

God's Everlasting Covenant

presents

The Perversion of "Peace" and "Justice"

Today more than ever we see Israel as it truly is – the real "Ground Zero."

It seems not a day goes by without something occurring which can be tied directly or indirectly to this tiny country and its inhabitants, the Jewish people.

Chosen by G-d out of all the peoples of the earth as his treasured possession [Deuteronomy 14:2]

it seems this distinction is both a blessing and a curse. Jews have been blessed by G-d who in turn blessed the world through them with great signs and wonders.

Yet of all the people on the earth, it seems no other has suffered more hardship than the Jews. Indeed Jerusalem is the most conquered city in history.

Having endured 1800 years of separation from the land G-d gave them as an everlasting possession [Genesis 48:4] the nation of Israel was reborn in 1948 in its biblical homeland. No other people have experienced such prolonged displacement only to return to their original home.

This is seen by many as a fulfillment of prophecy [Deuteronomy 30:4, Ezekiel 11:17, & 37, Jeremiah 23:3, etc.]

While many Jews and a growing number of evangelical Christians share this view, the majority of Christians today see things quite differently, as evidenced in their perspective of the conflict between Israel and the so-called 'Palestinians.'

One such group, the World Council of Churches has 349 member churches representing over 550 million Christians worldwide.

Members denominations include Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Catholics, Anglicans, Baptists, Episcopal, Greek Orthodox, and many more.

Sadly this organization has embraced replacement theology, which essentially says the 'Church' has replaced the Jewish people as the inheritors of G-d's covenantal promises, and rejects the Jews right to claim Jerusalem as their holy city and Israel as their holy land.

Clear evidence of the WCC's views have been published in several key documents in recent years.

The Amman Call [2007], the Bern Perspective [2008] and the Kairos Palestine document [2009] all reflect rejection of G-d's everlasting covenant with the Jewish people.

Further, these documents promote synchronicity with the general Arab narrative, which sees Israel as “occupiers,” of Arab land, purveyors of injustice against the ‘Palestinian’ people, and the enemies of peace. In spite of the fact that Arab Christians have been persecuted and killed by Arab Muslims, causing a huge decline of their population in cities like Bethlehem, when it comes to the conflict with Israel there’s little distinction between their respective views.

Both see Israel as the enemy.

Indeed the majority of ‘Palestinian’ Christians believe Jesus himself was one of their own, who if alive today would be a revolutionary in support of their cause and oppose Israel. It seems they [and many others] have forgotten Jesus was born, raised and lived his entire life as a Jew, and never abandoned his Jewishness.

Pastors and numerous others Christian subscribers to this pro-Palestinian/anti-Israel narrative gathered in Bethlehem in March at a conference called “Christ at the Checkpoint.”

Attendees from many countries including the US spoke, recounting stories from “oppressed Palestinians,” who referred to “Christian American Militaristic Imperialism that sides with Israel,.” according to one speaker from large mid-western American church.

In an attempt to dramatize their anti-Israel views the home page of the conference web site is dominated by a photo of the security barrier constructed by Israel, suggesting it’s existence is to imprison the Arabs, rather than the actual reason it was constructed which is to prevent suicide bombers from murdering innocent Israeli civilians.

One of the churches in the United States which has played a leading role in criticizing Israel is the Presbyterian Church [PCUSA].

Starting in 2004 they began a proactive campaign against Israel and championing the ‘Palestinian’ cause when their General Assembly passed a resolution

“opposing Israeli occupation of Palestine,” and approving “selective divestment of holdings in multinational corporations doing business in Israel/Palestine.”

Invoking words such as “peace” and “justice” when describing what the ‘Palestinians’ seek, PCUSA has assaulted the very meaning of such noble words when using them to describe people who are theologically committed to kill the Jewish people and wipe Israel off the map.

Indeed such words have become the poster words for secularism, one world order and within this narrative- anti-Semitism.

Currently, PCUSA's Middle East Study Committee is having internal discussions on another document labeling Israel as "racist," and asks the US government to impose sanctions on Israel and withhold financial and military aid. The report also endorses the "right of return," and even apologizes to the "Palestinian people for conceding Israel has a right to exist." Final vote is expected in the coming months.

Genesis 12:3 says "I will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you I will curse," referring to Abraham and G-d's treasured possession, the Jewish people.

Next to Jesus, Christianity views no one else more significant to the faith than Paul. Indeed his epistles are the basis for virtually all doctrinal interpretations.

It was Paul himself who said in the book of Romans "did G-d reject his people? By no means!" [Romans 11:1]. And further in Romans 11 he states gentiles are "grafted in" to the family of Israel.

Sadly [intentionally or otherwise] too many Christians appear to have interpreted this scripture incorrectly.

Thus when it comes to "peace" and "justice," I submit no other people in history have been victimized by a *lack* of these than the Jewish people. Scripture gives us a clear warning against mistreatment of the Jews saying the day will come when G-d will "enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided my land." [Joel 3:2].

G-d gave each of us the gift of free will, which means we can choose how we define "peace" and "justice." It seems G-d's choice is pretty clear. That's good enough for me. The time has come for the rest of G-d's followers to do likewise.