



# The Lamplighter

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# **Observations by the Editor**

# Israel's 60th

The independence of the state of Israel was declared on May 14, 1948. This year that important date will fall on May 8<sup>th</sup> on the Jewish calendar (which is a lunar-solar calendar).

In mid-March I took a video crew to Israel to shoot footage for future television programs. The next issue of this magazine will contain a detailed report about that trip. Suffice it to say at this time that we found the Jewish people looking forward to the celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their nation with great enthusiasm and expectation. Everywhere we looked we saw depictions of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo:



As you can see, it is a rather frivolous picture of a child twirling a ribbon in the air. It was designed by a government committee made up of secular Jews. It is symbolic of the pitiful spiritual condition of most of the people of Israel. They seem to have no concept whatsoever of the spiritual significance of their worldwide regathering and the miraculous reestablishment of their state. Nor do they seem to recognize what a miracle it is that their nation has lasted for 60 years.

Tragically, the people of our nation have become just as spiritually blind in recent years. We have kicked God out of our public schools. We blaspheme His holy name in our movies and television programs. We kill the life He has given to babies in the wombs of their mothers. We teach lies about His creation of the world. We celebrate sexual perversion that He has condemned. And we are intent on dividing up the land that He has given His Chosen People, completely disregarding the stern warning He has given to those who would tamper with the Jewish inheritance (Joel 3:2):

I will gather all the nations, and bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat [the valley of Judg-



Dr. David R. Reagan

ment]. Then I will enter into judgment with them there on behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations; and *they have divided up My land*." (Emphasis added.)

Both the peoples of Israel and the United States need to turn their faces and their hearts back to God. Both need to realize that our Creator is the one who holds the fate of both nations in His hands.

I appeal to you to set aside a special time on May 8<sup>th</sup> to pray for the salvation of the Jewish people — that their eyes will be opened to their dependence on God and their need to accept His Son, Yeshua, as their Messiah. And pray too for our nation to experience a great spiritual revival that will begin in your heart and mine.

#### **Our Cover**

I want to express special thanks to Malcolm Hedding, director of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, for letting us use the photo that appears on our cover this month. I am also grateful to Ray and Sharon Sanders of Christian Friends of Israel for supplying us with photos like the one that appears on the next page. Both of these organizations sponsor yearly celebrations of Jewish feasts in Jerusalem. The Embassy hosts about 6.000 Christians each year for the Feast of Tabernacles. The Christian Friends of Israel sponsor a celebration of the Feast of Shavuot. You can find both on the Internet (see page 8). 🌣

# Christian Zionism

# What is it? Is it biblical? Is it dangerous? Does it matter?



A delegation of Christian Zionists from the United States marches through the streets of Jerusalem on Jerusalem Day in May of 2007. Held on the 28th day of Iyar each year, Jerusalem Day celebrates the Israeli capture of East Jerusalem on June 7, 1967, making possible the reunification of the city. This year (2008) Jerusalem Day will be celebrated on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Photo courtesy of Christian Friends of Israel, Jerusalem.)

#### Dr. David R. Reagan

"Zionism seeks to establish a home for the Jewish people in Eretz Israel [Palestine] secured under public law." — First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, 1897.<sup>1</sup>

"Zionism is the right of the Jewish state of Israel to exist within defined and defended borders . . ." — The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language.<sup>2</sup>

"Zionism is a form of racism and social discrimination..." — United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379, passed November 10, 1975.<sup>3</sup>

"Christian Zionism has become the most powerful and destructive force at work in America today . . . they are not only inciting hatred between Jews and Muslims but are also the greatest roadblock to lasting peace in the Middle East."—Stephen Sizer, Anglican Vicar of Christ Church, Virginia Water, England.

Twas a Christian Zionist before I knew what one was. A simple definition of a Christian Zionist is a Christian who supports the right of the Jewish people to establish and defend a state in their historic homeland of Israel.

There are two types of Christian Zionists. The minority consists of those Christians whose support of Israel is purely political in nature. For example, there is an organization called The Catholic Friends of Israel. On its website, the statement is made that they support Israel because it is "the only democracy in the Middle East."

The vast majority of Christian Zionists are Evangelicals who believe that God is fulfilling promises today that were made to the Jewish people thousands of years ago in Bible prophecy. The cornerstone of their support is the belief that the title to the land which God granted to the Jews in the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-7 and 13:14-18) is everlasting and irrevocable. These Evangelicals should really be referred to as "Biblical Zionists" to differentiate them from Christian Zionists who are politically motivated. But that distinction is seldom ever made by anyone.

#### **Historical Roots**

The origin of Christian Zionism is usually attributed to the development of Dispensational eschatology in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This important end-time viewpoint keeps Israel and the Church separate, arguing that God has a distinct plan for each. The Church will be taken out of the world at the Rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), and then God will orchestrate all the nations of the world against Israel (Zechariah 12:2-3), hammering the Jewish people until they come to the end of themselves, at which point the remaining remnant will accept Jesus as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10).



Dr. Charles Ryrie is one of the leading Dispensational theologians today.

The Dispensational viewpoint is based upon a literal or plain-sense interpretation of Bible prophecy. It denies that the Church has replaced Israel or that God has washed His hands of the Jewish people because of their unbelief (Romans 11:1-2). It points to the preservation of the Jewish people as a supernatural phenomenon clearly prophesied in the Hebrew Scriptures (Jeremiah 30:11 and 31:35-37). The worldwide regathering of the Jews that occurred in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century is also viewed as a fulfillment of prophecy

(Isaiah 11:10-12). And the re-establishment of the state of Israel on May 14, 1948 is considered to be one of the greatest miracles of modern history and a definite fulfillment of Bible prophecy (Isaiah 66:7-8).

There is no doubt that Dispensational theology undergirds modern day Christian Zionism, but it was by no means the origin of the Movement. Tommy Ice, one of the leading Dispensational spokesmen today, has written an in-depth essay in which he clearly shows that one of the delayed consequences of the Reformation was the development of what came to be known as the Christian Restoration Movement, the precursor of Christian Zionism. <sup>6</sup>

#### Christian Restorationism

I say "delayed" because the Movement began to emerge among the second generation of Reformers, after they had been given an opportunity to study the Bible in detail in their own languages. Keep in mind that for 1500 years before the Reformation, the Catholic Church kept the Bible out of the hands of the people and refused to allow it to be translated from Latin into the various national languages. Also, during that time, the Church was virulently anti-Semitic and abused Bible prophecy by spiritualizing it. It took some time to digest the Bible once it had been translated and published in common languages, and it took great courage to begin interpreting it to mean what it said.

For example, in 1585 an English scholar named Francis Kett (ca 1547-1589) published a book in which he mentioned that the Bible prophesies the "Jewish national return to Palestine." He was quickly arrested for espousing this heresy and was burned at the stake in 1589.<sup>7</sup>

Despite the persecution, a number of books were published in the early 1600's advocating the restoration of the Jews to their land. One of the key writers was Henry Finch (1558-1625) who

published an in-depth book about the Jews in prophecy in 1621.<sup>8</sup> At the time, he was a member of Parliament and was a highly respected legal scholar, but his social and political status did not protect him. King James was offended by Finch's assertion that a day would come when Israel would be the prime nation in the world. The result was that Finch and his publisher were arrested, and Finch was striped of his status and possessions.<sup>9</sup>

As time went by, the greatest proponents of Restorationism became the Puritans. This was most likely due to the great value they gave to the Hebrew Scriptures. And since the American colonies were settled primarily by Englishmen, including many Puritans, Restorationism took root quickly in the New World.

One of the leading Puritan proponents of Restorationism was Increase Mather (1639-1723) who served as the first president of Harvard. His book, *The Mystery of Israel's Salvation*, strongly supported the restoration of the Jewish people to their land. <sup>10</sup>

Tommy Ice presents evidence of widespread support of the Restorationist Movement throughout Europe during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. One very interesting advocate was a German Lutheran by the name of C. F. Zimpel whose writings proved to be prophetic. The pamphlets he published in the mid-1800's warned that if the Jews were not allowed to return to Palestine, they would be subjected to persecution and slaughter. 12

At the same time, the Movement really gained steam in England, and the leading spokesman who emerged was Lord Shaftesbury (1801-1885). He was a strong Anglican who interpreted the Bible literally and was known as "the Evangelical of Evangelicals." Shaftesbury "never had a shadow of a doubt that the Jews were to return to their own land . . . It was his daily prayer, his daily hope." Shaftesbury's influence was widespread, both within governmental and clerical circles.



