

Britain, Balfour and the
Abrahamic Blessing and Curse

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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Britain, Balfour, and the

Abrahamic Blessing and Curse



Foreign Office,

November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet

His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Y. in
Arthur Balfour





Genesis 12:2, “I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you shall be a blessing.

Genesis 12:3, “I will bless those who bless you and curse him that curses you; and all the families of the earth shall bless themselves by you.”

קלל *qalal* to treat something with
disrespect

ארר *'rr* to judge harshly

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Genesis 12:1–3

“land”

“seed”

“blessing”

ISRAEL LAND COVENANT

Deuteronomy 30

“land”

DAVIDIC COVENANT

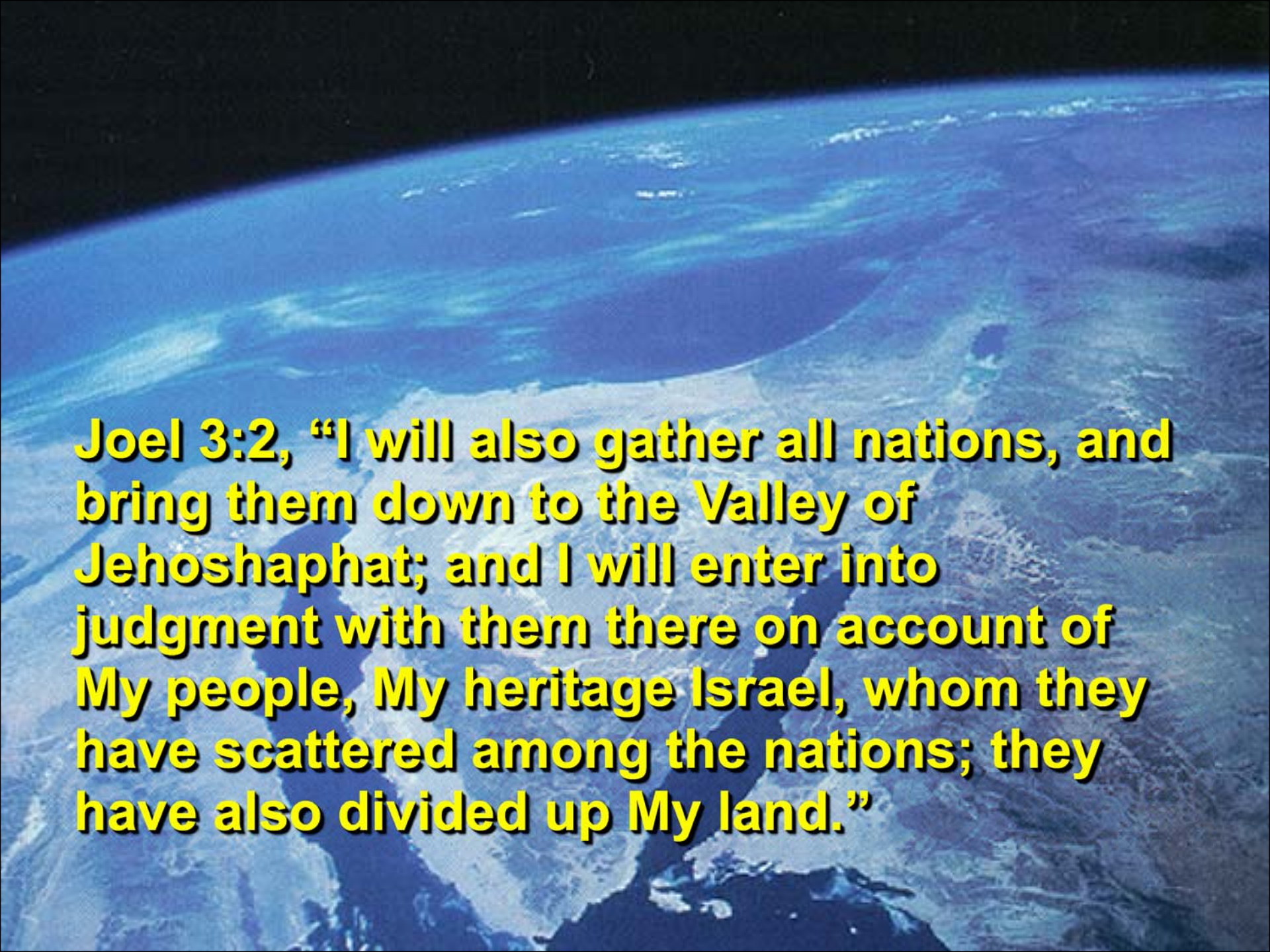
2 Samuel 7

“seed”

NEW COVENANT

Jeremiah 31

“blessing”



Joel 3:2, “I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land.”

Replacement Theology:

The belief that God has replaced the Jews with someone else (Christians or Moslems) and that the Jews are now the enemy of God.

By the mid-third century, under the influence of neo-Platonism, Christian theologians quit interpreting the Bible in a normal, literal manner, and began to use an allegorical or symbolic approach.

In a normal, plain use of language:

Israel = Israel

Church = Church

**Promised Land = Real estate bordered by
Euphrates River and
Mediterranean Sea**

In an allegorical, non-literal interpretation

Israel = Church

Church = spiritual Israel

Promised Land = Heaven

Crossing the Jordan = Going to heaven

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1290 | Edward I | Edict of Expulsion |
| 1517 | Martin Luther | Beginning of a return to literal interpretation |
| Early 1600s | | Beginning to return to believe in a future restoration of Jewish people to Israel |

“The growing importance of the English Bible was a concomitant of the spreading Reformation, and it is true to say that the Reformation would never have taken hold had the Bible not replaced the Pope as the ultimate spiritual authority. With the Bible as its tool, the Reformation returned to the geographic origins of Christianity in Palestine. It thereby gradually diminished the authority of Rome.”

~Michael Pragai

“...that this Nation of England, with the inhabitants of the Netherlands, shall be the first and the readiest to transport Israel’s sons and daughters in their ships to the Land promised by their forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for an everlasting Inheritance.”

~Ebenezer and Joanna Cartwright

The English Protestants

“Starting with the Puritan ascendancy the movement among the English for the return of the Jews to Palestine began.”

