

# Interview with Bauman about Palestine

## Louis T. Talbot

[Music until 00:23]

Announcer:

The Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc., half century old Christian training center of the West, presents verse by verse with Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Biola Chancellor and one of the America's great evangelical leaders. And now once again your radio Bible teacher, Dr. Louis T. Talbot.

Louis T. Talbot:

And thank you, Mr. Announcer. Good morning, my radio friends and friends of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles. This is Louis T. Talbot greeting you and welcome you to another broadcast of Bible study. And I welcome you as I always do in the wonderful name of our soon coming Lord.

Now the mornings of this week we have had the privilege of having Dr. Paul Bauman on the radio. And Dr. Bauman, as you know, is the vice president of the Brethren Seminary in Winona Lake, Indiana. And from him, we have obtained up to date information in regard to Palestine as it is today. And after listening to the answers that he has given to the questions that I put before him, I am sure that we are all convinced that we are living in the day when the fig tree is beginning to put forth the leaves, and the age is rapidly coming to a close.

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

Now before we take up this discussion, let me make one or two announcements in, very brief announcements, in view of the fact that the Lord's Day will be with us very shortly. And I do trust that all of you folks will be in some place of worship, where the Gospel is preached and where the Word of God is believed, and particularly your own church, if you have the privilege of belonging to a church of this kind.

Now on Sunday morning and Sunday night and continuing every night of next week, it will be my privilege to give a series of prophetic messages in the Temple Baptist Church of Fullerton. Uh, Dr. Arthur Peters is the pastor, and the church is located at 1601 Malvern Street in the Fullerton. I trust, my dear friends that I have the privilege of seeing many of radio listeners, who reside in that area. And then on the coming Lord's Day, Dr. Bauman will be speaking Sunday morning at the Monte Vista Brethren Church and the Los Altos Brethren Church on Sunday evening. And then tonight he is going to be at the South Gate, uh, Brethren Church. Possibly he'll say a word in regard to his meetings, when he begins to answer the first question that I give to him.

I want to thank all of you folks in radio land for the wonderful response that you have been making to the appeal, that I have made for the radio memorial dormitory, that I'm very very anxious to see erected on the campus at La Mirada. You know that this is make it possible for all of the students be, to be together, and thus save quite a number of them having to commute every morning from downtown by bus to, to La Mirada. Uh, we have about twenty five thousand dollars for this building, but we'll need about a hundred thousand before we can start the

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

building. And I want to assure you, my dear friends, it'll be a great joy to my heart when all of our students are living together on the campus.

Now, next Monday, if the Lord tarry that when we come together at 11:00, we will beg-, we will continue the study in the Book of Revelation. And I think that we have reached the beginning of chapter 11. And so you begin to read chapter 11. And on Monday, if the Lord tarry, that we will be together.

Now I present to you, your friend and my friend, Dr. Bauman. And Dr. Bauman has been a real joy to be with you the mornings of this week. And you might say hello to all of your friends in radio land.

Paul R. Bauman:

Thank you, Dr. Talbot, it's been a great privilege and a pleasure again, reminds us of old times to sit at the microphone together, as we join in the study of the Word of God. And I've been asked by Dr. Talbot to say something about tonight, when I speak in South Gate, at the brethren church on Sequoia and Monteiro streets. I'll be showing pictures and dealing with the subject Israel 10 years ago and today. Also Sunday night at Los Altos, the pictures will be on the same subject Israel 10 years ago and today.

Louis T. Talbot:

Yes, and Dr. Bauman, don't be surprised if you see me show up tonight in the meeting. Now, Dr. Bauman, yesterday we were discussing the judgments that fell upon the city of Jerusalem,

because of its apostasy. And the conclusion of the broadcast we were considering the prophecy of Micah 3:12, where we read "Zion shall be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps." Uh, now, you will remember that we saw the hea-, uh, the Hill of Zion, when we are in Jerusalem some years ago. And the whole face of it seemed to be a plowed field even today. Now what is the meaning and the significance of the other part of this prophecy, "Jerusalem shall become heaps?" Now, what is the meaning of that statement?

