

Intro Slide



God's Everlasting covenant with the Jewish People and the Land of Israel

Slide 1

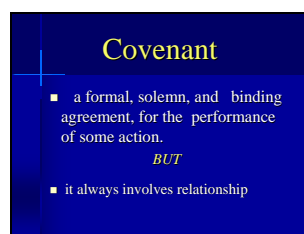


Before we can discuss Biblical covenant we have to understand what is meant by the word covenant and how it is different from a contract made between parties

First let's look at the word contract:

- people have a common agreement to do or not to do something specific
- all parties are involved in bringing about the desired end.
- contract can be broken and once it is- there's no further accountability
- The relationship between the parties involved is "conditional" and therefore, temporary , until agreement is realized or broken.
- A CONTRACT, THEN, HAS AN ENDING TIME

Slide 2



Covenant:

Covenant is an agreement entered into- with power of mutual relationship at its core

It is binding not just legally, but emotionally and spiritually

Always witnesses are involved, so a high level of accountability exists

Slide 3



Biblical covenant- We see it expressed in:

Covenant relationships = friends who were forever bound together

- Abraham & Abimelech (Genesis 21:34) though they had cultural and religious differences Abraham was able to live in peace in Beersheva in the land of the Philistines
- Jonathan & David (1 Samuel 18:3) in their love for one another their covenant relationship recognized David's right as King
- Jacob & Laban (Genesis 31: 43) they agreed not to harm one another or to bring harm to Laban's daughters

Biblical Covenants

- The Hebrews actually described the making of a covenant as “cutting covenant”
- God Himself “cut covenant” with Israel through Abraham-

The Hebrews actually described the making of a covenant as “cutting covenant”

- animals were slaughtered, cut in half and the 2 parties would walk between them- way of saying “Let this happen to me if I don’t honor what we have agreed to.”
- God Himself “cut covenant” with Israel through Abraham- Gen 15
3 yr. old heifer, goat and ram
- God put Abr. to sleep and then a smoking pot and a burning torch-

God’s Shekinah glory- passed alone thru the halves.

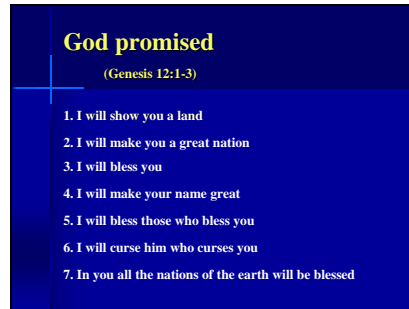
Keeping the covenant would never depend on Abr or his descendents but the fulfilling of the covenant would be the sole responsibility of God Himself

This “everlasting,” irrevocable Covenant that God made with Abraham and his descendents, relates not only to a people group –the Jews – but also to the land itself ... Israel.

A small map of the Middle East region, highlighting the area of Israel and the West Bank. The map shows the Mediterranean Sea to the west, Syria to the north, Jordan to the east, and Egypt to the south. Jerusalem is marked with a red dot in the center of the West Bank area.

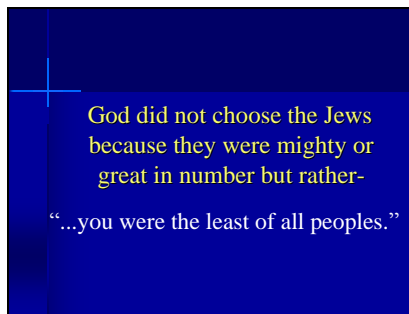
This “everlasting,” irrevocable Covenant that God made with Abraham and his descendents, was not only to a people group– the Jews – but also to the land itself ...Israel Genesis 15: 1-17 because the LAND was His to give

Slide 6



In Genesis 12:1-3 God promised to do 7 things. He said:
CLICK

1. I will show you a land
2. I will make you a great nation
3. I will bless you
4. I will make your name great
5. I will bless those who bless you
6. I will curse those who curse you
7. In you all the nations of the earth will be blessed



And God said to Abraham

Genesis 17: 7 & 8

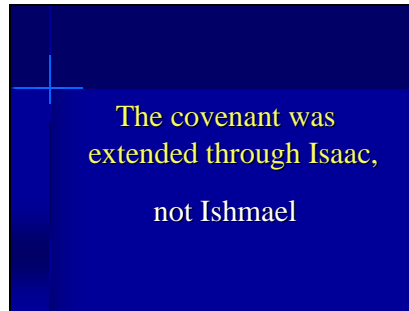
"I will establish My covenant as an everlasting covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you...."

