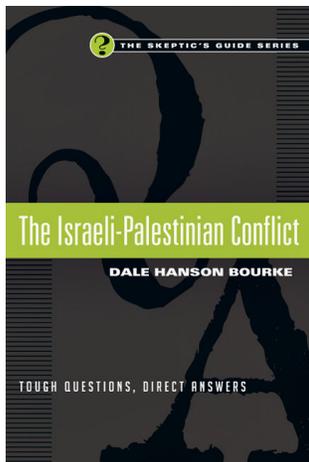


Responding to HIV/AIDS: Tough Questions, Direct Answers
(3rd Edition)

Available April 2013

\$15, 128 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3761-8



The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Tough Questions, Direct Answers

Available March 2013

\$13, 128 pages, paperback
978-0-8308-3763-2

An Interview with Dale Hanson Bourke, Author of *The Skeptic's Guides*TM

What is a skeptic?

A skeptic is a person who questions opinions, assumptions or statements that are widely believed or taken for granted as facts. A philosophical skeptic is a person who requires information to be well supported by evidence.

What is the philosophy behind *The Skeptic's Guides*?

A number of issues are polarized by political, religious or cultural assumptions. While some people have strong opinions, many do not know what they believe and want to learn the facts for themselves before forming their opinion. In other cases, issues seem so overwhelmingly complex that the average person chooses not to engage because the investment of time to learn about the subject seems overwhelming.

The Skeptic's Guide philosophy includes the following premises: (1) the information is simple but not simplistic, (2) differing points of view are acknowledged and respectfully explained, and (3) the books can be used as an "on ramp" for those who are new to the topic but also provide a basic reference for those who want to have the important information on the topic all in one short volume.

How have the current *Skeptic's Guides* set the tone for the series?

The first book, on HIV/AIDS, was developed at a time when the average evangelical was deeply conflicted about the pandemic. There was a widely held belief that AIDS was God's judgment on people who were either gay or promiscuous and that Christian organizations shouldn't be helping that type of person. The book was written to give space to people who had doubts or questions, were conflicted, or simply wanted facts without spin. The books available at that point either were to persuade people to a point of view or were far too complex for the average person.

Why have a series with a common name?

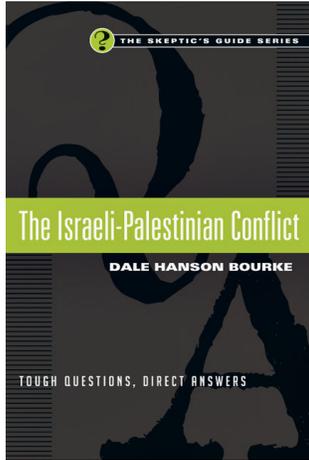
I hope that the series acquires a reputation for being simple, factual and neutral on potentially divisive topics. I'd like the series to form a basic library for the thoughtful Christian on important topics of the day.

Why should a book on Israeli-Palestinian relations be part of this series?

In many ways, the current discussions on Israel and Palestine remind me of the early days of the HIV/AIDS crisis. There are some with strong opinions, but the vast majority of Christians are somewhere in the middle, confused by both sides and wishing they could find a source of basic, unbiased information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW CONTACT:

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*The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict:
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Dale Hanson Bourke is president of PDI, a marketing and communications strategy firm. Previously president of the CIDRZ Foundation and senior vice president at World Relief, Bourke has also served as publisher of Religion News Service and editor of *Today's Christian Woman*, and was a nationally syndicated columnist. She currently serves on the boards of MAP International and the Center for Interfaith Action on Global Poverty (CIFA).

A Guide to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

In this Skeptic's Guide™, Dale Hanson Bourke sheds light on the places, terms, history and current issues shaping this important region. Offering an evenhanded presentation of a range of views on the most controversial issues, she provides a framework for American Christians to use in understanding why the conflict occurred, why it continues – and what remains to be done.

Bourke explains: "*The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* is a very simple book that attempts to answer the most basic questions; [it is] an 'on-ramp' to the issues so that the newspaper headlines will make more sense and discussions about this part of the world can be more factual than emotional."

Bourke offers direct answers to questions such as

- What countries are considered part of the Middle East?
- What is the Promised Land?
- What is the West Bank? the Gaza Strip?
- Are most Muslims Arab?
- Is Zion a city, the country of Israel or heaven?
- Is criticism of Israel the same as anti-Semitism? And is anti-Zionism the same as anti-Semitism?
- I know all Arabs aren't terrorists, but why are so many associated with terrorism?
- What is Hamas?
- Were Arabs and Jews always at war?
- Why is Jerusalem so important in history?
- Who are suicide bombers?
- What is the meaning of Christian Zionism?
- Where is the U.S. Embassy in Israel, and why is there controversy about its location?
- What is the relationship between the governments of Israel and the Palestinian Territories?
- How much money does the United States give Israel every year?
- Does the United States give money to the Palestinians?
- Does Israel have nuclear weapons? Why doesn't it want any other country to have them?
- What was the significance of Palestine's bid to be recognized at the United Nations?
- Besides the United States, does Israel have other allies?
- Why is Jerusalem such a big deal?

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