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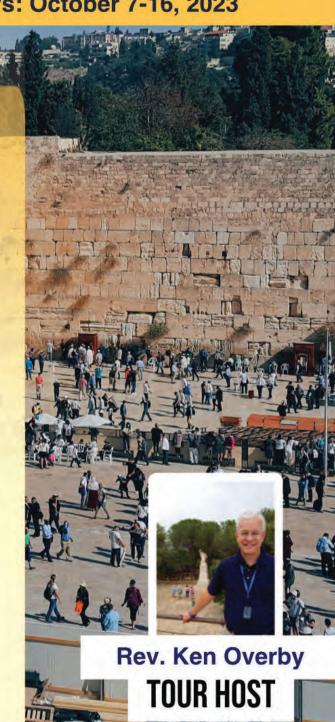
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"The most important thing Christian leaders can do is to pass their values to the next generation. This is very crucial. If they do not know what Israel is - then we will all wake up one day and see that they don't recognize us, and don't like us and don't want us."

- Avner Talmon -

Holocaust survivor, Founder of Olea Essence Group in Quatsrin, Israel



REV. KEN OVERBY

Shalom in Messiah:

How amazing to the 75th see anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel, God's super-sign for end-times. I can hardly wait for our next trip Up To Zion in October 2023, Over 3500 years ago David conquered Zion and 2000 years ago Jesus conquered death, hell and the grave in Zion. Isaiah who mentions Zion 47 times, prophesied of the imminence of Messiah's return to Zion in the latter days. "I bring near my

righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory." (Isaiah 46:12,13).

After my sermon on blessing the Jewish descendants of Israel, from Genesis 12:1-3, a well-meaning Christian approached me, explaining that they were not against the Jewish people, they were just against the "Zionists." I explained that to be against Zionism and Zionists, was the same as being against Israel and Jewish people. Anti-Zionism has become the new packaging for antisemitism whether it be in the university, in the news, on social media or in the pulpit. Zion is found 153 times in Hebrew scripture. The first mention is in 2 Samuel 5:7: "David took the stronghold of Zion the same is the city of David." The last time it is mentioned is found in a prophecy of both the first and second coming of David's son, Jesus. "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." Zechariah also saw His second coming: "he shall speak peace



unto the heathen; and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth" (Zechariah 9:9-13).

Zion is more than a place; Zion is a people, "...say unto Zion, Thou art my people" (Isaiah 51:16). Zion is David's city to which his Messianic Son, Jesus came, bringing salvation. The Prince of Peace, will return, saving Israel, bringing "Peace unto the heathen," and ruling from the throne of David in Zion as the King of

Kings in His eternal kingdom.

In Genesis 12:1-3, God promised not only to "bless them" that bless Jewish people but to "curse him" that curses them. There is one Hebrew word used twice for "bless" in this passage but two different words translated "curse." Bless is from the Hebrew word, ba'rak, pronounced ba-ruch, meaning to bestow favor. God promises to bestow favor on those who bestow favor on Jewish descendants of Abraham. A blessing bestowed speaks of a tangible gift. The same word is used when Jacob sent a gift ahead to his estranged brother Esau, "Take, I pray thee, my blessing - ba'rak that is brought to thee" (Genesis 33:11). Tangibly blessing Israel is more than a loud "Amen" when a sermon is punctuated with Genesis 12:1-3. When it comes to the two words used for "curse," God promised to a'rar, pronounced aw-rar, meaning to bitterly curse, as was used in Balaam's attempt to curse Israel (Numbers 22:6). In 2 Peter 2:12-16, the curse of Balaam is referenced, in warning against false prophets creeping into the New Testament Church. "What kind of cursing will God



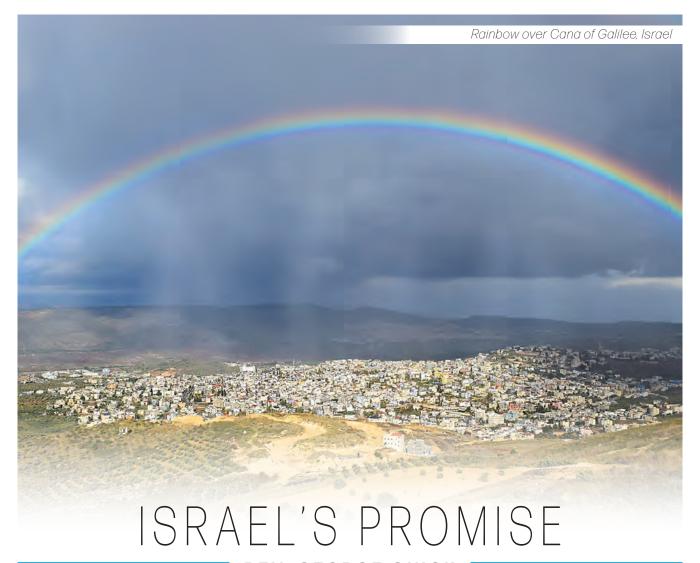
severely judge?" The second Hebrew word used in this passage is qua'lal, pronounced kaw-lal. It means to make light, despise, to count as trivial. It was used in 1 Kings 16:31, "as if it had been a light - qua'lal, thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam, that he took to wife Jezebel." To make light of Zion or belittle Jewish Zionists will incur God's tangible curse. Christians who do so cannot hide behind the verse "there is no condemnation" (Romans 8:1), because three chapters later Paul warns the same believers, "For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee . . . otherwise thou also shalt be cut off" (Rom 11:21, 22). Believers will never suffer the wrath of God in eternity, however they can feel the pain of chastisement much like the stiff-necked Israelites experienced the anguish of serpent bites. Jewish Awareness Ministries stands firmly against this new anti-Semitism cloaked in anti-Zionism and is fully committed to helping believers in Jesus bless the nation and the children of Israel. The greatest way to bless them is to lovingly give them the good news of Jesus the Messiah of Israel. Start with a tangible blessing like a coffee gift card before April 25th, 2023, which is Israel's 75th Independence Day celebration.