God did not choose the Jews because they were mighty or great in number but rather

CLICK

Deuteronomy 7:6-7 "For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. 7 The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples."

So the Jews and the land of Israel were God's sovereign choice.



The covenant then- was made with Abraham, extended thru his son Isaac. It was not made with Ishmael, his son from his wife's maidservant, Hagar.

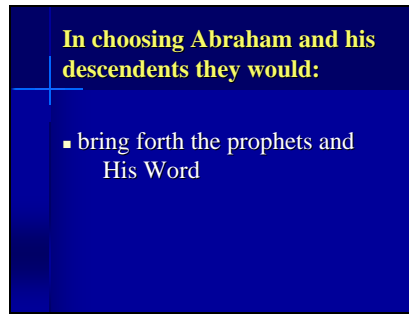
Genesis 17: 20 & 21A

“And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly.and I will make him a great nation. BUT My covenant, I will establish with Isaac...”

- Inheritance for the offspring of a concubine or slave lasted only for the lifetime of that son
- but to the firstborn son of the patriarch's wife –the inheritance was passed down through all the generations.

God would renew it with Isaac (**Genesis 26: 3- 4**) and again with Abraham's grandson Jacob, (**Genesis 35: 11-12**)

and confirm it with Moses



In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would:

- bring forth the prophets and His Word

In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would:

be a people to bring forth the prophets and give the world His inspired word – the Bible. (Rom. 3:2).... the Jews have been so meticulous about recording the Word

“During the early part of the tenth century (916 A.D.), there was a group of Jews called the Masoretes. These Jews were meticulous in their copying. The texts they had were all in capital letters, and there was no punctuation or paragraphs.

The Masoretes would copy Isaiah, for example, and when they were through, they would total up the number of letters. Then they would find the middle letter of the book. If it was not the same, they made a new copy.

All of the present copies of the Hebrew text which come from this period are in remarkable agreement.

Comparisons of the Masoretic text with earlier Latin and Greek versions have also revealed careful copying and little deviation during the thousand years from 100 B.C. to 900 A.D’

In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would:

- bring forth the prophets and His Word
- be His light to the world
- be the lineage of Messiah
- covenant owners of Messiah's birthplace

In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would: Be His means to bring His light to the surrounding pagan nations. (Isaiah 43:12) They would see how God dealt with Israel (His mercy and His faithfulness)

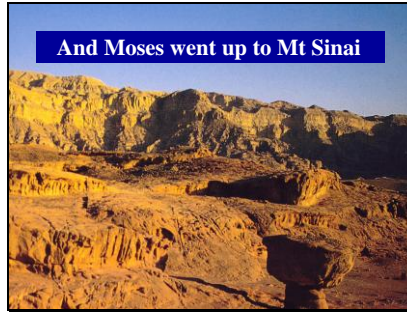
In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would: Be the lineage through whom the Messiah would come (Isaiah 9:6,7)

In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would:

- bring forth the prophets and His Word
- be His light to the world
- be the lineage of Messiah
- covenant owners of Messiah's birthplace
- be a living testimony in the earth of the authority of His Word.

In choosing Abraham and his descendents they would: be a living testimony in the of the authority of His Word. By looking at Abraham and his descendants they would see that obedience brings blessing and favor of the Lord.

“...And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the Lord ...” (Deut. 28: 10)



500 years after God made His Covenant with Abraham He made covenant with Moses

Moses went up to Mt Sinai and God spoke to him

-This covenant was conditional - based upon the nation of Israel meeting the requirements of the law

-Mosaic Covenant: Ex. 19:5 “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people, for all the earth is Mine.”

Along with the promise of blessing in this second covenant came a warning about the consequences of disobedience

Deuteronomy 28:64 “Then the Lord will scatter you among all nations, from one end of the earth to the other.”

The Prophets Declare God's Everlasting Covenant

Ezekiel 16:60 *"Nevertheless I will remember My covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you".*

-If they did not obey Him then , He would drive them off the land and disperse them the nations.


