

# LAMPLIGHTER

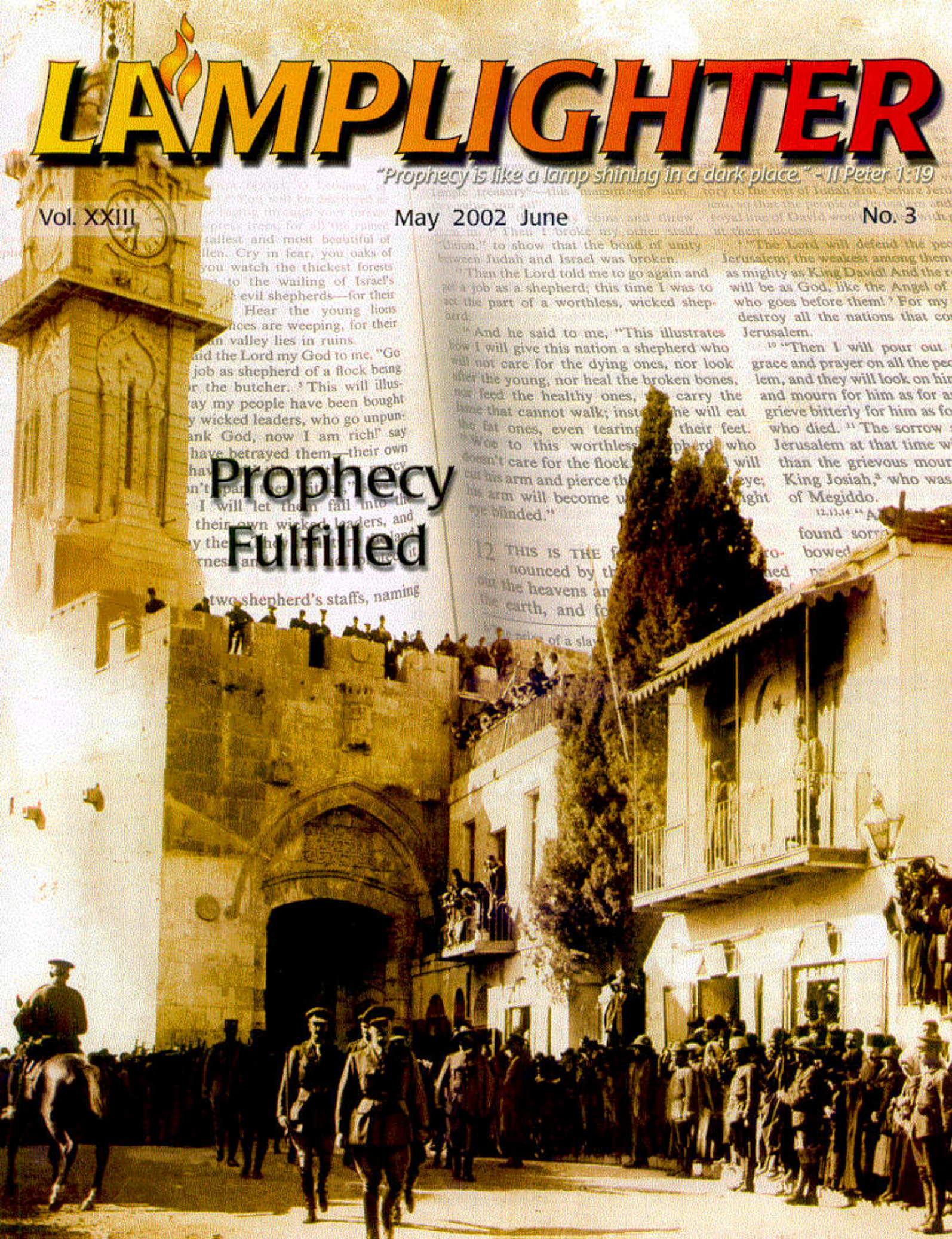
"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19

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## Prophecy Fulfilled







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# Observations by the Editor

## Exciting Times

We have recently been inundated with telephone calls, letters, and email messages asking, "Where are we on the prophetic time line? And how do the events in the Middle East figure into the equation?"

The answer from the Scriptures is straightforward and simple: Zechariah 12 is being fulfilled before our very eyes, and that means we are on the threshold of the Tribulation. And that, in turn, means we are living on borrowed time, for when the signs of the time point clearly to end time events, we can be certain that the Rapture is right around the corner.

### The Key Prophecy

Zechariah 12 says that in the end times, after the Jews have been restored to their land and have reoccupied the city of Jerusalem, all the world will come against Israel over the issue of who should rightfully control Jerusalem. "It will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples . . . And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it" (Zechariah 12:3).

The Arabs want Jerusalem to be the capital of a new Palestinian state. The Vatican wants the city internationalized and placed under its authority. The European Union wants control of the city split between the Arabs and Jews. The United States continues to vacillate all over the landscape as to its intentions for the city. In 1979 the Israeli government proclaimed Jerusalem to be its "eternal capital." The Jews are not likely to budge on that claim.

### The Inevitable Conflict

Sooner or later there is going to be an all-out war over the issue because the Arab aim is not simply the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. No, the real aim of the Arabs is the total annihilation of the state of Israel.

Clarence Wagner, Jr., the director of Bridges for Peace, makes all this very clear in his excellent article that begins on page 14. His organization is a Christian ministry based in Jerusalem that provides support to the



**Dr. David Reagan**

nation of Israel and aid to the Jewish people.

### The Best of Times; The Worst of Times

The times are trying, to say the least, but they are also exciting. Think of it — we are a generation privileged to see the fulfillment of Bible prophecy before our very eyes. As I point out in this issue's first article, one hundred years ago there was not one definite, tangible sign that we were living in the season of the Lord's return. Today, there are signs everywhere.

I am thankful to be living in such a time. Yes, the times are perilous, just as prophesied (2 Timothy 3:1-5), but I can face the future with confidence because I know through God's prophetic word how everything is going to turn out. Israel will never be rooted out of the land again (Amos 9:15), and Jesus Christ is soon going to appear for His church (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). I've read the end of The Book, and I therefore know that peace, righteousness and justice will soon cover the earth as the waters cover the seas (Isaiah 11:4-9). **Maranatha!**

**Cover:** General Edmund Allenby enters Jerusalem on December 11, 1917 after liberating it from 400 years of Turkish rule.



# Bible Prophecy Fulfilled

Dr. David R. Reagan

One hundred years ago there was not one definite, tangible, objective sign that we were living in the season of the Lord's return. Today, the signs are everywhere. A person would have to be spiritually blind to be unaware of them. There are so many, and they are so intense, that they are like a neon sign flashing in the sky proclaiming, "Jesus is coming soon!"

Several years ago I participated in a prophecy conference in Orlando, Florida. One of the speakers was Elbert Peak, a great man of God from Abilene, Texas, who is in his 80's. His topic was "The Signs of the Times." He began his presentation by saying, "I have been speaking on the signs of the times for over 60 years. When I first began, I had to scratch around like a chicken to find even one sign. Today, there are so many that I am no longer looking for signs. Instead, I am listening for sounds — the shout of an archangel and the blowing of a trumpet."

## The First Sign

The very first sign of the time pointing to the soon return of Jesus appeared on the world scene on November 2, 1917. On that day the British government issued the Balfour Declaration, which took the form of a letter addressed to Lord Rothschild, president of the British Zionist Federation. The letter was from Arthur Balfour, the Foreign Minister in the government of Lloyd George. It read as follows:

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine . . .

Arthur Koestler, in his book, *Promise and Fulfillment*, characterized this letter as "unorthodox, unpolitic, and

freakish."<sup>1</sup> His analysis was right on target, for the British government was promising the Jews a land that belonged at the time to the Ottoman Empire!

Why would the British be so audacious? What most Americans do not remember is that the Turks sided with the Germans in World War I, and thus the Allies intended to divide up the Ottoman Empire after they defeated the German-Turkish Alliance. Even so, the Balfour Declaration was issued a year before the war officially ended on November 11, 1918.

So, the Declaration was a bold expression of British imperialism. Later, it was learned that the Declaration was based on a secret pact between the British and the French that had been signed in January 1916. It was called the Sykes-Picot Agreement. It provided for all the Middle East to be divided between France and Britain.

## A Key Personality

The Declaration had been urged upon the British government by Dr. Chaim Weizmann, a Russian Jew who was later to serve as the first president of Israel.

At the outbreak of World War I, Weizmann was 40 years old and living in England where he was serving as a chemistry professor at the University of Manchester. He

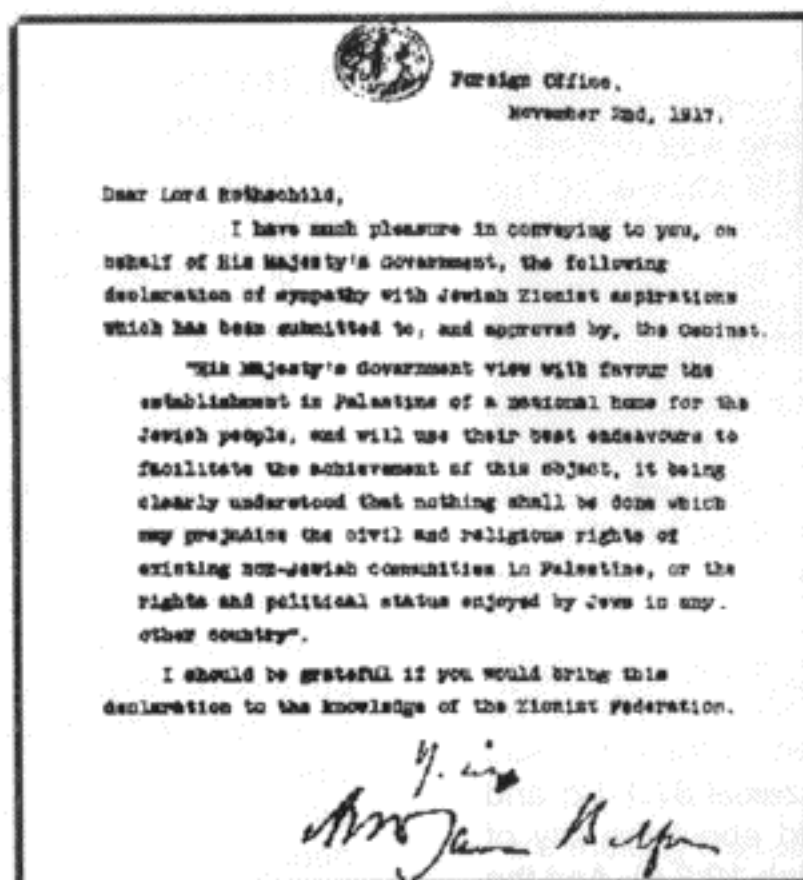
was also the leader of a committee of Zionists who were seeking a homeland for the Jews.