This issue opens with an article on God's fulfilled promises to reestablish the nation of Israel, by George Quick. Mark Robinson focuses on God's deliverance in spite of the pressures experienced by Israel through its major wars. My article will identify the international demographics that God is weaving into the tapestry of modern Israel. Rusty Guin gives a synopsis of God's blessing of prosperity and of Israeli ingenuity. Matthew Morrison deals with the impending plight of Israel in the Tribulation and the prospect of her redemption and restoration. In conclusion we'll

see that Israel is experiencing an epic erosion of support internationally and in particular, in America. We are on the edge of a precipice when outright mocking of Jews by celebrities and sports figures is commonplace. Persecution of Jews in the U.S. has doubled in the last few years. Take note, it always starts with the Jews, but it never ends with the Jews. At best America is blessing Israel militarily from one side of their mouth while members of congress curse Israel out of the other side of their mouth. "Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be" (James 3:9,10). Let's daily "pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Jeremiah predicted that gentiles from the "chief of the nations" shall cry, "Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God...publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel" (Jeremiah 31:6,7). We Christians in the "chief" nation America, are scripturally accountable to be Israel's "watchmen." Let's make it our practice to lovingly show them from their scriptures how Jesus the Lamb of God is the soon coming Lion of Zion.

In the service of Jesus our Lord and Messiah,

Rev. Ken Overby



REV. GEORGE QUICK

In Genesis 12:2 God promised Abram that his lineage would become a great nation. This meant that God would provide a people, a land and a government to comprise the nation of Israel as recorded in Scripture. Lewis Sperry Chafer, the founder of Dallas Theological Seminary, taught that God gave the Jewish people "unalterable divine covenants and promises" and that they would continue forever.¹ Chafer contended that God's covenant promises to Israel were unconditional and that God would fulfill His covenant promises to Israel, regardless of their obedience. God's covenant with Abram contained three promises. The first promise was of a national land (12:1). The second promise was of innumerable national people or "seed" (12:2). The third promise was of the blessing of redemption to all families (12:3), which Paul identified clearly as fulfilled in Christ (Galatians 3:16).

Due to Israel's disobedience, she succumbed to the Roman invasion of 70 AD and was scattered throughout the nations. Did Israel's disobedience incite God to violate His covenant promises to them? Of course not. Romans 11:1 boldly states, "God forbid!" When the Lord scattered Israel throughout the world, He promised that she would return to her homeland and receive multiple blessings at that time.

"And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God" (Amos 9:14-15). (cf. Ezekiel 20:34, Jeremiah 30:3)

God promised that the Jewish people would restore and re-populate the downtrodden cities of the Promised Land. The great Zionist movement of the 19th century, the Balfour Declaration of 1917, and the liberation of prisoners from Nazi concentration camps all helped produce a great migration of Jews returning to their homeland. The prophet Jeremiah prophesied in Jeremiah 16:14-15 that restored Israel would be more impressive than the original. And Ezekiel 37 told of God breathing life back into dry bones.

God promised that this return to the land would be a permanent restoration. Despite constant conflict and war from Arab nations bent on Israel's destruction, Israel still stands strong today. When we couple these promises with Ezekiel 37:21-22, we see that God didn't just promise that the Jews would return to the land, He promised that He would "make them one nation." Isaiah 66:7-8 added that He would perform this miracle in one day. "Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? For as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." And that's exactly what happened. On May 14, 1948 the Jewish People's Council gathered at the Tel Aviv Museum to declare the establishment of the State of Israel as a united, sovereign nation after 1900 years. "By virtue of our natural and historic right . . . hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish State in Eretz-Israel, to be known as the State of Israel. Placing our trust in the 'Rock of Israel' we affix our signatures."2 The very day that the United Nations' mandate expired, ending British control of the land, the United States recognized Israel's sovereignty. In a 24 hour period, Israel became a nation, just as God promised.

God also promised that even though the population of Israel would be much smaller than her surrounding enemies, her army would be exceptionally powerful (Leviticus 26:3,7-8). Within hours of Israel declaring independence, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Syria attacked Israel. Yet Israel, with less than 1 million, was victorious.

The ultimate question is "Why did God do this"? Why did He make these promises to Israel? Does God act without purpose and plan? The answer is found in Ezekiel 36:19-24.

"And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them. And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land. But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes. For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land."

God said that keeping His promises to Israel was for the singular purpose of sanctifying His name. The Hebrew word for sanctify is qua-dash. It means to proclaim that something is kept holy and clean. God's name and His Word were at stake. If God somehow was unable to restore Israel as He promised, what good is a God who can't keep His word? Israel had profaned His name among the heathen, but this did not alter God's unconditional covenant promise to them. Their restoration to the land was not for their sake. It was for the sole purpose of sanctifying His holy name. When God makes a promise, it is 100% secure. Is this not a grave warning to those who deny that God has returned Israel to their land in fulfillment of prophecy? Do they not realize that in doing so, they are actually denying the sanctity of His holy name and of His Word which He has magnified above his name?3 🚂 🗸 🖳

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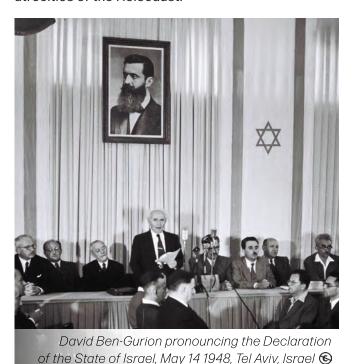




ISRAEL'S PRESSURE

REV. MARK ROBINSON

General Moshe Dayan sat on a boulder overlooking the Golan Heights, with tears in his eyes. It was only the second day of what would become known as the Yom Kippur War of 1973. The surprise attack by Egyptian and Syrian forces during Israel's most holy of days was devastating. Earlier that day he had briefed Prime Minister Golda Meir, with the succinct statement, "We are about to see the destruction of the Third Temple." In 586 B.C. Solomon's Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians. In 70 A.D., Herod's Temple was destroyed by the Romans. When the Temples were destroyed, the nation was destroyed. Moshe Dayan's statement showed his belief that this attack by Egypt and Syria would lead to the destruction of the modern nation of Israel, born just a guarter of a century earlier as a result of the atrocities of the Holocaust.