Leviticus 26:32, 33 "I will lay waste the land, so that your enemies who live there will be appalled. I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out my sword and pursue you. Your land will be laid waste, and your cities will lie in ruins."

It is important at this point to emphasize that had God chosen any other people to work through, the results would have been the same.

(Read Jeremiah 17:9)

The weakness is in mankind, not unique to Israel because no one could maintain the Law

God said He would always honor His everlasting, unconditional Covenant



with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and be faithful to keep promises made thousands of years ago!

We know the history of the Hebrew people

SO- Even though Israel broke that second conditional Covenant with God and experienced the punishment promised,

God said He would always honor His everlasting, unconditional Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and be faithful to keep promises made thousands of years ago!

Leviticus 26:44-45 “Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not reject them or abhor them so as to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them. I am the LORD their God.”

For their sake...

“I will remember the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the LORD.”

Zech.8:13 “As you have been an object of cursing among the nations oh Judah and Israel, so will I save you and you will be a blessing!”

Prophet after prophet spoke of the time of restoration of the Jews and of the land Israel and of Jerusalem

Jeremiah 31: 8 – 10 Jeremiah 16: 14 – 15 Isaiah 11: 11-12 Isaiah 43: 5-6 Ezekiel 36: 19,24, 28 Ez. 37: 11 – 12 , 21, 25

Slide 15

**God did EXACTLY
as He warned**

- First c... 70 years
- Second... n: 1900
year



God did EXACTLY as He warned

The first destruction of Israel, under the Babylonians, lasted 70 years

-The second destruction was for 1900 years.

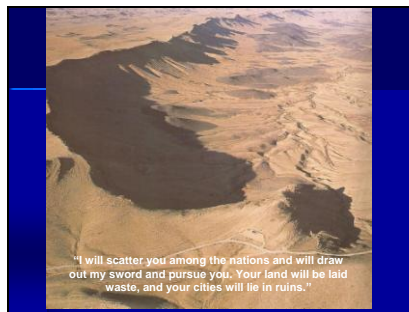
In 66 AD a Jewish rebellion against the Roman occupation took place.

-By 70 AD over 1 million Jews were killed; the Roman General Titus destroyed Israel, Jerusalem, and the Temple.

-This ended the priesthood & sacrificial system, survivors were sold as slaves, and...

this began the great dispersion of the Jewish people into all the world

Slide 16



In 136 AD, a second revolt by the Jewish people: 500 thousand Jews were killed & the rest sold as slaves.

In Response: the Romans literally plowed up the soil of Israel and salted the soil to poison it.

It was at this time the Romans, trying to erase any Jewish connection to the land also changed the name of the area to **Syria Palestina** derived from Israel's ancient enemy the Philistines.

-modern name Palestine

Slide 16A



The Miracle of Israel- let's take a quick overview of the conception (the vision) and how that vision came to be birthed.

**Let's Take a Look
at "Palestine"**

- It's important to talk the same language
- To know the meaning of the word
- To know in what context the word is used

First- Let's Take a Look at the term "Palestine" from a historical perspective-

What was Palestine and who were the Palestinians

- It's important to talk the same language
- To know the meaning of the word
- To know in what context the word is used



Since renaming by Romans in 136 AD -ALL the inhabitants of the land - both Arab and Jewish people – were called Palestinians until 1948.

During WW II –under the British an all Jewish brigade was formed called the Palestinian Brigade

The Palestinian Symphony were all Jews

The Palestinian Post = Jerusalem Post

That there was a National Arab Palestine is a MYTH that goes back generations and is still propagated today.

- Palestine was NEVER an established Arab Nation taken away by the Jewish Zionists.
- During more than 5000 years of recorded history, Palestinian Arabs never ruled Palestine

Israel became a people and a nation over 3200 years ago – 2000 years BEFORE the advent of Islam. Palestinian nationalism first began to “flicker” about 100 years ago

-**"The Palestinian people does not exist."** (PLO executive committee member Zahir Muhsein, March 31, 1977, interview with the Dutch newspaper Trouw.)

- Palestine was never a nation, never a language, never a separate race.
- It was a name given to a general territory, much like the Northwest Territory of the U.S.


From the time of the Roman conquest to the present the area would change hands over 10 times!

