



GLC Weekly

(22 October 2025)

Gaza (Philistia): Time for Israel to Finally Take This Part of the Land Promised by GOD?

Thomas W. Jacobson, Founder, Global Life Campaign



The ancient land of Canaan, including Philistia, was totally polluted and corrupted by idolatry, immorality, and child sacrifice. For many centuries they were entrenched in sin, iniquity, innocent bloodshed, violence and wars (Genesis 15:16). Then Almighty GOD brought Israel out of bondage in Egypt to give them that land – to redeem the land for His purposes – and He did so by using Israel to purge the evil and bring His judgment by wiping them out. Only GOD knows when a person or people have so deeply given themselves over to evil that they cannot be redeemed. And only GOD knows the ones among them who can be redeemed, like Rahab.

At this moment in history, it is imperative to know what GOD said about Philistia (Gaza). The Hebrew word *Pel-eh'-sheth* (H6429) means “the land of wanderers,” “strangers,” “rolling” or “migratory”; and is translated Philistia, Philistines, Palestina, Palestine (www.BlueLetterBible.org). Philistia was along the Mediterranean Sea in the southern part of the Promised Land (see map). Ancient Philistia is the Gaza strip.

1920 B.C.: “On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates: the Kenite and the Kenizzite and the Kadmonite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Rephaim and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Girgashite and the Jebusite’” (Genesis 15:18-21). The region between “the river of Egypt” and the “river Euphrates” includes Philistia.

1900s B.C.: “Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines for many days” (Genesis 21:34). Isaac sojourned in Gerar, in the land of the Philistines (Genesis 26:1). Both Abraham and Isaac dug wells of water for themselves and their flocks in the land of the Philistines.

1451 B.C.: Forty years after bringing His people out of Egypt, when the LORD GOD was about to take Israel into the land He promised to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, He said: “I will fix your boundary from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines [Mediterranean], and from the wilderness to the River [Euphrates]; for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you will drive them out before you” (Exodus 23:31).

Then Joshua led the army of Israel into the Promised Land and they conquered 33 kings and kingdoms (Joshua 12), but not all the land of Philistia. Therefore, “the LORD said to” Joshua when he was “old and advanced in years”: “very much of the land remains to be possessed. This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines . . . the five lords of the Philistines: the Gazite, the Ashdodite, the Ashkelonite, the Gittite, the Ekronite; and the Avvite” (Joshua 13:1-3). The next generation after Joshua was to possess Philistia, but they did not.

After Joshua died, the book of Judges is filled with one conflict and battle after another with the Philistines, particularly Samson’s exploits against them.

1095 B.C.: When Saul was king of Israel, the Philistines were constantly fighting against Israel. Goliath the giant – who “taunted the armies of the living God,” and whom David killed on the battlefield – was from Gath in Philistia (1 Samuel 17). The army of the Philistines – the fiercest enemies of Israel – were from Philistia.

1055-975 B.C.: During the kingdoms of David and Solomon, Philistia stretched from Gaza to Joppa (see map). King David did conquer the Philistine armies, and he and King Solomon did exercise dominion over Philistia (1 Kings 4:24). After Israel was divided into two kingdoms, they appear to have lost dominion over Philistia.

700 B.C.: When Hezekiah was king, “he defeated the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory,” but apparently not completely (2 Kings 18:8).

Jeremiah spoke of The LORD’s judgment against “all the kings of the land of the Philistines” (Jeremiah 25:15-17, 20); and that an army would come against Gaza “to destroy all the Philistines . . . for the LORD is going to destroy the Philistines . . . Ah, sword of the LORD . . . How can it be quiet, when the LORD has given it an order” (Jeremiah 47).

Concluding thoughts: For 3,500 years, the Philistines and their descendants and allies have been fighting against Israel to destroy it. Is it not finally time for Israel to finish what GOD commanded them to do? To expect Hamas to abide by the current Trump Peace Plan and lay down their arms and stop fighting is irrational – from the perspective of Hamas. Why? Because for Hamas to do so they would have to deny their ancestry and heritage, and their (false) beliefs, identity and demonic life purpose to destroy Israel. This requires a change of heart and deep mind and soul transformation, which is only possible for those who receive Jesus Christ and are born again with the Spirit of Truth dwelling in them. Peace is possible for Israelites and their enemies through Christ alone. Now I understand why The LORD commanded His people to annihilate the nations in the land of Canaan – then the world capital of child sacrifice – and why He spared Rahab and those who put their faith and trust in Him (Deuteronomy 7:1-6; 20:16-18; Joshua 2:1-21; 6:25). To save countless human lives, the nation of Israel, as many people living in the Gaza strip as possible, and restore that part of the Promised Land to Israel and its divine purpose, it is essential for Israel to take and retain complete control over Gaza,

remove or annihilate Hamas, and save the people living there. If they do not, history will eventually repeat itself in one form or another.

PRAY that The LORD would guide Israel and give their leadership, military, and people great courage to do whatever is wise and necessary for them to conquer Hamas, show mercy to those who lay down their arms and to innocent civilians, and not stop until they have gained full control and dominion over that part of the Promised Land.

For the LORD, the sacred gift of life, and standing in the gap for Israel,

Thomas W. Jacobson

Founder & Executive Director, Global Life Campaign

TJacobson@GLClife.org ; www.GLClife.org ; www.GLCPublications.com

*The purpose of the Global Life Campaign is to **call and equip trustworthy disciples inspired by the Holy Spirit**, to be a catalyst movement to establish principles and practices in nations that align with the Word of God and respect human life.*