~Barbara Tuchman, *The Bible and the Sword*



Francis Kett, d. 1589

Cambridge: B.A., 1569; M.A., 1573

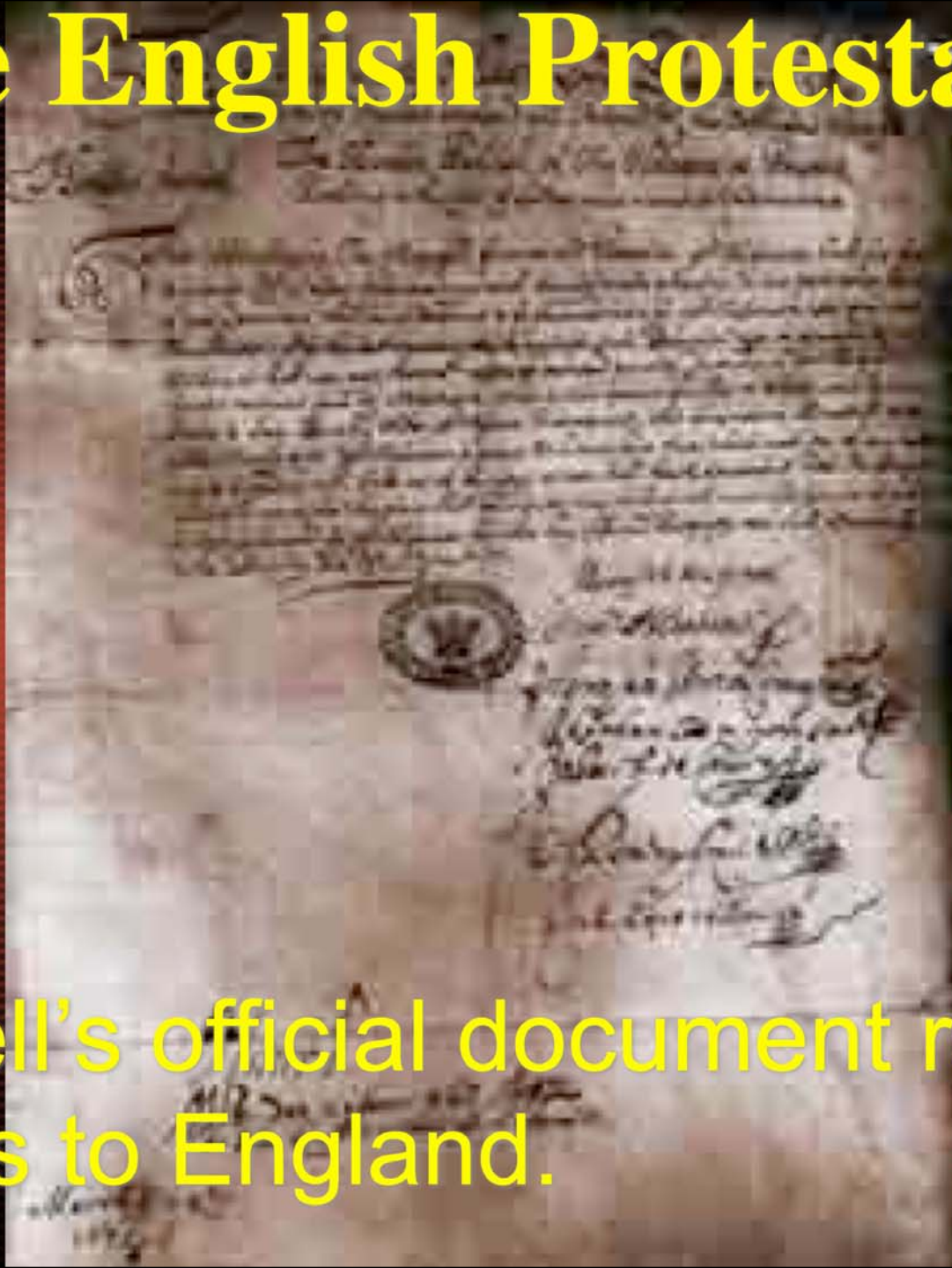
Both a Pastor and medical doctor

*The Glorious and Beautiful Garland of
Mans Glorification Containing the
Godly Misterie of Heavenly Jerusalem.*

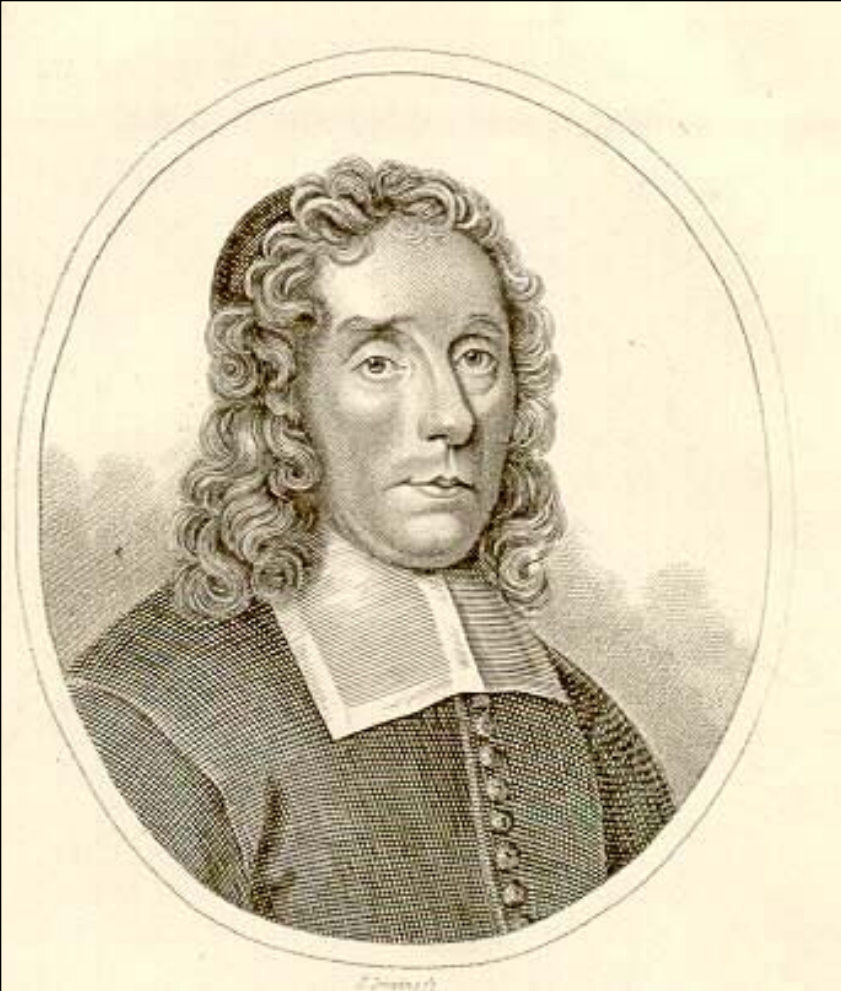
Kett mentioned, “the notion of Jewish national return to Palestine.”

Burned at the stake on January 15, 1589 in Norwich for advocating in his book the Restoration of the Jews to Israel, an idea he claimed to have received from reading the Bible.

The English Protestants



Cromwell's official document returning the Jews to England.



Increase Mather
(1639–1723)

One of the standout advocates of the restoration doctrine was **Increase Mather**, the son of Richard and father of Cotton. Increase wrote over 100 books in his life and was a president of Harvard. His first work was *The Mystery of Israel's Salvation*, which went through about a half dozen revisions during his life. His support of the national restoration of Israel to her land in the future was typical of American colonial Puritans and was generally widespread.

British Restorationism

Charles Henry Churchill (1814–1877), an ancestor of Winston Churchill, was a British military officer stationed in Damascus in 1840. He was a Christian Zionist and he supported the Jews against the non-Zionist Christians of Damascus. It was through his efforts that he helped acquit the Jews accused of the infamous charge of blood libel.

Early America



**Abraham
Lincoln**

President **Abraham Lincoln** in a meeting with Canadian Christian Zionist, **Henry W. Monk**, in 1863 said, “Restoring the Jews to their homeland is a noble dream shared by many Americans. He (the Jewish chiropodist of the President) has so many times ‘put me on my feet’ that I would have no objection to giving his countrymen a ‘leg up’.”

