

Slide 8



(writing on slide are 2 verses: Is. 62:6,7 and then Is. 55:11)

A Battle rages- Who will be worshipped and declared most High God on the Temple Mount of Jerusalem.

It is not a battle between Arabs and Jews, it is a battle between the forces of darkness and the powers of light

In the midst of this great battle God calls His people to prayer

-Is 62:6,7 "I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem. They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, And give Him rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."



Many in the Body of Christ have accepted God's heart for the Jews

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But truthfully- many have not picked up a burden for the Arab people

Now, because God has a redemptive purpose for every nation, every people group.

-We are called pray that God's destiny, not only for the Jews but, His purpose for the Arab people be fulfilled as well



Praying for the Jews and the Arabs is challenging because

- -the issues are complex and because the conflict spans generations it is difficult to accurately assess the whole truth
- -Each side accuses the other of distorting the truth,

-most people have already formed opinions and see the events thru that lens

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The truth is no one side is blameless and both have been victimized in one degree or another.



In the Israel and the Palestinian Community

- -Both have lost lives in the conflict
- -Both have experienced high unemployment

Associated Press reported in 2004 that more than 1 in 5 Israelis live in poverty World Bank reported after 4 years of fighting nearly half of the Palestinians

live in poverty

Just as God does not have favorites, but rather remembers His covenants with both Isaac and Ishmael

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As Watchman we too need to remember both peoples, they are forever connected by birthright to Abraham



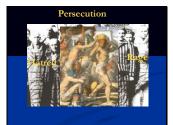
Though Abraham had 2 sons who both would be blessed

only one, Isaac, was to be the child of covenant-

the one through whom God chose to enter into a lasting, eternal covenant relationship,

who's lineage would give birth to the Messiah, the Redeemer for all mankind

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And because of this, throughout history, the descendents of Isaac and Jacob, the Jews, have been the target of systematic persecution, hatred

CLICK

murderous rage.



For centuries they were scattered across the nations of the world,

Where they have endured ongoing cycles of persecution, pograms, harassment and death

They fought for survival at the birth of their nation in 1948

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Satan and his dominion have forever worked to destroy the Jews, for eliminating the Jewish people would destroy God's plan, nullify his covenant promises.... making Him powerless and proving Him a liar.



Yet- God has preserved the Jews

Because God made a covenant with Israel that is **eternal** we **know** He will sustain them, as He has through centuries

He has promised

"And I will remember the covenant of their ancestors whom I have brought forth form the land of Egypt, before the eyes of the nations to be their God." (Lev. 26:42)

This promise has sustained then through the darkest hours, and their very survival is a testimony of a promise keeping God

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Though they continue to fight for their survival today surrounded by enemies intent upon their total annihilationThrough it all- their desire for peace remains



We are living in times of prophetic fulfillment

- the 70's, saw the birth of the Messianic movement worldwide.... Allowing believing Jews to embrace their Jewishness as believers in Yeshua
- **The 80's** saw the establishment of believing Messianic congregations in nations
- Now- in the 2000's there is the beginning of an unprecented move spreading among Sabras, native born Israelis, to come to faith in Yeshua with over 50 congregations under Sabra leadership

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God has led Aglow to relate to the Messianic community in a covenental way.

We recognize the difficult challenges for Jewish believers in the land

- They are met with hostility by the orthodox and ultra orthodox community
- Many consider Jews who embrace Jesus as Messiah as no longer Jews
- Some congregations face difficulties when attempting to rent or lease space for their congregations Ex. Ramat Rachel

There are reported incidents of harassment of Jewish believers

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 Because believer in any nation carry the destiny for that nation.... The destiny for Israel resides within the Messianic community

Aglow has embraced the call to walk together with these Jewish believers who are, indeed, a living demonstration of Acts 2 church

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There are only 2 groups that God has ever called His own: -The first is Israel whom He calls the first-born -and the second is the church

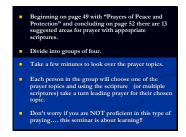
CLICK

- The Biblical mandate on the Church is to pray for, stand with those He calls the Apple of His Eye, His treasured Possession, His first born
- To pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and protection for her people
 - that the destiny of the nation and the Jews, and
 - ultimately the Church would be fulfilled

For Jesus, son of David, is coming back as King to rule from a city, Jerusalem, in a nation, Israel where-

Is.2 tells us that from this mountain all the nations will flow.... "out of Jerusalem shall go forth the Word of the Lord."

