[This study is taken but not entirely from the work of Dr. Daniel M. Master from Biblical Archeology Review 2022. We agree and differ with him on some points.]

This study will provide information for you to answer the Questions :

**1** Who are the Palestinians?

② Are the Jews justified in discriminating against the Palestinians and treating them as inferiors subhuman race?

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The Philistines were ancient people from the Bible. They were described as villains fighting against God's people.

Goliath and Delilah's were Philistines.

The Table of Nations in Genesis 10 connects the Philistines with the Egyptians (Genesis 10:13-14).

Other texts in Deuteronomy, Amos, and Jeremiah place the Palestinians in

Caphtor. Some people locate Caphtor to be in the Egyptian Delta, others say Caphtor is Crete and the Egyptian reference was due to the origin of certain Egyptians who came from Crete and the Aegean region.

The Egyptians are primarily descendants of Mitsraim son of Ham as well as the Greeks.

Some believe that the Philistines arrived some time before the era of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Egyptian, Assyrian, and Babylonian texts all speak of the Philistines.

Archaeologists have now excavated four of the five major Philistine cities listed in the Hebrew Bible : Ashkelon, Ashdod, Ekron, and Gath. The fifth city to be excavated is Gaza.

The Egyptian hieroglyphs were deciphered ; In the 19<sup>th</sup> century B.C., they referred to the Philistines as "Peleset."

Since the Egyptian dominated the land of Canaan in the preceding centuries, Egyptian records would likely have mentioned

any Philistines even tangentially if they were involved in the southern Levant.

The Egyptians built a ring of fortresses south of the Philistines to prevent the Peleset new invasions of Egypt.

Egyptian New Kingdom decline caused Egypt to withdraw from Canaan in the late 12th century B.C.

At that point, the regional interactions between the Philistines and other nations accelerated leading to exchange of culture, art and lifestyle.

The evidence that they were migrants is that the Philistines appeared in the Egyptian hieroglyphs suddenly in the 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. inscriptions from the walls of the temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu. This indicates that the Pelesta arrived in Egypt and in southern Levant as they migrated or as they were occupying the shoreline cities.

In the Egyptian texts, the Peleseta appeared as part of a confederation of peoples from the "islands" who wreaked havoc across the eastern Mediterranean shoreline and finally attacked Egypt itself and occupied certain coastal cities.

The Egyptian texts noted that these peoples came from

"islands" in the Mediterranean Sea.

It is not clear if they came once as one group of immigrants or if they came in waves of many groups one succeeding another.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century B.C., scholars called the Peleset and their coconspirators "Sea Peoples" connecting them with the myths of Homer.

The movements of Sea Peoples noted in the Egyptian texts seem to correspond with the tales of Odysseus and Aeneas in Homer's writings.

In addition, the classical legend of Mopsus, a survivor of the Trojan War, says that he led his people through Cilicia, and finally settled in Ashkelon.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century B.C. excavators in the southern Levant, beginning under the Ottomans, focused their attention on the 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. The pots had decorations that matched patterns from the Bronze Age Aegean as mentioned in Egyptian texts.

The Philistines' lifestyle and art appeared connected to : Cyprus, the Mycenaean culture, Greece, Crete, and the western coast of Turkey.

Some Philistine objects were rare in the Aegean but common in Cyprus.

Texts found in southeastern Turkey referred to "Walastin" or "Palastin" in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C. which may indicate one of the origins of the Philistines was the Hittite from Turkey.

Genetic examination of buried children and philistines show that many of the Bronze Age individuals from Ashkelon contained genetic material similar to groups who lived up and down the coast of the Levant.

This means that many Philistines were similar to the inhabitants of Sidon and Megiddo who were not Philistines. This indicates that either the Sea People stopped at Megiddo and Sidon on their way through the coastline of Levant and Egypt, hence the similarities, or the Philistines after they settled continued to trade and intermingle with the people in Sidon and Megiddo and other people.

In the late 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C., the material culture changed and the Egyptian texts suggest migration. For example, the inhabitants of Ashkelon buried infants in shallow graves under the floors of their houses. This practice means that at that time, migration ended and the people began to settle down permanently in these houses.