Paul R. Bauman:

Dr. Talbot, the average traveler who visits the city of Jerusalem today, uh, little realizes that the streets over which he walks are not actually the streets on which Jesus and His disciples walked 1900 years ago. As a matter of fact, the city of Jerusalem has been destroyed again and again. And its ruins and its ashes leveled off, and then the city rebuilt. And particularly was that true in the days when the Roman armies, under Titus the Roman, destroyed the city and fulfillment of the prediction which Jesus had made that not one stone would be left standing upon another. And the streets of Jerusalem today are anywhere from 10 feet to 90 feet above the level of the streets of the city, as it was in the days of, of Christ, and particularly in the days when this prophecy was uttered.

And so, as one travels through the streets today occasionally, he comes to a place of excavation, as I did last spring at the pool of Bethesda. It's necessary to get down about 30 or 40 feet to get to the pool of Bethesda today. And an archaeologist was digging out a large arch, the very top of which was about 20 to 25 feet below the present level of the city. And so that prophecy has been literally fulfilled. Jerusalem became heaps.

Louis T. Talbot:

Well, that is very very interesting indeed. And now Dr. Bauman, we have been speaking about the judgments that were to fall upon the city of Jerusalem. And we have seen how, through the course of the centuries, these have been literally fulfilled. Now there are in the Bible also some prophecies that speak of the restoration and rebuilding of Jerusalem, i-, in what the Bible calls the last days, that are associated with the return of the Lord and the establishment of His kingdom. I am speaking particularly of the one located in the 31st chapter of Jeremiah. Are you familiar with that prophecy? I guess you are.

Paul R. Bauman:

Yes, Dr. Talbot, I think that's one of the most remarkable prophecies in the entire Bible that has to do especially with the restoration of a city. This is located in the last portion of Jeremiah 31. And God here says that "the days come," verse 38, "saith the Lord, that the city shall be built to the Lord." And you'll notice, Dr. Talbot, that 2600 years ago, God directed Jeremiah not only to predict the rebuilding of the city of Jerusalem, but actually He marked out the very lines around which the city would be rebuilt.

And so He begins with the landmark from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner. In verse 39 says "the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath." And so there are some landmarks, at least, which time has not been able to erase. And it's along the western side of Jerusalem, down toward the south, where this tower of Hananeel was located. And the hills on the western side that the city has been rebuilt

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

over the course of the last few years. And it is significant that that arc, run around the western side and then run around the northern side to the brook Kidron, is the very line of rebuilding mentioned by Jeremiah 2600 years ago.

Louis T. Talbot:

And Doctor, uh, I, I notice in the Bible that is open before you in verse 40 in this 31st chapter, uh, that there is a reference to the "valley of dead bodies." Now, what is this, doctor? And when we there, when we were traveling to Palestine some ten ye-, years ago, I think that we visited a place called the Tomb of the Kings on the north side of the city. Did we not?

Paul R. Bauman:

Yes, we did, Dr. Talbot. This generally agreed upon as the "valley of dead bodies" mentioned by Jeremiah. At least out in that northern part was the place where a number of the high men of Israel were buried. In fact, last spring I visited also the Tombs of the Sanhedrin or the rulers of Israel, which is also on the north and out toward the northwest, in fact. And those tombs are actually in Israel. The Tombs of the Kings so-called are in the Arab portion, but significantly both of them lie along the north and the north western portions of the old city. That is outside the gates of the Old City. But to the north and the new part of Jerusalem is all around that particular location.

Louis T. Talbot:

And Doctor, in the same verse, Jeremiah mentions what he calls the "ashes." Now, what is the reference to the "ashes?" What is the meaning of that statement?

Paul R. Bauman:

Well, Dr. Talbot, that is the most significant statement for 50 years ago. There were outside the city of Jerusalem, on the north, huge piles of ashes, 40, uh, 40 feet high. Now those ashes had been there through the course of a good many centuries. They were the dumping places for ashes that had been taken from the temple sacrifices in the city of Jerusalem. And over the years, they accumulated a considerable height. The ashes are such that no one could take a picture of them today, because they were removed as the city began to be rebuilt. And over that very spot today are lovely buildings. Many of these ashes were taken and made into lime, to cement, even the brick together, that went into the rebuilding of the city.

