



NEWS / ARAB LEAGUE

Palestine, Golan Heights take centre stage at Arab League summit

No further action announced as leaders stress 'support for Syria's right' over Golan, push for Palestinian statehood.

by Linah Alsaafin  

17 hours ago



Tunisian President Beji Caïd Essebsi chairs a session of the 30th Arab League summit in Tunis [Fathi Belaid]

U.S. Recognition of Israeli Sovereignty over the Golan Heights: Some Legal Observations



U.S. President Donald Trump recognizes Israel's sovereignty of the Golan Heights in the presence of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (White House)

The Golan Heights, the Bible and Donald Trump

What's the big deal about the United States under Donald Trump recognizing the Golan Heights as part of Israel? The Golan Heights as a possession of Israel stretches back to the time of Moses about 3500-years ago. Israel on its route to take the "Promised Land" from the Canaanites, first took possession of the lands on the east side of the Jordan River. Before Joshua led the children of Israel into the *Promised Land*¹, Moses conquered the land and the tribes² of Manasseh, Gad and Reuben took possession, during Moses' lifetime. The land of the Golan Heights was given to the "Half Tribe of Manasseh" the other half took possession of land on the other side of the Jordan.

¹ The Promised Land is reference to Genesis when God promised to give the land of Canaan to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (See Genesis 12:7, Gen.13:15, Gen 15:18-21, Gen 17:8)

² The Tribes refer to the 12 sons of Jacob who is later renamed Israel, the descendants of these 12 sons became nations who compose the Tribes of Israel. Judah was one of the 12, his descendants became an independent nation from the other tribes. Judah was known as the southern Kingdom while Israel (10-Tribes) was the northern kingdom.

The Background of the conquest of the Golan Heights.



Moses led the children of Israel and Og the king of Bashan refused to allow Israel access to his lands, he attacked them and Israel responded by conquering the lands of Bashan. Scripture tells us God gave the land of Bashan to Israel. God is the one who dispossessed the land from the inhabitants and gave the land to the descendants of Jacob (Israel).

It's a hard concept to understand if you reject the existence of God, how could God remove and replace the inhabitants of

land with other inhabitants? If God exists and the Bible is His WORD, and He created the Universe, everything belongs to God, He sets the rules. Therefore He has the right to give *His land* to whoever He chooses. One of the reasons *Bible Prophecy* exists is God is demonstrating to a skeptical world that His WORD is true, regardless what we think. Numbers 21 records the event regarding Og king of Bashan (Golan Heights).

Numbers 21:33-35 (33) Then they turned and went up by the way to Bashan. And Og the king of Bashan came out against them, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.(34) But the LORD said to Moses, "Do not fear him, for **I have given him into your hand, and all his people, and his land.** And you shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon."(35) So they defeated him and his sons and all his people, until he had no survivor left. And **they possessed his land.**

The city of Golan, where the name Golan Heights comes, was appointed as a city of refuge, it was later destroyed during the time of Alexander the Great, but the name of the city was connected to the land. Another term to the land is the "Oaks of Bashan" (Isaiah 2:13).

Deuteronomy 4:43-44 (43) Bezer in the wilderness on the tableland for the Reubenites, Ramoth in Gilead for the Gadites, and **Golan in Bashan** for the Manassites.(44) This is the law that Moses set before the people of Israel.



Some may find it harsh, that God removes inhabitants of the land such as the people of Bashan, but God used the nation of Israel as judgment against the pagan practices in the land of Canaan. God also promised if Israel did the same, they would be removed from the land. This happened in 722 BC when the Assyrians took Israel captive to the land of Assyria (2 Kings 18:11) and in 587 BC when the Babylonians took Judah captive to Babylon. Jerusalem was then destroyed by the armies of Babylon, Jeremiah wrote *Lamentations* recording the pain of this event.



