# UNDERSTANDING THE ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN ISSUE

## **LESSON ONE**

132 – 135 A.D.	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jewish Revolt, <i>Bar Kochba Uprising</i> , ended with Hadrian's destruction of Jerusalem, the changing of the name of Jerusalem to " <i>Aelia Capitolina</i> ," and the name of Israel to " <i>Palestina</i> ."
	Palestina.

# 135 - 1516 A.D.

135 A.D.	Byzantine (Rome) rule of Jerusalem
614 A.D.	The Persians take control of the city of Jerusalem
629 A.D.	Emperor Heraclius restores Byzantine rule to Jerusalem
638 A.D.	Jerusalem is captured by Caliph Omar Ibn al-Khattabsix years after Mohammed's death
878 A.D.	Egyptian Ahmed ibn Tulun captures Jerusalem
905 A.D.	Jerusalem returns to Abbassid rule
941 A.D.	Jerusalem is taken by Egypt
1071 A.D.	An army of Turkish mercenaries, the Seljuks, capture Jerusalem
1099 A.D.	The Crusaders, following Pope Urban II's call, conquer Jerusalem
1187 A.D.	Saladin, Muslim military and political leader, captures Jerusalem
1229 A.D.	Crusaders regain control of Jerusalem
1244 A.D.	Turks conquer Jerusalem
1260 A.D.	Mongolian chief Hulagi Khan captures Jerusalem (this would be very brief)
1260 A.D.	The Mamluks conquer Jerusalem
1516 A.D.	Sultan Selim I of Turkey captures the city of Jerusalem

1516 - 1918 The Middle East was under the control of the Ottoman Empire for about 400 years (until the end of WW I).

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The Name Rome Gave the Land of Israel

by Elliott A. Green

"The Arab treatment of geographical names after their conquest of the country (635-640 CE) was paradoxical. The Quran mentions the Holy Land divinely assigned to the people of Israel Sura V:12, 20-21). However, the Arabs later on did not see this Land as a separate country.

They typically considered the country merely an undifferentiated part of Bilad ash-Sham (usually translated as Syria or Greater Syria). This view lasted until the end of the British mandate period, as we see from Arab writings and political declarations (such as Arab testimony before the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry on Palestine, 1946)."

The change of the name of Israel by Rome to *Palestina* (Palestine) has influenced both the political and the religious world.

In the geo-political arena it has impacted the world's view of the "land of Palestine" and "the people of Palestine" with the birth of the P.L.O. in 1964 and their very effective propaganda campaign.

In the religious world it has caused confusion with the adoption of the Land Covenant give to Abraham (and the Jewish people - Genesis 12:1; 15) being referred to as the Palestinian Covenant.

#### **LESSON TWO**

October 24, 1915

Sir Henry McMahon was British High Commissioner in Cairo. The McMahon Letter was issued whereby the British promised to support the founding of an Arab state in the Middle East. This state was to include areas of present day Syria (east of Damascus), Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. This letter was issued to gain Arab support in WW I. The Ottoman empire became the ally of the Germans.

March 9, 1916 - The Sykes-Picot agreement was entered into on how the Middle East would be divided after the defeat of the Ottomans. This established French and British "mandates" to carry out the land division.

## Independence Obtained:

Egypt	- 1922	Syria	- 1945	Kuwait	- 1961
Iraq	- 1932	Jordan	- 1946	Bahrain	- 1971
Lebanon	- 1943	Libya	- 1951	Qatar	- 1971

# Nov. 2, 1917 - Balfour Declaration

"His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

- Dec. 11, 1917 British General Allenby entered Jerusalem and put an end to almost 5 centuries of Ottoman rule. Britain would rule from 1917 1948.
- June 28, 1919 The Mandate given to Britain, incorporating the Balfour declaration in it, was approved by the Council of the League of Nations giving it international approval.
- April 24, 1920 San Remo Conference

In San Remo, Italy – England, France, Italy, and Japan, with the United States as an observer, divided the Ottoman Empire into three mandates: Iraq, Syria and Palestine. Until its defeat in World War 1, the 400-year-old empire had spread itself throughout the Middle East. Now, France would oversee Syria, while Iraq and Palestine fell under Great Britain.

The resolution also included the Balfour Declaration, written by England's Lord Balfour in 1917.

