

JUDGING THE NATIONS

I want to pick up where I left off last week, regarding God's judgment upon the nations on Israel's behalf. Then we'll look a few of the accusations that are constantly being made against the State of Israel, with regards to the Palestinians, and expose them for the lies that they are.

"Ho there! Flee from the land of the north," declares the LORD, "for I have dispersed you as the four winds of the heavens," declares the LORD. "Ho, Zion! Escape, you who are living with the daughter of Babylon." For thus says the LORD of hosts, "After glory He has sent me against the nations which plunder you, for he who touches you, touches the apple of His eye.

Zachariah 2:6-8 NAS

I want to start off by calling your attention to the context of this passage. When God says that Israel is the "apple of His eye", He says it *after* He has judged and scattered them. In this passage He's calling them to return to the Land of Israel from the places where they have been scattered: "*Flee from the land of the north," declares the LORD; Escape, you who are living with the daughter of Babylon*". Even in their judged and scattered condition, God still refers to them as the apple of His eye. In other words, being judged and scattered does not annul the special place the Jewish people have in God's heart or in His eternal plan.

It's because the Jewish people remain the apple of God's eye—even after being judged and scattered—that Zachariah goes on to say: "*After glory He has sent me against the nations which plunder you*". In other words, for His own glory, God is going to judge the nations who have been used to judge Israel. Why? Because God judges Israel for the purpose of redemption. He doesn't judge them because He's a Jew-hater and He wants to see them all dead. But that's precisely the attitude of the nations He must use to judge Israel. They want to see every Israel *annihilated* because they have a Satanic hatred for the Jews. This hatred will eventually bring God's wrath down upon them.

"For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all the nations, and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and they have divided up My land. They have also cast lots for My people, traded a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine that they may drink.

Joel 3:1-3 NAS

Zechariah says that in the last days, God is going to "gather all the nations" to Jerusalem and enter into judgment with them there. Judgment over what? Is He going to gather the nations to Jerusalem and enter into judgment with them because they refused to accept the gospel and repent? Is He going to gather the nations to Jerusalem and enter into judgment with them because the church has gone into full-blown apostasy? No. The issue is Israel. The issue is how the nations have treated God's people (the Jews) and God's land (the land of Israel). The natural State of Israel is the central issue of the last days. The last (literal) battle of this age will be a battle between the nations of this world. Led and inspired by Satan, against the State of Israel.

God is using Israel as a dividing line. He's forcing nations, the Church, and individuals to make a choice regarding Israel. Everyone is in the valley of decision and they must choose one side or the other before they can come up out of that valley. Either they will choose to be on the Lord's side and stand *with* His inheritance (the Jewish people and the State of Israel), or they will choose to be on the side of Satan and stand *against* the Lord's inheritance. Woe to them who make the wrong choice.

*For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. **Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle...**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.*

Zechariah 4:2-3 & 12

What many of us do not realize is that the judgment at the end of this present age is *primarily* a judgment on the nations. It's a judgement on those who have chosen to stand with Satan against Israel. The judgement of how individuals have responded to the gospel does not happen until the Great White Throne judgment at the end of the Kingdom Age. When Jesus returns, He's coming to either bless or punish the nations for how they have treated the Jewish people.

*Draw near, **O nations**, to hear; and listen, **O peoples!** Let **the earth** and all it contains hear, and **the world** and all that springs from it. For **the LORD'S indignation is against all the nations, and {His} wrath against all their armies;** He has utterly destroyed them, He has given them over to slaughter. So their slain will be thrown out, and their corpses will give off their stench, and the mountains will be drenched with their blood. And all the host of heaven will wear away, and the sky will be rolled up like a scroll; all their hosts will also wither away as a leaf withers from the vine, or as {one} withers from the fig tree.*

For My sword is satiated in heaven, behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, and upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction.** The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is sated with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Edom. Wild oxen shall also fall with them, and young bulls with strong ones; thus their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust become greasy with fat. For the LORD has **a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause [controversy] of Zion.

