



THE TRENTON BULLETIN

Modern Day Israel (Kent Heaton)

The nation of Israel continues to captivate world news as it has done since its creation in 1948. In the past seventy-six years, the nation of Israel has faced conflict after conflict (Suez conflict of 1956; Six-Day 1967; Yom Kippur war 1973; invasion of Lebanon 1982). Israel and Hamas have a history of conflict going back to 2008. Iran recently attacked Israel with missiles.

When Israel comes to the top of the news, evangelical pundits fill the airwaves and pulpits with the rhetoric of "Israel, God's chosen nation." Many political leaders have bought into the teaching, believing they must keep Israel happy for a future that will never happen.

The doctrine of premillennialism believes Jesus came to earth to set up an earthly kingdom but had to postpone His plans because the Jews rejected and killed Him. The church was set up as a stopgap until the Lord returned. Nothing is further from the truth.

Moses wrote about the history of Israel in Deuteronomy 28. He writes the first five books of the Old Testament when Israel has finished forty years of wilderness wanderings. He declares that Israel will have a king one day, they will be taken captive by a foreign nation (Assyria and Babylon), and they will become a hiss and a byword and scattered throughout the world.

Jeremiah prophesies that Israel will be scattered among the nations, but always a people, but never a nation again. The land promised to Abraham was fulfilled in the days of Solomon. What Moses wrote and the prophets declared became the history of Israel.

The modern state of Israel is not the Biblical nation found in the Bible. The Biblical nation of Israel

was established under the Law of Moses and had kings, a central place of worship with a priesthood where animals were sacrificed daily.

The modern state of Israel is a parliamentary democracy with a Cabinet of Ministers, legislative power by the Knesset, and law interpretation overseen by a judicial selection committee. They have no king but a Prime Minister.

No Jew can tell which tribe they belong to, meaning there can never be a priesthood, and without a priesthood – no temple and no worship under the Law. Israel ceased being the special people of God 2,000 years ago when they killed Jesus.

One of the core teachings of the New Testament is there is no difference between Jew and Gentile. Only in Jesus Christ can salvation be found. The only nation of God is the church of the New Testament, founded on the rock of Jesus Christ.

Modern Israel is a political nation only. The Law of Moses was taken away at the resurrection of Jesus. Only in Christ can a Jew find hope of eternal life (true for all men). God loves the Jews and expects His people to show that love to them in every way. Hating the Jews is sinful. For God so loved the WORLD – Jew and Gentile.



A Place To Pray or Play? (Shawn Bain)

What is your perception of the church? What is the Bible's perception of the church? Which of those two perceptions do you believe is the right one to follow? We need to strongly favor what God's word says the church is to receive the right and honorable view of the church. It is not what I think or feel a church should be. It is totally in God's mind what the church should be.

With the above firmly planted in your heart, find in the Bible where the church God established engaged in an auction, a yard sale, a youth mission

tour, a choir, held secular classes, a fish fry, or sponsored a political candidate.

The church is an assembly of Christians who pray, sing, teach, give, and observe the Lord's supper in remembrance of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection (Acts 2:42-45; Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 2:12; 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; Acts 20:7). There was no assignment given to the church to develop activities for play, pleasure, or party.

Grant it, Christians did meet individually from "house to house" to break "bread at home" (Acts 2:46), but Christians in the New Testament understood the church to be spiritual in origin and function. The church is for "the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

If you have determined that the church needs to engage in social, political, academic, or financial programs, you have found the church to be something God never intended nor wanted His church to be (1 Timothy 3:15). Know the truth on this matter and be convicted to follow it. Do Bible things in Bible ways! (1 Peter 4:11)



What is the longest and yet the shortest thing in the world? The swiftest and yet the slowest, the most divisible, and the most extended. The least valued and the most regretted, without which nothing can be done. It devours everything, however small, and yet opens life and spirit to every object, however great. Answer: Time

H. C. Bohn said, "Time is a file that wears and makes no noise."

THEOPHILUS

Excessive Thinking



What Happened To Time?

- ✓ When as a child I laughed and wept, time crept.
- ✓ When as a youth I dreamed and talked, time walked.
- ✓ When I became a full-grown man, time ran.
- ✓ And later as I grew older, time flew.
- ✓ Soon I shall find while traveling on, time gone.

If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,000 that carried over no balance from day to day and allowed you to keep no cash in your account, and every evening canceled whatever part of the amount you failed to use during the day, what would you do? Draw out every cent every day, of course, and use it to your advantage! Well, you have such a bank, and its name is TIME! Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it rules off as lost whatever of this you failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balances, it allows no overdrafts. Each day it opens a new account with you. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against tomorrow.