Because of his political interests, Weizmann made contacts with all the key British political leaders, many of whom, including Lloyd George and Arthur Balfour, were evangelical Christians. These men knew Bible prophecy and were sympathetic to Jewish desires to return to their homeland which was then called Palestine — a land which had been under Turkish control for 400 years.

Weizmann endeared himself to the British leaders when he solved a critical shortage of acetone, an ingredient necessary for the production of the naval explosive cordite. After two years of research, Weizmann invented a method of producing synthetic acetone.

## The Origin of the Declaration

According to Howard Sachar in his book, *A History of Israel*, this background of Anglo-Zionist cordiality gave impetus to Weizmann's promptings for a "British protectorate over a Jewish homeland."<sup>2</sup> The appeal struck an increasingly responsive chord among British government officials.



The Balfour Declaration

Even so, there was fierce debate within the British Cabinet over the wording of the Declaration. The Zionist draft, which served as the basis of the Declaration, proposed recognition of "Palestine as the National Home of the Jewish people." The final draft called instead for "the establishment in Palestine of a National Home for the Jewish people." It was a subtle but important change in wording. As William Hull put it in his book, *The Fall and Rise of Israel*, "Palestine as a Home was vastly different from a Home in Palestine."<sup>3</sup>

There has been much speculation over the years as to the motives of the British War Cabinet for issuing the Declaration. Undoubtedly the motives were mixed in nature. The best analysis I have ever read was written by Dr. William Varner, professor of biblical studies at The Master's College in Santa Clarita, California. His analysis follows this article (pages 7-8).

### A Fulfillment of Prophecy

What I want to emphasize is that the Declaration started a series of events that were to lead to the re-establishment of the state of Israel, in fulfillment of Bible prophecy. Many people are not aware of the fact that the most prolific prophecy in the Old Testament — mentioned more times than any other one — is that the Jews will be regathered in the end times in unbelief to their homeland. Over and over, the Hebrew Scriptures state that the Jews will once again occupy the land given to them by God (Isaiah 11:10-12, Ezekiel 36:22-24; Ezekiel 37:1-12; and Zechariah 10:6-12). The same is said about the city of Jerusalem (Isaiah 52:1-10 and Zechariah 12:3,6). And the Scriptures make it very clear that when the Jews are back in their land and their city, the Lord will return (Zechariah 12:10).

British evangelicals in the 19th Century were well aware of these prophecies. They believed in them and looked forward to their fulfillment. That's what prompted them to build the first Protestant church in the city of Jerusalem. It was called Christ Church. It was constructed near the Jaffa Gate and dedicated in 1849. The church was built in anticipation of the worldwide regathering of

the Jews prophesied in the Hebrew Scriptures. It was even designed to look like a synagogue.

### The Declaration's Impact

With such expectations long established, it is no wonder that the Balfour Declaration electrified the British evangelical community. The person who seemed to be impacted by it the most was Dr. F. B. Meyer, one of the



F. B. Meyer

**"Out of all the places of thy [the Jews] dispersion — East, West, North and South — God's purpose is to bring thee home again and to marry thee to Himself by faith for evermore."** — Sir Henry Finch, Member of Parliament, from his book, "The World's Great Restoration," 1621.

best known and most highly respected evangelical leaders of the time. He quickly huddled with other English evangelicals and issued a manifesto to the press on the 8th of November (just six days after the issuance of the Declaration). Entitled "The Significance of the Hour," it included the following points:<sup>4</sup>

- 1) That the signs of the times point towards the close of the times of the Gentiles.
- 2) That the return of our Lord may be expected at any moment when He will be manifested as evidently as to His disciples on the evening of His resurrection.
- 3) That the completed church will be translated to meet the Lord in the air, and to be forever with the Lord.
- 4) That Israel will be restored to their own land in unbelief, and be afterwards converted by the manifestation of Christ as their Messiah.
- 5) That all human schemes of world reconstruction must be subsidiary to the Lord when all nations will be subject to His rule.
- 6) That under the reign of Christ there will be a further effusion of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh.

Meyer's group also called for an all-day meeting to be held on December 13 at Queens Hall in London. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity to emphasize that "the times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24) were clearly drawing to a close and that consequently the return of Jesus for His church might be expected imminently.

### The Liberation of Jerusalem

Before the meeting could be held, General Edmund Allenby liberated the city of Jerusalem from 400 years of Turkish rule. Allenby was a devout Christian, and on the day he entered the city — December 11, 1917 — he refused to ride his horse. He walked in because the Scriptures say that the Messiah is the one who will enter Jerusalem on a white horse at the time of His Second Coming (Revelation 19:11).

The Arab world initially looked upon Allenby's capture of Jerusalem as a matter of divine intervention. This was due to the mistaken impression that the name, Allenby, was a combination of Allah (God) and Neby (prophet), and that he was, therefore, a prophet of God.

Evangelicals in England also considered the liberation of Jerusalem to be a divine act, as did Bible-believing Christians worldwide. As one minister put it,



General Allenby



"Christianity the world over put on her garments of praise. Songs were sung, poetry was recited, prayers offered, and sermons preached."<sup>5</sup>

### Birth of a Ministry

By the time Dr. Meyer and his colleagues gathered at Queens Hall on December 13, the atmosphere was electric. There was an overwhelming consensus that God had begun the implementation of His end time program for regathering the Jews to their homeland. A dozen preachers spoke that day to a packed house. Included among them was Dr. G. Campbell Morgan who asserted: "We all feel that never in the history of the church have the signs seemed so definite to point to the fulfilling of Gentile times as they do today. Our loins should be girt about, and our lamps should be burning. We should be occupying until He comes."<sup>6</sup>

The meeting resulted in the formation of an organization called The Advent Testimony Movement. Dr. Meyer was appointed the president. The organization immediately launched a series of Bible prophecy conferences which were held throughout England.

The conferences rapidly spread to the Continent, to Australia and South Africa, and to the United States. In America, the meetings were so large that it was impossible to find buildings big enough to accommodate the crowds. When a conference was held in Philadelphia, it filled the largest hall in the city and four other churches at the same time!

The ministry founded by Dr. Meyer in 1917 continues to this day under the name, The Prophetic Witness Movement International.<sup>7</sup> Its director is Alec Passmore, a charismatic personality who has a contagious passion for the soon return of the Lord.

### British Duplicity

At the end of World War I, Britain was given Palestine as a League of Nations Mandate, meaning that the English were responsible for tutoring the people within the area toward self-rule. Palestine at that time included all of present day Jordan. The Jews looked forward to the day when this territory would become their home.

But they were severely disappointed in 1922 when the British government suddenly issued a White Paper in which it announced that two-thirds of Palestine would be set aside for an Arab state to be known as Trans-Jordan. This decision was prompted by a desire to placate the Arabs in the area who opposed the Balfour Declaration. And this is the reason that to this very day Israeli leaders point out that a Palestinian state already exists — the state of Jordan, as it is known today. In fact, over 70% of its population is made up of Palestinians.

The Jews continued to look forward to the day when they would be able to establish their own state in the small sliver of land that was left — an area smaller than the state of New Jersey. But they were destined to experience some more disappointments. In 1936 an Arab revolt broke out aimed at uprooting the Jews and forcing the British to allow the establishment of another Palestinian state under Arab control. The British responded by sending a Royal Commission of Inquiry led by Lord Peel.



The Palestine of the Balfour Declaration in 1917.

### British Appeasement

The Peel Report, issued in July 1937, recommended seriously restricting Jewish immigration (at a time when the Holocaust was getting started in Germany). It also recommended limiting land sales to Jews. Finally, it proposed that Palestine be partitioned again, creating Jewish and Arab states. The Arabs flatly rejected the report, and the proposals were shelved.

Then, in May of 1939, the government of the great appeaser, Neville Chamberlain, caved in to Arab violence and issued another White Paper which, in effect, constituted a repudiation of the Balfour Declaration. The White Paper announced the goal of establishing a state of Palestine within ten years. But it stacked the cards in favor of the Arabs by imposing a severe limitation on Jewish immigration, limiting it to 10,000 per year. The coup de grace was prohibition of further land sales to Jews in 95% of Palestine!

William Hull, in his landmark book, *The Fall and Rise of Israel*, states that British policy between 1917 and 1939 toward the establishment of a Jewish Home in Palestine could be summed up in one word: **whittling**.<sup>8</sup> When the Jews were first promised a national home, the area included Trans-Jordan — a total of 45,000 square miles. In 1922 when Trans-Jordan was given to the Arabs, only 10,000 square miles were left for the Jewish home. The partition plan of the Peel Commission in 1937 would have given the Jews only 2,000 square miles. The new regulations under the 1939 White Paper cut the area to 260 square miles!

## Jewish Aid and Opposition

Despite the double-dealing of the British, Jews worldwide rallied to the British cause during World War II, doing everything they could to help the Allies defeat the Nazis. The Arabs sat on the sidelines, and the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem actually collaborated with Hitler, encouraging his policy of Jewish genocide.

When the war ended, the Jews expected to be rewarded by the British with a lifting of the restrictions of the 1939 White Paper. This failed to happen, despite the fact that hundreds of thousands of Holocaust survivors were clamoring to get into Palestine. The result was the birth of the Jewish Revolt headed up by Menachen Begin.

Begin's revolt proved effective. Besieged by both sides, the British decided the time had come to terminate the Mandate. A United Nations committee recommended a Solomonic solution: "Cut the baby in half." The committee recommended that the remaining sliver of Palestine be divided between the Jews and Arabs, creating two patch-work states intermingled with each other. The UN General Assembly agreed with the plan, and on November 29, 1947, the United Nations voted by a two-thirds majority to partition Palestine. Again, the Jews were disappointed with another division of their land, but they agreed to the partition. The Arabs denounced the resolution and prepared for war.

### The True Arab Intent

And war it has been ever since, simply because the Arab desire is not for the creation of an Arab state within Palestine, but rather, the incorporation of all Palestine into an Arab state. Or, to put it another way, the true aim of the Arabs is to annihilate the state of Israel and drive the Jews into the sea.

The Arab goal will never be achieved. The Bible says that once the Jews are re-established in the land, they will never be rooted up again (Amos 9:15). The Bible clearly prophesies that the Arabs will lust after the land of Israel in the end times (Ezekiel 35:1 - 36:7) and try to take it for themselves. But God promises that He will intervene and make the Arab lands a desolation (Ezekiel 35:15).