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(Slide repeats the directions below)

Beginning on page 50 with "Prayers of Peace and Protection" and concluding on page 52 there are 11 suggested areas for prayer with appropriate scriptures. Divide into groups of four.

Take a few minutes to look over the prayer topics.

Each person in the group will choose one of the prayer topics and using the scripture (or multiple scriptures) take a turn leading prayer for their chosen topic.

Don't worry if you are NOT proficient in this type of praying.... this seminar is about learning!!

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How to pray for Arabs- George Otis- informed intercession is effective intercession.

To be effective watchmen we need to bring awareness to the complexities of the Middle East

Complexities that began long ago.



God made an everlasting covenant with Abraham

"...I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession and I will be their God."

CLICK

as an everlasting possession and I will be their God." Establishing land boundaries

in Gen. 15

Reaffirming

To Abraham – Genesis 17: 7,8 To Isaac - Genesis 26: 3-4 To Jacob - Genesis 35: 11-12

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" As for Ishmael, I have blessed bim and will make bim fruitful and will multiply bim exceedingly....and I will make bim a great nation." Genesis 1720

As God made an irrevocable covenant with Abraham through Isaac, God also

remembered Abraham's other son Ishmael.

"As for Ishmael, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and will multiply him exceedingly.....and I will make him a great nation." Genesis 17:20

And He will keep that promise

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Genesis 16 records the story of Ishmael

Hagar, given to Abraham by her mistress Sarah, pregnant, now despised by her mistress and becoming the brunt of her anger, flees to the wilderness.

In the wilderness and angel comes to her in her distress.

"Behold you are with child ...and you will call His name Ishmael... He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, and every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren."

Hagar is told to go back, submit

Hagar returns, births Ishmael who is reared in Abraham's household. She indeed becomes the mother of most Arab nations



God comes once again to affirm his covenant with Abraham- that he would have a son through Sarah-

but Abraham also loves his son Ishmael and so he comes before the Lord standing in the gap for Ishmael, cries out "**Oh that Ishmael might live before you.**"

God hears Abraham and responds to his heart for his son- promising a blessing to Ishmael and his descendents

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.*"

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Finally, Sarah gives birth to Isaac.

-During the weaning celebration a Hagar mocks Isaac, and seeing this Sarah demands that Abraham put her and her son out.

God tells a displeased Abraham to agree, but tells him that he will bless Ishmael

"Do not be distressed because of the lad and your maid; do whatever Sarah tells you, listen to her, for through Isaac your descendants shall be named. And of the son of the maid, I will make a nation also, because he is your descendant." Genesis 21: 12 & 13

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So Abraham sent Hagar and Ishmael away into the wilderness of Beersheva. When the water was used up, Hagar, not bearing to see her son die, left him under a shrub and went away to weep.

There, in her misery, God spoke to her:

Genesis 21: 17, 18 & 20 "Do not fear, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. Arise, lift up the lad and hold him by the hand, for I will make a great nation of him."

Verse 20 ... "God was with the lad."



Fatherless Ishmael, went with the promise of the Lord, but a deep wound that occurred from Hagar and Ishmael being put out of the household of Abraham. **took root and are still alive today in the Arab people**

rejection bitterness abandonment enmity

So the struggle between the sons of Isaac and the sons of Ishmael is not just about the land, but it has to a powerful spiritual dimension rooted in that sense of abandonment and rejection

That centuries old root nourishes the conflict in the Middle East today opposed to the purposes of God.

That sense of "fatherlessness" is seen even in Islam- as there is no mention of God as Father

-Because of this spiritual root we need to pray for the unseen as well as the seen influences.