Isaiah 34:1-8 NAS

The language in this passage is frightening. Isaiah isn't talking about God simply sending a human army to destroy a nations or group of nations. He's talking about God *Himself* going forth into battle against the whole world

because the whole world has turned against Israel and is seeking its destruction. God is going to pour out His *unrestrained* wrath—cruel wrath without mercy—on those who have chosen to stand against Israel. The day of God’s vengeance is not going to be a picnic! Multitudes of Jew-hating people will be slaughtered and their corpses will give off a horrible smell. God is going to settle the controversy of Zion once and for all. It’s the hatred of Israel and the Jewish people that He will be avenging.

Notice that “Edom” (modern day Jordan) is mentioned twice in this passage. God seems to be particularly angry at Edom. The term could be literal, which would point to the present day State of Jordan; or it could be symbolic, meaning all those who *gloat* over the misfortune of Israel (and even add to that misfortune) when God uses Israel’s enemies to judge it. God’s attitude towards those who gloat or take advantage of Israel’s distress is made clear in the book of Obadiah:

*The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD **concerning Edom**; We have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle. Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised. The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.*

If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? if the grapegatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes? How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up! All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him. Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau? And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever.** In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even **thou wast as one of them.

But thou shouldest not have looked on the day [watched with glee] of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldest thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldest thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress. Thou shouldest not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldest not have looked [with joy] on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity; Neither shouldest thou have

stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldest thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.

*For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: **as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee**: thy reward shall return upon thine own head. For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.*

Obadiah 1:1-16

Today, those who make excuses for Palestinians who blow up busses full of Jewish school children are doing the same thing Edom did—and they're going to experience the same kind of wrath. When people make excuses for such atrocities or condone them in any degree, they become just as guilty of those crimes as the Palestinian who commit them. Just as the person who looks on a woman with an adulterous heart has actually committed adultery in the eyes of God, so the person who defends or excuses the terrorists deeds of Palestinians is guilty of performing those very deeds in the eyes of God.

Many who claim to be “Christian” continually make excuses for Palestinian terrorism. Not only do they make excuses for this kind of wickedness, they actually have the audacity to blame Israel for it! According to these Jew-haters, the only reason the poor Palestinians blow themselves up in Israeli hotels, in restaurants, in night clubs, on school buses, and in every form of public transportation, is because it's the only way they can fight the brutal Israeli “occupation”. These fools are running headlong to destruction, not realizing that excusing or condoning Palestinian terrorism makes you a *partaker* of it.

On the other hand, the term “Edom” in Isaiah's prophesy could be literal, meaning the present day nation of Jordan. In the end, Jordan will turn on Israel even though Israel has done a great deal for that country. As a matter of fact, of all the countries that have made peace with Israel, Jordan has benefitted *the most*. It could be that God is particularly angry with Jordan for turning on Israel after being so blessed by it. But whether literal or symbolic, the words of Isaiah are clear. Those who actively seek the destruction of Israel and those who defend or make excuse for them, will face the *cruel wrath* of God—Christian or Pagan, it makes no difference.

*Egypt will become a waste, and Edom will become a desolate wilderness, **because of the violence done to the sons of Judah, in whose land they have shed innocent blood**. But Judah will be inhabited forever, and Jerusalem for all generations. And **I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged**, for the LORD dwells in Zion.*

Joel 3:19-21 NAS

This is a very interesting passage because it says Egypt and Edom (Jordan) have shed innocent blood *in the land of Judah*. The land of Judah is Judea and Samaria. The world calls it the “West Bank”. This is the territory the nations want Israel to hand over to the Palestinians for their new terrorist state. Innocent Jewish blood has been spilled on this land by terrorists groups who were *created* in Egypt and Jordan. God has not yet *avenged* the blood of those innocent Israelis but soon He will and when He does, the blood of *multitudes* of Egyptians and Jordanians will flow and their countries will be left desolate.