1948 - THE WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

On May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion made the historic announcement of the independence and birth of the nation of Israel. It was a decision not made lightly. Ben-Gurion and the Minhelet Ha'am (the "people's administration," Israel's provisional government-in-

the-making)1 had just finished a 10 hour meeting on May 12, to decide if they should declare Israel a nation among the nations of the world. The world was against such a declaration. The U.S. let Israel know that they shouldn't declare nationhood upon the expiration of the British mandate within two days. The men knew the possible ramifications of statehood. Intelligence data alerted them to the British support of a planned Arab invasion. "It is learned from an authoritative source that the Arab states have made a final decision to attack together and simultaneously on May 15,' read a telegram received by a Ben-Gurion aide shortly after the meeting started. They have decided to do so even if it entails a risk of failure. They are relying on a lack of heavy weapons and a lack of Jewish air power. Tel Aviv will be attacked immediately from the air."2 With the loss of 6,000,000 Jewish people in the recent holocaust of WWII, were these men willing to chance another catastrophe upon the Jewish people, if the heavily armed and superior numbers of the Arab armies attacked on May 15? The pressure was palpable. The decision to declare statehood was historic and divinely led. On May 15, five Arab Nations - Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon attacked. Greatly outnumbered in personnel and equipment the nascent nation valiantly held off the invaders. Stories are told of the miraculous events that benefitted Israel's efforts. "In the north, the Arabs were encamped at the top of Har Canaan, which overlooks Safed. It was a virtually impregnable position. The Jews could not gain control of the road to Safed or this city. Then the Israelis brought up the Davidka, a tremendously noisy mortar - that was extremely inaccurate and of little tactical value. One Friday afternoon, the Israelis fired a Davidka several times — and then a miracle happened: it rained. It never rained in May and June there. The Arabs were now sure that the Jews had the atomic bomb. What else could make it rain? Consequently, they fled their impregnable positions. The Israelis captured Safed and drove the Arabs out of the entire northern area of the Galilee."³ From a biblical perspective, prophecy was fulfilled. As Ezekiel, chapters 36 and 37, and other prophets, foretold, Israel would be a nation again after world-wide captivity. May 14, 1948 was the date of that amazing event.



1967 - THE SIX-DAY WAR

Of all the wars in modern history the resounding victory of Israel over Egypt, Syria, Jordan & Iraq in the 1967 Six Day War is unparalleled. As the name of the war - Six Day War - suggests, it was a lightning fast conflict. The Arab nations had been preparing for war with Israel for months. King Hussein of Jordan signed a defense pact with Egypt on May 30, 1967. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser announced on the same day:

"The armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are poised on the borders of Israel... to face the challenge, while standing behind us are the armies of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Sudan and the whole Arab nation. This act will astound the world. Today they will know that the Arabs are arranged for battle; the critical hour has arrived. We have reached the stage of serious action and not declarations."

The military alliance of Egypt, Syria, and Jordan was enhanced when Iraq joined on June 4. Approximately 465,000 troops, more than 2,800 tanks, and 800 aircraft were encamped on Israel's borders. Israel was not concerned enough about an impending invasion though for weeks they had been on high alert. The world was not supportive of any war, especially of Israel going to war. Although the U. S. President Lyndon Johnson gave lip service to Israel defending herself, the U.S. declined to help Israel in her time of need. "Right before the war, Johnson warned: 'Israel will not be alone unless it decides to go alone.' Then, when the war began, the State

Department announced: 'Our position is neutral in thought, word and deed.'"⁵ Israel's other main supply of armament came from France. French President Charles de Gaulle declared that he "would not help Israel when they rejected his plea not to go to war."⁶

Israel was alone. IDF chief of staff Lt. Gen. Yitzhak Rabin is quoted as saying "It's time we stop deluding ourselves that someone will come to our aid. This is the most grave situation since the War of Independence." On June 4, 1967 the Israeli Cabinet met and voted to give Rabin the authority to decide if and when they might make a pre-emptive attack on these Arab nations. There would almost certainly be multiplied thousands of Israelis dead and the nation would be decimated if not defeated, if they waited for the Arabs to attack. The pressure was on Rabin. Early in the morning of June 5, the entire Israeli air force, save 12 planes assigned to defend Israel air space, took off for Egypt. By the end of the first day almost the entire fleet of Egyptian planes were destroyed, having never left the ground. Half of Syria's planes were likewise destroyed. The ensuing tank and land battles would be won conclusively by Israel. The war ended in 6 days with Israel winning a monumental victory. One of the most amazing occurrences of the Six Day War was the plight of Jerusalem. Prime Minister Levi Eshkol of Israel had no desire to fight Jordan in the war and communicated this to King Hussein of Jordan. Eshkol said "Israel would not attack Jordan unless he [King Hussein] initiated hostilities.' When Jordanian radar picked up a cluster of planes flying from Egypt to Israel, and the Egyptians convinced Hussein the planes were theirs, he then ordered the shelling of West Jerusalem. It turned out the planes were actually Israel's, who were returning from destroying the Egyptian air force on the ground."8

The lie of Egyptian leaders influenced Hussein to fire on Israel controlled west Jerusalem. Israel fought back. The end result was the reunification of Jerusalem. Jordanian controlled East Jerusalem and Israel controlled West Jerusalem were now united under the flag and control of Israel. Once again, Israel was divinely led and one of the most significant events in modern Israel history occurred. Jerusalem was now a united city under Jewish control.

1973 - YOM KIPPUR WAR

The attack on Yom Kippur in 1973 was a devastating blow to Israel in many ways, not the least being the psyche of the nation. One writer stated, "Listen, every war is tragic but for the Israelis, the Yom Kippur War of October 1973 is - by a wide margin - the most traumatic."9 The overwhelming victory experienced just six years earlier had produced a euphoric feeling of invincibility in Israel. God had become the forgotten factor in the nation now lifted up with pride after their victory in 1967. Since he was the unseen force allowing Israel to succeed, then exaltation in man's accomplishments was counterproductive. As Proverbs 29:13 reminds us, "A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit." Perhaps the events of the Yom Kippur War was God's way of reminding Israel that they needed to look to Him. Yes, things were very bleak in the first few days of the war. "Egypt and Syria launched a coordinated surprise attack against Israel. The equivalent of the total forces of NATO in Europe was mobilized on Israel's borders. On the Golan Heights, approximately 180 Israeli tanks faced an onslaught of 1,400 Syrian tanks. Along the Suez Canal, fewer than 500 Israeli defenders with only three tanks were attacked by 600,000 Egyptian soldiers, backed by 2,000 tanks and 550 aircraft."10



On October 12 the U.S. sent massive armament supplies to help Israel. The tide of war turned. The determined forces of the IDF reached the gates of Damascus and Cairo before the war was called off by the Arab nations. The stories of the miraculous in this war were many. One report said, "In a place called the Valley of Tears on the Golan Heights, less than 100 Centurion tanks were up against 500 Syrian tanks. By the fourth day, Israel had three tanks left standing against 150 enemy tanks. Suddenly the Syrian forces

inexplicably turned around and headed back to Syria. The 'why' was a mystery until the Mossad interrogated the commander of Syria's 9th Army Division. When asked why he didn't take out those last three tanks, he told the Mossad interrogator, 'I would like to see you try and cross the Syrian missile lines while you see a whole host of white angels standing right on the missile lines and a white hand from heaven telling you to stop right there and move no further. Needless to say, I stopped right there and then,' said the commander.'" I srael is an eternal nation. It is God who called them into existence, protects her and will bring her, ultimately, to her glorious future. "Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep," (Psalm 121:4).