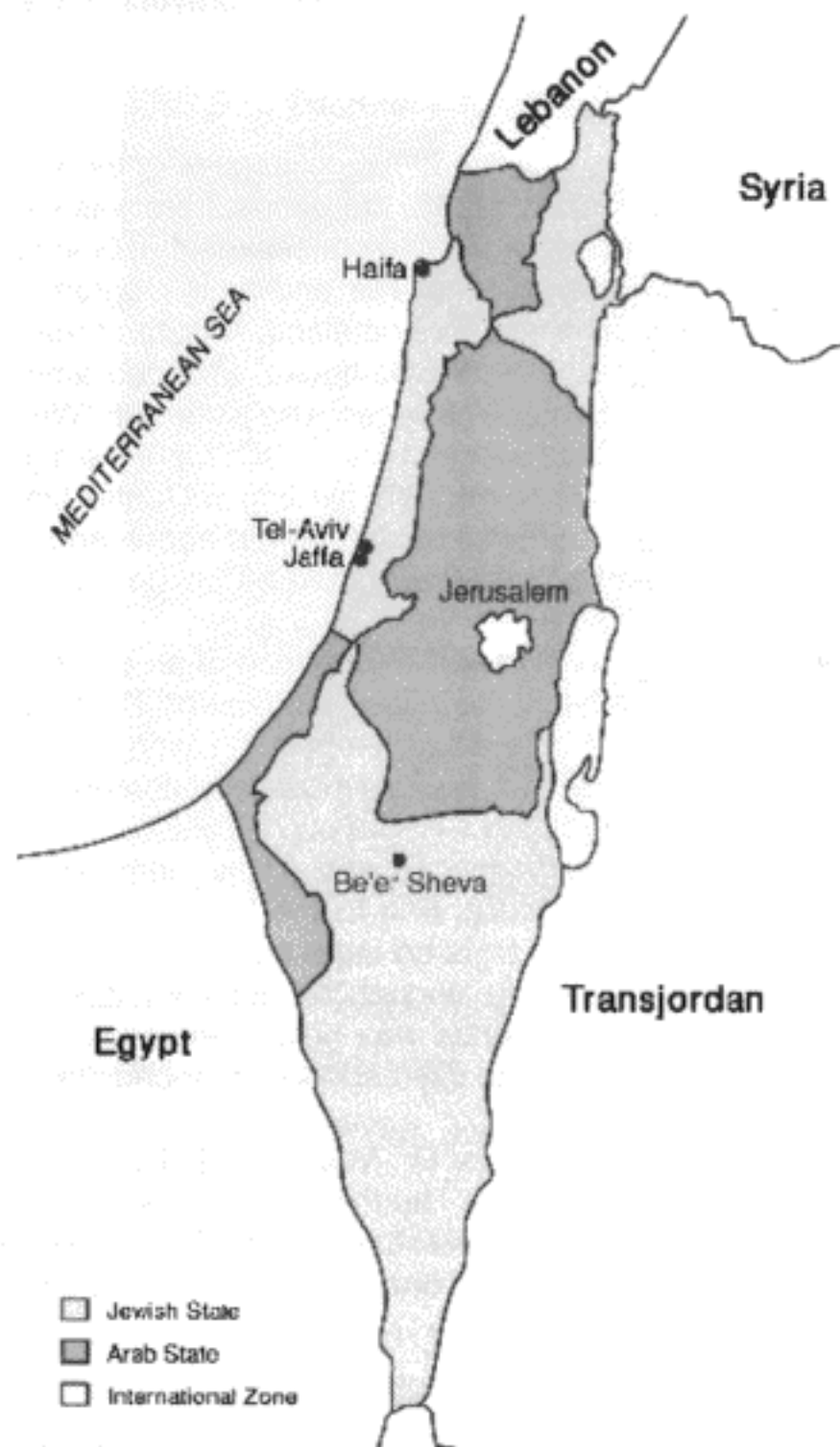
### Recognizing the Season

Noah preached for 120 years that his generation was living in the season of the pouring out of God's wrath. We have been in the season of the Lord's return since November 2, 1917 — a period thus far of 85 years.

The Bible says the generation that witnesses the re-birth of Israel is the one that will witness the return of the Lord (Matthew 24:32-35). It has been 54 years since May 14, 1948 when the state of Israel was born.

The Bible also says that in the end times, right before the return of the Lord, the Jews will be back in their land and their city, and the whole world will come against them over the issue of the control of Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:1-4).

That's exactly where we are today on the prophetic time line. We are living on borrowed time. The crucial question for every person is this one: "Are you ready for the Lord's return?" ☆



In 1947 the United Nations authorized the establishment of two states, Arab and Jewish. Both were composed of three sections of land. The Jewish part consisted of the Galilee, the coastal plain from Haifa to Tel Aviv, and the Negev Desert in the South.

#### Notes:

- 1) Arthur Koestler, *Promise and Fulfillment* (New York: Macmillan, 1949) p. 7.
- 2) Howard M. Sachar, *A History of Israel* (New York: Knopf, 1976) p. 99.
- 3) William L. Hull, *The Fall and Rise of Israel* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1954) p. 124.
- 4) Fredrick A. Tatford, *The Midnight Cry: The Story of Fifty Years of Witness* (Eastbourne, Sussex: Bible and Advent Testimony Movement, 1967) pp. 17-18.
- 5) Ibid., p. 19.
- 6) Ibid., p. 35.
- 7) The website of The Prophetic Witness Movement International can be found at <http://www.pwmi.org>.
- 8) Hull, p. 208.



# The Christian Roots of the Balfour Declaration

Dr. William Varner

The most prominent events marking the early days of the modern Zionist movement were the publication of Theodor Herzl's *The Jewish State* in 1896 and his calling of the First Zionist Congress in 1897. Herzl recognized that if the Zionist dream of a homeland for the Jewish people was to be realized, international approval of the idea had to be secured. He spent the remainder of his short life seeking such approval, but he died in 1904, disappointed at his failure to do so.



Theodor Herzl

The Great War, now known as World War I, further threatened those dreams. Turkey, Germany's main ally, had been in control of the Holy Land for nearly 400 years. If international approval for a Jewish homeland was to be secured, it would have to be sought through an Allied victory in the war. The best hope for such an approval lay with Great Britain, whose far-flung empire demonstrated that it was already engaged in the great game of international colonialism.

## British Recognition



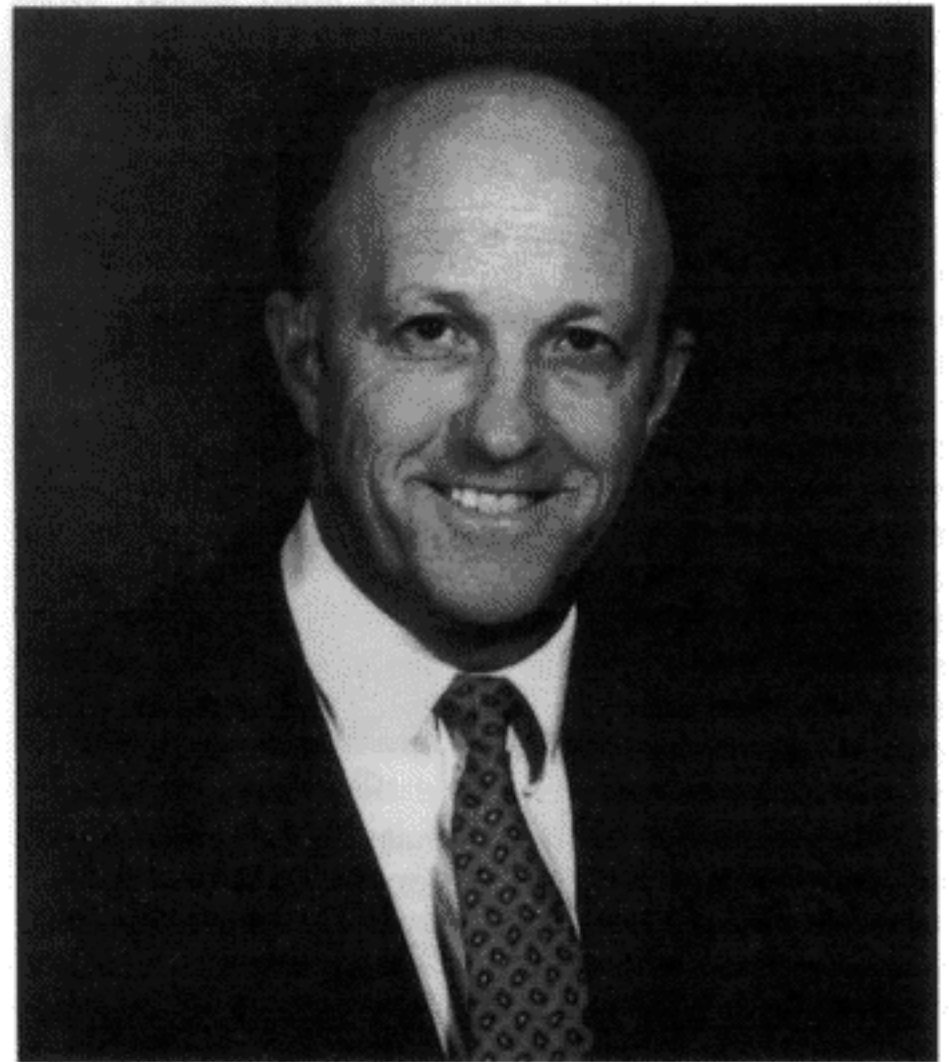
Lord Rothschild

Before the end of the war, at a time when British hopes were buoyed by their invasion of the Middle East under General Edmund Allenby, the British cabinet issued the famous Balfour Declaration. Arthur James Balfour, Foreign Secretary in the British government, communicated the memo to Lord Rothschild, head of the Zionist Federation in Great Britain, on November 2, 1917.

The key sentence read as follows: "His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people . . ."

Finally, after nearly 40 years of building Jewish settlements in the Holy Land and 20 years after the first Zionist Congress, international recognition by a major world power for a Jewish homeland had been secured. Much has been written about the political and strategic issues behind the Balfour Declaration. Many reasons have been given for its issuance. The full story, however, may not be given in the standard history books.

What events and circumstances caused the British



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government to publicly back the Zionist dream of a homeland for the dispersed Hebrews?

## The Reasons

In most of the historical accounts of this period, at least three reasons are given for the British decision. While all three played a definite role in shaping British attitudes, a fourth probably was the most decisive. Here are the three most commonly cited reasons:

1. The British government had a great desire to maintain an open channel through the Middle East to its extensive possessions in India and East Africa. A Jewish homeland, under British sponsorship, could maintain that freedom of access, which had been cut off by the Ottoman Turkish holdings in the region. Jewish control of Palestine, therefore, was in England's best interest.