Jew-haters are having their day now. They twist the truth and propagate outright lies about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict with impunity. Every day there is a new twist, a new lie, a new one-sided angle, a new way to demonize and de-legitimize the very existence of Israel. A flood of pro-Arab, Jew-hating propaganda is let loose every day. There are so many lies and distortions being created on a daily basis it's hard to keep up with them, let alone expose and refute them all. Tonight I want to look at just a couple of them.

Anti-Zionism Is Not anti-Semitism

Today's Jew-haters try to legitimize their obsessive hatred of Israel by claiming that they are not against the existence of a Jewish State, but merely against certain *governmental policies* of the Jewish State. This causes great confusion. Indeed, it's *meant* to cause confusion because it's easy to promote Jew-hatred under the guise of anti-Zionism, especially when you have succeeded in convincing the masses that anti-Zionism has nothing to do with anti-Semitism. But the vast majority of those who claim to simply be "anti-Zionists" are in fact Jew-haters who would be *thrilled* to see the Jewish State disappear and be replaced with a terrorist "Palestinian" state. If anti-Zionism was simply the opposition of certain policies by the Israeli government it could not rightly be called anti-Semitism. Unfortunately, anti-Zionists always seem to protest against very *specific* Israeli policies that just happen to affect its security and/or existence (either directly or indirectly). When you look very closely at the demands of anti-Zionists you'll find that some of them, if implemented, would spell the *end* of Israel.

For instance, one of the *fundamental* demands of the Palestinians, which they never have and never will alter or abandon, is the "Right of Return". The Right of Return is the demand that Israel allow the Arab refugees from 1948 (650,000) and all their descendants (over 7 million) to return to their original homes *inside* Israel. Well, anyone with half a brain knows what would happen if seven million Palestinians were to become *citizens* of the Jewish State. The Jewish majority would become a *minority* overnight and the Palestinians could peacefully and legally vote it out of existence, replacing it with a Palestinian state and the Jews living in the land would be at the mercy of their new Palestinian leaders.

Considering that fact that last year a poll was taken among Palestinians and over 70% of them admitted that they would like to see the Israelis driven into the sea, anyone who has any sense or fairness will understand why becoming a *minority* in a Palestinian controlled state (formally called Israel) does not appeal to the average Israeli. This is why every Israeli government since 1948 has refused to even consider the such a move. They have long recognized the Right of Return as political war tactic. It's simply a *euphemism* for the destruction of Israel as a sovereign Jewish State. Yet, this is exactly what the nations are demanding of Israel. This is what they call "justice" for the Palestinians.

Not too long ago, at a symposium at UCLA, four anti-Zionists were invited to analyze the human rights conditions of the Palestinians in Gaza. This format was used to attack the legitimacy of Zionism and its vision of a two-state solution for Israel and the Palestinians. The speakers criminalized Israel's existence, distorted its motives and maligned its character, its birth, even its conception. At one point, the excited audience chanted: "*Zionism is Nazism*". Local Jewish leaders condemned this hate-fest as a dangerous invitation to anti-Semitic hysteria but the organizers simply said that anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism.

When anti-Zionism *requires* the end of Israel as a sovereign *Jewish* State to bring "justice" to the Palestinians, then yes, it is certainly anti-Semitism and those who propagate it are Jew-haters. When anti-Zionism *requires*

Jews to live under the control of people who have openly vowed to butcher them as soon as they are powerful enough to do so, then yes, it's definitely anti-Semitism and those who propagate are Jew-haters. Quite frankly, I have yet to find an "anti-Zionist" group or individual who *doesn't* demand the same kind of "justice" for the Palestinians that the nations do—even though that justice will result in the *end* of the Jewish State and the *murder* of millions of Israelis. Some justice!