-We also need to keep in mind that the visible and invisible dynamic manifests itself differently in Arab groups

- Why did God let Hagar and Ishmael live? Because there is a destiny to be fulfilled in the Arab people.... And it needs to be claimed in prayer by God's people
- Revelation 5:9 tells us that a remnant will come from every nation, every tribe and every tongue to worship

It is God's will for all to be saved & come to the knowledge of God (I Timothy 2:4)

- There is a redemptive purpose yet for the Arabs to fulfill.... They are part of the fullness of the gentiles that must take place before the Jews can come in
- There are 300 million Arabs today.... The blessings upon Ishmael and his descendents need to be claimed in prayer by God's people

God's promise about Ishmael to Hagar was a consolation not a curse! (Gen. 16:11)

Abraham's heart was also for his son, Ishmael whom he loved *(Gen. 17:18)*. Ishmael was conferred a blessing by the Lord (Gen. 17:20). *God was with the growing Ishmael* (Gen. 21:17-20).

At Abraham's death these brothers stood united at grave (Gen. 25:9

It is the intent that through Christ they come together again and be at peace



There are 4 major categories of Arabs that we will discuss

General Arab Community Militant Muslim Arabs Christian Arabs Christian Arabs and Jewish Believers

We need to understand that with all the groups there are

- -Major cultural contrasts between Eastern and Western mindsets. (even when Arabs are saved they come with cultural influences that challenge the western church)
- -Major Religious contrasts between Christianity and Islam which most Arabs are.
- -Historical & Political Opposition that have fostered animosity.

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General Arab Community 1. Community vs. Individual Western mindset: individualism Eastern mindset: community identity There are major differences between western and eastern cultures... that need to be acknowledged if we are to be effective intercessors and accurate spoke people for the issues in the Middle East

The Western mindset prides itself on its individualism...my rights, my choices, "self realization."

Most of us think of ourselves as unique individuals

CLICK

In Eastern culture the identity of the individual <u>IS</u> the identity of the community and culture. There is no personal identity apart from the group, the community

To depart from it by personal choice is to scorn and reject your community, your culture and yourself.

This is a powerful reality any transition out of the sense of community has far reaching consequences for the person in every area of life.

More specifically- for a Jew or a Muslim to exchange their faith for Jesus Christ is to be cut off from all you know

They are making a choice at a great cost

This is the difficulty when trying to evangelize those from the Eastern mindset



The way Jews and Muslims pray provides a picture of that sense of community.

-Jews pray 3x a day and Muslims 5x daily

- -While individual praying exists with the Judaism, much of the prayer is done in a required minion- a group of ten... even the Kadesh, the prayer at the death of a loved one can only be prayed within the believing community
- -Muslims come together in community for daily prayers

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The expression to the community is never greater than When Muslims make Hajj with millions of others around the world

- this confirms their faith and gives credibility to what they believe,
- Mecca, the birth place of Muhammad, (where Abraham was to have offered up Ishmael and built a house of worship called Ka'ba) considered the holiest

city, was home to 360 gods over whom Muhammad declared Allah was supreme.

All Muslims make a pilgrimage (hajj) once in a life time...

-Book" Princess Sultana, the sequel to princess Life Beyond the Veil talks how Sultanas daughter makes Hajj and returns a fundamental muslim taking the whole veil.

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Muslims claim that Allah in pre-Islamic times was the biblical God of the Patriarchs, Prophets, and Apostles.

-that Adam and Eve were the first Muslims because they submitted to God and Islam means submission

Hard evidence demonstrates that the god Allah was a pagan god in Arabia during pre-Islamic time...he was the Moon-god .



(The slide states the quote by Rez Safa.)

Islam is not just another religion. This religion impacts every facet of the community. Reza Safa, a former shi'ite Muslim stated in his book **Inside Islam** that the goal of

Islam is to produce a theocracy with Allah as the ruler of the society, a society with no separation between religion and the state. This society would have no democracy, no free will, and no freedom of expression."

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The importance of the community and the pressure it brings effects the notion of right and wrong

The East views morality through the lens of shame and honor, *while we in the West focus on more abstract notions of right and wrong*

The damage of sin to the Eastern mindset is the damage to one's reputation & honor.

Enormous pressure on the individual not to shame the family, tribe, group, or community by trading allegiance to Islam for allegiance to Jesus.

