

EARTH'S LAST
EMPIRE

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THE FINAL GAME OF THRONES

JOHN HAGEE

Revised Edition



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*He who gives a book
gives more than cloth, paper, and ink.
He gives more than leather, parchment, and words.
He reveals a foreword of his thoughts,
a dedication of his friendship,
a page of his presence,
a chapter of himself,
and an index of his love.*

Author Unknown

It is my great privilege to dedicate this book
to one of the most beloved friends of my life,
Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg.

With gratitude to my wife, Diana, and my executive assistant, Jo-Ann Coffey, whose love and passion for Israel and the Jewish people are reflected in this work.

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CHAPTER 4

BATTLE FOR JERUSALEM

Jerusalem is Israel's capital, will never be divided, and will remain the capital of the State of Israel, the capital of the Jewish people, forever and ever. —Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

Many of the greatest civilizations have sought to rule over Jerusalem, yet only one people—the Jews—have been given the divine right to claim the Holy City as their eternal inheritance. And because God's Chosen have refused to relinquish this claim, they have paid a terrible price in blood and suffering.

Christian anti-Judaism and European anti-Semitism have historically produced massive horrors such as the Crusades, the Great Inquisition, the Russian pogroms, and Hitler's Final Solution.

Moreover, the continued struggle for control of the Holy Land, especially for the city of Jerusalem, has been stained with Jewish blood since King David conquered the city in 1000 BCE.

Yet, even after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 CE, where

they massacred more than one million Jews and sent hundreds of thousands more into exile, there has always been a remnant of Jewish people who never left their biblical homeland since Joshua led them in at Gilgal. Israel's prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu explained this phenomenon well:

In my office in Jerusalem, there's an ancient seal. It's a signet ring of a Jewish official from the time of the Bible. The seal was found right next to the Western Wall, and it dates back 2,700 years, to the time of King Hezekiah. Now, there's a name of the Jewish official inscribed on the ring in Hebrew. His name was Netanyahu. My first name, Benjamin, dates back a thousand years earlier to Benjamin—Binyamin—the son of Jacob, who was also known as Israel. Jacob and his 12 sons roamed these same hills of Judea and Samaria 4,000 years ago, and there's been a continuous Jewish presence in the land ever since.*

The Jewish people, who were dispersed to the nations of the world, were for centuries confronted with bigotry and hatred and considered outcasts in their host countries. Then, at His appointed time, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob began calling His people home. As a result of the Spirit's beckoning, many Jews began to grasp the notion that the only way to escape anti-Semitism and its deadly consequences was to regain their national independence.

HERZL'S JEWISH STATE

After nearly two millennia in exile, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a new movement for Jewish sovereignty began

* https://mfa.gov.il/MFA/PressRoom/2011/Pages/Remarks_PM_Netanyahu_UN_General%20Assembly_23-Sep-2011.aspx

to gain worldwide traction. In 1896, Theodor Herzl's Zionist pamphlet, *The Jewish State*, laid out a vision that would eventually culminate in the rebirth of the State of Israel. Herzl believed he had the answer to the Jewish Question, which related to the civil, legal, national, and political status of Jews within world societies:

We are a people—one people.... We want to lay the foundation stone, for the house which will become the refuge of the Jewish nation. Zionism is the return to Judaism even before the return to the land of Israel.¹

The ideal of Zionism, the belief that the Jewish people had a right to national independence and sovereignty as natives of their ancestral homeland, began to grow. Jewish immigrants flooded into what was then Palestine and began to purchase land from wealthy Arab landholders at exorbitant prices. The land had been mostly barren and sparsely populated for centuries, and to most, it seemed worthless. But to the Jews, who dreamed of coming home to their Promised Land, it was a fulfillment of prophecy.

Slowly, Palestine began to prosper as Jewish exiles cultivated the land, eliminated disease-infested swamps, and brought more economic opportunity to the area, creating a higher standard of living for all its residents.² The Arab population grew and flourished alongside their Jewish neighbors, and for a time the two groups peacefully coexisted.

Years of Zionist efforts resulted in the creation of the Balfour Declaration of 1917, which stated that the British government “views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and would use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object.”* The British promised Palestine

* Ibid.

to the Jewish people and assumed responsibility for guarding it through the process of Jewish statehood. This temporary stewardship, called the Mandate for Palestine, was entrusted to Britain by the League of Nations.³

In 1919, an agreement between Zionist leader Chaim Weizmann and the Arab leader, Emir Faisal, was accepted.⁴ The terms allowed for the notion of a Jewish state which also protected the rights of local Arabs in the land. However, by 1920, just as the mandate period began, a power struggle between two prominent Palestinian families caused a breakdown in the hope for peace between Arabs and Jews. Sadly, but not surprisingly, this disastrous feud evolved into an eruption of anti-Jewish violence.

A CENTURY OF TERROR BEGINS

In 1921, the British appointed Haj Amin al-Husseini the first *Mufti* (a Muslim legal expert who rules on religious matters) of Jerusalem. Much like Haman before him, the Mufti became paranoid that the growing Jewish population would impair Arab prominence in the land. His answer to the Jewish problem was to engineer bloody riots against Jewish settlements and recruit suicide squads to attack resident Jews in protest of the Balfour Declaration.⁵

Terrorism soon became the preferred political tool of extreme Palestinian Arab nationalists and set in motion another era of violence and hatred toward the Jewish people.

By this time, the British had divided the land set aside by the Mandate into two prospective states: 77 percent of the land for a proposed Arab state called Transjordan and the remaining 23 percent for a national Jewish homeland. However, the Arab riots of the 1920s and 1930s prompted Britain in 1937 to further partition the land, with 80 percent going to an Arab state and 20 percent to a Jewish state.⁶

Palestinian Arab leaders once again refused to accept this larger partition, and neither plan materialized.⁷ Please note that any and all land offered to the Jewish people throughout history has been vigorously protested by their Arab neighbors.

Zionism was not very popular with many of the British officers assigned to administer the mandate power in Palestine. The bloody Arab uprisings further convinced the British that any promise of land made to the Jews was not worth the trouble.⁸ In defiance of their *own* government's obligation to protect Jewish inhabitants, some British officers went so far as to encourage the Palestinian Arabs to use terrorism against the Jews in hopes the continued violence would cause Britain to entirely abandon the idea of a Jewish state.⁹

Jews were not allowed to own weapons or defend themselves against Arab extremist aggression, and those who did were arrested and sent to prison. Tragically, terrorists murdered hundreds of Jews during the British Mandate period.