British Restorationism

1880–82

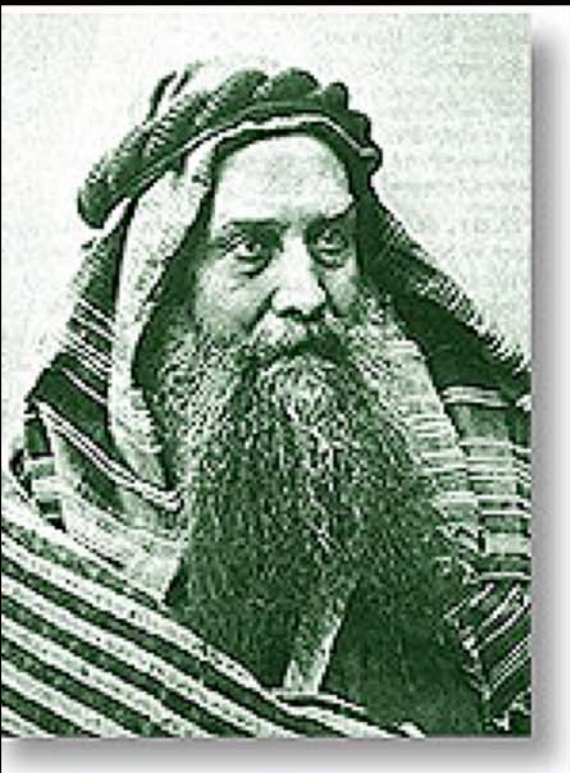


Laurence
Oliphant
(1829–1888)

Laurence Oliphant was an evangelical British Protestant, an officer in the British Foreign Service, a writer, world traveler and an unofficial diplomat.

Oliphant was passionate about the Jewish Restoration to their land that came from his intense religious convictions, which he tried to conceal them behind arguments based on strategy and politics.

Christian Zionism



**William
Hechler**
(1845–1931)

The modern Jewish founder of Zionism is recognized to have been Theodor Herzl. His earliest and closest advisor just happened to have been the Christian minister **William Hechler** who was a zealous Christian Zionist. Rev. Hechler was a pastor who was born in India of German missionary parents. He attended college in Basel, Switzerland, which is where Herzl was living when he first met him.



**Theodor
Herzl**

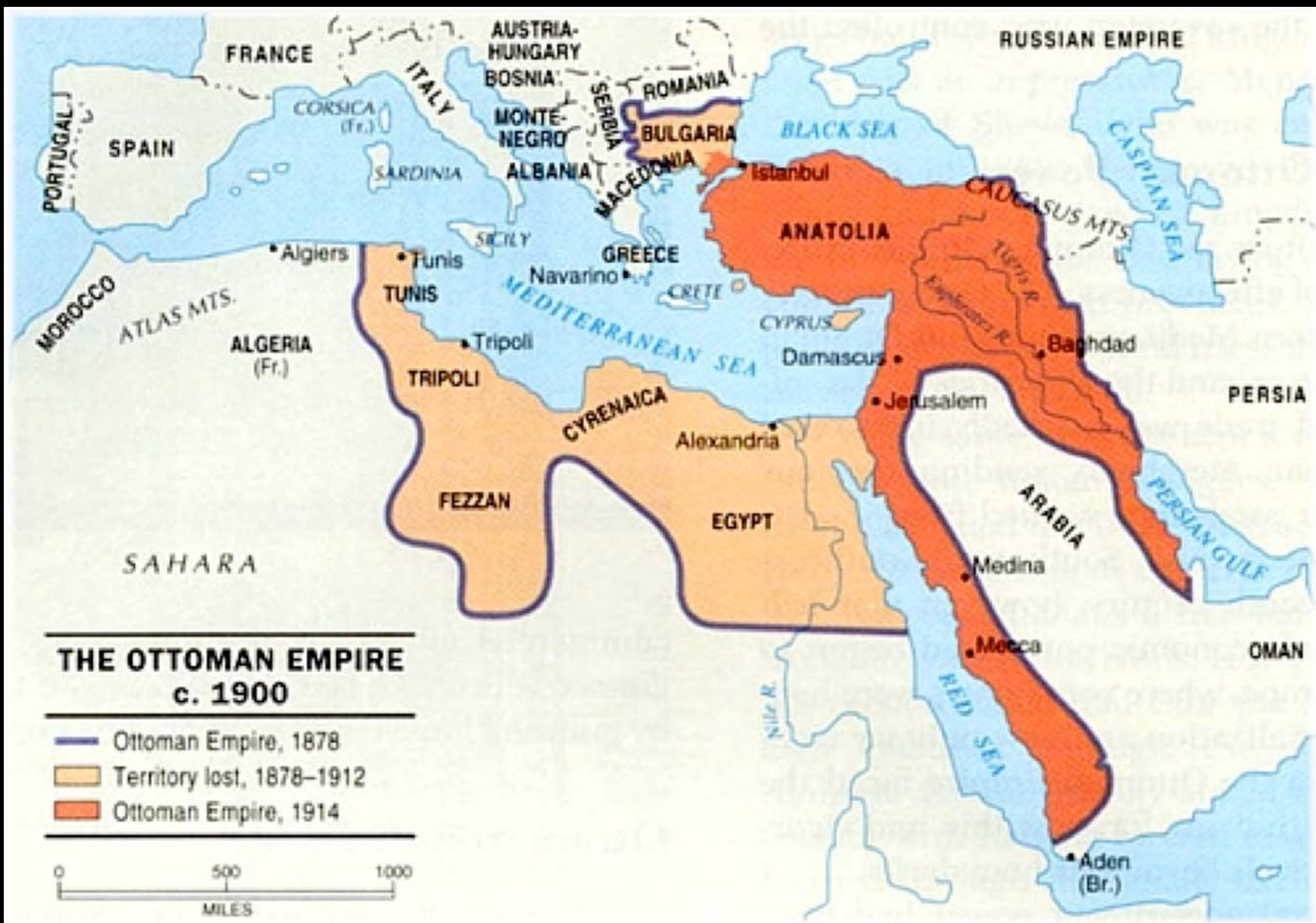
Herzl was a correspondent covering the Dreyfus trial when he realized Jews could never be assimilated.

This eventually led him to be the founder of the Zionist Movement and the World Zionist Conference.

