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THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SHOAH AND THE CREATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL:

A MORE NUANCED APPROACH

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APRIL 2017 | NISAN 5777

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America's strong bonds with Israel are well known. This bond is unbreakable. It is based upon cultural and historical ties, and the recognition that the aspiration for a Jewish homeland is rooted in a tragic history that cannot be denied.

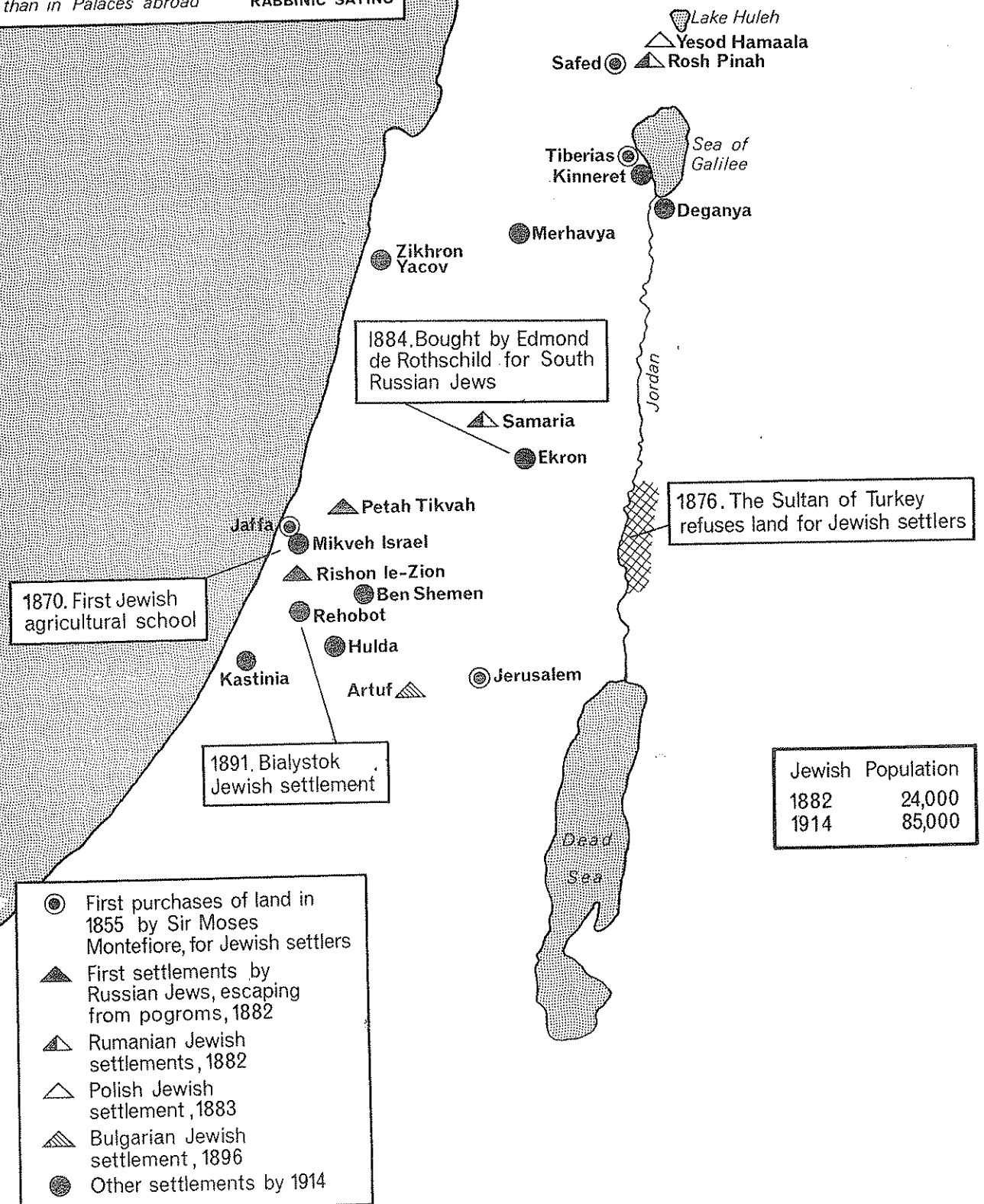
Around the world, the Jewish people were persecuted for centuries, and anti-Semitism in Europe culminated in an unprecedented Holocaust. Tomorrow, I will visit Buchenwald, which was part of a network of camps where Jews were enslaved, tortured, shot and gassed to death by the Third Reich. Six million Jews were killed – more than the entire population of Israel today. Denying that fact is baseless, ignorant, and hateful. Threatening Israel with destruction – or repeating vile stereotypes about Jews – is deeply wrong, and only serves to evoke in the minds of Israelis this most painful of memories while preventing the peace that the people of this region deserve.

