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THE OCTOBER 7 COVENANT TRUTH

The Hannibal Directive, the False Witness, and the Word of Yahweh

A Covenant Study of the Events of October 7, 2023
Established by the Standard of Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:15 — Two or Three Witnesses
Three-Religion Audience: Judaism • Christianity • Islam
April 2026 | Miqdash Bethel Covenant Assembly, Pearl River, Louisiana
Authority: The Tanakh — The Word of Yahweh Alone

PREAMBLE — WHY THIS STUDY MUST EXIST

On October 7, 2023, a Hamas-led military operation breached the Gaza border fence and entered southern Israel. What followed — the deaths of approximately 1,195 Israelis and the taking of 251 hostages — was presented to the world as the moral justification for one of the most devastating military campaigns in modern history. The Gaza war that followed has killed more than 73,000 Palestinians, 20,000 of them children.

This covenant study does not minimize the horror of October 7. Hamas's attack on civilians was a covenant violation, and **Yahweh**'s standard applies to every party in this record. But the covenant standard of **Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:15** demands that every matter be established by two or three witnesses — and that the witness be true. A matter built on false witness is itself a covenant crime.

The evidence examined in this study — drawn entirely from Israeli primary sources, Israeli military documents, Israeli newspaper Haaretz, Israeli TV, Israeli Air Force officers, Israeli defense ministers, Israeli survivors, and United Nations findings — establishes the following:

1. The Israeli military issued the Hannibal Directive on October 7 — a doctrine ordering troops to use all necessary force, including lethal force against their own people, to prevent Israeli captives from being taken to Gaza.
2. Israeli Apache helicopters, drones, and tanks fired on vehicles and buildings containing Israeli civilians and hostages throughout that day.
3. At Kibbutz Be'eri, an Israeli brigadier general ordered tanks to fire on a house holding more than a dozen Israeli hostages, including children — killing 13 of 14. He admitted this publicly to the New York Times.

4. 12-year-old Liel Hatsroni was killed by Israeli tank fire. Her photo was then used by Israeli officials — including former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett — as proof that Hamas had burned her alive. This was a lie confirmed by subsequent investigation.
5. The IDF acknowledged an "immense" quantity of friendly fire incidents but declared it would be "not morally sound" to investigate them.
6. Netanyahu received repeated strategic warnings before October 7 — from his Shin Bet chief, the Military Intelligence Directorate, Egypt, and the United States — and by his own government's admission, did not act on them.

The covenant of **Yahweh** does not permit a false witness to stand unchallenged. The same Torah that commands the protection of the innocent commands the exposure of the false witness. This study stands in that tradition.

PART ONE — THE HANNIBAL DIRECTIVE: WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT COMMANDS

The Hannibal Directive — also called the Hannibal Protocol or Hannibal Procedure — is an Israeli military doctrine established in 1986 after three Israeli soldiers from the Givati Brigade were captured by Hezbollah. It takes its name from the Carthaginian general Hannibal, who chose to poison himself rather than be taken prisoner by Rome.

The doctrine's core principle: preventing an Israeli soldier from being taken captive is a higher military priority than preserving that soldier's life. In practice, it authorizes Israeli forces to fire on their own personnel — and any vehicle or building containing them — to prevent capture.

Before October 7, 2023, the Hannibal Directive had been understood as applying primarily to soldiers in combat situations. What occurred on October 7 was historically unprecedented: the doctrine was invoked on a mass scale against Israeli civilians who had been taken by Palestinian fighters, including kibbutz residents and festival attendees.