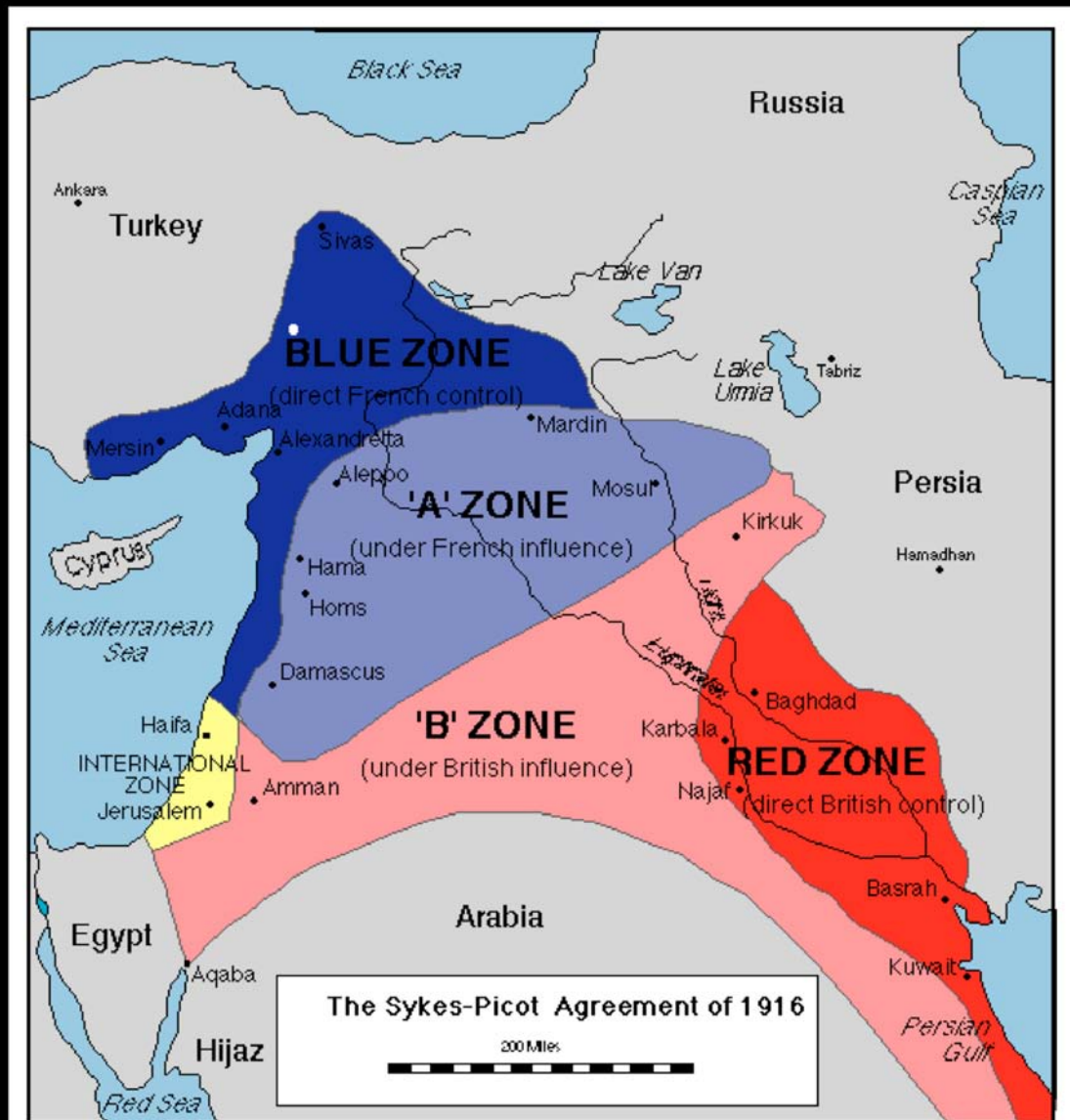
1896 *Der Judenstaat*



Lloyd George (fourth from left) with members of his wartime cabinet in 1916, including General Smuts and Bonar Law.



Sykes-Picot Agreement 1916



The 1916–1918 Arab Revolt was often carried out by mounted Arab tribesmen, who knew the land intimately and were excellent marksmen (Library of Congress).



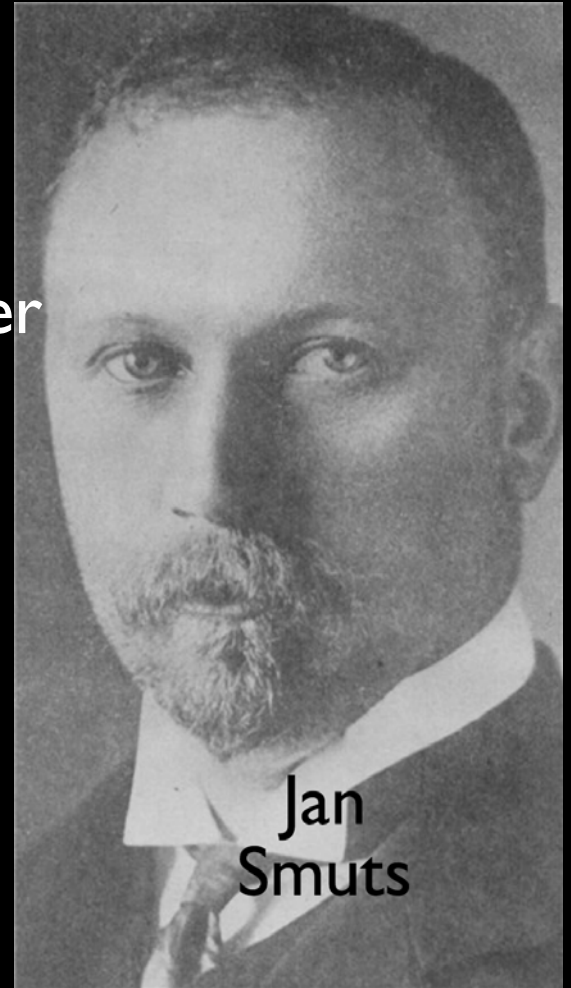
David Lloyd George



Lord Curzon

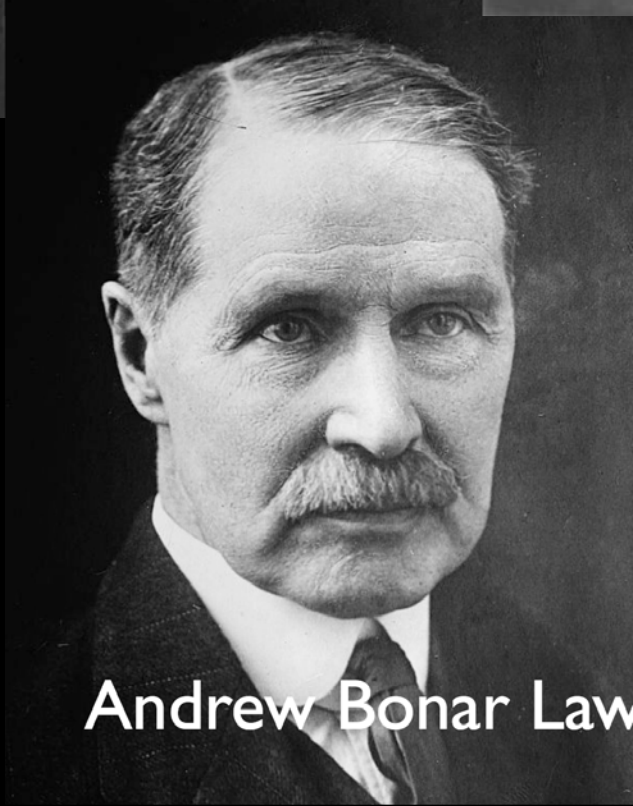


Lord Milner



**Jan
Smuts**

Andrew Bonar Law



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משרד לעניני חוץ ב' נובמבר 1917.
לורד רוטשילד היקר
 שמח אני מאד למסור לך בשם
 ממשלת הוד מלכות את הדקלרציה
 של חבה להמנחה הציונית
 שנמסרה להקבינט ותאשררה על ידי:
 שר בני דוד

הממשלה של הוד מלכותו * מביטה ברצון על יסוד
 " בית לאומי בארץ ישראל לעם ישראל
 " והיא תשתמש בכל האמצעים הטובים לאפשר את השגת
 המטרה הזאת אך במובן הברור שלא יעשה שום דבר שיוכל
 לגנוע בזכויות האזרחיות והדתיות של קבוצות לא-יהודיות באי אר

אשמח מאד אם תביא את
 הדקלרציה הזאת לפני
 הפרוצדורה הציונית.
 - שלך במקצרות -



San Remo



Britain's Mandate—1920–1946



SYRIA
(French Mandate)

PALESTINE
Eretz Yisrael
The Jewish National Home
(British Mandate)

SINAI

SAUDI ARABIA

EGYPT



Area Allocated for Jewish National Home
San Remo Conference, 1920



Great Britain's Division of the Mandated Area,
1921 - 1923

- Area Separated and Closed to Jewish Settlement, 1921
- Area Ceded to Syria 1923
- Area Remaining for Jewish National Home