I have pictures of the ashes, but they were taken about 40 years ago, and were outside even of our experience. But the significant fact is that the city lies along that very line again, lines which can't be mistaken by one who knows something of the history of that country.

Louis T. Talbot:

Now Doctor, isn't there a passage somewhere that speaks of the cities being built out over what was called the King's winepresses? That detail doesn't seem to be in this passage, is it?

Paul R. Bauman:

No, Dr. Talbot. It comes from a passage that is very similar in the 14th chapter of Zachariah. And we read beginning at verse 9, "The Lord shall be king over all the earth; in that day there shall be one Lord, and His name one." And you'll notice that this is a messianic prophecy also.

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

And then the very next verse, verse 10 Zachariah 14, "the land shall be turned as a plain" and so on. And then he says it's sha-, Jerusalem "shall be lifted up, and inhabited in her place, from Benjamin's gate unto the place of the first gate, unto the corner gate, from the tower of Hananeel," the very one mentioned, you'll notice, by Jeremiah, "unto the King's winepresses. And men shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited."

And the interesting detail is this one called "the King's winepresses." Again, about thirty to forty years ago, there were out on the north side of the city of Jerusalem, just one little spot in the midst of a lot of desolation, "the King's winepresses." And again I have a picture of that, but no visit to the Holy Land would produce a picture of that kind. The ruins of the old wine places in the midst of desolation. But today that whole area is covered by houses that belong to the city of Jerusalem. And so we have just another detail that pins down this very line of rebuilding, around which the city would be constructed.

Louis T. Talbot:

And Doctor, it seems to me that the details in regard to these prophecies just mark the, uh, the, the great prophecies to be the word of the Living God. It's wonderful how indeed they are being fulfilled to the letter. Now, I also see here the ju-, Jeremiah predicted that the buildings would continue clean around to the book, the Brook Kidron. Now, is this where the line of the new city ends?

Paul R. Bauman:

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

Yes, Dr. Talbot. That does the significant part, as one considers the present city of Jerusalem. And if you were to go there today, and go up on the Mount of Olives, and look out over the city, you could there see both the Old City and the new. And I have taken many pictures to try to represent how the building, to just to show how the building begins on the southwest side. It swings up along the west side of the Old City, and then completely around the north side. And it is most remarkable indeed that this rebuilding ends at the Kidron Valley. Remember, it was a cross, the little brook Kidron that Jesus went into the Garden of Gethsemane and back across, when he was betrayed by Judas and was led into the city to face His accusers.

And that line is so clearly seen by one who may look out over the city of Jerusalem, that he cannot escape it. And we might well ask how it can be that, there is no building along the eastern side? There's none along the southern side. But the main area of rebuilding of that wonderful new city, which has now reached a population of about 200,000 people, now that's the Jewish city. In addition to the old city within the walls which is Arab. And that wonderful new city is all built on those two sides, particularly mentioned by Jeremiah. The other two lie practically empty. How did Jeremiah know that, when he might consider that perhaps?

Louis T. Talbot:

Yes. And Dr. Bauman, tell us a little about Jerusalem as you saw it last April and May, as you were there at that time.

Paul R. Bauman:

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

Well, Jerusalem is a wonderful city. It contains buildings that are just as modern as anything that we would see here in the United States. There's the King David Hotel, a very fine hotel, has its, all of its accommodations that you would find in any hotel in America. A million dollar YMCA building is immediately across the street from the King David Hotel, given by an American philanthropist. And then, last spring we, part of our, portion of our party was in the King's hotel, a lovely new hotel. These are just samples. The marvelous post office building which would be a credit to any American city.

And then I think, I was impressed, perhaps, to some extent even more by the loveliness of the new campus of the Hebrew University. The old campus had fallen into no man's land during the war between the Jew and the Arabs. You remember up on Mount Scopus, Dr. Talbot, we were able to see it from a distance, completely closed along with the Hadassah Hospital. But they've gone out to the western side, the very part Jeremiah mentioned. And they have taken the rocks and used those rocks to construct some of the most beautiful buildings one could possibly imagine. And that campus, that university has a, a, an enrollment now of about 10,000 students. These, along with the other remarkable new apartment house buildings that are going out to meet this campus, impress one with a tremendous restoration that is going on at Jerusalem, unparalleled in past history. And one certainly cannot guess at the significance of these things, if he knows his bible.

