

# **MUST CHRISTIANS SUPPORT ISRAEL**

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We're all familiar with the violence in the Middle East ... between Israel and Hamas.

Many thousands have died. **Israel demands the right to retaliate in response to the Hamas attack** on the Last Great Day of the Feast.

But **some think Israel's actions are not proportionate**. **Accusations of war crimes** have been levelled. Mass protests have taken place in many cities. People are a bit divided.

On occasions ... the politicians have spoken of a wide conflict — involving Iran ... Turkey — with even the use of nuclear weapons?!

We'll have to see how it develops!

**Some countries' support for Israel is almost unconditional**. They say they'll stand with Israel ... no matter what it does — even if turning the Gaza Strip into a car park! Just eliminate 2 million people!!

The USA — and most Western democracies — tend to this approach.

There are a number of reasons for this ... but it's basically a geo-political decision. If a government wants to use its tax-dollars ... and military might ... to support Israel — that's their choice. If they want to get involved in any fighting — again ... their choice.

**However ... when it comes to Israel ... an additional factor comes into play! That is what I want to discuss today.**

Especially in America ... there is a huge amount of support for Israel among churches and evangelicals **because "Israel is God's Chosen People"**. Many see it as a Christian duty to support Israel — by prayer ... donations ... or organising political action.

[to some extent ... Prime Minister Netanyahu and many Israelis rely on this evangelical support. It's a very powerful force in domestic politics].

## **If we're Bible-believing Christians — should we unconditionally support Israel today?**

### **Genesis 12:1-3**

**1 Now the LORD had said to Abram:**

“Get out of your country,  
From your family  
And from your father's house,  
To a land that I will show you.

**2 I will make you a great nation;**

**I will bless you**

And make your name great;  
And you shall be a blessing.

**3 I will bless those who bless you,**

**And I will curse him who curses you;**

**And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

This is the most popular go-to passage. But does it say everyone must bless and support modern Jews? **The KJV makes it clear that the blessing is to Abraham individually. “I will bless them that bless thee ... and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed”.**

## **The actual promise is to Abraham!!**

However ... there are major Christian organisations set up to support Israel (especially in the USA).

**“Christians United For Israel” (CUFI) ... claims 10 million members. John Hagee — its founder — even claims that the Jews don't need to accept Jesus!** Christians should not evangelise Jews! **Jews have a separate covenant with God and don't need Jesus.**

(See the media screenshots at the end of this message)

**But what does the Bible say about the status of the Jews and the Jewish State today?**

**Luke 10:13-15**

13 “**Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!** For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

14 But **it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you.**

15 **And you, Capernaum,** who are exalted to heaven, **will be brought down to Hades.**

Jesus **curse**s several important Jewish towns — and the people who live there. He **doesn't bless** them.

**Luke 10:16**

16 He who hears you hears Me, **he who rejects you rejects Me,** and **he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.**”

**If you reject Jesus — you reject the Father ... too.** Do the Jews today reject Jesus?

**1 John 2:22-23**

22 **Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.**

23 **Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either;** he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

**Whoever denies Jesus does not have a relationship with the Father.** John says such are ANTICHRISTS.

**John 5:16, 20-23**

16 For this reason **the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him,** because He had done these things on the Sabbath. (*Gives you a window into the attitude of the religious Jews*)

20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.

21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, **even so the Son gives life to whom He will.**

22 For **the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,**

23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. **He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.** (*You're not going to get blessings!*)

**Jews don't honour Jesus — so don't honour the Father either.** It doesn't look like they're in much of a position to expect many blessings from God?

**A nation is blessed if it lives God's ways — obeys God. Cursed if it doesn't.** Leviticus Chapter 26 and Deuteronomy Chapter 28. How is Judah living today?

Only a minority of the people go to synagogues ... and they follow the man-made religion of Judaism (not the Old Testament Bible teaching).

