

Israel News Desk

With David Hoyle
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Last evening by a massive vote of 274 to 12 the House of Commons passed a back bench motion to recognise a Palestinian state albeit with an amendment that it depended on an agreed peace between Israel and the Palestinians. However, whilst this seems at face value to be a relatively meaningless gesture it will add to the propaganda emanating from the Palestinians and they will no doubt use it to that end.

Mr Cameron gave the Conservative MPs a free vote whilst Ed Milliband put a 3 line whip on the Labour MPs to vote for the motion or absent themselves. As a Jew albeit secular his stance has met with great hostility in Jewish circles and Israel.

Had Mr Cameron put a 3 line whip on the Conservatives the motion would have been mandatory on the government, as it is, it has no impact on the UK's diplomatic position. It will unquestionably be seen as a sign of shifting opinion in Europe coming as it does just 2 weeks after a similar vote by Sweden's centre left government. One wonders what the position will be if Labour wins next year's election as their stance is very pro-Palestinian.

Israel has played down the importance of the motion dismissing it as a symbolic act!

One thing is certain God is on the throne, working out His end time purposes and will have the last word!

It is interesting to speculate in the light of scripture but better by far to stick to the Word. Let's just watch as we wait for the Lord and see His purposes unfolding. As my old pastor used to say, "We have the map of the end time but fill in too much detail at our peril"!

George Galloway gave his reason for abstaining from voting at the House of Commons as, "It would have meant he had recognised Israel". Says it all!

Settlements Israel has announced the decision to build a large number of homes on the so called "West Bank" close to the Etzion bloc south of Bethlehem. The move comes shortly after the recent indefinite cease fire after weeks of conflict in Gaza. Israel is now accused of building obstacles to peace. David Cameron stated, "Settlements are illegal under international law and Israel should reverse its decision". A study of international law might produce a different verdict.

Germany A group of Israelis living in Berlin have been accused of "putting a knife through the heart of holocaust survivors by campaigning for Jews to leave Israel and join them in Germany". Many Israelis fed up with the high prices at home and the endless conflict with the Palestinians and hostile Arab states have moved to Berlin. The organisation "Olim L'Berlin" claim to have received 10,000 requests for help in moving and 5,000 mostly young Israelis have moved to Berlin in the last 5 years.

More than 100,000 Israelis hold German passports, many are relatives of German Jews expelled or murdered by the Nazis.

The number of holocaust survivors in Israel has shrunk to 200,000 and the younger generation have forgiven Germany in a way the older generation never could.

Gaza Truce Benjamin Netanyahu has come in for withering criticism for agreeing to an open ended cease fire in Gaza without a clear victory for Israel. The leader of Israel's Meretz party called the truce, "a strategic failure", and went on to talk of Mr. Netanyahu's failure to have a clear objective when going to war.

Uzi Landau, Israel's Minister of Tourism said, "We have made it look like Israel is willing to accept quiet at any price".

Charities In a brilliant article in the Daily Telegraph Tim Montgomerie makes the point that too many charities follow a blatant left wing agenda because they get cash from the government and not from private donors.

"Save the Children" condemns the blockade of Gaza but fails to note that this was to limit the importing of dangerous weapons. They also fail to note that Hamas uses schools and hospitals to launch its missiles. It does not mention that Hamas diverts money for humanitarian ends to building tunnels and other parts of its terrorist infrastructure. Save the Children calls for the immediate end to the blockade. "War on Want" and "Christian Aid" are no better.

Egypt controls its border with Gaza strictly and remarks that the Islamic State is remarkably similar to Hamas. Last week Egypt summarily executed many of its opponents.

The root centre of the Gaza tragedy is not the blockade, which Egypt also enforces, it is the arming and enriching of terrorists.

Golan Heights Israel recently shot down a drone over its border with Syria as it faced the growing prospect of being drawn into Syria's civil war.

The capture of Fijian and Philippine troops in the UN observer force has cast doubts on its future on the Golan.

Syria's rockets and mortars have increasingly been hitting the Israeli side of the Golan Heights.

Syria A secret base over run by Syrian rebels yielded more than a grandstand view of the Israeli border. Rebels found a military eavesdropping base bristling with equipment on the 3,280 foot peak at Tal al-Hera. The walls were covered with maps of Israel showing the layout of Israeli forces and signal stations along with annotations in Russian along with lists of Russian soldiers who had served at the base. There were also Syrian army emblems along with lists of Russian commanders up to the rank of colonel who had served there. Rebels said the Russian garrison and sensitive electronic equipment had been recently evacuated. The base was one of a network of observation posts down Syria's border with Israel.

American Senator John McCain said the capture revealed Russia's support for President Assad.

Melanie Phillips in a superb article in the Times of October 13th writes, "With all the terrifying issues facing Britain what urgent topic is parliament debating today? Kurdistan, Islamic State, Qatar, whether Turkey should be expelled from NATO for refusing to help fight Islamic State? No." *"Recognising the state of Palestine"*. She went on, *"The idea that Israel – Palestine lies at the core of global danger has been exploded (literally) in Syria, Libya, Somalia, Yemen, and other Muslim states"*. Passing the motion before the house today she said *"will be a national act of self harm and a moral stain on parliament and place Britain on the wrong side of the great battle for civilisation"*. Israel is our one ally in the Middle East and is essential to British intelligence and military security.

Turkey has not officially refused to allow American planes bombing the Islamic State in support of the Kurds to land there. This is a member of NATO! They stated they were not in favour of bombing as America was only seeking to preserve oil supplies.

Turkey then proceeded to bomb its own Kurdish towns killing hundreds.

Turkey mentioned specifically in Ezekiel 38 (Togarmah). End time events are playing out!

Boycotts Despite all the talk of boycotts trade with Israel is now at an all time high of 2.5 billion having risen by 38%. The current value of Israeli exports to the UK is 1.6 billion. The UK is Israel's largest export market after the USA.

Stephen Sizer has again spoken out against Israel, this time in Iran alongside anti-Semitic panellists with convictions for anti-Semitism. This conference was organised by New Horizons and looked at the dominance of the Zionist lobby over US and EU. His session was entitled *"The Israel lobby in England"*. His attendance was denounced by the Vice President of the Jewish Board of Deputies, Jonathan Arkush who said he was shocked at Sizer's presence at a conference of anti-Semites in a country which ranks as the most vicious persecutor of Christians and sworn to the destruction of Israel. It was he said, *"Irreconcilable with his position as a C of E minister."*

Why has the C of E not unfrocked this wolf in Sheep's clothing?

Everything points to the Lord's return as the Jewish Messiah so our departure as He comes for His Church is surely imminent.

"All these things must be the birth pangs". Matthew 24v8.