



VoydPhil News

Politics, Passion or Piety

I feel that the article under Israel News in this quarter's newsletter needs a bit of an explanation. I try to make sure that politics stay out of anything I write, and I thought that it might have crossed that line... But then I thought again.

When dealing with Israel often what seems political is actually passion or religion (piety). Israel is still the Promise Land and the Jews are still God's Chosen People. Therefore dealings in that area of the world is one of religion and not politics.

Then when religion encompasses all of life; it becomes passion. As in the Apostle Paul's life or many of today's theologians.

The news from Israel reflects the passion of the Jews and all that love them.

So if you find this issues' article—or any of our writings—a bit on the political side; you have my apologies. Not for what was written, but my apologies that religion or passion could be thought of as politics.

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Helping to Fill the Void in God's People

August 2010—October 2010

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Moses' Identity Crises

Part 3

By Mark E. Benjamin

...Continued from last issue

What's In A Name

With identity and authority put to rest, there is now that matter of name. Moses' own mother never gave her son a name. It was the daughter of Pharaoh that named him **Exodus 2:10**. Moses knew his own name, one of the only things he had right as far as his self image. But, someone else of much more importance knew his name. At the burning bush, we see that God calls Moses – literally. He called him by name, his name. **Exodus 3:4 (NIV) ... God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"** Of course, the God of the entire universe knows all that is in it. But it's sobering to hear God call you by your name. He knew who Moses was and He called for him. Just as He knows who you and I are and calls for us. And He calls for us by name.

The issue here isn't about Moses' name. God knew Moses, but Moses didn't know God. Moses asks God for His name. He makes it seem that it's to identify God to the people back in Egypt, but I bet he was curious as well too. Moses grew up with many gods and all of them

had names, it would be natural for him to wonder about the name of the God that was calling him. God answers him in the next verse, **Exodus 3:14 (NIV) God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."**

Become Who You Really Are

Moses has one more hurdle to jump over before he is finally ready to do God's will. The question of capability. Moses sees himself as inadequate to carry out the task set before him by God. He tries several excuses to get God to leave him alone and pick someone else. **Exodus 4:10 (NIV) Moses said to the LORD, "O Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."** Of course, God will have none of it. And God gives him a helper, Aaron, and a few miracles to show Pharaoh.

Moses saw himself as inadequate but God saw him as the instrument needed to deliver the slaves in Egypt. Moses obviously completed the mission, but many years later look what is said about him.

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If you have any comments, questions or suggestions on topics in this issue, please go to www.VoydPhil.org and fill out our comment form. We love to hear them.

Israel News

Flotilla Folly

On May 31 the ship Mavi Marmara was boarded by Israeli forces. Nine passengers were killed, many more wounded; including members of the IDF (Israeli Defense Force). In the aftermath, the world erupted in hate and accusations toward Israel. Why did this event take place and why is the world pointing at Israel?

The first part of that question is the hardest to answer. The ship headed for Gaza under the pretense that it was going to break the blockade and bring humanitarian aid to its people. The definition of the word "blockade" is "to prevent the entrance and exit of traffic and commerce". In a month, over 3,000 trucks enter Gaza from Israel loaded with goods and about 2,500 people exit

Gaza in to Israel. With that traffic I ask, what blockade?

All that needed to happen was for the ship to head to one of the Israeli ports, unload its cargo, and it would have been sent to Gaza. In fact that was exactly what happened, but not until after 9 deaths.

Those that died were supposedly peace protesters. Watch any of the films and tell me why peace protesters have knives and clubs and try to beat to death men that had only paintball guns. The IDF boarded with toy guns. It wasn't until they met with overpowering resistance that additional soldiers came with real guns.

So why did this take place? I don't know, it simply shouldn't have. Why is the world pointing at Israel? That's easy. The forces of Satan will always hate the forces of God.

...Continued from front page

Acts 7:22 (KJV) And Moses was ... mighty in words and in deeds. Moses thought he was unable even to talk, but we see he really was mighty in his words. When we look in the mirror, I am sure there are many things that we see as inadequate about ourselves. Many things that we think we cannot do, that we don't have the skill or

ability. God sees us all as another Moses. He sees us as the very device that He needs to complete the job He needs to have done. We must stop making excuses, like Moses tried to, and start completing God's work. We will end up as the instrument of God, mighty in words and deeds. Just like Moses.

Coming next issue...

First Plague—Blood

Upcoming Holidays

Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date listed.

Rosh HaShanah

1 Tishrei 5771
September 9, 2010
Thur

Yom Kippur

10 Tishrei 5771
September 18, 2010
Sat

Sukkot

15 Tishrei 5771
September 23, 2010
Thur

Shemini Atzeret

22 Tishrei 5771
September 30, 2010
Thur

Simhat Torah

23 Tishrei 5771
October 1, 2010
Fri

Mark E. Benjamin

Is available for

Church or Synagogue
Youth Group
Torah or Bible study
Classroom
Seminars

Men's, Woman's, Single's, Couples' groups

Topics Can Include

Passover
Seder
Sukkot

Bringing Jews and Christians closer together
Understanding the Christian or Jew
Jewish Holidays
And others

For more information, please go to

www.VoydPhil.org

"The Israeli blockade would be lifted in five minutes if Gaza would stop acting as a terrorist state."

Shimon Peres

Born: August 2, 1923

8th Prime Minister of Israel

1st term: September 13, 1984—October 20, 1986

2nd term: November 4, 1995—June 18, 1996

9th President of Israel

July 15, 2007—present