Empowered and aided by British overseers, Haj Amin al-Husseini was given authority over the Muslim holy places and therefore wielded tremendous political and religious influence. From his position of control, al-Husseini continued to incite resentment and violence against the Jewish people.

Fearing that Zionism was gaining international financial backing, al-Husseini started a rumor of a Jewish plot to seize control of the Muslim holy sites, which successfully instigated even more riots.¹⁰ The Mufti's propaganda tactic worked. British authorities uprooted Jewish families from their ancestral homes in Hebron and Gaza. The British also severely restricted Jewish immigration to Palestine and once again drastically reduced the size of the land intended for a Jewish state. Still, none of these extreme actions satisfied Arab leaders.

ARABS REJECT ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST

Motivated by Hitler's hatred for the Jews and intrigued by his plans to annihilate them, al-Husseini traveled to Germany during World War II to meet with the Führer.¹¹ Following their meeting, the Mufti collaborated with the Nazi regime to recruit tens of thousands of Muslims for the *Schutzstaffel*—better known as the SS.

In the aftermath of World War II, al-Husseini was forced to flee prosecution for war crimes and lived abroad for the rest of his life. However, his legacy of terrorism and propaganda were used as a highly effective political tool against the Jewish state and became the prototype for future anti-Israel despots such as Yasser Arafat (PLO), Mohammed Badie (Muslim Brotherhood), Hassan Nasrallah (Hezbollah), Osama bin Laden (al-Qaeda), Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (ISIS), and Ismail Haniyeh (Hamas).

Wearied of the problem posed by Arab rejectionism and trying to work within the shadow of the horrors committed against the Jews during the Holocaust, Britain handed over responsibility of Palestine's future to the newly formed United Nations. On November 29, 1947, the United Nations voted in favor of Resolution 181 and adopted a partition plan for Palestine that divided the land west of the Jordan River into two states roughly equal in size but distinctly unequal in value.

The disjointed pieces of land reserved for the Jewish people consisted of mostly arid desert without defensible borders and excluded Jerusalem, which was designated an international city. Jewish leaders, desperate to build a national home and provide a refuge for the displaced survivors of the Holocaust, accepted the biased plan.

Arab leaders had previously established that they would not accept *any* proposal that included a Jewish state, and almost immediately made good on their threat to launch large-scale attacks on

Jewish communities. Consequently, hundreds of Jews were killed in riots and other terror attacks between November 29, 1947, and Israel's independence on May 14, 1948.¹²

Israel's existence as a Jewish state in the middle of what had once been an Islamic empire was entirely unacceptable to Arab leaders. They successfully conjured up rabid anti-Semitic fervor among their people as they called for a jihad. The day after the declaration of the partition plan, the British departed and the Palestinian Arabs were joined by five Middle East armies—Egypt, Syria, Transjordan, Lebanon, and Iraq—to launch a war of annihilation against the newly reborn State.

The international community stood back and silently watched without giving much hope for the fledgling state's survival of their war of independence.¹³ But to the world's astonishment, Israel miraculously prevailed against their attackers. To avoid further disgrace and loss of territory, the Arab states signed an armistice agreement with Israel in March of 1949; however, their insatiable goal of destroying Israel remained. The next seventy-plus years would be marked by continued threats and attempts to wipe Israel off the map.

THE EVOLUTION OF ANTI-SEMITIC TERRORISM

The Arab extremists, bent on destroying Israel, learned of the power of radicalism during the British Mandate period. Terrorism was not only an effective political tool against the Jewish state, which weakened it internally; it also produced external pressure from the international community.

The generational goal to eradicate Israel fueled the rise of several Islamic extremist factions. Fundamental to each of these terrorist groups was an anti-Semitic interpretation of Islamic theology that

left no room for acceptance of the State of Israel, the Jewish people, and, consequently, the possibility of peace between radical Islam and Judaism.

Muslim Brotherhood

One of the first extremist groups to form was the Muslim Brotherhood. It was initially founded in 1928 as a sociopolitical effort to bring back Islamic *Sharia law* (Islamic religious law) and reinstitute an Islamic Sunni *caliphate* (Islamic state) in the Middle East.

However, the Brotherhood soon embraced violent anti-Semitism as part of its ideology. During 1938 and 1939, the Brotherhood repeatedly attacked and threatened Egyptian Jews. Its leaders admired Hitler's plan to eliminate the Jews and passed out Arabic translations of Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and the Russian *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.¹⁴

During the 1950s and 1960s, the radical Islamic scholar Sayyid Qutb officially branded the Jews as "nefarious agents of Satan" who planned to destroy Islam and corrupt their society's morals. He relied on the false doctrines of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* to "prove" his accusations, leaving no room for the possibility of the existence of "a good Jew." Qutb's solution for the Jewish "threat" was the same as all other anti-Semites since Haman: total extermination.¹⁵

The Muslim Brotherhood laid the ideological foundations for the rise of both Sunni and Shia Islamist extremist groups. The Brotherhood declared that it is incumbent on all Muslims to wage jihad over the entire world to "liberate" non-Muslim lands from the infidels.¹⁶ The radical extremist theology and fanatical political goals of these groups rapidly evolved from the desire to win back lands that had once been under Islamic rule, to conquering and dominating the entire world under Sharia law. This remains their objective to this day.

By the 1960s, the Muslim Brotherhood had exported its anti-Semitic ideology and obsessive devotion to jihad across the globe. All radical Muslims were encouraged to become “martyrs” for the cause, which soon gave way to the phenomenon of suicide attacks.

Nearly every major radical Islamist terrorist group of the last fifty years can trace its warped ideological origins back to the Muslim Brotherhood and the teachings of Sayyid Qutb. In the West, the Brotherhood founded “nonviolent” Islamic institutions that preach the same hateful radical ideology while funneling money from their so-called charities to fund terrorist organizations around the globe.¹⁷

Palestinian Terrorism

Today, anti-Zionists assert that any terrorist actions against Israel and her citizens stem from the aftermath of the 1967 Six-Day War, which resulted in Israel gaining control of the Gaza Strip, Judea, and Samaria. Israel’s detractors unjustifiably call this event “the occupation” of the Palestinian land and people by the Israeli army.