The idea for the creation of a Palestinian State is a relatively new idea that was first promoted by Yasser Arafat and the PLO, founded in 1964, and whose 1968 charter called for the destruction of Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Slide 18

- "Only the Jewish presence remained consistent as the sole survivors in the land, and they alone have maintained an uninterrupted national link ever since Abraham and Isaac."
- "... The number of Jews may have been minute at times, but they have remained, regardless."

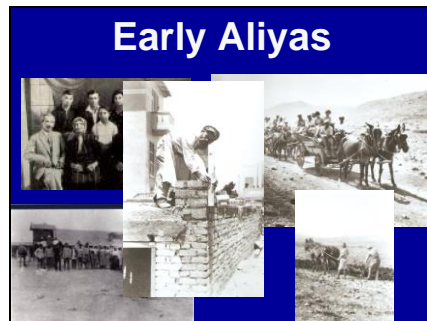
White House Correspondent and Evangelical Christian author- Bill Koenig



“Only the Jewish presence remained consistent as the sole survivors in the land, and they alone have maintained an uninterrupted national link ever since Abraham and Isaac.”

“... The number of Jews may have been minute at times, but they have remained, regardless.” White House Correspondent and Evangelical Christian author- Bill Koenig

Slide 19



How Did God Bring the rebirth this nation?

-the restoration of a Jewish homeland had its first birthpangs well over 100 yrs ago

-1882 a group of 14 young Russian Jews went to Palestine, not motivated by religious zeal but for the sole purpose of returning to Zion as a Jewish homeland!

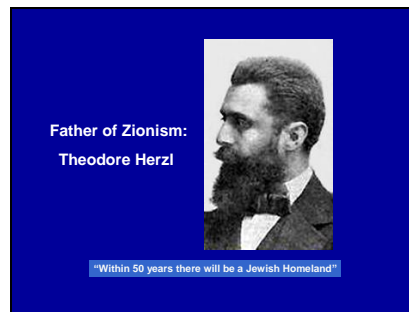
As the pogroms in Russia became more severe a stirring began....

Assimilation was NEVER an option

-ill prepared, more zeal than ability, and they suffered.

-2 yrs later others Russian Jews joined them and Gedarah, a settlement in the Southern Judean hills was established

Slide 20



During this same time period events occurred that would awaken a worldwide uniting force of the Jews toward a homeland.

One man and one event would become a catalyst for this movement

He would be known as the Father of the Zionism

- The movement began with a Viennese newspaper journalist
- Theodore Herzl: who witnessed, first hand, the vile anti-Semitism with the falsely arrest for treason, the public humiliation and imprisonment of French Jewish Captain Alfred Dryefus in Paris in January 1895.

- Dreyfus was sentenced to life imprisonment on Devil's Island and later exonerated in 1906
- Experiencing Anti-Semitism is all of its evil Herzl was forever changed.
- Epiphany- wrote a 100 page brochure "Der Judenstaat" the Jewish State (He knew that Jews would never assimilate/have a home anywhere)
- 1896 –Herzl published his book – "The Jewish State: A Modern Solution to the Jewish Question." This began the Zionist Movement

The first Zionist Congress met in 1897 first Zionist Conference Basil, Switzerland and set the economic foundation for the modern state of Israel. Anti-Semitism in Russia and France at that time actually set the stage for God to re- establish Israel

Phophetic word ["Within 50 years there will be a Jewish Homeland"](#)

GAVE RENEWED "ENERGY" TO ALIYAH

A second wave or the second Aliyah lasted from 1904 to the outbreak of WW I in 1914

-Rather than the starry-eyed intellectuals these pioneers were better prepared for the harsh life.

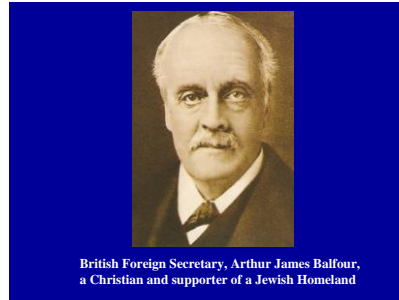
-they were prepared to work hard and came with the goal of establishing self supporting agricultural communities. (THE Kibbutz system) with the first being Deganyah, near Nof Ginosar

-this first group was followed by others.

Prior to the establishing of the nation there were be 5 Aliyas .