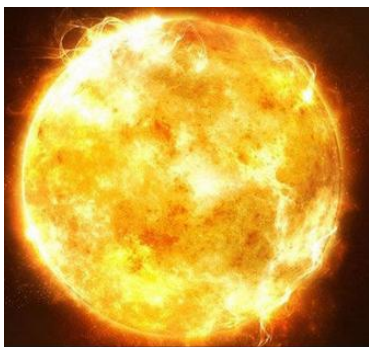
The Promise of Restoration

Despite the judgments God has always promised to restore the land to the descendants of Israel who would be brought back into the land. In 1948, When Israel became a nation after 2000-years, Bible prophecy was fulfilled. From 1948, to the present the territory of Israel has expanded at the expense of their neighbors. Regardless of how people feel about the justice or injustice of the event, we are watching prophecy being fulfilled.

Ezekiel (592 BC) the prophet who was also a captive in Babylon while Jeremiah was in Jerusalem wrote about the coming restoration of the nation. The Jews would be restored to the land after their initial captivity in Babylon. They would also be restored after a future captivity, never to be dislodged again from the land.

Ezekiel 36:1-10 (1) "And you, son of man, prophecy to the mountains of Israel, and say, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD. (2) Thus says the Lord GOD: Because the enemy said of you, 'Aha!' and, 'The ancient heights have become our possession,' (7) Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: I swear that the nations that are all around you shall themselves suffer reproach. (8) "But you, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches

and yield your fruit to my people Israel, for they will soon come home. (9) For behold, I am for you, and I will turn to you, and you shall be tilled and sown. (10) And I will multiply people on you, the whole house of Israel, all of it. The cities shall be inhabited and the waste places rebuilt.



Trump recognizing the Golan

Many times people fulfilling Bible Prophecy don't know or understand what is taking place while it is happening. It is funny even Jews living in Israel don't see themselves as the fulfillment of what the prophets foretold thousands of years ago. They are literally the pieces of prophecy without recognizing the very role they play as descendants of the original exiles. God's WORD is surer than the Sun, Moon and stars (Jeremiah 31:36). With Donald Trump's statement about the Golan Heights, he unknowingly fulfills what the Bible will tell us what will happen. Israel will be gathered from the nations and brought back to their "Land" and there is nothing the world can do about it.

God owns the world and He can give land to anyone or nation He chooses, it is His possession.

He even says the nation of Israel's existence is surer than very Sun itself.

Jer 31:35-36 (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:(36) "**If this fixed order departs from before me,** declares the LORD, **then shall the offspring of Israel cease from being a nation before me forever."**

Israel, God's Object Lesson

Through the nation of Israel, God is giving the world an object lesson regarding His WORD. God's WORD the Bible is not a manmade book, but a book inspired by GOD, though written by the hand of men. Prophets such as Daniel, Jeremiah, Isaiah and Ezekiel were only tools in the hand of God to reveal His WORD. Many people reject the Bible, God will prove to the world the validity of His WORD when His WORD comes to fulfillment regardless what the UN or powerful nations manage to proclaim. We are watching it now with the nation of Israel. Read the verses below from Jeremiah, and understand how you are watching the fulfillment before your very eyes as Israel is reestablished in the land after 2000-years.

Jeremiah 30:1-24 (1) The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD:(2) "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.(3) For behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the LORD, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it." (10) "Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. **Jacob shall return** and have quiet and ease, and **none shall make him afraid.**(18) "Thus says the LORD: Behold, I will restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob and have compassion on his dwellings; the city shall be rebuilt on its mound, and the palace shall stand where it used to be.(19) Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate? I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small.

 CNBC



Carlos Barria | Reuters

President Donald Trump holds a proclamation recognizing Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights as he is applauded by Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and others during a ceremony in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House, March 25, 2019.

President Donald Trump added a new notch to his belt of shock foreign policy moves Monday night, signing a proclamation officially recognizing Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights, which it captured from Syria in 1967 and has occupied ever since.

Trump initially announced the policy about-face last week via Twitter, writing: "After 52 years it is time for the United States to fully recognize Israel's Sovereignty over the Golan Heights, which is of critical strategic and security importance to the State of Israel and Regional Stability!"