This deceitful label cannot be further from the truth. You cannot occupy land for which you possess the title deed. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in 1964. At the time, Gaza was under the control of Egypt and Jordan, who also controlled Judea and Samaria. *So, when the PLO began attacking Israelis in 1964, what “occupation” were they fighting?*

Obviously, the answer is that the Palestinian leadership has considered the entire State of Israel illegitimate, even though a Jewish remnant has remained in the land for more than three thousand years.¹⁸

The Palestine Liberation Organization

Created by the Arab League, the PLO was led by Yasser Arafat and his Palestinian nationalist party, Fatah. Arafat was an out-and-out

terrorist, a cold-blooded killer who had more Jewish blood on his hands than any man in the twentieth century other than Adolf Hitler.

The PLO's national charter declared its intent to overthrow the State of Israel, calling Zionism an "illegal" and "colonialist" movement.¹⁹ The charter further stated that the entire region designated as the British Mandate for Palestine in 1920, which includes all of modern Israel and Jordan, belongs entirely to the Palestinian Arabs. It asserted that only Jews who were living in the land prior to 1917 had a right to remain and finally, the PLO's charter proclaimed that violence was the only way to liberate Palestine from the Zionist presence.²⁰

During the 1960s and '70s, the PLO and its affiliated groups conducted terrorist operations from Jordan, Lebanon, and throughout Europe. In May of 1972, Black September, a PLO splinter group, hijacked a Belgian airliner in Vienna bound for Tel Aviv. Four terrorists held ninety passengers hostage and forced the pilot to land in Israel while they demanded the release of 315 Palestinian terrorists from Israel's prisons. After disabling the plane, IDF commandos, disguised as maintenance workers, boarded the airliner and subdued the terrorists, but not before one of the passengers was fatally wounded.²¹

Later that year, Black September operatives broke into the apartments of Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics, killed two in the initial scuffle, and took nine more hostages. German authorities attempted to rescue the hostages but failed, and all nine Israeli hostages were murdered.²²

Another infamous Palestinian terror attack took place in 1976. Two members of the PLO faction named the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and two German terrorist sympathizers hijacked a flight from Paris, forcing the plane to land at Entebbe Airport in Uganda.

After landing, the terrorists released the non-Jewish passengers and held 105 Jews hostage. For one week, Israel's government negotiated with the terrorists while the IDF planned a daring rescue mission. Seven days later, the IDF landed at Entebbe, and within an hour, the hostages were rescued. Israel lost three people that day—two hostages and the leader of the mission, Yoni Netanyahu.²³ Yoni's brother Benjamin would go on to become the prime minister of Israel and serve in that leadership role longer than anyone in Israel's history.

In 1978, members of the PLO operating in Lebanon hijacked an Israeli bus full of civilians and killed thirty-eight hostages. In response, the IDF crossed the Lebanese border to push the terrorists farther north. The ensuing conflict dragged on for four years while PLO terrorists hiding in Lebanon conducted hundreds of attacks on Israelis. Israel could no longer tolerate the buildup of a massive PLO army in Lebanon, and on June 6, 1982, launched a full-scale war known as Operation Peace for Galilee to root out Yasser Arafat and his terrorists thugs from southern Lebanon.²⁴

A NEW ERA OF HOLY WAR

In 1979, the radical Shia Muslim leader Ayatollah Khomeini overthrew the shah of Iran and his secular government, instituting an Islamic revolution. Inspired by the writings of Sayyid Qutb and the ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood, Khomeini reinterpreted Shia theology and transformed the historically peaceful religious minority sect into one committed to violent jihad.²⁵

What Qutb did to create extremist Sunni Muslims, Khomeini did for the Shiite Muslims, and thereby furthered the war against the Jews.²⁶ Iran's radicalized government during the 1980s and 1990s made jihad its primary focus against Israel, Jews, and their allies worldwide.

IRAN: THE HEAD OF THE SNAKE

In 2008, King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia repeatedly urged the United States to “cut off the head of the snake” by launching military strikes to destroy Iran’s nuclear program.*

Despite the warning, the Obama administration chose to take another route by spearheading the Iran Deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). The deal was a tragic miscarriage of foreign policy and has gone down as one of the worst diplomatic blunders in modern American history.

President Obama and the leaders of China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and other members of the European Union reached an agreement with Iran in 2015.²⁷ This fatally flawed pact released more than 100 billion dollars in cash to Iran—the world’s leading terrorist state. Iran, in turn, used the cash to support its terrorist proxies and continue its maniacal dream of producing a nuclear bomb to annihilate Israel, America, and the entire western hemisphere.

As bad as this was, the situation got worse.

In the fall of 2016, President Obama authorized the government to shell out an additional \$1.7 billion to Iran’s coffers. Supposedly, America was paying back a deposit of \$400 million plus \$1.3 billion in interest which we “owed” as a result of a failed arms deal made between the Carter Administration and the shah of Iran in 1979. To add insult to injury, this “payback” was not wired bank-to-bank but was sent to Iran in various world currencies via US military cargo planes.²⁸

One can only assume that the intended purpose of this clandestine transport of cash was for nefarious global transactions, to include Iran’s funding of a massive buildup of missiles inside

* <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-wikileaks-iran-saudis/cut-off-head-of-snake-saudis-told-u-s-on-iran-idUSTRE6AS02B20101129>.

Lebanon under Hezbollah’s control. This calculated “reimbursement” was a deliberate act of betrayal against Israel—America’s only friend in the Middle East.

On May 8, 2018, President Trump announced he would not renew the Iran sanction waivers established by the Iran Deal, effectively withdrawing the United States from the disastrous nuclear agreement with Tehran. It is hardly surprising that our president, an ardent supporter of Israel, chose not to continue this agreement, of which he said, “The Iran Deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into.”*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu later exposed, through Project Amad, the fact that Iran had lied to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) about shutting down their nuclear program. Netanyahu revealed on global television that the Mossad had discovered Iran’s Atomic Archive and the existence of a secret nuclear facility, further confirming what we long believed: Iran’s unrelenting pursuit of nuclear weapons continues to threaten the security of the entire world.