- Arab Practice of "Honor Killings" or of condoned physical abuse, burning, & disfigurement of women to restore family reputation(government often overlooks this, or gives it only attention because it is so a part of the culture.
- If a husband even thinks his wife is flirting, if a man gives her what he feels is undo attention, it is grounds for killing. Even if a woman is raped by family members or others she may be killed to restore honor to the family.
- We too often have little understanding of the culture of the Middle East and therefore cannot communicate in a relevant way



- We in the west live in the present.... But in the Middle East what happened 3,000 hears ago, 1500 years ago is just the same as 2 days ago.
- So- History helps explain the distrust of Muslims and Jews towards Christians.
- For religious Muslims or Jews when they look at the history of relationships with Christians they see a horrible legacy: Pograms, Crusades, Inquisition, Holocaust

The Crusades massacred Muslims as well as Jews.



- Today- as we look at the dynamics of the Middle East, in particular those living in parts of Israel there have been injustices on the part of the government.
- There has been violence and great harm done to Israeli Jews by Arabs ... Both have been wronged and only through Jesus will there be peace.
- That is why we cannot see Jews and Israel thru political eyes, because God is not honoring political State of Israel,
- There needs to be a separation in the minds of Arabs as well as Christians between the Jews as a covenanted people of God and the actions of the political state of Israel

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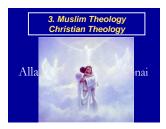


We need to have a clear understanding of Islam because it is dominant religion in the Arab world

- As we pray for and evangelize Arab Muslims we cannot reach them a part from understanding the generational hold on their lives.... Because the community is so a part of their "psyche" Arabs coming out of Islam bring with them their cultures
- Even if the Arabs have become Christians, the Islamic influence and mindset still strongly influences their perceptions and thought patterns. It colors their idea of Christianity, Israel and the Jews

Participation by attendees

Slide 45



Muslim and Christian theology is so different

- Muslims see Allah as a transcendent being ... beyond any ordinary means of perception. God would never stoop to us
- The "Trinity" also confronts the Islamic theology. They don't hear 3 in 1.... They hear 3 gods and this becomes an obstacle to their hearing the Gospel message
- Jesus on a cross is NOT a sign of strength to the Muslim, but a sign of failure, of shame

To believe that God can partner and have a son is the ultimate irrationality.

To believe God's Son became a servant –is just as irrational.

Allah is NEVER a Father Figure within Islam.

"In all the terms and the 99 different titles of Allah – one does not encounter ANY terms

of intimacy." Dr. Ergun Caner & Dr. Emir Caner

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"Islam looks to a god of the scales, as opposed to the atoning God the Son." There is no grace..... no mercy for sinners

The Quran teaches that Allah's heart is set against the infidel (kafir). ... anyone who is not righteous according to Islam

When Arab armies conquer a land they declare Allah to be worshipped- Period!

It is conquest not conversion.... Sudan

- He has no love for the unbeliever (of Islam).
- Nor is it the task of the Muslim to "evangelize" the unbelieving world.
- The theme is conquest, not conversion

Arabs look at our culture and equate it with Christianity and are disgusted by our loose morality

They look at the church see moral apathy and little difference from the immoral culture

Sadly, after 9/11 many converted to Islam because they were looking for something higher in the way of living..... The church looked like it required nothing to follow Jesus

Slide 44



Knowing this- How should we pray for the Arabs in general?

Dreams, visions, and divine visitations: especially on the 27th day of 30 day Ramadan-Night of Power...heightened spiritual awareness (when Muh. got 1st vision)

CLICK

- There is a great need for strong "spiritual fathering" for Muslims who convert to Christianity; because many converts are abandoned by their families they need support and nurturing as they stand in the face of persecution.
- Bill Johnson in his book, <u>The Supernatural Ways of Royalty</u>, wrote, "What happens to the new believers who are not parented? Most of them go back to the world from which they came."



We need to pray for the Arab peoples to have ability to distinguish between the political and cultural systems of *Israel from the Jewish people and the Western world, from the Jewish people and Christianity.*

CLICK

God to heal the sense of rejection, enmity and abandonment in the offspring of Ishmael that has existed since Abraham sent Hagar & Ishmael away.

We need to pray for a Renewal of Radical Biblical Christianity in the West and in The Church that truly expresses Christ's love that might be a witness to the Arab peoples and nations

STOP

Loving the Arab people will only come by revelation and impartation.

Join hand with another person and ask God to give you a revelation of His love for the Arab people..... ask that He give you His heart for these people....



