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To Oppose Israel's Existence Is To Oppose The Will And Plan Of God

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Hamas's brutal attack on Israel last October and the subsequent war exposed the current global rise of antisemitism. Protesters justified Hamas's massacre and declared support for the terrorist organization with the rallying cry "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free." But many who chant this phrase don't understand its implications.

"From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" is a cry for the elimination of the State of Israel and the Jewish people. It demands the removal (or murder) of all Jewish people from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. Calling for Israel's demise is not only antisemitic; it's genocidal.

Many within the church sadly fail to understand modern Israel's existence as an act of God's will. Some of these skeptics believe the State of Israel's establishment was an overreaction to the Holocaust of World War II, and they hold the nation responsible for all violence in the Middle East.

Such thinking indicts God for permitting Israel's rebirth and allowing the Jewish people's return to their ancient homeland—a development that began in the late 19th century, prior to the Holocaust. Yet, God did exactly what He said He would do through the prophets (Isa. 11:11; 66:8; Jer. 16:14–15; Ezek. 20:33–34; Hos. 3:4–5). He declared the Jewish people will be replanted in their land, never to be uprooted again (Amos 9:15). Thus, to oppose Israel's existence is to oppose God's will and plan.

This defiance also impugns God's sovereignty, implying that He was uninvolved in

bringing about Israel's return or failed to foresee the trouble it would cause. Claiming Israel's regeneration was an accident accuses God of mistakenly permitting it to happen and denies that He purposefully acted to return the Jewish people home from the places to which they were scattered.

But through a biblical lens, modern Israel fits neatly into God's redemptive plan. Just as God prophesied and fulfilled the scattering of the Jewish people, He also promised to return and restore them from the four corners of the earth. The process of Israel's regathering that began more than a century ago continues today.

Modern Israel is a miracle. There is no other way to explain how the Jewish people were exiled from their Promised Land for 1,900 years and then returned. Yet, everything aligns with God's promise to bring them back.

The fact of Israel's return and restoration is a unique historical phenomenon. Usually, an exiled nation is absorbed into the people groups it joins. It is unnatural for a nation to live in exile for centuries and keep its identity and dream to return home. No other exiled people have ever returned to their homeland to become a nation again. This is why the State of Israel is a miracle unfolding before our eyes.

Israel still faces hatred and violence because the Jewish people are God's uniquely Chosen People and the vehicle through whom He will redeem the world. But continued attempts to wipe Israel from the map, like Hamas's attack on October 7, 2023, will result in utter failure. Israel will never be destroyed.

One day, God will complete His plan (Rev. 21:6). He loves the Jewish people "with an everlasting love" (Jer. 31:3) and has promised they will endure forever (vv. 35–36). Seeking Israel's destruction is a fool's errand spearheaded by Satan, God's enemy.

The modern Jewish State of Israel is proof that God continues to fulfill His prophetic Word and that we are quickly approaching the end of this age.

Jim Showers is the executive director and president of The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry.

‘The Die Has Been Cast’: There is No Going Back From What Iran Set Into Motion On October 7th

By Mike Spaulding October 7, 2024

The origin of cultural idioms is an interesting study. Take, for instance, the phrase "The elephant in the room." The phrase is of American origin, possibly as recently as the 1950s. It has come to refer to any subject that requires a conversation but one that is being avoided by all parties with an interest in said conversation.

Likewise is the idiom, “The die has been cast.” According to one researcher, this phrase was first spoken by Julius Caesar when crossing the Rubicon. The first known usage of the phrase in print goes back to 1626 and Sir Thomas Herbert. The “die” in this phrase is not referring to the modern-day process of die-casting metal. Instead, the “die” is the singular of dice, and therefore, the phrase means “the dice have been rolled.” In other words, once the dice have been rolled, there is no turning back.

I thought of this latter phrase in relation to the first anniversary of the barbaric, murderous, depraved actions of the Islamic terror group Hamas toward the nation of Israel and the Jewish people on October 7, 2023. No amount of obfuscation, misdirection, political double-speak, or demonic moralizing can excuse what took place on that day. This is not how civilized people conduct their affairs. Sometimes war is inevitable, but in those instances, there is a formal declaration after efforts have been made to avoid it. Americans especially should be sensitive to this after December 7, 1941, and September 11, 2001.

Yet, without warning, Iran’s terrorist proxy Hamas, in a well-planned surprise attack, murdered, raped, and assaulted civilians, taking captive hundreds of innocent people. This was not a declaration of war; this was a declaration that when uncivilized people are propagandized long enough, they become the willing tools of demonic barbarian slaughter.

There was great celebration throughout the Shia Muslim world at the devastation rendered to what Shia Muslims refer to as the “little Satan,” Israel. The atrocity inflicted upon the Jewish people on October 7, 2023, was seen by a jubilant Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah, and Houthi Shia Muslims as a blessing from “Allah” and surely a sign of his granting a forthcoming victory over all Jews. At long last, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” was within grasp.