2. The British government wanted to keep the Russians in the war and persuade the Americans to enter the war. A decision to favor the Zionist cause would encourage both Russian and American Jews to influence their governments to join with Britain and the Allies in the fight against the Germans and Turks. While this probably overestimated the political power of the Russian and American Jews, it is one of the reasons most often cited.

3. The British government wanted to reward the brilliant chemist and Zionist leader, Chaim Weizmann, for his help in the war effort when he developed a process to synthesize acetone, an ingredient necessary for producing the

explosives that were in extremely short supply. While Weizmann certainly did help the British war effort, this tale, later told by Lloyd George, was largely invented. Weizman never mentioned it in his autobiography, *Trial and Error*.

Historians debate and wrangle over the degree to which these three factors influenced the British cabinet to issue the Balfour Declaration. However, none of the three, nor all of them together, seem to be sufficient reasons for the positive British view. When we consider the Christian beliefs of the major members of the cabinet, we can conclude that the biblical teaching of Israel's return to Zion was the main reason that the cabinet was moved to issue the Balfour Declaration.



**Chaim Weizmann**

### The Men

Who were the main players in this decision, and what did they believe about Israel in Bible prophecy?

**David Lloyd George** (1863 - 1945) was the Prime Minister. Unlike many other British lawmakers, Lloyd George was not educated in schools that stressed the Greek and Latin classics, but was brought up on the Bible. He often remarked that the names of biblical places were better known to him than were those of the battles that figured in the war.



**David Lloyd George**

He was reared in the centuries-old movement in British evangelical thought that stated that the British should take the lead in restoring the Jews to Zion. He was but the latest in a long line of Christian Zionists in Britain that stretched back to the Puritans. Guided by the Scriptures, this "restoration" movement, as it was called, believed that the advent of the Messiah would occur once the Jewish people were restored to their native land.

Lloyd George wanted his country to carry out what he regarded as the Lord's work in the Middle East. His own words about the Balfour Declaration are clear:

It was undoubtedly inspired by natural sympathy, admiration and also by the fact that, as you must remember, we had been trained even more in Hebrew history than in the history of our own country. I could tell you all the kings of Israel. But I doubt whether I could have named half a dozen of the kings of England!



**Jan Christiaan Smuts**

Another member of the cabinet, **Jan Christiaan Smuts** (1870 - 1950) from South Africa, earlier had fought the British in the Boer War. Steeped in the Bible, Smuts strongly supported the Zionist ideas. He later wrote in his personal memoirs, "The people of South Africa have been brought up almost entirely on Jewish tradition. The Old Testament has been the very marrow of Dutch culture here in South Africa." He had been brought up to believe that "the day will come when the words of the prophets will become true, and Israel will return to its own land."

**Arthur James Balfour** (1840 - 1930), influenced by the Scottish Presbyterian branch of his family, was also raised on the Bible. His support of Zionism, however, was also based on his sympathy for an oppressed people who had suffered in exile for far too long. Balfour believed that the Jewish genius could be channeled into a productive nation in their original land. When asked why the Jew should be privileged with such an honor, he replied, "The answer is that the position of the Jew is unique. For them race, religion and country are inter-related as they are inter-related in the case of no other religion and no other country on earth."



**Arthur Balfour**

### Conclusion

Lloyd George, Smuts, and Balfour comprise but a sampling of the many Christian Zionists in British circles who were motivated by biblical concerns. While the political, military, and strategic reasons that led the British cabinet to issue the Balfour Declaration cannot be discounted, it is this last influence that needs to be noticed and stressed. Without this biblical predisposition, the Balfour Declaration would not have been issued. A secular historian concludes, "Biblical prophecy was the first and most enduring of the many motives that led Britons to want to restore the Jews to Zion" (David Fromkin, *A Peace to End All Peace*, p. 298).

It is amazing to recognize how the Bible has often influenced decisions leading to major historical events. It is also amazing to recognize how Gentile Christians who believe the promises of God's Word have often been the best friends of the Jewish people. For further evidence of this, consult the newly published book, *The Zion Connection*, by Elwood McQuaid, Executive Director of The Friends of Israel. ☆



# Chrislam

## The Mosque, the Synagogue and the Church

David Brickner

(David Brickner is the Executive Director of Jews for Jesus. This article originally appeared in the January 2002 *Jews for Jesus Newsletter* and is used by permission.)

**H**ave you noticed? Carefully selected clergy have presided over prayer meetings all across America in the wake of the terrorist tragedy of September 11. Many organizers for such meetings have made a point of having Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders standing side by side.

Efforts to present a united front against terrorism have renewed a sense of "civic religion" in America. There is a general feeling that Islam, Judaism and Christianity must set aside their differences, if we are to work together under a benevolent democracy for the common good. This is the "big tent" philosophy of religious pluralism . . .

### A Wacky Form of Unity

If you feel uneasy over this new wave of religious "unity," it is for good reason. Pluralism in its best sense means that people recognize the rights of others to believe differently than they do, so that we co-exist peacefully despite our differences. But the kind of religious pluralism that presents itself today insists that various religions are really not so different; or that if they are, the differences don't matter because a) we can't know what is ultimately true, or b) there is more than one ultimate truth, or c) there is no ultimate truth. This is not merely pluralism, it is a religion of pluralism spurred on by the dogma of today's tolerance. And frankly there's nothing as intolerant as today's wacky strain of "tolerance."

Religious tolerance ought to mean that people are free, not only to hold opposing points of view, but also to argue peaceably for their viewpoint without fear of retribution. But religious tolerance has deteriorated into a shrill insistence that anyone who challenges another person's belief — no matter how peaceably or respectfully — is intolerant.

The religion of pluralism with its doctrine of tolerance condemns those it deems "intolerant" with precious little respect or compassion. With its lack of patience for the concept of absolute truth and its high praise for a blurring of distinctions, the deeply disturbing implications of this trend are syncretism and universalism.

### A Distortion of Tolerance

Religious syncretism, the blending of differing, and often conflicting, religious beliefs, is a distortion of toler

Ludwig Schneider

(Ludwig Schneider is the editor-in-chief of *Israel Today* magazine. This article appeared in the February 2002 issue and is used by permission.)

**T**he September 11th terror attacks in America not only brought about the war in Afghanistan, but also a craving for dialogue with Islam. Since then, scores of churches have sought contact with Moslems, as if dependent on their goodwill. Suddenly, inter-religious dialogue is "in" and even perceived by some as a universal remedy. Churches invite Moslems to preach in their pulpits, rationalizing that "we all pray to the same God."

How did this amalgamation come about? Perhaps some churches no longer have the strength to withstand the spiritual conflict with Islam. Islamic scholar Bassam Tibi says that Moslems endorse the rules of their host countries only when preaching from the podium. In reality, he says, Islam constrains them to curse both Christians and Jews. To say otherwise is not the reality of Islam.

### The Deception of Cultural Christians

Not long ago, arch-terrorist Osama bin Laden proclaimed on videotape aired worldwide: "When people see a strong horse and a weak horse, they will naturally love the strong horse." Sadly enough, today's cultural Christians see Islam as the strong horse. Though not seeking to convert to Islam, they willingly become supporters of "Chrislam."

Such Christians are enthusiastic about dialogue, drawing on the positive aspects of historical Islamic-Christian relations — for instance, the prosperous Spanish Islamic culture of the Middle Ages. This, however, results in a distorted picture of Islam and of Moslem dealings with other religions.

By contrast, Moslems are often far more critical of the historical relations between the two religions. Christians often listen shamefaced as a Moslem speaker condemns the Crusades of 800 years ago. Of course, he doesn't point out that many Moslem countries apply the death penalty to mixed marriages, or that women suspected of adultery are publicly stoned to death, or that anyone who becomes a Christian faces the death penalty. *Amnesty International's* assessment — that human rights are brutally violated in almost all Islamic countries — falls on deaf ears among the advocates of Chrislam.

The persecuted Christians in Islamic countries feel especially betrayed. Church leaders' passive submissiveness encourages Moslems to vent their hatred on Christians. In Nigeria, where Christians make up 49 percent of





## THE SHALOM ALLAH AHKBAR EVANGELICAL HOUSE O' WORSHIP FAILED TO MEET THE MASTER BUILDER'S INSPECTION.

Illustration from *Jews for Jesus Newsletter*, January 2002.

### (Brickner continued)

ance, as is universalism, the doctrine that all people will eventually be saved regardless of their religious convictions. Today's new religious pluralism is a strange melange of syncretism and universalism. Yet this "new" pluralism is an age-old problem.

In ancient Israel, syncretism led to the downfall of the nation of Israel and to God's judgment on the people of Judah. The Jewish people were worshipping the God of Israel at the Temple in Jerusalem, while at the same time sacrificing to the gods of the Canaanites on the hillsides. These religious systems were diametrically opposed, theologically as well as ethically. Yet many Israelites tried to embrace it all. They didn't see the contradictions.

Such ancient syncretism is often looked on today as primitive, but these religious chameleons were the true modernists of their time. They had the same spirit as today's religious pluralists who hold that all religious sentiment is good, as long as it doesn't hurt others or make exclusive claims.

### Why Not Unity?

In the wake of recent events many today are seeking to embrace Islam along with other world religions, experimenting with inclusive forms of worship in order to show tolerance toward all religious views. They argue, "Why cannot Islam, Judaism and Christianity hold hands together in our new global environment? After all, these three faiths share a common commitment to monotheism,

### (Schneider continued)

the population and Moslems only 45 percent, the latter impose Islamic *Shariya* (Moslem law) on the Christians. These laws include such barbarities as cutting off the hand of a thief and selling his children as slaves. Moslems often intimidate Christians systematically until they're killed or converted to Islam.

### Yet many Christian churches continue to preach tolerance — in exchange for intolerance!

Many cultural Christians are reluctant to share their faith with a Moslem because they see it as a "violation of another religion," yet they ignore the public and provocative manner in which the Moslems promote their faith throughout the western world.

When Moslem Aiman Morad was asked during a group discussion in Vienna what he'd felt when he saw the World Trade Center collapsing, he said it gave him a certain satisfaction. Only when he learned there was a mosque in the buildings was he grieved.

### Islamic Aggressiveness

Over the past decade, new mosques in western countries have mushroomed, in some countries doubling their earlier numbers. Cardinal Lehmann, a church leader in Europe, noted the irony. "If I were to so much as hold a church service in Saudi Arabia, I would risk being put in prison," he said.