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BY REV. MARK ROBINSON

Representative Jewish Awareness Ministries



REV. KEN OVERBY

For generations the colorful remnant threads of Abraham's heirloom seed have been gathered from all over the world into the sovereign weaver's basket. His skillful hand is weaving these select threads into the new fabric of Israel. May 14, 1948 became the high-water mark of a Jewish migration to Israel that continues to ebb and flow. Never before in human history had such scattered and battered people had their national identity restored after a twenty century exile. Although Satan's desperate "final solution" failed to exterminate kol bet Yisrael - the whole house of Israel, 6,000,000 of the world-wide Jewish population was slaughtered, including 1.5 million Jewish children.

"If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence shall he fetch thee." (Deuteronomy 30:4)

The immigration from the global diaspora of Jewry, back to the Land of Israel, is known as "making Aliyah" (עלייה) - Hebrew); pronounced Ah lee YAH', is translated as ascent for going up to Israel. Modern Israelis call these immigrants Olim, from the Hebrew - Olam, which is used to describe Jewish immigrants from "beyond the horizon." Though there have been many waves of return over the last 75 years, we are beginning to see signs of a coming tsunami of end-times Jewish repatriation. The adversary is determined to round them up in one place to finish by his Anti-Christ what Hitler failed to accomplish. God vowed to David,

"Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." The same LORD that shall "preserve thy going out" shall preserve "thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore." (Psalm 121:4.8)

"And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." (Isaiah 11:12)

Israel is pictured in the last days as a bereft mother in shock to see her children flocking back to her side.

"Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been?" (Isaiah 49:21)

Long before World War II Jewish immigration was well underway. Tel Aviv was literally rising from sand dunes to become the "first Hebrew city," numbering 200,000 by 1945. Some 688,000 immigrants came to Israel during the country's first three and a half



The immigration ship "The State of the Jews" Photo credit: The Palmach Photo Gallery @

years. The numbers ballooned when "800,000 Jews were expelled from Arab countries upon Israel's declaration of statehood."² Over 14,000 Ethiopian Jews were airlifted out on "eagle's wings" in two major covert operations – "Operation Moses" in 1984 and

"Operation Solomon" in 1991. A young Ethiopian lady named Esther showed me her picture as an infant, strapped to her mother's back, boarding an Israel airliner. Nearly 1 million Russian Jews fled to Israel in the early 1990s following the dissolution of the USSR.

By the end of 2022 there were 7,069,000 Israeli

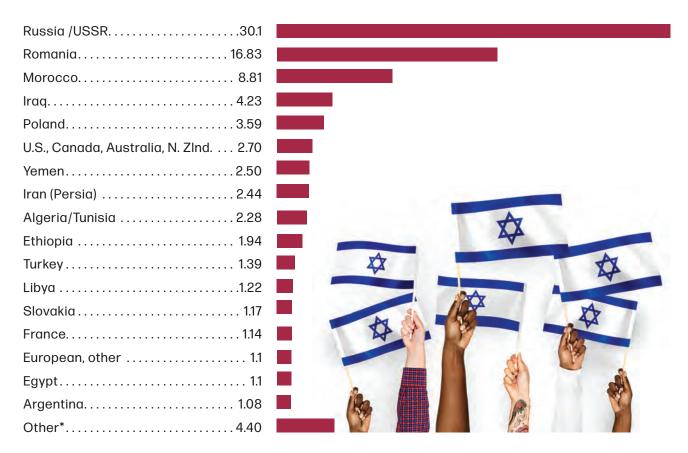
Jews. That is an increase of one million in nine years. The year 2022 saw 73,000 immigrants, nearly triple the previous year's total, the highest in almost three decades. The major countries from which immigrants arrived last year were Russia - 58.1%, Ukraine - 21.3%

- (40,000 fleeing the war), the United States - 4.1%, and France - 3.2% . More than 85% of all Israeli Jewish citizens came from over 35 nationalities within the last three generations. That means that less than 20% of Jewish Israeli citizens had



great grandparents that were in the land just 75 years ago. As can be expected, Israel's real estate market prices are sky-rocketing due to the high demand and a shortage of affordable housing. Jeremiah said, "there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border" (Jeremiah 31:17). The country of origin

percentages of all Jewish citizens from beyond Israel's horizon reveals a kaleidoscope of cultures that comprise the Israeli demographic.



^{*} Germany/ Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Greece, India and Pakistan, Latin American, United Kingdom, Syria and Lebanon, Africa, Asia ³

They are all now speaking a formerly dead language, only used in prayer and scripture readings for two millennia. The revival of Hebrew was prophesied.

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity." (Jeremiah 31:23)

The approximately 8,000 Hebrew words in the Bible has birthed over 100,000 words in modern Hebrew. Neither the words "smart phone", nor "computer" are found in holy writ. How did they come up with the word for "computer מששב ("machshev"). It comes from the root letters ו-ש-ו (ch-sh-v), with the meaning of "think." So you could say that "machshev" means "thinking device." God raised up Eliezer Ben-Yehuda to be the catalyst without which the fledgling nation would have been in linguistic chaos. He arrived in the land in 1881 and by 1922 enough Jewish pioneers were speaking Hebrew that the British Mandate authorities recognized it as the official language of Jews in "Palestine". Ben-Yehuda regarded Hebrew and Zionism as symbiotic, writing, 'the Hebrew language can live only if we revive the nation and return it to the fatherland." 5 He pushed hard for Hebrew to be taught in schools. It caught on giving Israelis a unifying identity and paid dividends in standardizing communication in education, media, military, business and in government. The full 17-volume set of the Complete Dictionary of Ancient and Modern Hebrew wasn't completed until well after his death, in 1922.6 The "People of The Book," were again speaking the language of The Book, before the land of The Book was even rebirthed. The timing of the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls, just one year before they became a nation, was God's heavenly homecoming gift! The language of the Hebrew scriptures is the language of life. "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and





thy seed may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19). The revival of Hebrew was not yet the fulfillment of the prophecy of Zephaniah 3:9. "For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent." It will ultimately be realized when the Hebrew on Israeli tongues comes from hearts made pure by the Hebrew Messiah.