Howard Grief said the resolution, which was adopted by the League of Nations, established several important precedents. In his book, *The Legal Foundation and Borders of Israel under International Law*, Grief explains that the resolution gave the Jewish people exclusive legal and political rights in Palestine. It also gave the Arabs the same rights for the remainder of the Middle East. "The Arabs got the lion's share....I mean they got Syria, which was subsequently divided between Syria and Lebanon," Grief said.

"They got all of Mesopotamia and all of Arabia. This is what Balfour himself said. 'Why are you complaining? You are getting all these lands and we're granting a niche – he called it a niche – to the Jewish people who were going to get Palestine," he said.

Salomon Benzimra wrote an article in <u>American Thinker</u> titled *Israel's Right to Exist as a Jewish Homeland* on April 25th, 2010:

"The legal title to Palestine was officially transferred from the League of Nations — when Turkey was dispossessed of its rights to the region at the Paris Peace Conference a year earlier — to the Jewish people, who became the national beneficiary under a mandate awarded to Britain, thereby designated as the trustee.

The transfer of title and the sovereignty of the Jewish people in Palestine remain binding in international law to this day. Similarly, equivalent national rights were conferred to the Arabs in both Syria/Lebanon and present-day Iraq under two other transitional mandates awarded to France and Britain, respectively. It should therefore be apparent that the legitimacy of the present Arab states of Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq derives from the same international law which reconstituted the Jewish nation in Palestine."

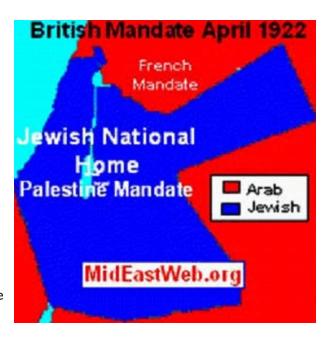
#### **LESSON THREE**

## 1921 - Transjordan created

Great Britain allowed Abdullah ibn Hussein to rule the land east of the Jordan River. In effect this created an Arab (in today's nomenclature Palestinian) state.

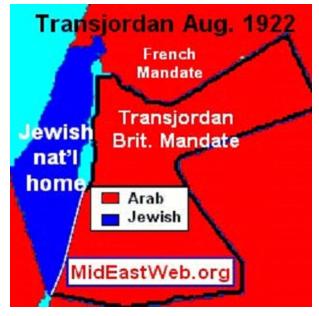
# July 24, 1922 - The League of Nations Mandate

The League of Nations confirmed the mandate for Palestine, which included the Balfour Declaration, and the British government was thereby committed "to place the country under such political, administrative, and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish National Home." The emphasis was on the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine and not on Palestine as a Jewish national home.



# Sept. 29, 1922 - British Mandate

The Mandate was modified to include only the area west of the Jordan River and was officially accepted by the League of Nations. The Jewish people reluctantly accepted this the Arabs didn't.



# May 17, 1939 - McDonald White Paper published by Britain

Among other restrictions, the White Paper restricted Jewish immigration into Palestine to 15,000 per year through 1944 after which no more could be let in without Arab consent. Many British, such as Churchill, condemned this.

# 1939 - 1945 - Holocaust took place in Europe

Britains restrictions on immigration continued through the holocaust and up to the establishment of the nation of Israel in 1948.

May 25, 1946 - Transjordan becomes an independent state

#### **LESSON FOUR**

Nov. 29, 1947 - U.N. Resolution

The area of Palestine given to the Jewish people in 1922 by the League of Nations was now divided into a Jewish and an Arab state. The Jewish people, again reluctantly, accepted this and the Arabs did not.

May 14, 1948 - Israel Independence Day

British rule ended and Israel was born as a nation. The next day five Arab nations attacked (Egypt, Transjordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia).

As a result of the war approximately 400,000 - 800,000 Arabs became refugees. "The historical evidence suggests that, while the Israelis deliberately expelled some Palestinian Arabs following months of bitter fighting, most left of their own volition or at the behest of local Arab commanders."

Holy War for the Promised Land, pg. 118, Dave Dolan.