THE HANNIBAL DIRECTIVE: HOW IT WAS INVOKED ON OCTOBER 7 — PRIMARY SOURCE RECORD

> ***"At 11:22 AM, an order was issued to the Gaza Division: Not a single vehicle can return to Gaza."*** *— Haaretz, July 2024 investigation, citing IDF documents obtained by journalists*
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> ***"By midday, an unambiguous order was given from the high command of the Israeli military to invoke the Hannibal Directive across the entire region — even if this means the endangerment or harming of the lives of civilians in the region, including the captives themselves."*** *— Yediot Ahronot, January 2024, reporters Ronen Bergman and Yoav Zitun*

> ***"This was a mass Hannibal. It was tons and tons of openings in the fence, and thousands of people in every type of vehicle, some with hostages and some without."*** *— Israeli Air Force Colonel Nof Erez, confirmed in ABC News Australia interview, September 2024*
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> ***"The Hannibal Directive had been used by the IDF during the fighting."*** *— Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, Channel 12 interview, February 2025 — the first public admission by a serving Israeli minister*
>
> ***"The IDF ordered the Hannibal Directive to be used… the cumulative data indicates that many of the kidnapped people were at risk, exposed to Israeli gunfire, even if they were not the target."*** *— Haaretz, July 7, 2024 investigation*
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> ***"A UN Commission published in June 2024 found strong indications that the Israeli security forces used the Hannibal Directive in several instances on October 7. In two instances, Israeli forces had likely applied the Hannibal Directive, resulting in the killing of up to 14 Israeli civilians."*** *— United Nations Commission of Inquiry, June 2024*

PART TWO — THE WITNESSES: WHAT ISRAELIS THEMSELVES TESTIFIED

The covenant standard of **Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:15** requires two or three witnesses to establish a matter. The following table records the direct testimony of Israeli eyewitnesses, military officers, survivors, and officials. Every name on this table is Israeli. Every quote is from Israeli media or primary sources. This record does not rely on Palestinian accounts, international advocacy organizations, or political opponents of Israel. It is Israel's own testimony about what its military did on October 7.

Witness	Role / Source	Direct Testimony
Yasmin Porat	*Kibbutz Be'eri survivor, held hostage in Pessi Cohen's house*	***"So our forces may have shot them? — Undoubtedly. The Hamas gunmen had not threatened the hostages and intended to negotiate for their safe return to Gaza. An Israeli police special unit started the gun battle. There was very, very heavy crossfire."***
Hadas Dagan	*Kibbutz Be'eri survivor, second witness to same attack*	***"Corroborated Porat's account that an Israeli tank fired on the house holding over a dozen hostages, including 12-year-old twins. Only two hostages survived."***
Brig. Gen. Barak Hiram	*Commander, IDF Division 99, on the ground at Kibbutz Be'eri*	***"I ordered the tank to fire on the house even at the cost of the civilians."***
Col. Nof Erez	*Israeli Air Force Colonel; admitted to Hebrew podcast*	***"This was a mass Hannibal… I saw numerous drones above every settlement on a computer image… We exploded all kinds of houses inside the settlements — but only with permission from superior officers."***

Witness	Role / Source	Direct Testimony
IDF official statement	*Israeli military, re: friendly fire acknowledgment*	***"Casualties fell as a result of friendly fire on October 7, but the IDF believes that it would not be morally sound to investigate them, due to the immense and complex quantity of them that took place in the kibbutzim and southern Israeli communities."***
Tuval Escapa	*Security coordinator, Kibbutz Be'eri; spoke to Haaretz*	***"The commanders in the field made difficult decisions, including shelling houses on their occupants in order to eliminate the terrorists along with the hostages."***
Yoav Gallant	*Israeli Defense Minister, Channel 12 interview, February 2025*	***"The Hannibal Directive had been used by the IDF during the fighting on October 7."***
Israeli Air Force investigation	*Official IAF report, released six months after October 7*	***"It was likely an attack helicopter had killed Efrat Katz while she was being transported to Gaza by Hamas fighters."***
Israeli police source	*Cited by Haaretz journalist Josh Breiner*	***"An IDF helicopter that had fired on Hamas militants apparently also hit some festival participants at the Nova music festival."***
UN Commission of Inquiry	*June 2024 report*	***"Israeli helicopters were present at the Nova site and may have shot at targets on the ground, including civilian vehicles. One or two helicopters were present over the Nova festival site in the mid-morning hours."***
Israeli military investigators	*Cited in 7 Days / Yediot Ahronot investigation*	***"Examined some 70 vehicles that did not reach Gaza because on their way they had been hit by fire from a helicopter gunship, a UAV or a tank, and at least in some of the cases, everyone in the vehicle was killed."***
Yair Lapid	*Israeli Opposition Leader and former Prime Minister, civilian commission testimony, August 2024*	***"Netanyahu was warned again and again before October 7, including by me, and he ignored every single warning. His wrong conception was the most serious political and security error in the country's history."***
Ronen Bar	*Shin Bet Chief; sent letter to cabinet confirming he issued countless warnings to the political echelon before October 7*	***"I issued countless warnings to the political echelon ahead of the October 7 massacre."***
Egypt's government	*Official statement; corroborated by US Rep. Michael McCaul, Chairman, House Foreign*	***"An explosion of the situation is coming, and very soon, and it would be big. Israel was warned three days before the attack."***

