

Is Modern Israel God's Chosen Nation?

The state of Israel was attacked on October 7th by Hamas militants who killed 1,200 people and took over 250 hostages on day one. As of Friday, the death toll was over 11,000 between the two sides¹.

Hamas exists as a terrorist organization and political party in what is known today as Palestine.

Any time there is violence in the Middle East, religious people use the opportunity to claim the end of the world is eminent or we should support the Israelis because they are God's chosen people.

So, is the modern day state of Israel, God's chosen nation?

The short answer is, "No." But let's look at why.

God's Three Promises To Abraham

The promises are first made in Genesis chapter twelve.

Genesis 12:1–2 (Genesis 26:3-4)

¹ Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Three Promises To Abraham

Multiply offspring:	Great Nation of Israelites
Give offspring Canaan:	Nation of Israel conquers Canaan
All nations blessed by offspring:	Promise of salvation through Jesus

Who Is Israel? What Is An Israelite?

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel)

"I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God."-Exodus 3:6

Jacob, who had his name changed to Israel, had twelve sons, who became the 12 tribes (or nation) of Israel.

People Of Israel 1850 BC to 1400 BC

The people of Israel went into Egyptian captivity (Genesis 47:11-12) for four hundred years and grew to two-million people. The LORD'S promise of a great nation was fulfilled (Exodus 12:37-42).

Moses was sent by God to lead the Israelites into the promised land of Canaan. Moses then Joshua led the people into the land where Abraham sojourned.

Joshua 21:43–45

⁴³ Thus the LORD gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. ⁴⁴ And the LORD gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the LORD had given all their enemies into their hands. ⁴⁵ Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.

The nation of Israel reached its Zenith under Solomon (1000 BC)
The nation divided. Northern tribes to Assyria (722 BC)
Southern tribes to Babylonia (605 BC)

From that point on, the people of Israel never existed as an independent nation.

By the time Jesus is born the land is divided over three Roman provinces: Judea, Samaria, and Galilee.

Control of Jerusalem²

AD 70	Roman destruction of Jerusalem (wailing wall)
AD 30-300	Roman Rule
AD 300-600	Byzantine Empire
AD 600-1100	Muslim Rule
AD 1100-1300	Crusader Period
AD 1300-1517	Muslim Rule
AD 1517-1917	Ottoman Empire
AD 1917-1948	British Mandate
AD 1948-now	State of Israel

What Does The Bible Say?

The two promises to Israel were fulfilled.
Third promise to us!

Galatians 3:7–8

⁷ Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

Galatians 3:27–29

²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

God's Covenant With Israel Ended

Hebrews 8:13

¹³ In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

II Corinthians 3:11

¹¹ For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

New Covenant Of Faith (Kingdom Of Heaven)

Romans 2:28–29

²⁸ For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. ²⁹ But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

Romans 10:4

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

We Are The Israel Of God

Galatians 6:16

And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

Romans 9:25–26

²⁵ As indeed he says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’ ” ²⁶ “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’ ”

State of Israel

Today the state of Israel is a homeland for the worlds ethnic Jews.

Hitler killed six-million Jews.

Palestinians have no state.

Muslims and Jews both claim the Temple Mount as theirs

Israel is a U.S. ally in area with few.

Our Savior and Lord Is In Heaven

John 18:36

³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

¹ <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/gaza-officials-say-hospitals-come-under-new-israeli-attacks-2023-11-10/>

² <https://embassies.gov.il/UnGeneva/AboutIsrael/history/Pages/History-Israel-Timeline.aspx>