Genetic sequence shows that four of these infants were very different from the inhabitants of Ashkelon's Bronze Age. These four genetic materials were different from each other. This means that the parents came and settled after migrating from somewhere else, possibly from Western European Hunter-Gatherers people.

The genetic markers of the Philistines included people from Crete to the British Isles during the Iron age.

This definitive evidence established a 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. migration. Therefore, many new migration in Philistine occurred.

From the Iron Age texts, it appears that the Philistines were a group of migrating Peleset who intermingled and integrated among the original Canaanite inhabitants. They all had a unified lifestyle and art.

From the middle of the 12<sup>th</sup> century, many parts of the

eastern Mediterranean experienced a massive decline in trade, often considered the beginning of a "Dark Age."

The Philistines began to look more and more like their neighbors. The pottery lost its characteristic Aegean appearance and then even much of its distinctiveness within the region. Their linguistic differences diminished so significantly.

By the 10th century B.C., the Philistine writing used local alphabetic scripts that conveyed a Semitic language much like their neighbors.

This could also be due to the overtaking of the Philistine society by the original local Canaanites. All the different groups were well mixed.

By the middle of the Iron Age, there was virtually nothing different between the Philistines and the other inhabitants of the Levant by the 10<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C.

Despite the intermingling and intermarriage, the inhabitants of Ashkelon, Ekron, Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod were still called "Philistines" by the Assyrians, Babylonians, and the biblical prophets throughout the rest of the Iron Age.

The prophets Amos and Jeremiah both referred to the Philistines as immigrants from Caphtor.

Amos's oracle sees the divine hand in earlier events: "Didn't I bring up Israel from the land of Egypt, and the Philistines from Caphtor, and Aram from Kir?" (Amos 9:7).

Amos is telling us that all three nations were immigrants to the region.

In Egypt, in New Kingdom tombs, a group called the

Kephtiu was pictured with dress and objects that seem to connect to the Minoan archaeological culture, centered in Crete and its vicinity. An inscription on the base of a statue at Kom el-Hetan similarly seemed to connect Kephtiu with an itinerary of named cities from this part of the Aegean.

Therefore, the Philistines are linked Kephtiu (Caphtor in the Bible), i.e., to Crete.

The Egyptian description was in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C., while Amos is writing in the 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. when the term "Caphtor" was a rarely used or known.

Crete is one of the closest matches to the genetic heritage of the Philistines from Ashkelon from the 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

Jeremiah, writing more than a century after Amos, says something similar: "The Lord is about to devastate the Philistines, remnant of the Island of Caphtor. Baldness has come upon Gaza; Ashkelon is destroyed," (Jeremiah 47:4).

Jeremiah identified Ashkelon, Gaza (and Ekrdon) as distinctive Philistine cities. Jeremiah affirms that they migrated from Caphtor (Crete).

Jeremiah called them "the remnant of Caphtor" which can mean those who migrated and survived from Caphtor (Crete), or it can be a means of identification of the Philistines as unique people.

An important late Philistine inscription from Ekron from the 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C. text, the name of the king is Ikausu is mentioned. Ikausu was the king of Gath in the history of David's rise to kingship (e.g., Achish in 1 Samuel 21:10). This name has been translated as 'Achaean" which in the Homeric writings, refers to the Aegean people in general. This may be a reference to his distant origin and roots rather than recent relatives, or both.

Despite all the cultural and political changes and despite intermarriage, some Philistine families retained their family Aegean family origin and legacies.

The Philistines were destroyed by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar in 604 B.C. (7<sup>th</sup> century B.C.)

The Philistines were a proud immigrant people, defining themselves for almost 600 years as the remnant of Caphtor, and the heirs of the Bronze Age Aegean people.

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**Conclusion :** 

① From a genetic point of view, some geneticists say that possibly 50% of the modern day Palestinians have a certain percentage of their DNA of Hebrew origin.

This could be due to the intermingling and intermarriage with the Hebrews and the Jews throughout three millennia.