2. Militant Muslim Arabs Not all terrorist organizations are Muslim and not all Muslims are terrorists!

For Ex. October of 2001, the U.S. State Department listed 28 foreign terrorist groups; 11 of those listed are Islamic.

- Since 9-11-2001 Islamic Terrorists have carried out more than ***9,012*** terror attacks around the world. Worldwide it is estimated that 10 15% of the world's 1.6 billion Muslims are radicals bent upon the destruction of any society that is not Islamic.
- In 2006 there were 2,388 attacks by Islamic Terrorists around the world. These attacks resulted in 16,032 deaths and 20,258 injuries. * Please note this number changes almost daily. For the latest statistic go to- www.thereligionofpeace.com

In the first 6 months of 2007 there were 1679 attacks in 34 different countries

- Even if the radical faction of Muslims comprise only 10% of the Muslim people as many Muslim leaders suggest, with a World Population of between 1.48 billion and 1.70 Billion (www.islamicpopulation.com), we are talking about a radical Islamic population of 148 – 170 MILLION people
- Islam espoused by groups like al-Qaeda are the minority, and not the majority (Council on Foreign Relations
- Muslims also have a birth rate 3-5 times higher than the U.S. Europe, Australia and Canada

Radical groups are nurturing a generation of men and women into a death culture

SO....

WE MUST BE IN PRAYER FOR GOD TO WORK IN THE RADICAL MUSLIM PEOPLE AND THEIR GROUPS

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 it is a threat to all religions, particularly to Jews and Christians, all democracies, and committed to the annihilation of Israel and any Jewish presence in the Middle East

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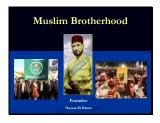


On September 11, 2001 the reality of Radical Islam became a reality for America as it had been for decades against Israel-

Video Clip from the History Channel's Documentary" Brotherhood of Terror



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How did radical Islam in our day come to be organized?

The parent of Islamic terrorism in the 20th and 21st Century is the Muslim Brotherhood, an often secretive organization started in 1928 in Egypt by a Muslim Hassan El Banna. Dedicated to Islam and the total rejection of any Western culture

- By the 1930's had thousand of members not only in Egypt, but in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the area then called Palestine who were committed to establishing Islamic law and worldwide domination of Islam.
 - They have grown to over 3 million in 70 nations. In the 1930's they began their terrorist wing-

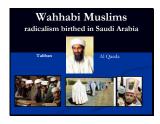
 Today knowledgeable experts say that ¼ of Egypt's 70 million sympathize with the Brotherhood. Presently they are the strongest minority block in the Egyptian government

Their ideology has inspired Al Qaeda, Hanas, Islamic Jihadists.

There main objective is the Islamization of the world

- Through the years they have carried and strengthened the hatred of Ishmaelparticularly expressed at the Jews and the western nations that lend Israel support.
- They are willing to kill in the name of "god" –holy jihad-....even those Muslims who do not agree with them.
- Moderate Muslims will say that Jihad is the inner struggle- the war within- but for radicals within any of these sects jihad is war against individuals, peoples, nations that they perceive standing against fundamentalism. For fundamentalist Muslims- jihad is a war of land- ridding the land from Jews.

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Another radical movement Wahaabism, birthed in the 18th century, became a major Islamic influence :

-as they came into control of Mecca and the Hajj in 1924

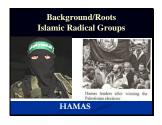
-and the 30's when oil was discovered in Saudi Arabia in 1938. With that came the initial 10's of millions of dollars to spread its influence.

They advocate the puritanical interpretation of Islam.

These people, known as Wahhabi Muslims, today are the major influence in Mosques in the U.S. and in Europe

They also have influenced Hamas, Al Qaeda and Islamic Jihadists.

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In 1987 Hamas was formed as another outgrowth of the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood movement. They use political and violent terrorist acts to pursue their aim of a Islamic Palestinian state replacing Israel.



Their strength is primarily within the Gaza strip and the West Bank (Judea and Samaria) and in Jordan.

-conducted many suicide bombings of civilians within Israel

-boast of thousands of supporters as evidenced of their victory in the Palestinian elections.