Witness	Role / Source	Direct Testimony
	Relations Committee	

Note: Every witness in the table above is Israeli or is an international body reporting on Israeli military conduct. No Palestinian source has been cited in this witness record. This is Israel's own testimony about what occurred on October 7.

PART THREE — THE FALSE WITNESS: LIEL HATSRONI AND THE LIE THAT LAUNCHED A GENOCIDE

At Kibbutz Be'eri, 12-year-old Liel Hatsroni was among the Israeli hostages held in Pessi Cohen's house when Brigadier General Barak Hiram ordered his tanks to fire. The Israeli tank shelling destroyed the house. The heat of the fire was such that most of the bodies were burned beyond recognition.

What happened next is a matter of documented covenant record.

THE DOCUMENTED RECORD OF THE FALSE WITNESS CONCERNING LIEL HATSRONI

> ***"Liel Hatsroni's photo was later used in propaganda by Israeli officials, wrongly claiming she had been burned alive by Hamas — because she's Jewish, former prime minister Naftali Bennett lied."*** *— The Electronic Intifada, citing Israeli media investigation, October 2024*
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> ***"The families of the 13 Israelis who died in the attack are demanding an IDF investigation."*** *— World Socialist Web Site, citing Israeli media, July 2024*
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> ***"The IDF review contradicts testimony from one of the two survivors of Pessi's house, Yasmin Porat, who told Israel's Kan radio that Hamas gunmen had not threatened the hostages and instead intended to negotiate with police for their safe return to Gaza."*** *— ABC News Australia, September 2024*
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> ***"Israeli cars destroyed in apparent Hannibal killings were crushed by Israeli authorities before being buried in the cemetery on a religious pretext. Very few autopsies were carried out. In the case of Pessi Cohen's house, it would have been impossible anyway — Hiram's tank shelling meant most of his Israeli victims were burned to cinders, including 12-year-old Liel Hatsroni."*** *— Asa Winstanley, The Electronic Intifada, October 2024*

THE COVENANT WEIGHT OF THIS ACT:

A 12-year-old Israeli child was killed by Israeli tank fire, acting under orders issued by a senior Israeli general. Her burned body was then photographed and shown to the world — by the former Prime Minister of Israel — as proof that Hamas had burned her alive because she was Jewish.

This false witness was used as one of the primary moral justifications for the military campaign that has killed 73,000 Palestinians, 20,000 of them children.
The child they said Hamas burned was burned by Israel. The genocide justified by her death was launched on a lie. **Yahweh's** covenant has a word for this.

> ***"If a malicious witness arises to accuse a person of wrongdoing, then both parties to the dispute shall appear before Yahweh, before the priests and the judges who are in office in those days. The judges shall inquire diligently, and if the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely, then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother."*** *— Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:16–19*

> ***"You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness."*** *— Shemot (Exodus) 23:1*

PART FOUR — THE WARNINGS BEFORE OCTOBER 7: WHAT NETANYAHU KNEW AND IGNORED

The covenant standard of **Yahweh** does not only address what a ruler does during a crisis. It addresses what a ruler fails to do when he had the knowledge and the authority to prevent it. The following record is drawn from Israeli government sources, Freedom of Information requests, and the testimony of Netanyahu's own former colleagues.