"The fabrication can most easily be detected by the simple circumstance that at the time the alleged expulsion of the Arabs by Zionists was in progress, nobody noticed it. Foreign newspapermen abounded in the country...but even those most hostile to the Jews saw nothing to suggest that the flight [of the Arabs] was not voluntary. In the three months that the major part of the flight took place, the London Times, a newspaper most notably hostile to Zionism, published 11 leading articles on the situation in Palestine, in addition to extensive news reports. In none was there even a remote hint that the Zionists were driving Arabs from their homes....Even more pertinent: No Arab spokesman made such a charge. At the height of the flight, the Palestinian Arabs' chief U.N. representative, Jamal Husseini, made a long political statement (on April 27, 1948) that was not lacking in hostility toward the Zionists; [but] he did not mention refugees.... The secretarygeneral of the Arab League, Azzam Pasha, made a fiercely worded political statement on Palestine; it contained not a word about refugees....When, four months after the [war began], the prospect of the flightlings' returning "in a few weeks" had faded, there were some recriminations. Emil Ghoury, a member of the Palestinian Arabs' national leadership, said in an interview with the Beirut Daily Telegraph: "The fact that there are these [Arab] refugees is the direct consequence of the action of the Arab states in opposing partition and the Jewish state. The Arab states agreed upon this policy unanimously, and they must share in the solution of the problem." Battleground, Samuel Katz, 1973.

During this same time period approximately 800,000 Jewish people were evicted from Arab lands with approximately 600,000 settling in Israel.

Israel willingly received and assimilated the 600,000 Jewish refugees. Arab nations refused to assimilate the Arab population and kept them in refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza. These are known today as the Palestinian refugees.

It is important to note that historically:

- 1) There has never been a Palestinian state.
- 2) Arabs up to this time were never called Palestinians. It was considered an insult.
- 3) Jewish people in the land before the birth of Israel were called Palestinians (e.g. the Palestinian Post, the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, the Palestine Electric Company, Palestine Potash Company, etc.) British authorities issued Jewish Passports stamped with the word Palestinian.

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- 4) In March, 1921 when Winston Churchill was British colonial secretary, he visited Jerusalem and met with a delegation of local Arab dignitaries who told him they would brook no sovereign Jewish entity in what they called "Southern Syria." (See David Fromkin's A Peace to End All Peace, N.Y., 1990).
- 5) After WW I, Aref Al Aref, colleague of mufti Amin al Husseini, was editor of a newspaper called *Suriya al Junubiya (Southern Syria)*.
- 6) "There is no such country as Palestine. 'Palestine' is a term the Zionists invented...Our country was for centuries part of Syria. 'Palestine' is alien to us. It is the Zionists who introduced it."

   Local Arab leader Auni Bey Abdul Hadi to British Peel Commission in 1937
- 7) In the 1939 *The Arab Awakening*, Arab historian George Antonious described the status of Palestine: "Except where otherwise specified, the term Syria will be used to denote the whole of the country of that name which is now split into mandated territories of (French) Syria and Lebanon, and (British) Palestine and Transjordan."
- 8) In 1946, a leading Arab historian, Princeton University history professor Philip Hitti, reiterated the pan-Arab view when he decried the term "Palestinian" because it referred to Jews. "There is no such thing as Palestine in history, absolutely not," he asserted.
- 9) Ahmed Shukairy, Saudi delegate to the UN and later head of the PLO in 1956 in the United Nations Security Council said, "There is no such thing as Palestine in history, absolutely not."
- "The Palestinian people does not exist. The creation of a Palestinian state is only a means for continuing our struggle against the state of Israel for our Arab unity. In reality today there is no difference between Jordanians, Palestinians, Syrians and Lebanese. Only for political and tactical reasons do we speak today about the existence of a Palestinian people, since Arab national interests demand that we posit the existence of a distinct 'Palestinian people' to oppose Zionism."

Zahir Muhsein, PLO executive committee member, in an interview with the Dutch newspaper "*Trouw*," March 31, 1977.

#### Palestine Mandate Jewish Flag

This a Larousse French dictionary from 1939. In the appendix it lists all the then current flags of the world in alphabetical order. You'll notice that for Germany at that time the flag was the Nazi one replete with swastika which proves that this was pre-1945 (before 1945)! Now, alphabetically, look for the Palestinian Flag. YES, there is one. What does it look like?