All the groups openly express Hatred of Jews

-they continue to feed and strengthen the age old bitterness and hatreds.

-their Islamic militancy appeals to poor, disillusioned, single young men in the Arab world.

They feed into their primal hatred and entice with their promise of ecstasy awaiting those who die in Jihad.

The culture glorifies martyrs (even women now) so that so that the love of death becomes more than the lover of life.

This environment of hatred has also given way to a much smaller but no less active group of Jewish extremists. In 1994 a Brooklyn born doctor, seeking revenge for the death of 6 Jews, opened fire on Muslims worshipping in Hebron killing 29 and wounding over 100.

Hatred is not isolated to Islam



The indoctrination into this culture of violence begins at birth. Young children are daily exposed on public television's children's programming throughout the Middle East to songs dehumanizing Jews as pigs and dogs, cartoons glorifying death by martyrdom and stories of gross acts by Jewish predators.

Slide 58 Slide of Video Clip MEMRI

Saudi Arabian television 5/7/2002



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Millions of young Muslims worldwide are being subjected to a frightening and volatile ideology and political fervor indoctrinating them into a world of hatred and violence against the Jews.

School text books distort history- presenting the Arab as victim and Jew as perpetrator of vile acts of evil.

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Hamas's Al-Aqsa television station developed for children's TV a Mickey Mouse clone to teach hated of Jews and Islamic supremacy. Eventually Farfur the mouse was beaten to death by an Israeli...

The new character on the children's show *Tomorrow's Pioneers*, a bee named Nahool, tells the hostess he is Farfur's cousin and that he wishes to "continue the path of Farfur... the path of martyrdom

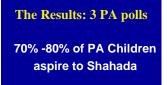


The internet provides another avenue for the brainwashing

From Hamas' website for children, Al-Fateh.net shows this drawing: Can you guess the caption?.....

"The Child is happy because Hassan achieved Shahada" death by martydom

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How effective is all of this: 3 Palestinian polls show that **70% -80% of PA Children** aspire to Shahada

1957, Golda Meir, before the National Press Club in Washington said : *Peace will* come when the Arabs will love their children more than they hate us



Niow- a new trend... women suicide bombers

It seems they can find equality in dying as a suicide bomber.

- Grandmother-Turned-Suicide Bomber Fatma Omar an-Najar, 68, is seen holding a rifle in this Hamas-released photo before carrying out a suicide bombing that wounded three IDF soldiers in northern Gaza, wounding 2 soldiers. She nine children and more than 40 grandchildren.
- The Hamas weekly, Al-Risala, praised her and wrote: "It was a historic day in the life of the Palestinian people and a true turning point in the jihad."

While some muslim scholars oppose this.... Others defend the practice.

Slide 64 Video clip from MEMRI: Middle East Media Research Institute





Francis Frangipane: "The World is watching how we relate to those who are morally wrong, even when we are biblically right. It is looking to see if we look and sound like the Savior or like the Pharisees."

We need to pray:

- The spiritual darkness of Islam to be lifted from these people
- Their zeal for Islam be turned to zeal for Christ and to see that the sword is not the answer
- ALL Christians to see the injustices that the Arabs have also suffered during the long years of conflict with Israel

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3. Christian Arabs

There has been a Christian Arab presence in Israel even before 1948.

- The majority of Christians Arabs are nominal Christians in the Catholic or Orthodox Church.
- The Evangelical Arab Community in Israel is a group within the larger group of traditional Christians, who are in a larger Arab group, who are within the Jewish population

They are rejected by all of the larger groups in whose midst they live. Traditional Christians reject the "born again" believers Muslim Arabs see them as traitors Jewish Community

Nominal Christians from a traditional background who are "born again", will receive the same response from their families as a Muslim leaving his family.

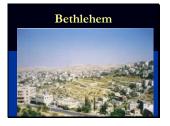
Life has become increasingly difficult for Christian Arabs living in Arab communities.

Hear the story of three 3 Arab believers

Slide 67 Video Clip: 3 Arab Christians



From the DVD "Forbidden Peace" The Story Behind the Headlines- produced by Purple Pomegranate Productions, of Jews for Jesus



In fact- Within the last decade there has been a major population shift in towns within Israel that had a significant Arab Christian population among the Arabs.

