

# **Response to Israel**

## **Sunday, November 5th, 2023**

Pastor Sam Mathews  
Redeemer Bible Church

### **Presuppositional Insights**

- God's original plan for Israel remains unchanged.
- Salvation for individual Israelites is not based solely on their birth as Jews. They have to put their faith in Jesus.
- Some individual Israelites have believed in Jesus.
- Corporate Israel continues to be God's chosen people (Deut 7:6; Amos 3:2; Gen 12:2-3; Rom 11:28-29; 11:1-2)
- God has not forsaken His people.
- Israel is still His people, although they continue in unbelief.
- The church has not replaced Israel.

### **Political Insights**

- In the year AD 64, Nero initiated a persecution against the Jewish community.
- In AD 130, Hadrian oversaw the reconstruction of Jerusalem and the construction of the temple of Jupiter.
- The Romans designated the region as Syria Palestina.
- Between 325 and 614, Palestine was under Byzantine rule.
- Muhammad's birth occurred in Mecca in AD 570.
- By 610, the Temple Mount in Jerusalem had become a central site for Muslims.
- In AD 614, the Persians defeated the Byzantines and took control of Jerusalem.
- Muhammad's passing in 632 AD marked the inception of the Muslim conquests.
- In 637-38, Muslim forces captured Jerusalem, Antioch, and Caesarea.
- From 687 to 691, the Dome of the Rock was constructed on the Temple Mount.
- The Crusades commenced in 1099 and extended until 1291.
- In 1099, the Crusaders successfully captured Jerusalem.

- By 1186, Saladin, in conjunction with Muslim forces in the Middle East, laid siege to the Kingdom of Jerusalem.
- In 1453, the Ottoman Empire conquered the Eastern Roman Empire, establishing dominion over Palestine for a span of 400 years, lasting until 1918.
- During the 1800s, the political movement of Zionism emerged.
- In 1917, the Zionists advocated for the British government to issue the Balfour Declaration.
- In 1918, the Ottoman Empire dissolved.
- In 1947, the United Nations voted to partition British-controlled Palestine into two separate states—one for the Jewish population and the other for Arabs. This decision prompted an immediate invasion by the armies of five Arab states.
- The 1948 war, also referred to as the 1948 War of Independence, was a battle between the newly established state of Israel and a coalition of Arab nations.
- The Six-Day War erupted when Palestinian guerrillas and the Syrian army initiated an offensive against Israel.
- The Yom Kippur War occurred in October 1973, as Egyptian and Syrian forces launched a surprise attack against Israeli positions along the Suez Canal and the Golan Heights.
- Hamas took control of the Gaza Strip after winning elections against Fatah.
- On Oct 7, 2023, Hamas launched a land, sea, and air attack against Israel.

### **Biblical Story of Israel**

- What is the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 12:1-7; 13:14-17; 15:1-21; 17:1-27; 18:17-19; 22:15-18)
- Abraham's sinful choice and its consequences (Gen 15:4; 16:1-4; 17:20-21; 25:12-18)
- The enmity between Satan and God (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28; Rev 12:1-18)
- Israel's rebellion and its consequences (Ezek 20; Matt 23:37-38; Romans 10-11)
- Restoration of Israel and the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant (Zech 12:10-12; 13:8-9; Amos 9:11-15)

## **Our Response to Israel**

- Our attitude toward Israel (Ps 33:11; Psalm 122:6; Eph 2:1-6)
- Place your trust in the promises of God (Ps 33:11)
- God has a divine plan for the nation of Israel.
- Presently, they are enemies of the Gospel (Rom 11:28a)
- Nevertheless, they are beloved of God (Rom 11:28b)
- Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps 122:6; Eph 2:1-4)