Britain's Partition—1946



UN Partition Plan—1947



○ Damascus

● Kuneitra

○ Safed

● Haifa

○ Tel Aviv

● Amman

● Jerusalem

● Gaza

● Beer Sheba

● Port Said

● Suez

● Eilat

● Aqaba

SINAI

TRANS-JORDAN

SAUDI ARABIA

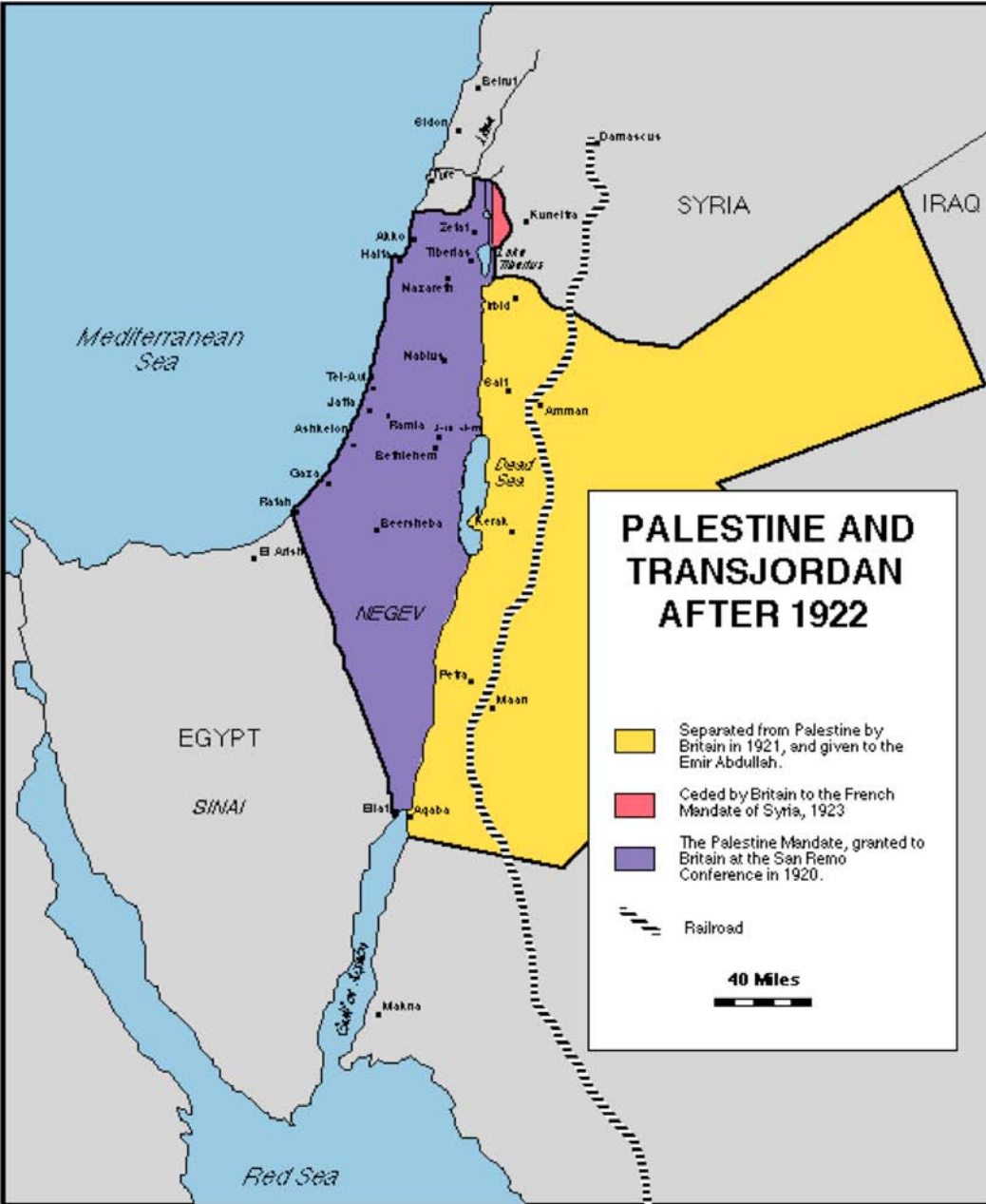
EGYPT

Mediterranean Sea

Gulf of Suez

Gulf of Eilat (Aqaba)

LE



PALESTINE AND TRANSJORDAN AFTER 1922

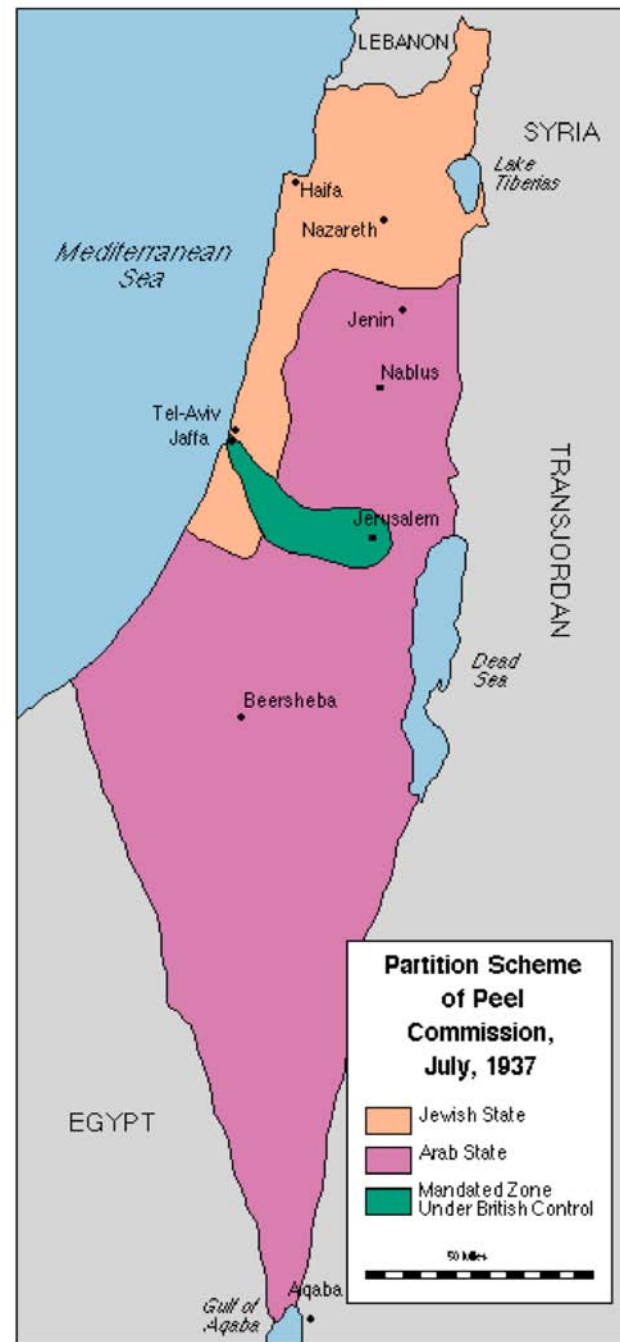
- Separated from Palestine by Britain in 1921, and given to the Emir Abdullah.
- Ceded by Britain to the French Mandate of Syria, 1923
- The Palestine Mandate, granted to Britain at the San Remo Conference in 1920.
- Railroad

