

Ministers of Justice: The Civil State Defends

The Purpose and Means of Civil Government

Q: What is the **purpose** of civil government?

A1: The civil government is God's _____ of justice (Rom 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17)

Q: How does civil government minister God's justice?

A1: The civil government wisely _____ God's standard of justice (Rom 13:1-7)

A2: The civil government _____ transgressions with the _____

A3: It justly bears the sword to _____ the life and property of its citizens

Israel

| The history of Israel & the Promised Land | |
|---|---|
| | Canaanites dwelled in the land (Gen 10:15-19) |
| 2100-1600s | The Promise to Abraham (Gen 15:18-21; 17) |
| 1400-1200 BC | Initial & partial fulfillment under Joshua (Joshua 1:2-6; 13:1-7) |
| 1010-931 BC | Land expansion under King David & Solomon |
| 580s BC | Babylonian rule |
| 530s BC | Persian rule |
| 333 BC | Greeks rule |
| 142 BC | Israel free after the Maccabean revolt |
| 63 BC | Romans |
| 330 BC | Byzantine Empire |
| 636 AD | Muslims (vs. Christians crusades) |
| 1517 AD | Ottoman Empire |
| 1917 AD | British rule |
| 1948 AD | Israel became an independent nation |
| 1948 - Now | Ongoing conflict in the middle east b/w Israel and Arabs |

- Ongoing conflict b/w Israel and Arabs:
 - (I) May 1948 to May 1949
 - (II) Six-Day War (June 1967)
 - (III) Yom Kippur War (1973)
 - (IV) First Intifada (1987-1993)
 - (V) Second Intifada (2000-2005)
 - (VI) Factionalism in Palestine (2005 -)
 - (VII) Summer of 2014
 - (VIII) March 2018
 - (IX) May 2021
 - (X) Oct 7, 2023 — Jan 2025

- Israel vs. Arabs during this time:

| | Israel | Arab nations |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Land Area | 8,522 sq. Miles | 2.45 million sq. Miles |
| Population | 9.8 million | 473+ million |

Just War Theory in light of terrorist activity

- Suicide bombings
- Just War Theory: criteria for the *just* _____ to war and *just* _____ of war

- Israel responded by building a _____ and increasing IDF activity

Gaza

- Let's talk about the Gaza Strip...

The Problem & Solution to Arab-Israeli Conflict

What is the root of the conflict?

- The (Palestinian) Arabs reject the very _____ of Israel
- What would happen if the Palestinians and Arabs "laid down their arms"?
- What would happen if Israel "laid down their arms"?

Does God give special favor to Israel as a nation?

Do Christians agree about foreign policy with regard to Israel?

- Christians hold varying perspectives on eschatology. These impact one's approach to foreign relations with Israel
 - Dispensational premillennial
 - Historic premillennial, Amillennial, Postmillennial
- What might Christians agree about (see John 14:6; Rom 11)?

How then should the United States relate to Israel?

- Defend it's right to _____ as a nation

- Long for the Israelites to _____ and turn to Jesus their _____!

- Exhort Israel to engage _____ with others
 - Don't believe that Israel can "do nothing _____!"

- To ally or not?

- Christians might wish to _____ the historical sites of our faith

- Beware that Anti-_____ is alive and well today

- Being allies with Israel makes us a _____ of Arabs