In addition to pursuing its nuclear capabilities, the “head of the snake” used some of the funds to support terrorist armies such as Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in Gaza. By late 2018, the Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA), led by several retired senior U.S. military officials, reported, “Today, Hezbollah possesses more firepower than 95 percent of the world’s conventional militaries, and more rockets and missiles than all European NATO members combined.”†

Aside from the billions in cash, the Iran Deal contained within it a weak inspection and verification system, an automatic sunset

* <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-ending-united-states-participation-unacceptable-iran-deal/>.

† <https://www.jns.org/hezbollah-has-more-firepower-than-95-percent-of-worlds-conventional-militaries-report-warns/>.

provision, and no restrictions on Iran's ballistic missile program.²⁹ Most are not familiar with the critically short timeline of the sunset provision, which dictated the automatic expiration of the already feeble constraints included in the Iran nuclear deal.

In 2020, the UN ban on Iranian arms exports and imports would have lifted, allowing Iran to further support its terrorists proxies; by 2023 the UN ban on assistance to Iran's ballistic missile program and their ability to manufacture centrifuges would end; in 2025, most economic sanctions on Iran would cease; by 2026 nearly all nuclear restrictions would terminate; and by 2031 all restrictions would end, giving Iran multiple paths to a nuclear weapon in a very short period of time—a journey they have never strayed from.*

Since withdrawing from the Iran deal, the Trump administration has engaged in an ever-increasing campaign of maximum pressure against the Islamic Republic. This pressure campaign includes intensifying sanctions against specific industries, entities, and individuals associated with Iran's support for terrorism and its nuclear ambitions. The United States has made it clear that we will not sit idly by as Iran prepares to attack us and our allies.

Undoubtedly, the campaign is achieving its goals. For instance, Iran's oil exports decreased from 2.3 million barrels per day (bpd) in early 2018, prior to US sanctions, to just one tenth of that number, an estimated 248,000 bpd at the beginning of 2020.†

President Trump increased pressure on Iran in mid-2019, by imposing further sanctions on Iran's supreme leader and other high-ranking government officials, locking down billions of dollars

* <https://www.aipac.org/-/media/publications/policy-and-politics/fact-sheets/other/the-iran-nuclear-deal-expiration-dates-and-consequences.pdf>.

† Dalga Khatinoglu, "Iran Crude Oil Exports Drop to Less Than 250,000 Bpd in February" (March 2, 2020), *Radio Farda*, <https://en.radiofarda.com/a/iran-crude-oil-exports-drop-to-less-than-250-000-bpd-in-february/30464729.html>, accessed April 2, 2020.

in assets. As a result of combined sanctions, the Iranian economy has fallen into a deep depression, the value of their currency has taken a dive, leading to shortages of imported goods and products. Additionally, the International Monetary Fund projected that inflation would soon soar to over 35 percent.*

Hezbollah

When Israel withdrew from Lebanon, Hezbollah remained and grew stronger until it became a dominant political and military force in the country, effectively placing the Lebanese government under the thumb of Iran.³⁰ In collaboration with Iran, Hezbollah has become one of the deadliest terror organizations in the world. Motivated by the twisted theology that blames every social and political problem on the Jews, Hezbollah has spread its anti-Semitic terror throughout the world.

During the 1990s, Hezbollah sent its operatives to Argentina, where they bombed the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires. Two years later, they bombed a Jewish community center in the same city. In 2012, Hezbollah bombed an Israeli tour bus in Bulgaria.³¹ Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, has made it clear he considers all Jews anywhere in the world to be targets for extermination.

Nasrallah was quoted in Lebanon's *Daily Star* as saying, "If they [Jews] all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide."³² Iran's leaders and its proxy, Hezbollah, have made no secret of their desire to complete Hitler's work of eradicating the Jewish people from the face of the earth. The State Department's 2018 Country Report on Terrorism confirmed Iran's expansive reach:

* Six charts that show how hard US sanctions have hit Iran <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-48119109>.

Iran continued its terrorist-related activity in 2018, including support for Hizballah, Palestinian terrorist groups in Gaza, and various groups in Syria, Iraq and throughout the Middle East. Iran used the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps–Quds Force (IRGC-QF) to provide support to terrorist organizations, provide cover for associated covert operations, and create instability in the region. Iran has acknowledged the involvement of the IRGC-QF in the Iraq and Syria conflicts, and the IRGC-QF is Iran’s primary mechanism for cultivating and supporting terrorists abroad. Iran also uses regional surrogate forces to provide sufficient deniability to try to shield it from the consequences of its aggressive policies.

In an interview with Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Nasrallah stated the following:

It should be noted that all data, investigations and information show that such an event [the elimination of Israel] will occur, but the realization of this matter is not unconditional, and it would happen under certain conditions. Therefore, if we resist and continue on the path we have taken, factual and field conditions indicate that Israel will not be able to remain in the region in the next 25 years.*

IDF sources estimate that Hezbollah currently has an arsenal of 130,000 to 150,000 short-, medium-, and long-range missiles and rockets. During the entire Second Lebanon War, Hezbollah fired approximately 4,000 rockets into Israel. However, it is projected that during the next war, they will fire as many as 1,500 to 2,000 missiles into Israel *every day*. In addition, Hezbollah has amassed a trained

* Taken from the full text of Khamenei’s interview with Sayyid Hassan Nasrallah October 1, 2019.

fighting force of approximately fifty thousand soldiers, with another ten thousand fighters in southern Syria ready to join the fight.³³

Sadly, the lethal goal of wiping Israel off the map is not letting up. In June of 2018, the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei once again threatened to annihilate Israel on social media, anti-Semitism's latest propaganda tool.