Each one was precipitated by world events which fueled the persecution of the Jews

Slide 20 A



In the meantime – Jewish Zionists were trickling back to the Israel, buying whatever land they could from the absentee landowners at inflated prices.

And again world events intervened bringing God's prophetic destiny for the Jews and the land of Israel closer to fulfillment

In 1917, hoping to rally Jewish support in Palestine and worldwide support for the Allies, England signed the Balfour Declaration authored Foreign Secretary - Arthur James Balfour which recognized the right of the Jewish people to return to Israel as their homeland.

Balfour Declaration

- “His majesty’s government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national homeland for the Jewish People.”

It read:

“His majesty’s government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national homeland for the Jewish People.”

Arab leaders initially endorsed the Balfour plan, hoping to be granted not only independence, but Arab control over vast parts of the former Ottoman Empire.

As Jewish immigration continued, as more land was sold by absentee Arab landowners to the Jews and independence was denied the Arabs, unrest swelled into riots.

General Edmund Allenby entering Jerusalem through the Jaffa Gate

December 9, 1917



God used WW I to prepare the land for the return of the Jewish people by ending the rule of Islam [The Ottoman Empire] over it.

On Dec. 9, 1917-British General Edmund Allenby captured Jerusalem ending 400 years of control by Islamic Invaders.

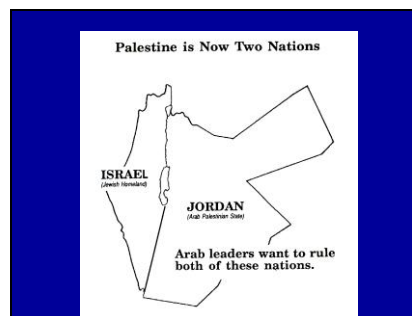
Slide 23



Palestine was put under British authority in the 1920 Peace Talks, once WWI ended.

In 1922 the new League of Nations ratified the British Mandate over the area and Great Britain was responsible for implementing the Balfour Declaration.

Slide 24



Violence and Arab unrest increased

“It should be remembered that in 1918, with the fall of the Ottoman Empire, Britain and France were handed 5,000,000 square miles to divvy up and 99% was given to the Arabs to create countries that did not exist previously.

1% was given as a Mandate for the re-establishment of a state for the Jews...

In 1921, to once again appease the Arabs, another three quarters of that 1% was to a fictitious state called Trans-Jordan.”

(Jack Berger, May 31, 2004.)

At that point, the British were allowing Arabs to settle anywhere in Palestine, while limiting Jewish people to lands west of the Jordan River.

Slide 25



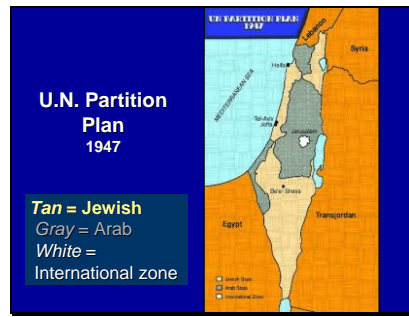
The Muslims continued to refused to recognize the rights of the Jewish people to have a homeland , so there were Arab riots throughout the 1920's and 1930's.

In 1921 Haj Amin al-Husseini was appointed mufti of Jerusalem by the British. As a virulent anti-semite and fearful that the Jewish immigration was damaging the Arab influence in the area, he engineered bloody riots during this period.

In 1929- all of the Jews in the city of Hebron were massacred, pressuring the British to again compromise their original plans for the new nation of Israel

Husseini's influence was instrumental in virtually closing the borders of Palestine to escaping European Jews in the 30's

Slide 26



WWII and the horrific holocaust brought a change in world opinion

-Germany was defeated, exposing the horrors of the Nazi's Final solution of the Jews, convincing the world that the Jewish people needed a homeland

In 1947, the United Nations voted to partition what remained of Palestine, after Trans-Jordan was carved out of it , into two roughly equal sections: (little more land for the Jews but better arable land for the Arabs) the Arab Palestinians would control the area where they were a majority and the Jewish Palestinians would control the area where they were the majority population.

The Jews accepted the partition and declared statehood while the arab Palestinians rejected the partition and attacked Israel with the help of their Arab neighbors

Had the Arab Palestinians accepted the partition they would be celebrating 60 years of statehood.