The Palestinian Refugee Problem

People who have been duped by the *Palestinian version* of the refugee situation are either willingly ignorant, intentionally anti-Semitic, or just too lazy to take the time and effort to search the truth out for themselves. You would think that with *millions* of Israeli lives at stake, it would be important enough for the people of the nations to make sure they know the truth regarding the whole issue. But since most of the nations couldn't care less about the Jewish people and the problems they face, they're happy to accept the Palestinian narrative. Here is the Palestinian view of the refugee problem from a web site called Al Awada. [Link](#)

"Who are the Palestinian refugees?"

Palestinian refugees are the indigenous inhabitants of Palestine, the majority of whom were **dispossessed**, were **forced to run away**, or were **expelled** when the state of Israel was created in 1948. This dispossession and expulsion has continued since, with the second largest such event in Palestine taking place during the 1967 war, which Israel launched on its Arab neighbors and which resulted in the occupation of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. . . For the past 58 years, **Israel has continued to deny Palestinian refugees their right to return to their ancestral towns, villages and homes.**

How did the Palestinian refugee problem arise?

The Palestinian refugee problem arose from a **systematic policy of ethnic dispossession and elimination**, the results of which are apparent in the Palestinian refugee camps and in the Palestinian Shatat (exile). These policies continue to this day. . . Zionist policy sought to create an exclusive homeland for Jews in Palestine, a region that already had an indigenous population with a history stretching back thousands of years.

How did Israel expel Palestinians from their land?

Jewish terrorist groups such as Haganah, Irgun and Stern terrorized the Palestinian street, destroyed villages and slaughtered entire Palestinian families. . . These attacks were part of Plan Dalet and aimed to annihilate the Palestinian population. Approximately 50% of all Palestinian villages were destroyed in 1948 and many cities were cleared from their Palestinian population including Akka, Bir Al-Saba', Bisan, Lod, Al-Majdal, Nazareth, Haifa, Tabaria, Yaffa, and West-Jerusalem among others. . . Israeli forces **killed an estimated 13,000 Palestinians** and **forcibly evicted 737,166 Palestinians from their homes and land.** Five hundred and thirty one Palestinian villages were entirely depopulated and destroyed.

How many Palestinian refugees are there today?

Palestinians are the largest and longest suffering group of refugees in the world. One in three refugees world wide is Palestinian. There are about **7.2 million** Palestinian refugees **worldwide**. More than **4.3 million Palestinian refugees and their descendents displaced in 1948 are registered for humanitarian assistance with the United Nations.**"

If you've ever read articles and essays about the refugee problem by anti-Zionists, the above narrative will sound familiar to you because the anti-Zionists use the same narrative. But certain historical facts always seem to be absent from this narrative. One is that *most* of the Arabs who fled their towns and villages in 1948 were instructed to do so by their local leaders and the *Palestine Higher Arab Committee*.

According to the Palestinian narrative, in 1948, the Jews of Palestine hatched a plan (called "Plan Dalet") through which they would terrorize the Palestinian street, destroy entire villages, slaughter entire Palestinian families, and basically seek to "annihilate the Palestinian population". It was a "systematic policy of ethnic dispossession and elimination". The result of carrying out this plan was that many cities were cleared from their Palestinian population, including Akka, Bir Al-Saba', Bisan, Lod, Al-Majdal, Nazareth, Haifa, Tabaria, Yaffa, and West-Jerusalem among others. Israeli terrorists forces "killed an estimated 13,000 Palestinians and forcibly evicted 737,166 Palestinians from their homes and land".

Before going any further, I need to mention two things. First, the term "refugee" is usually reserved for people who are displaced (for whatever reason) from their *country*. This universal definition was conveniently changed in order to deal with the Arabs of 1948 because two thirds of them *never left* their country. They simply fled from one part of Palestine to another part of Palestine. The only *true* refugees are the Arabs who actually fled into Egypt or Jordan or Lebanon. Moreover, the displacement of these Arabs was not a "racist crime" or "ethnic cleansing" but the result of a national conflict and a full-fledged war which was launched by the Arabs.

