

Prophetic Proof

A fascinating prophecy in the Old Testament tells how a remnant of Jews from China will return to Israel one day. Isaiah wrote his Biblical prophecy about 740 BC and said: **“Surely these shall come from afar; Look! These from the north and the west, and these from the land of Sinim” (Isaiah 49:12)**. The term, *Sinim* refers to China (for instance, if look up ‘Sino-Russian relations’ online you’ll find it has to do with China and Russian relations). Respected Bible commentator C.J. Ellicott, D.D. says of this verse: *“Modern scholars are almost unanimous in making it refer to the Chinese.”* How confirming, then, to discover that Isaiah’s prophecy was correct and that some Jews *did* go to live in China and will one day return to the land of Israel from there!



According to one author: *“Manasseh ben Israel, the Chief Rabbi of Amsterdam in AD 1651, wrote a book called ‘The Hope of Israel.’ He declared that these Chinese Jews...had fled to China from the area of Afghanistan to escape successive waves of Tartar invaders. Jewish synagogues dating back more than a thousand years old still existed in Kaifeng in northern China in the first part of this century. Ancient monuments and letters in Hebrew language indicate a Jewish presence extending back before the time of Christ.”* Also, many Jews fled to Shanghai during WWII, and there is an inscription in the synagogue honouring the town for protecting them. *So how did Isaiah know in 740 BC that Jews would go to China?* The Bible is inspired by God’s Spirit!