Tan = Jewish (you can see how vulnerable Israel was to attack)

Gray = Arab

White = International zone

Slide 27



1,878 years after the destruction of Jerusalem by Romans, Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled at the establishment of the state of Israel.

“ . . . once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. . . . They will make captives of their captors and rule over their oppressors. On the day the LORD gives you relief from suffering and turmoil and cruel bondage .

Isaiah 14: 1-3

“The rebirth of the State of Israel is correctly presented in Scripture as a unique event and without historical parallel. On one day—May 15, 1948—Israel emerged as a complete nation with all its functions: army, navy, air force (one airplane), parliament,

police force, medical and education systems, etc. I know of no other nation in history that has had a similar rebirth. *It is staggering to try to imagine the consequences of opposing such a sovereign act of God.*”

Slide 28



And so May 14, 1948 the Nation of Israel was officially created.

God used the horrors of Nazi Germany and of WW II create a homeland- a homeland where now Jews, thousands of Holocaust survivors, could have a safe home

As author John Mc Ternan wrote: “Hitler tried to destroy world Jewry. Yet, just 3 years after the defeat of the Nazis, **Israel was reborn!**

The Nazi Empire was in ashes, while Israel became a nation.”



On May 15, 1948 - one day after Israel declared its Independence, 5 Arab Nations attacked the infant state

Remember, there were about 675,000 Jews to about 50 million Arabs!

Israel survived The War of Independence; this began what is called the Palestinian Refugee problem.

In the cease fire that followed...

Jordan took control over the region of Samaria and Judea on the West Bank of the Jordan River, which extends to Jerusalem.

Egypt took control of the Gaza Strip plus the Sinai Peninsula.

They would rule those areas 1949-1967 During that time there was no mention of a Palestinian State, and no call for Palestinian sovereignty from the world community or from the Palestinians ...

while some Palestinians did want their own state, the Arab regimes would not back it until 1967 when the areas fell into Jewish hands.

- “The irony of it was the Arabs were now in the very territory allotted to them as their state by U.N Resolution Number 181 of 1947, *which had apportioned them a state next to the Jewish State.*
- This was the very territory they had originally declined, preferring to have it all.”

White House Correspondent Bill Koenig

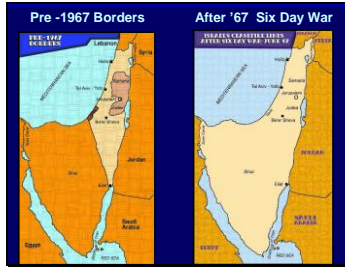
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The problem now was that the Palestinian Arabs were NOT living on that land originally offered to them as part of a new bordered Arab land, but now as refugees.

Had the Arab nations accepted the U.N. terms, the Arabs living in Israel could have either stayed there or voluntarily relocated to the West Bank area where they would have been become Jordanians..... but now they were refugees who were not welcomed by Jordan.... Not made citizens.

Jordan and Egypt occupied and controlled the land, refusing to absorb their Arab Brothers into their societies and keeping them subjugated in refugee camps

The continued blockade of the Suez Canal and Gulf of Aqaba to Israeli shipping, so Israel, with the backing of Britain and France, attacked Egypt on **October 29, 1956** was a swift, sweeping operation of 100 hours, under the leadership of then Chief of the General Staff, Moshe Dayan, with the result that the entire Sinai peninsula fell into Israeli hands, at a cost of 231 soldiers killed



No Arab country would be satisfied with even 1/10 of one percent of land for Jews
In June 1967- war broke out again with Egypt and became known as The Six Day War.

In response to ongoing Arab aggression and terrorism and Egypt's command to UN forces to leave the Sinai Desert , Israel launched a preemptive strike... article 51 in the UN charter allows the right to self defense. Israel destroyed the Egyptian air force, and pushing back Syria gained the strategic Golan Heights, the Gaza strip and the Sinai Peninsula. (Egypt and Israel would eventually sign a Peace Treaty in 1979.)



Israel sent an emissary to Jordan asking them not to enter the war. However, on the last day of that war, Jordan joined the other Arab nations and attacked Israel.
ON that one day, Jordan lost Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria (the West Bank)

Had Jerusalem not attacked Israel the West Bank and East Jerusalem would still be under Jordanian rule.

For the first time since 606 B.C., Jerusalem was once again the capitol of an independent Israel, just as the ancient prophets said would happen.