Regarding Plan Dalet, it was the overall defense plan of the Haganah (which later became the Israeli Defense Forces) to counter the expected pan-Arab assault on the emergent Jewish state, and also to secure the land that had been allotted to them by the United Nations Partition Plan. The plan isn't secret. You can find it on the Web very easily. In fact, the IDF has a copy of the plan on its own web site.

When you visit Palestinian and pro-Palestinian sites which push this propaganda, you might notice that there very few quotes or references to primary sources to substantiate such wild claims. Everyone is just supposed to accept the Palestinian view without question. The reason you won't find many quotes or primary sources is because the vast majority of quotes and primary sources from 1948 thru 1956 paint a completely opposite picture. There are newspaper articles, books, court room testimonies and so forth from that era that show most of the Arabs fled because they were told to flee—not by the Israelis but by fellow *Arabs*.

Below is a list of quotes from that period, which show beyond a doubt that the owner of the Al Awada web site is a filthy liar. Our first quote comes from the current President of the Palestinian National Authority, Abu Mazen:

"The Arab armies entered Palestine to protect the Palestinians from the Zionist tyranny but, instead, they abandoned them, **forced them to emigrate and to leave their homeland**, imposed upon them a political and ideological blockade and **threw them into prisons similar**

to the ghettos in which the Jews used to live in Eastern Europe, as if we were condemned to change places with them; they moved out of their ghettos and we occupied similar ones. The Arab States succeeded in scattering the Palestinian people and in destroying their unity. They did not recognize them as a unified people until the States of the world did so, and this is regrettable".

Abu Mazen; March 1976;

"The first group of our fifth column consists of those who **abandon their houses and businesses and go to live elsewhere**. . .At the first sign of trouble they take to their heels to escape sharing the burden of struggle."

Ash Shalab
Jaffa newspaper; 1/30/48

"The Arab streets are curiously deserted and, ardently **following the poor example of the more moneyed class** [the money class left voluntarily], **there has been an exodus** from Jerusalem too, though not to the same extent as in Jaffa and Haifa."

London Times; 5/5/48

"**The refugees were confident that their absence would not last long**, and that they would return within a week or two. **Their leaders had promised them** that the Arab armies would crush the 'Zionist gangs' very quickly and that there was no need for panic or fear of a long exile."

Monsignor George Hakim; [Greek Catholic Bishop of Galilee]
Beirut newspaper Sada al Janub; 8/16/48

"Of the 62,000 Arabs who formerly lived in Haifa not more than 5,000 or 6,000 remained. Various factors influenced their decision to seek safety in flight. There is but little doubt that **the most potent of the factors were the announcements made over the air by the -Higher Arab Executive, urging the Arabs to quit....** It was clearly intimated that those Arabs who remained in Haifa and accepted Jewish protection would be regarded as renegades."

The London weekly Economist; 10/2/48

"It must not be forgotten that the Arab Higher Committee **encouraged the refugees' flight from their homes** in Jaffa, Haifa, and Jerusalem."

Near East Arabic Broadcasting Station; Cyprus; 4/3/49

"This wholesale exodus **was due partly to the belief of the Arabs**, encouraged by the boasting of an unrealistic Arab press, and the irresponsible utterances of some of the Arab leaders, that it could be only a matter of some weeks before the Jews were defeated by the armies of the Arab States and **the Palestinian Arabs enabled to re-enter and retake possession of their country**."

The Arabs [London, 1955]; p.183
Edward Atiyah [Secretary of the Arab League Office, London]

"The mass evacuation, prompted partly by fear, **partly by order of Arab leaders**, left the Arab quarter of Haifa a ghost city. . .By withdrawing Arab workers their leaders hoped to paralyze Haifa."

