

Notes: May 15 2021

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: A Response To Another Narrative

Mat 24:6 You will hear the noise of wars nearby and the news of wars far off; see to it that you don't become frightened. Such things must happen, but the end is yet to come.

Mat 24:7 For peoples will fight each other, nations will fight each other, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world;

Mat 24:8 all this is but the beginning of the 'birth-pains.'

Are your prayers focused when it comes to Israel, either now with the challenges they face or at any time before?

When I say focused I mean with precision and in alignment that is agreement with the Word of Adonai?

Today, I want to share with you what you should know and thus be aware of pertaining to the recent instigation by Hamas and Israel's response.

You will hear a great deal about narrative - a spoken or written account of connected events; a story, and the attempt to frame it in a certain way. Ultimately, you frame the narrative you control the story.

What happens when there are competing narratives, that is different versions of the same story?

One must first conclude which is the correct narrative, that is which is the accurate telling of the story. Facts matter and ultimately if there are two versions to the same story facts will support one version but can't

support both versions. We as a nation have lived in this “through the looking glass” state for over five years where those entrusted with framing the narrative and utilizing the facts have tended to manipulate the facts, thus creating an entirely different narrative.

We are warned as believers about a different Gospel...

2Co 11:1 I would like you to bear with me in a little foolishness—please do bear with me!

2Co 11:2 For I am jealous for you with God's kind of jealousy; since I promised to present you as a pure virgin in marriage to your one husband, the Messiah;

2Co 11:3 and I fear that somehow your minds may be seduced away from simple and pure devotion to the Messiah, just as Havah was deceived by the serpent and his craftiness.

2Co 11:4 For if someone comes and tells you about some other Yeshua than the one we told you about, or if you receive a spirit different from the one you received or accept some so-called "good news" different from the Good News you already accepted, you bear with him well enough!

A different narrative as it pertains to the Good News of Yeshua. We are warned to beware of false prophets and false teachers as a believer. Yet we must also beware of false narratives for which, though not directly acquainted with the Good News of Yeshua will impact us, the body of Messiah should we embrace such incorrect narratives.

Case in point, the narrative of Isra'el being the aggressor, the villain and the framing of innocent people dying.

The truth is, the terror group Hamas assimilates with the general population as cover. They house their artillery in schools, hospitals and communities as cover, tugging at the hearts of compassion, testing Israel, daring Israel to fire at civilians, thus creating the narrative they so desire, Isra'el, the instigator, Isra'el the villain who kills the innocent, for which the media and UN full embrace and promote.

I want to share with you an interview of Naftali Bennett, a member of the Knesset and former Defense minister by Becky Anderson of CNN, where she attempts, on many occasions to frame a desired narrative and thus tries to “trap” Bennett through “gotcha journalism” thus creating a sound bite of an Israeli Knesset member promoting a false narrative.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUASDZhUVuU>

I have provided a link to this interview, so long as it remains on YouTube...these days, you never know what might be removed and for whatever reason.

I hope you paid attention to his demeanor, He was calm and deliberative when responding. He knew what he was talking about and did not succumb to pressure and “strong arming” tactics when pressed.

This is a bit of self promotion here, because it is something I have been telling you for years and here you have a visual representation.

Naftali Bennett knows what he believes.

Naftali Bennett knows why he believes it.

Naftali Bennett was able to defend his position and might I add, rather effectively.

Having heard from Naftali Bennett, now I want to introduce you to an article recent written by Bari Weiss...

The specific reasons that such violence is unfolding right now, and in the ways that it is, are more complicated, so bear with me:

First: the Palestinians were supposed to have elections this month for the first time since 2006, and Hamas was expecting to do pretty well against its more moderate opponents, the Fatah party, which rules the West Bank. But those elections were canceled at the last minute by Palestinian President (and Fatah leader) Mahmoud Abbas. Abbas is still serving his original “four-year” term, which began in that 2006 election. Canceling elections angered not only Hamas, but Palestinians across the West Bank and Gaza.

Second: the Jerusalem District Court was preparing to rule on a property rights dispute in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem between a handful of Arab residents and Jewish Israelis who hold leases to those homes dating back to before 1948, when Jordanian forces captured most of Jerusalem, kicked out any Jewish residents, and occupied the territory until the 1967 Six-Day War. The District Court ruling was postponed as tensions rose, but Hamas and its allies seized on the possibility of evictions to stir up anger in the streets of Jerusalem.

Third: on Monday, when the court ruling was expected, Israelis marked Jerusalem Day, the annual celebration of the reunification of Jerusalem — one result of the Six-Day War. Tensions between Arabs and Israelis had been rising for weeks, and the city was braced for the worst. Arab worshippers had stockpiled the Al-Aqsa Mosque, which sits atop the Temple Mount above the Western Wall, with rocks. Religious nationalist Jews typically march through the Old City to mark the occasion, but at the absolute last minute, the march, which likely would have turned very bloody, was rerouted and then canceled.