# 1949 Land ownership in Israel

8.6 % purchased by Jewish people

71.2% State Lands (control passed from Britain to Israel)

16.9 % abandoned by Arab owners

3.3 % remained in possession of Arab owners

Land Ownership in Palestine, 1880-1948, M. Aumann, Israel Academic Committee, Jerusalem, 1976

# **POPULATION OF THE LAND**

1517 - 1,000 Jews (beginning of Ottoman Empire)

1566 - 10,000 Jews

1800 - 10,000 Jews, 25,000 Christians, 250,000 Sunni Muslims

Following compiled by: Professor G. L. Esterson, Ra'anana, Israel, <u>Gerald.Esterson@huji.ac.il,</u> David Curwin Kibbutz Migdal Oz, Israel

Table 1 shows a summary of the distribution of Jews throughout the world for the years 1800 to 1948.

Table 1. World Jewish Population, thousands 1800 1840 1880 1900 1914 1938 1948

Europe (Incl. Russia)	1,500	3,950	6,858	8,900	9,100	9,500	3,700
Asia	-	300	370	510	500	1,000	1,300
Africa, Middle East	1,000	198	250	375	400	600	700
North & South America	-	50	250	1,200	3,500	5,500	5,800
Australia	-	2	10	15	-	-	-
TOTAL	2,500	4,500	7,738	11,000	13,500	16,600	11,500

Arab population in Palestine (Israel and Jordan) in 1882 was about 260,000. Most lived in mud huts without sanitation and the average farm was about 25 acres. There was no separate political or administrative entity before 1914. The area was part of the Ottoman Empire.

## 1950 - Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Transjordan illegally annexed the West Bank. They changed their name to Jordan. Except for Britain and Pakistan the rest of the world rejected the annexation as illegal.



#### **LESSON FIVE**

May, 1964 - Establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organization (P.L.O)

The "Palestinian National Covenant," was adopted at this time and it has been reconfirmed at every subsequent meeting of the P.N.C. It's main theme is that only the Arabs are entitled to self-determination and that the state of Israel has no right whatever to exist.

Article 1: Palestine is the home land of the Palestinian Arab people and an integral part of the

great Arab homeland...

Article 15: The liberation of Palestine...is a national duty to repulse the Zionist...and to purge

the Zionist presence from Palestine.

Article 19: The partitioning of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of Israel is

fundamentally null and void...

Article 21: The Arab Palestinian people...reject all solutions which are substitutes for the total

liberation of Palestine...

Article 33: This charter shall not be amended save by a vote of two-thirds of the total

membership of the National Congress (about 400 men) of the Palestine Liberation

Organization taken at a special session convened for that purpose.

It was at this time that the concept of "Palestinian Arab refugees" was raised as a propaganda tool by the PLO.



1974 - A plan of stages was adopted to conquer Palestine

The PLO has not changed it's goals. In 1974 the Palestinian National Council (PNC) adopted a strategy of stages in conquering Palestine.

Nov., 1988 - The plan was revitalized

The PNC met and passed a resolution proclaiming the "establishment of the State of Palestine in the Israelioccupied territories, with holy Jerusalem as its capital."

Salah Khalaf, at the time the no. 2 PLO leader said, "The PNC resolutions refine the Palestinian position as adopted in the phased program 14 years ago...The PNC session was intended to revitalize this program and to promote a mechanism that will get it moving."

Dec. 18, 1988 -

Salah Khalaf told a Kuwaiti newspaper on Dec. 18 that the PNC statehood declaration meant "First a small state, and then with the help of Allah, it will be made large and expand to the east, west, north, and south." He told the newspaper that he was interested in the liberation of Palestine, "step by step."

#### **LESSON SIX**

Sept. 13, 1993 -

"Declaration of Principles" agreed to between Israel and the P.L.O. This is an agreement on how to proceed toward a permanent agreement that will be initiated in 5 years if all goes as planned.

Sept., 1993 -

"The agreement is the framework of our National Covenant. We have to accept the deal and wait for a change in the circumstances that could lead to the elimination of Israel" PLO representative, Abu el Aynayn, as reported in the US News and World Report in Sept. of 1993.

Bassam Abu Sharif, political advisor to Arafat, said, "This is not a peace treaty with Israel. This is the first step in the transfer of authority to Palestinian self-government."

