



Pray for Israel.....

“...whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head” Ezek.33:4.

‘O LORD, how long shall I cry, and You will not hear? Even cry out to You, ‘Violence!’ and You will not save. Why do You show me iniquity, and cause me to see trouble? For plundering and violence are before me...’ Habakkuk 1:2-3

The Watchman’s Prayer Letter

May 2010

How Does One Spell Hatred...?

‘In my distress I cried to the LORD, and He heard me. Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue... my soul has dwelt too long with one who hates peace. I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war!’ Psalm 120:1-7

So much of Israel’s history is reflected in this Psalm, but one needs to live in Israel (as Frank is at the moment) to be able to see that in a broader context. Many Christians come to Israel with little or no knowledge about its history and are shocked to discover the lies being spread abroad by the Western and Arab Media.

However, there is an issue now arising in the UK, which is absurd at best, but in reality downright ignorant, arrogant and hateful political skullduggery.

The **Advertising Standard Agency of Great Britain** ruled on Wednesday following a complaint that, ‘...a tourism ad containing a picture of the Western Wall with the Dome of the Rock in the background misleadingly implied that east Jerusalem was part of the State of Israel, resulting in false advertising.’ (<http://calevbenyefuneh.blogspot.com/2010/04/britain-kotel-not-in-israel.html#comment-form>; JP 15/04/2010 03:55). UK Regulators deemed the advert misleading, as [the wall] is in the “occupied territories of the West Bank.”

We wrote in our last issue about de-legitimization, just to find this classic case coming to light only days ago. One British Newspaper, *The Independent*, which ran a story on this issue attached no Jewish significance to the Western Wall, describing only the importance of the Dome of the Rock. It mentioned that, ‘*the Dome of the Rock was the oldest Islamic building in the world, built in the seventh century; and that the area in east Jerusalem is at the center of a dispute between Palestinians and Jews ...*’.

The paper ignored several factors here: 1) that the wall alone predates any Islamic presence in Jerusalem by almost 700 years and testifies of a Jewish presence there of 3000 years if/when the Temple Mount is included; 2) the Wall was part of Jewish Jerusalem until 1948 when Jordan

expelled the Jewish people by an act of war in defiance of a League of Nations vote, and 3) when Israel recaptured the Old City from Jordanian occupation, it was the graciousness of Israel which allowed the Muslims to remain on the mount with their Mosques.

If there is any part of Israel, which identifies the Jewish people with this land, it is the Western Wall and the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Period!

Strategic Prayer Points:

- Please pray that God in His Mercy may open the eyes of all humanity to the insane brainwashing conducted by the enemies of Israel
- Please pray that church leaders would wake up and smell the lies being promoted as fact and begin to educate their congregations in this regard

No Rhyme or Reason!

One of the standard slogans of the *Peace Quartet* and others on the *Peace-at-any-Price* merry-go-round is the call for '*a contiguous Palestinian State to live in peaceful coexistence with Israel*'!

A Reason for Palestinians to Riot?

Never wasting an opportunity to **demonize** 'the Jews' and Israel, Hamas, Islamic extremists, as well as the Palestinian Authority were recently provided with an ideal opportunity. There is no more effective way to mobilize Palestinians and the wider Muslim world faster, than to create the false charge that Israel is endangering or undermining the al-Aqsa Mosque.

The latest excuse for deploying this libel was the **rededication of the Hurva Synagogue**, located **in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City**. The Hurva, which dates back to 1700, has been twice destroyed and twice rebuilt. After the Jordanians destroyed it in the 1948 War of Independence, the Hurva stood desolate, even after the Old City was retaken by Israel in 1967. Only now, after many years of planning has the synagogue been restored to its former glory [<http://www.honestreporting.com/articles>].

Its rededication does nothing to alter the delicate fabric of life or the existing status quo in the Old City.

So, never failing to grab a juicy scoop, some media have, however, quoted Palestinian claims to the contrary despite the clear lack of evidence. The fact, that the 'Hurva issue' made the global media, is a powerful example of how little the international peace pundits understand how the Islamic agenda influences the Arab mind and the Palestinian people— or perhaps better, their leadership.

To be sure, the Hurva is not directly next to the Temple Mount or the al-Aqsa Mosque and there is simply no basis for claims that the reconstruction of the Hurva could have any physical effect on the Mosque or its surroundings.