Lord Shaftesbury

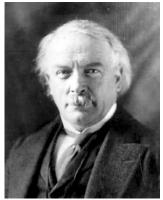
Perhaps the most influential Christian Zionist of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, from a practical viewpoint, was William Hechler (1845-1931) who was born in India of German missionary parents. He was raised in the Church of England, became a passionate Restorationist, and in 1882 published a book entitled, *The Restoration of the Jews to Palestine According to Prophecy*. <sup>16</sup>

In 1885 Hechler was appointed Chaplain to the British Embassy in Vienna. Theodor Herzl was residing there at the time, working as a journalist. The two met, and they were united in heart. Hechler became one of Herzl's closest friends and advisers. He constantly assured Herzl that what he was doing in founding the Zionist Movement was a fulfillment of Bible prophecy.<sup>17</sup>

## The 20th Century

With the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, two Christian Zionists in England were to have an even greater practical impact than Hechler. They were David Lloyd George (1863-1945) and Arthur James Balfour, later known as Lord Balfour (1848-1930).

Lloyd George became Prime Minister during World War I.







**Arthur James Balfour** 

He was a strong Christian Zionist who was "determined to gain control of Palestine . . . He also wanted his country to carry out what he regarded as God's work in Palestine." The British Foreign Minister at the end of the war was Lord Balfour. He was also a strong Christian Zionist. Lord Balfour's biographer says that his interest in Zionism was rooted in his boyhood training in the Old Testament under the guidance of his mother. 19

These two Christian Zionists, George and Balfour, worked together to issue the most important document of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century — the Balfour Declaration of November 2, 1917. In that pronouncement, the British Government declared its intention to provide a homeland for the Jewish people in Palestine, which was in the process of being liberated from the Ottoman Empire. The document electrified the Evangelical world because its leaders considered the declaration to be the first tangible sign that the world was moving into the end-times.<sup>20</sup>

Lloyd George tried later to justify the Balfour Declaration on the grounds that it was a reward to the Jewish people in response to the fact that during the war a Jewish scientist, Chaim Weizmann, had invented a synthetic form of acetone, an ingredient necessary for the production of explosives. But one of the leading historians of that period has concluded that Lloyd George and Lord Balfour were both motivated primarily by religious and sentimental feelings which they could not publicly admit.<sup>21</sup>



John Darby

The person who would prove to be the most influential in the long run was an Englishman named John Nelson Darby (1800-1882). He was the one who organized the literal interpretation of Bible prophecy into the systematic theology called Dispensationalism. Although Darby never became involved in politics and therefore never became a major player in British Restorationism, his Dispensational theology, when transported to the United States, became the foundation of American Christian Zionism.<sup>22</sup>

#### The American Scene

Without a doubt, the most important Christian Zionist in the United States during the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century was William E. Blackstone (1841-1935). He was a businessman who became convinced of the Dispensational viewpoint of end-time prophecy. In 1878 he wrote a book called *Jesus* 

is Coming, and it became the first Bible prophecy best seller. In 1887 he founded the Chicago Hebrew Mission for the evangelization of the Jews. In 1891 he presented President Benjamin Harrison with a petition signed by over 400 prominent Americans, advocating the re-settlement of persecuted Russian Jews to Palestine.<sup>23</sup>

Advocates for a homeland for the Jews abounded in the United States at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. There was C. I. Scofield who published the first study Bible in 1909. Another was Clarence Larkin who specialized in drawing fascinating charts in the 1920's about Bible prophecy. Moody Bible Institute in Chicago (founded in 1886) and Dallas Theological Seminary (founded in 1924) were both bastions of Christian Zionism, training students in the fundamentals of Dispensationalism.



**Hal Lindsey** 



Tim LaHaye

One of those students, Hal Lindsey, produced a book in 1970 titled *The Late Great Planet Earth*. It emphasized the fulfillment of God's promises to the Jewish people in their worldwide regathering, the re-establishment of their state, and their re-occupation of Jerusalem in 1967. This book was the number one best seller for ten years! It introduced the general public to Dispensationalism in a popular, easy-to-read way, and it produced a large increase in the number of Christian Zionists.

At the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Tim LaHaye's phenomenal *Left Behind* series of books touched millions more all over the world with the Dispensational viewpoint, including an understanding of the biblical case for the Jewish title to the land of Israel.

Today, at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Christian Zionism is at the peak of its influence. The most visible spokesman on the political scene is Pastor John Hagee of Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas. In 2006 he formed a political action organization called Christians United for Israel (www.cufi.org).

### A Serious Problem

Pastor Hagee is a good example of a problem that has plagued Christian Zionism since the mid-20th Century. The problem is that Christian Zionists sometimes become so enamored with the Jewish people and the Hebraic roots of the Christian faith that they decide that since the Jews are God's Chosen People, the Jews must have a way of salvation that is separate and apart from accepting the Christian Gospel. This unbiblical viewpoint is known as Dual Covenant Theology.

Hagee has believed in this theology for many years, although he has consistently denied it.<sup>24</sup> But his actions have spoken

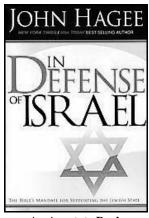


John Hagee

louder than his words, and on several occasions even his words have betrayed him when he would let it slip in interviews. For example, in an interview with the *Houston Chronicle* in 1988 he said: "Everyone else, whether Buddhist or Baha'i, needs to believe in Jesus, but not Jews. Jews already have a covenant with God that has never been replaced by Christianity."<sup>25</sup>

Hagee finally decided to come out of the closet with his recent book, *In Defense of Israel*. Incredibly, he proclaims in the book that "The Jews did not reject Jesus as Messiah." He explains: ". . . if Jesus refused by His words or actions to claim to be the Messiah of the Jews, then how can the Jews be blamed for rejecting what was never offered?" These incredible words are no slip of the pen. Hagee proceeds to make the statement over and over that Jesus refused to be the Jewish Messiah, "choosing instead to be the Savior of the world." <sup>29</sup>

This is gross apostasy. Peter confessed Jesus as "the Christ [Messiah], the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). Later, Peter declared in his first sermon at Pentecost "that God has made Him both Lord and Christ [Messiah] — this Jesus whom you crucified." Paul proclaimed the same message in the Jewish synagogues, "proving that this Jesus is the Christ [Messiah]" (Acts 9:20-23). John went so far as to declare that anyone who denies that Jesus is the Christ [Messiah] has the spirit of antichrist (1



An Apostate Book

John 2:22). Furthermore, Jesus Himself declared point blank that He was the Messiah when the Jews asked Him (John 10:24-33).<sup>30</sup>

Hagee also claims in his book that the Jews are still under the Old Covenant because the Old Testament was not invalidated by the Cross.<sup>31</sup> He is correct about the Old Testament, but he is dead wrong about the Jewish Covenant. The Mosaic Covenant, which constitutes only a small portion of the Old Testament, was replaced at the death of Jesus by a New Covenant that had been promised in the Hebrew Scriptures (Jeremiah 31:31-34). The whole book of Hebrews was written to emphasize this point (see Hebrews 7:22, 8:6-13, and 9:11-16). In fact the book of Hebrews says that the Old Covenant was rendered "obsolete" (Hebrews 8:13).

Those Christian Zionists who have embraced Dual Covenant Theology have embraced a lie. Paul wrote that the Gospel was meant for "the Jew first" and also for the Greeks (Romans 1:16). Loving the Jewish people so much that you refuse to share the Gospel with them is loving them right into Hell. Fortunately, the vast majority of Christian Zionists have rejected the apostasy of Dual Covenant Theology.

### The Attack on Christian Zionism

The two foremost critics of Christian Zionism are Reverend Stephen Sizer, an Anglican priest in England, and Hank Hane-







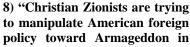
Hank Hanegraaff

graaff here in the United States, known popularly as "The Bible Answer Man." Both men are virulently anti-Semitic. Sizer has "marketed a nightmare version of Christian Zionism that paints all Christian supporters of Israel as reactionary and dangerous fundamental fanatics intent on bringing on Armageddon." Hanegraaff bluntly asserts that "Israel is the Harlot of Revelation." Some of the arguments presented by these men and other critics include the following: 34

- 1) "The Jews have been set aside by God because of their unbelief." This statement is directly contrary to Scripture. See Romans 9-11.
- 2) "The Church has replaced Israel." Says who? Where in God's Word is this stated? The Scriptures always maintain a separate identity for physical Israel and the Church. See, for example, 1 Corinthians 10:32.
- 3) "The Jews were dispossessed of their land because of their unbelief." Not true. There are two covenants pertaining to the land, a title covenant and a usage covenant. The Abrahamic Covenant gave them an eternal title to the land (Genesis 13:14-15). The Land Covenant, given to them through Moses, made their enjoyment of the land conditional on their obedience (Deuteronomy 28-29). Even when they have been evicted from the land because of disobedience, they have retained their title to it. They still have that title today (Psalm 105:8-11).
- 4) "The regathering of the Jews to Israel in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century could not be an act of God because the Jews have not repented and accepted Jesus as their Messiah." The Bible clearly prophesies that the Jews will be regathered in unbelief in the end-times (Isaiah 11:10-11). Their regathering is not a blessing they have earned; it is a demonstration of God's grace.
- 5) "The Jews stole the land of Palestine from the Arabs and exist there illegally." This is nonsense. First, the land belongs to the Jews as a grant from God (Genesis 13:14-15). Second, when the Jews started returning in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, they bought the land from the Arabs, paying exorbitant prices. Third, the state of Israel was created in response to a declaration of the United Nations, passed in November 1947, authorizing the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine.
- **6)** "The state of Israel is an accident of history." One would have to be spiritually blind to make such an assertion. The whole world hated and persecuted the Jews for 2,000 years after the Romans evicted them from their homeland. Yet, God preserved them, regathered them, and miraculously orchestrated the vote of the United Nations that authorized the re-establishment

of their state.35

7) "Christian Zionists believe that God has a different way of salvation for the Jews." Unfortunately this is true of a handful of Christian Zionists. But the vast majority hold no such belief. They would argue that being the Chosen People of God does not guarantee salvation and that the only hope for the Jews is the same as for Gentiles — namely, faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior.



