

## ISRAEL-July 2024

### Kampala, Uganda Conv.

1. **Current events** particularly since Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>. 2023.

2. **Satan and the fallen angels influence.**

a. Wicked spirits in exalted realms. Working through deceived and blinded fallen humans.

b. Satan knows the Biblical prophecies – that he needs to stop both the Spiritual Seed and Natural Seed of Abraham. If Jerusalem and Israel will be the center of the Mediatoral government, then he has to keep up the attacks on public sentiment toward them.

3. **Hamas heinous attack** is NOT a war for equal rights for Palestinians, it is a war for the annihilation of Israel and the Jews people.

## Hamas in Its Own Words

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On October 7, Hamas attacked Israel, slaughtering [around 1,200](#) men, women, children, and infants in the largest and most brutal massacre of Jews since the Holocaust. Hamas terrorists intentionally recorded their murder, rape, and torture of civilians, including around [200 foreign nationals](#), and took at least [240 hostages](#) back with them to Gaza.

The physical attack was followed by a [propaganda and disinformation campaign](#). Knowing that Israel would have no choice but to respond to the October 7 massacre, Hamas retreated into its network of tunnels beneath the homes, schools, and hospitals of Gaza, using Palestinian civilians as [human shields](#) in order to weaponize the resulting [civilian casualties](#).

This left Israel with two options – either do nothing in response to the murder and kidnapping of its citizens by invading Hamas terrorists, thereby inviting more attacks, or act against Hamas as it hid behind and under its own citizens. As Hamas leaders themselves admit, Hamas sees either path as a [strategic win](#) for its campaign of terror and incitement against Israel, with the ultimate goal of Israel's eradication. While there can be legitimate criticism of specific Israeli policies and actions during its war with Hamas, it is paramount to remember this worldview of Hamas.

Since its founding in the late 1980s, Hamas has been promoting rhetoric and policies aimed at destroying the Jewish state of Israel and killing Jews and Israelis around the world. This is evident in their [founding charter](#), which cites the infamous [Protocols of the Elders of Zion](#) forgery as “proof” of a Zionist plot to control the world. It remains true after

Hamas [released a new charter](#) in 2017, which essentially simply swapped the word “Jew” out and replaced it with “Zionist” while repeating antisemitic tropes.

The following are examples of hateful rhetoric by Hamas leaders and officials, as well as language from their charter:

**Hamas Leaders and Officials:** Statements by Hamas officials make clear the terrorist organization’s commitment to destroying Israel and killing Jews and Israelis around the world.

- Ismail Haniyeh in 2020: He [explained](#) that Hamas rejects ceasefire agreements by which, “Gaza would become Singapore,” preferring to remain at war with Israel until a Palestinian state is established [from the River to the Sea](#): “We cannot, in exchange for money or projects, give up Palestine and our weapons. We will not give up the resistance... **We will not recognize Israel, Palestine must stretch from the [Jordan] River to the [Mediterranean] Sea.**”
- Hamas official, Hamad Al-Regeb in an April 2023 [sermon](#): He **prayed for “annihilation” and “paralysis” of the Jews** whom he described as filthy animals: “[Allah] transformed them into filthy, ugly animals like apes and pigs because of the injustice and evil they had brought about.” Al-Regeb also prayed for the ability to “get to the necks of the Jews.”
- Ahmad Abd Al-Hadi (Hamas representative in Lebanon) in an October 12, 2023 TV show laid out Hamas’ expectation that it would be Israel that would sue for peace and indicated that a [ceasefire is part of Hamas’ overall strategy](#), but said that he was not at liberty to say what exactly Hamas has planned for the next step after a ceasefire. He also stated that October 7 had achieved its intended purpose of landing “a blow to the normalization (of relations between Israel and Arab countries).”
- Hamas member, [Ghazi Hamad](#) on October 24, 2023: “Israel is a country that has no place on our land [...] because it constitutes a security, military, and political catastrophe to the Arab and Islamic nation.” (October 24, 2023, LBC TV (Lebanon)). He also vowed to **repeat the October 7 attacks “time and again until Israel is annihilated,**” and expressing a desire to “sacrifice martyrs” (referring to Gazan civilians) for Hamas’ ideological aim of destroying Israel.

