



2023 UNREST IN ISRAEL

In mid-2016 it was reported in the Washington Times and many other outlets that a congressional investigation concluded that the US State

Department paid \$350,000 in taxpayers' grants to an Israeli group called OneVoice allegedly to support the group's efforts to back Israeli-Palestinian peace settlement negotiations. Instead, that money was used to build a campaign to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the 2015 Israeli parliamentary elections. The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations said in a bipartisan staff report that OneVoice built a voter database, trained activists and hired a political consulting firm with ties to President Obama's campaign — all of which set the stage for an anti-Netanyahu campaign. In one stunning finding, the subcommittee said OneVoice even told the State Department's top diplomat in Jerusalem of its plans in an email.

In 2022, Israel overcame this strong opposition and did elect Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his conservative-leaning government. In 2023, this conservative government is on course to fulfill a campaign promise to bring reforms to the Supreme Court of Israel. However, there is great unrest through huge protests over the proposal to bring these reforms. Why?

Some history: Israel doesn't have a constitution; however, the common law that they did have worked well until 1992 when a new leader in the Supreme Court pushed through two new laws that began to shift the balance of power to the Supreme Court over the legislative branch of government. Currently in the Supreme Court, there is a committee of nine that chooses the members of the Court, and they keep choosing themselves. Consequently, the Court is continually made up of liberally minded representatives rather than representatives of the many different factions of Judaism.

Prime Minister Netanyahu has stated that there needs to be reform so that selection of the justices goes to the Knesset which is elected, and which can elect the members of the Supreme Court through a majority vote. Currently the Supreme Court can overturn laws made by the Knesset. Prime Minister Netanyahu is trying to bring the balance of power back to the original---as it was before 1992.

Where is the money coming from to support the protesters? Where is the rhetoric regarding the Israeli government "trying to ruin the democracy" coming from? Foreign sources. There are reports that, the Biden Administration, a very liberally minded government, is involved in trying to bring down the conservative Netanyahu government.

LET US PRAY

- The opposition to Prime Minister Netanyahu's government is proudly displaying the boldness of being "backed" by people of financial influence in the world. Pray for Prime Minister Netanyahu that he will be guided by the Lord to the perfect battle plan to overcome the opposition.
- In Israel, the government coalition must stay together with at least 61 members for the government to survive. Pray for the current coalition of 64 members to have the unity and the perseverance to stay together to see the victory ahead.
- Lies about "ruining our democracy" have been believed by many of the Israeli public while the street gangs in Israel are causing chaotic disruption (even within part of the IDF). Pray for only truth to prevail. Pray for the Netanyahu government to know how to bring peace and security to the nation without giving up their goal of bringing true stability to the democracy. Pray for the IDF to remain free from politics in order to remain strong to defend Israel at all times.
- God blesses those who bless Israel. Pray for the United States to bless Israel, not try to destroy her. Any "foreign money" from the United States and/or any other source will be stopped from being used against Israel.
- Behind the scenes in all that is transpiring, there is Iran's goal of eliminating Israel and the United States through nuclear bombs. Prime Minister Netanyahu's main goal in becoming Prime Minister was to keep Iran from getting "the bomb". Pray that nothing distracts him from accomplishing this goal – in order to protect not only Israel (God's land) but also the United States (a nation dedicated to God at its beginning).