

Chapter I

Israeli-Arab Conflict

On February 15, 1977, the Israelis published a postage stamp with which to mail their letters that has a picture of Abraham looking at the stars of heaven. Quoted in Hebrew and English on the tab of the stamp is part of

Genesis 22:17 “That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;”



Inscription: Abraham - E.M. Lilien

Designer: E.M.. Lilien

Day of issue: February 15, 1977

Motif: Symbolic design. Painting 1977

Inscription on Tabs:

"I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven." Genesis 22:17

Israel Ministry of Communications Philatelic Services
Catalogue No. 12 Page 177

On May 25, 1971, the Israelis published a postage stamp with which to mail their letters that points out the main issue of conflict between the Arabs and Israelis. This conflict has affected the entire world, not only in the threat of war, but in the threat of crippling all nations with the shortage of oil and energy. In Hebrew and English on the stamp is printed in illuminated lettering a part of

Exodus 34:28 “And he was there with the LORD forty days and

forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.”



Inscription: Shavuot

Designer: A. Kalderon

Day of issue: May 25, 1971

Motif: Verses from the Bible in illuminated lettering

Inscription on Tabs:

(translation of verse on the stamp) Exodus 34:28

Israel Ministry of Communications Philatelic Services Catalogue No. 9 Page 127

This is taken from the context of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments, but the spiritual purpose of the stamp is to remind the Israelis, the Arabs and the world of the covenant that God made with Abraham. This covenant is as follows:

1. Abraham would have a great nation.

Genesis 12:2 “And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.”

2. Abraham would be blessed with a great name and all the families of the earth would be blessed through him.

Genesis 12:2-3 “2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:
3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”

3. Abraham’s seed would be as the dust of the earth and as the stars of the heaven in that his seed could not be numbered.

Genesis 13:15 “For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever:

Genesis 15:5 "And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.”

4. Abraham’s seed would have the land from the river of Egypt to the great river Euphrates, and he would possess all the land of Canaan.

Genesis 15:18 "In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:"

Genesis 17:8 "And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”

5. Abraham would be heir of the world, in that his nation would rule the world.

Romans 4:13 “For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, [was] not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.”

On June 24, 1951, Israel published a stamp with the picture of a man plowing a field behind a team of horses, and quoted in Hebrew on the tab of the stamp is a part of

Leviticus 25:23 “The land shall not be sold for ever: for the land *is* mine; for ye *are* strangers and sojourners with me.”

This stamp reminds everyone that the land of the covenant between

God and Abraham would belong to the descendants of Abraham. The conflict between the Israelis and the Arabs is over who the rightful descendants of Abraham are, entitling them to all the promises made by God. The Arabs state that they are to receive this land, the land of



Inscription: 50th anniversary of the Keren Kayemet Le-Israel 5711; Zion

Designer: Wind Struski

Day of issue: June 24, 1951

Motif: Symbolic design

Inscription on Tabs:
“the land shall not be sold forever” Leviticus 25:23

Israel Ministry of Communications Philatelic Services
Catalogue No. 9 Page 19

Canaan, because they are the descendants of Ishmael, who was the first son of Abraham.

The Arabs

When Abraham was seventy-six years old, God made a covenant with him. At this time Abraham's wife, Sarah, was sixty-six years old and barren; they had no children at all. Ten years later, when Abraham was eighty-six years old, Sarah made the suggestion that he should take Hagar, Sarah's maid, and have a child by her; thus Ishmael was born.

While Ishmael was in the womb of his mother, Hagar, God made a covenant with him through his mother.

Genesis 16:7-12 "And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.

9 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

10 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.

11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou [art] with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.

