

JERUSALEM | CITY OF GOLD

SESSION 1

WHY PRESIDENT TRUMP DID THE RIGHT THING

- On December 6, 2017, President Donald Trump gave a speech in which he gave official recognition by the USA of Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish nation.
- His speech included the intent to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.
- This sparked outrage by Muslims and Leftists.

OUTRAGE BY MUSLIMS

- Palestinian Muslims declared three “Days of Rage,” which chiefly means closing shop and going on strike.
- There have been isolated skirmishes in Jerusalem and Bethlehem.
- There has never been a Palestinian / Arab / Muslim capital in Jerusalem. Prior to 1967, the area was ruled from Amman, Jordan.

OUTRAGE BY LEFTISTS

- Evangelical and Protestant leftists are enamored with “justice” issues. This is the filter through which all decisions are made.
- Because of the “justice” mindset, the evangelical left insists that the USA has to be a “fair broker” to lead to a peace settlement. And “fair broker” means adhering to a status quo that is decidedly anti-Israel and unmatched in its failure to bring peace or prosperity to the region, especially to Arab portions of the region.

WHAT THE MOVE ACCOMPLISHES

- It settles the matter on the American position on Jerusalem. This is important for an American role in any peace talks.
- It creates a position of forward movement for peace talks, stating unequivocally that Jerusalem is and always will be the capital of the modern State of Israel.
- It honors historic and current reality.
- It brings integrity to the USA’s diplomatic relations. If the USA (or any nation) does not believe that Israel has a right to Jerusalem as their capital, then the embassy should be immediately shut down altogether and diplomatic relations withdrawn.
- It displays enough strength that Palestinians and Muslims worldwide have only given a murmur of protest, knowing that their gravy train is over...at least under this President.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM TO THE DAYS OF JESUS CHRIST

- Melchizedek was “King of Salem.”
- The King of Jerusalem allied with four other kings, and this five-king coalition went up against the Gibeonites for making an alliance with Joshua. Joshua fought on behalf of the Gibeonites and defeated the five Kings. This is the battle in which the sun stood still.

- Joshua was unable to eliminate the Jebusites, inhabitants of Jerusalem, and from the time of the conquest onward Jebusites lived in the city of Jerusalem surrounded by (and mostly friendly with) the neighboring Jewish tribes.
- David brought the head of Goliath to Jerusalem during the days of King Saul.
- King Saul did not have a traditional palace or seat of government.
- After the death of Saul, David reigned at Hebron for 7 years, then 33 years at Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem was chosen as David's capital because it was not occupied by any of the tribes of Israel.
- Jerusalem was overtaken by David's mighty men by entering into the city through the Canaanite era water system.

JERUSALEM SINCE THE DAYS OF JESUS CHRIST

- 33 AD – 1917
 - At the time of Jesus' death, Jerusalem was the spiritual capital of the Jewish people, and was under the control of the Romans. Since 6AD the Romans governed Judea using a Prefect. Pontius Pilate was Prefect from 26-36AD.
 - The Roman rule of Judea and Galilee lasted until 625 AD (from approx. 325 the Roman empire was "Christian.")
 - From 625 to 1517 the region was ruled alternatively by several Muslim rulers, Egyptian rule, and Crusader rule. During this time, Jerusalem was never a capital city, but always ruled from afar.
 - From 1517-1917 the region was ruled by the Ottoman Turks, from Istanbul.
 - General Allenby of Great Brittan defeated the Turks and entered Jerusalem on foot, December 11, 1917.
- 1917 – Present
 - From 1917 to 1948 the area was the British Mandate of Palestine, ruled by British judges from the City Hall of Jerusalem.
 - In 1948, Great Britain withdrew and the modern State of Israel was declared in Tel Aviv on May 14, 1948, with the capital of the new government in Jerusalem.
 - In 1948 the State of Israel went according to the UN Partition plan, which was rejected by the Arabs. The Jordanian government controlled the Arab portion of the partition plan, including the Temple Mount area of East Jerusalem.
 - On June 5, 1967, in response to Egypt's closing of the Straits of Tiran (entrance into the Gulf of Aqaba and thus Israel's Red Sea Port), Israel attacked Egypt and decimated its air force in less than three hours. The Jordanians then attacked from the west, and were defeated. After the end of the six-days, the Arab portions of the partition plan were under Israel's control, including the whole of Jerusalem.
 - After 1967 *East Jerusalem* (the old city) and *West Jerusalem* (the new city) were unified.
 - The P.L.O. was started in 1964 and since 1967 has been seen as the sole representative of the Arab portion of the partition plan.
 - In the 1993 Oslo Accords, the PLO (now called Palestinian Authority) recognized Israel's right to exist, and moved its headquarters to Ramallah, a historically Christian city from the time of the Crusades until modern days. Christians have now almost entirely evacuated the area.

JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF THE JEWISH NATION

- From David's time, Jerusalem has been the spiritual capital of the Jewish people.
- From 586BC to 165 BC, Jerusalem was ruled by foreign nations from foreign locations.
- From 164 to 64BC Jerusalem was ruled by Jewish Maccabean Kings.
- From 64BC to 1948, Jerusalem was ruled by foreign nations from foreign location.
- From 1948 to the present, Jerusalem has been the capital of the modern State of Israel.

JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF OTHER NATIONS

Since the conquest by David, Jerusalem has never been the capital of any other nation or people.

THE POLITICAL CORRECTNESS OF MODERN NATIONS

- The nations of the world have refused to recognize Israel as the capital of Israel, placing their embassies in Tel Aviv.
- Israel is the only nation in the world where the US Embassy is not in the nation's chosen capital.
- The "politically correct" position in world affairs is to refuse to recognize the right of Israel to choose Jerusalem as their capital.
 - A citizen of the USA born in Jerusalem does not have a country of birth listed on their passport, simply, "Jerusalem."
- The politically correct position is to appease the Arab population.
 - A population which has never recognized Jerusalem as their own capital.
 - A population which has repeatedly been given opportunity for independent statehood but has refused every offer.
 - In 2008, Prime Minister Olmert offered a very generous statehood plan. The plan was rejected by Mahmoud Abbas
 - In 2000, the "Clinton Parameters" offered a generous statehood plan. The plan was rejected by Yasser Arafat.
 - In 1947, the United Nations Partition Plan offered a very generous Palestinian state. The plan was rejected by the Arab Higher Committee. Had the plan been accepted, there would be a 70 year old Palestinian state today.