“Our stance against Israel is the same stance we have always taken. #Israel is a malignant cancerous tumor... that has to be removed and eradicated: it is possible and it will happen.”³⁴

The significance of the Ayatollah's statements was not lost on Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who responded to the threat by declaring,

Ayatollah Khamenei, the ruler of Iran, declared his intention to destroy the State of Israel. Yesterday he explained how he would do this—with the unrestricted enrichment of uranium in order to produce an arsenal of nuclear bombs. We are not surprised. We will not allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons.³⁵

In early July 2020, a massive explosion at Iran's highly sensitive Natanz uranium-enrichment nuclear complex was believed to have been an act of sabotage. The Natanz facility, known as the Iran Centrifuge Assembly Center, was permitted to operate under the terms of the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement. Experts agree that with additional processing, the uranium could potentially be converted into weapons-grade fuel for nuclear bombs. Iranian officials stated that the blast caused “significant” damage and implied that

US or Israeli operatives were responsible, however, neither country has acknowledged any involvement in the incident.* The significant damage caused by the explosion has set back Iran's uranium enrichment program for now.

To intensify this volatile situation, Iran's support of Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Gaza, its military entrenchment in Syria, and its support for Hezbollah in Lebanon makes it the largest state sponsor of terror in the world and positions itself on three of Israel's borders.

Time is running out.

Al-Qaeda

The era of the Islamic fundamentalist revival which produced Iran's Islamic Revolution and generated Hezbollah, also birthed al-Qaeda in the 1980s. Osama bin Laden, perpetrator of the 9/11 attacks on the United States, was likewise motivated by the anti-Semitic writings of Sayyid Qutb and embraced his theology of jihad as a major tenet of faith.³⁶

Surprisingly, or perhaps not, both al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden's successors found a sympathetic partner and safe haven in the Republic of Iran, despite their different interpretations of Islamic theology. Predictably, their common bond is their hatred of the Jewish people and America, Israel's strongest ally.

ISIS

Out of al-Qaeda was born a radical and barbaric splinter group now known as the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).³⁷ In 2014, President Obama infamously dismissed ISIS as the "JV team." However, the world soon learned how naïve his assumption was and

* <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/signs-increasingly-point-to-sabotage-in-fiery-explosion-at-iranian-nuclear-complex/2020/07/06/d10>.

witnessed a surge in mass-casualty terrorism at the hands of ISIS fanatics as they beheaded their victims, including Jews, Christians, and Muslims alike.

ISIS's goal of creating an Islamic caliphate in the Middle East appears to have been weakened by recent losses in Syria and Iraq, helped in part by President Trump's military mission to eradicate them in Syria. Nevertheless, ISIS has been extraordinarily successful at exporting its anti-Semitic and anti-Western theology over the internet to a new generation of homegrown terrorists across the globe.

With their dreams of a caliphate slipping away, ISIS has turned its attention to Israel. Israel's intelligence experts are carefully watching the growth of ISIS in the Sinai Desert along Israel's western border with Egypt and the attempt by ISIS operatives to challenge Hamas for supremacy in Gaza.

In October 2019, the US conducted a raid to capture Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS. To evade capture, al-Baghdadi detonated a suicide belt, killing himself and three children in the blast.* With its leaders gone, the terrorists are attempting to regroup.

General Joseph Votel, former commander of US Central Command, testified to the House Armed Services Committee that ISIS is lying in wait for a resurgence. "ISIS made a 'calculated decision' to preserve their capabilities by taking their chances in camps for internally displaced persons [refugee camps] and going to ground in remote areas [caves and tunnels], waiting for the right time to resurge."[†]

Remember this truth—Even though ISIS's leader is dead, ISIS is not.

* <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-50200339>.

† <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/timeline-the-rise-spread-and-fall-the-islamic-state>.

Hamas

Hamas, an Arabic acronym for the Islamic Resistance Movement, was created by the Muslim Brotherhood in the 1980s. It supposedly originated as a “social welfare” organization for the benefit of Palestinians in Gaza.³⁸ However, this radical group quickly mutated into a terrorist organization dedicated to attacking Israel and brutally enforcing strict Islamic law on the Palestinians under its influence.

Hamas gained power due to the frustration of some Palestinian extremists with Yasser Arafat’s political doublespeak. Arafat often engaged in “diplomatic” talks with Israel in which he promised to restrain the PLO and the Fatah party’s support for terrorism. But in reality, Arafat was only posturing for sympathy from the United Nations and never renounced terrorism. But his mere pretense of compromise with Israel enraged Islamist radicals. Thus, Hamas recruited an even more extreme brand of terrorist than the PLO and dedicated itself to the complete destruction of Israel with no room for negotiation.³⁹

In an attempt to garner goodwill from the Palestinians, while also relieving the IDF’s burden of overseeing the Gaza Strip, Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza in 2006. In addition, nine thousand Jewish families left their homes and livelihoods to give peace yet another chance. Hamas, however, took advantage of the power vacuum created by Israel’s absence and easily won the 2007 elections. Instead of providing a foundation for future reconciliation, Gaza has become a launching pad for continuous rocket fire into Israel to this day.

After their defeat, the Fatah-led Palestinian Authority government was forced out of Gaza. The results were immediately disastrous. Hamas murdered Palestinians suspected of sympathizing or collaborating with Israel or its political rivals. While creating horror on the streets of Gaza, the newly elected Hamas-controlled

government also maintained a constant barrage of missiles into Israel.⁴⁰

Hamas's charter, like that of Hezbollah, specifically dedicates itself to the total annihilation of the Jewish state. Moreover, like Hezbollah, Hamas intentionally targets Israeli civilians and uses its own civilian population as human shields. One of the worst crimes against humanity perpetrated by these two terrorist organizations is their practice of deliberately hiding their weapons in civilian areas. This attempt to force Israel to kill innocent men, women, and children in order to defend itself from the terrorists is a barbarously calculated maneuver.⁴¹

The purpose of such an evil strategy is obvious: Hamas wants to inflame worldwide hatred against Israel and thereby force the Jewish State to either commit national suicide by standing down or suffer extreme worldwide political and economic retaliation for acting in self-defense. This despicable plan has empowered Israel's enemies to falsely portray the Jewish nation as a "cold-hearted monster," when it is Hamas and Hezbollah who are guilty of war crimes under international law. This is a classic illustration where truth becomes a lie and lies have become truth.

Since the spring of 2018, terrorists in the Gaza Strip have launched hundreds of helium balloons and kites bearing flammable materials into Israeli territory, starting over 2,300 fires. The "terror kites," some of which are decorated with swastikas, are fitted with a long string to which a Molotov cocktail, a pouch of burning fuel, or an improvised explosive device is attached causing them to explode upon impact.

