Israeli & Palestinian Conflict

Why is Israel and the Jews important in Eschatology or the End Times?

- The Jews are the primary focus of the 70th week of Daniel or the 7 years of tribulation yet to come.
- There is a world leader that makes a covenant with Israel and breaks it after 3 1/2 years with the Abomination of Desolations in the temple (there needs to be a temple).
- The Battle of Armageddon is in present day Israel the Valley of Meggido.
- Jesus returns at the end of the 7 years to Jerusalem at the Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4).

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

- · We don't condone everything Israel does.
- · Jews must believe in Jesus as their Messiah to be saved.
- But we do not want to work against Israel.

586 BC Israel is conquered by Babylon: No longer a country, Time of the Gentiles begins

70 AD Jerusalem is destroyed: the Jews are scattered (Diaspora)

BC 63-637 AD Roman control: 313 AD Christianity legalized

637-1099 Muslim control: various families ruled Palestine

1099-1291 Crusader control: England and France among others

1291-1517 Mamluk control: An Egyptian dynasty

1517-1918 Ottoman Empire control: Ottoman Empire ends after WWI becomes Turkey

1920 and 1948: British Mandate. Britain oversees Palestine after WWI for League of Nations

Holocaust: The world was sympathetic to the Jews for a short time

April 12, 1945: Roosevelt died in office, Harry Truman becomes president of USA.

<u>Post WWII Jewish immigration to Palestine:</u> only 1,500 Jews were allowed to return to Palestine per month according to a 1939 pre-war agreement.

• By early 1947, the combined terrorism of Arab and Jewish extremists made order and security in Palestine almost impossible.

November 29, 1947, the UN votes to portion Palestine: three divisions, an Arab state, a Jewish state, and an internationalized zone in the Jerusalem area.

- Arabs saw the British withdrawal as an opportunity to drive out then Jews and settle the immigration question once and for all.
- The Arabs were too independent to organize and unify. Their common denominator was their hate for the Jews, but they did not trust each other at all.

May 14, 1948: Britain leaves Palestine, Israel declares statehood.

- Within minutes, President Truman issued a statement extending *de facto* recognition to Israel as a sovereign state.
- The whole world believed that Israel would not last long but they at least were given an opportunity.

Israel's War of Independence: a miraculous victory, Israel doesn't go away quietly.

- His total force, as the battle began on May 15, was 30,000 men and women.
- The world watched in unbelief as this ragtag army stopped its attacker on most fronts and gradually took the offensive against superior mechanized forces.

June 11. 1948: both sides exhausted a truce was called for though a UN mediator.

Colonel Moshe Dayan's forces routed the Egyptians and were on the offensive on all fronts.

<u>A second truce:</u> the Arabs were on the run, and only the intervention of the British delegates in the Security Council, which brought about a second truce, saved the Arabs.

<u>June 5, 1967 (1967 Six-Day War):</u> Israel surprise attacks the Arab nations as they surrounded the small country wiping out all of their planes and disabling the promised attack and annihilation of Israel.

• By nightfall of June 6, Israel had destroyed 416 planes, 393 on the ground. Israel lost 26 planes to anti-aircraft.

October 6, 1973 (Yom Kippur): Arab nations surprise Israel by attacking them on Yom Kippur (Jewish Day of Atonement) catching them completely off guard.

- With Cairo in Israel's sights, Cairo and Moscow were panic-stricken. They demanded the United Nations Security Council require Israel to pull back to its pre-1967 borders.
- Israel returns the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt in 1979.

Genesis 16:11-12 And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has listened to your affliction. 12 He shall be a <u>wild donkey of a man</u>, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and <u>he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen</u>."

- Abraham and Sarah are not having a child as promised. Sarah orders her servant to be Abraham's concubine and bear him a child.
- Ishmael is born. (This is a picture of the flesh and not trusting God.)
- Isaac is born miraculously (14 years after Ishmael) when Sarah was 90. (He is a picture of the Spirit and trusting God.)
- Isaac and Ishmael will have conflict. The flesh and the Spirit are in conflict.
- Ishmaelites purchased Joseph from his brothers and took him to Egypt where they sold him into slavery (Gen. 37:25–36; 39:1).
- Ishmaelites were associated with the Midianites in attacking the children of Israel during the time of Gideon (Jud. 8:24).
- The eastern tribes of Israel waged war against the Ishmaelites, who in turn suffered defeat (1 Chr. 5:19–22).
- The Arabs have looked to Ishmael as one of their ancestors. The Qur'an even substitutes Ishmael for Isaac as God's chosen son (Surah 19:54).
- In Muslim tradition, the prophet Muhammad, the founder of Islam, claimed direct descent from Ishmael.

Mark 13:5-8 And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no one leads you astray. 6 Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. 7 And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. 8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains.