Of course, one bit of misinformation is not enough! To ensure that this misconception is set in concrete, the Egyptian government has announced that **it will not allow Jews to pray in Cairo's newly-restored Maimonides Synagogue**, in retaliation for Israel's security response to Arab rioting on the Temple Mount. The reason?

“At a time when we restore their monuments in Egypt, they destroy Islamic monuments in Jerusalem, through the establishment of excavations under the Al-Aqsa Mosque and they don't separate between war and respect for history,” [Dr. Zahi Hawass, Secretary-General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities]. (Arutz Sheva - April 15, 2010)

Strategic Prayer Points:

- Please pray for a move of God among the people of Egypt that He would grant them a desire for truth concerning Israel
- Please pray for the Jewish people in Egypt that God would grant them a spirit of repentance (hebr. teshuva) and supplication, to cast themselves on Him alone and not to entrust their future to Egyptian benevolence
- Please pray for the Jewish people of Egypt that God would grant them an overwhelming desire to make Aliyah and return home
- Please pray also for the persecuted Christians of Egypt

Yom Ha'Atzma'ut 5770 (Independence Day)

In 1948 a phenomenal miracle occurred. This miracle was the rebirth of the Jewish homeland in its ancient environment— pinpointed in geography by the Har HaBayit or Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Against all odds and numbers, the Jewish People once again governed their own state. In the following years, their little country was bombarded with numerous wars and constant attacks, yet they progressed as a country, and as a people, beyond anything imaginable. Despite the massive acts of violence over many years, intended to destroy their country and ‘drive them into the sea’, they continued to prosper and multiply.

In 1967, another miracle occurred as they returned to the heartland of Israel, the cradle of their heritage and history as a nation. With their return to this heartland, their strength grew, as did their connection to Israel and one another. Once again Jews from all over the world could show their children the places that are mentioned throughout the Bible. For the first time in over 2,000 years ‘*seeing was believing*’— and believing was real.

If all of that became a reality for the Jewish people, many Christians by contrast have not accepted the truth that God has not forsaken His people (Romans 11:1-2; Leviticus 26:44), as for many Christians, the Church has replaced the Jewish people/Israel as the people of God.

We need to consider, however, is the Almighty a man who should lie to go back on His Word (Num 23:19)? But, if it was His hand that brought about the Great Return in 1948, then He will also continue to shepherd them until he has fulfilled all that He promised to the Patriarchs (Leviticus 26:44-45; Jeremiah 30:11,16-22; 31:10-14,23-37; Ezekiel 36:22-36).

Points of Praise and Thanksgiving:

- Let us praise and thank our Heavenly Father for His great mercy to His people Israel in 1948 to make a highway for them to return to their ancient homeland
- Let us praise our Heavenly Father for the many miracles He did in establishing the Jewish people in Israel despite overwhelming opposition and that he has kept them from destruction by their implacable enemies
- Let us praise our Heavenly Father for making Israel a gleaming gem in the desert
- Let us praise our Heavenly Father that we may witness this awesome act of restoration promised in the Scriptures so long ago
- Let us pray also that God would send His Mashiach (Messiah) speedily to restore His Kingdom of righteousness to this earth
- Please pray that God would open the eyes of the nations that they may behold His glory to avoid the wrath that is to come (Romans 1:18 – 2:9) — NOT because they deserve it, but for the sake of His great mercy
- Please pray that God in His Mercy may open the eyes of all humanity to His might and glory in the Creation around us (i.e. the Vulcano in Iceland?), but especially to His revelation through the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

‘...for His Mercy endures forever!’ Psalm 136

Special (ongoing) Prayer Points:

- Pray especially for the faithful directors of CFI, Ray and Sharon, as they seek clarity of vision and God’s direction to lead the organization beyond the 25 year mark
- Please continue to pray for God’s will to be done concerning volunteers and their Visa applications/requirements; may our heavenly Father move upon the relevant people in Israel’s Ministry of Interior that CFI Visa applications would find favour in their eyes
- Please pray for the ongoing financial needs of CFI
- Please pray for the success of the 25th Anniversary Celebration from May 31- June 3

In Messiah

Frank & Karen Selch