President Barack Obama at Cairo University, June 4, 2009

JEWISH SETTLEMENTS IN PALESTINE 1855-1914

0 20
Miles

"It is better to dwell in the deserts of Palestine
than in Palaces abroad" RABBINIC SAYING





BRITAIN AND THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME: PLEDGES AND BORDER CHANGES, 1917 - 1923

0 50
Miles

 The Palestine Mandate, granted to Britain at the San Remo Conference in 1920, as the region of a Jewish National Home

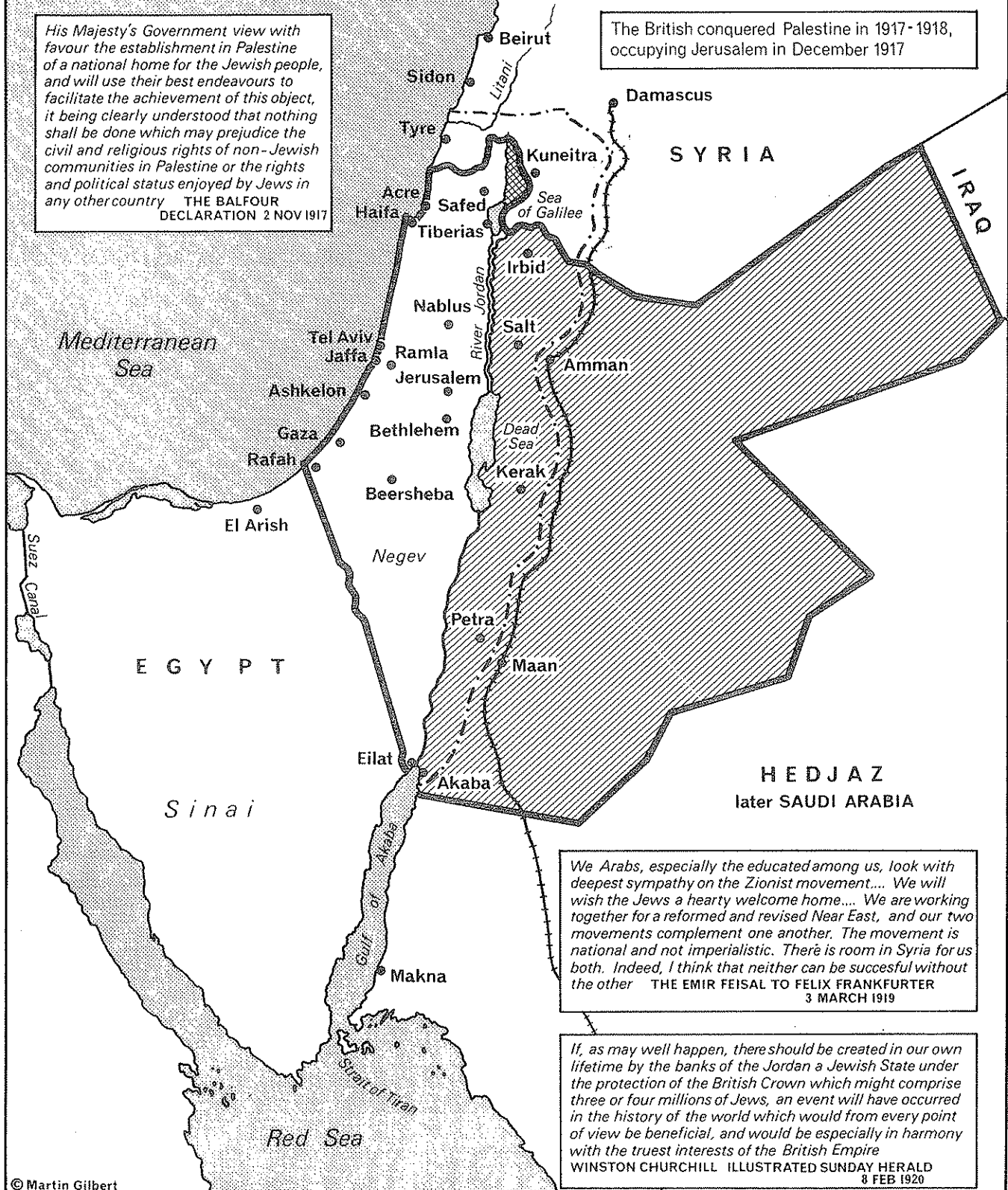
--- Approximate boundary of the area in which the Jews hoped to set up their National Home

 Separated from Palestine by Britain in 1921, and given to the Emir Abdullah. Named Transjordan, this territory was at once closed to Jewish settlement

