Beautiful Chaos

Psalms 122:26/ Gen 12:1-3

5/16/21

The past few weeks have been chaotic, to say the least. Not just within our own lives, but in our nation, and now add into the chaos that has again rose in Israel. The violence that began in East Jerusalem in last month has now expanded to military attacks from both Israel and Palestine. Large scale injuries and fatalities have been reported. Clashes have broken out between Palestinian Arabs and Jewish groups in Israel. The international community looks divided and readying for taking sides in the current Israel-Palestine conflict if it aggravates to another war. Israel and Palestine have a long history of violence. Let’s have a look at the chronology:

**Before Christ:** Israelite King Solomon built a temple in Jerusalem for Jewish people. It remains the holiest site for them. Those were times of empire building and Jerusalem was invaded by Egyptian and later Roman campaigners who attacked that temple. In 70 BC, Romans destroyed a reconstructed temple built at the Jerusalem site. Jewish people fled in large numbers during these centuries.

**7th Century**: Islamic Caliphate army took control of Jerusalem. Flight of the Jewish people continued for centuries. Europe, particularly in and around Germany, got the biggest population of Jews.

**19th Century**: Zionist movement was launched with appeal for the return of Jews to Israel or Palestine as it was known.

**Post-World War-I:** Defeat of Germany in the war (1914-19) saw the rise of Adolf Hitler, who blamed Jews for the country’s defeat. He expanded Germany and Jews were persecuted in areas he controlled. In the post-war settlement, Britain was given the mandate for Palestine and Trans-Jordan (areas including Israel, West Bank and Gaza). Jewish immigration to Israel gained pace.

**Post-World War-II (1939-45):** With the support from the US and the UK, Jews created the state of Israel in 1948.

**1948:** First Israel-Arab war began after the Britain’s mandate ended and it lifted its control. Arab countries sided with Palestine, but the war ended with Israel, backed by the US, controlling large area for its nation. Palestinians lost their homes and became refugees.

**1956:**Second Israel-Arab war began after Egypt announced nationalization of the Suez Canal, an important trade route. Israel invaded Egypt, got support from Britain and France. The US and USSR brokered a deal to end the war.

**1964:**Palestinians organized themselves under the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) for struggle against Israel.

**1967:** Six-Day War took place in which Israel defeated Egypt, Jordan and Syria. Israel took control of the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Sinai Peninsula, the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem, the area from where latest series of violence began. More than 250,000 Palestinians were displaced.

**1973:**Arab nations formed a coalition to attack Israel. It suffered losses but recovered after receiving supplies from the US. The war led to massive oil crisis.

**1978:**The US brokered a peace deal between Israel and Egypt. Settling the question of Palestine was part of the deal what came to be known as Camp David Accord. It was never implemented.

**1987:** First Palestinian Intifada was launched. Intifada means uprising or rebellion. Protests and clashes continued for years in Gaza, the West Bank and inside Israel. Many people died and scores injured during the Intifada.

**1991:**Israel begins peace talks with Palestinian leaders, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan in Spain — Madrid Conference.

**1993:** First major breakthrough was achieved. Israel and the PLO signed what is called the Oslo Peace Accord. It was backed by the United Nations.

**1994:**A follow-up deal was signed, called the Cairo Agreement between Israel and the PLO. The agreements created the Palestinian Authority which was given the charge of administrative affairs in the West Bank and Gaza. Question of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, and status of Jerusalem remained unresolved. Both Israel and Palestine view Jerusalem as their future capital.

**1995:** Israel’s Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated. Palestinian Authority was blamed.

**2000:** Second Palestinian Intifada was launched. Clashes erupted after Israeli hardliner Aerial Sharon visited the compound that houses both the Temple Mount and Al-Aqsa(AL-Aksa), the site of current violence.

**2002:**Palestinian militant group Hamas launched first major suicide attack killing at least 30 Israelis. Israel later conducted an operation to took control of much of the West Bank.

**2006**: Hamas won election in Gaza emerging as a political challenger to Fatah party that was moderate and had won in the West Bank.

