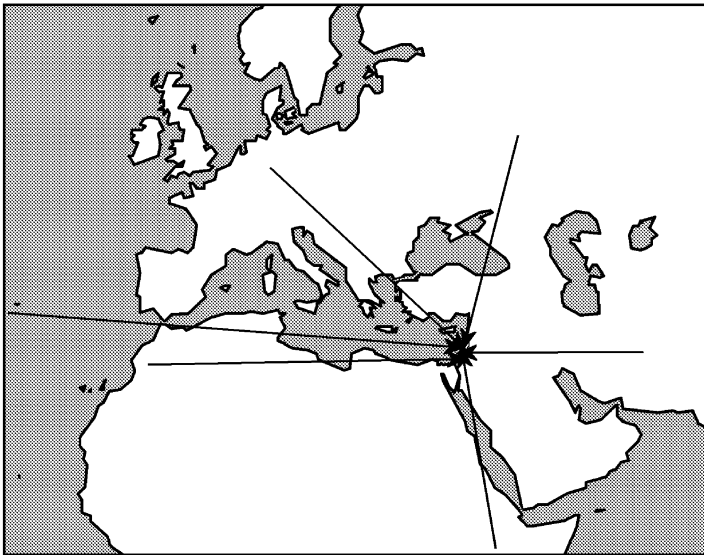


## Jewish Migration – the Return

Israel exists in spite of having a model of the world that may yet prove to be false. The Israeli world model starts with two elements: the need of Jews for a nation of their own and the belief that such a land was defined and promised to them by their god. Assuming that these elements are correct, the model then adds a third element, the belief that the world will accept their return to the promised land or can be compelled to accept that return by force of arms.

The Israeli model of the world necessarily assumes either permanent Arabic and Islamic military inferiority or their acceptance of Israel as a reality. The relative sizes of the Israeli and Arabic nations may raise doubt about the long-term military inferiority, and the intensity of Islamic sensitivity makes acceptance highly unlikely.



The promised land of Israel has had many rulers since the promise:

Time	Masters of the Land of Israel
1600	Egypt
1400	Jew
1185	Philistine
1000	Jew
732	Assyrian
587	Babylon – return of Jews
333	Macedonian – Greece
63 BCE	Roman - Ptolemy Egyptians
313 CE	Byzantine – Christian
636	Muslim – 1st empire
1099	Crusader – Christian
1187	Muslim (Saladin)
1291	Egypt Mamluk – Muslim
1516	Ottoman Muslim – 2nd empire
1831	Egypt – Muslim
1918	Britain – Christian
1948	Jew

### Israel among the Muslims

With so many dusty feet trampling the land one might



doubt the reliability of God's promise. The promise certainly included Judea and Samaria— now known as the “West Bank.” At the signing of the Camp David accord between Egypt and Israel, the Jewish right to that land was asserted by Menachem Begin. Since then the Israelis have built settlements scattered throughout that land. There are now 270,000 Israeli settlers in the West Bank.

Of the Muslims, only those in Israel enjoy the advantages of a modern democracy. Those Muslims have, however, held mass protests against perceived injustices within Israel.

5,400,000	Jews in Israel
1,200,000	Muslims in Israel
270,000	Jews in Westbank
5,000,000	Palestinian Muslims
300,000,000	Muslims in Middle East

True Model or False Model?

Israel can be established and maintained in the short run in at least a portion of the Promised Land.

Israel can be maintained forever in the face of Muslim opposition.

Israel can be eradicated, as many Muslims believe.

The land promised to the Jews, to Abraham, may have extended from the Nile to the Euphrates:

Torah: Genesis 15:18:

“On that day, God made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I have given this land, from the Egyptian River as far as the great river, the Euphrates.' ”

The Koran confirms that such a promise was made:  
Koran; Sura5:20

“Bear in mind the words of Moses to his people. He said: ‘Remember, my people, the favour which God has bestowed upon you. He has raised up prophets among you, made you kings, and given you that which He has given to no other nation. Enter, my people, the holy land which God has assigned for you. Do not turn back, and thus lose all.’ ”

There are now Christian evangelical priests who teach the support of Israel. In the words of such a Christian ministry:

“Everything Christians do should be based upon the Biblical text. Here are seven solid Bible reasons why Christians should support Israel.”

However, the belief in such ministries is that, following the rapture, the Jews will be condemned. In their religion, supporting Israel hastens that day. Rationality and Christianity have no role in such a religion. Perhaps miracles do.

In the words of modern Israel’s David Ben-Gurion:  
*“A realist in the Middle East is someone who believes in miracles.”*

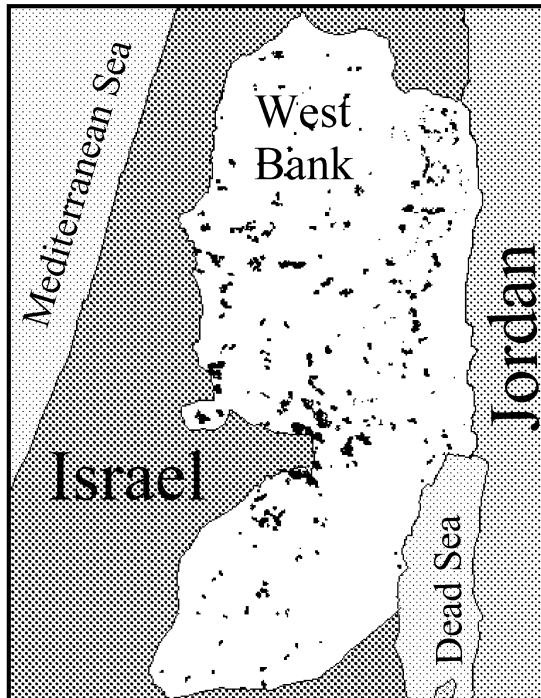
## Israeli Settlements in the West Bank

### Some Israelis Protest Occupation

Some members of the Israeli Defense Force have asserted their loyalty to Israel but an unwillingness to support the occupation of the West Bank

Israeli pilots, ranking from captains to a brigadier general, wrote a letter with these statements:

“We, veteran and active pilots alike, who served and still serve the state of Israel for long weeks every year, are opposed to carrying out attack orders that are illegal and immoral of the type the state of Israel has been conducting in the territories.



“We, who were raised to love the state of Israel and contribute to the Zionist enterprise, refuse to take part in Air Force attacks on civilian population centers. We, for whom the Israel Defense Forces and the Air Force are an inalienable part of ourselves, refuse to continue to harm innocent civilians.

“These actions are illegal and immoral, and are a direct result of the ongoing occupation which is corrupting all of Israeli society. Perpetuation of the occupation is fatally harming the security of the state of Israel and its moral strength.”

### **Some Israelis Protest for Settlements**

There are Israeli rabbis, former generals and public figures who call on soldiers to refuse orders to dismantle Israeli settlements and remove their residents

In June 2004 a law was proposed that says only Israeli police officers could engage in the removal of Jewish settlements, and soldiers could not. In 2005 there was published a letter with 10,000 signatures of soldiers who signed a petition saying that they would refuse to uproot and remove Jewish settlements. Many of the settlers are determined never to be removed from the land their God promised them. Removing them would be tantamount to a civil war in Israel.

True Model or False Model?

The settlements on promised land can remain.

Or: The settlements can be removed.

America has played a role in this Middle East, primarily in support of the democracy of Israel which may have its own civil war if settlements are to be removed. Peace in the Middle East does indeed require a miracle.