**order to hasten the Lord's return."** This is drivel. In the first place, Christian Zionists do not have that much political power. In fact, most Christian Zionists are not political activists. They are content to teach the truth about Israel and pray for God's will to be done. The key to hastening the Lord's return is not orchestrating a war in the Middle East. Rather, it is by preaching the Gospel to as many people as possible, as quickly as possible (Matthew 24:14).

9) "Christian Zionists blindly support every action of the Israeli government." This is poppycock. Many Christian Zionists believe, like I do, that the greatest enemy of Israel today is its own leaders who have been deceived into believing that they can gain peace through appearament.

10) "Christian Zionists have no sympathy for the oppressed Palestinian people." Wrong again. My heart goes out to them, not because they have been oppressed by Israel, but because they are victims of a long string of wretched leaders like Yasser Arafat who have imprisoned them under a rule of tyranny and have stolen the billions in aide that has been provided by the international community. Their leaders could have established a Palestinian state in 1948 at the same time the state of Israel was established because the United Nations resolution called for the creation of two states. But their leaders decided instead to launch an attack on Israel. They have been afforded several opportunities since 1948 to create a Palestinian state, but each time they have responded with violence because their aim is the annihilation of Israel. As the Israeli diplomat, Abba Eban, once put it: "The Palestinians have never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity."

#### The Scriptural Basis

Let's conclude by taking a look at the scriptural basis of Christian Zionism.

To begin with, the Bible makes it clear that God Himself is a Zionist. Psalm 132:13 proclaims that "The Lord has chosen Zion" as His everlasting dwelling place. Psalm 87:2 says "the Lord loves the gates of Zion." In the Abrahamic Covenant God promised to bless those who bless Israel and curse those who curse the Jews, and history is littered with the carcasses of nations who mistreated the Jews. We are commanded by the Lord "to pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6).

Through the prophet Zechariah, God warned that those who



touch Israel, touch "the apple of His eye" (Zechariah 2:8). A similar warning is contained in Psalm 129:5 — "May all who hate Zion be put to shame and turned back." The passage goes on to say that no blessing of any kind should be given to those who hate Zion.

We are exhorted to comfort the Jewish people and to speak tenderly to them (Isaiah 4:1-2). We are commanded to speak out for Zion's sake and to be watchmen on the walls for Israel until the Lord "makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth" (Isaiah 62:1, 6-7). We are

warned not to be arrogant toward the Jews (Romans 11:18). And we are reminded that due to our spiritual debt to them, we should minister to them in material things (Romans 15:27).

With regard to the Jews in the end-times, here is a list of prophecies:<sup>36</sup>

- 1) Regathering in unbelief (Isaiah 11:10-12 and Ezekiel 36:22-28).
- 2) Re-establishment of the state of Israel (Isaiah 66:7-8 and Zechariah 12:3-6).
- 3) Reclamation of the land (Isaiah 35:1-7 and Joel 2:21-26).
- 4) Revival of the Hebrew language (Zephaniah 3:9).
- 5) Re-occupation of Jerusalem (Luke 21:24).
- 6) Resurgence of military strength (Zechariah 12:6).
- 7) Refocusing of world politics on Israel (Zechariah 12:3 and 14:1-9).

Jeremiah twice says that when God has accomplished all His purposes in history, the Jewish people will look back and consider their regathering in unbelief to be the greatest of God's miracles among them — greater even than their deliverance from Egyptian captivity (Jeremiah 16:14-15 and 23:7-8). What an exciting time we are privileged to live in! *Maranatha!* ❖

#### **Notes:**

- 1) "The First Zionist Congress and the Basel Program," unsigned article in The Jewish Virtual Library, www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Zionism/First\_Cong\_& \_Basel\_Program.html, p. 1. Accessed on March 8, 2008.
- 2) The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 4<sup>th</sup> edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2000).
- 3) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 3379: "Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination," www.daccessdds.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NRO/000/92/img/nr000092.pdf?OpenElement. Accessed on March 8, 2008.
- 4) Phil Baty, "Zionism thesis stirs up a storm," www.monabaker.com/pMachine/more.php?id?=A2208\_0\_1\_0\_M. Accessed March 8, 2008.
- 5) "Catholic Friends of Israel," www.cfoiblog.blogspot.com, p. 1. Accessed on March 7, 2008.
  - 6) Tommy Ice, "Lovers of Zion: A History of Christian Zionism,"

www.pre-trib.org/article-view.php?id=295. Accessed on March 1, 2008.

- 7) Douglas J. Culver, *Albion and Ariel: British Puritanism and the Birth of Political Zionism* (New York: Peter Lang, 1995), pp. 71-73.
- 8) Culver, Albion and Ariel, p. 101.
- 9) Tommy Ice, "Lovers of Zion," p. 6.
- 10) Ibid., p. 7.
- 11) Ibid.
- 12) Michael J. Pragai, Faith and Fulfillment: Christians and the Return to the Promised Land (London: Valentine, Mitchell, 1985), pp. 49-51.
- 13) Ice, "Lovers of Zion," pp. 8-10.
- 14) Ibid., p. 8.
- 15) Barbara Tuchman, Bible and Sword: England and Palestine from the Bronze Age to Balfour (New York: Ballantine Press, 1956), p. 93.
- 16) Paul C. Merkley, *The Politics of Christian Zionism: 1891-1948* (London: Frank Cass, 1998), p. 3.
- 17) Merkley, *The Politics of Christian Zionism*, p. 17.
- 18) James A. Saddington, "Prophecy and Politics: A History of Christian Zionism in the Anglo-American Experience, 1800-1948," PhD Dissertation at Bowling Green State University, 1996, pp. 176-177
- 19) Tuchman, Bible and Sword, p. 83.
- 20) For a detailed discussion of the religious impact of the Balfour Declaration, see "Bible Prophecy Fulfilled" by Dr. David Reagan in the *Lamplighter*, May-June 2002, pp. 3-6 (www.lamblion.com).
- 21) Tuchman, *Bible and Sword*, p. 83. See also "The Christian Roots of the Balfour Declaration," by Dr. William Varner in the *Lamplighter*, May-June 2002, pp. 7-8.
- 22) Dr. David Larsen, "John Nelson Darby: Pioneer of Dispensational Premillennialism," www.pre-trib.org/article-view.php?id+177. Accessed on March 10, 2008.

- 23) See Tommy Ice's essay, "William Blackstone and American Christian Zionism," pp. 9-10 in this issue of the *Lamplighter* (May-June 2008).
- 24) G. Richard Fisher, "The Other Gospel of John Hagee: Christian Zionism and Ethnic Salvation," www.pfo.org/jonhagee.htm.
- 25) *Houston Chronicle*, "San Antonio fundamentalist battles anti-Semitism," April 30, 1988, section 6, p. 1.
- 26) John Hagee, In Defense of Israel: The Bible's Mandate for Supporting the Jewish State (Lake Mary, Florida: Front Line Press, 2007).
- 27) Hagee, In Defense of Israel, p. 132.
- 28) Ibid., p. 136.
- 29) Ibid., p. 143.
- 30) For an excellent in-depth analysis of the scriptural errors in Hagee's book, see Richard A. McGough's review at www.bible wheel. com/RR/Hagee\_Defense\_of\_Israel.asp.
- 31) Hagee, In Defense of Israel, pp. 158ff.
- 32) Ami Isseroff, "Christian Zionism and Christians Who Are Zionists: Asset or Threat?" www.zionism-israel.com/log/archives/00000098. html, p. 1. Accessed March 10, 2008.
- 33) Dwayna Litz, "Hank Hanegraaff's Conference on Preterism and Replacement Theology," www.lightingtheway.blogspot.com/2007/06/essay-on-afternoon-with-hank-hanegraaff.html, p. 3. Accessed on March 10, 2008.
- 34) For an excellent discussion of the myths about Christian Zionism that have been created by its critics, see "Who Are the Christian Zionists?" by Dr. Gary Hedrick, *Messianic Perspectives*, November-December 2007, pp. 1-7, 10-13.
- 35) For a detailed discussion of the miracles involved in the reestablishment of Israel in 1948, see "Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" by Dr. David R. Reagan, *Lamplighter*, March-April 2008, pp. 3-9.
- 36) For a detailed discussion of these prophecies, see Dr. David R. Reagan's book, *God's Plan for the Ages*, (Princeton, TX: Lamb & Lion Ministries, 2005).