Louis T. Talbot:

And my friends, I want to interject here by saying it is a remarkable thing that a man like Jeremiah, who lived more than 2600 years ago could look over the span of the centuries and

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

mark out the very lines, along which the city of Jerusalem would be rebuilt in these last days. Now, how could Jeremiah know these things twenty six centuries before that happen? Well, the answer is that he couldn't have known them. He was writing by inspiration. That is that the Spirit of God put the telescope of prophecy to his eye, and he looked down through the ages. And he saw the things that we are actually seeing coming into being these days. How very, uh, wonderful is the fulfillment of prophecy! And this, my dear friends, he is one of the evidences of the truth of the Word of God.

You know that we're living in a day when unbelief is spreading in various forms, but there was never a day, my dear friend, when we have more reason to believe that the Bible is the Word of God as, as in our day. Well, would you like to have a word in regard to that, Doctor?

Paul R. Bauman:

Yes, Dr. Talbot. I think there's only one conclusion a person can come to, who knows the word of God and who reads that in one hand and the newspaper in the other. That this book cannot possibly be a human book. Only God can read the future.

Louis T. Talbot:

Yes. Now we read, we, we read about some of the tremendous developments that are going on down there in the desert portion of Israel, such as Beersheba. That was a town that is in the southern portion of the Holy Land. And Abraham, you'll remember, visit Be-, Beersheba in his day. And we read that he dug a well there, I think. Now, I wonder if you have ever the

opportunity of seeing this city of Beersheba, that is mentioned so, so prominently in the Old Testament?

Paul R. Bauman:

Yes, Dr. Talbot. I had the privilege of going down to Beersheba last spring. And this city is a most remarkable city. The Bible tells us that there was some considerable civilization down in this desert area in the days of Abraham. In fact, some of the unbelievers had thought that the Bible exaggerated. And they question whether there were the cities down there that the Bible mentions. However, during the past 20 years or a little less, Nelson Glueck of Cincinnati, the Hebrew Seminary at Cincinnati, has been carrying on systematic researches in that area. And he's located the ruins of many many cities and settlements there, dating clear back to the days of Abraham, and the wonderful way verifying the Bible.

Now the town of Beersheba at one time in Abraham's day was, it was a place of some consequence. But, as a part of the judgment that was to fall upon the Holy Land in its entirety, this city dwindled until about forty years ago. There was a miserable little town there of mud huts, not more than about 250 people. But in recent years, that city has taken on a tremendous growth. And this will give you some idea. For example back in 1950, it had become a municipality, numbering about fourteen hundred people. Now, that's only ten years ago. But let me show you, Dr. Talbot, what can happen in ten years. During the past ten years, that city has continued to grow there in the desert. Until in 1958, just eight years later, it had a population of forty thousand people. And 98 percent of those people had permanent homes. And all but five percent of them had about, had steady jobs. And this comes from their own government's

statistics. It's estimated that by 1968, the city will have a population of at least 100,000 people. And that would be more than were in all of the Holy Land 50 years ago.

Louis T. Talbot:

Well, that is indeed wonderful. Now, Doctor, here is another thing. We have reason to believe that King Solomon had His copper mines down in the desert, on the Gulf of the, the, the Red Sea. Have you ever been there, and are those mines in operation today?

Paul R. Bauman:

Dr. Talbot, I had always wanted to visit the copper mines of King Solomon. In fact, some years ago the archeologists had located his old smelting town of Ezion-Geber, the old seaport. And they even discovered the quays, the docks excavated. Because it's become filled with sand, and the actual shoreline of the Red Sea or the Gulf of Aqabah is, is south of it a couple of miles or so, at the present time. But they located these. And in addition to that, they found actually some of the old blast furnaces that belonged to the days of King Solomon. And by the way, one thing which they discovered there reveal something of the wisdom of Solomon, which is described in the Bible by a very ingenious principle, only rediscovered in modern times with the invention of the so-called Bessemer fluid or the Bessemer furnace. They had actually designed the fluid for their blast furnaces that would take advantage of the prevailing winds to fan the flames, so that they would be hot enough to smelt copper. And then they took advantage of those same winds to fan the noxious or poisonous gases out over the Red Sea, where they wouldn't become dangerous to human life.