 Ceded by Britain to the French Mandate of Syria, 1923

His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country THE BALFOUR DECLARATION 2 NOV 1917

The British conquered Palestine in 1917-1918, occupying Jerusalem in December 1917



We Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement.... We will wish the Jews a hearty welcome home.... We are working together for a reformed and revised Near East, and our two movements complement one another. The movement is national and not imperialistic. There is room in Syria for us both. Indeed, I think that neither can be successful without the other THE EMIR FEISAL TO FELIX FRANKFURTER 3 MARCH 1919

If, as may well happen, there should be created in our own lifetime by the banks of the Jordan a Jewish State under the protection of the British Crown which might comprise three or four millions of Jews, an event will have occurred in the history of the world which would from every point of view be beneficial, and would be especially in harmony with the truest interests of the British Empire WINSTON CHURCHILL ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY HERALD 8 FEB 1920

Document 11

The British Mandate

The San Remo Conference decided on April 24, 1920 to assign the Mandate under the League of Nations to Britain. The terms of the Mandate were also discussed with the United States which was not a member of the League. An agreed text was confirmed by the Council of the League of Nations on July 24, 1922, and it came into operation in September 1923.

"The Council of the League of Nations:
Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have agreed, for the

purpose of giving effect to the provisions of Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, to entrust to a Mandatory selected by the said Powers the administration of the territory of Palestine, which formerly belonged to the Turkish Empire, within such boundaries as may be fixed by them; and
Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have also agreed that the Mandatory should be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on November 2nd, 1917, by the Government of His Britannic Majesty, and adopted by the said Powers, in favour of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing should be done which might prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country; and

Whereas recognition has thereby been given to the historical connexion of the Jewish people with Palestine and to the grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country; and

Whereas the Principal Allied Powers have selected His Britannic Majesty as the Mandatory for Palestine; and

Whereas the mandate in respect of Palestine has been formulated in the following terms and submitted to the Council of the League for approval; and

Whereas His Britannic Majesty has accepted the mandate in respect of Palestine and undertaken to exercise it on behalf of the League of Nations in conformity with the following provisions; and

Whereas by the aforementioned Article 22 (paragraph 8), it is provided that the degree of authority, control or administration to be exercised by the Mandatory, not having been previously agreed upon by the Members of the League, shall be explicitly defined by the Council of the League of Nations; Confirming the said Mandate, defines its terms as follows:

ARTICLE 1.

The Mandatory shall have full powers of legislation and of administration, save as they may be limited by the terms of this mandate.

ARTICLE 2.

The Mandatory shall be responsible for placing the country under such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish national home, as laid down in the preamble, and the development of self-governing institutions, and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine, irrespective of race and religion.

ARTICLE 3.

The Mandatory shall, so far as circumstances permit, encourage local autonomy.

ARTICLE 4.

An appropriate Jewish agency shall be recognized as a public body for the purpose of advising and cooperating with the Administration of Palestine in such economic, social and other matters as may affect the establishment of the Jewish national home and the interests of the Jewish population in Palestine, and, subject always to the control of the Administration, to assist and take part in the development of the country.

The Zionist Organization, so long as its organization and constitution are in the opinion of the Mandatory appropriate, shall be recognized as such agency. It shall take steps in consultation with His Britannic Majesty's Government to secure the cooperation of all Jews who are willing to assist in the establishment of the Jewish national home.

