In 1897, Herzl orchestrated the first worldwide gathering of Jews since A.D. 70. The delegates to this Zionist Congress, held in Basel, Switzerland, established the World Zionist Organization. Herzl became its first president. (Amazingly, I was in Basel in the fall of 1997, one hundred years to the day after the Zionist Congress first met. I spoke at a prophetic conference held within blocks of the site where Herzl and his Jewish friends gathered.)

E. Britain's Role in Israel's History

The shadows of World War I settled on the nations of the world even as God's fishermen began to draw His people back to their biblical homeland. Yet the borders and gates of Israel remained in the antagonistic grip of the Turks until God supernaturally intervened. Britain finally forced Turkey to sign an armistice in October of 1918. The area the world called Palestine was in British hands.

At the end of the war Britain was given a mandate, or official authority, to administer most of the Middle East. After years of political maneuvering and high-level betrayals, more than 70 percent of the land promised to the Jewish people was placed in Arab hands and named "Trans-Jordan." Yet there was One who remembered His promises to the Jewish people. He was unmoved by riches, politics or the schemes of men and nations, and His promises would come to pass.

The British government imposed severe immigration quotas on Jewish immigrants who wanted to go to the Promised Land. Yet despite seemingly impossible obstacles, determined Zionist groups defied the quotas and established colonies in *Eretz Israel* ("the land of Israel").

III. THE WORLD'S BIRTH PANGS

The nation of Israel's labor pangs grew stronger and more violent with each decade, signaling that birth was imminent. As always, the dragon of old waited and schemed to destroy the divine seed of God's will before its birth or immediately after delivery.

While the voices of many fishermen such as Herzl raised the alarm of danger to the Jewish people in Germany, Russia and the Balkans, only a fraction of those people heeded the warning. Meanwhile the world went through violent labor pangs of its own.

A. World War I Altered Geo-Political Structures

In Russia, the doctrines of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky ignited fires of violent change. In 1917, those fires plunged Russia into the darkness of atheistic communism, producing an ungodly broth bitter in opposition to both Christians and Jews.

B. Mein Kampf – Adolph Hitler's Demonic Book

Meanwhile, Germany struggled with economic and social woes after its humiliating loss in World War I. A little-known man from Austria penned a journal of hate called *Mein Kampf*. He rapidly rose in Germany's political ranks on a wicked wave of anti-Semitism and his extremist nationalistic doctrine of Aryan supremacy. The man's name was Adolf Hitler. He is one more in a long line of historical examples of a hunter who has ever been released.

C. Nuremberg and the Concentration Camps

Hitler came into power and issued the Nuremburg Decrees, which denied Germany's Jews any legal or citizens' rights. In the years that followed, he removed even more rights as he gained and consolidated power, first as Germany's chancellor and then as *Fuhrer* (literally "the leader").

While the world observed, Hitler established five concentration camps for Jewish people within Germany's borders. He claimed that his actions were legal under international law, since the camps dealt with an internal problem that had nothing to do with the citizens of other nations. Most world leaders accepted this argument, reasoning that the Jewish people had no country or government per se.

D. Nazis Begin the Holocaust

Hitler knew that nothing stood in the way of the "Final Solution." Germany's armies engulfed Poland in a *blitzkrieg*, or "lightning war," and catapulted the world into World War II. Barely one month later, the Germans went on a rampage of their own called *Kristallnacht* ("Crystal Night"), during which they smashed the windows of synagogues, Jewish businesses and homes, marking the full-scale beginning of the Holocaust.

E. The Atrocities of World War II

By 1947, the British occupation forces and the British people were so exhausted with the struggle that the Empire returned the "Palestine problem" to the United Nations. A U.N. committee was formed to investigate and eventually recommended to the General Assembly that the Promised Land be divided, or "partitioned," equally between the Jews and the Arabs.

In spite of the hatred that led to the massacre of six million Jewish victims, God still had a plan to restore His ancient covenant people to their land. The world would learn firsthand that nothing and no one could stand in His way.

IV. A DAY FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE TO REJOICE

The Partition Plan came to a vote in the General Assembly of the United Nations, where a two-thirds majority was needed for passage. Jewish people in Israel and around the world kept their ears glued to their radios. The U.N. resolution to partition the land and allow the Jewish people to reestablish the nation of Israel passed on November 29, 1947, and Jewish people around the world danced for joy.

A. United Nations Declaration on May 15, 1948

In the U.N., opponents to the formation of a Jewish state worked feverishly to stop Israel from declaring independence, but they became entangled in red tape. One-minute past midnight on May 15, 1948, the British mandate ended and the nation of Israel was reborn.

B. Israel Becomes a Nation

While Israel's opponents continued to argue in the U.N., they were interrupted with the announcement that U.S. President Harry S. Truman officially recognized the new state of Israel and extended full diplomatic privileges. The U.S.S.R., eager to make sure the British never returned to the Middle East, shocked the world by quickly recognizing the nation of Israel as well!⁵

V. SCRIPTURE-BASED PROPHETIC PRAYERS

A. A Nation Born in a Day

Yes, this is Israel, the only nation on earth to be born in a day through the supernatural intervention of God. He prepared the ancient home for His displaced covenant people; now, He is once again sending out fishermen to forewarn the Jewish people dwelling in the land of the north of a growing danger lurking in the land.