An example is Bethlehem-

-80% Christian in 194880% Muslim in 1997-Under the PA, gone from a 3 – 5% Fundamentalist-Muslim to 35% in ten years

More than 3,000 Christians have left in the last four years

Palestinian writer Khaled Abu Toameh recently (may 2007) reported in *The Jerusalem Post* on the ruin of the Christian community of Bethlehem:

"The conditions of Christians in Bethlehem and its surroundings had deteriorated ever since the area was handed over [from Israel] to the PA in 1995.... 'Every day we hear of another Christian family that has immigrated to the US, Canada or Latin America... The Christians today make up less than 15 percent of the population'...

Samir Qumsiye, owner of the Beit Sahur-based private AI-Mahd (Nativity) TV station. "I believe that 15 years from now there will be no Christians left in Bethlehem. Then you will need a torch to find a Christian here. This is a very sad situation."

Struggle daily to survive -feel abandoned by The Church



Many Arabs have experienced Christ's salvation but not the revelation of the "one new man." so while they love Jesus they have no love for the Jews

Brigitte Gabriel, raised in a Lebanese Christian home and a survivor of Islam's Jihad against the Lebanese tells of her experiences as a child in a private Christian school.

"....I was raised in a Christian country trying to please the arab neighbors. Even the private Christian school I went to was affected. When we studied the Bible we only studied the New Testament. I never heard about the O.T. because it was considered the enemies Bible. All I heard was Israel is Satan, Israel is the devil, Israelis are demons. I was told Jews are evil, they are unstoppable and they want to rule the world. I heard nothing but hatred."

Most Christians don't see the plight of Arab believers or even think of Arabs as believers

Making him more isolated

- Many Evangelical Arab pastors have taken a political stance concerning Isr. but not a Biblical one therefore, embrace Replacement Theology to accommodate the roots of bitterness
- Thus Evangelical Arabs who believe in God's eternal covenant with Israel, are even more isolated from their Arab believing brothers

There are enormous practical needs of the Arab believers and their families.

They desperately need the joy of the Lord to break through the depression, hopelessness, and rejection in the hearts of Arab believers.

A great need leaders and individual believers to help them to see & embrace truth of God's purposes for the Jews and Israel

and then their blessing as they honor the sons of Isaac

Slide 70



We need to pray divine healing in the hearts of Arab believers of any emotional wounds and social injustices caused by any aggressive actions of Jewish people – past or present - or caused by the lack of affirming actions by The Church at large.

- That the Arab youth will grow in the love of God and not turn to the violence that has gripped Arab youth.
- ...The Church, both in Israel and the world, to recognize the needs of the Arab Church and to respond with both prayers and practical help.
- ...Reconciliation and restoration of Arab towards Jew, and Jew towards Arab in the Body of Messiah in Israel.



4. Arab Christians and Jewish Believers

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! (Psalm 133)

∕ CLICK

Arabs and Jews who have become new creations in Christ, are miraculously living in real, deep, covenanted fellowship with one another as "one new man." (Eph.2) Pastor Shmuel in Haifa

- Both Jews and Arabs who are serving the Lord today still struggle with deeply rooted animosity & the present realities that reflect inequalities in The Church
- Dr. Ergun Caner *"Israel My Glory"* Magazine: Nov./Dec. 2004 **"As Muslims we are** raised to hate Jews. As Christian converts from Islam, many of us *still* do."

Therefore, it takes a deep work of God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit to work the process of healing.

- There's great power in Arab and Jewish believers serving the Lord together
- They're are able to present the power of the Gospel and speak the truth concerning their brothers.

UNITY, lines of open communication, and genuine fellowship between Messianic and Arab believers

Through these brothers and sisters, sons and daughters of Isaac and Ishmael will we see a great harvest....

The One new man, the hope for Israel, the hope for the Middle East and the hope for us all.

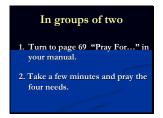
Slide 72



Watchmen -We Must Cry Out... that The Holy Spirit of All Truth will help us to:

apprehend their past prayerfully engage their present powerfully call forth their future

Slide 73



In groups of 2

- 1. Turn to page 62 "Pray For...." in your manual
- 2. Take a few minutes and pray the four needs