

What on Earth is going on?

Seminar handout 5b Why Israel? Part 3: Recent history

Who is the most influential Mathematician & Physicist of all time that commented that the purpose of Bible prophecy was to demonstrate God's providence in history when "after [prophecies] were fulfilled, they might be interpreted by events."

1642-1727

Which famous American author wrote of his visit to Palestine in 1867:

'...A desolation is here that not even imagination can grace with the pomp of life and action...'

1835-1910

Recent history leading up to the re-establishment of the nation of Israel:

1897 Theodor Herzl started the Zionist Movement (Central aim of movement to re-establishment of a Jewish national homeland in Palestine by facilitating Jewish return from diaspora, as well as the re-establishment of a Jewish state.)

1917 Balfour Declaration (Confirmation of support from the British government for the establishment in Palestine of a "national home" for the Jewish people.)

1939 Jewish 2 state solution (Proposed by Peel Commission)

1947 United Nations Partition Plan for a Jewish and Arab state

1948 May 14th Israeli Declaration of Independence (Formal Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel was proclaimed by David Ben-Gurion, the Executive Head of the World Zionist Organization & soon to be 1st Prime Minister of Israel)

1948 May 15th Israel War of Independence (The first day of Israeli Independence when 5 Arab armies invaded Israel and the first Arab-Israeli war began - Israel won.)

1967 June 5th The Six Day War (Egypt, Syria, and Jordan against Israel with Israel gaining the

Consider the following Bible verses in the light of recent history (when Israel have become a nation again after nearly 2000 years).

‘But despite all this, I will not utterly reject or despise them while they are in exile in the land of their enemies. I will not cancel my covenant with them by wiping them out, for I am the LORD their God. For their sakes I will remember my ancient covenant with their ancestors, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of all the nations, that I might be their God. I am the LORD.’

Leviticus 26:42-45 (NLT)

‘For I will bring them back to this land that I gave their ancestors. “But now I am sending for many fishermen who will catch them,” says the LORD. “I am sending for hunters who will hunt them down in the mountains, hills, and caves. I am watching them closely.’

Jeremiah 16:15-17 (NLT)

‘They will be killed by the sword or sent away as captives to all the nations of the world. And Jerusalem will be trampled down by the Gentiles until the period of the Gentiles comes to an end.’

Luke 21:24 (NLT)

To think about

- Why has there been so much trouble between Jew and Arab over the land of Israel down through the centuries ?
- Remembering the early history of the nation from last week, what was God’s promise to Abraham for the future of the land?
- Are the events in recent history leading to the re-establishment of the nation of Israel a fulfilment of Bible prophecy?
- What has this history of Israel got to do with me?

My questions...

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