

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

# Special Report

Israeli Elections

March 2015

## Israel's March 17 Election: Who is the most capable person to protect the nation?

By Bill Koenig

In what is becoming one of the most divisive and important elections in Israel's history, voters will soon have to decide which candidate is best-suited to protect them from the malevolent forces at work inside the country and outside its borders.

The political Left seeks to make peace with the Palestinians, which would at the very least require Israel to give up its biblical heartland of Judea, Samaria and East Jerusalem for an Arab state. Along with its enablers in the media, the political Left has supported giving Judea and Samaria to the Palestinian Authority, which is led by both Fatah and Hamas, and the Golan Heights to Syria.

In early 2011, the Obama administration tried to broker a peace deal between Israel and Syria. Can you imagine if Israel had withdrawn from the Golan Heights in exchange for full peace with Syria and the severing of Syria's ties with Iran?

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu nixed it, and the political Left and media unmercifully attacked him for not agreeing to give the Golan Heights to the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad.

Many Israelis continue to feel very confident that Netanyahu is the political leader who will keep them safe. After watching the enthusiastic reception and rousing applause he received for his March 3 address to a joint session of Congress, it is obvious he has Washington's ear more than any other Israeli leader, despite his current differences with President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry.

### **Knesset's 120 Members**

There are 120 members in Israel's parliament, called the Knesset. A coalition of at least 61 members is



Bill Koenig

needed to form a governing majority. In a country with many political parties, forming a coalition can be extremely challenging and even more difficult to lead, with such divergent political views represented in the Knesset.

According to the latest poll by Israel's Channel 2 News, Isaac Herzog and Tzipi Livni's left-wing Zionist Union Party will receive 24 seats and Netanyahu's Likud Party will receive 23. Fortunately, when asked who was better equipped to serve as prime minister, Netanyahu beat out Herzog 47 percent to 28 percent.

It looks like Netanyahu has a good chance to form a right-wing coalition consisting of: Likud (23 seats), Bayit Yehudi (12 seats), Yisrael Beytenu (6 seats, led by Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman), Shas (6 seats, an ultra-Orthodox Sephardic party), United Torah Judaism (6 seats, another ultra-Orthodox party) and Yachad (4 seats, an offshoot of Shas). This would bring the total to 57 seats—still four short of the 61 needed. Netanyahu could, however, reach out to Moshe Kahlon's Kulanu centrist party, which polled at eight seats. Former Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren is a member of the Kulanu party.

Moreover, President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry are on a collision course with the God of Israel over their involvement with Israel's March 17 election and their determination to cut a nuclear deal with Iran.

In the election, Obama and Kerry are attempting to defeat "God's man for the hour" and replace him with an Israeli prime minister who is determined to give up the land of Israel and force the nation into indefensible borders. Their words and actions are a direct affront to the God of Israel and His people. Only He knows the consequences and outcomes of such actions.

We must pray that the God of Israel will call forth the political leader most capable of protecting the nation of Israel, as the Middle East becomes more dangerous by the day, due to the opposing caliphates of Shiite-led Iran and the Sunni-led Islamic State.

Psalm 122:1-9 (KJV): "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together: Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good."

—William Koenig is the director of "Koenig International News" (<http://watch.org>). He has been a White House correspondent since January 2001. He publishes a weekly news report, "Koenig's Eye View from the White House." Koenig's book "Eye to Eye – Facing the Consequences of Dividing Israel" is in its 24th printing.



Distributed by Intercessors for America for the First Friday Fast Prayer Conference call held on March 6, 2015. Go to [IFAPray.org](http://IFAPray.org) for more information.