No one knows, except the ayatollah’s themselves, what the desired outcome of their barbaric invasion was. One thing is for certain: neither Iran nor any of its aforementioned proxies understood that pushing Israel to the degree that they did would result in an all-out war. We can be certain about this because, for all of their bluster and saber-rattling, Iran has been exposed as a “paper tiger” with neither the means nor the will to enter into a direct military conflict with Israel.

Along the way, the “elephant in the room” conversations are now taking place. Terrorist sympathizers are being exposed at the highest levels of government in the US, UK, France, and elsewhere. Their repeated calls for restraint on Israel’s part and a continual call upon Israel to accept a cease-fire exposes them as cowards in the least and radical Islamist mouthpieces that are not worthy of office.

This kind of behavior and moral blindness by elected representatives is not a mere disagreement over policy. Their support of Iran terrorism through Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis, and every other group around the world shows a fundamental lack of

understanding about what makes us all human beings. There is no scenario where rape as part of an ideology, murdering babies, infants, and toddlers in their cribs, defenseless old men and women in the streets, and taking captive hundreds of people and subjecting them to the worse imaginable treatment for over a year is acceptable. And yet, that is the argument being advanced by Islamists and their sympathizers.

International organizations have attempted to stop Israel's response through lawfare (The International Criminal Court of Justice comes to mind), or through the United Nations. Why would any nation ever support the United Nations after it has been proven that the United Nations Palestinian Refugee Agency (UNRWA) was riddled with Islamic terrorists who participated in the October 7 massacre?

The latest blindness and abject lunacy come from the Nobel Peace Prize Forum which declared their complete moral bankruptcy just days ago by nominating for their highest honor the same terrorist UNRWA mentioned above, the International Criminal Court of Justice mentioned above, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who has been so openly biased against Israel that Israel's Foreign Minister, Israel Katz, recently banned him from entering Israel. It was Guterres who demonstrated his own inability to comprehend basic morality by declaring soon after October 7, 2023, that the Hamas barbarity "did not happen in a vacuum."

What Iran does not understand is that they rolled the dice on October 7, 2023, thereby casting the die for what will soon come upon them. They cannot walk back what has already been set in motion. In their obsession to destroy Israel, the ayatollahs started the process of their own demise.

My prayer is that Israel will not hesitate to strike Iran. Israel must cut off the head of the snake. What governments in the US, UK, and France did not count on was the support for Israel's right to exist and defend itself among their citizenries. These kinds of conversations are out in the open now. The elephant has run out of the room. There is no returning to business as usual, regardless of the number of high-ranking government officials beholden to the filthy Islamic lucre given to them.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has recently taken to citing verses from the Tanakh. I remind him and all born again believers in Christ and supporters of Israel, that Psalm 21:8-11 foretells the fate of all the enemies of God and His chosen people: "Your hand will find all Your enemies; Your right hand will find those who hate You. You shall make them as a fiery oven in the time of Your anger; The Lord shall swallow them up in His wrath, And the fire shall devour them. Their offspring You shall destroy from the earth, And their descendants from among the sons of men. For they intended evil against You; They devised a plot which they are not able to perform."

Indeed, the Islamists will not succeed. Glory to God for His unwavering faithfulness toward all believers in Christ Jesus and to His people Israel, whose own redemption draws nigh.

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When Christians Don't Vote, 'We Open The Door For Every Evil Ideology To Fill The Vacuum'

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harbingersdaily.com

While Kamala Harris's numbers are starting to come back to earth after a disastrous vice presidential debate, things have never looked better for the Californian's campaign. As much as people have come to rely on the ebbs and flows of public opinion, longtime strategists know that there's a better predictor of how Democrats will do — and that's the evangelical vote. Or, as the 2024 numbers warn, the lack thereof.

According to some truly shocking statistics from George Barna at Arizona Christian University (ACU), as many as 41 million Christians plan to sit this election out — more than enough to hand the country's keys to the eager and radical Left. For Donald Trump's opponent, the news that one of the Dems' biggest obstacles to victory is voluntarily shirking their civic duty is cause for premature celebration.

Incredibly, the research, conducted between August and September, suggests that 41 million self-described born-again Christians are “unlikely” to vote in the November election. To Len Munsil, president of ACU, that spells disaster. “I see two huge takeaways from this blockbuster report,” he explained. “First, that Christians could be the deciding factor in a bunch of federal and state races — and are choosing not to be. And second,” he continued, “that they are longing for their local church to instruct them on how to think biblically about policy and politics. They don't want to be told how to vote,” Munsil added, “but they do want to know why they should vote and how to view political issues from a biblical framework.”

When Christians were asked to explain their complacency, 68% replied that they aren't interested in politics, followed by 57% who dislike both presidential candidates, and another 52% who believe their vote won't make a difference. In a sad sign of where we are as a country, 48% also worry that the election results will be manipulated.