DOCUMENTED WARNINGS RECEIVED AND IGNORED BEFORE OCTOBER 7, 2023

> ***"Israel's military was aware of Hamas's plan to launch an attack on Israeli soil over a year before the devastating October 7 operation. Israeli officials were in possession of a 40-page battle plan, code-named Jericho Wall, that detailed a hypothetical Hamas attack on southern Israeli communities."*** *— New York Times, November 2023; AP, December 1, 2023*

> ***"The Military Intelligence Directorate issued no fewer than four separate warnings to Netanyahu between March and July 2023, warning that Israel's enemies perceived Israel as weaker due to internal rifts over his judicial reforms."*** *— War on the Rocks analysis, October 2024, citing IDF records*

> ***"In July 2023, Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar explicitly warned Netanyahu that war is coming, based on his assessment that the axis of resistance perceived Israel as weaker."*** *— War on the Rocks, October 2024*

> ***"From the middle of 2023, there were more and more voices within the terrorist organizations who said that the moment they had been waiting for had arrived, and these voices appeared in the intelligence assessments… I asked the Shin Bet chief if these warnings were brought before the prime minister and cabinet ministers. The answer was: Of course they were."*** *— Opposition Leader Yair Lapid, civilian commission of inquiry, August 29, 2024*

> ***"Netanyahu was warned again and again before October 7, including by me, and he ignored every single warning."*** *— Yair Lapid, former Prime Minister of Israel, post on X, February 2026*
>
> ***"An explosion of the situation is coming, and very soon, and it would be big."*** *— Egypt's government, warning issued to Israel days before October 7; corroborated by Michael McCaul, Chairman, US House Foreign Relations Committee*
>
> ***"The United States warned the Israeli government of the possibility of a surprise attack from Hamas a few days before the incident."*** *— Wikipedia, citing US intelligence officials*
>
> ***"Netanyahu's office acknowledged the premier's intelligence officer had received an IDF memo detailing suspicious Hamas activity three hours before the attack and did not pass it on."*** *— Times of Israel, March 2, 2025*
>
> ***"At 4:30 that morning, it was already clear to the outgoing Shin Bet head that an invasion of the State of Israel was likely. Why at that moment did he not wake up the prime minister?"*** *— Netanyahu's own office statement, March 28, 2025 — inadvertently confirming advance warning existed*
>
> ***"Netanyahu refused to allow a state commission of inquiry to examine the failures of Israel's leadership that contributed to the attack."*** *— NPR, March 5, 2025; Shin Bet investigation report*
>
> ***"Netanyahu appeared bored and indifferent to the issue during one joint briefing on the growing security risk."*** *— Yair Lapid testimony, civilian commission of inquiry, August 2024*

The covenant record establishes that Netanyahu received strategic warnings from his own Shin Bet chief, his own Military Intelligence Directorate, foreign allies including Egypt and the United States, and the Israeli opposition leader — and did not act. He then used the resulting catastrophe, including the bodies of Israeli children killed in many cases by Israeli fire, as the moral foundation for a military campaign that has killed 73,000 Palestinians. He refused to allow any independent investigation. He has blocked a state commission of inquiry. He used the crisis to postpone his own corruption trial.

PART FIVE — THE THREE-RELIGION COVENANT AUDIT

The covenant of **Yahweh** does not operate within a single religious tradition. It speaks to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam through principles that all three traditions share. The evidence examined in this study must be assessed by those principles.