Israel's international dispersion was not a wasted 2,000 year detour. God's design to scatter and regather them for His kingdom tapestry, saw it necessary for the wool of Jacob to be immersed in the colorfully diverse dye pots of all nations. Zephaniah 2:1,2 speaks of an international regathering, first in unbelief before the Tribulation period. "Gather together, O nation not desired... before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you." In that time of "Jacob's trouble," the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will be sent back out to preach the everlasting Gospel and win a multitude from every "tribe and tongue and nation." Their innate knowledge of their previous international cultures and languages will serve them well in that global harvest field. (Revelation 7:4-15; 14:1-6) There is an American farming equipment brand that aptly

describes those end time witnesses; "International Harvester." The Jewish Tribulation witnesses will bring in the greatest international soul harvest in history. (Revelation 7)

God's reason for regathering, restoring and reviving them in unbelief is twofold. "That ye (Israel) may know" (Ezekiel 20:20) and that the "heathen may know" (Ezekiel 38:16). The phrase "know that I am the Lord" is used over fifty times in Ezekiel. Renowned Biblical scholar, Dr. F. John Walvoord, said, "The restoration of Israel is God's "super-sign" of the end times." Therefore with the shadows of the Tribulation encroaching, and knowing that the rapture of the church precedes it, getting the gospel to the lost sheep of the house of Israel is more urgent than ever (1 Thessalonians 4:13-19; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4).

The 6 million Jewish people still residing in the US, are the living links to some of the 144,000 Tribulation evangelists. I've personally given a Gospel of Matthew or John to hundreds of young Israelis from a wide spectrum of international backgrounds, many

The Promise I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth he blessed. Genesis 12:3 Kenneth Berg Used with permission from Kenneth Berg

of whom were fluent in Hebrew, English and one or more foreign languages. It is urgent that we sow the living seed of the Gospel before they "make Aliyah" and pray that the Holy Spirit may open their eyes and hearts. Imagine the ecstasy of beholding that heavenly harvest celebration, knowing that we had a part in their salvation.

"I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth." (Rev 14:1-4)

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BY REV. KEN OVERBY

Executive Director

Jewish Awareness Ministries

ISRAEL'S PROSPERITY

REV. RUSTY GUIN

Israel has had an incredible transformation over the last seven decades. From dirt roads to high-speed railways and industry, Israel has become a significant force in technology, business and natural resources.

When Mark Twain visited the Middle East in 1867, he concluded that the land was a bitter disappointment. Twain said: "The further we went, the hotter the sun got, and the more rocky and bare, repulsive and dreary the landscape became there was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere. Even the olive and the cactus, those fast friends of a worthless soil, had almost deserted the country." Twain stated in his book, Innocents Abroad that "Palestine is desolate and unlovely. And why should it be otherwise? Can the curse of the Deity beautify a land?" Twain's final analysis was that the Holy Land was a fantasy for religious dreamers looking for ghosts in a cemetery trapped in eternal damnation." How wrong he was! For the Deity of Israel would soon reverse that curse. The transformation of Israel from a third-world country to a high-tech powerhouse is one of the economic success stories of all times. In just seven decades, Israel has gone from being an impoverished nation to one of the most prosperous. Approximately 2,600 years ago, the prophet prophesied in Ezekiel 36:8, "But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come."

Israelis now find themselves whizzing around on highways at incredible speeds along centuries-old paths that camels and donkeys once trod. Modern Israelis cannot imagine taking days to travel the length of the country. With the growing population, railways are an essential part of life in Israel. The transportation system connecting cities, some at speeds of over 100 mph, makes traveling between cities quick, secure, and comfortable - something that wasn't possible just five years ago! With the completion of a rapid railway in 2018, the 32 mile trip from Jerusalem to Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv, now takes only 20 minutes, for a fare of \$6.00.

How did such a small country with no water and 70% of its land a desert, develop into such a flourishing economy? Part of this early success can be attributed to the kibbutz system, established in the early 20th



century as a way for Jewish settlers to return to the land after being dispersed throughout Europe. This was a way to unite and create autonomous communities, as the Word of God predicted in Deuteronomy 30:5. "And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers." The first Kibbutz, from the Hebrew word kvutza; meaning group, was based on communal principles. Today there are over 270 active kibbutz in Israel most of which have been privatized, but the core values of collectivism still shape life in these communities. Many young Israelis do their military service on a kibbutz, and many retirees also favor the kibbutzim lifestyle. David Ben Gurion, Israel's first prime Minister served as a laborer in two settlements that are now suburbs of modern Tel Aviv.

raise "the lake's level by half a meter annually," according to Yoav Barkay who manages Mekerot, Israel's state owned water system. Israel has also become the world leader in recycling nearly 90% of their wastewater, mostly for agricultural irrigation.

IDE Technologies now leads the world with 400 desalination plants in 40 countries." "The huge worldwide industry of modern drip irrigation all began when Israeli engineer Simcha Blass got an idea from a leaking water pipe. Netafim commercialized the idea and has revolutionized the agricultural industry, operating systems in 112 countries with 13 factories throughout the world and 2,400 employees." Israeli technology is turning salt water into fresh water and is turning sand into land all over the world. Water may have been a crisis in the years gone by, but with the



Irrigating the desert with purified seawater might seem to many today a delusion, but Israel should be the last state to be afraid of 'delusions' that could change the primal order by force of the power of vision, science and pioneering capability.





