

## WEEK 5 – Islam continued...

### B. The Palestinian Arabs

#### 1. Key definitions concerning Palestinians

- **East Jerusalem** - A term used mostly by non-Jews concerning the eastern part of the Old City (including the Temple Mount) of Jerusalem, which was shared by Jews and Arabs prior to 1948. It came under the control of Jordan from 1948-1967. It was taken by Israeli forces in 1967 and has continued to be inhabited by Palestinian Arabs. Israel officially annexed East Jerusalem in 1980, uniting the whole city as the Israeli capital.
- **Gaza Strip** - The home land for the ancient and modern city of Gaza. It is located approximately 50 miles southwest of Jerusalem against the Mediterranean Coast. It was formerly inhabited by the Philistines in O.T. times and ultimately ended up as Egyptian territory. As of the Six-Day War of 1967, it is under the control of Israel and is inhabited by Palestinian Arabs today.
- **Intifada** - A “shake off, uprising, strike:” the Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule in the so-called “occupied territories” that started in December 1987 then waned and was reinstated in September of 2000.
- **Ottoman Empire** - the empire of Ottoman Turks who converted to Sunni Islam. They conquered and ruled the Middle East (and Palestine, especially Jerusalem) from AD 1453 - 1918. They were defeated by the British forces in World War I and completely dismantled after World War II.
- **Palestine** - A term for the country west of the Jordan River, first called “Palestine” by the Greeks and Romans after the word Philistine, which refers to the enemies of Israel who inhabited the Mediterranean Coastal Plain. The Bible refers to the same territory as \_\_\_\_\_, named after the pre-Israelite inhabitants, although Jews have always called it ‘Eretz Yisrael (The Land of Israel).

It is referred to 7 times in the Bible (**3** times as *Palestina* ... Ex. 15:14,, Is. 14:29, 31; **3** times as *Philistia* ... Ps. 60:8, 87:4, 108:9; and **1** time as *Palestine* ... Joel 3:4).

- Revisionist History - A concentrated plan to revise, change, or re-write actual history in order to replace it with one’s religious or political views and doctrines.

An act of historical \_\_\_\_\_.

- **West Bank** - The term originally employed to describe the land occupied by Jordan from 1948-1967. It is a term continued to be used by non-Jewish media and sources to refer to the territory of biblical Judea and Samaria (including East Jerusalem). It was captured by Israel in the Six-Day War of 1967 and the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

## 2. Who are the Palestinians?

- A strict definition of the term "*Palestinian*" – One who inhabits the land of Palestine.
- **Ancient times** –  
Genesis 15:19-21  
Genesis 21:33-34  
Jeremiah 25:20, 24  
Jeremiah 50:37  
Ezekiel 30:5
- **Modern times** - The term "*Palestinian*" was, for centuries, used to identify \_\_\_\_\_ not Arabs. This was because it was well known that the Jews were the ancient rulers and nationals of the land between the Nile and the Euphrates rivers (Genesis 15:18). It was well known and recognized that this was the land that the Hebrew God promised to Abraham and his lineage, through Isaac. The use of the term "*Palestinian*," in regards to the Arab population of the land, began in the early \_\_\_\_\_ as Arab leaders sought to create a unified identity for the plethora of Israeli Arabs. The Term "*Palestinian*" \_\_\_\_\_ be found in any dictionary, encyclopedia, or history book (in direct relation to Arabs) until after the Israel became an official national reality.
- During the late 19th century, when the Ottoman rule was dying, around \_\_\_\_\_ harsh conditions forced many people groups to immigrate into "Palestine", where work was available. According to historical surveys, the nationalities of these migrant workers were: Balkans, Greeks, Syrians, Latins, Egyptians, Turks, Armenians, Italians, Persians, Kurds, Germans, Afghans, Druzes, Circassians, Bosnians, Sudanese, Samaritans, Algerians, Motiwila, Tartars, Hungarians, Scots, Navarese, Bretons, English, Franks, Ruthenians, Bohemians, Bulgarians, Georgians, Indians, Copts, Maronites, Persian Nestorians, and many others. Of the 141,000 mainly Turkish Muslims settled in the land of Palestine in 1882, at least 35,000 of these were migrants. They constituted the population of the land. It is from these migrant workers that the modern-day Palestinian Arabs are descended. The modern-day Palestinians are mainly \_\_\_\_\_ people \_\_\_\_\_ with many other various nationalities.

This is a historical \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Important Notes:**

Palestinian nationalism, or the desire for a government and an independent Palestinian State, was NON-existent.

Even though Islam had ruled the area on and off during the time of Islamic conquest, there has \_\_\_\_\_ been recorded any feelings of nationalism bent toward the formation of a “Palestinian” State by its Arab population until the early 20th century in direct reaction to Turkish rule.

- The Palestinian Arab demand for international recognition as a distinct people group who can fly a flag, receive foreign diplomats, elect Yasser Arafat as their president, and claim Jerusalem as their capital ... all actions of an autonomous State ... have created a FACT from FICTION.

It was not until after the formation of the Jewish State of Israel that the Palestinian Arabs started demanding that the land was their historic homeland. Researcher Roger David Carasso writes, concerning this “Revisionist History:”

*“The Arabs learned their disinformation tactic from the Nazis: if you repeat the lie long enough and loud enough, people will actually believe you. As a result, most people now believe there is something called the “Palestinian” people, a total fabrication, complete with a phony history and a phony culture. There is only one truth here, that there are 1.75 million people, a hodgepodge of Arabs and Turks, intentionally or maybe unwittingly, masquerading as a “people,” and made into a “people” by the PLO and many in the world community who relished attacking the Jews in yet another novel way.”*

**NOTE:**

The land was indeed called “*Palestine*” but it was **NEVER** a Geo-Political entity. It did not exist as a government or a State! (deception by revisionist history)

3. Their claim on the land

- Palestinians claim they have a right to the land:
  - They claim that the land is theirs because they are the physical descendants of Abraham through his son \_\_\_\_\_. Scripturally speaking, we have already clearly seen that the Bible promised the land to the descendants of Abraham through his son \_\_\_\_\_, and through Isaac’s son Jacob (Genesis 17).

- Concerning the Palestinian's claim that all Arabs are descendants of Ishmael... there is NO biblical evidence whatsoever to prove this point, nor is there any biblical statement that Ishmael is the forefather of the \_\_\_\_\_ people.

As we have already seen, the Palestinians are not a lone indigenous people group, but rather a \_\_\_\_\_ of Turkish and other diverse nationalities who worked for the Ottoman Empire.

- Although Palestinian's claim Allah wants them to have Jerusalem, the word " \_\_\_\_\_ " does not ever appear in the Quran, nor does the Quran itself speak of any specific location in the land of Palestine as being an Islamic holy place given to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Based on these facts there is **NO** legal or legitimate claim to the land.

#### **NOTE:**

It is important to know that Palestinian leaders revise not only history, but their own statements and beliefs in order to suite their claim for the land (IE. They once said they were the decedents of Philistines, now they say Canaanites, etc.).

- Interestingly enough, the Bible lists the Arabs as \_\_\_\_\_ and distinct from the Philistines (2 Chron. 17:11).

The Bible says that they joined forces to defeat King Jehoram (2 Chron. 21:16) but were instead defeated themselves by King Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:7).

The Philistines \_\_\_\_\_ from history after being taken into captivity around 600 BC by Nebuchadnezzar.