

New Antisemitism

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Completely Redefined by Wikipedia, "Zionism" Now Demonizes Israel!

Posted by Olivier Melnick on September 24, 2024

When people speak of Zionism, it generally is a polarizing conversation between Zionists and anti-Zionists. Today more than ever, the validity of Zionism is a critical subject. I have covered the history of Zionism before ([here](#) and [here](#).) The Bible is the best place to start if we care to understand Zionism as defined by God's word in the Torah and the Prophets:

- **The land belongs to God first and foremost: Leviticus 25:23**
- **God made a covenant with Abraham promising a land, a seed and a blessing: Genesis 12:1-3**
- **The land has specific boundaries yet to be fulfilled: Genesis 15:18-21**
- **God's covenant was reconfirmed through Isaac, Jacob and his 12 sons: Genesis 26:2-4, 28:13, 50:24**
- **God cares about the land and will bless/discipline Israel for obedience/disobedience: Deuteronomy 11:8-17**
- **The land is promised based on God's character and not Israel's performance: Deuteronomy 7:7-9**
- **God told Israel to conquer the land: Deuteronomy 9:3**
- **God controls Israel's exact boundaries: Deuteronomy 2:3-5, 16:19**
- **The Babylonian captivity didn't annul the oath made by God: Leviticus 26:41**
- **Israel will never be destroyed because of God's promise of eternal protection: Jeremiah 31:35-37**
- **God promised Israel a New Covenant when He will remember their sins no more: Jeremiah 31:31-34**
- **Israel's glorious future includes a final restoration to the land: Ezekiel 39:25-29**
- **Israel's glorious future is secure because of God's character: Ezekiel 36:22-28**

In all fairness, Zionism can be defined beyond the religious and biblical boundaries because it also has political and cultural aspects to it. The terms “Zionism” and “Zionist” were coined in 1890 by Jewish activist Nathan Birnbaum (1864-1937), who also played an essential part in the first Zionist Congress held in 1897. The word Zion comes from the Hebrew tzion, a reference to Jerusalem and often, by extension, to the Land of Israel itself (first mentioned in II Samuel 5:7.)

Anti-Zionists describe Zionism as racism, colonization, and occupation. They demonize Israel in any way they can. They work hard at establishing a historical precedent for the existence of Palestinians before the Jewish people were in Israel. Fortunately for them, the vast majority of their audience is pretty much historically illiterate and unable—and possibly unwilling—to compare the current anti-Zionist narrative to the facts of history.

While not my first choice for academic or bullet-proof accurate data, Wikipedia has been helpful in the past for quick checks of basic information. There must be a valid reason why my seminary professors required ten book quotes for each Wikipedia quote used in a paper. This being said, Wikipedia is used by millions every day.

About twenty years ago, they compiled a definition of Zionism that, while not perfect, was acceptable and as unbiased as could be on that platform. [It stated](#), *“Zionism is a political movement among Jews holding that the Jewish people constitute a nation and are entitled to a national homeland...The word ‘Zionist’ derives from the word ‘Zion,’ being one of the names of Jerusalem, as mentioned in the Bible. The distinctive Jewish Zion has been a symbol of the Holy*

the Bible. To diaspora Jews, Zion has been a symbol of the Holy Land and of their return to it, as promised by God in Biblical prophecies."

It is a simplistic definition, but "a political movement toward a national homeland" is a good start. Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban defined Zionism as follows, "*Zionism is nothing more — but also nothing less — than the Jewish people's sense of origin and destination in the land linked eternally with its name.*"

Soon before his assassination in 1967, [Martin Luther King was at a dinner party in Cambridge](#) when a young man openly criticized Zionists. MLK quickly responded, "*Don't talk like that! When people criticize Zionists, they mean Jews. You're talking anti-Semitism!*"

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We could add a lot more definitions to help refine the understanding of what Zionism is and why it is not racism, even though the [UN passed a resolution in 1975](#) saying that it is racism and racial discrimination. It took them [16 years to have it repealed](#) in 1991. Coming back to [Wikipedia, but now on their 2024 page on Zionism](#), the definition has changed drastically:

Zionism is an ethno-cultural nationalist movement that emerged in Europe in the late 19th century and aimed for the establishment of a Jewish state through the colonization of a land outside Europe. With the rejection of alternate proposals for a Jewish state, it eventually focused on the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, a region corresponding to the Land of Israel in Judaism, and of central importance in Jewish history. Zionists wanted to create a Jewish state

importance in Jewish history. Zionists wanted to create a Jewish state in Palestine with as much land, as many Jews, and as few Palestinian Arabs as possible. Following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, Zionism became Israel's national or state ideology.

This adjustment was made quietly. The previous definition is no longer visible, at least, not clearly through Wikipedia, unless one spends hours researching their available edited history. Words such as *ethno-cultural nationalist, colonization, as few Palestinian Arabs as possible* are very dangerous. Later in the definition, [Wikipedia even questions original Jewish ethnicity, when they state, "the application of the Biblical concepts of Jews as the chosen people and the Promise Land" in Zionism, particularly to secular Jews, requires the belief that modern Jews are the primary descendants of biblical Jews and Israelites.](#)"

This gets pretty close to the antisemitic conspiracy theory about [Jews being the descendants of Eastern European Khazars](#).

This is not the first attempt from Wikipedia at altering definitions and statements to twist the truth. They recently found the [ADL unreliable on the subject of the Middle East](#). They also decided that the excellent and thoroughly researched site [Jewishvirtuallibrary.com was not reliable](#) on the same topics.

This incremental change in redefining pro-Zionist organizations of all sorts is extremely dangerous. The few people who are seeking the truth about Israel and Zionism will no longer find it on Wikipedia, which unfortunately remains a favorite of many for gathering information. This will also encourage antisemites around the world in their quest to eradicate any vestige of Israel's right to the biblical land

given to her by God Himself.

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Comments ...



jerry d. says:

September 26, 2024 at 10:46 pm





Amen, brother! "looking forward to God's promised redemption of a large portion of Israel at the end of the Great Tribulation. The Body of Christ, any Jew or Gentile alike, who accepts Jesus now, will witness this blessed event when we return with our messiah, Yeshua (Jesus). Israel needs to be in their land to fulfill God's promise and plan for them. It is God's plan, God's land, given to Israel. P.S. I enjoyed meeting and listening to you in Abbotsford!

[Reply](#)



Lucille Gaither says:

September 29, 2024 at 3:05 pm

As to point four, God promised land, seed, blessing, covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and his twelve sons through Abram's wife Sarah. Not through Hagar and Ishmael. To be fair Ishmael was
* to share this article ...    
cared for because he was Abram's son but the covenant and promises of an heir was through the wife Sarah not the handmaid

Hagar. Judah is one of the tribes of Israel and it is from this tribe that the Messiah came. Jesus Christ is the Messiah. The Son of God.

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