הַפְּטָרָה

הַיְהִיָּה עָלַי יְיָ-יְהוָה וְיִצְאֵנִי בְרוּיָהּ יְהוָה וְיִמְחֶנֶּנִי בְּתוֹךְ הַבְּקִיעָה
וְהִיא מְלֵאָה עֲצָמוֹת: וְהַעֲבִירֵנִי עֲלֵיהֶם סָבִיב. סָבִיב וְהִנֵּה
רַבּוֹת מְאֹד עָלַי הַבְּקִיעָה וְהִנֵּה יְבִשׁוֹת מְאֹד: וְיֹאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי בְנֵי-
אָדָם הַתְּחַיִּינָה הַעֲצָמוֹת הָאֵלֶּה וְאֹמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה אַתָּה יָדָעְתָּ:
וְיֹאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי הַנִּבִּיאַת עַל-הַעֲצָמוֹת הָאֵלֶּה וְאֹמַרְתָּ אֲלֵיהֶם הַעֲצָמוֹת
הַיְבִשּׁוֹת שְׁמַעוּ דְּבַר-יְהוָה: כֹּה אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה לַעֲצָמוֹת הָאֵלֶּה
הִנֵּה אֲנִי מְבִיא בָכֶם רוּחַ וְחַיִּיתֶם: וְנָתַתִּי עֲלֵיכֶם גִּידִים וְהַעֲלֵיתִי
עַלְיֵכֶם בָּשָׂר וְקָרַמְתִּי עֲלֵיכֶם עוֹר וְנָתַתִּי בָכֶם רוּחַ וְחַיִּיתֶם
וְיָדַעְתֶּם כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה: וְנִבִּיאֹתִי כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי וְיִהְיֶה-קוֹל בְּהַנְבִּיאִי
וְהִנֵּה-רָעַשׁ וְתִקְרְבוּ עֲצָמוֹת עִצֵּם אֶל-עֲצָמוֹ: וְרָאִיתִי וְהִנֵּה-
עָלִיהֶם גִּידִים וּבָשָׂר עָלָה וַיִּקְרָם עֲלֵיהֶם עוֹר מְלֻמַּעְלָה וְרוּחַ
אֵין בָּהֶם: וְיֹאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי הַנִּבִּיאַת אֶל-הָרוּחַ הַנִּבִּיאַת בְּנֵי-אָדָם וְאֹמַרְתָּ
אֶל-הָרוּחַ כֹּה-אָמַר יְיָ: אֲדַבֵּר מֵאֲדָרְבַּע רִחוֹת בָּאֵי הָרוּחַ וּפְתִי
בִּהְרֹגִים הָאֵלֶּה וַיְחַיּוּ: וְהַנְּבִיאֹתִי כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוִּיתִי וְתִבּוּאָה בָהֶם הָרוּחַ
וַיְחַיּוּ וַיַּעֲמִדוּ עַל-רַגְלֵיהֶם חֵיל גָּדוֹל מְאֹד מְאֹד: וְיֹאמֶר אֱלֹהֵי
בְנֵי-אָדָם הַעֲצָמוֹת הָאֵלֶּה כָּל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל הִמָּה הִנֵּה אֲמֹרִים
יְבִשׁוּ עֲצָמוֹתֵינוּ וְאִבְדָה תְּקוּמָנוּ נִגְדְּנוּ לָנוּ: לָכֵן הִנֵּבֵא וְאֹמַרְתָּ
אֲלֵיהֶם כֹּה-אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה הִנֵּה אֲנִי פֹתֵחַ אֶת-קְבֻרֹתֵיכֶם
וְהַעֲלִיתִי אֶתְכֶם מִקְבֻרֹתֵיכֶם עַמִּי וְהִבֵּאתִי אֶתְכֶם אֶל-אֲדָמַת
יִשְׂרָאֵל: וְיָדַעְתֶּם כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה בִּפְתָחִי אֶת-קְבֻרֹתֵיכֶם וְבִהְעֲלֹתִי
אֶתְכֶם מִקְבֻרֹתֵיכֶם עַמִּי: וְנָתַתִּי רוּחַ בָּכֶם וְחַיִּיתֶם וְהִנֵּחְתִּי
אֶתְכֶם עַל-אֲדָמַתְכֶם וַיְדַעְתֶּם כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה דְּבַרְתִּי וַעֲשִׂיתִי
נָא-יְהוָה:

HAFTARAH

The LORD pressed His hand upon me; He brought me out with His wind and placed me in the valley; it was filled with bones. He made me traverse them all around; and there were very many of them all over the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me "Son of man, can these bones be revived?" And I said, "LORD, O God, You alone know." He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones; say to them, 'O dry bones, listen to the word of the LORD! For so says the LORD God to these bones: Behold, I shall place My spirit within you and you shall live. I will place sinews upon you, pad you with flesh, and cover you with skin, and I shall place a spirit within you and you shall live; and you will know that I am the LORD.'" So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a sound, a rattling noise — and the bones came together, each bone to its bone. And I watched as sinews were placed upon them, and flesh padded them, and skin covered them on the surface — but they were without breath. He said to me, "Prophecy, son of man, prophecy to the wind; say to the wind, 'Thus said the LORD God: Come, wind, from all four directions, and breathe into these slain ones, so that they might live.'" And I prophesied as He had commanded me, and the wind breathed into them and they were alive, and they stood upon their feet, an exceedingly vast army. He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are all the house of Israel: behold, they say, 'Our bones have dried, our hope is lost, our decree has been sealed.' Therefore, prophecy, saying to them, 'Thus spoke the LORD God: Behold, I shall open your graves and lift you out of your graves, My people; I shall bring you to the land of Israel. And you will know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and lift you out of your graves, My people. I shall breathe My spirit into you and you shall live, and I shall place you upon your land, and you will know that I am the LORD: I have spoken and performed,' says the LORD."