



Stephen Sizer

'A timely and important book. Controversial but persuasive, it deserves to be read by everyone who is prepared to think afresh about God's purposes for the church, Israel and the politics of the Middle East.' Stephen Travis

Many Bible-believing Christians are convinced that God blesses those nations that stand with Israel and curses those that don't. This belief has had a significant influence on attitudes towards the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict in the Middle East. Claims made in books like the *Scofield Reference Bible* and Hal Lindsey's *The Late Great Planet Earth* have fed into contemporary Christian Zionism, with radical implications for how we view our faith and the world in which we live.

Stephen Sizer contends that this view is based on misinterpretation of the Bible. He provides an introduction to Christian Zionism and a clear response and positive alternative based on a careful study of relevant biblical texts. His intention is to encourage dialogue on the relationship between Israel and the Christian church and offer a more constructive view of the future and our role in it.

This accessible volume includes numerous tables and diagrams, questions for Bible study and further reflection, and a glossary of terms. It concludes with a previously unpublished sermon by John Stott on *'The Place of Israel'*.

'Stephen Sizer shows that many Christians are espousing views, that they claim come from the Bible, that are in fact leading to bloodshed, dispossession and division in the Middle East. He calls for a more careful look at the Bible that reflects the call of Jesus to be peacemaers.' Garth Hewitt

Stephen Sizer is vicar of Christ Church, Virginia Water, Surrey. He is the author of Christian Zionism: Road-map to Armageddon? (IVP), speaks widely on the subject of this book and is a frequent visitor to the Middle East and the USA

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The Bible, Israel and the Church

Including *The Place of Israel* by John Stott