Sept. 1, 1993

Arafat confirmed that "this [the present peace talks and agreement] is the Phases Plan that we accepted in 1974." Reported in the Sept. 11, 1993 Jerusalem Post

May 10, 1994

Arafat was secretly recorded in a speech in Johannesburg, South Africa in a local Mosque. Among other things he said, "You have to understand our main battle is Jerusalem...You have to come and fight a *jihad* to liberate Jerusalem, your precious shrine. And this is very important...What they [the Israelis] are saying is that it is their capital. No, it is not their capital. It is our capital. It is your capital. It is the first shrine of Islam...Again I have to say, 'And they entered the mosque as they entered it before' (Koran).Onward to victory, onward to Jerusalem!"

Then he likened the Oslo & Cairo agreements with Israel to the prophet Muhammad's agreement, called the *Pact of Hudaibiya*, with the Kuraish tribe in A.D. 628. In order to conquer Mecca Muhammad adopted a strategy of agreeing to a 10 year peace, not planning on keeping the agreement, but to lull the Meccans into a false sense of security & to build up his own forces. Two years later Muhammad attacked the city when he felt his forces were strong enough to capture it.

early June, 1994

Arafat again repeated his May 10 statements when, in speaking to a meeting of Palestinian contractors in Tunis, he said the Israel / PLO agreement was short-term and like the agreement the Prophet Mohammed reached with the Kuraish tribe.

November, 1994

Yassir Arafat wrote to a 10 member rejectionist front of PLO and Islamic groups:

"Cooperation and understanding between the PLO and the rejectionist organizations is what will lead to the speedy retreat of Israel from the occupied territories in the first stage, until the establishment of a Palestinian state with its capital in Jerusalem. And only a state like that can continue the struggle to remove the enemy from all Palestinian lands."

April 16, 1995

While speaking in Arabic before a Palestinian audience Arafat gave a speech and again mentioned the Pact of Hudaibiya in relation to the Oslo agreement. *Jerusalem Post*, 8/5/95

"We shall look at you tomorrow sitting in Jerusalem, the capital of Palestine. When the prophet made the peace of Hudybia - I remind you and I remind all our people and our Arab nation and our Islamic nation - the tribe of Qureish objected to make any mention of the title 'messenger of Allah'...Omar Ibn al-Khattab and Ali Ibn Abu Talib said, 'How can we accept such humiliation of our religion... O, Messenger of Allah.' And when we signed the Oslo accord, if any of you has any objection to that agreement, I have a hundred."

In a speech to Arab diplomats in Stockholm's Grand Hotel Yassir Arafat said:

"You see, we are planning to eliminate the state of Israel and establish a purely Palestinian state. I have nothing for the Jews. They are and remain Jews in our view. We need all the help we can get from you in our struggle for a united Palestine under total Arab Moslem domination." Jerusalem Post, August 17, 1996, page 10

April 18, 1998 interview with Egypt's Orbit Television, Arafat reaffirmed the 1974 10-point stages program, and referred to what he was doing by referencing the "Pact of Hudibiya" and Saladin's conquest of Jerusalem from the Crusaders.

June 24, 2001, Faisal Husseini PA Representative for Jerusalem Affairs, reported by Al-Arabi, Egypt:

"Had the US and Israel realized, before Oslo, that all that was left of the Palestinian national movement and the pan-Arab movement was a wooden horse called Arafat or the PLO, they would never have opened their fortified gates and let it inside their walls...This effort could have been much better, broader and more significant had we made it clearer to ourselves that the Oslo agreement, or any other agreement is just a temporary procedure, or just a step towards something bigger, bigger....We distinguish the strategic, long-term goals from the politically phased goals, which we are compelled to accept temporarily due to international pressure... Palestine according to the higher strategy is 'from the river to the sea.' Palestine in its entirety is an Arab land, the land of the Arab nation."

2011 in an interview on Al-Jazeera TV, senior Palestinians official Abbas Zaki also mentioned this stages plan:

"The agreement is based on the borders of June 4 [1967]. While the agreement is on the borders of June 4, the President [Mahmoud Abbas] understands, we understand, and everyone knows that it is impossible to realize the inspiring idea, or the great goal in one stroke.

