

Israel, the Middle East, and God's Prophetic Plan:



8/1/18
Lesson 6

The Lord of History is our God and King!

Psalm 33:10-11: *"The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations."*

God is truly and undeniably the Sovereign Lord...of all.

And that includes nations and leaders of nations.

Isaiah 40:23-24— *"who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble"*

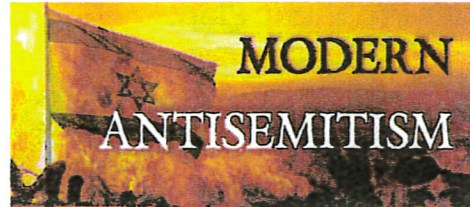
We worship and serve the God of Abraham.
The Destiny of (Future) Israel is Eternal!

1 Chronicles 29:10-12 *"Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all."*

WHY STUDY HISTORY?



- 1) History provides PERSPECTIVE:
 - A) "Things could be so much worse!"
 - B) Everything is ultimately headed towards a Divinely appointed end (much of which is presented in Scripture)
 - C) The past helps us to better understand the present.
- 2) History provides PRECEDENT: "How have God's people responded when confronted with diverse difficulties." For good and for bad! Help us Father to learn from the mistakes of the past and to imitate the faith and obedience of those who went before us.

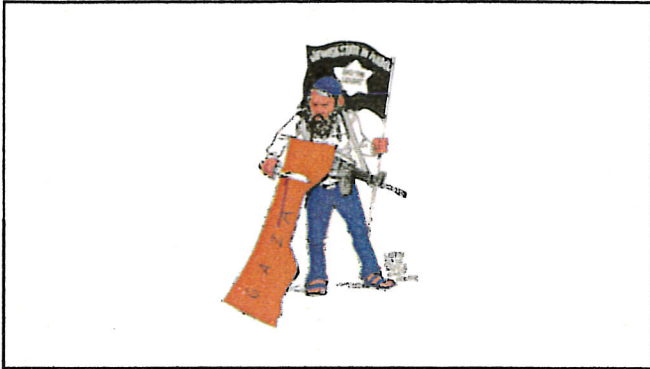


Satanic Anti-Semitism is alive and well



"The Jews are the violent oppressors" narrative!





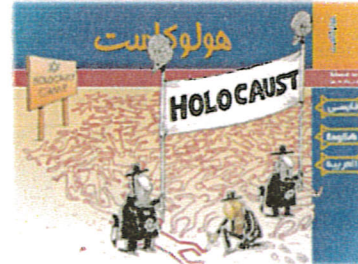
"The Israeli leaders are murderers" narrative.



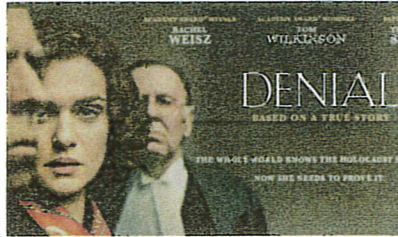
"The Murderous Jews are capitalizing on the Muslim Divide between Sunnis and Shiites"



"Holocaust Denial" is STILL held (by former Nazis and Muslims alike)



A well made Holocaust Denial movie-
"Denial"



Present Day Enemies of Israel

SYRIA - borders Israel to the north. Syria is currently led by brutal dictator Assad. Assad is backed by Russia and Iran. Syria actively supports the terrorist group HEZBOLLAH.

VERSUS the Anti-Assad rebels;
(the rebels are backed by S.A. many are Al-Qaeda)



It's a DANGEROUS world
(especially for Israel)...

Lebanon (likely home of the ancient
Canaanites/Phoenicians)



Yemen (and “the queen of Sheba?”)

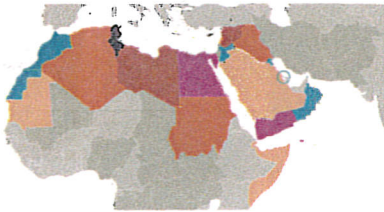


The Arab Spring (Egypt, Yemen, Syria, etc)

This “revolution” and populist revolt began in 2010 in Tunisia and quickly spread to Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Syria, and Bahrain.



The Arab Spring aka *the Arab Revolutions*



Brutal Rulers/Regimes OR Anarchy and/or Terrorist led Oppression



Blood-thirsty and power hungry opportunists wait for the right moment to seize control:

IRAQ- (ISIS/ISIL; formerly known as al-Qaeda in Iraq; Sharia Law)

Syria- (ISIS and Hezbollah/Iran; and Al-Nusra front/Saudi Arabia)

Egypt- (the Muslim Brotherhood; Sharia Law)

Libya (various terrorist groups; [Benghazi](#))

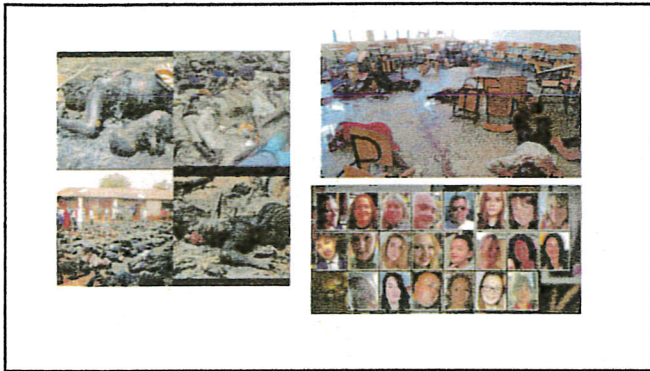


Nigeria



Since 2011 we've witnessed Islamic Terrorist Attacks in Boston, Russia, Iraq, the U.K., Kenya, Syria, Australia, U.A.E., France, Belgium, Spain, Somalia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Canada, to name but a few places...







It's a Dangerous Game of Cat and Mouse

Putin has taken aggressive action in Georgia, Ukraine, and most recently in Syria...with few repercussions.



Application

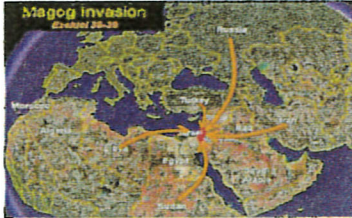
- 1) **Intercessory Prayer**- When we watch the news it should bring us to our knees with greater fervency and frequency.
- 2) We should consider forming **theologically informed partnerships** with ministries/groups like *Friends of Israel* and *Voice of the Martyrs*
- 3) **Greater anticipation and eschatological longings**- *Maranatha! Come quickly Lord Jesus, Come!*

Application

- 4) This study should cause believers to **not RUSH to JUDGMENT** but to be **Patient, Discerning, and Wise.**

Many of these geo-political issues that impact Israel, the U.S., and the Middle East are complicated and contain many layers....

5) We need to be cautious when it comes to "End Times" Speculation-



6) We Should be Grateful, Thankful, and Joyful

America is far from perfect- but compared to the rest of the turbulent Middle East- we should be rejoicing and praising God every day!

In Christ, our future is bright

(Eph. 1-2; "Blessings all mine, with 10,000 besides!")

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God-willing
see you next week!