

Israel—Historical/Past Overview

I. Introduction

- A. How many have watched some of the terrorist atrocities and attacks on Israel by Hamas/Palestine since October 7, 2023 (e.g., beheading babies, raping, dismembering, targeting civilians, thousands of missiles aimed at Israel's cities, hospitals, etc.?)

- B. Why do so many in America (University protests, 51% of our hate-crimes are on Jews...), Arabic nations (support "death to Israel" in mottos, philosophies, religion, and even have it in their constitution), Palestine/Hamas (continued indoctrination and terrorist attacks on Israel), etc. believe that is justified to hate Israel so much they want Israel to be killed, brutalized, and eradicated from existence?

- C. What should be the perspective of the Godly or people of integrity regarding the nation of Israel?

II. Scripture and History

A. Israel—Scripturally and Historically.

1. **~1925 BC:** Starts with **the Father of Israel**-Abram, which God later renames to **Abraham** (**Gen. 12:1-3; 15:6; 17:5**). God gives an Unconditional Covenant, with 3 key promises: 1) Land-Promised land. "**And I will give unto thee** [Abraham], **and to thy seed** [Jews] **after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession**" and "**For all the land which thou seest, to thee** [Abraham] **will I give it, and to thy seed** [Jews] **forever**" (**Gen. 12:1; 13:15; 17:8**). 2) Nation-Israel/Seed-Jesus Christ (**Gen. 12:2, 7**). "**5-And He brought him** [Abraham] **forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and He said unto him, 'So shall thy seed** [Jews] **be.'**" 18-**In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates'"** (**Gen. 15:5, 18**). "**Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of One, And to thy Seed, which is Christ**" (**Gal. 3:16**). 3) Blessing-Through the OT, Law, and Christ.
2. **~1901 BC:** Circumcision commanded to Israeli men (**Gen. 17:10-14, 25**).

3. **~1888 BC:** God personally re-promises His unconditional covenant (Land, Seed, and Blessing) to Isaac (**Gen. 17:19-21**).
4. **~1828 BC:** God personally re-promises His unconditional covenant (Land, Seed, and Blessing) to Jacob (**Gen. 28:13-15**). God renames Jacob to Israel. "**And He said, 'Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel...'**" (**Gen. 32:28**).
5. **~1758 BC:** Israel/Israelites leave the Promised Land.
6. **~1741 BC:** 12 Tribes/sons of Israel receive prophesies and blessings from Israel.
7. **~1328 BC:** Israelites' exit Egypt after ~430 years (**Exo. 12:40-43**). Israelites were slaves for ~400 years (**Gen. 15:13**).
8. **~1327 BC:** God gave Israel His Law (**Exo. 20/Deu. 5; 27:9-28:68**).
9. **~1326 BC:** God gave Israel the **Tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant** for His continued presence, 2 years after leaving Egypt. (**Exo. 40:17-35**). God led Israel by "**the pillar of the cloud by day**" and "**the pillar of fire by night**" (**Exo. 13:21-22; 40:36-38**).
10. **~1326 BC:** God provides Israel Priests to lead His holy worship and forgiveness by dietary, cleansing, ceremonial, and sacrifices. "**And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him**" (**Lev. 4:26**).
11. **~1275 BC:** Israel receives back most of their Promised Land. Joshua "**destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, and he divided their land to them [Israel] by lot**" (**Acts 13:19**).
~1250 BC: Caleb (of the tribe of Judah) inherits Jerusalem, living with the Jebusites (**Jos. 14:6-15:63**).
12. **~1165 BC:** God calls 13 Judges, who continue to deliver Israel from the consequences of their disobedience during ~450 years (**Acts 13:20**).
13. **~1925-400 BC:** 1000's of God's Prophets healed, did medical miracles, raised people from the dead, and 26-33 penned the transforming wisdom of the OT given to Israel. They