40 Miles

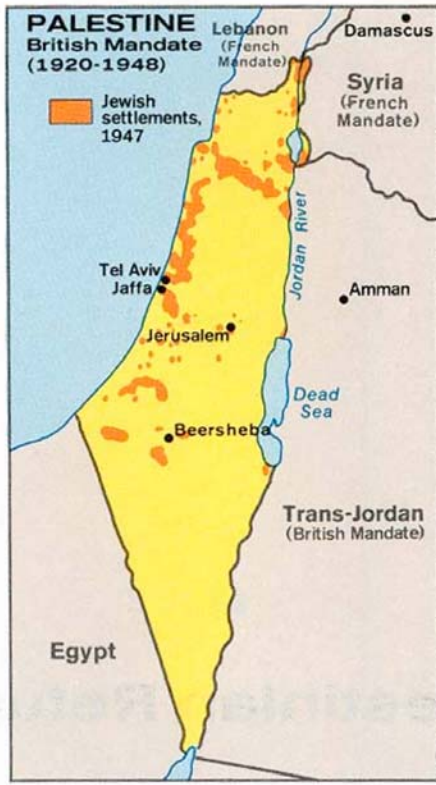
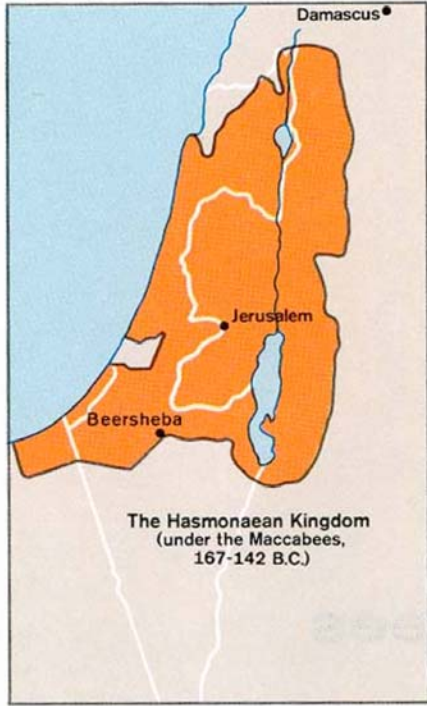
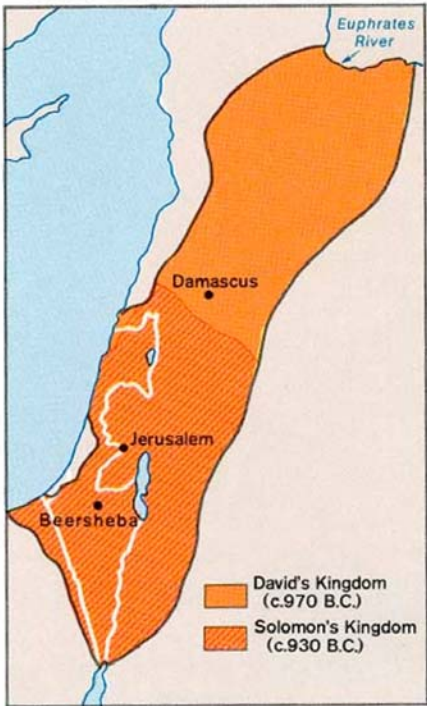
Palestine

U.N. Partition Plan
(1947)