Tel Aviv is famous for its Gay Pride Celebrations.

The whole nation went into captivity to Babylon in 586 BC. It never really recovered? In Jesus' day ... it was occupied by the Roman Empire — who destroyed it again in 70 AD.

### **Matthew 23:31-36**

31 "Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves **that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.**

32 Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' guilt.

33 **Serpents, brood of vipers!** (*You bunch of snakes!*) How can you escape the condemnation of hell?

34 Therefore, indeed, **I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes:** **some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city,**

35 **that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the land, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of**

**Zechariah**, son of Berechiah, **whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.**

36 Assuredly, I say to you, **all these things will come upon this generation.**

Blood guilt on the nation for its history of murdering God's messengers.

#### **Matthew 23:37-39**

37 "**O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her!** How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but **you were not willing!** *(Their fault – not Jesus' fault)*

38 See! **Your house is left to you desolate;**

39 **for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!**" *(that has not happened yet)*

Judah won't see Jesus until His return (so – not today).

End-time Judah faces great trouble.

#### **Matthew 24:15-22**

15 "**Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place**" (whoever reads, let him understand),

16 "then **let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.**

17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house.

18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes.

19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!

20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.

21 **For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.**

22 And **unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.**

The Jews in Israel face extermination! Zechariah Chapter 13 suggests 2/3 will die in the land.

**It doesn't look like a land under God's blessing?**

**Luke 21:20-24**

20 "But **when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near.** (*Islamic armies?*)

21 Then **let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those who are in the midst of her depart, and let not those who are in the country enter her.**

22 For **these are the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.**

23 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! For **there will be great distress in the land and wrath upon this people.** (*NOT BLESSINGS!*)

24 And **they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations.** And **Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.** (*"Trampled" – Pateo*)

Great distress and wrath upon the people who will be killed (2/3) and captured.

**No amount of "Evangelical support" can change this (especially if some don't even believe you should "preach Christ" to Jews).**

**Revelation 11:1-3**

1 **Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod.** And the angel stood, saying, **"Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there.**

2 But **leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it,** for it has been given to the Gentiles. And **they will**

**tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months.** (“Tread”  
— *Pateo*)

3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth.”

Jerusalem to be trampled underfoot.

**Revelation 11:7-8**

7 **When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.**

8 And **their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt**, where also our Lord was crucified. (*Jerusalem*)

The two witnesses will be killed in Jerusalem — which God classes spiritually as Sodom and Egypt.

Judah had a great beginning (as did Reuben ... Gad ... Ephraim ... Manasseh and the other tribes) — but has been in a bad place for centuries. It has a great future in the Millennium — but not now!

**Zechariah 8:1-3**

1 Again the word of the LORD of hosts came, saying,

2 “Thus says the LORD of hosts:

I am zealous for Zion with great zeal;

With great fervour I am zealous for her.’

3 “Thus says the LORD:

I will return to Zion,

And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem.

**Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth,**

**The Mountain of the LORD of hosts,**

**The Holy Mountain.’**

**Eventually — the City of Truth!**

People of Judah long ago rejected Jesus Christ and God. It doesn't seem they'll repent until very near the end?

Remember God's instructions to Jerusalem about Ancient Judah?

### **Jeremiah 7:1-4**

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 "Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, (*the Temple*) and proclaim there this word, and say, 'Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD!'"

3 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. (*Live right before Me*)

4 Do not trust in these lying words, saying, 'The temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD are these.'

### **Jeremiah 7:12**

12 "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I set My name at the first, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel.

God's judgment on Shiloh.

### **Jeremiah 7:15**

15 And I will cast you (*JEWS*) out of My sight, as I have cast out all your brethren—the whole posterity of Ephraim.

**God will cast out the Jews!**

### **Jeremiah 7:16**

16 "Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you.

**DO NOT PRAY FOR THEM! — SAYS GOD!!**



Israel is under God's judgment today (as indeed are all of our countries ... because of our national iniquities).