If Israel withdraws from Jerusalem, if Israel uproots the settlements, 650,000 settlers, if Israel removes the (security) fence - what will be with Israel? Israel will come to an end. If I say that I want to remove it from existence, this will be great, great, [but] it is hard. This is not a [stated] policy. You can't say it to the world. You can say it to yourself."

2012, Mahmoud Abbas' Plan to Destroy Zionism, reported in The Jewish Press on Jan. 21, 2014:

"The PLO issued a detailed 56-page strategy document at the end of 2012 and the PLO has been following the plan slavishly. But one of the points mentioned was 'to develop a strategy to work with Israeli society, particularly with the forces that supported the principle of two states on the 1967 borders...'

"All those peace-loving Israeli leftist groups who enthusiastically meet Palestinian Arab officials (until the smart ones see the truth) are unwittingly part of the plan to divide and destroy Zionism, and eventually the Jewish state."

July 19, 2013, P.A. Minister of Religious Affairs Mahmoud Al-Habbash on P.A. TV:

"The Palestinian leadership's sense of responsibility towards its nation made it take political steps about 20 years ago (i.e., signing the Oslo Accords). Despite the controversy, despite much criticism and much opposition by some, it brought us to where we are today: We have a [Palestinian] Authority and the world recognizes the [Palestinian] state.

All this never would have happened through Hamas' impulsive adventure, but only through the wisdom of the leadership, conscious action, consideration, and walking the right path, which leads to achievement, exactly like the Prophet [Muhammad] did in the Treaty of Hudaybiyyah, even though some opposed it..."

Dec. 23, 2013 on official Syrian satellite TV, member of Fatah Central Committee Abbas Zaki:

"You can relax. We find ourselves united for the first time. Even the most extreme among us, Hamas, or the fighting forces, want a state within the '67 borders. Afterward, we [will] have something to say, because the inspiring idea cannot be achieved all at once. [Rather] in stages."

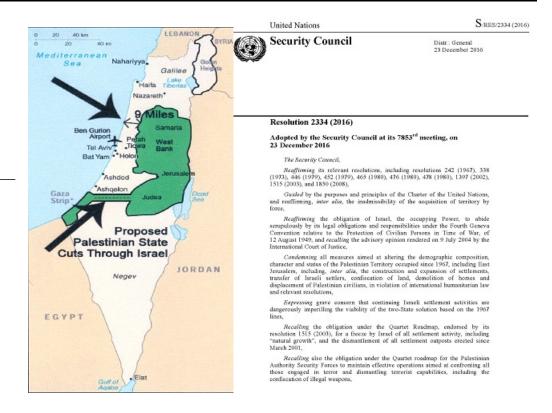
Jan., 2016 in an interview with the Ma'an news agency, Tawfik Tirawi, a member of the Fatah Central Committee, said:

"Palestine stretches from the river to the sea... a Palestinian state in the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as its capital, is just a phase, as far as I am concerned."

# NOTHING HAS CHANGED IN THE DESIRE OF THE PALESTINIANS TO TODAY. THEIR DESIRE IS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

Proposed Palestinian state in previous negotiations.

Dec. 23, 2016, U.N. Resolution 2334 seeks to re-litigate and re-write cornerstone U.N. Resolution 242.



Dec. 28, 2016, U.N. Watch in the article <u>12 Reasons Why the U.S. Should Have Vetoed U.N. Resolution</u> <u>2334</u>, http://www.unwatch.org/joining-jackals-open-letter-amb-samantha-power/

"By injecting new language enshrining 'the 4 June 1967 lines,' the resolution seeks to re-litigate and re-write U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 of November 1967, the cornerstone of Arab-Israeli peace negotiations over the past half-century — endorsed by the Palestinians at Oslo — which calls for the right of every state to live in peace within 'secure and recognized boundaries' and for Israel to withdraw 'from territories occupied.

"Instead, the resolution 'stipulates withdrawal from occupied territories without defining the extent of withdrawal.' And it 'can be inferred from the incorporation of the words secure and recognized boundaries that the territorial adjustments to be made by the parties in their peace settlements could encompass less than a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied territories.' Goldberg likewise told King Hussein in the lead-up to 242 that there was a 'need for some territorial adjustment.'"