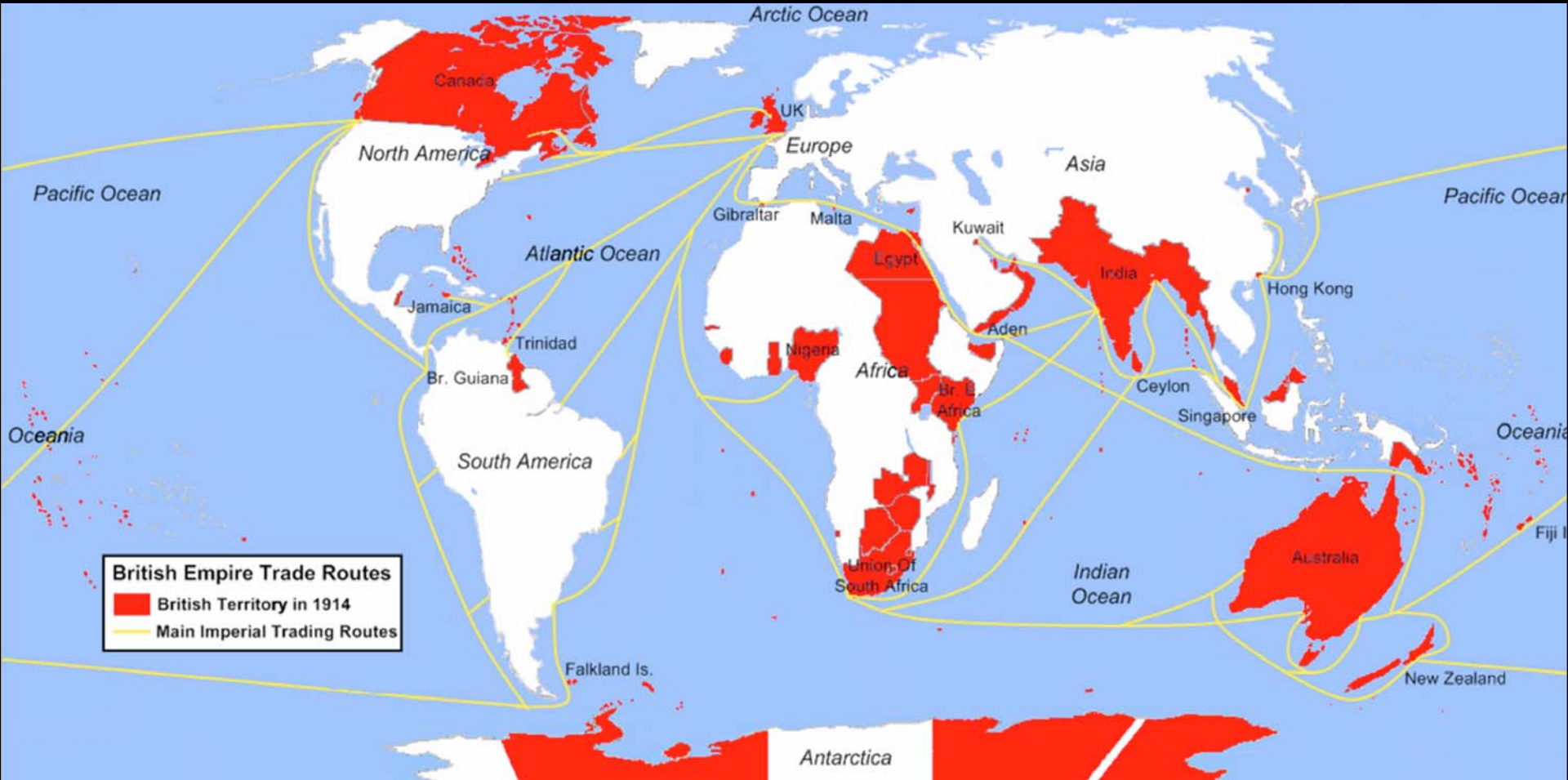
-  Arab State
-  Jewish State



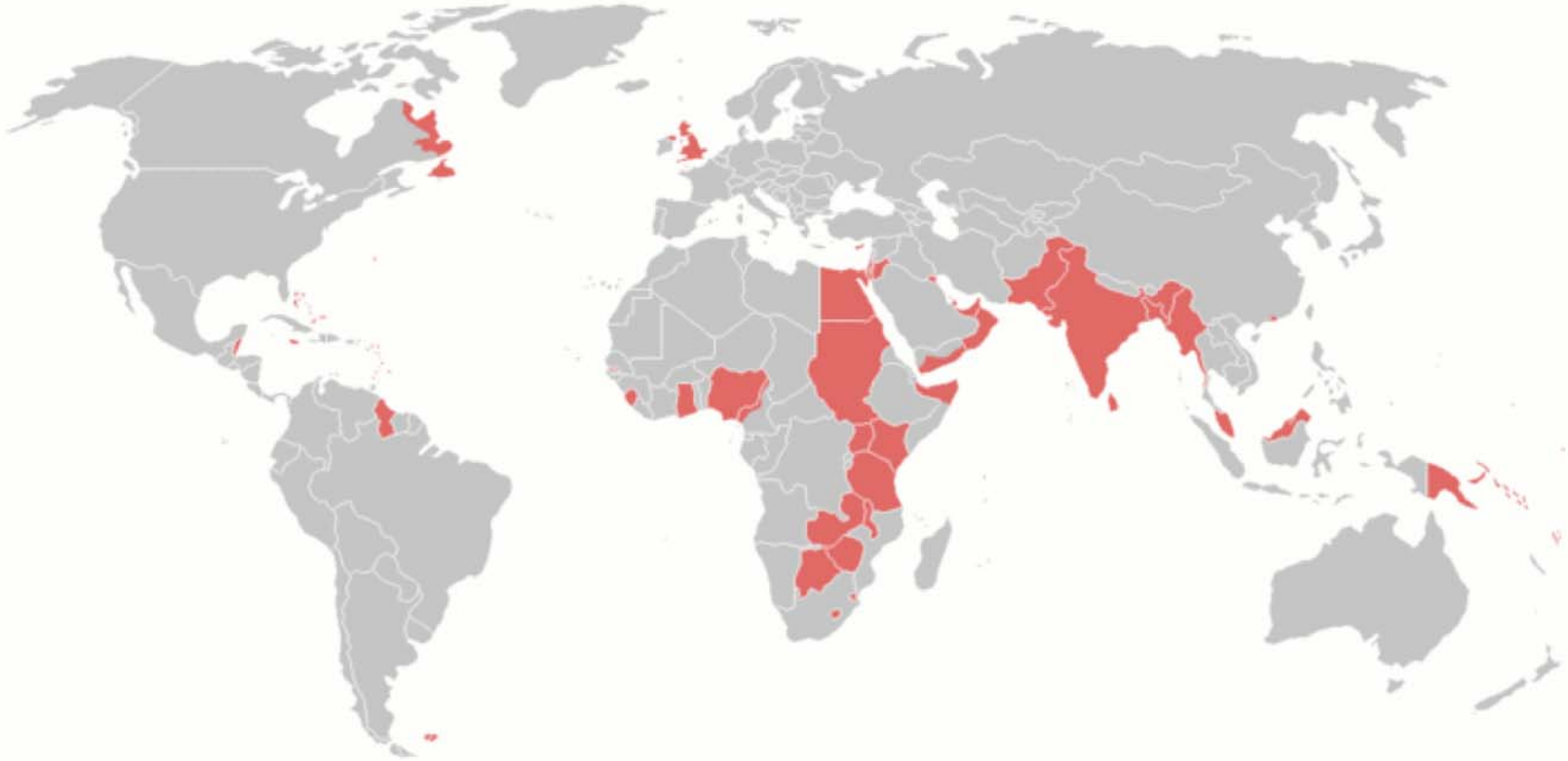
ISRAEL in Biblical Times



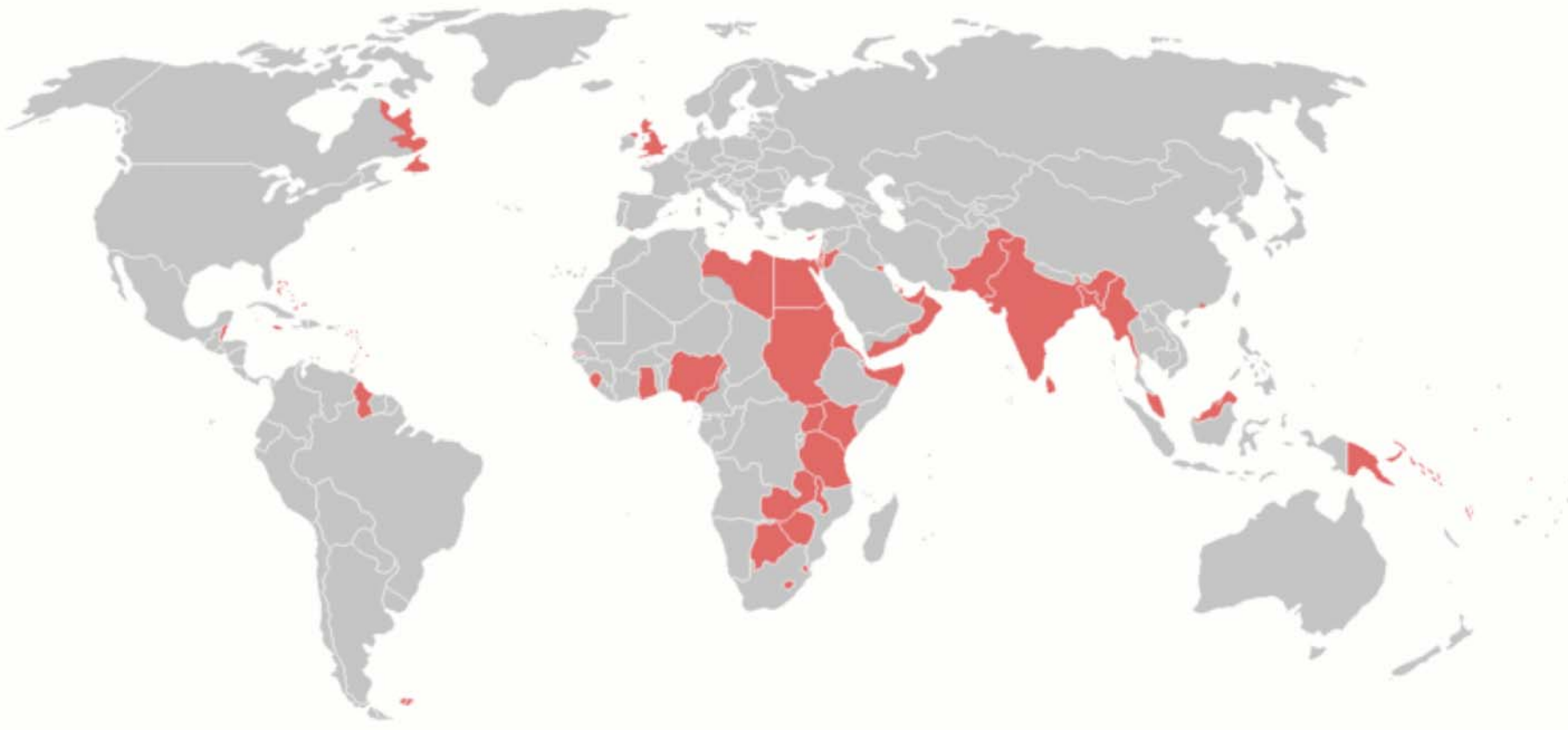
The British Empire at the Beginning of the 20th Century