Statements by Hamas officials also make clear the terrorist organization’s disregard for the loss of civilian life not only in Israel but also in Gaza.

- Hamas senior leader Khaled Mashal [stated](#) on October 19, 2023 that he views the current loss of civilian life in Gaza – brought about by Hamas' strategy of using [human shields](#) – as essential: **“No nation is liberated without sacrifices... In all wars, there are some civilian victims. We are not responsible for them.”**
- Hamas senior leader Ismail Haniyeh, [commenting](#) on the loss of civilian life in Gaza on October 26, 2023: **“The blood of the women, children and elderly [...] we are the ones**

**who need this blood, so it awakens within us the revolutionary spirit.”**

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### **The Hamas Charter:**

Hamas' extremism is rooted in ideologies that predate the establishment of Israel in 1948. The preamble to Hamas' [founding charter](#) contains the following quote from the founder of the Muslim Brotherhood, Hassan al-Banna: *“Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it” (Preamble to Hamas Charter).*

Peace is not an option for Hamas, only violence:

*There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad.* (Hamas Charter, Article 13).

b. Hamas is a democratically elected government by the Palestinians in 2006. Current polling shows overwhelming support for Hamas since Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

c. The Palestinian children are raised to hate Israel – the Zionist entity. Their heroes are the Hamas terrorists whom they view as freedom fighters. Their blindness is complete. Sadly, they like many other people during mankind's long and sordid history, are Kingdom Cases.

### **4 . Problematic news reporting.**

a. Palestinian deaths and casualties do not differentiate between Hamas fighters and civilians. Currently it is rather impossible to have accurate or reliable figures for the number of Hamas fighters killed. It is thought that Hamas actually continues to recruit new fighters daily. It is thought that there could be over 10,000 fighters currently.

b. News outlets rarely give any historical background to current events. This distorts the public's perception of what really are the causes and reactions.

I want to quote from the U.S. News & World Report magazine from July 24, 2006: “In September 2005 Israel withdrew from every last inch of the Gaza Strip. The Israelis dismantled all military bases, destroyed all their settlements, turned over functioning greenhouses that could employ 4,000 people, expelled all 7,500 Israeli settlers – all at a huge financial and political cost. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon even went a step further, declaring the lines that divide Israel from Gaza an international frontier, making Gaza the first independent Palestinian territory ever.

Everyone hoped then that the Palestinians would show the world what they could achieve with freedom as a template for a future independent state. Alas, they have

shown us all too well. Not one day of peace has followed since then. The pattern was set on the very day of Israel's pullout. Palestinian militants fired rockets from Gaza into Israeli towns on the other side of the border, targeting innocent civilians living in the pre-1967 Israel recognized by the international community."

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c. Hamas intentionally creates an untenable environment for Israeli military action. Of necessity Israel has to kill civilians among whom Hamas fighters intentionally hide. All know of the vast tunnel systems underneath numerous civilian buildings and homes, including schools daycare, hospitals and mosques.

d. Hamas knew they cannot win an actual war against Israel. They hope to both win the "soft war" of public opinion as well as to encourage other "Axis of Resistance" members to attack, and some have.

**5. Arab nations complicity.** No Arab nation is willing to take in the Palestinians. In fact, they were forcibly evicted from Jordan and Egypt.

**6. The Axis of Resistance.** Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas, Muslim Brotherhood, Islamic Jihad, Houthis, Iraqi based Islamic Resistance and Shia militias in Syria and Iraq. Since 1979 when the Islamic Revolutionary Guard took over Iran, their stated goal was to drive the USA and Western power and influence- especially the Zionist State of Israel – from Palestine and the Middle East.

a. Israeli and USA progress in relationships with some Arab countries. Some powerful Arab countries are fearful of Iranian power and intentions, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Egypt, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. Along with the Abrahamic Accords of economic cooperation between Israel and UAE, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco in 2020. This was set to expand further just before the October 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 Hamas terrorist attack, many think that the timing was intentional in order to disrupt any further progress by Israel and the USA in the region.

b. The Soft War – world-wide public opinion.

c. Hamas fighters know they are "dead men walking". They consider themselves and even the civilian population – women, children and the elderly as martyrs for the greater cause. Their sense of a cease-fire is just to reposition and re-arm.

d. All Hamas would have to do to end this conflict is to release the hostages.