Not only did God bless the Jewish people but also the land as had He promised in Deuteronomy 28:8-12. Israel is leading the way in all spectrums of agriculture with improvements in irrigation, pest control, cattle and dairy production. Israel has gone from struggling to feed itself to exporting not just crops but many other natural resources. Natural gas discoveries in the last 10 years have changed Israel's regional status, creating energy independence for the first time. In late November of 2022, another commercial gas discovery was made just off the shore of Israel. The radical change from being an importer from Arab enemies to being an exporter to Arab neighbors is a phenomenon. Approximately 80% of Israel's drinking water comes from a chain of desalination plants along the Mediterranean coast. They will soon be able to pipe former sea water to the fresh water Lake Kinneret more commonly known to Christians as the Sea of Galilee. This is a global first. This can blessings of God, Israel is now a world leader in its advancements.

Israel is becoming a world leader in hi-tech startups. "76 cloud computing startups have opened in Israel in the past half-decade. That comes out to 8.4 startups per million people - the largest percentage of any country."4 Many of the world's leading companies operate in the country, making Israel one of the most attractive places for foreign investment. This transformation is primarily due to the country's highly skilled workforce and its commitment to innovation. Currently there are 9,484 active high-tech companies in Israel, of which more than half are in the stage of initial revenues and growth. A quarter of the Israeli high-tech companies are active in the IT & enterprise software sector, followed by the internet sector (22%) and life sciences (19%). It is not just startups that are thriving in Israel. Established companies like Intel, IBM, Microsoft, Google and Apple all have a significant



footprint making Israel a global leader in cutting-edge technologies, including cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, and more. Until recently, it was not imaginable that God's promise to bless every family on earth through Abraham's descendants included such high tech innovations.

"It's not enough to be up to date, you have to be up to tomorrow."

- DAVID BEN-GURION -

It was in "Motorola's R&D center that Israeli engineers



first developed the original cell-phone technology. The cellular phone would still look like an oversized brick if it weren't for Israeli know-how in mobile technologies." "Digital printing was revolutionized in Israel by enabling printers to print directly from a computer file." The Israeli startup "Waze" developed a smartphone app based on user-generated data from the phone's GPS." Mobileye's advanced driver assistance system that warns drivers of an impending accident has reduced accidents by over

40% and is now a standard feature in most major car manufacturing models.⁵

God has blessed Israel countless times. His provision, protection, and purpose have made them one of the most favored nations in history. God's hand of blessing extended from the moment Joshua and the children of Israel marched through the river Jordan into the Promised Land, unto our present day. The faithfulness and grace that followed God's people has enabled their nation to stand tall for centuries despite conquest and strife. God's blessing from so long ago continuously produces modern miracles from the Middle East.

"In Israel, in order to be a realist, you must believe in miracles."

- DAVID BEN-GURION -

ENDNOTES

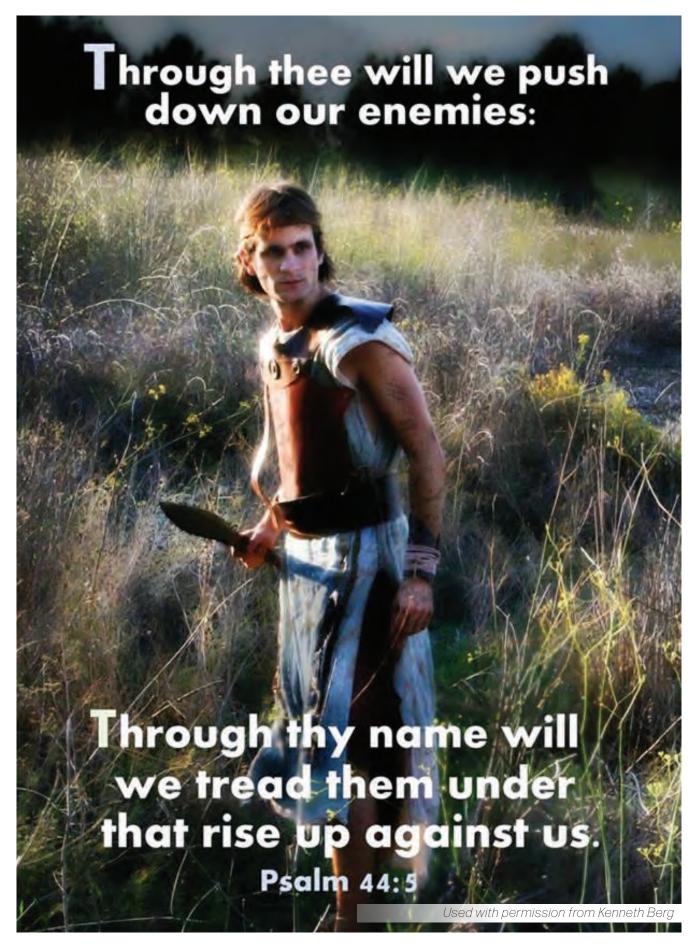
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BY REV. RUSTY GUIN

National Field Representative Jewish Awareness Ministries



ISRAEL'S PLIGHT

REV. MATT MORRISON

A plight is defined as being "a perplexed and distressed state or condition." Though the Tribulation impacts the entire world, it will particularly impact the nation of Israel. The chief purpose for this horrific plight is to reunite Israel into an everlasting fellowship with Jehovah. But before the promised Kingdom Age can be initiated, Israel must undergo three primary phases: Tribulation, Regeneration, and Restoration. Through these, Jehovah will bring to pass all He has purposed for the reconciling of a nation (and a world) unto Himself.

A TIME OF TRIBULATION

Jeremiah 30:4-7 records the specific relation of Israel to the Tribulation Period. In this passage, it is given the distinct title, The Time of Jacob's Trouble. This means that it will primarily come for Israel's sake. To further emphasize this truth, we must understand that the Tribulation Period officially begins with the Antichrist signing a covenant with the nation of Israel. This final seven-year period is better understood by correlating it with the prophecy recorded in Daniel 9:24-27. There, he speaks of seventy weeks (or seventy sevens) that have been determined by God concerning Israel. We know 483 of the 490 years has already been fulfilled. Seven years still remain. Daniel 9:27 states that this final week will begin with the signing of the covenant.

His midpoint annulment of this treaty will usher in a global attempt to exterminate all Jewish people. Jesus forewarned Israel of this in Matthew 24:15-28. He warns of the Abomination of Desolation; an abominable act that leads to devastating desolation. The Antichrist whom they trusted to be the Messiah, will stand within the temple and declare himself to be God, demanding worship by Israel. When the Jewish people witness and recognize this blasphemous act, they are instructed by scripture to flee into the mountains. They must do so to escape certain death in the three and one-half years that remain in the Tribulation Period.