Feb. 15, 2017 President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meet at the White House. "White House reveals it's ending long-discredited -- and deadly -- 'two state' strategy" by Anne Gearan & Ruth Eglash, The Washington Post, Feb. 15, 2017

"As the president has made clear, his administration will work to achieve comprehensive agreement that would end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict so that Israelis and Palestinians can live in peace and security," White House press secretary Sean Spicer said Tuesday. "The way forward toward that goal will also be discussed."

Feb. 15, 2017 Jonah Goldberg in "'Middle East conflict' describes more than just Israeli-Palestinian dispute," writes:

"Republican State Department veteran Elliott Abrams...writes in the Weekly Standard that the Trump administration may be going for an 'outside-in' strategy rather than an 'inside-out' one: 'Instead of using an Israeli-Palestinian deal to improve Israel's relations with the Arab states, use Israel's relations with the Arab states to advance an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal,' Abrams writes."

Feb. 15, 2017, Rachel Ehrens and Times of Israel Staff, "Top PA negotiator floats single state as US casts doubt on Palestinian independence":

"The only alternative to a creation of a Palestinian state is a one-state solution in which all Palestinians will get the right to vote, Palestinian Liberation Organization Secretary General Saeb Erekat said Wednesday, hours after a senior White House official appeared to withdraw the US's traditional support for a two-state solution."

Feb. 15, 2017, "White House reveals it's ending long-discredited -- and deadly -- 'two state' strategy" by Anne Gearan & Ruth Eglash, The Washington Post.

"Trump's swaggering 'new sheriff' posture in defense of Israel on the world stage has 'raised a lot of hopes in Israel,' said Yoaz Hendel, an Israeli military historian who chairs the Institute for Zionist Strategies.

'Maybe the Messiah is there and they are going to change everything,' Hendel joked as he characterized the pro-settler view that the American president might reverse years of Republican and Democratic policy by greenlighting a West Bank building boom."

Feb. 20, 2017, Israel Public Security Minister Gil'ad Erdan speaking at the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations in Jerusalem:

"We have an opportunity to create, together with the administration, the conditions for serious peace negotiations, by changing the basic approach of the international community. I believe that peace is possible. Every time Israel had a real partner for peace, we were willing to take farreaching steps. If we have true partner for peace, and we have to check that we have a true partner, we can make a deal, as some like to say. You probably know who I'm talking about."

#### **LESSON EIGHT**

With the election of Donald Trump as President of the U.S. in November 2016, there has been a profound shift in the U.S. support of Israel, especially compared to the animus of the previous administration.

This is seen in two important decisions President Trump made concerning the Israel / Palestinian issue.

#### 1. JERUSALEM:

On December 6, 2017, President Donald Trump recognized the United States recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. On May 14, 2018 the U.S. embassy was officially opened in Jerusalem. This date was 70 years to the day (May 14, 1948) when Israel was born as a nation.

# THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEE ISSUE

The Trump administration is prepared to announce a new policy that effectively cancels the so-called "right of return" for Palestinians. According to Israel's *Channel Two*, the policy relates to both the refugees themselves and UNRWA, the UN agency that serves them.

Channel Two reports that the Trump administration's plan to solve the issue will be announced at the beginning of September (2018) and will have several stages. According to *Channel Two* the Israeli government sees the plan as a "historic step" on par with Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and move the US embassy there. They see it as effectively taking the refugee issue — one of the thorniest in the Middle East conflict — off the table.

There are ultra-orthodox Jews in Israel who see Donald Trump's presidency as a prophetic sign of "the end of days" including the building of the third Temple. In honor of this act by President Trump there was a coin minted to celebrate this. It is referred to as the Trump/Cyrus coin.





# Feb. 13, 2017 TRUMP AND THE THIRD TEMPLE by Enoch Lavendar:

"The Jewish Temple Mount movement are excited over the recent election of Donald Trump. They know very well that rebuilding the Jewish temple in today's world would be a dangerous and politically incorrect task.

In their view, if there is any modern political leader with the guts and determination to stand behind such a project, it could be President Trump."

Key figures in Israel's Temple Mount movement certainly are optimistic that Trump's victory could be

the catalyst needed to bring their dream to reality.

Within days of the election victory, long time Temple Mount advocate and now prominent member of the Israeli Knesset Rabbi Yehudah Glick, issued a public call inviting Trump to visit the Temple Mount.