However, in fact, Hamas does not want a complete stoppage to this war, they believe they are winning the world wide public opinion war.

e. Israel kills top Iranian generals in Syria. Iran retaliates by sending over 300 projectiles toward Israel. Israel's Iron Dome along with USA, British and even Jordanian assistance stopped all but a few from landing. Israel gives a very modest response.

f. Hezbollah in Lebanon fires rockets and missiles into Israel, Israel responds.

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## **8. Use of A.I. warfare.**

a. Israel has been incorporating advanced AI facial recognition and other personal information to create algorithms for Hamas leaders, mid-level commanders and even average fighters. They have used these programs in the past to target individuals by locating them and then initiating a strike. In the past they limited the strike to when the individual was considered to be alone or with only one or two additional casualties. However, in this current war the combination of Hamas's heinous terrorist attack along with trying to rescue the remaining hostages, they have increased the number of targeted Hamas fighters which has contributed to the increase civilian casualties. Sadly, this too is a "Catch 22" for Israel. For instance, Israel has repeatedly given advance notice to civilians in Gaza before specific military action is taken, yet this also gives Hamas notice.

b. The use of A.I. has greatly reduced the number of Israeli soldiers deaths and wounded. However, as of this writing over 600 IDF have been killed and over 3,000 wounded.

## **9. The hostages.**

a. We have now learned that many taken hostage have died. They too have been used as shields for the higher ranking Hamas leaders. The few released so far have reported of sadistic abuse.

b. The original attack was to take as many hostages as possible. These were to be used to barter with Israel for the release of imprisoned Hamas terrorist. However, the grotesque atrocities that I will not state here, were intended to illicit a coldly calculated heavy response from Israel – why? Again, for the "soft-war" public sympathy.

c. On June-8-2024 we learned that 4 hostages were rescued by a special forces operation. They were in 2 different buildings, the rescue took place in daylight, the IDF

forces were under heavy fire and sadly 1 IDF commander was killed. 4 Israeli lives saved at the cost of 1 Israeli life. Numerous Hamas terrorists were killed.

d. As of this time it is believed that about 120 hostages remain unaccounted for. **10. Politics.**

a. In Israel – the confused and divided political landscape before the Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>. attack was already bad. It continues to be so. Sadly, it seems evident that there is corruption even at the top of the Israeli government so that we as Christians cannot just blindly endorse their elected leaders.

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b. In the USA – the ongoing support, then partial support, sometimes on and off, depending on how the public opinion and various politicians' current mindset along with the pollsters are having an effect, the various pressures are applied to Israel or her supporters.

## **11. Bible Fundamentals regarding Israel.**

a. God promised the Land to Abraham and his seed. Gen. 13:14-15; 15:18; 17:7,8. God reiterated this Covenant promise to Abraham's son Isaac and to his grandson Jacob. It was NOT to his son Ismael through the handmaid Hagar.

b. Israel receives the Law Covenant through Moses. They only of all the nations of earth has God recognized by a Covenant (Amos 3:2 "You only have I known of all the families of the earth...") They are still under this Law Covenant. But Paul tells us it will cease to exist someday (Heb. 8:13). Paul writes that the Jews who had not accepted Jesus were still under the Law Covenant (1 Cor. 9:20). God foretold Israel that they would receive both blessings and chastisements as a part of their Law Covenant relationship to Him (Lev. 26:42-46). The Law Covenant will pass away completely when the Israelitish New Covenant will be in operation – after the Gospel Age has completed its work of developing the Mediator for that New Covenant – that Covenant will never pass away (Jer. 31:31-34, 32:40). God will then extend that New Covenant made with natural Israel to the remainder of mankind (Ezk. 16:60-62).

NOTE: Israel is NOT under the Christian Covenant of Grace and Sacrifice. Nor is mankind, nor will they ever be, EXCEPT as individual Jews and Gentiles respond to the High Calling of this Gospel Age to be disciples of Jesus. This Christian Covenant is ONLY to develop the New Creation and it will cease to be available to anyone else, once the 144,000 and One is complete.