Just how many of God's beloved people will perish? Zechariah 13:8-9 reveals that two out of every three Jews "in the land" will lose their life through martyrdom. In the Holocaust of Nazi Germany, one-third of the Jewish population was mercilessly killed by genocide.

But under the satanically driven government of Antichrist, two-thirds of the Jewish population will die. Even so, Jehovah will supernaturally preserve and provide for the surviving one-third as mentioned in Isaiah 10:20-23 and Isaiah 41:8-20.

This third part of Israel that survives, will be the remnant that receives their Messiah as He returns at the end of the Tribulation Period. There will have been many individual Jews who already received salvation at the preaching of the 144,000 witnesses and were martyred during the Tribulation Period. But Zechariah 12:10-13:1 indicates that the one-third of the Jewish population who will live to see the coming of their Messiah will have first passed through the fire. (Holocaust is from a Greek word meaning "sacrifice by fire.")

A TIME OF REGENERATION

The regeneration of Israel will fulfill the prophecy recorded by Paul in Romans 11:25-32. This is the most complete and straight-forward text concerning Israel's future regeneration. Here Paul explains how God has placed a limit in relation to the "suspension" of their national salvation. Israel's national blindness is only until, meaning it is temporary in its duration. The fact that the nation would one day come to a saving faith is evidence to the fact of their national "blindness" being temporary. Their "blindness in part" is reference to individual blindness. From the 1st century throughout the Church Age there has been and remains to be a remnant of Jews who are being saved. Israel's national suspension allows for the fulness of the Gentiles to come in. Acts 15:14 tells us that during the Church Age Jehovah will call out a host of Gentile believers to be added to the initial Jewish church described in Acts 1-8. Jehovah will deal with Israel as a nation in the Tribulation as the fullness of the Gentiles is coming to a close.

In Romans 11:26, Paul mentions that all of Israel shall be saved. By "all" Paul refers to the Jews still existing at the time of the Messiah's return – not retroactive to all Jews of all time. The salvation of this remnant is prophesied in Isaiah 59:20-21 and Isaiah 27:9; from which Paul is quoting in Romans 11. Eventually, Jehovah will bring the entire nation to Himself because they

are beloved for their patriarchal fathers' sake, as stated in Romans 11:28. The covenant promises made to His people will be fulfilled. In verse 29, Paul states the ground for this fulfillment is the unconditional, unchanging nature of the promise that was given to their fathers. The promises made to Jehovah's ancient people are irrevocable.

According to Romans 11:27, a time of national regeneration is coming to Israel: a time in which God will take away all their sins. Again, as explained in Isaiah 10:20-23, only the existing remnant will be saved. This is not a contradiction to Paul's writing when understood in the context. As Zechariah 13:8-9 points out, the surviving one-third of the nation will believe upon their returning Messiah. We understand this to occur at the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ at the close of the Tribulation Period. And since all the surviving Jews at that point will receive their Messiah, then "all of Israel shall be saved," just as Paul has written in Romans 11:26. Is there any wonder why Paul wrote in verse 33, "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" In truth, the future regeneration of Israel speaks to the wonder of God's ways.

A TIME OF RESTORATION

As Israel reunites with Jehovah, the fulfillment of the New Covenant will become a reality (Jeremiah 31:31-34). The realization of three additional Old Testament covenants will follow. The Land aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant will ensure a complete regathering of Israel from all quarters of the world to the land's true boundaries (Deuteronomy 30). The seed aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant will finally assure the existence of his heirs. (Genesis 13:14-17, 15:12-21). But the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant will be the greatest of all (II Samuel 7:11-16, I Chronicles 17:10-14). For then, the Messiah will assume His throne and inaugurate His everlasting kingdom.

There are other features that will accompany these four major marks of prophecy. One, there will be a reuniting of the nation; something Israel has not enjoyed since the days of King Solomon (Jeremiah 3:18). Two, Israel will become the center of the world's attention; with all nations converging upon her to worship the King of Kings residing there (Isaiah 14:1-2, 49:22-23). Three, Israel will take her place as chief of all nations; with all others in service to her (Deuteronomy 15:6, Isaiah 61:6-7). Four, Israel will finally experience the fullness of Jehovah's joy and peace (Isaiah 35:5-10, 62:4).

As glorious as Israel's past was, it pales in light of her coming glory. Isaiah, while under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit said, "I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory." Israel will indeed be restored, and not to her former glory, but to a far greater glory.

A GLORIOUS END

Just how assured are we of this glorious future of God's ancient people? Let us refer to Jeremiah chapter thirty-three in answer to the worldwide debate over Israel. Jehovah promises, "Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return and have mercy on them" (Jeremiah 33:25-26).

The promises of God to restore the monarchy and priesthood extend far beyond their return from Babylonian captivity. It reaches toward a day yet future to our present time. The beauty of Jehovah's faithfulness is noted by His assurance to Israel - that the whole order and system of creation is not more firmly established than God's purposes for Israel are. Though her past and future plight be sore, Jehovah's promise assures her that she is His everlasting nation. 🌠 📶

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BY REV. MATT MORRISON

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REV. KEN OVERBY

God warned of the international abandonment of Israel in the last days by her closest allies, "There is none to plead thy cause...All thy lovers have forgotten thee; they seek thee not..." (Jeremiah 30:13,14)

During our 2022 Intern training in Israel, I interviewed the owner of Olea Essence Group, Avner Talmon. They harvest about 20,000 organically grown olive trees from the north rim of the Galilee basin. They have 100,000 visitors annually. Olea Essence is a must see for JAM's tour groups. They never come away without a good supply of cold pressed extra virgin oils and skin care products. As we arrived, a group of Jewish college students were leaving. "Birthright Israel" is an educational tourism organization that has brought over 800,000 Jewish students to Israel. I told him our group was like a Christian Birthright. Avner replied, "Christian birthright programs are much more important than the Jewish birthright program

because there are so many more Christians than Jews. The most important thing Christian leaders can do is to pass their values to the next generation. This is very crucial. If they do not know what Israel is - then we will all wake up one day and see that they don't recognize us (Israel), and don't like us and don't want us." Avner, who lost a hundred family members to the Holocaust said, "This can happen to us in the future...and that worries me a lot."