Finally: the past year has brought unprecedented ties between Israeli Jews and Arabs in Israel and across the region, not least with the Abraham Accords. This has frustrated Palestinian leaders. The success of Israel’s new diplomatic relations with Gulf Arab states is an embarrassment for Palestinian politicians who have promoted resistance as the only way forward. As of last week, Israel was on the verge of having its first governing coalition that includes Arab political parties. Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and their funders in Turkey and Iran, want to stop all of this from happening. Why? Because if it works, it proves that there’s a more attractive model for Arab-Jewish relations than perpetual violence.

<https://bariweiss.substack.com/p/the-bad-optics-of-fighting-for-your>

With these underlying factors and that which appears as being an unresolved dispute, at least from the Palestinian and UN perspective and in combination with a new administration here in America, the timing of just such an attack were optimal. The converging of events set the stage for what started Monday this past week. The magnitude of which as I share this with you totals over 2000 rocket missiles launched from Gaza since Monday. This is anything but insignificant.

Bari Weiss continues...

As you may have gathered, this complicated truth about a tiny country surrounded by enemies making hard decisions about how to protect its citizens doesn’t sell. Hamas, its paymasters in Iran, and their allies in the Western press know this well, and are skilled in exploiting every piece of bad news about Israel’s actions that they can to promote The Narrative (™).

The Narrative (™) holds that all Hamas’s violence is the justified reaction to the original sin of Israel’s existence. That if Israel only withdrew to the 1967 borders, if only Israel abandoned settlements in the West Bank, if only Israel split Jerusalem in half, and so on and so forth, Hamas would cease launching rockets aimed at Israeli homes and schools.

The Narrative (™) insists that Israel is not just an oppressive force, but the last standing bastion of colonialism in the Middle East, white interlopers in a foreign land squatting on the rightful territory of brown people. Israelis are baby killers, they are racists, they are supremacists. And Zionists? What are we? We are the facilitators of all this evil.

Never mind the fact that most Israeli Jews are not of Eastern-European descent, but are from the Middle East and North Africa. (The history of Israel, despite what facile activists would have you believe, is not color-

coded.) Never mind the fact that Zionism flourished in defiance of imperial British — and, in an earlier era, Ottoman — rulers.

That which is ultimately identified as colonialism.

Never mind the fact that Palestinian militants have regularly partnered with large, powerful nation-states in the region in an attempt to cripple Israel. Never mind that the Jewish people have an indigenous history in the land dating back thousands of years, and that most Israeli citizens came back to the Holy Land in the last century because nowhere else would have them.

None of that matters to The Narrative (™) — a story about good and evil that has taken thousands of years to perfect in which the Jewish people, and now the Jewish State, plays the role of villain.

Nevertheless, The Narrative (™) rockets around the world, with influencers like Bella Hadid and Dua Lipa and Halsey, and progressive darlings like Ilhan Omar, Cori Bush, Marc Lamont Hill, Rashida Tlaib, and Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, speaking in unison.

<https://bariweiss.substack.com/p/the-bad-optics-of-fighting-for-your>

Seth Frantzman writes in the Jerusalem Post:

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the member of Congress said in the House of Representatives that the current conflict “is not about both sides. This is about an imbalance of power...The president stated that Israel has a right to self-defense...But do Palestinians have a right to survive?”

And the author response to her quote...That would indicate that Hamas rockets are “self-defense”?

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/narratives-pave-the-way-for-endless-war-against-israel-analysis-668220>

There is a great deal of conjecture, that is an opinion or conclusion formed on the basis of incomplete information. It runs rampant throughout our society. An opinion that is uninformed, unsubstantiated with the intent to undermine the actual narrative is a global pandemic in and of itself.

Bari Weiss includes this example in her article...

Even the “smart celebrities” are getting in on the action. Trevor Noah weighed in with this gem: “I just want to ask an honest question here. If you are in a fight where the other person cannot beat you, how much should you retaliate when they try to hurt you?”

For which she concludes...

Just so we have this straight: A country should accept a terrorist group launching deadly rockets at its civilian population because a comedian thinks that the terror group won't win? If there was no Iron Dome, and more Israelis were killed by Hamas, would it be okay with the Noted Military Strategist Trevor Noah for Israel to . . . try to stop the rocket attacks? How many dead Israelis are necessary for a response to be OK? Did anyone have the temerity to tell America that we shouldn't go after the Taliban or hunt Osama bin Laden after 9/11 because they had no realistic chance of destroying America?

But anyone who has glanced at Jewish history can tell you that lies can spread like a virus. That such lies can infect entire populations. And that when the minds of masses of people become contaminated, it does not end well for the Jewish people.

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/cnn-anchor-ex-israeli-defense-minister-accuses-israel-indiscriminate-airstrikes>

Lies inspire I believe moreso than the truth sometimes, especially when the lie aligns with those that have

embraced the lies.

Lies infect one's ideology

Thus here are the facts about Isra'el and the land.

