

Is Israel to Blame for the Violence?

Glad You Asked!

Dear Jewish Voice,

I used to be a supporter of Israel. Now, I admit that I'm bordering on anti-Semitism because it is the occupation and abuse by the Israelis that has created the suicide bombers. They are not crazy - it is the only weapon that they have against the Israelis.

~RV, Aurora, IL

Dear RV,

Thank you for taking the time to write and share your viewpoint. I'm thankful to be able to address your concerns, as this is an important issue for Christians to understand. The Bible warns of great deception in the Last Days, where all nations will turn against Israel – a terrible time in which even “the elect” may be deceived. Therefore, Believers need to be informed lest they be swept into this deception.



It is always surprising for me to hear Israel perceived as an aggressor, and that “occupying” the Land within her borders is seen as aggression. It is even more amazing to find that any westerner would consider the brutal targeting of civilians by homicide bombers acceptable for *any* reason. It's possible that you haven't followed the news from the beginning of this current “intifada” that the Palestinian people are waging against

the Israelis. You may not know that Israel has fulfilled nearly every concession under the Oslo Accord, while the so-called “Palestinians” have not even complied with one. You may not know that Arafat refused statehood with the borders *that they are asking for now*, when it was offered during Clinton's presidency. Instead of accepting what they say they are fighting for now, they chose to wage a “holy war” - “jihad” against Israel.

Why? As Arafat, as well as the current leaders now said, they want *ALL* the land, with Jerusalem as their capital. That fact has not been hidden - but it is rarely reported in our news media.

It is very important to look at this situation in light of history, and in light of what the Bible says.

The entire Land of Israel, *and more*, is rightfully Israel's. The borders as outlined in the Bible are from the river of Egypt, to the Euphrates, and up to the region of Turkey. This was an everlasting covenant that God made with Israel, and Israel today only occupies approximately 25% of that. (Gen. 15)

The Palestinians, however, have no history with the Land of Israel. The group headed by Arafat only formed in the late 1960's. There is no such people group as "Palestinians." There is no Palestinian language, history, monetary or political system. The name "Palestine" was assigned to Israel by the Romans as an insult when they sacked Jerusalem and took over the Land. Until Israel regained statehood in 1948, if one spoke of Palestinians, it would have referred to the Jews that continued to have a presence in the Land for 2000 years. There is actually no just reason to form a "Palestinian" state within the borders of Israel - other than world pressure on Israel to do so. (March/April 2006 Jewish Voice Today Magazine, The Myth of Palestine <http://www.jewishvoice.org/Magazine/1.php?v=40&i=2>)

The truth is, the Arabs that call themselves Palestinians, with the support of the surrounding SEA of Arab nations, simply want to put an end to the Jewish state.

When you look at the map of the enormous land mass of Arab nations, the demand for a few more miles of land for the Arabs becomes ludicrous. It is clear the Arabs want an Israel-free Middle East, and until they achieve that goal, they will not stop the violence. It is also clear that true peace will not come for Israel until the Prince of Peace, Yeshua the Messiah establishes it.

Sarah



WHY WON'T ISRAEL GIVE UP MORE LAND FOR PEACE?

■ The areas in red below represent the land captured by Israel in the 1967 Six Day War and subsequently given back in the Camp David Accords. What other nation has ever been required to do that?

The Arabs want the whole of the "West Bank" leaving a strip only 9 miles wide between Palestine and the sea for Israel at the narrowest point, near Netanya - a coastal city that has been hit with terrorist attacks recently.

The "West Bank" - biblical Judea and Samaria, and the breadbasket of Israel - highly agricultural.

LET'S GET SOME PERSPECTIVE!

ISRAEL compared to CALIFORNIA

ISRAEL compared to FRANCE

The complex block contains three maps. The top map shows the Middle East with a red area representing land captured in 1967, including the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank, and Gaza. Labels include LEBANON, SYRIA, HAIFA, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM, Gaza, JORDAN, SAUDI ARABIA, EILAT, and EGYPT. The middle map shows the state of California in dark blue with a small blue outline of Israel inside it, labeled "ISRAEL compared to CALIFORNIA". The bottom map shows the country of France in red with a small blue outline of Israel inside it, labeled "ISRAEL compared to FRANCE".