NOTE: a few Harvest Message references for the foregoing comments:

Reprints 4901, 5164, "What Pastor Russell Said" pages 432, 176.

c. Israel's double of a time of favor followed by a time of disfavor followed by a time of restoration. Remember, this is all possible because they are God's Covenanted people, as promised to faithful Abraham. From Jacob's death in 1813 BC to Jesus the Messiah in 33 AD, they had 1,845 years of exclusive favor. Then followed their 1,845 years of disfavor, ending in 1878 AD. Isaiah 40:1,2 "Comfort you, comfort you MY people, says your God. Speak you comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her appointed time is accomplished, for she has received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins."

d. Whose Land? Joel 2:18 "Then will the LORD be jealous for HIS Land and pity HIS people." Joel 3:2 in part: "I will gather the nations... who parted MY Land."

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e. Whose People? Joel 3:3 in part: "they have cast lots for MY People." Joel 2:27: "And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I am the LORD your God and none else; and My people shall never be ashamed."

f. Yes, there is still to be a hard chastisement for the nation due to their worldliness and lack of faith in Him, demonstrated by their trusting to their Lovers -the Western Powers.

Jer. 30:10-17 READ~

Ezk. 39:27 not going to read.

And in Ezk. 20:33-39- the purging out of the Rebels (possibly ongoing, but they will certainly be purged during Gog's invasion of Ezk. 38, 39.

g. When will their blindness as a people be removed? Romans 11:25-27: "For I would not brethren that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. And then all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, there shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them when I shall take away their sins."

Blindness as a group first removed as found in Zech. 12:10, after God fights for them in the future at the close of Gog's invasion of Ezk. 38, 39; Zech. 14:1-3.

"And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon him whom they have pierced and they shall mourn for him as one mourns for his only son and shall be in bitterness for him as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn."

h. God will bless those that bless Israel and curse those that curse them (Gen. 12:3). Israel's enemies are God's enemies! Psalm 83:1-4 NIV :

“O God, do not keep silent, be not quiet, O God, be not still. See how YOUR enemies are astir, how YOUR foes rear their heads. With cunning they conspire against YOUR people; they plot against those YOU CHERISH. Come, they say, let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of ISRAEL be remembered no more.”

## **12. Mankind's condition from God's (The Creators) perspective.**

a. The permission of evil. Ecclesiastes 1:13 from Ferrar Fenton Bible “And I devoted my mind to investigation, and to scientific research, over everything that occurs under the skies – it is a difficult exercise which God has imposed upon the sons of Adam.” And again

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in 3:10: “I have examined the endeavors that God has appointed for the children of Adam by which to develop themselves.”

Yes, because God created humans with freedom of choice as free moral beings, He determined the best and wisest plan was to give all humans the experiences of imperfect life that then when they are given the opportunity to gain perfect life they will be far better equipped to make the best choices and achieve the best eternal results. Let us always remember that this plan cost Him something as well, although He knew it would be for the best forever.

b. Convicts. The dead in Adam and dying race, were all “children of disobedience”, “children of wrath”. “Dead in sins.” Roms. 5:12 “...death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” In an unusual place to read, consider the F- 174, 175. In a summary manner Br. Russell states that since all men are sinners, condemned to death by their father Adam, all are convicts and He has the right to do with some one way and with others another way. Some for good and some for bad. For good Israel, for bad the Egyptians, Cannanites, Hitties and others. “...God has exercised suzerain (overlord), authority amongst His convicted creatures and that He has elected that some should have one experience and others another experience ..”

c. So in summary on these points, blessedly, we know that God has blessings in store for ADAM AND ALL HIS OFFSPRING, just that for the world it is yet future after the Gospel Age Work.



d. Many in the world, including many leaders are well meaning – good intentioned, but actually they are blinded, often brain-washed so to speak, not able to understand what God’s plans are. Remember, we have been in the Great Transition time throughout this Harvest period and it still continues. The problems of today will not find any lasting remedies until The Christ rules with the Rod of Iron – strict Justice.