Of course, one of the most problematic aspects of this passivity is that November 5 involves a lot more than the White House. In fact, Family Research Council President Tony Perkins argues, many would contend that there are “much more important decisions than the presidency on the state and local ballot. Control of the House and Senate hangs in the balance. Governors, state attorneys general, local school boards, even comptrollers are amassing major victories in protecting children from radical gender ideology, pushing back on corporate America's woke agenda, fighting the Biden administration's lawless overreach, and passing sweeping pro-life and pro-parent laws,”

he wrote in *Decision* magazine, “Americans have several other issues to be mindful of as we head to the polls.”

In our hands rest “the hopes of soldiers on foreign battlefields, the persecuted church in faraway lands and the peace of God’s chosen nation Israel (Numbers 24:9),” Perkins warned.

And yet, this church-wide short-sightedness threatens to leave everyone from our global neighbors to our next-door neighbors without help or hope. “Think about what has happened here in America in just the last 35 years,” Cornerstone Chapel Senior Pastor Gary Hamrick told the Pray Vote Stand Summit on Saturday. “Think about some of these things. There’s been gender confusion. There’s been marriage redefinition. There’s been a disregard for life. There’s become environmental worship, the stripping of parental authority, the deterioration of religious liberties, and the list goes on and on.”

How “absurd,” he went on, that in a matter of a generation, “people are now trying to figure out what bathroom to use. Businesses are being sued for not baking cakes or doing graphic designs for same-sex weddings. The nanny state has approved pornographic reading material in many public school systems. ... It’s illegal to disturb sea turtles in South Florida, but not illegal to abort babies from a womb. This is complete insanity.”

And frankly, Hamrick declared, “We have no one to blame but ourselves.” “There are 90 million self-identified evangelical Christians eligible to vote in the United States of America,” and according to George Barna a healthy slice of them will refuse to.

“Let me tell you what happens when we are not involved in the political process,” he said somberly. “We open the door for every evil ideology to fill the vacuum. When we decide we’re going to check out, we’re not going to be involved, we’re not going to be politically engaged, all we do is open the door for more of the same evil agenda and ideology. Why is it that so many Christians are sitting out on the sidelines? Why [is there] such political apathy in our world? Because a lot of Christians think that politics is a dirty word that they don’t want to be involved in. ‘We will leave the world of politics up to the rest of the world,’ they would say, and then wonder why every evil has filled the vacuum.” If you thought the last 35 years was disturbing, imagine the next 35. “...We are one generation away from losing what is valuable and precious and sacred,” Hamrick warned.

This trend of political indifference and disgust is in spite of the Scripture’s clear teaching that government — like the family and the church — is an institution created and established by God. “Why is it that when it comes to the family, people are protective of the family, Christians in particular? Why is it when it comes to the church, Christians in particular want to care for the church and defend the church? But then when it comes to this third institution, the second one that God ordained, [and] all of a sudden people say, ‘Well, that one doesn’t need my involvement, that one doesn’t need my participation, that one doesn’t need for me to be engaged.’”

Look, church, Hamrick urged, “God has called us in 2 Corinthians 5:20 to be his ambassadors. An ambassador is one who represents another official or dignitary. Our dignitary that we are representing is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and He calls us to represent him in every facet and aspect of life. That means we represent him in the job. That means we represent Him in the family. That means we represent Him in the church. That means we represent Him in our neighborhood, where we go to school, where we interact on every level with every person. God calls us to be his ambassadors. We don’t stop being ambassadors because we think, ‘Well, government is a dirty word. Politics is a dirty word. We don’t want to be engaged in all that. We’ll just leave that to other people’ — other people who will continue to take it down the progressive path it’s on right now and destroy this nation.”

It’s a point that Calvary Chapel Chino Hills Senior Pastor Jack Hibbs reiterated in his own remarks. “We are citizens of heaven. We are to act like heaven. We are to represent heaven. We are to speak about the things that concern heaven.” Does that mean we have to be excited about the choices before us? Absolutely not. But as God’s people, we should all want a president “that will save more babies’ lives than Kamala Harris,” he argued.

That doesn’t mean Donald Trump can save this country. As Hibbs acknowledged, “There’s no politician, including Trump, that can affect the soul of this nation. You’re the only one. The answer is not in the statehouse. And it’s not going to be in the White House. It’s got to be in your own house. It’s got to be in the [house] of God.” If your response is, “Well, I don’t vote,” then “you need to repent,” Hibbs insisted. “Every opportunity God gives us, we are to use it to the advancement of His kingdom. And voting is the easiest. We fire no bullets,” he pointed out. “We don’t pull out any swords. There [aren’t] tanks in the street. We just get up and go vote.”

And get over trying to find the perfect candidate, Hamrick admonished. “There is no candidate who is the full package because Jesus is not on the ballot. There is no perfect person running,” he pointed out, “and God has used both righteous leaders and unrighteous leaders all through the Bible to accomplish his good purposes.”

But, the Cornerstone leader cautioned, “If we see the rising tide of evil in our land and we decide to do nothing, we are ceding ground to the enemy, and we are being unfaithful to our calling as ambassadors for Christ.”

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