

# Israel Abandoned by Men...But Not by God

## Israel Stands Alone

### Where Are Israel's Friends?



"After Deadly Raid, Israel Stands Alone", was the front page headline in Canada's Globe and Mail newspaper this week. The raid was a botched effort to stop a flotilla of ships attempting to break the sea blockade on Hamas-run Gaza. Israel does not allow its territorial waters be used for ships destined for Gaza, in order to stop arms smuggling from countries like Iran. Two large boats loaded with arms have been intercepted

over the last few years. If the Hamas-run terror organization were to get their hands on the type of arms intercepted, it would have been a disaster for Israel, as its cities would be bombarded with more advanced and deadly rockets than the ones currently used. Due to these risks Israel requires all aid to go through via land so that it can be properly checked.

### What Really Happened?

This event spawned a worldwide media and political backlash against Israel. But once the dust settled, it seems that what really happened was this: After issuing warnings, the Israeli commandos boarded the ship from helicopters at about 4 am. They were attacked by a mob with metal pipes, slingshots shooting marbles, knives, hammers and live fire - one Israeli soldier was shot through the abdomen. The Israelis didn't expect this type of violence and were only armed with paintball guns and light pistols to be used if their lives were in danger. The lives of the soldiers were in danger - two of them were seriously injured - and they did respond with their weapons, killing 9 of the violent mob. Later a collection of knives, metal pipes, gas masks, bullet-proof vests and night vision equipment was recovered from the boat.

### The World Reacts

Most of the countries of the world and their media condemned Israel for this raid, aside from the USA and Canada, who took a "we'll wait and see" approach. Turkey, which was once considered an ally of Israel, gave one of the most virulent condemnations of the raid.

Israel really did stand alone.

Perhaps if this event had happened in another country, this degree of self-defense might be

considered acceptable. But not so for Israel. As discouraging as this may be for God's people, it is actually a sign that their redemption, and that of the whole earth, is very near.



Many Bible passages warn that in the last days before Christ's return, Israel will indeed stand alone. In fact, we can expect things to get even worse for this small country surrounded by enemies. However, note in the passages below that God will soon intervene, defend His people, and bring His Kingdom!

*"Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather **all the nations to battle against Jerusalem**; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. **Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle.**"*

Zechariah 14:1-3

*"For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, **I will also gather all nations**, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; and **I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel**, whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land."*

Joel 3:1-2

*"In that day **the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem**; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. **It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.**"*

Zechariah 12:8-9

Today we see all nations gathering against Israel - how close we must be to the return of Christ to the earth. Let us wake-up and prepare!