

The Mikdash Educational Centre have announced that they are preparing to mint a new coin to commemorate of Israel's 70th anniversary. Last year the same organization minted a special 'half-shekel' Temple tribute coin, in honour of President Donald Trump's declaration to move the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. The Mikdash Educational Centre hope that the new coin, which features the image of the US President alongside that of Cyrus the Great, the Persian ruler who encouraged the rebuilding of the Second Temple, will garner support for the building of the Third Temple in Jerusalem...

Quote: *"He went on to explain that superimposing the images of the two leaders, separated by more two millennia and coming from two separate parts of the globe, is meant to emphasize their common characteristics. "They are non-Jewish leaders who played an essential role in the return of the Jews to Jerusalem," Persoff said. "Hopefully, Trump will continue in this path and, like Cyrus, play a central role in the building of the Temple."*

Some rabbis believe that according to ancient rabbinical sources, non-Jewish world leaders will be instrumental in bringing about the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple in the last days...

Quote: *"Rabbi Berger also quoted Rabbi Bahya ben Asher ibn Halawa, a 13th century Spanish Biblical commentator also known as "Rabbeinu Behaye." The medieval scholar wrote that "the first and second Temples were built by the descendants of King David, but in the future, the Third Temple will be built by descendants of Edom." Rabbi Berger emphasized that*

these sources state explicitly that the Third Temple will be built by the descendants of Rome, i.e. Christianity. "Rabbeinu Behaye explained this is a tikkun (reparation). Rome destroyed the Second Temple so Rome's descendants, the Christians, are going to amend this by taking part in bringing the Third Temple."

In 2016, a letter was sent by the Sanhedrin, the chief religious authority in Israel, to both Presidents Trump and Putin urging them to work together towards building the Third Temple. Both men had previously expressed support for the Jewish people. During Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Jerusalem in 2012, he is reported to have prayed at the Western Wall for the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple. President Trump had also promised at the time to move the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, which promise he honoured earlier this month.

It is very interesting that all this is taking place at this time. Last year was the 120th anniversary of the First Zionist Congress, the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration that paved the way for the rebirth of the nation of Israel, and the 50th anniversary of the unification of the city of Jerusalem. This year also marks the 70th anniversary of the modern state of Israel. It will be interesting to see if anything significant transpires over the next few months.

While I am not sure exactly how the building of the Third Temple will come about, the Bible does predict in many places that during the millennium, many nations will come up to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

Zechariah 8:20-22
Thus saith the Lord of hosts; It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts: I will go also. Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the Lord.

Ezekiel also predicts that after the Jewish people have been regathered back to their land, that the waste cities would be filled with 'flocks of men'.

Ezekiel 36:38:
As the holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her solemn feasts; so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men: and they shall know that I am the Lord.

Today, many Christians from all over the world already visit Israel each year. Go to any of the Biblical sites, the 'waste cities', and you will see exactly that - 'flocks of men', or groups of believers, who want to walk in the places where the Lord walked and taught, to see the places where the Lord suffered and died for them, and where He will reign from in a coming day. To them, visiting Israel is like 'coming home'. That's why they love Israel and the Jewish people. For it is through Israel and the Jewish people that salvation has come to the Gentiles.

Many Jewish people are now recognizing and appreciating Christian love and support for Israel. Indeed, David Friedman , US ambassador to Israel, recently stated that evangelical Christians *"support Israel with much greater fervor and devotion than many in the Jewish community"*.
Perhaps that saying of the apostle Paul is now coming to pass, that Gentile believers are finally provoking the Jewish people to jealousy through their faith in the Jewish Messiah (Romans 11:11). As Paul prayed, our desire is also that all Israel should be saved (Romans 10:1).

Jeremiah 32:37-38
Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely: And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:

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