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

I wasn't able to get to Ezion-Geber. It's an Arab territory, and I was in Israel territory there. But I did go to another place, where they located some of the evidences of his smelting furnaces. And there were huge piles of slag. And I brought home a piece of that slag, along with some of the copper ore. Would you like to know about some of the developments there, Dr. Talbot, and the reopening of those mines?

Louis T. Talbot:

Yes, we would, but we've only got about five minutes. And I've got 15 other questions that I want you to answer. Now, Doctor, let me ask this. Say, go ahead and give this information.

Paul R. Bauman:

Well, I can give that very quickly, Dr. Talbot. I visited a large smelting furnace there, from the reopening of those mines, taking a hint from the Bible which is always the best authority. They have reopened those mines, and are developing them by strip mining today, and are mining copper, one of the richest strikes in Israel was made the very week I was down at Eilat.

Louis T. Talbot:

Yeah. Now, Doctor, right along this land, uh, you remember that when we we-, when we were in Palestine, we made a visit to the Dead Sea. I remember that we went in swimming there one day and the water was so full of salt that even though you couldn't swim a stroke. And there you are floating on top of the water like no man's business. But you know that the Dead Sea is the richest chemical deposit of this kind in the world. What is being done to develop the mineral resources of the Dead Sea?

Paul R. Bauman:

Well, in the first place, I might make a correction here for the benefit of our friends. If I remember correctly, Dr. Talbot, I was holding you up most of the time. And if I was sinking, it was an effort to hold you above water. However, that wasn't necessary in the Dead Sea. You know, our friends too, be interested knowing this that the Dead Sea lies thirteen hundred feet below sea level. And it contains, on the average, eight times more salts than ocean water. And it's no figure of speech to say that Israel's life can be made to flourish by the effective use of the rich minerals in what was previously regarded as a region of death. And the Dead Sea today is giving up its salts, by the end of 1957. Production of these minerals was at seven thousand five hundred tons a month. And at the present time, the annual rate is about a hundred and twenty thousand tons of potash. These potashes are used for medicines, for munitions, for fertilizer, and a great variety of uses that will help to make this country a self-sustaining economy.

Louis T. Talbot:

I'd like to ask, Dr. Bauman, we just have about two more minutes. I'd like to ask what was the most impressing of all the business that we made together. What about Petra? How do you think that Petra, the city of Petra, the Rose-Red city of the dead? Uh, would rank in the order of interest.

Paul R. Bauman:

Well, I think that was one of the seven wonders of at least the day. And Petra was one of the most thrilling experiences I had. I believe that it's, in that area, unquestionably that the Jewish

Talbot – Interview with Bauman about Palestine

remnant will be miraculously preserved, when the Antichrist turns the fight, the flames of all of his satanic hatred upon them. And certainly, back in that area, must be the place, because it's the only place to which they can flee. And I hope, maybe, we can return there someday, Dr. Talbot.

Louis T. Talbot:

Yes, I hope, Doctor. And not only that we may return there, but that we may lead an, an expedition down there, so that all of our radio audience could go along. You remember that when we were sleeping down there, we went into one of the buildings, and there were 13 skulls there. We decided not to stay there. So we went into another building and there were 20 skulls. And then we went back to the one with a 13.

Well, thank you my friends, and have a great time on the coming Lord's Day. This is Louis T. Talbot, Dr. Bauman signing off. Goodbye and God bless you all.

[Music until 28:57]

Announcer:

You've been listening to your radio Bible teacher, Dr. Louis T. Talbot, Chancellor of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles Inc. Address all mail to Dr. Louis T. Talbot, 558 South Hope St., Los Angeles 17, California.

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