# **Some Christian Zionist Organizations**

**Bridges for Peace, Jerusalem** — Rebecca Brimmer, director (www.bridgesforpeace.com).

**Christian Friends of Israel, Jerusalem** — Ray & Sharon Sanders, directors (www.cfijerusalem.org).

**Christians Standing with Israel** — Mikael Knighton director (www.christiansstandingwithisrael.com). Based in Fernandina Beach, Florida.

**Christians United for Israel** — John Hagee, founder and director (www.cufi.org). Based in San Antonio, Texas.

**International Christian Embassy, Jerusalem** — Malcolm Hedding, director (www.icej.org).

**International Christian Zionist Center, Jerusalem** — Jan Willem van der Hoeven, founder and director (www.israelmy beloved.com).

**The Jerusalem Connection International** — Dr. James M. Hutchens, founder and director (www.tjci.org). Based in Washington, D.C.



Ray & Sharon Sanders of Christian Friends of Israel

# William Blackstone and American Christian Zionism

#### Dr. Thomas Ice

(Editor's Note: Dr. Thomas Ice is Executive Director of The Pre-Trib Research Center and serves on the faculty at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. He founded The Center in 1994, together with Dr. Tim LaHaye, to research, teach, and defend the Pretribulational Rapture and related Bible prophecy doctrines. The Center is currently located on the campus of Liberty University.)

Benjamin Netanyahu in his book, A Place Among the Nations: Israel and the World, recognizes William Eugene Blackstone (1841-1935) as one of the most outstanding examples of a Christian Zionist . . . 1

Early Christian Zionists were known as "Restorationists," since they desired a restoration of the Jews to Israel.<sup>2</sup> The name of William Blackstone is highly esteemed by Jewish Zionists, as is evidenced by the fact that the modern state of Israel named a forest after him . . .

#### **Blackstone's Beginnings**

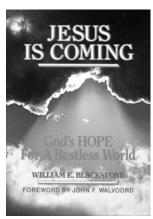


William E. Blackstone

Blackstone was born in Adams, New York in 1841 and reared in a pious Methodist home, where he became a Christian at age 11.3 When he married, he moved to Oak Park, Illinois in the Chicago area and became a very successful businessman dealing in real estate. "In 1878, he attended the Niagara Conference, dedicated to the Jews' return to Palestine, and emerged a diehard Restorationist."4 Even though he was Methodist, he had become motivated by the Dispensational view of Bible prophecy to work for the re-establishment of

national Israel. "Blackstone became a close associate of premillennialist leaders such as D. L. Moody . . . and Horatio Spafford . . . "5

Blackstone was a tireless, selftaught student of the Bible and theology who continued to develop his interest in what the Bible teaches about Israel. Like many Christians with similar interests, this led to attempts to evangelize Jewish people with the Gospel. In 1887 he founded the Chicago Hebrew Mission for the evangelization of the Jews, which is still active as the American Messianic Fellowship. Blackstone combined his pro-Zionist stance with continual efforts throughout his life to win Jewish Blackstone's classic book. people to Christ.



Blackstone wrote the best-selling book Jesus Is Coming in 1878. It sold over a million copies in three editions and was translated into 36 languages.6 "Probably no Dispensational Bible teacher of his time had a larger popular audience."7 Blackstone was the Hal Lindsey of his day.

#### **Blackstone's Christian Zionism**

Blackstone was a tireless worker in behalf of re-establishing the Jewish nation in Israel. Clearly he was the leading Christian Zionist of his day. Timothy Weber says the following about Blackstone and Dispensationalism:8



Dr. Thomas Ice

Most Dispensationalists were satisfied to be mere observers of the Zionist movement. They watched and analyzed it. They spoke out in favor of it. But seldom did they become politically involved to promote its goals. There is one exception to the general pattern, however, in the person of William E. Blackstone, one of the most popular Dispensational writers of his time.

Concerning the restoration of the Jews to their homeland, Blackstone said in his book: "But, perhaps, you say: 'I don't believe the Israelites are to be restored to Canaan, and Jerusalem rebuilt.' Dear reader! Have you read the declarations of God's Word about it? Surely nothing is more plainly stated in the Scriptures." He then proceeds to list almost 14 pages of virtually nothing but Scriptural citations supporting his belief. Then he concludes: "We might fill a book with comments upon how Israel shall be restored, but all we have desired to do was to show that it is an incontrovertible fact of prophecy, and that it is intimately connected with our Lord's appearing . . . "10

By 1891, Blackstone the activist had obtained the signatures of 413 prominent Americans advocating the re-settlement of persecuted Jews in Russia to a new homeland in what was then called Palestine. 11 This petition was submitted to President Benjamin Harrison. Part of it read as follows: 12

> Why not give Palestine back to them again? According to God's distribution of nations, it is their home — an inalienable possession from which they were expelled by force . . .

> We believe this is an appropriate time for all nations, and especially the Christian nations of Europe, to show kindness to Israel. A million of exiles, by their terrible suffering, are piteously appealing to our sympathy, justice, and humanity. Let us now restore to them the land of which they were so cruelly despoiled by our Roman ancestors.

One expert on Blackstone's life, Carl Ehle, tells us that "among the 413 signers of this petition were the opinion makers of the day, including the editors and/or publishers of the leading newspapers and religious periodicals (at least 93 newspapers in all), the mayors of Chicago, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore . . . leading churchmen and rabbis, outstanding businessmen, and in Washington, the Speaker of the House of Representatives . . .the Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs . . . and William McKinley, of Ohio, who later became President."<sup>13</sup>

"Though the petition got plenty of press coverage, President Harrison and Secretary of State Blaine virtually ignored the document, and the little diplomatic notice it received faded quickly." Even though it accomplished little politically, Blackstone's petition was said to have had a galvanizing impact upon Americans as a whole. The petition received widespread coverage in newspapers and generated a great amount of discussion and acceptance. It also sparked great interest among the Jews as a whole. 15

Blackstone wanted the President to call an international conference of leaders, primarily European, to use their influence to establish the new Jewish state. Blackstone reasoned: "Not . . . since the days of Cyrus, King of Persia, has there been offered to any mortal such a privileged opportunity to further the purposes of God concerning His ancient people." <sup>16</sup>

In 1916 Blackstone made a similar appeal to President Woodrow Wilson, a Presbyterian minister's son who became a Christian Zionist, which influenced his acceptance of the Balfour Declaration of 1917.<sup>17</sup> The later resolution was virtually the same as the previous one. One historian concludes, "As often happened in America's Middle Eastern experience, one man's faith proved to be another's fantasy, while policy was determined by power." <sup>18</sup>

#### **Jewish Relationships**

Even though Blackstone worked tirelessly as a Christian Zionist, he never lost his zeal for evangelization of the Jews. In 1890, he organized and chaired the first conference between Christians and Jews in Chicago. <sup>19</sup> In our own day these are somewhat common, but in Blackstone's day such a gathering was unheard of. Blackstone used the occasion to promote the restoration of the Jews to Israel and also included some reasons why Jesus was the Messiah.

"Jewish Zionists liked and trusted Blackstone," <sup>20</sup> even though he often attempted to evangelize them. Typical of his evangelistic efforts throughout his life, he had the chutzpah to give an altar call at a 1918 Zionist mass meeting in Los Angeles! <sup>21</sup> He invited his Jewish audience of hundreds to come forward and accept Jesus as their Messiah. In spite of such efforts, he was still very much loved in the Jewish community.

Blackstone wanted to leave an evangelistic legacy for the Jewish people so that he could have a part in their salvation after the Rapture. He produced and distributed material that would explain to the Jews how to get saved after the Rapture. <sup>22</sup> At one point, Blackstone even had hundreds of Hebrew New Testaments printed up and taken to Petra and stored there so that the Jewish remnant would know how to get saved during the Tribulation.