**(Brickner continued)**

a belief in one God, as well as many other shared values. If we all believe in the same God then those things that divide us are minor, secondary, unimportant. Joining hands can only further those shared values and help bring peace to the world."

... The answer is that while all three faiths claim belief in one God, that one God never said He is approachable through three faiths. In fact, "faith" is a misnomer for religious beliefs. What does Ephesians 4 say? "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all..." (verses 4-7).

Faith is not merely a belief. Faith is a true belief attached to a reality, the reality. What does the New Testament teach about that reality? "No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also" (1 John 2:23).

**The Dividing Point**

We should not disrespect the people who seek to follow the religions of Judaism or Islam, but we need to remember that both deny that Jesus is the Messiah; therefore both are false according to Scripture, since neither "has the Father." (Although we are Jews, we Jews for Jesus do not claim to follow the religion taught by rabbis who do not know Jesus...)

As for Islam, its central tenet is, "There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet." Both Judaism and Christianity reject this assertion. Neither faith accepts Muhammad as a prophet or the Koran as holy writ...

Islam and Judaism, on the other hand, deny Jesus' claim to be the one true Messiah, and reject the New Testament as holy writ. Both religions are strongly opposed to the Christian duty of evangelism and proclamation of the gospel. Efforts to offer Jews and Muslims the gospel are frequently met with anger and, in Muslim countries, often with violence.

**Papering Over the Truth**

We cannot paper over these basic differences or pretend they don't exist. But that is what secularists and religious pluralists do. In fact, they say, it is not these three religions that are bad, but the fundamentalists from each who cause all the trouble. And they paint fundamentalists with a very broad stroke. That is, any belief in the exclusive claims of one religious view over another is fundamentalism; and the fundamentalist is one step away from becoming a terrorist.

Andrew Sullivan encapsulated this sentiment in an article in the New York Times Magazine, asserting, "It seems as if there is something inherent in religious monotheism that lends itself to terrorist temptation."

We can hope and pray for Muslims, Christians and Jews to treat one another with respect, and we should certainly treat all people as precious in God's sight. But we will not end terrorism by ignoring the fact that these three religions teach something very different about the one person who is the key to lasting peace. That person is Jesus.

**(Schneider continued)**

Mosques are not only houses of worship like synagogues and churches; they often serve as training centers for armed struggle and terror against non-Moslems. Resorting to coercion to build their mosques is not an unusual tactic. In Nazareth, Moslems are occupying city-owned school grounds to build a mosque directly in front of the Church of the Annunciation. The location and size of the mosque are intended to reflect Moslem dominance over Christianity.

Certainly, we are called to love our Moslem neighbors. But we must not be caught in the Islamic trap that blurs the truths of Christianity and creates a counterfeit — a hybrid called *Chrislam*. ✚

## Chrislam at the White House

The White House is intent on selling Americans the propaganda line that Islam is a peace-loving religion compatible with Christianity. At a meeting with American Muslim leaders held at the Islamic Center in Washington, D.C. on September 17, 2001, the President declared: "The face of terror is not the true faith of Islam. Islam is peace."



**Siddiqi**

Earlier, on September 15, the President had invited two so-called "moderate" Islamic leaders to participate in the 9/11 memorial service at the National Cathedral. One was Muzammil Siddiqi, spiritual leader of the Islamic Society of Orange County in California. The other was Abdurahman Alamoudi, president of the American Muslim Council.

These "moderate" Islamic spokesmen were later shown on Fox News participating in a rally in Washington, D.C. the previous year supporting terrorist organizations and openly denouncing the United States! Alamoudi declared, "We are all supporters of Hamas. *Allahu akbar!* I wish to add that I am also a supporter of Hizbullah." Siddiqi, one of the rally's organizers, proclaimed, "The United States of America is directly and indirectly responsible for the plight of the Palestinian people. If you remain on the side of injustice, the wrath of God will come..."

Bush invited the same America-hating Muslim leaders to attend a dinner at the White House to honor the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, together with representatives of 53 Muslim nations. To whom did they pray? ✚



**Alamoudi**



### Pluralism or Truth?

Those who try to establish a new syncretistic, universalistic religion may be very well-intentioned, but there can be no real peace apart from truth. It is a failing of human nature to believe we can make our own truth, and from this failing come wars, within and without.

We should be concerned about the rush of so many who ought to know better to join hands with neo-pluralists in pursuing a one-world religion. Those who claim to follow Jesus yet agree that all the great religions are on the same path not only deceive themselves, but they also encourage others to continue on toward a Christless eternity.

As Jews for Jesus missionaries stand out on the streets proclaiming the good news of the gospel, we often have opportunities to meet people who attend synagogues and mosques. They frequently engage us in vigorous debate and discussion about who God is and whether or not Jesus is the Messiah. That debate must continue. If those on a crusade to stop the debate gain the upper hand, freedom of religion will truly be lost. Ephesians 4:14,15 urges us, "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love . . . grow up in all things into Him who is the head; the Messiah." ☆

## Chrislam at Crystal Cathedral



**Robert Schuller**

Schuller honored a Muslim cleric named Alfred Mohammed, he said that if he were to come back in 100 years and find his descendants to be Muslims, it wouldn't bother him!

Dave Hunt responded to this statement by saying, "Apparently, Schuller is unconcerned that Islam denies that Jesus is God and that He died for our sins."

In November of 2001, Schuller spoke at a mosque in Chicago where he appeared with the infamous racist, Louis Farrakhan. At this inter-faith meeting Schuller stated, "The purpose of religion is not to say, 'I have all the answers, and my job is to convert you.' That road leads to the Twin Towers. That attitude is an invitation to extremists." Schuller concluded by stating that he had come to the conclusion that asking people to change their faith is "utterly ridiculous." ✚

## Chrislam at Willow Creek

### Tom White

(Tom White is the Executive Director of a ministry called The Voice of the Martyrs, based in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. The ministry serves persecuted Christians worldwide. The comments below are taken from an interview of him that appeared in *Charisma* magazine, February 2002.)



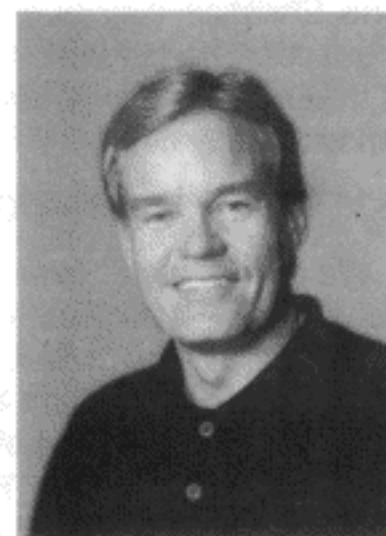
**Tom White**

**A**cross the United States, Christian leaders are allowing representatives of the Islamic faith to freely speak in their pulpits. This happened at Willow Creek Community Church, one of the largest churches in the United States, where a Muslim *imam* [priest] named Faisal Hammouda was allowed to share the pulpit on October 7, 2001.

During the interview with pastor Bill Hybels, Hammouda claimed: "As a matter of fact, we, all of us . . . believe in Jesus. I believe in Jesus. I believe in Muhammad and all the prophets. So our mission here is to introduce people to God." He also stated, "We believe in Jesus more than you do, in fact."

But the Koran says Jesus was no more than a messenger of Allah. The Koran also claims that Jesus was never crucified. Muslims do not recognize the sovereignty of Jesus Christ or His sacrifice. So how could this be the same God? . . .

If Hammouda is right and Islam is "peace-loving," why are our brothers and sisters [in Christ] in all Islamic-controlled countries facing severe persecution? The simple fact is: Muslims do not "peacefully coexist" with Christians. Hammouda did not speak for Islam. If he thought he did, he was deceived. Islamic teachings offer no tolerance for those who reject Muhammad for Christ.



**Bill Hybels**

**Note:** In an article posted on the Voice of the Martyrs website, Tom White states, "We are in danger of loving Muslims into Hell . . . If you love the Muslims, tell them about the Jesus they so fervently persecute. If you love the Muslims, support those who are willing to lay down their life to be a witness among them (John 15:13). If you want to reach your congregation and help 'bridge the gap,' invite Christians who have converted from Islam to speak to your congregation . . . The main issue at stake is the deity of Christ, not mutual understanding, dialogue, or feeling good about each other." ✚



# Islamic Conversions

## Dr. Hazma Mohammed

Dr. Mohammed grew up in a devout Arabic Muslim family on the island of Trinidad. As a teen he went through all the training in Islam that was available on the island. At the age of 19 he was given a full scholarship to attend a Muslim school in Pakistan and would have become an *imam* (priest) after graduation.



Shortly before the time for his departure, he stumbled onto a tent revival meeting where he heard the preacher quote John 14:6 where Jesus states "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except by Me." The verse pierced his heart. He went home, found a Bible, read the gospel of John, and accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

"I came to realize that the God of Islam was completely different from the Jehovah of the Christians . . . They are as far apart as the east is from the west."

His eyes were also opened to the militant nature of Islam as compared to the emphasis on love that characterizes Christianity. "They [Muslims] talk about a peaceful religion, but not if you cross their path. Islam was founded by the sword. That is how Islam grew . . . Wherever Islamic states are established today, it has been by force . . . Islam is not peaceful . . ."

(Source: *Disciple Heritage Journal*, Winter 2002)

## W. L. Cati

Mrs. Cati is an American woman who married a Muslim man. Like many other women, she unknowingly converted to Islam at her Arabic wedding ceremony. Her husband made it very difficult for her to go to church or read her Bible. She finally gave up her faith and fully converted to Islam. She wore the veil of Islam and studied the Koran. She and her children lived under Muslim control for over 14 years. She turned back to Jesus at the cost of her marriage and her luxurious lifestyle.



She has since founded a ministry called Zennah Ministries. It is located in Holmes Beach, Florida. She has authored a book entitled, *Married to Muhammed* (Creation House Press).

"Once I asked my ex-Muslim husband why he and his two brothers came to this country and married American Christian women. He replied: 'If we cannot take this country by force, we will take our time — and we will take it by marriage.'"

(Source: *Zennah Ministries website at ZennahMinistries.org*.)

## Reza F. Safa

Mr. Safa grew up in a devout Muslim home in Tehran, Iran, and eventually became a practicing Shiite, the branch of Islam that is dominant in Iran. In 1981 some American Christians shared the gospel with him. For the first time in his life, at age 19, he learned about Christianity.



But he was gripped by a fear that he would have to face Allah's wrath if he ever left Islam. He began having nightmares. "To turn away from the Islamic faith means damnation from Allah," he told *Charisma* magazine. "Islam has a strong spirit of fear, and it's that fear of the wrath of Allah that dominates Muslims."