12 And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."

1. Ishmael's descendants would multiply beyond count (verse 10).
2. He would be a wild man, indicating that no one would possess him or control his people. (verse 12)
3. He would be against everyone and everyone would be against him. (verse 12)
4. Although he could not be controlled or conquered, yet he would live in the presence of his brethren. (verse 12)

Then fourteen years later, when Abraham was one hundred years old, Sarah ninety, and Ishmael fourteen, God allowed Sarah to give birth to a child whose name would be Isaac. But before Isaac was born, God enlarged His covenant with Ishmael Genesis 17:20 "And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation."

At that time it was specified that the following conditions would be met:

1. Ishmael would be a great nation.
2. Ishmael would be blessed.
3. Ishmael would be fruitful.
4. God would multiply him exceedingly.
5. There would be twelve princes in his nation.

While this covenant was made with Ishmael, God made it clear to Abraham that Isaac, instead of Ishmael, was to receive the covenant which was made between God and Abraham.

Genesis 17:18-21 "And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year."

Genesis 15:4 "And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir."

Today we are seeing the fulfillment of the covenant made with Ishmael. Ishmael's descendants, the Arabs, have increased and multiplied beyond count. The Arabic people have been like a wild man, in that no one would possess them or control them. The Arab nations have been fruitful and blessed in that they now own and control a major portion of the world's supply of oil. When the Arabs brought about the oil embargo, they brought about the fulfillment of the covenant in that the Arabs would be against everyone and everyone against them. Today there are twelve princes among the Arabs, which possibly could be considered the people of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Egypt, and Syria. Yet in the light of all these things, the Arabs feel that the land which was to belong to Abraham is to belong to them, thus creating the conflict between the Arabs and the Israelis over who should live in Canaan.

The Israelis

The Israelis also state that they are to receive this land, the land of Canaan, because they are the descendants of Isaac, who is the rightful heir of Abraham. They have their support for this claim from the Bible, the Word of God. By the events of today, we are seeing everything that the Bible prophesied concerning the promises made to the Israelis is coming true.

In order to see the fulfillment of the covenants made with the Israelis, we need to take a closer look at the development of the covenant which was made with Abraham in relation to Isaac. There are four major divisions:

1. The nation - God would create and make a great nation, called the Israelis, that would rule the world out of the descendants of Isaac.
2. The land - This nation, the Israelis, would rule the world from the land of Canaan.
3. The law - Through a covenant made with Moses, the law of the nation was given.
4. The king - Through a covenant made with David, the throne and the king were provided for the nation and for the world.

As history developed, the world has witnessed much of the covenant made with Abraham and Isaac coming into reality through the descendants of Isaac. Isaac had a son by the name of Jacob, whose name was later changed to Israel. Jacob had twelve sons who became the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel.

While the family of Jacob was in Egypt during the famine in Canaan, the family multiplied and increased until it was a large nation. Then God raised up Moses to lead the Israelis out of bondage in Egypt back to the land of Canaan. During this time God made a covenant with Moses to provide the laws for the nation of Israel. These laws are found in the Old Testament of the Bible and summarized in the Ten Commandments. When the Israelis reached the land of Canaan, God gave them a king called David and made a covenant with him that the King of Kings would rule the world from his throne. But instead of the Israelis conquering the world, they themselves were conquered and scattered throughout many nations of the world because of their rebellion against God.

During this time God had assured them He would keep His promises to Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and David. This assurance was given through various prophecies pointing out how God would bring the Israelis back to the land of Canaan and make them a spiritual, ruling nation. God's only begotten Son, Jesus of Nazareth, of the tribe of Judah, would be their king and the king of the world.

Today through the postage stamps of the nation of Israel and many other infallible proofs, we are seeing the covenant made with Abraham and Isaac being developed into complete fulfillment. Along with the four major points of this covenant, there are four major prophecies showing the fulfillment to be in our time and in the very near future:

1. The nation - Prophecy of Ezekiel's valley of the dry bones (Chapter II).
2. The land - Prophecy of the budding of the fig tree (Chapter III).
3. The law - Prophecy of the seven feasts of the Lord (Chapter IV).
4. The king - Prophecy of the rebuilding of the temple (Chapter V).