

## More Oil Found in Israel

**Commentary for October 15, 2015 — As Dr. Martin Predicted from the Bible**

I suppose several of you have heard about massive crude oil finds in the Golan Heights currently controlled by Israel. Israel gained control of the Golan Heights by right of conquest. This elevated area of land was long disputed between Israel and Syria when Israel seized the Golan in the June 1967 "Six-Day War."

Syria attacked and seized the southern Golan Heights in the 1973 Arab-Israeli War. Israel counterattacked, regained, and expanded their territory, conquering within 10 miles of Damascus, the capital of Syria. Israel withdrew and with small alterations of territory, finally annexed most all of the Golan Heights in December 1981.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the giant discovery of oil announced a few days ago was made within highly contested territory.

Dr. Ernest L. Martin wrote about the biblical information regarding a future discovery of oil in Israel in his original 1981 article "[Oil Soon to be Discovered in Israel](#)," which I put on the ASK

website in May 2007. However, Dr. Martin pointed out that the Scripture says oil would be discovered in the area settled by the tribe of Asher, in the northwestern portion of the State of Israel. Large gas finds were discovered offshore near the Israeli city of Haifa ("[Israel, Gas, Gaza, and Weapons](#)"), west of the territory of Asher, but nothing has been found on the land.

The present discovery is on the northeast corner of Israel, as described in the "Israel National News" article, "[Giant Oil Deposit Found in Southern Golan](#)," which is representative of other articles.

**"Large amounts of oil have thus far been found in three drillings that have taken place in the southern Golan Heights. The potential for production is in the billions of barrels. Israel consumes about 100 million barrels of oil per year.**

**'Although the existence of the oil in the ground is a fact,' wrote Globes, 'the critical phase now is to check how easily it can be extracted and whether it involves high production costs. In a period of very low oil prices, extraction will have to be relatively cheap to make exploitation of the field profitable.'"**



<sup>1</sup> "[Israel's Quest for Satellite Intelligence](#)," CIA Library document, accessed October 12, 2015.

An article in the *Jerusalem Post* from October 7, 2015 cautioned about the size of the oil discovery, "[Still Too Soon to Determine Production Potential of Golan Heights Oil](#)." Three exploratory wells have been drilled. These test wells can transition into production wells. The potential of oil in the area of the Golan has been proposed since 1989 in a technical article by P.R. May and H. Shulman, "Oil Exploration in the Golan Heights," *Israel Geological Society, Annual Meeting Abstracts* (Israel Geological Survey, 1989), p. 103.

Dr. Martin points out in his article "[The Lake of Fire — Where Is it Located?](#)," that hydro-carbon seepage to the surface in Israel has always occurred, and was best known in the area of the Dead Sea even in ancient times. An October 7, 2015 article on the *Times of Israel* website, "[Major Oil Reserve Said Found on Golan](#)," says that:

**"Since Israel's founding, companies searching for oil across Israel have drilled 530 exploratory wells, and none of them has turned up commercially viable oil, Genie CEO Geoff Rochwarger said in September."**

Discoveries in Israel have produced oil and continue to do so, but investment is very expensive to drill exploratory wells at several locations within an oil-promising field. One company, Givat Olam Oil Exploration has a [Projects webpage](#). One field produces 400 barrels per day. While that seems like a large amount, daily consumption in Israel is 275,000 barrels per day. Such is the economic reality of oil and why an active search for oil continues in Israel.

## Conclusions

God has not yet opened the oil spigot to provide Israel with substantial oil discoveries. However, more finds are anticipated and predicted in Scripture (see Dr. Martin's 1981 article). Once those discoveries occur, the first stage is for Israel to become self-sufficient. Then export of oil and gas will help Israel to become rich. Coupled with Israel's tremendous advances as a world technology leader, this gives Israel the potential to help neighboring states.

However, Israel's religious conflicts with her neighbors (and even some of her own citizens) still need to be reconciled. As Dr. Martin pointed out in his article "[How Israel will Conquer the Middle East](#)" (and its corollary article "[Israel Should Cease its Military Conquests Post Haste!](#)"), Israel's "conquest" will occur through economically helping, assisting, and even reconciling with her neighbors. Therefore, at least three things must occur.

1. Oil and natural gas must be discovered and processed in large quantities.
2. Israel must become energy self-sufficient.
3. The countries around Israel will see borders redrawn to approximate the territories of the ten nations presented in the Psalm 83 prophecy. (See Dr. Martin's 2001 article "[The Prophesied State of Palestine](#).) This cannot begin until fighting slows down, and political accommodation begins between and among peoples.

Present indications are that these three processes will take years, perhaps decades. Nothing in prophecy seems to indicate otherwise. Meanwhile, many will die.

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