Written by Chris Perver Monday, 26 November 2007 09:43

As the Israelis and Palestinians squabble over the details of a joint-statement that is hoped will pave the way for the establishment of a Palestinian state, it seems the international community is already dividing the city of Jerusalem in all but name. Jerusalem is the only city on earth which has no foreign embassies, despite having been the capital of Israel for nearly 60 years. On June 5th 1967, half a dozen Arab nations moved against Israel in an open act of war. Their goal was the complete destruction of the Jewish state. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nass er

had boldly proclaimed on May 30th,

"The armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon are poised on the borders of Israel...to face the challenge, while standing behind us are the armies of Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Sudan and the whole Arab nation. This act will astound the world. Today they will know that the Arabs are arranged for battle, the critical hour has arrived. We have reached the stage of serious action and not declarations"

. Within a few hours the entire Egyptian and Jordanian airforce was wiped out, and within days the Syrian army was defeated and Israel gained much territory as a result. For the first time in 1900 years, Israel had total control of its historic capital Jerusalem, and the Temple Mount. These events may have been the fulfilment of Joel 3:1, in which the Lord prophesied that He would bring again the captivity of Jerusalem and Judea (West Bank).

Joel 3:1-2

For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and [for] my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Since the liberation of East Jerusalem in 1967, the international community has tried in vain to re-divide the city where God has chosen to place His name. British diplomats sought to undermine Jewish sovereignty over the eastern half of the city. The European Union has supported Palestinian

institutions

operating in Jerusalem.

Birth certificates

issued by the American administration for individuals born in Jerusalem have no country of origin listed. And now according to this article from

WorldNetDaily

, the US government is listing Jerusalem as a completely separate entity from the state of Israel in the

State Department telephone directory

. All this despite no nation of Palestine ever having existed, and despite Jerusalem never having been the capital of any Arab state. The city of Jerusalem is mentioned by name over

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700 times in the Scriptures, while not one mention of "Al-Quds" is made in the Qur'an. So why are the nations of the world demanding that Israel cede land for a people with no former national identity, a majority of whom have no historical claim to the land?

The Bible states that the city will one day be re-divided. According to Zechariah 14:2 and Revelation 11:2, the eastern half of Jerusalem will once again go into captivity, during the last three and a half years of Daniel's 70th week. Although the nations of the world may disregard Jerusalem - the city of the Great King, the Lord Himself will return to defend His people and to judge the nations that have divided His land. The United States may not care for the inhabitants of Jerusalem nor regard them as belonging to any nationality, but it is not for man to decide the status of the city of God.

Psalm 87:1-6

His foundation [is] in the holy mountains. The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah. I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this [man] was born there. And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her. The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, [that] this [man] was born there. Selah.

Praise God that the events we see happening around us today show that the return of the Lord Jesus Christ is nigh at hand. As the Lord said, let us watch and be ready for His coming. Then shall every man have praise of God (1st Corinthians 4:5).

Matthew 24:44

Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh

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