Also, they may have some Arab genes due to the Islamisation of the region for the past fourteen centuries.

<sup>(2)</sup> From a genetic and historic point of view, many of the Ashkinazim Jews, who are the majority in Israel and in the Jewish world, are not Hebrews. They are not descendants of Abraham. They are descendants of the Khazarians who became Jewish proselytes beginning with their king Boulan in A.D. 740.

By the ninth century all of Khazaria became all Jewish.

By the tenth century the Ukrainian king subjugated them

## and moved them to Ukraine.

Many Ashkinazim moved to Germany, France, Eastern Europe countries such as Romania and Poland.

③ With this knowledge, the Ashkinazim represent Gog the head (Hebrew Rosh = head) of Magog and Mesheck. See the study on Gog on the website : https://123biblestudy.com/gog-in-the-land

④ The Jews, the Ashkinazim in particular, persecute the true Israel who are the born again Messianic believers. They also mistreat the Palestinians and discriminate at times against other Jews who are not of Anglo-Saxon Germanic origin, such as the Amharic Ethiopian Jews.

⑤ From archeological point of view, the Palestinians are descendants of the Philistines who were a mixed groups : Canaanites, Pelestas who are Cretans, Cyprians, western Turkey coastline inhabitants, the Aegean sea people, and some parts of the European coastlines.

In order to have a complete picture, the Palestinians are ruled by blood thirty leaders whose only agenda is to destroy or remove all the Jews from the land of Israel. This may be a reason for the Jews to mistrust the Palestinians. But, this does not justify any discrimination for the peaceful Palestinians.

Some Zionists leaders are equally blood thirty. The difference is that the Palestinians are open about their haltered and call for violence while those violent Zionists are polite, yet they both are doing the same to each other.

⑦ Are the Jews called by God to take over the land and destroy all other nations in the land?

The Rothschild, the Soros, the Illuminate, in cooperation

with Zionism decided to use the Bible as a pretext to justify not only claiming the land Israel as ordained by God for the Jews, but also they justify their mistreatment of the Palestinians.

The Bible prophecies about the return of the Twelve Tribes were all accomplished already by the time of Jesus. The evidence is the words of Peter in Acts chapter 2.

The Zionist Jews persecute the Messianic Hebrew and Messianic Jews who believe on Jesus as their Messiah and Redeemer. They persecute also the Christian Palestinians and Christian Arabs.

The Christians who are brainwashed (most Christians) believe in a false system of prophecies, thus they become passionate about today's Jews taking over the land of Israel without distinction between born again Messianic Jews and Jews or Zionist Jews who reject God and follow their own gods (the rabbis and the Talmud).

If they open their eyes, they will notice clearly that today's Jews are persecuting the true Israel (the true believers in the Messiah Yeshua Jesus). This is Gog who had returned to the land of Israel to attack the true believers. See the study on Gog on the website :

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⑨ We hope that everyone who professes to be a Jew, disregarding if he is Hebrew or Ashkinazi or other origin, to repent and believe in Yeshua Jesus the Messiah.

We also hope that the Christians who are false believers (90% of all Christians) do repent, believe and submit to Jesus in obedience and thus they become born again redeemed by faith only in Messiah Jesus.

In the meantime, we need to have a realistic views.

A French rabbi told me forty years ago that there shall be no peace in the land of Israel. Other rabbis agree.

Let us be instruments of peace and let us expose, resist, and disagree with any blood thirsty leader whether he is transparent or polite. Politeness is hypocrisy, says the poète dal.

Finally, when the Bible talks about blessed are those who bless Abraham and his descendants, the Bible does not include non-believing Jews who reject the God of Abraham and who follow their own gods, the rabbis as prescribed by their Talmud.

The blessing to Abraham children applies to every faithful (born-again) believer whether of Hebrew origin or of non-Hebrew origin.

As some geneticists said that 50% of the Palestinians today have some Hebrew DNA. Therefore, the Palestinian Christians qualify to be true descendant of Abraham à priori by faith along with all born-again believers in Jesus the only Messiah of Israel.

## **Shalom Shalom**