This call was followed days later by an open letter from the re-convened Jewish Sanhedrin. The open letter addressed BOTH Russian President Putin and the new US President Trump - asking them both to fulfill the Cyrus mandate of enabling the rebuilding of the Temple.

Rabbi Hillel Weiss, who serves as spokesman for the Sanhedrin, explained that Donald Trump's rise to power had 'made the eternal Jewish dream a very real possibility'.

Trump's strong stand in support of the Jewish claim to Jerusalem and the West Bank (Biblically known as Judea and Samaria) has led to the Sanhedrin to the belief that he could also support full Israeli rights to the Temple Mount."

Jewish leaders have pointed out that the gematria (numerical value) of Donald Trump's name equals that of the phrase 'Meshiach Ben David' (Messiah, Son of David). These same rabbis are quick to point out that they do not believe that Trump is the Messiah (just as well!).

It is interesting in this context to also consider Michael Snyder's calculations that Trump was born 700 days before Israel became a nation, won the election on Prime Minister Netanyahu's 7th year, 7th month and 7th day in office, and served his first full day in the White House at the age of 70 years, 7 months and 7 days old.

While we should be careful of reading too much into these numbers, it would seem that God Himself has had His hand on the unusual rise of Donald Trump and if so would have a particular purpose for his presidency.

Could these Jewish leaders be right that Trump could have a Cyrus call on his life?"

#### **LESSON NINE**

## **BIBLE PROPHECY IMPLICATIONS**

"For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him: lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations." Numbers 23:9



## 1. Tribulation Period is near

"Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired; Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD'S anger come upon you." Zephaniah 2:1-2

# ISRAEL'S REBIRTH IN 1948 IS FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY AND THE SIGN OF THE END TIMES.

# 2. There will be a peace agreement

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Daniel 9:27

Aug. 26, 2018 President Trump vs Palestinian Refugees - Creating a Foundation for Peace? <u>Israel</u> Today by Ryan Jones

"The status of Jerusalem and the Palestinian "right of return" have long been the two major sticking points in peace negotiations. A firm majority of Israelis have made clear they will never surrender any part of their holiest city, Jerusalem, the division of which would anyway create a security and political nightmare. Likewise, even left-wing Israeli lawmakers have for years said they simply can't accept a Palestinian right of return that would demographically destroy the Jewish state.

Without either side budging on these issues, a genuine peace never had a chance. Will Trump taking them both "off the table" bring us any closer to that desired outcome?

# 3. Anti-Semitism will increase

"And when the dragon [Satan] saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman [Israel] which brought forth the man child [Jesus]." Revelation 12:13, [ ] added

"Pandemic' of anti-Semitism taking shape worldwide, even threatens America, warns top U.S. Jewish leader" Raphael Ahren, Feb. 27, 2017, <u>The Times of Israel</u>.

"We saw anti-Semitism in Britain, we saw it in France, and now we see it's spreading everywhere," Hoenlein [Malcolm Hoenlein, who heads the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations] told The Times of Israel in its Jerusalem office on Sunday. "Look at the numbers of incidents in Germany, Scandinavia and other parts of the world. And now we see in America swastikas being painted, Other expressions [such as phoned-in] threats or aggression against kids on campuses. So it spreads. It's not isolated to one geographic locale. It's like a virus that spreads."

"Amid US, France anti-Semitic attacks, Herzog says Israel must prepare for 'waves' of immigrants", by Raoul Wootliff and Marissa Newman, Times of Israel, February 27, 2017

"I wish to express my shock and vociferous condemnation of the outbreak of anti-Semitic incidents in the United States, France and other places around the world," [Isaac] Herzog told his weekly Zionist Union faction meeting.

I call on the government to urgently prepare and establish and emergency national program for the possibility that we will see waves of our Jewish brothers immigrating to Israel," Herzog said."

## Zechariah 12:1-3

- 1. The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeththe foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.
- 2. Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.
- 3. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

# 4. The Temple will be rebuilt

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate." Daniel 9:27

"When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)." Matthew 24:15

The context of Matthew 24 is events in the Tribulation period (70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel). The "holy place" implies that there will be a Temple standing at this time.

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God." 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4.

The peace process is but one spoke in the development of events that lead to the 7 year Tribulation.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem..." Psalm 122:6