

(19)

48) World War I begins. **Date: July A.D. 1914**

World War I began in July 1914 and it ended on October 30, 1918. It was a global war fought in Europe that ultimately came down to defeating Germany and her allies.

This was a major international war that involved several nations of the world and it had a tremendous effect on Israel. Many Jews had been scattered in the very places of political conflict, so Jews were often forced to join various armies. Some were forced to join the Russian side and some the German side. Some of the Jews were very successful, which put them in a position to influence political decisions later on. In fact, Hermann Cohen, a Jewish philosopher, went to the United States to try to convince the Americans to enter the war on the German side. Of course the United States ended up declaring war on Germany.

When the war ended, the Jews were targeted by the Germans as being traitors. As a result, 100,000 were killed and many refugees fled to other places in Europe.

When the war ended, 9 million military personal were dead and 7 million civilians were dead and the Ottoman Empire had completely lost its power.

49) The Ottoman Empire is defeated by the British Empire and Britain takes over Israel.
Date: A.D. 1917-1920

After 400 years of Ottoman Empire dominance, the British conquer Palestine. The Ottoman Empire officially ended on November 1, 1922 and was completely abolished on March 3, 1924.
The British capture Jerusalem in World War I (A.D. 1917).

The British foreign minister Arthur James Balfour pledged his support for the establishment of a “Jewish national home in Palestine” (A.D. 1917). The “**Balfour Declaration**” also insisted that nothing negative was to be done to the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities.

50) The British rule Israel and Israel’s land from A.D. 1918-1948.

During this time many Jews migrated again from Europe and Russia (A.D. 1919-1923). The Jewish defense organization is founded (A.D. 1920). The first Jewish village is set up (A.D. 1921). One fourth of the land of Palestine is mandated for a Jewish national home (A.D. 1922). Another migration of Jews comes back to the land from Poland (A.D. 1924-1932). The Hebrew University is opened (A.D. 1925). Another migration of Jews returns from Germany (A.D. 1933-1939).

51) World War II Begins in Europe. **Date: A.D. 1939-1945**

The British government limits migrating Jews to 10,000 except for emergency (1939). Many Jews tried to escape Germany and move to the United States, but were turned down. The same was true concerning Great Britain. This all came at a time when Hitler was coming to power and many European Jews wanted to move to other parts of the world to escape him. During this war 6 million Jews are killed by Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany in the Holocaust. The word Holocaust means mass slaughter and that is what Hitler did he mass slaughtered the Jews.

52) World War II comes to an end. **Date: A.D. 1945**

Clearly one thing World War II did for Israel, which turned out to be a blessing, was to cause other nations like Britain and the United States to realize that the Jews needed their own home land and safe place to live and exist so she would never again have to flee and escape anti-Semitic attacks. Just three years after the end of World War II, Israel will have her land.

53) The United Nations proposes the establishment of Arab and Jewish states in the Promised Land. **Date: A.D. 1947**

Several Arab countries do not accept this division of the land which continues to lead to military clashes and wars.

54) The British end their control of Israel and declare Israel as an independent nation and give her a split portion of the land. Date: May 14, 1948

Ever since A.D. 70, the Jews had migrated to Europe and Northern Africa. But when this happened, the Jews considered it to be an answer to prayer.

55) The first Prime Minister of Israel is David Ben-Gurion. Date: 1948

The Prime Minister of Israel is the Head of the Government and chief executive of Israel. It is a position similar to the President of the United States. The citizens of Israel do not vote directly for a Prime Minister. The people vote for a parliament who selects the Prime Minister.

There are many different political parties in Israel:

1. Likud is the conservative, nationalistic, right wing party that takes a strong, loyal stand for Israel.
2. Mapai is a socialistic left wing party that merged with the Labor party to promote socialistic welfare and economic changes.
3. Labor Party promotes democratic socialism and welfare programs.
4. Kadima party is a very liberal party and a very middle of road party that is willing to sacrifice welfare to make peace with Arabs.