**2008:**Palestinian militants fired rockets into Israel, which responded by pummeling missiles into the Palestinian territory. More than 1,100 Palestinians lost their lives, 13 Israeli soldiers were killed.

**2012:** Another round of rocket fire between Israel and Palestine. Israel killed Hamas military chief in attack.

**2014:** A seven-week fight ensued after Hamas allegedly kidnapped three Israeli girls from a Jewish settlement in the West Bank and killed them. More than 2,000 Palestinians lost their lives. Israel reported 73 deaths including civilian casualties.

**2015:**Seeking re-election, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared that there would be no two-state solution to Israel-Palestine question.

**2017:**The Donald Trump administration of the US recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and announced shifting of its embassy from Tel Aviv to this city. The decision saw fresh protests and clashes in the West Bank and Gaza.

**2018:**Clashes continued for several months between Palestinian protesters and Israeli security forces. Rocks, bombs and rockets were exchanged. Many died.

**2021:** Israel barricades Damascus Gate Plaza in the East Jerusalem on April 12. It is a popular gathering place for Palestinians during Ramadan (the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting, prayer, reflection, and community.

). Protests broke out. On April 16, Israel limits the number of people who can pray at [Al-Aqsa — considered the third holiest mosque in Islam](https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/al-aqsa-violence-why-israel-and-palestine-are-going-at-one-another-again-1801365-2021-05-11) — in East Jerusalem to 10,000 people. Clashes erupt and spreads to Gaza and the West Bank.

Israel has had its up and downs as a nation & today we will take a look at Israel and see from the Word of God that they’re still the apple of Gods eye and that He will fulfill every promise He has made to His chosen people.

There are some folks that hold to the idea that God is finished with Israel and has given the blessing that He had promised Israel to the N.T. church but that is not the case. Israel is not the church, and the church is not Israel.

The fact is that God gave the land of Canaan to Abraham and his physical descendants, and it was an unconditional covenant that has never been cancelled and still in play.

Psalm 122: THE NATION OF ISRAEL:

This beautiful psalm is also a prophecy. It is a millennial psalm looking forward to the time when all the tribes will go up to Jerusalem and assemble themselves for worship.

* **Psalm 122:6 *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. 7 Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. 8 For my brethren and companions’ sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good.***

In Hosea 3:4–5 we read, “*For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days.”*

THE NATION OF ISRAEL HAS MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO, BUT IT WILL BE AFTER THE HORRABLE TRIBULATION THAT IS ON THE WAY.

The Covenant – Look at Gen. 12:1-3

***1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you.***

***2 I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others.***

***3 I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”***

Now all the nations are blessed because the Lord Jesus Christ, who was a descendent of the 4th son of Jacob, of the tribe of Juda, as He came to earth to be the Savior of the whole world, if the people of the world will only receive Him.

* Heb. 7: 14a for it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda;

It is true that Abraham was the father of many nations, even after his wife Sarah died and Abraham was even older, he took another wife

* *Gen.23:1-2 (Sarah’s death) 1 When Sarah was 127 years old, 2 she died at Kiriath-arba (now called Hebron) in the land of Canaan. There Abraham mourned and wept for her.*

Gen 25 tells us after Sarah’s death he took another wife and had more sons from her.Abraham had many sons by his wives and concubines and certainly these were his sons, but God made His covenant in the order of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of course we realize that from Jacob came 12 sons, and of these 12 sons are where the 12 tribes of Israel come from.

Many people confuse the Mosaic Covenant—which required Israel’s obedience to keep Gods law that He gave to Moses. With the Abrahamic covenant, we find that God is doing all the promising, which did not require their obedience, the covenant God made to Abraham was an unconditional covenant and according to Gods Word the inheritance of the Promised Land was in this order:

* From Abraham to Isaac and from Isaac to Jacob:
* Gen 13:14-17 - ***14****After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction—north and south, east and west.****15****I am giving all this land, as far as you can see, to you and your descendants[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Gen.13%3A14-17+&version=NLT#fen-NLT-334a)*] as a permanent possession.****16****And I will give you so many descendants that, like the dust of the earth, they cannot be counted!****17****Go and walk through the land in every direction, for I am giving it to you.”*
* Genesis 15:18 ***18****So the Lord made a covenant with Abram that day and said, “I have given this land to your descendants, all the way from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River—*

To understand how this Covenant was given and how God means business to His Word, let’s look at where it started – the account of Sarah when she was told that she would have a son even in her old age.