Time Magazine; p. 25; 5/3/48

"I do not want to impugn anybody but only to help the refugees. The fact that there are these refugees **is the direct consequence of the action of the Arab States in opposing Partition and the Jewish State**. The Arab States agreed upon this policy unanimously and they must share in the solution of the problem,

Emil Ghoury [Secretary of the Arab Higher Committee]
Daily Telegraph [Beirut newspaper]; 9/6/48

The Arab States **encouraged the Palestine Arabs to leave their homes temporarily** in order to be out of the way of the Arab invasion armies.

Falastin [Jordanian newspaper]; 2/19/49

We will smash the country with our guns and obliterate every place the Jews seek shelter in. The Arabs **should conduct their wives and children to safe areas until the fighting has died down**.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Said
Quoted in the book: Sir Am Nakbah (The Secret Behind the Disaster)
By: Nimr el Hawari; 1952

" Some of the Arab leaders and their ministers in Arab capitals. . . **declared that they welcomed the immigration of Palestinian Arabs into the Arab countries until they saved Palestine**. Many of the Palestinian Arabs **were misled by their declarations**. . . It was natural for those Palestinian Arabs who felt impelled to leave their country to take refuge in Arab lands. . . and to stay in such adjacent places in order to maintain contact with their country so that to return to it would be easy when, according to the promises of many of those responsible in the Arab countries (promises which were given wastefully), the time was ripe. Many were of the opinion that such an opportunity would come in the hours between sunset and sunrise.

Memorandum to the Arab League; Cairo 1952
Quoted in: The Refugee in the World;
Joseph B. Schechtman; 1963

"The Secretary General of the Arab League, Azzam Pasha, assured the Arab peoples that the occupation of Palestine and of Tel Aviv would be as simple as a military promenade. . . He pointed out that they were already on the frontiers and that all the millions the Jews had spent on land and economic development would be easy booty, for it would be a simple matter to throw Jews into the Mediterranean. . . **Brotherly advice was given to the Arabs of Palestine to leave their land, homes, and property and to stay temporarily in neighboring fraternal states, lest the guns of the invading Arab armies mow them down**.

Habib Issa [Secretary General of the Arab League]
Al Hoda [newspaper]; 6/8/51

"The **Arab governments told us**: Get out so that we can get in. So we got out, but they did not get in."

Ad Difaa [Jordanian Daily Newspaper]; 9/6/54

"The Arab civilians panicked and fled **ignominiously**. Villages were frequently abandoned **before** they were threatened by the progress of war."

General Glubb Pasha
London Daily Mail; 8/12/48

"The Arab exodus from other villages was **not** caused by the actual battle, but **by the exaggerated description spread by Arab leaders to incite them to fight the Jews**"

Yunes Ahmed Assad [Refugee from Deir Yassin]
Al Urdun; 4/9/53

"[The Arabs of Haifa] fled **in spite of the fact that the Jewish authorities guaranteed their safety and rights as citizens of Israel.**"

Rev. Karl Baehr
American Christian Palestine Committee
New York Herald Tribune; 6/30/49

". . .our city flourished and developed for the good of both Jewish and Arab residents. . .Do not **destroy your homes with your own hands**; do not bring tragedy upon yourselves by **unnecessary evacuation** and **self-imposed burdens**. By **moving out you will be overtaken by poverty and humiliation**. But in this city, yours and ours, Haifa, the gates are open for work, for life, and for peace, for you and your families."

The Haifa Workers' Council Bulletin; 4/28/48

". . .the Jewish hagana **asked** (using loudspeakers) **Arabs to remain at their homes** but the most of the Arab population **followed their leaders who asked them to leave** the country."

The Times Of London; 4/22/48

"The existence of these refugees is **a direct result of the Arab States' opposition to the partition plan and the reconstitution of the State of Israel**. The Arab states adopted this policy unanimously, and the responsibility of its results, therefore is theirs.... The flight of Arabs from the territory allotted by the UN for the Jewish state began immediately after the General Assembly decision at the end of November 1947. This wave of emigration, which lasted several weeks, comprised some thirty thousand people, chiefly well-to-do-families."

