

formation of the Zionist movement. The movement took root against the rash of Anti-Jewish thinking in Europe at large and the infamous pogroms in Poland and Russia. The basic opportunity came with the closing of the first world war when Turkey, one of the losers, was deprived of the control of Palestine and the territory became a British protectorate. The Balfour declaration (1917) saw the British government favoring the establishment of a national homeland for the Jews but allowing a native (Arab) government to hold control. A lot of strife would be precipitated out of this

In November 1947 the United Nations, working on a move by Britain, decided to partition Palestine into an Arab/Jewish division..with a lot of grief following and on May 1948 the official state of Israel was declared in existence. At the time there were less than one million Jews in Palestine...a number that has tripled since. Wars followed and the survival of the Jewish state is one of the more remarkable accounts of this age.

Bible prophecy students have had a field day in the intervening years and it is interesting to watch and see what developments in the world will center around Israel and the east/west struggles.

#### Sociological Reform

We cannot go deeply into this and a good bit of it relates to the development of better standards of living and a melting of society. Racial reform in the whole world has been a major project and the downplaying of ethnocicity is prominent. The Liberation Theology represents an approach to common life in which the church is seen as a force in the equalization of society

#### VI.2 Ecclesiastical Developments

##### Developments in the Church

This is a wide ranging category covering a lot of things. Some aspects are more true of Europe, more of America, etc., but widespread changes have marked most of the professed church in all quarters