The promise of the land...

Gen 12:1 Now Adonai said to Avram, "Get yourself out of your country, away from your kinsmen and away from your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you.

Gen 15:7 Then he said to him, "I am Adonai, who brought you out from Ur-Kasdim to give you this land as your possession."

Gen 17:7 "I am establishing my covenant between me and you, along with your descendants after you, generation after generation, as an everlasting covenant, to be God for you and for your descendants after you.

Gen 17:8 I will give you and your descendants after you the land in which you are now foreigners, all the land of Kena'an, as a permanent possession; and I will be their God."

The only deed to the land that exists...

Gen 23:19 Then Avraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Makhpelah, by Mamre, also known as Hebron, in the land of Kena'an.

Gen 23:20 The field and its cave had been purchased by Avraham from the sons of Het as a burial-site which would belong to him.

The gift of the land to the Jewish people...

Num 15:1 Adonai said to Moshe,

Num 15:2 "Tell the people of Isra'el, 'When you have come into the land where you are going to live, which I am giving to you,

More promises pertaining to the land...

Deu 7:1 "Adonai your God is going to bring you into the land you will enter in order to take possession of it, and he will expel many nations ahead of you—the Hitti, Girgashi, Emori, Kena'ani, P'rizi, Hivi and Y'vusi, seven nations bigger and stronger than you.

And is reiterated at least six other times...

- Vayikra 14:34; 23:10; 25:2
- B'midbar 15:18
- D'varim 12:1; 12:9

Psa 105:6 You descendants of Avraham his servant, you offspring of Ya'akov, his chosen ones,

Psa 105:7 he is Adonai our God! His rulings are everywhere on earth.

Psa 105:8 He remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded to a thousand generations,

Psa 105:9 the covenant he made with Avraham, the oath he swore to Yitz'chak,

Psa 105:10 and established as a law for Ya'akov, for Isra'el as an everlasting covenant:

Psa 105:11 "To you I will give the land of Kena'an as your allotted heritage."

This has not changed as we have witnessed the faithfulness of Adonai even when the Jewish people as a nation were anything but faithful.

Deu 30:1 "When the time arrives that all these things have come upon you, both the blessing and the curse which I have presented to you; and you are there among the nations to which Adonai your God has driven you; then, at last, you will start thinking about what has happened to you;

Deu 30:2 and you will return to Adonai your God and pay attention to what he has said, which will be exactly what I am ordering you to do today—you and your children, with all your heart and all your being.

Deu 30:3 At that point, Adonai your God will reverse your exile and show you mercy; he will return and gather you from all the peoples to which Adonai your God scattered you.

Deu 30:4 If one of yours was scattered to the far end of the sky, Adonai your God will gather you even from there; he will go there and get you.

Deu 30:5 Adonai your God will bring you back into the land your ancestors possessed, and you will possess it; he will make you prosper there, and you will become even more numerous than your ancestors.

As we are witnesses to this promise having been fulfilled. For centuries the maps would say Palestine, yet to day regardless of the narrative that is attempted to be promoted the map says Isra'el.

Thus the narrative to pay attention to and thus the only true narrative is the one by which Adonai has revealed,

Thus when you pray, you will know how to pray because you know the promises associated to the covenant that Adonai has established that is not revocable.

Rom 11:25 For, brothers, I want you to understand this truth which God formerly concealed but has now revealed, so that you won't imagine you know more than you actually do. It is that stoniness, to a degree, has come upon Isra'el, until the Gentile world enters in its fullness;

Rom 11:26 and that it is in this way that all Isra'el will be saved. As the Tanakh says, "Out of Tziyon will come the Redeemer; he will turn away ungodliness from Ya'akov

Rom 11:27 and this will be my covenant with them, . . . when I take away their sins."

Rom 11:28 With respect to the Good News they are hated for your sake. But with respect to being chosen they are loved for the Patriarchs' sake,

Rom 11:29 for God's free gifts and his calling are irrevocable.

Rom 11:30 Just as you yourselves were disobedient to God before but have received mercy now because of Isra'el's disobedience;

Rom 11:31 so also Isra'el has been disobedient now, so that by your showing them the same mercy that God has shown you, they too may now receive God's mercy.

Rom 11:32 For God has shut up all mankind together in disobedience, in order that he might show mercy to all.

Rom 11:33 O the depth of the riches and the wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments! How unsearchable are his ways!

Rom 11:34 For, 'Who has known the mind of Adonai? Who has been his counselor?'

Rom 11:35 Or, 'Who has given him anything and made him pay it back?'

Rom 11:36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

At the end of this sermon I have provided a link to an article by Jack Elbaum entitled *"The Three Biggest Anti-Israel Myths on Social Media Debunked."*

<https://thefederalist.com/2021/05/14/the-3-biggest-anti-israel-myths-on-social-media-debunked/>

As with the Gospel, and thus here with Isra'el, don't let anyone deceive you with a different narrative.