### Conclusion

It is not surprising to learn that a "1918 Zionist Conference in Philadelphia acclaimed Blackstone a 'Father of Zionism,' and in 1956, on the 75th anniversary of Blackstone's petition to President Harrison, the citizens of the state of Israel dedicated a forest in his honor."<sup>23</sup>

Blackstone spent the rest of his life working for his beloved

cause until his death in 1935. While he was thrilled with the developments of the Balfour Declaration in 1917 and the British Mandate after World War I, he died disappointed that Israel had not yet become a nation. However, his dream did take place 13 years later. William Blackstone is an inspiration and model for Christians today of one who strongly supports Israel while at the same time attempting to win Jewish people to Christ. \$\Phi\$

#### **Notes:**

- 1) Benjamin Netanyahu, *A Place Among The Nations: Israel and the World* (New York: Bantam, 1993), p. 16.
- 2) For an overview of the entire history of Christian Zionism see Thomas Ice, "Lovers of Zion: A History of Christian Zionism," www.pre-trib.org/article-view.php?id=295.
- 3) Timothy P. Weber, *On The Road to Armageddon: How Evangelicals Became Israel's Best Friend* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004), p. 102.
- 4) Michael B. Oren, *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East, 1776 to the Present* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2007), p. 278.
- 5) Weber, On The Road to Armageddon, p. 102.
- 6) Oren, Power, Faith, and Fantasy, p. 278.
- 7) Weber, On the Road to Armageddon, p. 103.
- 8) Ibid., p. 102.
- 9) William E. Blackstone, *Jesus Is Coming*, 3rd edition (New York: Fleming H. Revell, 1932), p. 162.
- 10) Blackstone, Jesus Is Coming, p. 176.
- 11) Carl F. Ehle, Jr., "Prolegomena to Christian Zionism in America: The Views of Increase Mather and William E. Blackstone Concerning the Doctrine of the Restoration of Israel," PhD Dissertation at New York University, 1977, pp. 240-244.
- 12) Ehle, "Prolegomena," pp. 241-242.
- 13) Ibid., pp. 242-243.
- 14) Weber, On the Road to Armageddon, p. 105.
- 15) Ehle, "Prolegomena," p. 243.
- 16) Oren, Power, Faith, and Fantasy, p. 278.
- 17) Ehle, "Prolegomena," pp. 290-293.
- 18) Oren, Power, Faith, and Fantasy, p. 279.
- 19) Weber, On The Road to Armageddon, p. 103.
- 20) Ibid., p. 106.
- 21) Ibid., p. 112.
- 22) Ibid., Armageddon, p. 105.
- 23) Ibid., p. 106.

William Blackstone's classic book, *Jesus is Coming*, is available through this ministry for a cost of \$20. This is the third edition which was published in 1908 (254 pages). It is a must read for any serious student of Bible prophecy. The book is a masterpiece of scripture analysis and presentation. It is thrilling to read the author's chapter about the Jews and see his confident prediction that God will regather them and re-establish them in the land of Israel. To order, call 1-800-705-8316.

# The Story Behind Israel's Flag

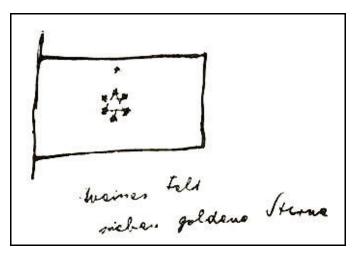
# Dr. David R. Reagan

Theodor Herzl's book, *The Jewish State* (1896), is considered to be the document that gave birth to the modern Zionist Movement. In that book Herzl proposed the design of a flag to represent a new Jewish state:<sup>1</sup>

We have no flag, and we need one. If we desire to lead many men, we must raise a symbol above their heads. I would suggest a white flag, with seven golden stars.

Herzl went on to explain that the white background would symbolize "the purity of our new life" while the seven stars would represent "the seven golden hours of our working-day."

Herzl may have been a great political visionary, but he was no flag designer. His concept did not catch on with anyone. So, the next year he proposed an alternative. Once again he conceived of a white background, but this time he proposed a large Star of David in the center, with smaller gold stars at each point and a seventh star above this cluster. Reproduced below is an extract from his diary showing his drawing of this flag.<sup>2</sup>



### The Wolffsohn Flag



David Wolffsohn

During the preparations for the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland in 1897, Herzl raised the issue of the flag. He pressed for approval of his new idea, but the design did not ignite any excitement. Suddenly, one of Herzl's close friends, David Wolffsohn, (1856 - 1914) stood up and said, "Why do we have to search? Here is our national flag." He then held up his prayer shawl which was white with a blue stripe along each

margin. Here's how Wolffsohn later described the incident:<sup>3</sup>

At the behest of our leader, Herzl, I came to Basel to make preparations for the Zionist Congress. Among many other problems that occupied me then was . . . what flag would we hang in the Congress Hall? Then



an idea struck me. We have a flag — and it is blue and white. The *talith* (prayer shawl) with which we wrap ourselves when we pray: that is our symbol. Let us take this *talith* from its bag and unroll it before the eyes of Israel and the eyes of all nations. So I ordered a blue and white flag with the Shield of David painted upon it. That is how the national flag, that flew over the Congress Hall, came into being.

Over the years that followed, the Star of David banner with two blue stripes became the unofficial symbol of the World Zionist Movement. At the 18<sup>th</sup> Zionist Congress in 1933, held in Prague, the flag was officially adopted as the symbol of Zionism.

#### The Colors of the Flag

The first person to voice the idea that blue and white should be the colors of the Jewish people was an Austrian poet named Ludwig August Frankl (1810-1894). In 1864 he expressed his idea in a poem titled, "Judah's Colors."

When sublime feelings his heart fill, He is mantled in the colors of his country. He stands in prayer, wrapped In a sparkling robe of white.

The hems of the white robe
Are crowned with broad stripes of blue;
Like the robe of the High Priest
Adorned with bands of blue threads.

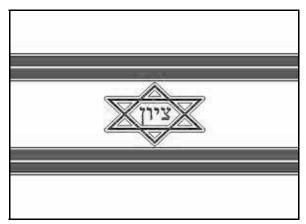
These are the colors of the beloved country. Blue and white are the borders of Judah. White is the radiance of the priesthood, And blue, the splendors of the firmament.

### Other Origins of the Flag

Actually, the flag design that David Wolffsohn came up with was one that had already been in circulation, although he most likely was not aware of it.

In 1882 Jews from Russia founded a town south of Jaffa named Rishon LeZion ("First to Zion"). It was funded in part by Baron Edmond de Rothschild. In the summer of 1885 the community started making plans to celebrate its third anniversary. One of the settlers, Israel Belkind, decided to make a flag for the

occasion. Working with another settler, the two of them came up with the idea of a design that would look like a prayer shawl, with the Star of David in the center, between two blue stripes. The flag was adopted as the symbol of the town, and later, the word, Zion, was added in the center of the Star of David.<sup>5</sup>



Rishon LeZion Flag of 1882

The fascinating thing is that people came up with a similar design here in the United States near the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. For example, a father and son in Boston — Jacob and Charles Askowith — produced a flag like the Wolffsohn and Belkind flags in 1891 to be used as the symbol of the Bnai Zion Educational Society. It had blue stripes above and below a Star of David, with the word Maccabee, inscribed in the center.<sup>6</sup>

Six years later, in 1897, the same year that Wolffsohn designed the flag to be used at the First Zionist Congress, a man in the Harlem area of New York City made a flag that was identical to Wolffsohn's. His name was Morris Harris. He was an immigrant from Russia. His ancestors have posted an article on the Internet that claims he was the designer of the flag of Israel.<sup>7</sup>

The story is that he was a member of a Jewish society that sent some delegates to the First Zionist Congress. When they returned to New York City, a welcome home party was planned for them. Mr. Harris, who was in the upholstery business, decided to make a flag to honor them. It turned out to be exactly like the flag



Morris Harris at the grave of his wife, Lena.

Wolffsohn had designed and which had been displayed as the symbol of the Congress. His wife actually made the flag, and when she died in 1928, Mr. Harris erected a monument which proclaimed: "The first Zion flag was made by her."

#### Coincidence or Epiphany?

How could four people — one in Switzerland, one in Israel, and two in the United States — come up with the same flag design? Was it just a coincidence, or could it have been something supernatural in nature?

I would argue that the Lord moved on their hearts with the

same design and did so to affirm the fact that their design was the one that should be adopted by the new state. I say this because the design of the flag of Israel was prophesied by Isaiah over 2,700 years ago (Isaiah 11:10):

Then it will come about in that day That the nations will resort to the root of Jesse, Who will stand as a signal for the peoples; And His resting place will be glorious.

This passage goes on to say that at this time, the Lord will regather the Jewish people a "second time" (the first being the regathering from Babylon) from "the four corners of the earth" (Isaiah 11:11-12).

Look again at the verse quoted above (Isaiah 11:10). Isaiah says that "in that day" (his consistent term for the end times) a "signal" will be raised that will feature "the root of Jesse." The Hebrew word for signal, nec, is a word that can be translated as signal, standard, banner, or ensign. So this verse is saying that in the end times a banner will be raised that will feature "the root of Jesse." Jesse is, of course, the father of David. So, Isaiah is saying that the flag will carry the symbol of David and that it will act like a magnet to draw the Jewish people back to their homeland. The symbol of David is, of course, the Star of David, so the modern day flag of Israel represents a fulfillment of Bible prophecy.

#### The Adoption of the Flag

On May 14, 1948, when David Ben Gurion read the Israeli Declaration of Independence in Tel Aviv, Zionist banners hung from the ceiling on both sides of the podium, but no flag for the new state had yet been adopted.



David Ben Gurion reading the Israeli Declaration of Independence. Note the Zionist banners on each side of him.

The Provisional Government was reluctant to adopt the design of the Zionist banner. They feared that Jews worldwide who were already using the Zionist flag at their meetings would be accused of double loyalty if the design was adopted as the official flag of Israel. So, for nearly six months, the new state did not have a flag.

