

Objective of the Study:

To make sense of the conflict in the middle east, to be able to explain and understand the terms and cities with a clearer understanding of both the Biblical and historical background.

Terms and Questions:

- 1. Where is Canaan?
- 2. What is the consider the Middle East?
- 3. Where is Israel
- 4. What is the PLO?
- 5. What is a Jew?

- 6. What is Palestine
- 7. What is a Muslim
- 8. What is Hamas?
- 9. Where is the West Bank
- 10. Where is Gaza

Part 1: Why is there War In Israel? (2023)

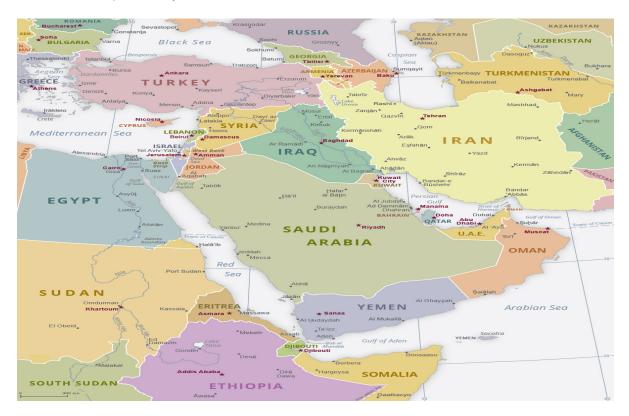
On October 7, 2023, Hamas, which is an Islamic terrorist organization attacked Israel. Over 1000 Israelis most civilians were killed, and 200 Israeli soldiers were killed. This started a war between Israel and Hamas, in a Palestinian area known as Gaza.



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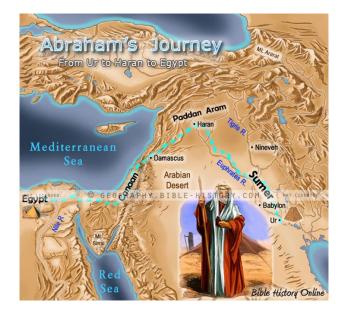
What does the Bible say about war? Scripture Reference: Matthew 24:6

Why has there always been conflict in the Middle East in areas of Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia.



Reason 1: The Land is important to God. Why? Scripture Reference: Genesis 11:31 -

God told Abraham to leave the land of the Ur of the Chaldeans and go to a land that I will show you. The land was known as Canaan.

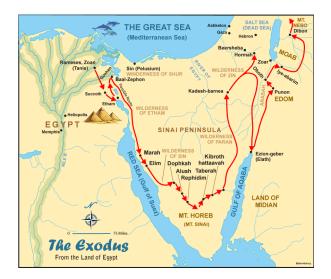


Canaan is modern day Israel:

God gave the deed Genesis 1:1 to the land that we know as Israel to

- Abraham Genesis 15:18, Gen 17:8
- Isaac Genesis 26:2-3
- Jacob Genesis 28:13

Israel went down to Egypt – Exodus 1:1



Israel wandered before they settled in the land of Canaan.

The Conquest of the Land:

- Numbers 13:17 Moses sent the spies out to investigate the land of Canaan
- Joshua 1:11 Is the time Israel actually moved into the land

Reason 2: The Jews Are Important to God

Who were the people who moved into the land?

- Israelites moved into the land, they were Jews
- God told them you will be my people and I will be your God Ex. 6:7, Zechariah 8:8, Ezekiel 14:11; Leviticus 26:45

God made a covenant with the Jews

The Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 17:2

The Noahic Covenant – Genesis 9:11

The Davidic Covenant – 2 Samuel 7:11-13 - God promised to establish a Kingdom forever through David 2 Samuel 7:13

Two Important Kings in Israel's History:

- King David is was Israel's true first king 2 Samuel 5:3 &12 David established Jerusalem as the capital of Israel – 2 Samuel 5:7
 - Zion is the city of David.
- 2. King Solomon David's son built Israel's first temple for the Jews to worship.
 - Solomon built the first temple in Jerusalem 2 Kings 6:1



When Solomon dedicates the temple the glory of the Lord fills the Temple -

- 2 Chronicles 5:11-14

A thousand years before Christ, King David united the 12 tribes of Israel and captured Jerusalem. His son, Solomon, built the First Temple right here. It was later destroyed, and the Second Temple was built. Then came the catastrophic year for the Jews: 70 A.D., when the Romans destroyed their temple and ushered in the Diaspora. That's when the Jews became a people without a land and dispersed throughout the world.



Both the capital, Jerusalem and the temple are at the center of the Universe

Part II: The Jewish Homeland

What we know today as Israel was a Jewish occupied region of the world. Israel was the Jewish homeland.