* Gen.17: 15-22 15 Then God said to Abraham, “Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. 16 And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings of nations will be among her descendants.” 17 Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief. “How could I become a father at the age of 100?” he thought. “And how can Sarah have a baby when she is ninety years old?” 18 So Abraham said to God, “May Ishmael live under your special blessing!” 19 But God replied, “No—Sarah, your wife, will give birth to a son for you. You will name him Isaac, and I will confirm my covenant with him and his descendants as an everlasting covenant. 20 As for Ishmael, I will bless him also, just as you have asked. I will make him extremely fruitful and multiply his descendants. He will become the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. 21 But my covenant will be confirmed with Isaac, who will be born to you and Sarah about this time next year.” 22 When God had finished speaking, he left Abraham.
* And then in Gen.21: 1-13

The Lord kept his word and did for Sarah exactly what he had promised. **2**She became pregnant, and she gave birth to a son for Abraham in his old age. This happened at just the time God had said it would. **3**And Abraham named their son Isaac. **4**Eight days after Isaac was born, Abraham circumcised him as God had commanded. **5**Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born. **6**And Sarah declared, “God has brought me laughter. All who hear about this will laugh with me. **7**Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse a baby? Yet I have given Abraham a son in his old age!” **8**When Isaac grew up and was about to be weaned, Abraham prepared a huge feast to celebrate the occasion. **9**But Sarah saw Ishmael—the son of Abraham and her Egyptian servant Hagar—making fun of her son, Isaac.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Gen.21%3A+1-13&version=NLT#fen-NLT-523b)] **10**So she turned to Abraham and demanded, “Get rid of that slave woman and her son. He is not going to share the inheritance with my son, Isaac. I won’t have it!” **11**This upset Abraham very much because Ishmael was his son. **12**But God told Abraham, “Do not be upset over the boy and your servant. Do whatever Sarah tells you, for Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted. **13**But I will also make a nation of the descendants of Hagar’s son because he is your son, too.”

Now here what is so amazing about God…Even with Abrahams rush decision with the “other girl”, God kept His word; He has given the decedents of Ishmael the potential of great wealth with their oil resources, yet because of their ungodliness, they are mostly a people of war and strife. But thank God for the many who were of the Muslim religion that has come to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and are saved.

After this if you continue to study, you’ll see in Gen 26 God appeared to Isaac and gave him the same Promise:

* Gen 26:1-5 - The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, “Do not go down to Egypt, but do as I tell you. **3**Live here as a foreigner in this land, and I will be with you and bless you. I hereby confirm that I will give all these lands to you and your descendants,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Gen.26&version=NLT#fen-NLT-696a)] just as I solemnly promised Abraham, your father. **4**I will cause your descendants to become as numerous as the stars of the sky, and I will give them all these lands. And through your descendants all the nations of the earth will be blessed. **5**I will do this because Abraham listened to me and obeyed all my requirements, commands, decrees, and instructions.”

And He continues the promise to Isaacs’s son Jacob: Jacob has this dream of a latter that extends into heaven.

* Genesis 28:13-15 **13**At the top of the stairway stood the Lord, and he said, “I am the Lord, the God of your grandfather Abraham, and the God of your father, Isaac. The ground you are lying on belongs to you. I am giving it to you and your descendants. **14**Your descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth! They will spread out in all directions—to the west and the east, to the north and the south. And all the families of the earth will be blessed through you and your descendants. **15**What’s more, I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go. One day I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything, I have promised you.”

After this you can see all throughout scripture after this that God took Israel as His own people. Why? Because He made a promise, a covenant, a vow…And that covenant is still alive today.