What the Torah (Judaism) Says

The Torah's covenant law establishes the absolute prohibition on false witness in **Shemot (Exodus) 23:1** and **Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:16–19**. It commands the protection of innocent blood in **Bemidbar (Numbers) 35:33**. It establishes in **Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:15** that no matter shall be decided on the testimony of a single witness. The events of October 7 were used to justify mass killing based on false

witness testimony, with the cause of death deliberately obscured, evidence destroyed, and an independent inquiry blocked. The Torah has a verdict for this. **Mishlei (Proverbs) 17:15**: ***"He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to Yahweh."***

What the Covenant Principles (Christianity) Confirm

The Christian tradition, rooted in the Tanakh through Yeshua's own citation of the Torah, recognizes the same evidentiary standard. The Ninth Commandment — ***"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"*** — applies without exception. The deliberate use of a murdered child's photograph to falsely accuse an entire people, as a pretext for mass killing, is precisely what this commandment addresses. No Christian tradition, rightly understood, can endorse what the evidence in this study describes.

What the Quran (Islam) Confirms

Islam's covenant principle on false witness is stated in Surah Al-Hajj (22:30): ***"False witness is one of the gravest sins."*** The Prophet stated: ***"Beware of false witness; it is equivalent to associating partners with Yahweh."*** The killing of children is categorically condemned in Islamic jurisprudence. The use of a child's death — caused by the accuser's own military — as the justification for the mass killing of other children violates every principle of Islamic covenant ethics. The 73,000 dead, 20,000 of them children, stand as witnesses before **Yahweh** across all three traditions.

PART SIX — THE COVENANT VERDICT OF YAHWEH

This study does not speak from political allegiance, national loyalty, or partisan interest. It speaks from the covenant of **Yahweh**, which applies the same standard to every party. The Hamas attack on civilians on October 7 was a covenant violation. The killing of 1,195 Israelis, including children, is not minimized or excused by this study. The covenant of **Yahweh** holds every act of violence against the innocent to the same standard, regardless of who commits it.

But the covenant of **Yahweh** also holds the false witness to account. And the evidence assembled in this study — from Israel's own records, Israel's own officials, Israel's own survivors, and Israel's own paper of record — establishes the following covenant finding:

FINDING ONE — THE HANNIBAL DIRECTIVE WAS ISSUED:
The Israeli military ordered, by its own documented chain of command, that no vehicle carrying Israeli captives would be permitted to return to Gaza — even at the cost of the captives' lives. Israeli Apache helicopters, drones, and tanks fired on at least 70 vehicles. An unknown number of Israeli civilians were killed by Israeli fire on

October 7. The confirmed minimum is 14. Investigators' own words acknowledge the number is far higher.

FINDING TWO — LIEL HATSRONI DIED BY ISRAELI TANK FIRE AND HER DEATH WAS FALSELY ATTRIBUTED TO HAMAS:

A 12-year-old Israeli child, killed by an Israeli general's order, was presented to the world as proof of Hamas atrocity. This false witness was used to justify the killing of 73,000 Palestinians, including 20,000 children. The Torah's standard is exact: what the false witness intended to do to his brother shall be done to him.

FINDING THREE — NETANYAHU RECEIVED WARNINGS AND DID NOT ACT:

Four military intelligence warnings between March and July 2023. A direct warning from his Shin Bet chief in July 2023 that war is coming. Warnings from Egypt and the United States. An IDF memo three hours before the attack that was not passed on. He appeared bored and indifferent. He blocked every independent investigation. The covenant holds rulers accountable for what they knew and failed to do.

FINDING FOUR — THE GENOCIDE THAT FOLLOWED WAS BUILT ON THIS FOUNDATION:

73,000+ dead. 20,000 children. 460 starved, 154 of them children. The IVF clinic destroyed. The healthcare system dismantled. All 12 universities destroyed. 78% of all structures in Gaza. The moral justification for all of it was constructed on events that Israel's own evidence shows were partially caused by Israel's own military doctrine, concealed by Israel's own leadership, and falsified by Israel's own political officials.