Why isn't Jerusalem still the Jewish Homeland? Why did the Jews leave their homeland?

The Jews were forced out of their homeland because of 5 invasions:

- The First Invasion Assyrian Empire 2 Kings 18-19 The Assyrian army invaded Judah, which was considered the Northern Kingdom, conquered by King Sennacherib.
- The Second Invasion The Babylonian Captivity Jeremiah 27:18-20; 25:9-11 – King Nebuchadnezzar came to Jerusalem and took Israel captive. Isaiah 10:11-12.
- 3. The Persian Empire took over Israel.
- The Roman Empire took Over Israel The first temple was destroyed. A.D. 70. - The Romans destroyed the city and the temple but left a large portion of the limestone western wall standing. The location became known as the Western Wall or the Wailing Wall.

5. The Ottoman Empire – was an Islamic superpower.

All five nations invaded Israel and caused the Jews to be dispersed all over the world. The reasons Jews left their homeland and dispersed all over the world was because they were forced out. They migrated to areas all over the world: Europe, Poland, Russia, Britain, Germany.

However, The Jews wanted to return to their Homeland

- The land was no longer Israel, home of the Jews
- The land was called Palestine and Arabs occupied the land that was once home to Jews.

Who are Arabs? – Arabs is known race of people. Most Arabs are Muslims, but there are Jewish and Christian Arabs

Why the Dispute Over Israel?

Three groups have stake in Israel:

- 1. The Jews naturally have a stake in Israel, it's their original homeland.
- 2. The Arabs who are mostly Muslim, moved into the land
- 3. The Christians because Israel is the birthplace of Jesus Christ and where the crucifixion took place.

The land is important to Christians because:

- 1. Jesus Christ advanced the cause of Christianity Acts 1:8
- 2. Jesus was a Jew, but introduced to Judaism, grace, the blood sacrifice and the atonement of sin and a new kingdom.

The land is important to Muslims because:

Muslim built their temple, the Al Alsqa, the doom of the rock on the same properties the first temple that Solomon built

During peace times Christians:

- Muslims and Jews can all be assembled in the same area.
- Christians visiting the birthplace of Jesus.
- Christians visiting the via Delarosa, where Jesus carried the cross.
- Jews can be praying at the temple wall, the last remaining structure of the temple.
- Muslims will be worshipping in the Doom of the Rock.

This area is considered the holist place on earth:



Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs have struggled to share the land they each claim as their historic homeland.

Jewish Revolt

Thus, over time Jews have revolted and sought to regain their homeland from the Arabs.

The Jews created a movement called Zionism, which is a quest to create a Jewish homeland in its original place of Israel. However, when the Jews started their revolt, the land was now the Arabs.

The first attempt by the Jews to was to get help from the British, but the British refused

- The Jews then began to buy pieces of the land from the Arabs. Since Jews were dispersed all of the world, they worked and possessed money.
- The first migration of Jews back to Palestine, they began to set up towns

The second migration of Jews occurred when Hitler massacred the Jews and Jews fled back to Israel and the population of Israel Palestine exploded.

So now there are Jews and Arabs living the same geographical region: for the Jews Israel and for the Arabs Palestine

So what's the confusion all about?

Its about the establishment of statehood:

- 1. Many Arabs hoped that this area will one day be independent Palestine state, which is east of the Jerusalem capital
- 2. Israel which is predominately Jewish, wants to keep Jerusalem as its capital

So, now two groups the Palestians and the Jews want to rightly called Jerusalem their capital

Israel became a state in 1948:

The Zionist movement helped to Jews to create a Jewish state in 1948

The Jews were attacked by Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and Jordan.
All these regions have a stake in Israel for various reasons.
But Israel was united on being a Jewish stated and defending its homeland.

War in 1967 – Sixth Day war – It was the Arab states against Israel

- The Palestians have two areas the West Bank and Gaza
- Palestians want statehood as a country:

The massive confusion is about God the first landowner, gave the land to Abraham, Issac and Jacob. Abraham had two sons:

Issac represents – Israel Ishmael – the Arab

The confusion over this precious piece of is called Zion. It is the place that the Lord plans to return

THE PEACE OF GOD IS GOING TO RULE IN ZION

<u>Ps 78:68–69</u>

But chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion which He loved. And He built His sanctuary like the heights, Like the earth which He has founded forever.

<u>ls 51:16</u>

"I have put My words in your mouth and have covered you with the shadow of My hand, to establish the heavens, to found the earth, and to say to Zion, 'You are My people.' "

Heb 12:22-23

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect,...

<u>1 Pe 2:6</u>

For *this* is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER *stone*, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

<u>Re 14:1</u>

Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.