The next year he moved to Sweden where he met believers who led him to Christ. "It was the love of God in them — and their purity — that touched my heart and opened my eyes to the truth."

He later married an American woman, and they began an evangelistic ministry that moved them to Tulsa, Oklahoma where Safa pastors Fishermen's House Church and hosts a weekly TV program called "Day of Salvation." He has recently published a book entitled, *Islam: Exposing and Reaching the World of Islam* (Charisma House).

(Source: *Charisma* magazine, February 2002.)

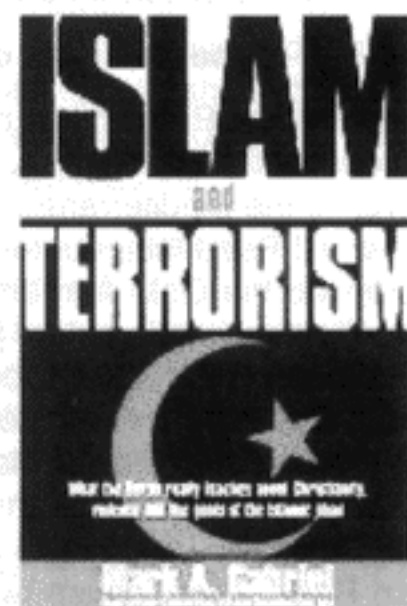
## Mark A. Gabriel

Mr. Gabriel had the entire Koran memorized by the age of 12. After studying Islam at the University of Cairo, he was ordained an *imam*, and he soon became a professor of Islamic history and culture at the most prestigious Muslim institution in the world — Al Azhar University in Cairo.

But Mark's scrutiny of his faith led him to question its validity. He got into trouble immediately because "I was not allowed to question anything. No one is."

His questioning led to his suspension from the school and eventual imprisonment. After his release from prison, a Christian pharmacist gave him a Bible, and he read the book of Luke. The next morning he gave his life to Christ. When his conversion became public, his father tried to kill him.

He ultimately fled to the United States and sought religious asylum. A book of his, *Islam and Terrorism*, has just been published (Charisma House).





### **"Occupation" is not the issue!**

Clarence Wagner, Jr.

**A**s an American Christian who has lived in Israel for the past 25 years, I get frustrated hearing everyone from the Palestinians to journalists to political leaders berating Israel about "the occupation." It is not about the occupation, because Israel made a generous offer to end it and the Palestinians rejected the offer without even coming back with a counter offer. Instead they started this war.

Look at the history.

#### **Arafat's Duplicity**

If it were about occupation, then this conflict could have been over almost two years ago. In July 2000, then Israeli Prime Minister, Ehud Barak, went to Camp David with a plan that was so far-reaching that it was a shock even to the widow of former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, architect of the Oslo Peace Plan. Barak "cut to the chase" and offered Arafat 96% of the West Bank and Gaza, while giving him 4% of Israel adjacent to Gaza, to comprise a 100% transfer of land. He offered the PA three-fourths of the Old City of Jerusalem, sovereignty over the Temple Mount, five neighborhoods of eastern Jerusalem, the right of return for 50,000 Palestinians living outside the territory, and a PA Parliament building within eyesight of the Old City of Jerusalem. Arafat rejected this offer and walked away without a counter offer.

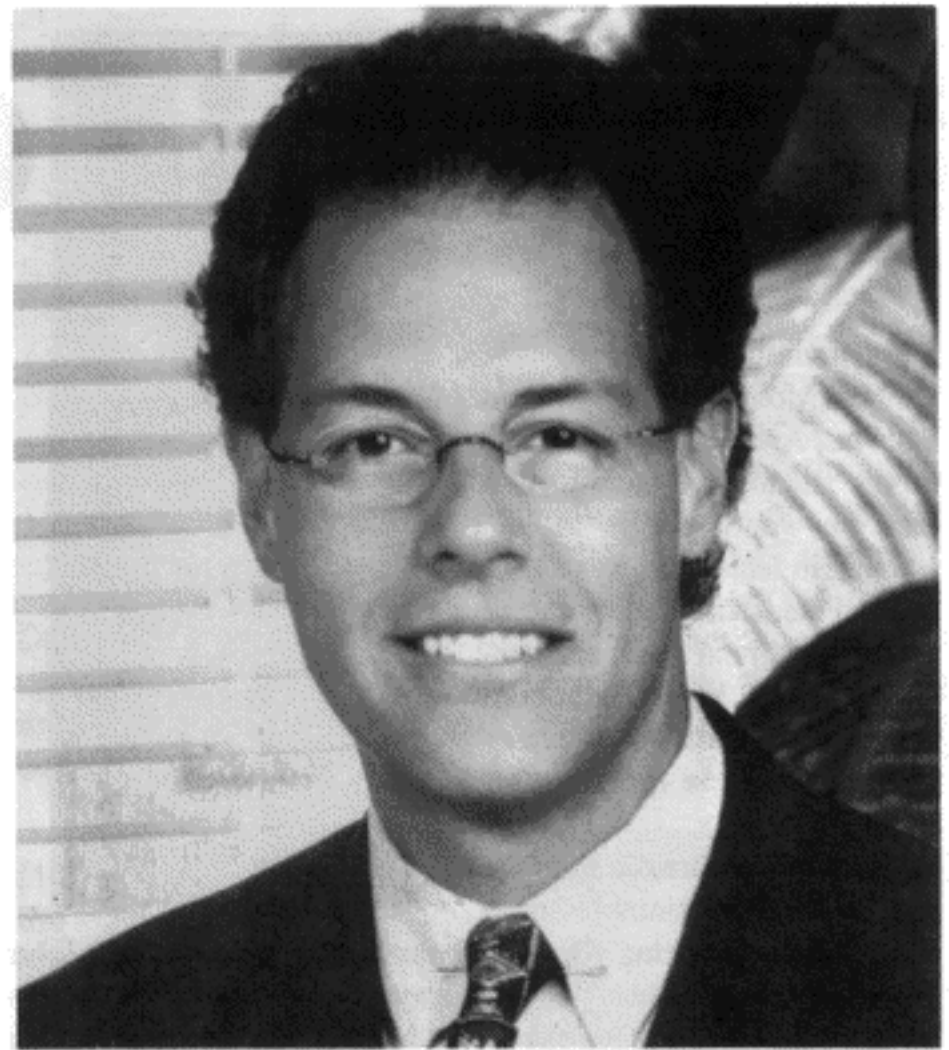
The Barak plan surprised Arafat, for his plan was to start a war after Camp David by suggesting that Israel was not forthcoming enough. Israel was forthcoming. Nevertheless, two months later, Arafat started the "Al-Aksa Intifida" to see if he could get more.

#### **The Real Aim of the Palestinians**

What the Palestinians really want, by their own declarations to the Arab press, is everything from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea — or, in other words, all of Israel! Read their quotes and see how they have characterized the Oslo Agreement as a Trojan Horse to get their fighters into Israel for just such a war as this. Yasser Arafat in his "Phased Program," presented at the Arab League Summit in 1974, outlined his intentions in detail, and he has followed the plan.

The Phased Program called for the Palestinians to use diplomatic pressure to obtain territory west of the Jordan River. Then, phase two was to get Palestinian fighters into this territory. This was an easy one, because Israel invited the PLO fighters to come with Arafat from Tunis and armed them in the belief that they would fight terror and curtail Palestinian Islamic extremists. Phase three was to trigger a pan-Islamic war to annihilate Israel.

Phases one and two worked well. However, phase three has not. Arafat has not garnered the support of outside Islamic and Arab forces, other than to elicit "lip-service." Much has changed since 1974, and Arafat is not liked by the Arab powers, many of whom have exiled him



**Clarence Wagner, Jr. is Executive Director of Bridges for Peace in Jerusalem, a worldwide ministry of Christian comfort and support to the Jewish people.**

in years past. Also, they do not have the strength and backing of the USSR as they did in 1974. However, these same Arab regimes are all too quick to latch onto the Palestinian cause as an excuse to pressure the U.S. and Europe against Israel and to raise oil prices for their own self-aggrandizement.

#### **The Price Israel Has Paid**

If the US is justified in going into the Middle East to "take out" radical Islamic terrorists because they killed Americans, is Israel justified in doing the same thing?

To answer this you need to consider how many Israelis have been killed by Arafat's regime and what is the impact on Israeli society since Arafat's Al-Aksa War started at the end of September 2000. To appreciate the impact, you have to multiply numbers in Israel by 55 to get the equivalent proportional impact in the USA, given the population differences.

Americans know well the trauma of the World Trade Center and Pentagon bombings where nearly 3,000 Americans were killed in these two attacks.

In Israel, there have been 420 Israelis killed, which translates to 23,100 people in America.

There have been 3,600 injured, which translates to 198,000 injured in America.

In Israel there have been nearly 12,000 terror attacks during this period, which translates to 660,000 in the USA.

I know Palestinian statistics are tragic too. But, most of them are combatants whereas most of the Israeli casualties are civilians. Also, a large proportion of the Israelis are young people, babies, and women who are exploded by suicide bombers and car bombs, and shot by snipers.



And the terrorist attacks are horrendous. Since last summer, 14 suicide bombers or car bombs have exploded within four blocks of our Bridges for Peace Headquarters in downtown Jerusalem. All were clearly heard and felt as the building shook with the concussion of the blast. The aftermath of dozens of ambulances and emergency vehicles rushing to the scene, mixed with the screaming and crying of those running away from the scene is something you never forget. Often, going to a site to report a firsthand account, I have witnessed scenes you really want to forget. The carnage is unimaginable. Blood is splattered sometimes as high as three stories up the fronts of buildings. Body parts hang haphazardly from trees and awnings in front of local shops. Glass is everywhere, as are chunks of flesh which are strewn about as though someone unloaded the meat section of the local supermarket on the street and sidewalk. The smell of explosives and burning flesh hangs in the air, and the panic is everywhere.

Families and kids are favorite targets in stores, restaurants, synagogues, schools, clubs, coffee houses, malls, and buses — in other words, the places where mostly young people can be found. That is because the suicide bombers are all young, mostly college students, who mingle with people their age and then explode themselves. They also know that killing the innocent will terrorize the people all the more.

Yet, I keep hearing about "the occupation."

#### The Irrelevant Issue

**IT IS NOT ABOUT OCCUPATION!** It is about the aims of radical Islam to destroy Israel. What is worse is that this radical Islamic position is promoted by Arafat and the Palestinian Authority whose own forces and those of Hamas and Islamic Jihad are on President Bush's list of terror organizations that threaten world peace, not to mention Israel and the Palestinian people themselves. And since it is not about the occupation, believing that the Barak Plan, or now the Saudi Peace Plan, would actually bring peace is a fantasy. Look at Lebanon. Israel ended "the occupation," and there is no peace. In fact, Hizbullah has now vowed to fight in behalf of the Palestinians.

