

## The Gaza Strip Horrors

### Commentary for October 15, 2023 — War At The Corner Of Egypt, Gaza, And Israel

In a comprehensive background article with population figures and significant dates, the BBC published an October 12 article, "[Israel Gaza war: History of the conflict explained](#)." This situation goes back several centuries and involves millions of people in a small area along the southeast Mediterranean coast between Egypt and Israel.



One week after my wife and I returned from Israel, killing began on the eastern border of the Gaza Strip. Crimes and horrors were committed that are almost unbelievable, yet they were real and did happen. More killings and atrocities will occur in the future.

**[ Note:** The top map is from the BBC article, the bottom map is from the CIA website. ]

Two million Palestinians live in the territory of Gaza. Israel has a population of 9+ million people and is the most prosperous country in the Eastern Mediterranean area. Egypt has an estimated 112 million people.

The numbers of abused, wounded, dead, and mutilated are increasing daily. Israel declared war against Hamas, the leading political power in the Gaza Strip. Israel vows to eradicate Hamas, whatever the cost.

Such is the nature of war: cruel, bitter, most often fought with little or no mercy — killer against killer.

Once you think you understand who the worst perpetrators are, and who are the defenders of truth and justice, then new information comes forth, and one wonders again: what is the real truth? The situation in Gaza at this moment reminds me of the passage the apostle Paul wrote in Romans chapter 3. Paul begins by quoting Psalm 14:1-4:

**“As it is written,**

**‘ There is none righteous [just], no, not one:  
There is none that understand,  
There is none that seek after God.  
They are all gone out of the way,  
They are together become unprofitable [useless];  
There is none that does good, no, not one.’**

**Their throat is an open sepulcher [quoting Psalm 5:9];**

**with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips [quoting Psalm 140:3]:**

**Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:**

**Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways [Proverbs 4:16, 6:18; Isaiah 59:7];**

**And the way of peace have they not known [Isaiah 57:21, 59:8]**

**There is no fear of God before their eyes [Psalm 36:1].”**

**• Romans 3:10–18**

## **Why Doesn't God Do Something?**

God has done something, and He is doing something now. His solution has been completed, but has not yet been put into effect. When Christ returns to rule, only then will the world begin to notice the Rule of God. Then Christ will bring forth good that will overcome evil.<sup>1</sup>

Every form of government must be attempted, and every evil must be expressed, and endured by God's innocent people. When all mankind has been saved, we will be told why and how God has done things according to the counsel of His own will (Ephesians 1:11). Those alive now will not escape suffering and dying. Jesus said the horrors to come upon the inhabitants of the earth will be birth pangs to the Kingdom of God and our eventual personal glory of both the most kind and benign souls, as well as the most hateful and evil sinners.

## **God Protects His Chosen Ones**

Psalm 83 begins with a plea for God to protect His chosen ones. This means first the people of Israel, but by extension any of God's chosen people, including we of the *ekklesia* who believe in Christ's resurrection. God will preserve them until death to be glorified, perhaps with a martyr's reward if God so chooses such a fate for them. God's enemies continually plan:

**“They have taken crafty counsel against your people, and consulted against your hidden ones. They have said, ‘Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.”**

**• Psalm 83:3–4**

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<sup>1</sup> After Christ's 1,000-year reign, Satan is released to tempt the earth again (Revelation 20:7–11). Many will rebel against God, yet even they will be saved (1 Timothy 2:3–6, 4:9–10).