Emil Ghory [Secretary of the Arab High Council];
Al-Telegraph [Lebanese Paper]; 9/6/48

"Since 1948 we have been demanding the return of the refugees to their homes. **But we ourselves are the ones who encouraged them to leave**. Only a few months separated our call to them to leave and our appeal to the United Nations to resolve on their return."

Haled al Azm [Syrian Prime Minister in 1948-49]

Quoted in the book: The Memoirs of Haled al Azm;
Beirut, 1973); Part 1; pp. 386-387

"One morning in April 1948, Dr. Jamal woke us to say that the **Arab Higher Committee (AHC)**, led by the Husseinis, had **warned Arab residents of Talbieh to leave immediately**. The understanding was that the residents would be able to return as conquerors as soon as the Arab forces had thrown the Jews out. Dr. Jamal made the point repeatedly that **he was leaving because of the AHC's threats, not because of the Jews**, and that he and his frail wife **had no alternative** but to go.

Marlin Moshe Levine
Personal friend of Dr. Jamal who lived in the same building
<http://zionsake.tripod.com/homes-jlm.htm>

Blaming Israel for the Palestinian refugee problem is not only historically wrong, it is morally wicked. If the Arab nations would have accepted the U.N. Partition Plan there would have been no war and no refugee problem. The Palestinians would have been living in their own state for the last 60 years.

Of course, today the Arabs deny *all* responsibility for the refugee problem. They say everything was Israel's fault. Israel started the war; Israel drove the Arabs out of Palestine by force; etc. For 60 years now, Arab leaders have been arrogantly proclaiming that Israel is *responsible* for the suffering of the Palestinian people, and as such, it should provide "justice" by resolving the problem; while all the time it's *the Arabs* who are not only responsible for the refugee problem, but also for making sure it has remained unsolved all these years!

There are 22 Arab states which constitute a vast territory, and which have at their disposal a huge supply of resources. The "refugees" are fellow Arabs who speak the same language, have the same religion, and are part of the same culture. Let the Arabs either resettle them and integrate them into their society, or if they are so concerned that they have a national homeland, let them carve a new Palestinian state out of one of *their own* territories!

I feel no empathy or pity for the Palestinians, regardless of how much they have suffered because it *wasn't the Jews* who caused their suffering. It was *their own* fanatical Jew-hatred that caused them to reject the original Partition Plan. It was *their own* stubbornness that caused them to start a war they eventually lost. It was *their own* racial hatred that caused them to flee the country, en mass.

Don't expect me to cry for the poor suffering Palestinians. It wasn't the Jews who perpetuated their suffering these past 60 years. It was the hatred and stubbornness of their *fellow Arabs* that caused it by giving them no other option but to reconquer the land God has returned to the Jews. It's the insatiable hatred of the Arab states for Israel, and their adamant refusal to recognize her or make peace with her that has caused—and continues to cause—the suffering of the Palestinian people. If the Palestinians want delivered from their suffering, let them turn their missiles and guns the ones who are *actually responsible* for their suffering!

As long as they break every written agreement they sign with Israel, as long as they boast they will destroy Israel the first opportunity they get, as long as they keep teaching their children to murder Jews and to become martyrs in the struggle to liberate Palestine, as long as their TV programs and Radio programs and school text books are filled with anti-Semitic and anti-Israel incitement and propaganda, as long as their religious leaders continue to use mosques to preach hatred and Jihad and terrorism, as long as they shoot innocent civilians and blow up busses full of children...*they deserve to suffer*...not only in this life but in the next one as well!

As I've said many times in this chat room, the issue of Israel's existence has little to do with whether or not the Jewish people are righteous and moral, or whether or not they deserve to have their own state. The issue of Israel's existence has to do with the righteousness of *God's* character. What is at stake here is *God's honor*. Regardless of Israel's faults, the very existence of a Jewish state glorifies God because it reveals His faithfulness to His promises because the Lord said He would not utterly forsake them.