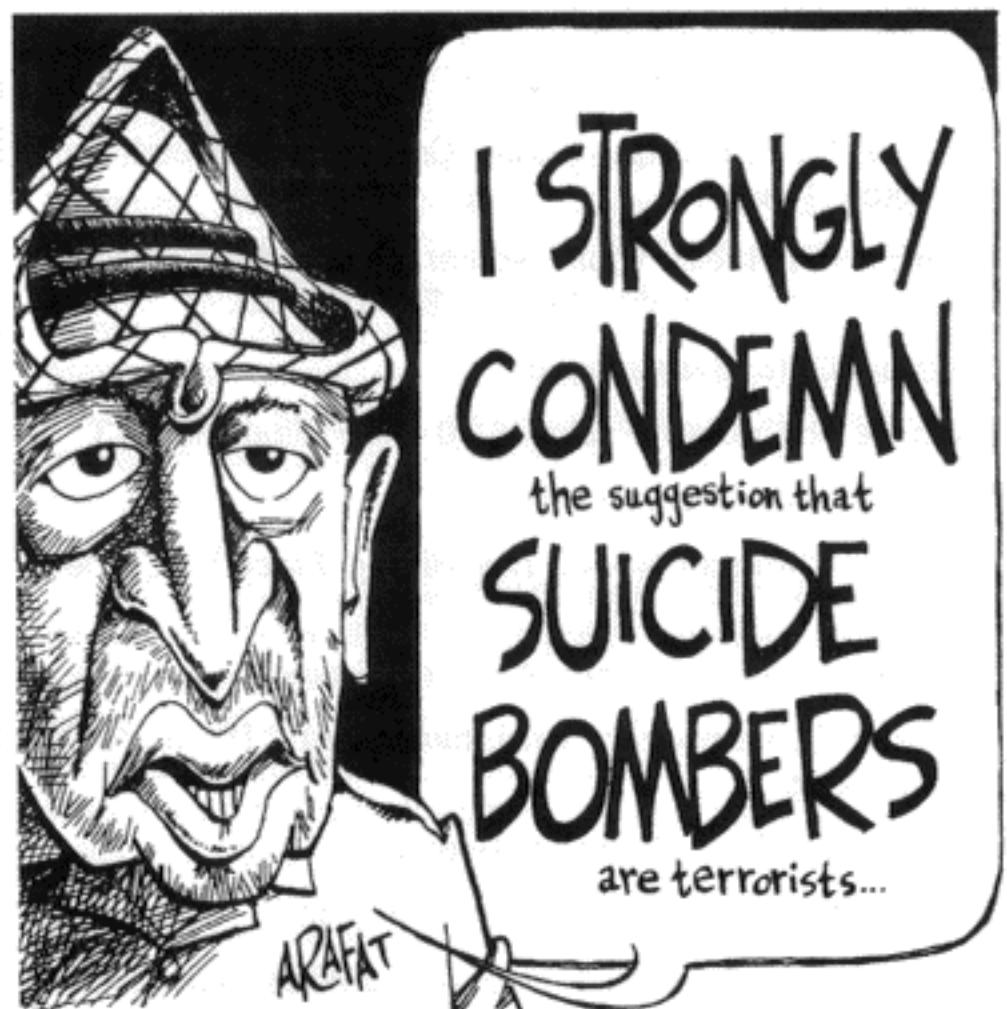
These are the facts and if Israel has to defend herself because of the wanton murder of her citizens, then support her. If citizens of other countries were being murdered at the daily rate Israelis are dying from terrorism, their governments would also send in military troops to stop the carnage — just as the United States has done in Afghanistan.

I am a Christian living in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo and I am tired of being shot at by Palestinian terrorists. For those worried about human rights, my human rights have been violated by armed criminals who have killed and maimed my neighbors and attacked my home. If Israel goes in to defend innocent civilians, including Palestinians under the terrorist gun, that is fine by me. A nation that will not protect its civilians from armed criminal terrorists is not a responsible government. ☆

**Note:** This article is a composite of two articles by Clarence Wagner that were published on the ministry's website at <http://www.bridgesforpeace.com/>.

## Relevant Facts about the Disputed Land of Israel

- ☆ God gave the land to Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Jacob (the Jews) for an eternal possession (Genesis 12:1-7; 13:14-16; 15:18-21; 17:1-8; 26:1-5; and 28:1-4).
- ☆ God promised the rest of the land in the Middle East to the Arab peoples (Genesis 16:7-12).
- ☆ Israel became a nation with Jerusalem as its capital in 1312 B.C., 2,000 years before the birth of Islam.
- ☆ Jerusalem has never been the capital of any Arab or Muslim state.
- ☆ Jerusalem is mentioned 667 times in the Hebrew Scriptures, 144 times in the New Testament, and not once in the Koran.
- ☆ King David founded the city of Jerusalem. Mohammed never stepped foot in the city.
- ☆ Jews pray facing Jerusalem. Muslims pray facing Mecca, with their backs to Jerusalem.
- ☆ When the Jordanians conquered the Old City of Jerusalem in 1948, they blew up the Jewish quarter, destroying all the synagogues and then proceeded to desecrate all the Jewish tombs on the Mount of Olives.
- ☆ When the Jews conquered the city in 1967, they spared the Arab quarter of destruction and protected the Dome of the Rock and the Al-Asqua Mosque. They also returned control of the Temple Mount to the Arabs.



JOHN BRANCH/San Antonio Express-News



## Meet our Staff Members



**Cathie Grubb**

**Birth Place & Date:** Princeton, Texas in 1954.

**Husband's Name & Years Married:** John, 22 years.

**Names & Ages of Children:** Eric (deceased) and P.J. (21). P.J. is in the Marines.

**Education:** Graduate of Princeton High School.

**Lamb & Lion Position:** Administrative Assistant.

**Duties:** Process mail and orders. Assist with phones.

**Number of Years on Staff:** 4.

**Number of Years a Christian:** 7.

**Church Membership:** Grace Community Church in Princeton, Texas.

**Church Activities:** Youth worker and Sunday School teacher. Also assist with Vacation Bible School.

**Spiritual Gifts:** Servanthood.

**Favorite Scriptures:** Psalm 46:10 and Philippians 4:13.

**Favorite Bible Character:** Ruth.

**Favorite Christian Book:** *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom.

**Favorite Christian Hymn:** "Amazing Grace."

**Favorite Contemporary Christian Song:** "Thank You" by Ray Boltz.

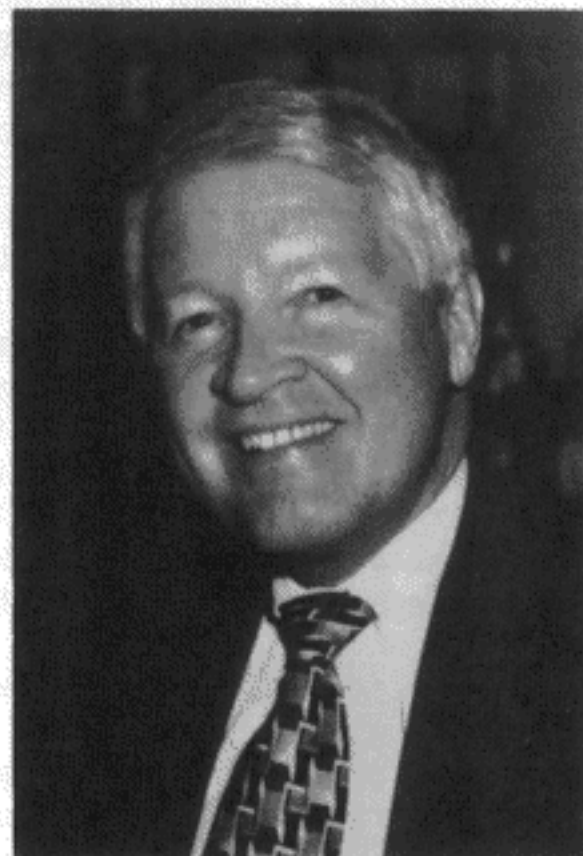
**Favorite Christian Singer or Group:**

**Favorite Bible Version:** New International.

**All-Time Favorite Movie:** "Back to the Wilderness."

**Favorite Pastime:** Watching Christian programs on television.

## Meet our Trustees



**Jim Bridges**

**Birth Place & Date:** Kansas City, Missouri in 1937.

**Wife's Name & Years Married:** Darlene, 44 years.

**Names & Ages of Children:** James III (40) and Jennifer (38). Five grandchildren.

**Education:** BS & MS in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University.

**Occupation:** Chairman and CEO of Knowledge Systems. (Specialized software for the oil and gas industry.)

**Number of Years a Christian:** 52.

**Church Membership:** Sugar Creek Baptist in Sugarland, Texas.

**Church Activities:** Sing in choir and serve on missions committee.

**Spiritual Gifts:** Giving and perseverance.

**Favorite Scriptures:** Psalm 91 and Romans 8:28-39.

**Favorite Bible Character:** Daniel.

**Favorite Christian Book:** *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis.

**Favorite Christian Hymn:** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

**Favorite Christian Group:** Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir.

**Favorite Bible Version:** New International.

**All-Time Favorite Movie:** "Young Frankenstein."

**All-Time Favorite Novel:** *Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens.

**Favorite Pastimes:** Travel, guitar, reading, tennis, grand-kids and using the Internet to manage investments.





Barry Cameron

## Are you struggling with debt?

Barry Cameron's new book, *The ABC's of Financial Success*, should be read by every Christian. If its principles were to be implemented by Christian families and churches, it would revolutionize the modern day church.

The book clearly and simply tells the reader how to get out of debt — and how to do it quickly. The author then shows that families out of debt can (and will) greatly increase their giving to their churches, making it possible to significantly expand the outreach of any church.

This book is so important that every church in America ought to purchase copies for each of their families. It would, without a doubt, prove to be the best investment each church has ever made.

### Practicing What He Preaches

Barry is the pastor of Arlington Christian Church in Arlington, Texas. Under his leadership the past nine years, the church has grown from 200 to over 2,000, and it has gone from being \$250,000 in debt to being debt free. Yet, during those nine years, the church doubled its facilities, purchased one million dollars worth of land for a future move, and set aside one million dollars in an endowment fund for foreign missions.

### The Overwhelming Need

The need for this book is demonstrated in the fact that the average Christian family pays out 10% of its income per year in interest and gives only 2% to the Lord.