### 13. The Holy Remnant.

a. CTR’s view. While Br. Russell at times wrote of the Orthodox Jews as being the those to whom the Lord would first reveal that Jesus was their Messiah and also they would be remnant that He would use with the Ancient Worthies as the nucleus of the earthly phase of the Kingdom, yet his following expressions are more satisfying:

C-250: “the Jews recognized of God as children of Abraham are those who hold to the faith of Abraham and trust in the divine promises.”

QB 379: “the Ancient Worthies will appear amongst the Jews, not the infidel Jews, for there are some real earnest Jews, who are longing and waiting for the Messiah, and I

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presume it will be that kind to whom he will reveal himself, and as he makes himself known to them they will believe.”

b. Jewish work slower than anticipated ...C-ii (1916).

c. Not the Jews for Jesus or Messianic Jewish groups. These claim to be Christians, so they have their trial separately and for most if not all they will fall into the nominally Christian group known as Tares, being Trinitarian and hell-fire believers.

d. Joel 2:32: “And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered, for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, and in the remnant who the LORD shall call.”

Isa. 4:3: “And it shall come to pass that he that is left in Zion and he that remains in Jerusalem shall be called holy even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem.”

Also Joel 2:15-20, but cannot take the time now.

We will consider a few more shortly (Zech.12).

### 14. Our message now to the Nation as a whole

A suggestion to the nation: Have faith in God. Hold to the Land – it is God’s gift to you, the Seed of Abraham. Reject nominal Christianity. Keep your Covenant as found in the Torah – the Word of God. Promote righteousness as found in the Scriptures. Resist Western worldly advice and pressure when it conflicts with the facts on the ground. Look forward to your Messiah.

#### **15. Possible prophecies regarding Israel in process of being fulfilled.**

a. Isa. 40:1, 2. It is really only Bible Students who understand God’s divine plan of the ages, and so we can offer the best message. Many brethren are so doing.

b. Jer. 16:16 the hunters and fishers continue with world-wide antisemitism rising dramatically since Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

c. Psalm 83 however, it will have to develop much further than the current war. Actually, Hamas and Israel have fought 4 large scale conflicts since 2006.

#### **d. Zech. 12:3-10.**

This is a progressive picture from 1878 onward. It demonstrates that Israel would have Jerusalem including the Old City, (1967), restored before their final deliverance.

“house of Judah” Vss. 4 = house means descendants. This refers to All Jews, secular and those of faith.

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“governors of Judah” Vss. 5, 6 = governors means leaders. These are the secular Zionist who first lead the way back to and in Palestine. NOTE: 5 their God (the Inhabitants of Jerusalem’s God).

“Inhabitants of Jerusalem” Vss. 5, 7, 8, 10 = “Inhabitants” means those who invested themselves in a permanent dwelling arrangement – committed. Jews who have faith in God (back to vs. 5).

“Tents of Judah” vs. 7 = “tents” means temporary arrangement. The LORD uses secular Zionist for a time, but it is temporary.

“house of David” Vss. 7, 8, 10, 12 = “house” means descendants. These are Jews who have a strong faith in God as David had.

NOTE: the Inhabitants of Jerusalem and the House of David both represent Jews who have a living faith in God. Yet those who “bend the knee” is a superior group or segment of those of faith – this is the HOLY REMNANT, the leaders for the other Jews who exhibit some amount of faith. These two receive the Spirit of grace first, we note that the “governors of Judah” are not mentioned as receiving the holy spirit at this time. All of them would mourn for & accept Jesus as their messiah at the time of the trouble

e. Zeph. 2:4-10 NIV. READ~ Note, Gaza is stated to be for Judah – the Jewish people. **16. Prophecies of the future fulfillment of Jewish purpose.**

Zech. 8:20-23.

**17. The Spirit of God poured out during the Mediatorial Phase of the Kingdom.**

a. The Holy Remnant Zech. 12:10. b. The nation of Israel Ezk. 39:29. c. Restored mankind Joel 2:28.

d. A parallel to Gospel Age pouring: Jesus first, just one. Secondly at Pentecost the Apostles in the upper room – representing the Spirit poured out on the Jewish believers. Thirdly upon Cornelius and his household representing the Gentile believers – the largest group.

**18. Closing hope-** Isa. 2:2-4