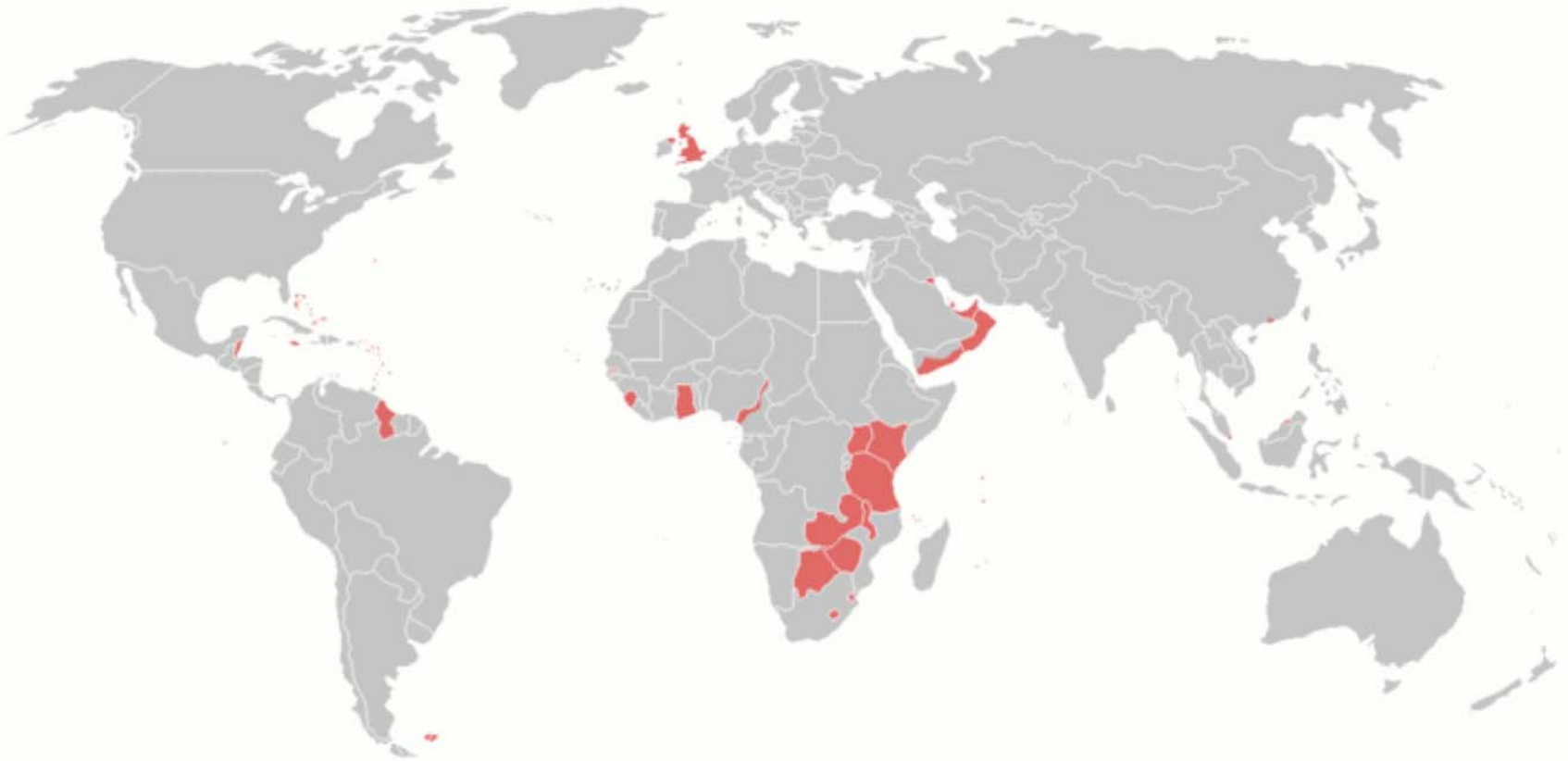
1938



1945

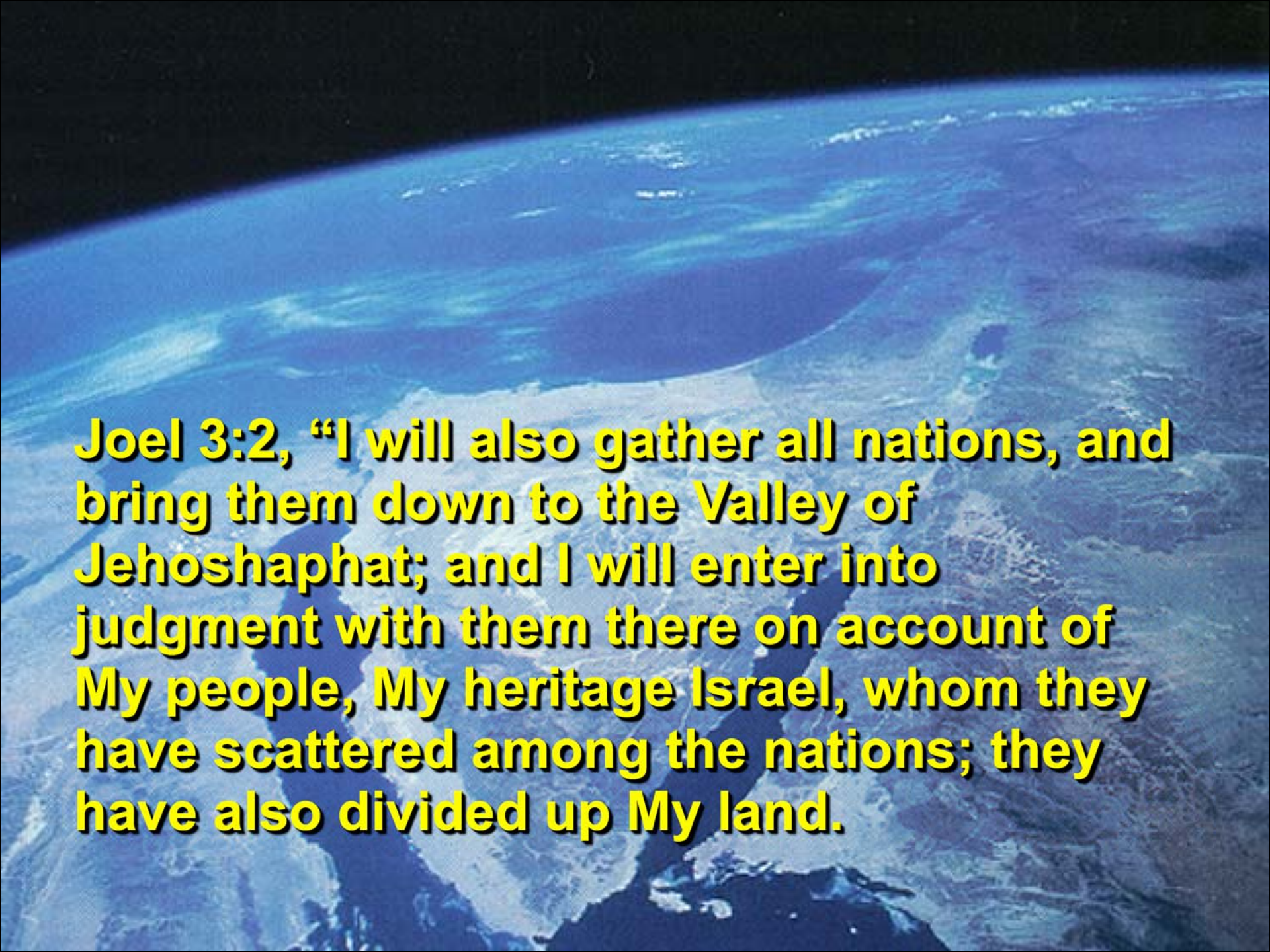


1959



2007





Joel 3:2, “I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land.