There was fierce argument within the government as to the final design. Some desired a flag featuring a Menorah. Others lobbied for the Lion of Judah.

Finally, Prime Minister David Ben Gurion decided to ask the public for its opinion. A design contest was initiated with the guideline that the flag should be blue and white in color, but other colors were not ruled out. About 170 proposals were submitted. On October 28, 1948, the Council of State adopted the

#### Notes:

- 1) Theodor Herzl, *The Jewish State* (Filiquarian Publishing, 2006), originally published in 1896, pp. 85-86.
- 2) Dov Gutterman, "Israel History of the National Flag," www.crwflags.com/fotw/Flags/il%7Dz1896.html. Accessed on March 5, 2008
- 3) Alec Mishory, "The Israeli Flag," The Jewish Virtual Library, www. jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/isflag.html, p. 2. Accessed on March 5, 2008.
- 4) "Blue and White and the Israeli Flag," unsigned article on the website of Jewish Heritage Online Magazine, www.jhom.com/topics/color/flag.htm, p. 2. Accessed on March 5, 2008.
- 5) Dov Gutterman, "Rishon LeZiyyon Flag," www.crwflags.com/FOTW/FLAGS/il%7Dz1885.html, pp. 1-2. Accessed on March 5, 2008.
- 6) Alec Mishory, "The Israeli Flag," The Jewish Virtual Library, www. jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/isflag.html, p. 3-4. Accessed on March 5, 2008.
- 7) Madeline Harris Rabinowitz, "The Birth of the Flag of Israel: The Story of Morris Harris Designer of the Flag of Israel," www.flag-of-Israel.org, pp. 1-2. Accessed on January 20, 2008.
- 8) Ibid., p. 2
- 9) Dov Gutterman, "Israel History of the National Flag," www.crwflags.com/FOTW/FLAGS/il\_hist.html, p. 2. Accessed on March 5, 2008.

10) Ibid., p. 3.

# Other Symbols of Israel



The Menorah — This is probably the oldest of all Jewish symbols. It has no parallel in heraldry and produces an immediate association with the subject it represents — the Temple in Jerusalem.

The symbol is incorporated in the official seal of Israel, shown on the left. The seal features the seven-branched candelabrum of the Temple. The two artists who designed the seal took as their model the depiction of the menorah in

relief on the Arch of Titus in Rome. Their original design featured a white band at the top on which was emblazoned the seven golden stars Theodor Herzl had intended for the flag of the Jewish state. But the governmental committee in charge of selecting the design decided to eliminate the stars.

The olive branches express the state's peaceful intentions. The menorah attests to the link of the Jewish people with their glorious past when a huge menorah stood in their Temple in Jerusalem. The inscription at the bottom says "Israel." This seal is used on the official government documents of the state of Israel.



The Lion of Judah — The lion became associated with the Jewish people when Jacob on his death bed referred to the tribe of Judah as "a lion's whelp" (Genesis 49:9). It was adopted as the symbol of the tribe of Judah, and later, when that tribe came to dominate Jewish life, it was identified with the Jewish people as a whole. It is used on the flag of Jerusalem. The design of that flag (shown above) is similar to the flag of Israel, with a white background and dark blue stripes. But a depiction of the Lion of Judah replaces the Star of David in the center. The lion is displayed against a golden background that represents the Western Wall or "Wailing Wall" as it is known in the Western world. The word above the emblem is the Hebrew rendering of Jerusalem. The olive branches on each side represent the desire for peace, bringing to mind the biblical command to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6).



The Shofar — The shofar is mentioned frequently in the Hebrew Scriptures, the Talmud and rabbinic literature. The shofar was used in biblical times to announce the new moon (Numbers 10:10), holidays (Psalm 81:3), and the Jubilee year (Leviticus 25:10). The annual Feast of Trumpets, held on the first day of the seventh month, is termed "a memorial of blowing" (Leviticus 23:24), or "a day of blowing" the shofar (Numbers 29:1). The shofar was also employed in processions (2) Samuel 6:15), as a musical accompaniment (Psalm 98:6) and to signify the start of a war (Joshua 6:4). The blast of a shofar emanating from the thick cloud on Mount Sinai

made the Israelites tremble in awe (Exodus 19:19).

The Star of David — Many sources claim this symbol did not originate until the Middle Ages, but that is not true. It can be found on the frieze of the 2nd Century synagogue in Capernaum. It also appears as part of the 1st Century symbol of the Messianic Church, which combined the symbols of the menorah, the star of David and the fish. ❖

# Guest Editorial

# The New Bush Doctrine

### Dr. James M. Hutchens

(Editor's Note: The author is a seminary graduate who served as a chaplain in the Army and was decorated for bravery in Vietnam. He retired from the Army with the rank of Brigadier General and wrote of his wartime experiences in a book entitled Beyond Combat (1994). He is the founder of a ministry called The JerUSAlem Connection. He publishes a bi-monthly magazine that focuses on events in the Middle East. For more information, access his website at www.tjci.org.)

oston Globe columnist, Jeff Jacoby, in his article "Death of **D** the Bush Doctrine"(January 24, 2008) describes with chilling clarity what can only be described as the death of the original Bush doctrine — the one the President strongly delivered in a blunt 2001 warning to sponsors of Islamic Jihadism: "You are either with us or you are with the terrorists." That powerful warning is now silent, and as a result, the Bush Doctrine is dead. In other words, he really didn't mean what he said.



Jeff Jacoby

Jacoby further charges that Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was chosen to announce its death when she declared, "The administration has abandoned the most fundamental condition of its support of Palestinian statehood — namely, an end to Palestinian terror." Did we hear that correctly? The Palestinians do not have to stop terrorism against Israel? America will support a terrorist Palestinian statehood? Jacoby rightly concludes, "Rice's explanation was as striking for its candor as for its moral blindness."

## The Road Map to Peace



ber of 2002. In doing so, he became the first American president to make a Palestinian state a matter of policy. In fact, he called for a contiguous state, one whose parts are connected. Did the "Road Map" mention that making Palestine contiguous automatically requires Israel to be noncontiguous, cut in half, not connected, divided? God warns of harsh judgment for those who scatter His heritage

President Bush advocated "The Road Map to Peace" in Septem-

**Bush with Mahmoud Abbas** 

Israel and "divide up My land" (Joel 3:2).

A "Two State Solution" was fully conditioned on Palestinians stopping terrorist attacks against Israel. Why the change? Jacoby reminds us that the same Bush administration that once insisted, "... a Palestinian state will never be created by terror"

now insists that "a Palestinian state be created regardless of terror." Evidently he didn't really mean "never." What a stunning reversal! In fact, it demands that Israel just "get over it," shut up, and deal with Palestinian terrorism as though it were a given a basic ingredient to life in the region. What boggles the mind is that Israel's Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, apparently agrees. Understandably, 64% of Israelis do not.



Dr. James M. Hutchens

Here is what recognizing a "Two State Solution" really means. At least 280,000 Israelis will be forcibly removed from the West Bank. We are talking about Judea and Samaria, the heartland of Israel. The eternal city of Jerusalem will be divided. People will be saying, "Peace, peace," but there will be no peace. In fact, a "Two State Solution," implemented by "The Road Map to Peace" is:

- Geographically impossible
- Militarily unenforceable
- Economically unsustainable
- Politically uncontrollable
  - Socially incompatible
- Educationally unachievable
- Religiously unsupportable • Biblically irreconcilable

The question many ask is this: Why would President Bush shelve his own Bush Doctrine? Jacoby gives a good answer: "In its hunger for Arab support against Iran — and perhaps in a quest for a historic 'legacy' — the Administration . . . is hell bent on bestowing statehood upon a regime that stands unequivocally with the terrorists."

We would add that a dependence on and the thirst for Arab oil moves the Bush administration to be willing to sellout Israel to pacify anti-Israel Arabs.

The New Bush Doctrine leads to two inescapable conclusions:

1. The Bush administration has two categories of terrorists. One they do not support and one they do. They do not support Al Qaeda in Iraq (who recently strapped an explosive belt on a woman with Down Syndrome and then detonated it by remote control), Afghanistan and Iran. However, they do support the Palestinian Jihadists, including Fatah, led by Mahmoud Abbas, and demand that Israel make peace with them. Hamas and Hizbollah are criticized, but Israel is held back from any pre-emptive strike against the terrorists to neutralize them as we did in Iraq.

2. The Bush administration supports a Palestinian state governed by Palestinian Jihadists. Regarding Israel, President Bush said in his State of the Union speech, "we're pursuing diplomacy to help bring peace to the Holy Land, and pursuing the establishment of a democratic Palestinian state living sideby-side with Israel in peace and security." Now however, Palestinian Jihadists need not stop their terrorist activity in order to become a state. Appeasement has won the day again.



British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain displaying his agreement with Hitler on September 30, 1938. "We have peace in our time," he declared.