Nearly 8,700 acres, or 13.5 square miles, of agricultural fields, forest, and grasslands,* which is more than half of Israel's nature reserves, have been burned due to these destructive kites, causing

* *The Times of Israel*, July 10, 2019, Judah Ari Gross.

multiple millions of dollars' worth of damage.⁴² As the IDF has declared, "It's not a game—it's a war."⁴³

In the middle of July 2018, shortly after the start of the kite onslaught, Gaza terrorists fired over two hundred rockets at Israeli border towns. This massive rocket barrage is the most serious outbreak of fighting since Operation Protective Edge in 2014. In response, the IDF bombed dozens of Hamas posts in the Gaza Strip including two terror tunnels, a Hamas headquarters post, and a high-rise building that served as a Hamas urban warfare training facility.⁴⁴ Prime Minister Netanyahu said of the incursion, "Our policy is clear—if anyone attacks us, we will deal them a forceful counterattack. I hope that they [Hamas] got the message. If not, they will in the future."⁴⁵

Israel cannot tolerate this devastation much longer. The Gaza Strip is a ticking time bomb that could explode into a full-fledged war against Israel at any moment.

Remember this truth: Hamas has no interest in a Palestinian state alongside Israel, regardless of whatever concessions Israelis are willing to make on borders or within the city of Jerusalem. Hamas wants it all, and it won't stop until it achieves its goal.

Additionally, Hamas's ceaseless fight for control of the Palestinians in Judea and Samaria (West Bank), and its growing popularity there, threaten to unseat Fatah as the ruling party of the Palestinian Authority. The sustained incitement to terrorism and the extreme anti-Semitic rhetoric coming from the PLO, Hamas, and ISIS, have inspired a new breed of terrorism. Whereas previous terror attacks were usually planned and carried out by organized terror cells, deadly "lone wolf" attacks have become commonplace since 2015.

Lone Wolf

Lone Wolf terrorists are often young Palestinian men and women who spontaneously attack Jews with whatever weapon is at their

disposal. The PLO encourages these attacks by providing pensions and salaries to the murderers and their families.

In early 2018, the United States passed a law, the Taylor Force Act, restricting American foreign aid to the Palestinian Authority until it ends their “pay to slay” reward system. However, in defiance, the Palestinian Authority announced that it was increasing the budget for this terrorist incentive from \$347 million to \$403 million.⁴⁶

Clearly, this “unholy” war against the Jews over the last century, and the emphasis on violent jihad in the last forty years, are far from over. Although the various radical Islamic terror groups are in competition with each other, they are united in their intense hatred of Israel and the Jewish people. The spirit of Haman and Hitler lives within their theology, their political discourse, their youth brainwashing programs, and their culture of death worship.

Looming above it all is the shadow of Iran’s ambition for a nuclear holocaust that threatens to spark a third world war with the goal of destabilizing the entire Middle East and rebuilding the Persian Empire.

Iran’s subversive acts mark its obsession with anti-Semitism which leads people to value death more than life. This warped philosophy produces suffering for millions of innocent Arabs, Christians, and Muslims alike, who become collateral damage in the ongoing war against the Jews.

THE RESURGENCE OF JEWISH HATRED

Jewish hatred did not originate or end with Adolf Hitler. As I have discussed, God’s Chosen have suffered harassment and persecution since ancient times, and this unrivaled animosity lives on worldwide.

Anti-Semitism has never truly disappeared from society; however, for a season, the terrors of the Holocaust significantly suppressed its

public expression. Jewish bigotry in America never advanced to the lethal level of Nazi-led Germany, but it was nonetheless widespread.

As the years have elapsed, recollections have become dim, and many of the survivors have passed on, and as a result, the global condemnation of the Jewish State of Israel and its people has intensified. Anti-Semitism can hide in plain sight but is still very prevalent in social, religious, political, and educational circles, as well as within some so-called influential progressive movements.

Moreover, the advent of social media has caused anti-Semitic propaganda and threats against Jews to soar. Sadly, the internet provides the “facelessness” that cowardly anti-Jewish extremists thrive on, giving them the opportunity to influence millions with their false rhetoric.

In recent years, there has been a deeply concerning upsurge of anti-Semitism. Some of the settings may have changed, but the hateful discourse remains the same—accusing the Jewish people of long-standing claims ranging from dual loyalty to using their influence to control the world because they have a “disproportionate amount of political and economic power.”

The manifestations of Jewish hatred are becoming increasingly blatant as we witness an increase of violent anti-Semitic incidents worldwide. We see it with the reemergence of Replacement Theology within the church, and the BDS movement.

Malcolm Hoenlein, a close friend who leads the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, believes that for several years it was accepted for Americans to say that they were *anti-Israel*; however, “today it is accepted to say I am *anti-Jewish*.” This, Hoenlein believes, is partly due to the anti-Israel BDS movement, which provides a “cover for anti-Semitism.”⁴⁷

College campus students and tenured professors have become more comfortable with not only criticizing Israel but also attacking

Jewish students for simply being Jewish, or because they support the ideals of the Jewish state. Increasingly, non-Jewish students are being maligned and spat upon for supporting their Jewish friends on campuses throughout America and the world.

Why have America's college campuses become a hotbed for anti-Semitism? Because the enemy knows the future belongs to the next generation. Here, hatred for Israel is disguised as a deserved consequence for the false accusation that the Jewish nation is an “aggressor” against the “oppressed” Palestinians. This deceptive portrayal of being an “apartheid regime”—one that discriminates on the grounds of race—has caused severe damage to the way the world views Israel.

No one can deny that anti-Semitism is raging in today's society. Sadly, in the last few months we have seen the horrifying consequences of this growing evil. The year 2018 recorded 1,879 anti-Semitic incidents in the US, including the deadliest attack on Jews in the history of our nation: the massacre of eleven Jewish worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.*

While anti-Semitic attacks were flat from the previous year, the 2018 total is 48 percent higher than the number of incidents documented in 2016 and 99 percent higher than 2015. The 2019 totals, though not yet final, are pointing to a nearly 20 percent increase.