From the time the people of Israel were delivered from Egypt, we see a nation that was up and down with the Lord. One day they’d be serving and obeying the Lord, then there’d be a period where they would go and serve other gods, turning their back on the Lord…Yet through all these times God was always faithful. When Israel would come to God in honest repentance God would forgive them and deliver them.

Today if we look on a map we see the little section of land that is referred to as Israel, and if their enemies had their way the Israelites wouldn’t even have that, the enemies of God’s chosen people have declared that Israel will be annihilated, because Satan wants them annihilated. But what does God say would happen to the nations that come against His chosen people?

* Gen.12: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee:
* Zec.14:12 (NLT) 12 And the Lord will send a plague on all the nations that fought against Jerusalem. Their people will become like walking corpses, their flesh rotting away. Their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.
	+ (KJV) And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.
	+ Could this possibly be of a nuclear destruction at this point? We know Iran is going at a breakneck speed to build nuclear bombs; it may to their own destruction.

I pray that our leaders realize that the only reason God has blessed our nation the way He has is because of our stance with Israel, and if we ever turn against Israel, God will turn against us.

Now we know from scripture, Israel will never have any peace until Jesus, the King of the Jews returns and destroys the enemies of Israel and all the ungodly people of the world at what is called the battle of ARMEGEDON, it will a one-sided battle to say the least, He will simply speak the Word and they’ll be dead. The Sword of the Word of God.

* Found in Rev.19:19-21 *19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the world and their armies gathered together to fight against the one sitting on the horse and his army. 20 And the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who did mighty miracles on behalf of the beast—miracles that deceived all who had accepted the mark of the beast and who worshiped his statue. Both the beast and his false prophet were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. 21 Their entire army was killed by the sharp sword that came from the mouth of the one riding the white horse. And the vultures all gorged themselves on the dead bodies.*

Listen friends, God is not called God all Mighty for nothing. If He could create the world in six days, part the Red Sea to allow 2.5 million people, plus livestock to make it from Egypt to Canaan on dry land, and rain manna from heaven for 40 years to feed His people whom He led by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, then He is certainly capable of bringing back to Himself spiritually as well as physically His chosen people to the land He promised them.

Remember the Abrahamic Covenant was not based on Israel’s obedience but on God’s love:

* Dt. 4:37-40 - *37 Because he loved your ancestors, he chose to bless their descendants, and he personally brought you out of Egypt with a great display of power. 38 He drove out nations far greater than you, so he could bring you in and give you their land as your special possession, as it is today. 39 “So remember this and keep it firmly in mind: The Lord is God both in heaven and on earth, and there is no other. 40 If you obey all the decrees and commands, I am giving you today, all will be well with you and your children. I am giving you these instructions so you will enjoy a long life in the land the Lord your God is giving you for all time.”*

But because the Israelites did not keep the Mosaic Covenant, the law, they forfeited the many blessings they could have had and were expelled from their land temporarily as punishment. But they because of the Abrahamic Covenant, they still hold the title deed, given to them by God.

After this God created a New Covenant—which God made with Israel—in Jeremiah 31. This one replaced the Mosaic Covenant:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

*31 “The day is coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. 32 This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife,” says the Lord. 33 “But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel after those days,” says the Lord. “I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, ‘You should know the Lord.’ For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already,” says the Lord. “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.”*

But this new covenant, by which we are blessed to live by as well today, does not replace the Abrahamic Covenant. The Abrahamic Covenant—land provision and all—has been grounded and sure ever since God gave it in Genesis and repeated throughout the Old Testament. And in Gods time He will bring them back.

Closing:

So, we need not be worried as we see all this going on in Israel, as we know that all that’s going on in the world today is supposed to be happening according to God’s sovereign will. And if we remember that God is still on the throne, we can see the Beauty in the Chaos!

As Christians we should pray for the peace of Jerusalem and Israel, and for the people of that nation, that they along with every nation in this world would turn their eye back upon the Lord! We know that we don’t have a long time to wait for our Lord, but until He comes back to get His bride, let us be witnesses to all those we know and know Gods got everything is His Hands!