B. Let's Pray Together!

Holy and Mighty God, we marvel at the detail of Your ways. We declare that Your Word has not returned empty and void, but rather You have watched over Your Word to fulfill it. The fishers and the hunters came, but through it all, You brought forth a homeland for Your covenant people. We declare that the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah are true, and we rejoice in their fulfillment. Amen and amen!

Reflection Questions Lesson One: The Birth of a Nation

in

Answers to these questions can be found in the back of the study guide.

Fill in the Blank

1.	Jeremiah 31:10 - " the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare
	the coastlands afar off and say, 'He who scattered will
	him and keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock."
2.	The first exile took place under rule. The second great
	exile took place under rule.
3.	In, Rabinowitz and 40 families established the world's first
	modern-day Hebrew-Christian, or, congregation, called
	of the Covenant.
Mu	ltiple Choice — Choose the best answer from the list below:
	A. U.S.S.R.
	B. New Zealand C. June 15, 1949
	D. May 15, 1948
4.	On what date did the British mandate end and the nation of Israel was reborn?
5.	Which country shocked the world by quickly recognizing the nation of Israel?
Co	ntinued on the next page.

Scripture Memorization

6.	Write out Isaiah 66:8 and memorize this verse.
Ref	lection Questions
7.	Reflect on God's miraculous work to bring about a nation in a day. Journal your thoughts below.
8.	How would you summarize the most impactful parts of this lesson for yourself? What were your key takeaways?

Answers to the Reflection Questions

Lesson One: The Birth of a Nation

- 1. Hear; Israel; Gather
- 2. Babylonian; Roman
- 3. Kishinev; Messianic; Israelites; New
- 4. D
- 5. A

Lesson Two: When the Walls Came Tumbling Down

- 1. Power; Praise; Prayer; Collapse
- 2. Believers; Jerusalem; Comforting; Pray; Israel
- 3. Evian; Repentance; Sins; Jewish
- 4. C
- 5. B

Lesson Three: The Winds of Awakening

- 1. Romans; Key; Awakening
- 2. Gradual; Prophecy
- 3. Parallel; Church; Israel
- 4. A
- 5. C

Lesson Four: Appointed a Watchman

- 1. Israel; Eye; Sight
- 2. Holy; Spirit; Mordecais; People
- 3. Jewish; Adar
- 4. B
- 5. D

Lesson Five: Praying for the Fulfillment of Aliyah

- 1. Jewish; Israel; Homeland
- 2. Jeremiah; LORD; Scattered; Gather; His
- 3. Isaiah; Remnant
- 4. B
- 5. C

Lesson Six: The Mordecai Calling

- 1. Glimpses; Pray; Faith
- 2. Effectual; Prayer; People
- 3. Mordecais; Esthers; Prayer; Stand
- 4. D
- 5. C

Lesson Seven: The Descendants of Hagar

- 1. All; Ishmael
- 2. Covenant; Descendants; Generations; Everlasting
- 3. Promise; All
- 4. A
- 5. D

Lesson Eight: The Descendants of Sarah

- 1. Genesis; Almighty; Shaddai
- 2. Laughs
- 3. Contracts; Time; Mercy
- 4. C
- 5. B

Lesson Nine: The Descendants of Keturah

- 1. Keturah; More
- 2. Abraham; Gifts; East; Genesis
- 3. Egypt; Assyria; Blessed
- 4. C
- 5. A

Lesson Ten: Jerusalem: A City of Divine Destiny

- 1. Jerusalem; Commanded
- 2. Shalom; Pray; All
- 3. Zion's; Until; Salvation
- 4. A
- 5. B

Lesson Eleven: God's Road Map

- 1. Higher; My; Thoughts
- 2. Nation; Thousands; Exile; Word
- 3. Israel; Worldwide
- 4. A
- 5. D

Lesson Twelve: The Great Hope: The Second Coming of Jesus

- 1. Revelation; Spirit; Come; Gift
- 2. Passover; Fulfilled; Lamb
- 3. Pentecost; Spirit
- 4. C
- 5. B

Additional Resources by James W. Goll

(Many of these books feature a corresponding study guide and class taught by James W. Goll, available at www.GodEncounters.com.)