The data is frightening. "Peter Beinart, writing in the New York Review of Books, says, "Zionism in America is on the wane, and this decline is most sharply evident among American Jews under the age of 35. Beinart argues that this decline is a failure to accept a vision of Israel."

Daniel Gordis, and vice president of Shalem College in Jerusalem, in his book; "We Stand Divided" asks,

"Why are American Jews falling out of love with the Jewish state? Gordis's answer is that the American Jews don't understand the nature of the state. The problem isn't what Israel does but what it is. On the Jewish side, "a survey finds that caring about Israel is more central to the Jewish identity of older Jews (ages 50 and older) than to Jewish adults under the age of 30. Roughly one-third of U.S. Jews say they believe God gave the land that is now Israel to the Jewish people, while 42% of American Jews do not believe Israel was literally given by God to the Jews." ² I believe this stems from Reform, the largest branch of Judaism in America, and liberal Jewish academia that have bought into the appeasement myth. Seriously, is Israel's very existence the cause of the Palestinian, Muslim hatred? No! Hatred is of satanic origin.

In evangelical circles, "Two University of North Carolina at Pembroke professors—Mordechai (Motti) Inbari and Kirill Bumin—conducted a poll of evangelicals of all ages in 2018 and another poll in 2021 focusing specifically on evangelicals ages 18-29. According to their data, support for Israel among young evangelicals dropped from 69 percent to 34 percent during that three year period."

"There is no single cause that explains the loss of support for Israel among a younger generation of evangelicals. One of them is that the issues of Biblical end times don't loom nearly as large for young people today as in the past. Older evangelicals are more likely to hold premillennialist views - that believe Jews will return to their ancient homeland, portending the second coming of Christ, which will itself be a fulfillment of prophecy. But the most important reason support for Israel is cratering among younger Christians is that many of them have come to believe that Israel is an oppressor nation, a lawless state, squarely on the wrong side of human rights and social justice. Israel is now viewed as the villain in a story the media has decided to make primarily about Israel and the Palestinians, with the Palestinians portrayed as mistreated, powerless, victims."4 Israel is increasingly seen as the Goliath beating down on the Palestinian David. Older generations of evangelicals saw Israel as David, the underdog against the Goliath of the Arab countries. So Israel can't win. In the first place large sectors in Christianity hold that they have no right to be there and now they are blamed for successfully defeating unprovoked attacks by their Arab neighbors.

Reporter James Sinkinson of Israel Today News asks, "What can be done to fortify support for Israel among Millennial and Gen Z evangelicals? How can supporters of Israel convince more of them to, if not to fully embrace the Jewish state, then to at least have a less hostile and more understanding view of it?⁵

To give a sense of proportion, the words "Israel" or "Israeli" are mentioned 41 times in the North Carolina Democratic Party (NCDP) Final 2022 Resolution Report, yet there is no mention of Iran. The problem is not limited to North Carolina. In fact, some 57 Democrat members of the U.S. House of Representatives sent a letter in May 2023 to Secretary of State Antony Blinken and FBI Chief Christopher Wray demanding an investigation into the death of a reporter Alekh who reported from a crossfire zone and was killed by a bullet, from IDF forces against Iranian backed Palestinian terrorists. The Democrats' letter focused on Israel's potential fault, with no mention of the Palestinian terror spree that precipitated the tragic incident.

In addition, Rep. Rashida Tlaib and other ultra-left House members – all Democrats – have introduced a resolution to make Palestinian Nakba Day a national observance, lamenting Israel's declaration of independence in 1948. In truth, the anniversary marks Palestinian refusal to accept a Jewish state in the Holy Land and the offer of territory for a Palestinian state. Americans' support for Israel is down among Democrats and up among Republicans. On November 30, 2022 the UN General Assembly passed the Nakba Day resolution with 90 nations voting for it while 30 were against, including the U.S.

As former National Security Advisor Elliott Abrams notes, "Whatever is being done to maintain – or better, to recover Democratic support for Israel is not working," he said. Rather, they must acknowledge that much of Democratic support for the Palestinians is rooted in opposition to Zionism – a core value of Judaism. Anti-Zionism, antagonism to the self-determination of the Jewish people for a nation in their indigenous homeland, is fundamentally anti-Semitic. In short, Democrats who support Palestinians over Israelis and who support legislation and resolutions opposing the Jewish state are in essence expressing opposition toward the Jewish people. More Democrats support the Palestinian cause than the Israeli cause.

On the flight home from Israel, a representative of Opendor Media sat beside us. For decades she



has traveled the U.S. to enroll marginally affiliated Jewish students in their training programs designed to strengthen their ties to Judaism and especially to Zionism. Her group has brought many students to Israel with the purpose of reversing the declining support among Jewish students for the State of Israel. We shared how our program with Christian college students overlapped in this area. We exchanged website information and I shared with her how we are trying to put the "Jewish glasses" on Christians to help them have Jewish Awareness of the roots of their faith. I encouraged her to read the Jewish Gospels, especially John which devotes seventy-five percent of the text to five of the Jewish holy days mainly to Passover. This is one way I initially invite a Jewish person to see the Jewish gospels with their own eyes and discover the Jewishness of the Messiah Jesus.

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BY REV. KEN OVERBY

Executive Director

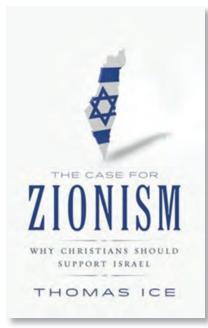
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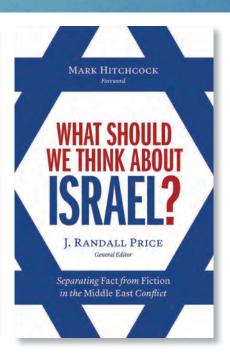


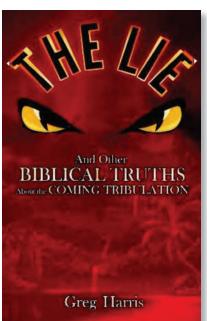


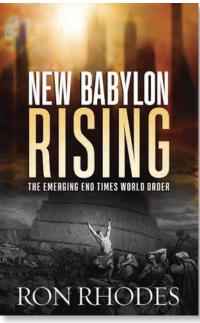


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