On the last day of Passover in 2019, a man walked into a Chabad synagogue near San Diego and opened fire, leaving one woman dead and three other people injured.† In mid-December, three civilians, one officer, and two suspects were killed after a targeted attack inside the JC Kosher Supermarket in Jersey City, New Jersey.‡ On the

* <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/anti-semitic-incidents-remained-at-near-historic-levels-in-2018-assaults>.

† <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/04/27/passover-shooting-california-synagogue-poway-san-diego/3600900002/>.

‡ <https://www.jns.org/shooting-near-kosher-supermarket-in-new-jersey-dead-and-wounded/>.

seventh day of Hanukkah, five members of an ultra-Orthodox Hasidic Jewish congregation were stabbed by a man wielding a machete-type knife who barged into the holiday celebration at a rabbi's home in a New York City suburb.*

The novel coronavirus outbreak did not deter anti-Semitism; instead it caused some to “retool” their prejudices against the Jewish people and Israel. Neo-Nazis spread new conspiracy theories that the Jews were responsible for creating the coronavirus pandemic, similar to the false claims regarding the Black Death of Europe in the fourteenth century. A professor at California State University tweeted in reference to Israel's shutdown during COVID-19 that, “Israel will—I am sure—have different medical procedures for Jews and non-Jews. Non-Jews will be put in mass prisons.”†

How quickly we have forgotten that words and deeds matter.

It sickens my heart to think of what our Jewish friends are thinking and feeling as they are confronted with the vicious scourge of anti-Semitism once again. What do they tell their children and grandchildren? Who will stand beside them? Who will come to their defense?

While in recent decades, Christians have embraced the post-Holocaust slogan *Never Again*, the majority have remained heart-breakingly silent. However, Elie Wiesel poignantly defined this phrase,

“Never again” becomes more than a slogan: It's a prayer, a promise, a vow. There will never again be hatred...Never again jail and torture. Never again, the suffering of innocent people, or the shooting of starving, frightened, terrified

* <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/four-shot-injured-southern-california-synagogue-n999191>.

† <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/anti-semitism-rages-during-coronavirus>.

children. And never again the glorification of base, ugly, dark violence. It's a prayer.

Remember this truth—Never Again is more than a slogan—it is also a verb. Never Again requires more than words—it requires action!

You may tag a sophisticated label on anti-Semitism, but it is still sin, and as sin, it damns the soul. This Jewish hatred is once again spreading like a contagious virus. It is a cancer growing on the soul of America and the world. Anti-Semitism is not just a Jewish problem—it's the world's problem. I fully agree with Malcolm Hoenlein that fighting anti-Semitism starts with the Jewish community, but he continues:

...it doesn't end with it. This is not our problem. It's society's problem. It's Christianity's problem. It's everybody's problem, when there's hatred against Jews. We're the victims; we're not the cause of it. It's not because we did something wrong. It's because of who we are and our values.⁴⁸

THE BLESSING OF BLESSING ISRAEL

How does our Christian walk intersect with Israel? I have said that it is not possible for Christians to love Jesus Christ and hate the Jewish people living across the street. The thousands of years of Jewish hatred that is imbedded in our world culture has caused many Christians to have anti-Semitic leanings or, at best, to be indifferent toward the Jewish people.

I was guilty of indifference—I knew that the nation of Israel was important in Bible prophecy, but I did not connect my personal involvement with the Jewish people as being a vital part of God's plan for all believers until I visited Israel.

I made my first journey to the Holy Land over forty years ago, and as I mentioned earlier, I went there a tourist and returned home a Zionist.

I stood at the Sea of Galilee where Jesus miraculously fed the multitudes and healed the sick. I prayed at the Western Wall where the prophets Ezra and Nehemiah sought the face of God, and I walked the cobblestoned streets of the Old City where my Redeemer carried His cross to Calvary—I had found my spiritual home.

I left Israel with a longing to discover the history of the Promised Land, and during my years of study, I unearthed the Jewish roots of my Christian faith. Sadly, I also came face-to-face with the virulent bigotry that birthed the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, and the harvest of hatred that produced the Holocaust.

But most importantly, I realized God’s boundless love for the Jewish people, for His Covenant Land, and for the city of Jerusalem. Jesus Christ was and always will be Jewish. When He spoke to the Samaritan woman, He identified Himself with the Jewish people, *“You worship what you do not know; we [Jesus and the Jewish people] know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews”* (John 4:22).

God promises to bless those who bless Israel and His people. Paul wrote, *“For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their [the Jews’] spiritual things, their [the Gentiles’] duty is also to minister to them in material things”* (Romans 15:27). Repeatedly Scripture chronicles the principle of God blessing those who bless the Jewish people.

Jacob and Laban

This Bible principle is illustrated with the story of Jacob and Laban. Jacob, one of the patriarchs, worked for a Syrian by the name of Laban. Laban changed Jacob’s wages ten times, each time to his loss. Jacob became disillusioned and informed Laban he was leaving.

Laban responded remorsefully, saying, *“Please stay, if I have found favor in your eyes, for I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake”* (Genesis 30:27).

Laban was one Gentile who recognized that the blessings of God followed the Jewish people.

Joseph and Pharaoh

The promise of blessing continues in the story of Joseph and Pharaoh. Joseph saved the Gentile world from starvation through his divine power to interpret dreams. Pharaoh blessed Joseph by making him the prime minister of the nation and by giving to his family the rich farmlands of Goshen, which were the best in Egypt. Pharaoh treated Joseph and the Jewish people as an extension of his own family.

In accordance with Joseph’s interpretation of Pharaoh’s dream, the seven years of abundance began, and Joseph erected large storehouses all over the country, gathering the surplus of grain that flooded the markets. The seven years of plenty passed and the years of famine began; now the entire country found itself dependent upon the provisions stored away under the wise administration of Joseph.

During the time of lack, the people sold their land and livestock to Pharaoh in exchange for food. Through the genius of Joseph, the stored food not only provided nourishment for the masses but also purchased vast amounts of real estate outside of Egypt, thereby enlarging Pharaoh’s kingdom. The Gentile king blessed the Jewish people, and God saw to it that he was blessed beyond measure.

