

VIDEO – CHANGING REALITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECTION BREAKDOWN

TIME	SECTION TOPIC
00:00-02:44	Introduction of Bob & Vicki & intention of continuing previous conversations regarding trauma of the October 7, 2023 Hamas massacre, as well as changes in the region as a result of Israel's military successes, including the war with Iran
02:45-14:39	<p>Three quotes:</p> <p>1 – Eric Hoffer in 1968 – on the fact that Jews/Israel are always singled out for unfair treatment and never allowed to win, always forced to stop wars and compromise when they're on the brink of winning</p> <p>2 – Bernard Lewis in 2003 – on the fact that Jews were historically better off in Islamic societies, where they were usually tolerated and considered an underclass. This changed radically once they started defeating Arabic armies</p> <p>3 – Phillip Tetlock/Stuart Brand – on how partisans across the opinion spectrum are vulnerable to occasional bouts of 'ideologically-induced insanity'</p>
14:40-18:30	Introduction to predictions – discussion of Bob's success with predicting the future, based on exposure to a wide range of opinions and lack of pre-set opinions

18:31-26:43	Prediction #1 – Iran’s danger to Israel – discussion of changes in the area, including Israel virtually eliminating Hezbollah, critically weakening Hamas in Gaza, enabling revolution in Syria and results of war with Iran, although still no definitive measure of final damage to Iran’s nuclear program/ballistic missiles
26:44-32:09	Prediction #2 – Living with nuclear Iran – discussion of the necessity of Israel finding a way to stop the flow of oil money from Iran through its proxies, where it is used for terrorism against Israel
32:10-50:53	Prediction #3 – Manipulation of global public opinion – discussion of growing anti-Israel bias of global press, the inability to shut down negative social media and the negative effects this causes in the Jewish diaspora, as well as refusal of the media to recognize Israel’s accomplishments in Iran
50:54-55:35	Prediction #4 – Israel only hope for Jews – discussion of long-term viability of Israel, given possibility of ‘brain drain’ if regional tensions continue, as well as internal struggles with the Haredim (ultra-Orthodox Israelis)
55:36-1:05:00	Prediction #5 – failure of IDF to anticipate/prevent October 7 th massacre – discussion of how, despite the October 7 th disaster, Israel managed to turn the situation around by crippling Hezbollah & attacking Iran, thus regaining its reputation for boldness & ingenuity
1:05:01-1:07:29	Prediction #6 – continued global dependence on oil – discussion of short-term continued dependence on oil, with natural gas as a bridge fuel and nuclear power the best hope for the future

1:07:30-1:10:13	Prediction #7 – advocacy of 2-state solution – discussion of the absurdity of creating a Palestinian state at this point in time, with overwhelming majority of Israeli citizens firmly against it
1:10:14-1:15:20	Prediction #8 – power through strength is the only way Israel can survive – discussion of Middle East dynamics based on ‘power through strength’ and how the present US administration could play a positive role in expanding Abraham Accords, as well as the possibility of a future sea change in education/values among Arab populations
1:15:21-1:16:02	Summary – discussion of prediction accuracy in light of fast-changing pace of events in the Middle East