

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Women's Bible Study

Session 2: Setting the Stage for Today

Israeli-Palestine Conflict Timeline: The last 100 years

- Pre-WWI Palestine is ruled by a series of different empires, most recently the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) from the 16th Century until 1918. But It is not under Jewish control-in fact very few Jews live in what is now called Israel.
- Post WWI Turkey (Ottoman Empire) is defeated in WWI (fought with the Germans) and therefore lost their territories including Palestine. Great Britain takes over control of Palestine post WWI.
- POST WWII Before WWII Britain had the largest Empire that ever existed. Post WWII they were not as powerful and the US was anti-colonialist. Britain's empire was greatly reduced including in the Middle East.
- 1948 Israeli Declares Independence. UN passes Resolution 181 establishing two independent states: One Arab and one Jewish. The Palestinians rise up against Israel and are defeated. 700,000 Palestinians are displaced from their land in what Palestinians refer to as the "catastrophe".
- 1967 "Six Day War" between Israel and a coalition of Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. Israel soundly defeats them and takes control of the Sinai Peninsula, the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, and East Jerusalem (which was supposed to be the independent Arab section of Jerusalem).
- 1972 Munich Olympics-Palestinian Terrorists take Israeli Athletes hostage
- 1978 Camp David Accords brokered by President Carter lays groundwork for peace between Egypt and Israel. Sinai is returned to Egypt and groundwork is set for Palestinian self-government. They never come to fruition.
- 1987 First Intifada: Uprising by Palestinians against the Israelis. Lasts several years
- 1993 Sets out a peace process for Israel and Palestine. Palestinians gain self-government in the West Bank and Gaza. However, sticking points were the continued establishment of Israeli Settlements the West Bank and the establishment of Jerusalem as the capital of any future Palestinian state.
- 2000 Second Intifada
- 2006 Gaza allowed to hold free elections and Hamas is elected. There have been no more elections in Gaza since.

2017 US recognizes Jerusalem as the capitol of Israel and moves Embassy there. This outrages Palestinians.

October 2023 Hamas brutally kills and kidnaps Israeli citizens on Israeli soil. Starts a war that continues still today.

Show Video from UN

1. Does Israel have a right to exist?
2. Who has the power in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict right now? Why?
3. What would you do if someone came to take your home?
4. How would you live day to day if your life were always in danger?
5. What do you think of bullies? Is Israel a bully?
6. Why do you think Israel does not listen to the UN?
7. Settlements: What do you think is the purpose of these settlements?
8. Why is the United States allies with Israel?
9. Is it ever OK to kill children and women and other innocent civilians?
10. Was what Hamas did in Israel on October 7 any worse than what Israel has done in Gaza with their military attacks? Why or why not?
11. Does Israel have a right to defend itself?
12. If the United States were attacked and we lost tens of thousands of lives and thousands of hostages, would we want a ceasefire?
13. Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Next week we will hear more from actual Palestinians and Israelis about living in the conflict and tension of the Holy Lands.

Close with the Lord's Prayer



LEBANON

Mediterranean Sea

Golan Heights

Safed •

Haifa •

Tiberias •

SYRIA

Nazareth •

Sea of Galilee

Jenin •

Netanya •

Tulkarm •

Samaria

Jordan River

Nablus •

West Bank

Tel Aviv •

Ramallah •

Jericho •

Ashdod •

Jerusalem ★

Ashkelon •

Bethlehem •

Dead Sea

Sderot •

Hebron •

Gaza City •

Judea

Rafah •

Gaza

Beersheba •

JORDAN

ISRAEL

25 mi
SCALE

EGYPT

Eilat •