The Centurion’s Servant

Why was Jesus Christ willing to go to the house of the centurion in Capernaum and heal his sick servant? The Roman centurion

deserved God's blessing, for he demonstrated his love for the Jews by building a synagogue in Israel (Luke 7:5).

When you display practical acts of love to bless the Jewish people and the State of Israel, God will bless you.

Cornelius of Caesarea

Why did God the Father select the house of Cornelius in Caesarea to be the first Gentile house in Israel to receive the Gospel? The answer is given repeatedly in the book of Acts, which says: "*a devout man [Cornelius] and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always*" (Acts 10:2). What *people* did Cornelius give alms to? They were the Jewish people who lived around him.

Acts 10:4 states, "*Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.*" Acts 10:31 reads, "*Your alms are remembered in the sight of God.*"

The point is made three times in the same chapter: a righteous Gentile who demonstrated his unconditional love for the Jewish people in a practical manner was divinely selected by heaven to be the first house to receive the Gospel of salvation and the first to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

These combined scriptures verify that prosperity (Genesis 12:3; Psalm 122:6), divine healing (Luke 7:1–5), and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10) came first to the Gentiles who blessed the Jewish people and the nation of Israel in a practical manner.

The Bible also teaches that love is not what you say—love is what you do (1 John 3:18). It has been said that "a bell is not a bell until you ring it...and love is not love until you give it away."⁴⁹

It is imperative that we express our unconditional love and support for Israel and the Jewish people through practical acts of kindness and prayer.

Pray for Jerusalem

Remember this truth: When it comes to prophecy and the End of Days, it's all about Jerusalem. In Psalm 122:6, King David commands all people to “*pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ‘May they prosper who love you.’*” Righteousness and peace are destined to spring forth from Jerusalem to all the nations of the earth; therefore, it benefits all people to pray for her good. It is the only city God mandates us to pray for in Scripture.

Daniel prayed three times each day toward the city of Jerusalem while he was in Babylon. Even though these prayers were outlawed by the government, he chose to remain in prayer at the cost of facing the lions’ den. The Lord protected Daniel for his courage and obedience and intervened on his behalf so he could continue to pray for the City of God.

The scriptural principle of personal prosperity is tied to blessing Israel and praying for the city of Jerusalem. This prosperity is not purely associated with material blessings but also includes the Lord’s spiritual blessings, supernatural protection, and abundant favor.

The principle of blessing the Jewish people is as applicable today as it was in biblical times, and it will be especially relevant in the days to come, especially as Jerusalem becomes the pawn for those who desire to bring destruction to the Jewish state.

The Watchmen

The future of Jerusalem is at the core of God’s blueprint for eternity. Make no mistake: God will remove, reclaim, restore, reorder, renovate, redistribute, recommit, and redeem until the Holy City becomes the crowning gem of all the cities on earth.

Biblical watchmen were stationed on city walls (2 Samuel 18:25; 2 Kings 9:18; Psalms 127:1; Isaiah 62:6), on watch towers (2 Kings 9:17; 17:9; 18:8), or on hilltops (Jeremiah 31:6). It was their duty

to alert the king of an imminent hostile action against the city (2 Samuel 18:24–27; 2 Kings 9:17–20).⁵⁰ The past atrocities committed against the Jewish people and the city of Jerusalem attest to the reality that the church, as a whole, has failed to accomplish the mandate God set before us as watchmen over Israel.

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 no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth (Isaiah 62:6–7).

Martin Luther King Jr. said, “There comes a time when silence is betrayal.” Watchmen should not remain silent or passive when Jerusalem is threatened—we must act in its defense. God has appointed Christians as guardians, and as such, we should never allow Jerusalem to be threatened—by suicide bombers, missile attacks, political propaganda, or as a “bargaining chip in achieving peace.”⁵¹

The Jews are God’s Covenant people, and Jerusalem is His everlasting city. Jehovah God never intended the heart of Israel to be divided. Israel, including Jerusalem, belongs to the Jewish people, and the Almighty declares that anyone who attempts to persuade, coerce, or terrorize His chosen people to end Jewish control of Israel, including Jerusalem, is in direct opposition to His known will (Joel 3).

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob intends for His people to shine forth as a bright light to the Gentiles. He loves and delights in the Jewish people and rejoices over them—they are the apple of His eye. The Lord will protect His Holy City at all costs. Rest assured that Jerusalem’s future will not be dictated by “The Quartet”

(United Nations, United States, European Union, and Russia), the Vatican, by Iran or any radical extremist terrorist groups—its future is in the hands of God Himself.

Unlike during World War II, this time Christians must accept our role as watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem and sound the alarm with our united voices when Israel and the Jewish people are threatened—God Almighty has entrusted our generation with this crucial assignment, and we must not fail.

The world is still grappling with the age-old conflict between two half-brothers—one, the father of the Jewish nation, and the other, the father of the Arab states. The outcome of this struggle will affect every person on earth. Results from any future negotiation for peace or the lack of it will be noticed at the gas pump, the grocery store, and with banking institutions worldwide. If you think the battle for Jerusalem won't affect you—think again!

Please note that the battle for control over the Promised Land, and specifically Jerusalem, is not merely political or economic. This is foremost a spiritual struggle, and the repercussions of the strife between these ancient foes will continue to reverberate across the globe until Messiah comes.

I encourage you to understand God's plan for His Holy City, because with every passing sunset, we move one day closer to when Jerusalem will take center stage in world events. As the conflict rages and world leaders strive to find a peaceful solution to the problems in the Middle East, the significance of Jerusalem will only increase.

This Time

The nation of Israel was rebirthed out of its passion for survival. The Jewish people must never be without a country again. From out of the concentration camps and crematoriums of Europe echoes the cry, "Never again!" Let our united voices of unconditional love and

steadfast support be heard in the courts of heaven until the End of Days when Jerusalem becomes the praise of all the earth.

Our generation is headed for a perfect storm, and in order not to repeat the mistakes of the past, we must learn from this simple mandate: “Thou shalt not be a victim, thou shalt not be a perpetrator but, above all, thou shalt not be a bystander.”⁵²

This time in world history Christians must not stand idly by.

This time righteous people must take a stand against evil.

This time we must circle the wagons and fight the battle against Jewish hatred.

This time Christians and Jews must unite and win the war against anti-Semitism.