

## Israel: Where Christianity Thrives in the Middle East

### THE LIE

- Israel persecutes Christians and is trying to drive them out of the Holy Land.

### THE TRUTH

- Israel is the only country in the Middle East where the Christian population is growing, not shrinking, and where Christians enjoy full legal protection, equal rights, and freedom of worship.

### BACKGROUND

- Israel's Declaration of Independence (1948) guarantees "*freedom of religion, conscience, language, education, and culture*" for all citizens.
- Christians make up about 1.9% of Israel's population (around 180,000 people), mainly Arab Christians, Armenians, and Greek Orthodox, concentrated in Nazareth, Haifa, and Jerusalem.
- Christianity originated in the Holy Land, where Christians have maintained a continuous presence for nearly 2,000 years.
- Across the Middle East, Christian populations have declined sharply over the past century due to persecution and conflict.

### TRUTH EXPLAINED

- The Christian population in Israel grew by **1.4% in 2020**, with **84% of Christians satisfied with life** in the country ([Times of Israel, Dec. 22, 2021](#)).
- Arab Christian women have some of the **highest university enrollment rates** in Israel ([Times of Israel, Dec. 22, 2021](#)).
- Israel's *Protection of Holy Places Law* (1967) guarantees free access to holy sites and punishes vandalism or obstruction with up to five years in prison ([gov.il – The Holy Land: Jews, Christians, and Muslims](#)).
- The government funds religious services for all faiths and maintains churches, mosques, and synagogues ([gov.il – The Holy Land: Jews, Christians, and Muslims](#)).
- Thousands of Christian pilgrims freely visit Israel each year for holidays such as the *Feast of Tabernacles*, often showing public solidarity with the Jewish people ([Jerusalem Post, Oct. 8, 2025](#)).
- During wartime, Christian delegations and organizations continue to arrive "**with no hesitation in standing with Israel**" ([Jerusalem Post, Oct. 8, 2025](#)).

### QUOTES

- "It will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture; it will safeguard the Holy Places of all religions." – [Israel's Declaration of Independence \(1948\) \(Knesset Records\)](#)
- "According to the CBS, 84% of Christians are satisfied with their life: 24% answered 'very satisfied' and 60% were 'satisfied.'" – [Times of Israel \(Dec. 22, 2021\)](#)
- "And stand together and let the world know there are millions of us Christians who will not be silenced in the wake of rising anti-Semitism." – [Mike Huckabee, IFCJ solidarity video \(2024\) \(Facebook\)](#)
- "Our Christian friends have no qualms about emphatically stating their love and identification with our mission and our plight." – [Jerusalem Post Editorial \(Oct. 8, 2025\)](#)

### TAKEAWAY

- Far from persecuting Christians, Israel is the **only nation in the Middle East where Christianity thrives** – protected by law, respected by society, and embraced as an ally of the Jewish people.

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### SOURCES

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israels-christian-community-is-growing-84-satisfied-with-life-here-report/>;  
[https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/generalpage/society-religious-freedom/en/English\\_SiteTransfer\\_DOCUMENTS\\_The-Holy-Land-Jews-Christians-and-Muslims.pdf](https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/generalpage/society-religious-freedom/en/English_SiteTransfer_DOCUMENTS_The-Holy-Land-Jews-Christians-and-Muslims.pdf); <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-869700>;  
<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1Bgpoocb84/>; <https://main.knesset.gov.il/en/about/pages/declaration.aspx>