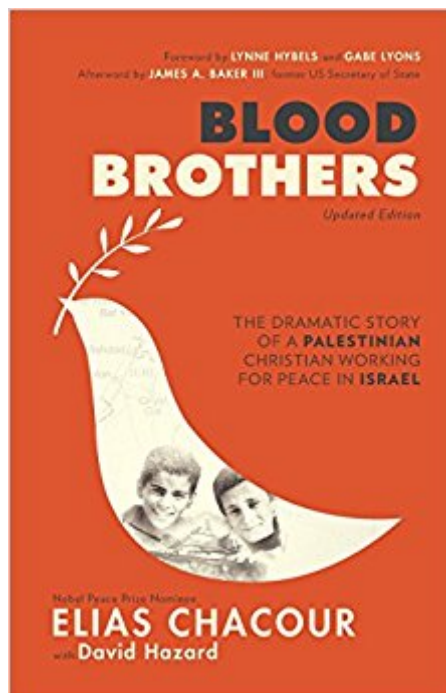




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Blood Brothers: The Dramatic Story Of A Palestinian Christian Working For Peace In Israel



Synopsis

As a child, Elias Chacour lived in a small Palestinian village in Galilee. When tens of thousands of Palestinians were killed and nearly one million forced into refugee camps in 1948, Elias began a long struggle with how to respond. In *Blood Brothers*, he blends his riveting life story with historical research to reveal a little-known side of the Arab-Israeli conflict, touching on questions such as: What behind-the-scenes politics touched off the turmoil in the Middle East? What does Bible prophecy really have to say? Can bitter enemies ever be reconciled? Now updated with commentary on the current state of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as a new foreword by Lynne Hybels and Gabe Lyons, this book offers hope and insight that can help each of us learn to live at peace in a world of tension and terror.

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Customer Reviews

This is a story about people--not politics. Elias Chacour grew up in a small Palestinian village in Galilee. When tens of thousands of Palestinians were killed and nearly one million forced into refugee camps in 1948, Chacour began a long struggle with how to live out his personal spirituality. In *Blood Brothers*, he blends his riveting life story with historical and biblical research to reveal a little-known side of the Arab-Israeli conflict, touching on questions such as: What touched off the turmoil in the Middle East? What does Bible prophecy really have to say? Can bitter enemies ever be reconciled? This international bestseller, now updated with commentary on the current state of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, offers hope and insight that can help each of us learn to live at peace in a world of tension and terror. "Far from being peacemakers, many Christians contribute to

a polarized conversation that actually fuels the conflict. Father Chacour calls us beyond that. . . . Two thousand years after Jesus walked the Galilean hills, [Chacour] and others like him still wrestle--by deep necessity--with what it means to love our enemies and be peacemakers in a broken world. Entrusted with a seemingly impossible calling, Chacour chooses to follow Jesus every step of the way, and invites us to join him."--from the foreword by Gabe Lyons and Lynne Hybels

Elias Chacour is a graduate of the Seminaire du Saint Sulpice in Paris and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and is now Archbishop of the Melkite Church. He is founder of Mar Elias University and has built schools, libraries, community centers, and youth clubs throughout Israel's Galilee region, where he lives, as a source of reconciliation between Palestinians and Jews. He has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times. David Hazard is the director of Ascent, an international "prep school for authors"; a bestselling author; a publishing consultant; and a writing and creativity coach. For more information, see his website, www.itsyourlifebethere.com.

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A very apt description of the area and problems. I have lived in several Mid East countries and was part of a U.S. government department that was providing food for the refugee camps, which did very little, due to the Palestine culture, infighting and corruption. It is still hard to remember and describe the unbelievable conditions. I have friends on both sides and it is difficult to get either side to get past generations of culture, repeated stories and written history of atrocities, some true, some enhanced thru time. The hatred is so ingrained that it is almost impossible to change in any great numbers although does not mean any less of what the good religious peacemaker has accomplished. My own feelings was that it was slightly tilted to the Palestinian side. I also have seen the holocaust death camps and I am afraid that there will be no lasting solution in at least my time.

This is a book which fed my soul. I was challenged by this man's deep, abiding communion with the living Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. The story of the injustices that Chacour and his village suffered, challenge the assumptions that we Westerners have accepted as true for such a long time. It is

shocking that despite 2 Israeli Supreme Court decisions, and numerous inquiries, the villagers, who had lived there for centuries, have not been allowed to return to their village. Just google "Biram, Israel", and you'll see what I mean. The most recent reference is found in the newspaper: Haaretz: <http://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-1.545977>. Nevertheless, Elias Chacour harbors no bitterness, and lives and preaches the Sermon on the Mount.

This is a book for all readers interested in the conflict between Israel and Palestine. This book gives the reader a Palestinian perspective of events that the Western world has largely ignored. Chacour guides the reader through his life from childhood to now and how he has fought the racism, violence, and hate by fighting for unity and peace in a world that seems to have forgotten its meaning. This book made me think deeper into my own ministry and how my platform can affect the lives of others. Chacour has an ability in his writing to make you think outside of your world bubble and into the life of someone different than you in every aspect, except in my case religion. This book is a spiritual and emotional journey inside of a place and a people that we only see on a map and on the news. I would recommend this book to my religious and nonreligious friends alike; in hopes that they too could come to experience the world and gain a new understanding of the Palestinian crisis through the eyes of Elias Chacour.

I highly recommend the book, Blood Brothers. Archbishop Chacour provides an insightful account of the struggle of the Palestinian people under the oppressive rule of the Zionists. He carefully distinguishes between the Zionists and the Jewish people. I was shocked to read of the Zionists soldiers packing Palestinian men and boys into trucks and disappearing with them. It was reminiscent of the Nazis who would afflict this atrocity on the Jewish people. What about the killing field Chacour encountered as a young child. Did these Zionists learn nothing? As a Christian, I am baffled at the Zionists willingness to do to the Palestinian people what was done to them in the Holocaust. Their behavior has been quite shameful.

I found this book to be a real eye opener. I have always known in my heart that the unrest in Israel was a spiritual battle. This book has explained this better than any book I have ever read. I would highly recommend it to anyone with an open heart and are truly seeking the truth as God sees it.

I love Chacour's self examination as he battles the opposition to his very existence. Humble reflections that bring us right back to the foot of the cross and the example of the man from

Galilee, love the Lord you God with all your heart and your neighbor as yourself. To be forgiven we must always first forgive.....Elias Chacour's example inspires me to search my heart for what is required of me....silence is not an option anymore. People of the cross must take a stand no matter what the cost. Thank you Elias Chacour, I would love to meet you someday in your beloved Galilee.

After a recent trip to Israel, I was compelled to read and learn more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Elias Chacour is an inspiration and his story is a fine example of the struggle to put Christ's words into action. It is clearly written and I highly recommend it. We need to be more informed on this subject that directly affects so many people and indirectly affects our lives each day. I now have a more clear understanding of the Palestinian people and their struggle. The news media and politicians have done everyone involved an injustice.

What a great story on how life experiences can mold and shape a person in different ways. Elias could have grown to be bitter toward his enemies but instead, he took to his father's peaceful mentality and eventually embodied Christianity's message of loving one's enemy. It truly shows us how a seemingly simple idea about love can change a person and a people's mentality forever. It is truly an inspiring book that challenges us all to use our lives as examples of peace and love. It shows us that when we put God at the forefront of our lives, we are capable of amazing things.

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