- miraculously attested to the **written OT** and many other Divine communications about God, His Messiah, man, sin, judgment, and the way to be saved by faith. 1000's of **Israel's Scribes faithfully transmitted God's Word**. "*And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD*" (*1Sa. 3:20*). "*Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness...*" (*Num. 14:22*). "*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path*" (*Psa. 119:105*).
14. **~1050 BC:** God consents to Israel, **chooses, and anoints a King** in preparation for the coming perfect King of Kings. "8:9-*Now therefore hearken unto their [Israel's] voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.*" (*1Sa. 8:5-22; 10:17-24; 1Ti. 6:16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16*).
 15. **~722 BC:** **Israel/Northern Kingdom carried into Assyrian Captivity**, where Hoshea was the last king of Israel (*2Ki. 17:6*).
 16. **~962 BC:** **1st Temple built in Jerusalem** to worship God, where Israel and all the world came to worship (*1Ki. 6:1, 38*).
 17. **~586 BC:** **Judah/Southern Kingdom carried into Babylonian Captivity**, where Zedekiah was the last King of Judah (*2Ki 25:1-21*) until Christ unites Israel again at His Coming. **Jerusalem walls and the 1st Jewish Temple is destroyed** and the holy Temple items were taken to Babylon (*2Ki 25:8-17*).
 18. **~516 BC:** Ezra prays and Persians allow priests, Levites, singers, and a **Jewish remnant to return to Israel and rebuild** and bring back the holy items dedicating **the 2nd Temple** in Jerusalem (*Ezra 1:1-5; 6:15*).
 19. **~445 BC:** Nehemiah prays and a **Jewish remnant returns to Israel and rebuilds the walls** of Jerusalem (*Neh. 1:3-11; 6:15*).
 20. **~400-27 BC:** Greeks (Alexander the Great) let Jews stay in Israel, but Antiochus IV **desecrates the 2nd Temple** (*Dan. 8:13*), which causes the Maccabean Revolt (**~167-134 BC**) during the 400 silent years (between the OT and NT).
 21. **~18 AD:** Under Roman control, Herod the Great raised taxes to help the Jews enlarge the Temple Mount and **restore the 2nd Temple** in Jerusalem.
 22. **~1 BC:** The **1st Advent/1st Coming/Incarnation/Hypostatic Union of Jesus Christ, the most famous Person/Israelite/Jew** to ever live and changed history forever. His last 3-years were full of **preaching, miracles, and discipleship ministry**. "10-*And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.* 11-*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is*

- Christ the Lord. 12-And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13-And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14-Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:10-14).*
23. **~32 AD:** Israel nationally rejected, crucified, and continued to reject Jesus Christ as Messiah, Savior, Judge, Prophet, Priest, and King. Christ's sacrificial death provided payment for the sins of all mankind receiving Him by faith. "23-Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 36-Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:23, 36). Jesus rose from the dead. "And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen; He is not here: behold the place where they laid Him" (Mark 16:6). Jesus ascended to heaven (Acts 1:9-11).
 24. **~70 AD:** The Roman Emperor Titus destroyed the 2nd Temple in Jerusalem, not permitting the Jewish Sacrificial system to continue.
 25. **~637 AD:** Arabs conquered Jerusalem.
 26. **~1100 AD:** Crusades brought back many Jews.
 27. **~1566 AD:** Ottoman rebuilt Jerusalem walls.
 28. **~1917 AD:** British allowed Israel to return to their land.
 29. **~1933-1945 AD:** The Jewish Holocaust. A systematic, state-sponsored persecution and slaughter of ~6M Jews by the Nazis in WW2.
 30. **1948 AD:** Jewish Nation was re-established gaining the east part of Jerusalem (5/14/1948) and recognized by the US.
 31. **1967 AD:** Jews got Jerusalem back (including the west) in the miraculous "6-Day War" (6/10/1967). This included Palestine.
 32. **2005 AD:** Jewish settlements pull out of Gaza (including IDF soldiers).
 33. **2017 AD:** US recognized Jerusalem as its capital (12/6/2017).
 34. **2018 AD:** US Embassy relocated to Jerusalem (5/14/2018).
 35. **2023 AD:** Worst terrorist attack on Israel since Holocaust by Hamas/Palestine, Hezbollah (funded by Iran, Russia...) killing, raping, dismembering, and kidnapping Jews (10/7/2023).

III. Application

- A. Which of Israel's historical events means most to you, why?
- B. What other historical events can you remember that God did with the nation of Israel?
- C. God's calls Israel "**my people**" (over 200 times), calls Israel His children-"**the children of Israel**" (647 times), calls Himself "**the God of Israel**" (203 times), God refers to Israel as His "**wife**" (**Jer. 3:20**), God says about Israel "**I am married to you**" (**Jer. 3:14**), God says, "**Israel is my son, even my firstborn**" (**Exo. 4:22**). "**I [God] will not forget thee [Israel]... I have graven [engraved] thee upon the palms of My hands**" (**Isa. 49:15-16**). **Exo. 19:5** God says Israel is "**a peculiar treasure unto Me [God] above all people.**" **How much does God love Israel?**
- D. Why does Israel have a right to exist as a nation?
- E. What encourages you most about Israel's history?
- F. What can you do for Israel now?
- G. What are some of the best things the world has gotten from Israel?
- H. How do you feel when you think of Israel and the Jewish people, why?