Adventures in the Prophetic (with Michal Ann Goll, Mickey Robinson, Patricia King, Jeff Jansen, and Ryan Wyatt)

Angelic Encounters (with Michal Ann Goll)

The Call to the Elijah Revolution (with Lou Engle)

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The Discerner

Dream Language (with Michal Ann Goll)

The Feeler

God Encounters Today (with Michal Ann Goll)

Hearing God's Voice Today

Heroines of Faith: Women of Courage, Compassion, and the Secret Place – Women on the Frontlines (Michal Ann Goll with James W. Goll)

The Lifestyle of a Prophet

The Lifestyle of a Watchman

The Lost Art of Intercession

The Lost Art of Practicing His Presence

The Lost Art of Pure Worship (with Chris Dupré and contributions from Jeff Deyo, Sean Feucht, Julie Meyer, and Rachel Goll Tucker)

Living a Supernatural Life

Passionate Pursuit

Prayer Storm

Praying with God's Heart

The Prophet

A Radical Faith

Releasing Spiritual Gifts Today

The Mystery of Israel and the Middle East

The Scribe

The Seer

Strike the Mark

Tell Your Heart to Sing Again

End Notes

- ¹ Lance Lambert, *The Uniqueness of Israel* (Eastbourne, England: Kingsway, 1991), 55.
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- ⁵ Gordon Lindsay, *The Miracle of Israel* (Dallas: Christ for the Nations, Inc., 1987), 47.
- ⁶ Gustav Scheller with Jonathan Miles, Operation Exodus: Prophecy Being Fulfilled (Tonbridge, England: Sovereign World, 1998; distributed in U.S. by Renew Books), 7.
- ⁷ Tom Hess, Let My People Go! The Struggle of the Jewish People to Return to Israel (Washington, D.C.: Progressive Vision, 1988), 116.
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- ¹⁰ William W. Orr, quoted in Hedding, 19.
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- ¹² Ramon Bennett, When Day and Night Cease (Jerusalem: Arm of Salvation Press, 1992), 122-123.
- ¹³ Paul Yonggi Cho, Daniel: Insight on the Life and Dreams of the Prophet from Babylon (Lake Mary, Fla.: Creation House, 1990), 144. Paul Yonggi Cho later changed his name to David Yonggi Cho.
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- ¹⁸ Kiae-Hansen, 22.
- ¹⁹ Robert Somerville, The Three Families of Abraham (Huntsville, Ala.: Awareness Ministry, 2002). Though I have not quoted directly from this book, this short manuscript was placed in my hands at just the right moment and its contents supported the direction of this lesson.
- ²⁰ Teplinsky, 237.
- ²¹ Ruth Ward Heflin, *Jerusalem, Zion, Israel and the Nations* (Hagerstown, Md.: McDougal Publishing, 1999), 4-16. I used her book as a reference for this lesson, although I took no direct quotations.
- ²² Robert Stearns, Jack Hayford and Paul Cedar, "The Day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem," http://www.daytopray.com/Resources/FREE_DPPJ_Equipping_Packet_Download.
- ²³ Portions of this section were drawn from the teaching ministry of Tom Hess. See *Appointed a Watchman for Israel*, untitled teaching material by Tom Hess (Jerusalem: Jerusalem House of Prayer for All Nations, 2003), 1-2.
- ²⁴ Keith Intrater and Dan Juster, Israel, the Church and the Last Days (Destiny Image, 2005), 117.
- 25 Ibid
- ²⁶ I am grateful to Asher Intrater for his article "Strategic Prayers for the Middle East," Revive Israel, August 13, 2020, from which some of these reasons to pray have been adapted. https://tribe.reviveisrael.org/strategic-prayers-for-the-middle-east/.

About the Author

James W. Goll is the founder of God Encounters Ministries, formerly known as Encounters Network. He is an international bestselling author, a certified Life Language Coach, an adviser to leaders and ministries, and a recording artist.

With great joy James has traveled around the world ministering in more than 50 nations sharing the love of Jesus, imparting the power of intercession, prophetic ministry, and life in the Spirit. His passion is to "win for the Lamb the rewards of His suffering." In the spirit of revival and reformation, James desires to facilitate unity in body of Christ by relationally networking with leaders of various denominational streams.

He has recorded numerous classes with corresponding curriculum kits and is the author of more than fifty books, including The Seer, The Discerner, The Feeler, The Prophet, Dream Language, The Lost Art of Intercession, Praying with God's Heart and The Mystery of Israel and the Middle East. James is also the founder of GOLL Ideation LLC, where creativity, consulting, and leadership training come together.

James was married to Michal Ann for thirty-two years before her graduation to heaven in the fall of 2008. He has four adult married children and a growing number of grandchildren. James continues to make his home in Franklin, Tennessee.

For More Information & Additional Resources:

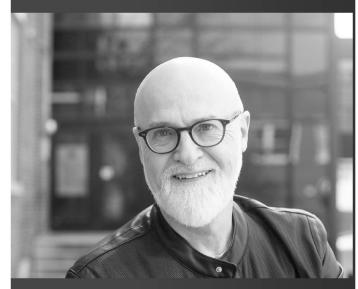
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God Encounters Ministries started around twenty-five years ago in Missouri, originally called Ministry to the Nations. It was a natural - supernatural overflow of the relationship that James and Michal Ann Goll had with Jesus and each other. After moving to the Nashville, TN area in 1996, the ministry was renamed Encounters Network. Through the years the heart and core values of the ministry have remained exactly the same!

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