

**One of the most awesome and dynamic promises concerning Israel  
is found in Jeremiah 31:35-37 NASB.**

Jer 31:35 Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The LORD of hosts is His name:  
Jer 31:36 "If this fixed order departs From before Me," declares the LORD, "Then the offspring of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me forever."  
Jer 31:37 Thus says the LORD, "If the heavens above can be measured And the foundations of the earth searched out below, Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel For all that they have done," declares the LORD.

This prophecy together with its parallel in Jeremiah 33:25-26 devastate “Replacement Theology.” Only when the divinely fixed orbiting of the sun, moon and stars of our solar system cease to orbit according to God’s astronomical laws of the universe, then and only then, would Israel ever cease to exist as God’s People. Even though Israel was unfaithful and was taken captive to Babylon while the land was desolate for 70 years, the sun, moon, and stars continued to orbit according to God’s symmetrical ordinances of the universe. Therefore, Israel was still in God’s favor and was restored to its Land the after 70 years.

But, Israel continued to sin and finally in AD 70 and AD 135 their polity was destroyed, Over a million were killed at the hands of the vengeful Romans. Many were banished from their sacred Land, while Jerusalem was ploughed over and renamed Aelia Capitolina.

Into whatever countries they fled, they tended to dwell in their own little Jewish communities. They, weekly, kept the Sabbath and worshipped together. Then, as now, at the close of the Sabbath they watched the setting of the sun, the emergence of the moon, and the sparkling stars roving the heavens in celestial glory. And no matter how distant from their Promised Land, with tears in their eyes and hope in their hearts, they knew some day, somehow, they or their children, or their children’s children would yet return to Eretz Israel. Why???

The celestial bodies of the heavens were still in dazzling beauty orbiting according to God’s laws of the universe. Only when there is chaos in the heavens, then and only then would Israel cease to be God’s People. Of course that will never happen and that is just the point of this promise in Jeremiah 31:35-37. Israel as a nation will never be cast off from God’s favor.

I have served at several Orthodox synagogues on the Sabbath. As the sun was setting the congregation went outside to view the heavens. They were spellbound as they watched the last golden rays of the sun disappear while the light of the moon surrounded by myriads of dazzling stars dominated the sky. Their hearts throbbed as they realized the intelligence and power guiding the universe was caring for them—the people and nation of Israel as promised in Jeremiah 31:35-37.

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