



AD 66- Present Day

The Plight of Israel:

*An Historical,
Biblical,
Theological
Study*

How This Study Has Impacted My Life Thus Far?

- 1) I have greater compassion for the pain and suffering of the Jews.
- 2) I have greater love for the covenant nation.
- 3) I have greater zeal for the salvation of Israel.
- 4) I have a greater appreciation of what barriers might be present when witnessing to Jews and/or to people from the Middle East.

How This Study Has Impacted My Life Thus Far?

5) I understand more clearly how one's eschatology impacts others areas of life and theology.

6) I have been reminded that the better one understands the Bible the better they will understand the world in which they live (Psalm 119:99-101).

The "Plight of Israel" MUST be interpreted through Biblical Lenses:

KEY PASSAGES

A) Hosea 3:4; 9:17

B) Deut. 28-32

C) Luke 19/21; Matthew 23:37-39

How This Study Has Impacted My Life Thus Far?

7) Other points of Application?

If we want to understand the WORLD we live in, including the ongoing hostility against Israel, we need to know something about the Middle East.

people
important mistakes we also like things history
happened know make well outside
help past think learn
study future
history

The Middle East is a Powder Keg:

“Wars and rumors of war” are commonplace



“The Muslim Worldview cannot conceive of religion divorced from politics.” Price, p. 13.

THE FIRST AMENDMENT
CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECT-
ING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR
PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF.

1920-2018

Non-stop Aggression against Israel and the Jews



2018- Major Enemies of the Jews

1) The P.L.O (founded in 1964; **P**alestine **L**iberation **O**rganization)



2) **HAMAS** (offshoot of Muslim Brotherhood); Largest terrorist threat.



2018- Major Enemies of the Jews

3) **HEZBOLLAH**- Iranian backed Militant Group; also funded by Lebanese Shias.



4) **Lone Wolf Terrorists** (often backed by ISIS, etc)



Military Power Index (World Rankings)

1. U.S.A.
2. Russia
3. China
8. Turkey*
10. Egypt*
13. Iran*
15. Pakistan*
16. Israel
24. S Arabia*



Present Day Enemies of Israel (the Jews)

Iran-



Opposition to the state of Israel (past and present):

IRAN- "The Islamic Awakening" 1960's (Ayatollah Khomeini)

Stated Goals:

- 1) Free Iran and the Islamic world from the American superpowers' 'imperialism.'
- 2) Restore the glory of Islam and its values in the M.E. (and world).
- 3) Establish an Islamic gov't based on Islamic principles/law.
- 4) Remove Jewish enemies from the Promised Land via Jihad.

1979 Iranian Revolution



1979-1989 Iran's 1st "Supreme Leader"



A Strange Parallel between False Teachers

Khomeini boasted that unlike the SHAH his ISLAMIC UTOPIA would "provide paradise in this world **and** the next!"

Sounds a lot like this guy → "Your Best Life Now (and later)."



Background

- Ayatollah was Iran's head of state from 1979-1989.
- He found the modern Islamic Jihad.
- Was exiled from Iran in 1964 and was invited back by Iran's anti-Shah revolutionaries.
- When he came back he took hold of power and formed an Islamic Republic. He ended the westernized society (lead by Shah) in Iran and enforced strict rules.



Young Ayatollah Khomeini

THE IRANIAN HOSTAGE CRISIS : (1979-81)



Khomeini became “the Allah-appointed Supreme Islamic Leader”

Khomeini established two groups of protectors:

- 1) **The Revolutionary Guard** and 2) **HEZBOLLAH** (Jihadists who protect the Supreme Leader and carry out his will)



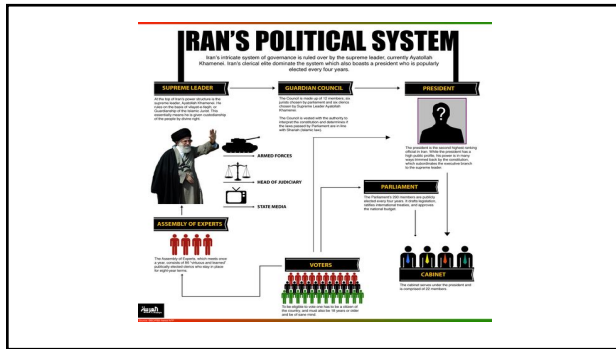
NOT TO BE CONFUSED with Ayatollah Khomeini
(1989-present; the 2nd ‘Supreme Leader’ of Iran)



1980's- The Forgotten War IRAN (Shia) versus IRAQ (Hussein)

Shortly after Khomeini created a (Shia inspired) Islamic state in Iran the secularist (butcher of Baghdad) initiated a war with IRAN.