#### The Folly of Appeasement

Appeasement is defined as the policy of accepting the imposed conditions of an aggressor in lieu of armed resistance, often at the sacrifice of principles. Usually it means giving in to the demands of an aggressor in order to avoid war. In 1938 the Prime Minister of Britain, Neville Chamberlain, came to personify appeasement. He went to Hitler at a conference in Munich and proceeded to appease him by agreeing to Hitler's demand for the Sudetenland with the promise from Hitler that his warlike gestures would stop. The rest is history, with six million Jews dying in gas chambers and over 60 million people killed in World War II. You would think we would have learned a lesson about the dangers of appeasement from this.



This poster was plastered all over more land to get them to Jerusalem when President Bush ar- stop sending suicide rived in January 2008. bombers and missiles into

We haven't. The Bush Administration's "Road Map to Peace," which was supposedly jump-started at the Annapolis Peace Conference in November of 2007 and reiterated during the President's visit to the Middle East in January of 2008, is, at its core, a policy of appeasement. "Land for Peace" and the "Two State Solution," with its divided Jerusalem, are all notions founded on the failed policy of attempting to appease Palestinian Jihadists by giving them bombers and missiles into Israel with the ultimate

goal of destroying the state. Appeasement didn't work with Hitler and it has not and will not work with the Palestinian Jihadists. As President Eisenhower once said, "Appeasement is defeat on the installment plan." More graphic is Winston Churchill's insight, "An appeaser is one who feeds the crocodile, hoping it will eat him last."

#### What to do?

We are presently in election cycle in the United States. Christian Zionists and God's people everywhere need to pray that God might be pleased to give us (and Israel also) God-fearing elected leaders who will govern according to the Bible and refuse to perpetuate the New Bush Doctrine. The future of Israel, humanly speaking, is perilous. God is sovereign and we know how it all ends — we win and so does Israel. But in the meantime, we must be faithful and "pray for the peace of Jerusalem," believing that "those who love you will be secure" (Psalm 122:6). ❖

# Comments about Bush and Israel

"Name one concession Israel has made in recent years that has been reciprocated by its sworn enemies. This is not a trick question. There are none." — Cal Thomas

"The thing President Bush does not understand about the Middle East crisis is this: If the Arabs would disarm, there would be peace. If Israel disarms, Israel will cease to exist. It's just that simple. You cannot make peace with an enemy who is determined to destroy you." — Dave Reagan

"The lame duck American leader, who most Palestinians think is just lame, if not evil, and most Israelis say is fairly ducky, if rather naive, came to Israel in an attempt to keep the momentum going from his late November Annapolis peace summit. He might as well be paddling up Niagara Falls with a pitchfork." — David Dolan

"Why did Bush abandon his principles and pressure Israel to appease its Islamist enemies? Because four days after Bush's Israel visit, he visited Saudi Arabia and asked OPEC nations to boost their oil output. He is trading Jews for oil." — Ben Shapiro

"Globaloney!" — Frank J. Gaffney, Jr.



# **Television Update**

# Israel Video Trip

In mid-March the ministry sent a video crew of 14 people to Israel to shoot footage for new television programs. The crew included five staff members and nine volunteers.



The Lamb & Lion video crew is shown above in front of the Franciscan Monastery on Mt. Carmel in Israel. This is the site of Elijah's confrontation with the false prophets of Baal.

The crew spent five days in Tel Aviv and five days in Jerusalem. In the Tel Aviv area they shot footage for programs about the prophet Elijah, the Roman soldier Cornelius, and King David. They also completed several programs about the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Israel, including one that was shot inside of Independence Hall.

In the Jerusalem area, they recorded interviews with long time Israel residents regarding the nation's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They also spent a day at the Bible Times Learning Center in Ein Kerem, a suburb of Jerusalem. At this Center they videotaped the director, Annie Thrasher, presenting a series of teaching lessons about life in the time of Jesus.

One of the highlights of the trip for all the crew members was attendance at the Easter Sunday service at the Garden Tomb. A detailed report on this important trip will be contained in the next issue of the *Lamplighter*.

One of the crew members, Cathy Cotter-Smith, is a college art teacher. She painted watercolors along the way that will be combined into a full color calendar for 2009 which the ministry will make available later this year.



Cathy painting in the Valley of Elah where David slew Goliath.

# "Christ in Prophecy" Broadcast Schedule National Networks

DayStar Network DirecTV Channel 369 DISH Channel 263				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day Time	Wed. 4:00pm	Wed. 5:00pm	Wed. 6:00pm	Wed. 7:00pm

Inspiration Network Available on cable networks				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day	Tues.	Tues.	Tues.	Tues.
&	5:30pm	6:30pm	7:30pm	8:30pm
Time	Wed.	Wed.	Wed.	Wed.
	8:00am	9:00am	10:00am	11:00am

FaithTV Network SkyAngel IPTV Channel 110				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day & Time	Sun. 10:00am	Sun. 11:00am	Sun. 12:00pm	Sun. 1:00pm

National Religious Broadcasters TV Network DirectTV Channel 378				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day & Time	Sun. 2:00pm	Sun. 3:00pm	Sun. 4:00pm	Sun. 5:00pm

# **Regional Networks**



"Christ in Prophecy" is broadcast throughout southern Louisiana on the **Family Vision Network**: Sunday at 6:30pm; Monday at 8:30am; and Wednesday at 7:00pm. Family Vision TV can be seen on 11 cable

systems throughout South Louisiana. For specific broadcast information, see: www.kajn.com/familyvision.



God's Learning Channel broadcasts our program on Wednesday at 6:00pm throughout Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah via cable. It can also be picked up nationally via Direct Broadcast Satellite. For more information, see: www.godslearningchannel.com.

# We need your help as a Prophecy Partner!

Our Prophecy Partner Program provides the spiritual and financial base of our ministry. Our Prophecy Partners serve as our prayer warriors, and they supply the finances necessary to sustain the ministry in its worldwide outreach via television and the Internet.

To become a Prophecy Partner, you must make a commitment to pray for the ministry regularly and to provide a monthly contribution of \$20 or more. Many of our Prophecy Partners aim at providing us with one dollar a day for a year, or \$365 per year. Others provide much more than that.

We currently have about 2,100 Prophecy Partners. We need to expand that number to over 2,500.

Each month Dr. Reagan sends out a special letter to the Prophecy Partners in which he describes what is happening in the ministry and outlines the ministry's prayer needs. This mailing also includes a special gift — usually a DVD copy of one of our television programs.

To become a Prophecy Partner, call 1-800-705-8316 and make your commitment. Thank you!



Dr. Reagan with Carol Butcher of McKinney, Texas. Carol is a Prophecy Partner who has made a pilgrimage to Israel with the Ministry. She is retired but very active in her church and enjoys the companionship of her Dachshund. She volunteers as a school crossing guard.



In late January Dr. Reagan participated in a major Bible prophecy conference in California that was hosted by Calvary Chapel Chino Hills. All but two of the participants are shown above. From left to right, Dr. Reagan, Don Perkins, Jacob Prasch, Pastor Jack Hibbs, Brigitte Gabriel, Kamal Saleem, Jay Smith, and Marty Goetz. Two speakers not pictured were Walid Shoebat and Ed Hindson. You can purchase copies of the conference presentations on either DVD or CD, at the following site on the Internet: http://www.realradioactive.org/store/catalog.cfm?c=1. Walid Shoebat and Kamal Saleem are former Palestinian terrorists. Jacob Prasch is a Messianic Jew who is an expert on Islam. Jay Smith is an expert on the Koran. Brigitte Gabriel is an outspoken supporter of Israel who was born and raised in Lebanon. Marty Goetz is a Messianic Jewish singer. Don Perkins is the founder of According to Prophecy Ministries located in San Diego, California.

# Lamb & Lion Bible Prophecy Conference

June 27 – 28, 2008 in Princeton, Texas (Suburb of Dallas)

#### Location

Grace Community Church in Princeton, Texas 302 West Princeton Drive (Highway 380) 972-734-2776

#### **Conference Theme**

"The Miracle of Israel"

# **Speakers**

# Dr. David R. Reagan

Dr. Reagan is the founder of Lamb & Lion Ministries. He is the author of several books about Bible prophecy, and he hosts the nationally broadcast television program, "Christ in Prophecy." He is also the editor of a bi-monthly magazine called the *Lamplighter*.





# **Gary Fisher**

Gary Fisher is the founder and director of Lion of Judah Ministries in Franklin, Tennessee. He has ministered with Dr. Reagan in conferences all across the United States and around the world. He is known for his great sense of humor.

### Music

### **Ted Pearce**

A concert of Messianic Jewish music will be presented by Ted Pearce, one of the foremost Messianic song writers and singers in the world today. Ted is a recording artist for Integrity Music.





### **Jack Hollingsworth**

Jack is the featured singer on the "Christ in Prophecy" TV program. He will be singing throughout the conference and will present a concert of gospel songs. He will thrill your soul with his enthusiasm.