**Is it obligatory to support them unconditionally because they had a relationship with God a long time ago?**

**Consider the example of Jehoshaphat (King of Judah)**

### **2 Chronicles 18:1-3**

1 **Jehoshaphat** had riches and honor in abundance; and **by marriage he allied himself with Ahab.**

2 After some years he went down to visit Ahab in Samaria; and Ahab killed sheep and oxen in abundance for him and the people who were with him, and persuaded him to go up with him to Ramoth Gilead.

3 **So Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, "Will you go with me against Ramoth Gilead?"**

And he answered him, **"I am as you are, and my people as your people; we will be with you in the war."**

He agrees to support King Arab of Israel in war.

**Ahab was one of Israel's most wicked kings. Married to the evil Jezebel. They set up idolatry supported by nearly 1,000 priests. She contaminated the people of Israel.**

### **2 Chronicles 18:33-34**

33 **Now a certain man drew a bow at random, and struck the king of Israel** between the joints of his armour. So he said to the driver of his chariot, "Turn around and take me out of the battle, for I am wounded." 34 **The battle increased that day, and the king of Israel propped himself up in his chariot facing the Syrians until evening; and about the time of sunset he died.**

Ahab killed.

### **2 Chronicles 19:1-2**

1 Then **Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned safely to his house in Jerusalem.**

2 And **Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to King Jehoshaphat, “Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? Therefore the wrath of the LORD is upon you.**

**God is not impressed by making an alliance with a wicked God-hating nation** — even if it’s your own Israelite “family”.

**Something to think about in today’s world?**

Evangelical supporters of today’s Israelis base their approach on Genesis 12:3. Somehow God’s promise to Abraham gets converted to “Let’s unconditionally support the God-rejecting nation of Judah”?

Consider Paul’s teaching:

**Galatians 3:15-17**

15 Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man’s covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.

16 Now **to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made.** He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, **“And to your Seed,” who is Christ.**

17 And this I say, that **the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.**

**The Promise to Abraham and Seed (singular!)**

**Galatians 3:26-29**

26 For **you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.**

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 neither male nor female; **for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

29 And **if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.**

**All of the families of the world are BLESSED IN CHRIST.**

**For now ... the Jewish nation totally rejects Christ. THEY CANNOT BE BLESSED — UNTIL THEY COME TO JESUS!**

So ... if anyone ... or national government ... wants to support Israel today for geo-political reasons — fine. That's their prerogative.

**But IF we want to provide unconditional support because they're God's people — you may want to reconsider these New Testament scriptures?**

The image is a screenshot of a news article from BBC News. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a 'Sign in' button, and icons for Home, News, Sport, Weather, iPlayer, and Sounds. Below this is a red banner with the word 'NEWS' in white. Underneath the banner is a horizontal menu with various news categories: Home, Israel-Gaza war, Cost of Living, War in Ukraine, Climate, UK, World, Business, Politics, Culture, World, Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, and US & Canada. The main headline of the article is 'US evangelicals drive Republican support for Israel', dated '2 days ago'. Below the headline is a photograph showing a group of people at a protest in front of the US Capitol building. Some individuals are wearing blue and white clothing with the Star of David, while others are holding American flags. The article is written by Anthony Zurcher, a North America correspondent. The text of the article states: 'Republican support for Israel has been near monolithic since the 7 October attack by Hamas. Conservatives argue the US is backing a close ally, standing up for the region's only democracy and sending a message that terror against civilians will not be tolerated.'



Israeli embassy names Pastor Hagee on their list of the greatest American contributors to the US-Israel relationship.



**ISRAEL:  
GOD'S  
GATEWAY TO  
BLESSING**



**PASTOR JOHN HAGEE**




**ISRAEL**  
GOD'S GATEWAY TO BLESSING

**GENESIS 12:3** ...I will bless those who bless you....

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