Iran's obsession to "annihilate the Jews!"

Much of this information is from Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khomeini latest book "Palestine."

Khomeini shares many of these same views as Khomeini who said things like this, "If Muslims were united and each one had poured a bucket of water on Israel, a flood would have taken Israel away."

Iran funds HAMAS (and many terrorist organizations)

Militant Muslims (past and present) view Jihad as a necessary means to a Allah-honoring end.



The Holy Land (Palestine) is (to Iran) the most important issue in the Islamic World

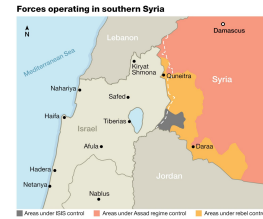


Iran's Desire to Wipe Out the Jews puts Israel in grave danger--- and here's how:

Hezbollah is one of the major powers in neighboring Lebanon



Hezbollah (Iranian backed Shi'ite terrorist group) in Syria



- **Iran.** Iran represents by far the most significant security challenge to the United States, its allies, and its interests in the greater Middle East. Its open hostility to the United States and Israel, sponsorship of terrorist groups like Hezbollah, and history of threatening the commons underscore the problem it could pose. Today, Iran's provocations are mostly a concern for the region and America's allies, friends, and assets there. Iran relies heavily on irregular (to include political) warfare against others in the region and fields more ballistic missiles than any of its neighbors. The development of its ballistic missiles and potential nuclear capability also mean that it poses a long-term threat to the security of the U.S. homeland."

Iran's Missiles



2000's- Two Major Powers in the Middle East
IRAN (Shia) versus SAUDIA ARABIA (Sunni)



Iran VS Saudi Arabia (Proxy Wars)

During the 1980's Iraq/Iran war- S. Arabia supported Iraq.

After the Iraq War in 2011; much of the sectarian violence in IRAQ (which led to rise of ISIS) had to do with Iran vs. Saudi Arabia (Shiite versus Sunni hatred).

The SYRIAN Civil War today- involves Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The current war in YEMEN is a proxy war between Iran and S.A.

TODAY it's often Iran/Russia
vs Saudi Arabia/America



IRAQ and SYRIA today:
"A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words."





“When Elephants FIGHT it’s the grass that Suffers.”

The Middle East has witnessed 1 million casualties in the past decade (in Iraq, Syria, Yemen).

IRAQ- From Really, really Bad to Even Worse

ISLAMIC STATE		
ORIGINAL LEADER	FORMER LEADER	CURRENT LEADER
 <p>Abu Musab al-Zarqawi</p> <p>Baath regime</p> <p>Reputedly distributed Baathists, though some joined his group.</p>	 <p>Abu Omar al-Baghdadi</p> <p>A former Iraqi officer who began to introduce other Baathists.</p>	 <p>Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi</p> <p>Not a Baathist; an Islamic scholar who rebuilt the organization by recruiting former Baathists.</p>
<p>Islamic State</p> <p>A Jordanian Palestinian who founded al-Qaeda in Iraq, killed in U.S. airstrike in 2006.</p>	<p>Former head of the Islamic State of Iraq, killed in a U.S. airstrike in 2010.</p>	<p>Currently the self-proclaimed caliph.</p>

Bitter Rivals- PBS Frontline

Present Day Enemies of Israel (the Jews)

It's a DANGEROUS world for Israel...

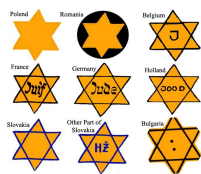


Lasting Peace in Israel and in the Middle East Awaits the Return of King Jesus

1) **Pray for the salvation of the elect from the four corners of the world**
(Romans 11:25-26).

2) **Personal evangelism and global missions fit into the larger purposes of God! Be faithful witnesses!** (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:18-20; Rom. 1:16)

3) **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May they prosper who love you.'** Psalm 122:6. **Israel will not rest secure until the Messiah returns! "Come Quickly Lord Jesus, Come!"** (per our current Sunday AM sermon series)



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