

A BRIEF STUDY OF ISRAEL



A basic history of Israel:

- 1300 BC Jews claim the land promised to Abraham with Joshua
- 1000 BC - Kingdom of David - Jerusalem established as the capital
- 957 BC - Temple of Solomon constructed
- 722 BC - Assyrian Exile (1 and 2 Kings)
- 586 BC - Temple Destroyed & Babylonian Exile (Daniel)
- 515 BC - The Return & 2nd Temple (Ezra & Nehemiah)
- 63 BC - Roman empire takes over
- 70 AD - 2nd Temple destroyed during Jewish revolt
- 636 AD - Muslims (Newly Formed) and Arabs take over
- 1099-1291 AD - Christian crusades to retake the Holy Land
- 1517 AD - Muslim Ottoman Rule
- 1897 AD - Zionist movement led by Theodor Herzl begins
- 1917 AD - Jews promised land in Balfour Declaration
- 1912-1945 AD - Anti-Semitism runs rampant through Europe with many Jews fleeing to their ancestral homeland. Arabs side with Nazi's to encourage a final solution in Jerusalem - Amin al-Husseini meets Hitler
- 1947 AD - UN proposes a 2 State Solution which is accepted by the Jews and rejected by the Arabs
- 1948 AD - Israel declares independence
- 1967 AD - 6 Day war - a Miracle Victory and land expansion. This leads to settlements in the West Bank.
- 2005 Israel leaves Gaza and removes Jewish settlements
- 2006 Hamas is elected the government of Gaza. Different from the Palestinian Authority (Fatah) which oversees the West Bank

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Who is Hamas?

- Elected government of the Gaza Strip (50 ish %)
- A terrorist group that has continually attacks Israel and believe in the complete destruction of the Jewish state from the "River to the Sea"
- Use human shields to hide their munitions. Will use schools, hospitals, apartments for their HQs
- We shouldn't be afraid to say Hamas is evil
- On October 7th they launched a series of terrorist style attacks on Israeli cities that border Gaza. They killed 1000+ civilians, raped and kidnapped, decapitated children, set the elderly on fire, and live streamed their crimes.
- In light of this attack Israel has declared war and will likely invade Gaza to completely eliminate Hamas as an organization. This will likely set off many more terrorist attacks in Israel.

Is God done with the Jews?

- A quick overview of "Replacement Theology" or "Supersessionism"
- A Biblical response to Replacement Theology - Romans 9:1-5, 9:30-10:4, 11:1-2
- The remnant of Israel - Revelation 7
- So what is the role of the Church (Us)? - Romans 11:11-12
- We must be clear, Jesus is still the Christ.

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Christians understanding the conflict:

- Israel has a right and duty to defend herself - Romans 13:4
- It's okay to admit that Israel has erred at times in its history - Blind support is never a good idea
- Christians should always seek to bring peace and comfort to the afflicted, no matter their background or religion

Okay, but is Jesus about to return?

- Maybe - Matthew 24:4-8
- Israel (The People and Location) is of key importance
- Never claim to know something Jesus doesn't know - Matthew 24:36
- Live rightly before God now