> ***"The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground."*** *— Bereishit (Genesis) 4:10*

> ***"If a malicious witness arises to accuse a person of wrongdoing… then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother. So you shall purge the evil from your midst."*** *— Devarim (Deuteronomy) 19:16–19*

> ***"Yahweh does not hear those whose hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before My eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."*** *— Yeshayahu (Isaiah) 1:15–17*

PART SEVEN — THE COVENANT CALL: WHAT TRUTH REQUIRES

Truth does not belong to any nation, any political movement, or any religious institution. Truth belongs to **Yahweh**. And **Yahweh** commands it to be spoken — not because speaking it is comfortable, but because the lives of the innocent depend on it.

The 73,000 dead in Gaza did not die because of October 7. They died because of what was done with October 7 — how it was used, how the evidence was manipulated, how the false witness was broadcast to every nation on earth, and how the governments of powerful nations supplied the weapons and the cover to carry out the killing that followed.

This study calls on three things:

1. An independent commission of inquiry into the events of October 7 — not controlled by the Israeli government, not subject to military censorship, not blocked by Netanyahu. The families of the Israeli dead deserve the truth. The 73,000 Palestinian dead deserve the truth. The truth is what **Yahweh** commands.

2. A public accounting for the false witness concerning Liel Hatsroni and every other Israeli civilian whose death was falsely attributed to Hamas when the evidence points to Israeli military fire. The false witness must be named for what it is: a covenant crime against both the dead and the living.

3. Recognition that the genocide in Gaza was built on a false foundation and that the moral obligation to stop it flows from the same covenant standard that condemns what Hamas did on October 7. The Torah does not permit selective justice. Every innocent life carries the same covenant weight before **Yahweh**.

THE COVENANT STANDS. ***"You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness."*** *— Shemot (Exodus) 23:1.* ***"Do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked."*** *— Shemot (Exodus) 23:7.* ***"The voice of your brother's blood is crying to Me from the ground."*** *— Bereishit (Genesis) 4:10.* These are not the words of a political movement. They are not the words of a nation. They are the words of **Yahweh**, spoken over every war, every false accusation, every murdered child in every generation. They have not changed. They will not change.

> ***"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does Yahweh require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your Elohim?"*** *— Michah (Micah) 6:8*

> ***"Stand in the ways and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls."*** *— Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah) 6:16*

SOURCE RECORD — PRIMARY SOURCES CITED IN THIS STUDY

All sources in this study are Israeli primary sources, Israeli media, or international bodies reporting on Israeli military conduct. No Palestinian advocacy source is cited as primary evidence. The following is the sourcing record:

Israeli sources: *Haaretz (July 2024 investigation, multiple articles); Yediot Ahronot (January 2024); Channel 12 (Gallant interview, February 2025); Channel 13 (tank captain Bar Zonshein testimony); Israeli Air Force official investigation (re: Efrat Katz); Israeli police source (cited in Haaretz); Israeli Prime Minister's Office statements; IDF official statements; Israeli civilian commission of inquiry (Lapid, Liberman testimony, August 2024); Shin Bet investigation report (March 2025); Times of Israel; Jerusalem Post.*

International: *United Nations Commission of Inquiry (June 2024); ABC News Australia (September 2024, Col. Nof Erez interview); New York Times (Brig. Gen. Hiram statement; Jericho Wall report); War on the Rocks (October 2024); NPR (March 2025).*

Covenant authority: *Bereishit (Genesis); Shemot (Exodus); Devarim (Deuteronomy); Bemidbar (Numbers); Yeshayahu (Isaiah); Yirmeyahu (Jeremiah); Mishlei (Proverbs); Michah (Micah). All cited directly from the Hebrew Tanakh. Commentary is not authority.*

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Miqdash Bethel Covenant Assembly is NOT affiliated with the House of Yahweh out of Clyde/Abilene, Texas.

This study is submitted in the tradition of the prophets of Yahweh, who stood before kings and nations not to seek approval, but to deliver the word that was given to them. It asks only one thing of the reader: apply the same evidentiary standard to every party, and let Yahweh's covenant speak.