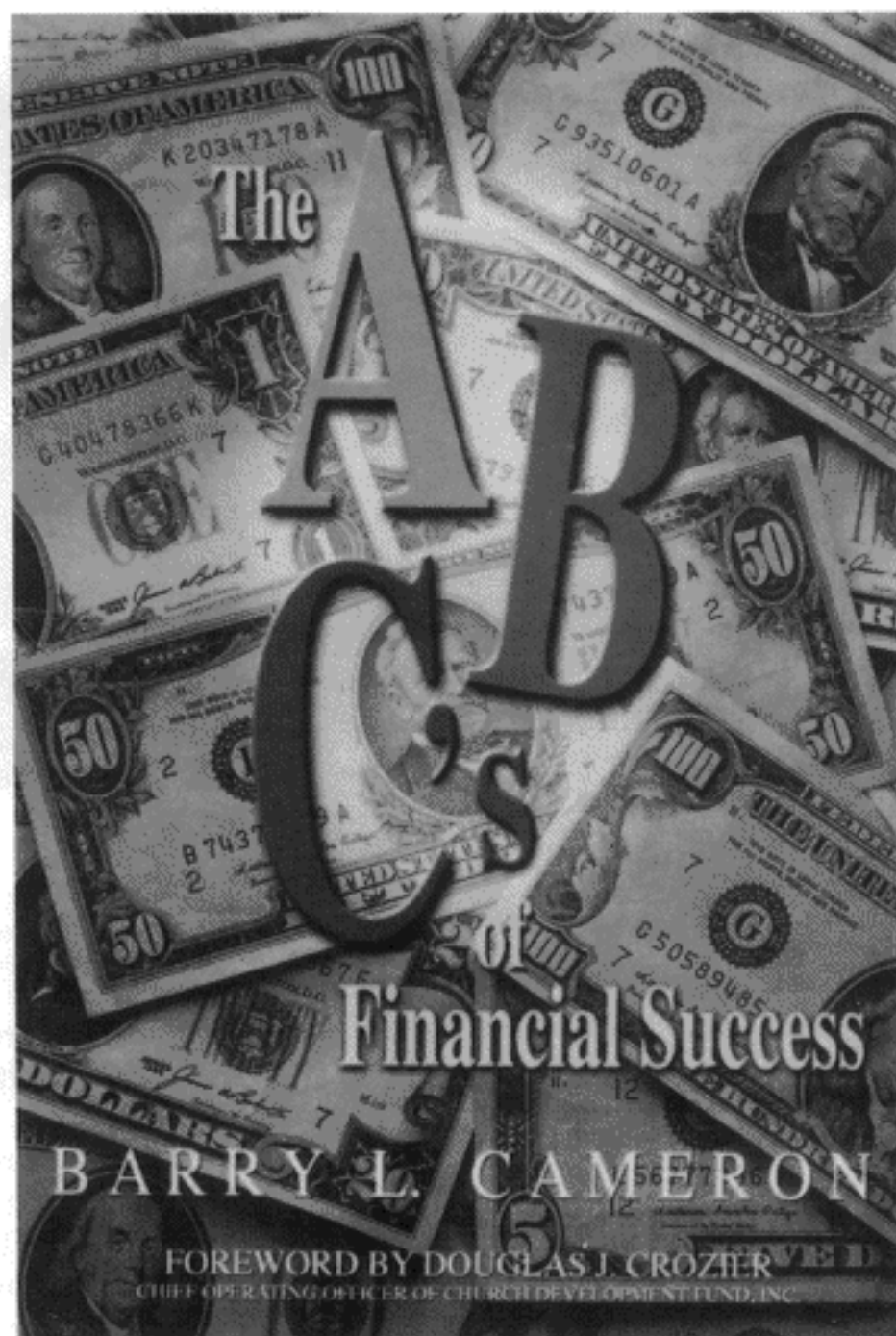
In 1984 there were 284,000 personal bankruptcies in the U.S. Last year there were 1.5 million! One in five were college students. Sixty-three percent last year blamed their financial woes on credit cards.

### The Spiritual Problem

Barry forcefully argues that the root of all financial problems for Christians is a lack of faith. The average Christian says, "I will start tithing when I get out of debt." Barry proves that one of the most important keys to getting out of debt is to start tithing *now*. As he puts it, "It is a matter of obedience. You must step out in faith, believing that you cannot out give God."



### Pontius' Puddle



### How to Get a Copy

The book (150 pages) sells for \$12 in book stores. We are making it available for \$10 plus \$2 for mailing. To order, call 1-800-705-8316. Or, send a check for \$12 to the ministry at P.O. Box 919, McKinney, Texas 75070.

### Video Version

Dr. Reagan recently taped a 30 minute video interview with Pastor Cameron concerning the principles he reveals in this book. That interview is available for the same price as the book — \$10 plus \$2 for mailing. This video would be great for home study groups and for pastors to show to their churches. ✚



# Bible Prophecy Study Resources

## The Book of Revelation



Dr. Reagan's newest book, *Wrath and Glory*, provides an easy to understand introduction to the mysteries of the book of Revelation.

It begins by providing several keys to understanding Revelation. It then proceeds to use those keys to provide a chapter by chapter survey of the whole book. The next section shows how the events in Revelation relate to each other and to other end-time prophecies.

One of the most popular chapters in the book is devoted to answering people's most frequently asked questions. The book's final chapter shows how to apply the lessons of Revelation to our Christian living here and now.

The book is 240 pages long. It contains many charts and diagrams. It sells for \$12 in the book stores. We are supplying it for \$10 plus \$2 for mailing.

A study guide for this book, which can be used in teaching the book in group settings, is available free of charge at the publisher's website: <http://www.newleafpress.net>. Go to the site, click on the words, "Study Guides," which appear at the top of the home page, and then download the guide.

## The Middle East Crisis



Dr. Reagan has prepared a 45 minute video program entitled, *The Middle East Crisis in Biblical Perspective*.

The program clearly shows that God has given the Jewish people an eternal title to the land of Israel. It explains how the controversy over the land developed, and it highlights the end time prophecies that tell what the outcome of the struggle will be between the Jews and the Arabs. The video provides a clear understanding of Middle East politics and conflicts from a biblical perspective.

The video sells for \$10 plus \$2 for mailing.

## Dry Bones



## Messianic Prophecy



The first edition of Dr. Reagan's *Christ in Prophecy Study Guide* was published in 1987. It took Dr. Reagan seven years to prepare. The second edition has just been published.

The Study Guide outlines in detail all the prophecies of the Bible regarding both the First and Second Comings of the Messiah. The prophecies are presented by topics in chronological order, either as they have been fulfilled or most likely will be fulfilled.

The first edition focused on Old Testament prophecy. The second edition adds the prophecies contained in the New Testament. It also contains both topical and scripture indexes.

The Study Guide runs 150 pages in length. It is printed on heavy, letter size paper and contains large margins for making notes. It is spiral bound for easy access.

The Guide sells for \$15 plus \$5 for mailing.

This is a study resource for serious students of God's prophetic word and for those who aspire to teach or preach Bible prophecy.



# Ministry News

**Speaking Engagements** — In **June** Dave Reagan will make weekend appearances at Crossroads Christian Church in Corona, California (1-2) and at Southern Acres Christian Church in Lexington, Kentucky (23). Dennis Pollock will conduct a meeting at First Christian Church in Stockbridge, Georgia (9-12). In **July** Dave is scheduled to conduct a series of meetings in Australia. Dennis will hold a meeting at Blessed Hope Bible Fellowship in New Bedford, Massachusetts (25-28). In **August** Dave will speak at Crossroads Assembly of God in Danville, Kentucky (3-4) and at Tyler Christian Church in Tyler, Texas (10-11). In **September** Dave and Dennis are scheduled to conduct a prophecy conference in New Delhi, India (1-10). After their return from India, Dave will be speaking at Summit Christian Church in Sparks, Nevada (28-29) and Dennis will be at Crossroads Christian Church in Hutchinson, Kansas (28-29).

**Missions** — We need to raise around \$15,000 for our September outreach in New Delhi, India. Dave and Dennis will begin the outreach by conducting a prophecy conference in New Delhi for 150 pastors. Following the conference, they will preach in churches scattered throughout that great capital city. Special donations should be designated for "India Outreach." Thank you! Please pray for the effectiveness of this missions trip.

**Foreign Publications** — The ministry that will host the India conference is called **Revival Literature Fellowship**. It is headed up by a wonderful man of God named John Ishmael. The ministry specializes in publishing biblical literature in both English and native languages. They have included several essays by both Dave and Dennis in their monthly magazine. They recently published 12 of Dave's essays on Bible prophecy in booklet form under the title, "The Importance of Bible Prophecy." They are currently translating Dave's newest book, **Wrath and Glory**, for publication in Hindi and Tamil.

## Reprinted!

The study guide designed for use with Dr. Reagan's album of tapes about the book of Revelation has been reprinted in response to popular demand.

The guide has been revised and expanded. It is spiral bound and runs 60 pages in length. It sells for \$5 plus \$2 for mailing.

Dr. Reagan's Revelation Album contains 12 one hour cassette tapes that cover the book of Revelation verse by verse. It sells for \$36 plus the cost of mailing.

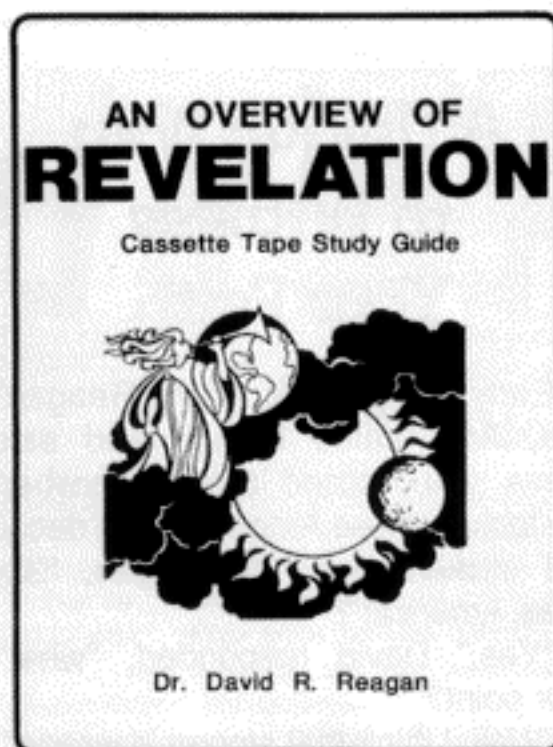
**Acts 29** — We want to thank all of you who gave so generously in response to our appeal in last month's issue for the Acts 29 Ministry headed up by Jack and Sally Hollingsworth. