



## A MINUTE WITH MISS LINDA



### “Happy 75th Birthday, Israel!”

May 14 marks the anniversary of one of the greatest events in history. On this day 75 years ago the nation of Israel was reborn after having been

thrown into the

dustbin of history and forgotten for nearly 2000 years.

In the natural, this would have seemed totally impossible because the nation disappeared after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD, and the Jewish people were scattered to the four corners of the earth. No other nation in history has ever maintained its ethnicity through almost twenty centuries of dispersion so Israel's rebirth was unprecedented.

For thousands of years, the land had laid desolate and mostly uninhabited, but late in the 19th century a national Jewish awakening began and the Zionist movement was birthed. Despite great danger and hardship Jews began moving back to their homeland. At first, it was just a trickle, but following World War 1 it became a flood, and after the horrors of the Nazi death camps where six million Jews perished, it became a tidal wave. What God had spoken to the prophets of old was coming to pass.

#### **Amos 9:14-15 AMP**

14 “Also I shall bring back the exiles of My people Israel, and they will rebuild the deserted and ruined cities and inhabit them: They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine and make gardens and eat their fruit.

15 “I will also plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted from their land which I have given them,” Says the Lord your God.

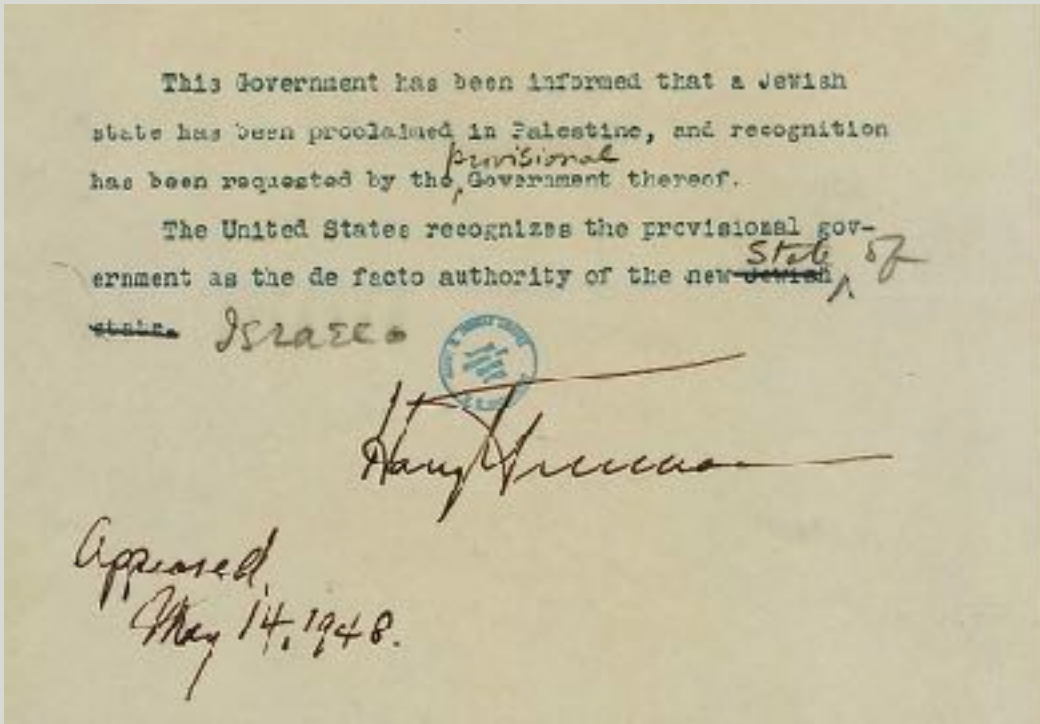
At the time of this epic event, our president was Harry S. Truman. Mr. Truman was a southern Baptist from Missouri who believed that the covenant God made with Abraham gave the land of Israel to Abraham and his descendants as an eternal possession. He also had a childhood Jewish friend named Edward Jacobson that had paid him a visit several weeks earlier and explained how important it was that the Jewish people have a homeland of their own.

Despite being pressured by many foreign nations and military officials not to recognize the newly birthed state, on May 14th, 1948, just eleven minutes after newly appointed Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion read Israel's Declaration of Independence, President Harry Truman signed an official document recognizing the State of Israel.

Undoubtedly he felt the U.S. needed to lead the world in recognizing the new state, and that is why he announced U.S. support and signed the document you see on the next page.

## "Happy 75th Birthday, Israel!"

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We have also visited Jerusalem and marveled at how this wondrous city is being rebuilt and is spreading out into the hill country surrounding it. Truly, God has kept His promises!

Not only has He kept His promises, but He will also continue to keep His promises. I want to remind you of what God spoke to the prophet Amos.

### **Amos 9:15 AMP**

15 "I will also plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted from their land which I have given them," says the Lord your God.

As you can see, this was all done with such haste that some last-minute changes had to be penciled in. As a result of his decisive leadership, many other nations followed, thus fulfilling the prophecy God had given to Isaiah.

### **Isaiah 66:8 Amplified Bible**

8 "Who has heard of such a thing? Who has seen such things? Can a land be born in one day? Or can a nation be brought forth in a moment? As soon as Zion was in labor, she also brought forth..."

Since that fateful day, more than 3 million Jews have made "aliyah" including over 200,000 holocaust survivors who are still alive. Today there are over 15 million Jews in the world, including seven million who live in Israel. We have been there 26 times and never cease to be amazed at what we see. The land that was so inhospitable and desolate has become rich with vineyards, fruit orchards, and lush gardens.

Several years ago John and I had the privilege of hosting some Jewish friends at our home in the mountains. As we sat on our deck they expressed concern about the future of their homeland. You see, life in Israel continues to be a struggle and it seems each new day brings with it new atrocities of hate and terror. That is why our dear friends looked at us in shock when we told them they need not worry because Israel was never going to be defeated. It was here to stay! They wanted to know how we could say this with such complete confidence and were filled with joy as my husband opened the scriptures and showed them this verse.

The story of Israel's rebirth is a great example of how our God works. When it appears as if God has abandoned us, and when we least expect it, He shows up and does something we could have never imagined. If you are in a dark place today I encourage you to remember this great story of God's faithfulness and hold on to His promises!