Slide 32a



Nine days after the war Israel on June 19, 1967 Israeli foreign minister Abba Eban came to the United States asking them to help broker a peace with the Arab nations. Israel was willing to give up territories for an agreement

Sept. 1 the Arab leaders met in Khartoum, Sudan and unanimously declared, "No peace, No recognition of Israel, No negotiations with it."

Abba Eban later remarked, "This is the first war in history which has ended with the victors suing for peace and the vanquished calling for unconditional surrender."



Lasting peace would not come to Israel

(Yom Kippur War-) On the Jewish Day of Atonement 1973 the Egyptian army crossed the Suez Canal heading in force in the Sinai Desert, while Syria invaded the Golan Heights.

16 days later the U.N. passed a cease fire ending what was known as the "Yom Kippur War)

Israel would not know lasting peace..... It is not about the land but about Jewish sovereignty and freedom in the Middle East

In 1978 Lebanon was in the midst of civil war as the PLO and the Fatah Brigade, ousted from Jordan, moved into that country, used it as a base of operations.

- In response to the repeated attacks, Israel went into Lebanon to dislodge the PLO

In 1982, Israel again went to war forcibly expelling the PLO from Lebanon

- That same year Israel withdrew from the Sinai following a peace treaty with Egypt... thus reducing her land size

Since the late 70's, there has been much pressure on Israel to give land for peace....but peace will not come because it is not about land

Most recently, on Sept. 28, 2000 – fighting broke out in Jerusalem over the Temple Mount, which continued as a low grade war between Israel and the Palestinians for 4 out of the last 5 years.

Slide 34



August 2005 In hopes of jump starting the Peace process, Israel pulled out of 17 established “settlements” (towns) and evacuated 1,500 families and businesses.

PAUSE TO SHOW ALL PICTURES

Slide 35



Settlements is a misnomer- these areas have established schools, clinics, synagogues, neighborhoods, parks, businesses

SHORT PAUSE

Slide 36



Former P Minister Bibi Netanyahu said he saw a direct link between Israel's disengagement from Gaza in 2005 and the current situation there.

"What we're seeing in Gaza is the inevitable result of our weak, defeatist policies and withdrawal. Every piece of land we evacuate is seized by radical Islam backed by Iran and rockets are launched from there against us," he noted.

And still unrest continues.....

The summer of 2006 war broke out between Hezbollah, terrorist organization based in Lebanon (to the north of Israel).

While open hostilities have abated- Israel and the world know it is just a matter of time before, on any one of many fronts, open warfare will erupt



In spite of this.....

The Jewish people continue to return to their homeland from the North, South, East and West, as the Bible said.

“ I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth.” *Is 43:5-6*

In late 2006 the largest group of Jews, known as Bnei Menashe came from Bombay, India to make aliya. From northern India, they are believed to be part of the lost tribe of Manasseh- of the 10 tribes of Israel exiled by the Assyrians over 2,700 years ago.

These 218 Jews joined their 1,000 brothers and sisters who had come over the past 10 years from India.

No people, no nation, no leader can thwart what God has declared

History records that every nation who tried to destroy Israel, has been met – sooner or later - with God’s wrath.

When most of the Jews left the land, the land became desolate; now with the Jewish people back, it is flourishing and productive.

Slide 37 a



Annapolis November 2007 Continued Peace Efforts in the Middle East

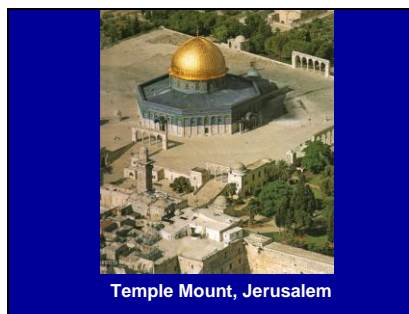
On the sixty year anniversary of the UN's Partition Plan, a Middle East Summit was held in Annapolis, Maryland. The intent was to lay the groundwork for further talks that would lead to an independent Jewish and Arab states in Palestine. Leaders from approximately 40 nations gathered at this first meeting. *The resulting "Annapolis Joint Declaration" which was signed by Israeli Prime Minster Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas outlines the goal of two separate states of Israel and Palestine "living side-by-side in peace and security" by the end of 2008.* The United States agreed to monitor the continued negotiations between the two parties over the next year.

