

Missio Dei Fellowship exists to glorify God by delighting in Him and making Him known through the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

War in Israel—A Biblical Perspective, Pt 1

Selected Passages

Keywords: Israel, Hamas, War, End Times, Eschatology

PowerPoint Presentation included: none

SermonAudio Blurb: In this series we explore the biblical theology behind the attack by Hamas upon Israel and answer the question of why it matters. Why is Israel so important in the flow of human events? How should we view Israel? Why do so many in the Church seem to dismiss the nation of Israel? Should we? All of this is driven by certain theological convictions of which most are unaware of. This is a rather technical series that seeks to explain and answer the whole issue of Israel and the Church.

I. Introduction.

- A. Sermon series on war was an introduction for this short series.
- B. Today we will be dealing with some foundational issues that affect how we think about the bible, God, the future and how we live.
- C. On October 7 at approximately 6:30 in the morning the attack by the governing powers of Palestine into Israel.
- D. What I desire to impart is an ability to understand the theology and thinking that is behind the many opinions that various Christians have about Israel, Palestine and the future of the nation of Israel.
- E. So today we are going to put on the hat of students and I will wear the hat of the instructor and we will think a bit about the nature of theology, theological systems and bible interpretation.

II. Theological Systems and Interpretation of The Bible.

- A. Theological systems are not the same as theology itself.
 - 1. They are the structure by which we develop theology.
 - 2. Key systems that you encounter would be:
 - a. Lutheranism which has a primary structure of Law and Gospel.

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- e. Along with these we have a broader theological position set out by many churches today which seeks to be as broad as possible on all things so as to try to attract as many people as possible. Even though they may belong to one of these other systems, they really don't even believe them to any degree.
 - f. These churches abound in our nation. They will never address theological positions to any precision. They want you to "love Jesus" and so they try to make the gospel something that is not premised upon God's holiness and wrath against ungodly people. They have laser shows and flying drummers with high-energy events. But at the end of the day, they offer nothing that endures.
- B. Missio Dei Fellowship leadership holds to a form of Dispensational Theology. And for those who think this is a form of heresy or some sort of aberrant theology, it is what this church has heard from the pulpit and classes for the last 27 years.
- C. The great challenge when talking theology is to show grace and awareness of the differences between the systems.
- D. With the advent of the internet, most people are a mix of all of these, plus a few more mixed in.
- E. All theological systems have a way in which they interpret the bible.
- 1. The fancy word for this is 'hermeneutics.'
 - 2. This is how doctrine/teachings come about, through reading the bible and interpreting it. And so way deep beneath every teaching is a hermeneutic that is driving it. And how you decide to interpret the bible will move you into one theological system or another given time.
 - 3. Covenant theology:
 - a. This has a hermeneutic that is controlled by theological covenants. Note, these are not found in the bible itself; rather they are developed theologically. But they are over-arching ideas that guide the reader of the bible through redemptive history.
 - b. But there is a second hermeneutic that comes into play as well and is even more important. It is called the Christological hermeneutic.
 - (1) All scripture is to be understood to be about Jesus Christ. He is at the center of scripture.
 - (2) Luke 24:44-45 is a key text for this view.

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2. You are dealing with family members, not enemies.
 3. There is little value in responding in a mocking, dismissive manner those “Covies” or those silly “Dispys.” That only shows that you do not grasp basic biblical doctrine on how you comport yourself.
- C. What ultimately matters is what does a person confess about Jesus.

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you always. May you rest in the power of the Holy Spirit and may you rejoice in the love of the Father as it flows to you in every moment and in every way. Amen.