#### **Schedule**

# Friday, June 27th

6:00pm to 7:00pm – Registration and Displays.

7:00pm to 8:00pm - Concert of Messianic music presented

by Ted Pearce.

8:00pm to 8:30pm - Break.

8:30pm to 9:00pm – Premier of TV program entitled "King

David of Israel: A Profile in Righteous-

ness."

9:00pm to 9:30pm – Videotaping of a TV program entitled

"The Signs of the Times" featuring Dr.

Reagan.

# Saturday, June 28th

8:30am to 9:00am - Registration and Displays.

9:00am to 10:00am - "The Miracle of Israel" by Dave Rea-

gan.

10:00am to 10:30am - Break.

10:30am to 11:30am - "Israel in Bible Prophecy" by Gary

Fisher.

11:30am to 1:00pm - Lunch.

1:00pm to 2:00pm - Concert of Gospel music presented by

Jack Hollingsworth.

2:00pm to 2:15pm - Break.

2:15pm to 3:15pm – "Israel in the End Times" by Gary

Fisher.

3:15pm to 3:30pm – Break.

3:30pm to 4:30pm – "Satan's Hatred of Israel" by Dave

Reagan.

4:30pm to 5:00pm – Worship service led by Jack Hollings-

worth.

### **Special Luncheon**

Saturday noon a special Texas style barbeque lunch will be provided at a cost of \$10 per person. Tickets to this lunch must be purchased in advance of the conference. Other eating places are available in the area.

#### **Open House**

The headquarters of Lamb & Lion Ministries, also located in Princeton, Texas, will be open to visitors on Friday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

## **Registration and Cost**

The conference is free of charge. Two offerings will be taken. To register, call 972-736-3567. You can purchase a lunch ticket at the time of registration. ♣

# **Ministry News**

#### Dr. Reagan's Schedule —

In early **June** Dr. Reagan is scheduled to lead a pilgrimage group to Israel (7-18). The last weekend of June the ministry is going to conduct a Bible prophecy conference in Princeton, Texas that will involve all the ministry's staff members (27-28). In **July** Dr. Reagan will be one of several speakers at the Disciples Heritage Fellowship Conference to be held at Eastridge Park Christian Church in Mesquite, Texas (11-12). At the end of that month, Dr. Reagan will be speaking at Northside Christian Church in Clovis, California (26-27). In **August** Dr. Reagan will return to the Lexing-

ton, Kentucky area where he will speak first at the Church of the Living God in Winchester (24) and then will be the featured speaker at the annual "Great Hope Gathering" sponsored by the Winchester/Clark County Association of Churches (24-27). Dr. Reagan is limited to accepting one out-of-town speaking engagement per month, and his calendar is full for the year. He is, however, open to invitations in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.

# Israel Pilgrimages —

Dr. Reagan's Holy Land pilgrimage group for June is full, but there are still openings available for his "Focus on Jerusalem" trip that is scheduled for November 9-18. This group is limited to 50 people who have been to Israel before. The group will spend its entire time of ten days in Jerusalem seeing things that are not normally covered in a basic tour of the land. To secure a detailed brochure, call 1-800-705-8316.

#### Caretaker's Home —

Because our headquarters is located in a remote rural area it is essential that we have caretakers who live on the property to guard it from intruders. Our current caretaker's home is a double-wide manufactured house that is 25 years old. It needs about \$25,000 in repairs. Our board voted recently to replace it rather than try to repair it. A replacement home will cost about \$80,000. We have \$35,000 in hand, including the estimated trade-in value of the current home (\$10,000). That means we need to raise a total of \$45,000 as quickly as possible. Please give this need your prayerful consideration. If you can help us, please designate your donation for "Caretakers House." Thank you.

### Philippine Mission —

For many years we have been assisting Pastor Remegio Blanco in the Philippines with his church and his evangelistic crusades. When we first came in contact with this great man of God, he and his wife were living in a grass hut. Through the generosity of our supporters, we built them a large concrete block home. The pastor and his congregation are now constructing a new church building. They are doing nearly all the work themselves, but they need money for building materials. The latest estimate from them projected a total need of \$21,000. If you can help with this need, please designate your gift for "Philippine Church." And please put Pastor Blanco and his church on your prayer list. Pray for the Lord to meet their need and to continue to work through them to reach many lost souls for Jesus.



# **Communications**

Magazine & TV Program — "I recently phoned your office to ask to be put on your mailing list for your *Lamplighter* magazine. I received my first copy just a few days ago and sat down to read it cover to cover, every word! Wow! Good job! I enjoyed it as much as I've enjoyed your weekly TV program. I've been watching "Christ in Prophecy" for a little over a year now on the Inspiration Network. I sure look forward to my Tuesday evenings with you. I always keep Tuesday evenings free. Nothing is going to keep me from watching your program! It's also been placed in my heart by the Lord to partner with your ministry.

Enclosed is a check for my first partner gift. I was so pleased to see that you had received a four-star rating with Charity Navigator. That tells me you're doing a good job with the resources that God puts into your hands. Please keep up the good work that you and your staff are doing." — Connie Janzan in Marion, Iowa

**Books** — "I finished reading *Living for Christ in the End Times* a few weeks ago, and I'm now almost finished reading *God's Plan for the Ages*. Both are awesome books. God has blessed me through them. I will keep you in my prayers." — Daniel Hogue in Danville, Kentucky

Magazine — "Really enjoyed the last issue of the *Lamplighter* concerning the end times. There are about two dozen of us old duffers who meet at the local McDonald's for Friday breakfast. Time and time again your articles become topics for our discussions." — Eric Sjoberg in Stillwater, Minnesota

Magazine & TV Program — "Here is my contribution for your good *Lamplighter* magazine and also your TV program. I wish I could send more. I give only to ministries that teach the Word of God, like yours. But, Dr. Reagan, you talk so fast on TV that this 88 year-old viewer has trouble keeping up!" — Judith Hopkins in Blowing Rock, North Carolina

Magazine — "I was given the issue of the *Lamplighter* that featured an article about the Masonic Order. It certainly opened my eyes to a lot of facts that are not known by the general public. I have seriously considered joining the Masons. No more! Thank you for opening my eyes." — Carl Wells in Raiford, Florida

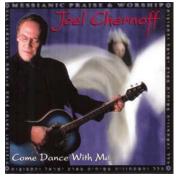
**Television** — "Just want to let you know that I enjoy your program on DayStar and watch it every time I have the chance to do so. You share a lot of information people really need to know. I also appreciate it very much that you do not beg for money all the time like other television ministries tend to do. When I want to give, I know where to find that place to give, and you are the one God laid on my heart to give to this month." — Susan Todd in Mesa, Arizona

Magazine — "The March-April issue of your magazine, the one about the 60th anniversary of Israel was exceptional. Even though I knew most of the story, all the extra details you cited were inspiring . . . I shared the article on Wednesday evening at our prayer meeting and Bible study. Several people wanted copies of it. It's amazing how empowering the study of end times issues is to God's people . . . I truly wish that many of my brethren preachers who poo-poo the importance of prophecy would wake up and see the light." — Bob Wickline, minister at Salt Air Church of Christ in Bethel, Ohio ♣

# An Exciting New Video Album!

What is Messianic Judaism? Is it biblical? Or is it just a disguised form of Judaizing? And how does it relate, if at all, to end time Bible prophecy?

These and many other questions about this remarkable movement are answered in this 65 minute video album which contains interviews of Joel Chernoff and Ted Pearce.



a group he called Lamb.

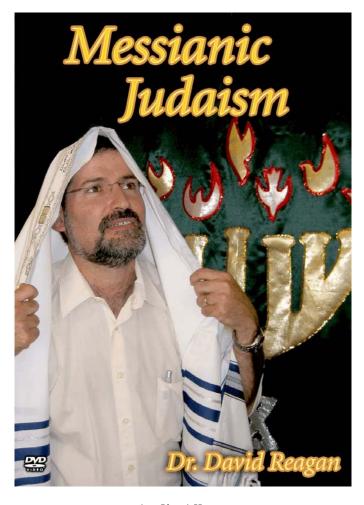
Ted Pearce is a leading composer and performer of Messianic Jewish music, and he and Joel have recently combined their talents to re-establish Lamb as a recording group.

Joel Chernoff is the General Secretary of the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America and President of the Messianic Jewish Alliance International. Joel is also the one who pioneered the development of Messianic Jewish music with



One of the highlights of the album is the music it contains. Joel and Ted each sing two of their original compositions. The album also contains a special illustrated presentation of a powerful song about the Holocaust that Ted Pearce wrote.

\$12 plus the cost of shipping. To order, call 1-800-705-8316.



### **Audio Album**

The ministry also has available CD copies of Ted Pearce's latest audio album entitled "Hallelu et Adonai." The album contains a total of 11 very rhyth-

mic Messianic songs. It sells for \$15 plus the cost of shipping.

We can supply you with the DVD album and the audio album for a combined cost of \$25, plus the cost of shipping. ❖





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