As sons and daughters of Isaachar who understand the times (I Chron. 12:32), Annapolis is another indication that **we are truly living in the last days.** We must be watchful and given to prayer in this hour like never before. God always deals with those who touch Israel, the apple of His eye (Zech. 2:8).



And- Jerusalem is once again the capital of Israel...just as the prophets predicted.

- There was never a sovereign nation on the land or a country that had its capitol as Jerusalem.
- There is much Archeological proof that it has been the heart of Jewish life for over 3000 years



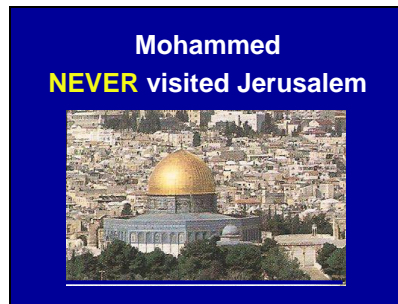
Yet- it is a much contested city

Jerusalem is not even mentioned once in the Koran –yet Many Muslims declare sole rights to the city, ignoring the fact that

Jerusalem is mentioned more than 800 times in the Bible

In October of 2000 Prime Minister Ariel Sharon wrote: “The Waqf (the Muslim administrative body responsible for the Temple Mount in Jerusalem) is attempting to deliberately destroy all archaeological evidence of Jewish claims to this holy site, while using terror and intimidation to impose their exclusive claim to the site. “

Slide 40



Jerusalem has never been an Arab Muslim or Palestinian capitol.

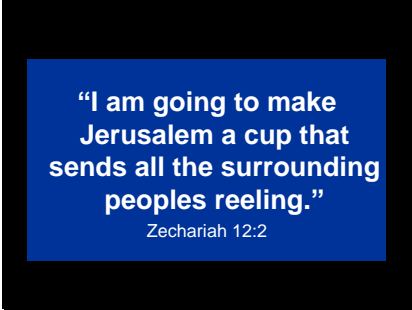
Muslims claim that Jerusalem is the third most Holy city in Islam after Mecca and Medina [Sura 17:1 where it speaks of Al Aksa]

- Al Aksa translates to “the farthest mosque” - mosque al-Girana on the outskirts of Medina*
- There was no Mosque in Jerusalem when the Koran was written
- As a matter of fact- Mohammed NEVER visited Jerusalem
- In a “vision” he went up to Heaven from Jerusalem

This very site became the location of the First and Second Temples in Israel... 1700 years before anyone ever heard of the Dome of the Rock (687 -691 AD) or the Al Aksa mosque.

King David legally purchased the 35 acres known as the Temple Mount from Araunah the Jebusite (2 Sam. 24: 21 – 24)

Slide 41



**“I am going to make
Jerusalem a cup that
sends all the surrounding
peoples reeling.”**
Zechariah 12:2

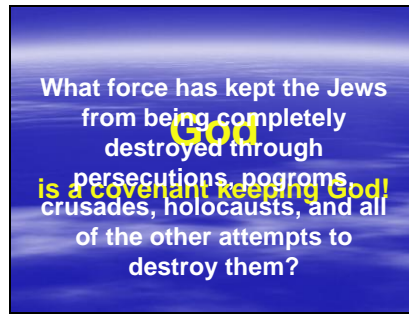
The world’s attention is upon this tiny piece of land and Jerusalem is becoming a “cup of trembling” as prophesied in Zech. 12: 1,2.

There is no nation and no capitol that has a more conflicted history and a greater destiny than Israel and Jerusalem

Of this nation John Mc Ternan: wrote in “Israel – the Blessing or the Curse”

“There is no nation in history that was twice destroyed. The Capital and religious center was twice destroyed. The people en masse were twice taken off the land. The last captivity was for 1900 years. The language was all but extinct. For this nation to be reborn and have the same capital [and I would add- even the same language and the same religion]

– has to be seen as supernatural...”



What force has kept the Jews from being completely destroyed through persecution, pogroms, crusades, holocausts, and all of the other attempts to destroy them?"

What has sustained this people through a history of turmoil and a present so unsettling?

What would draw a people to leave comfort and security for a new land filled with uncertain challenges?

Simply this great truth-

CLICK

God is a covenant keeping God!

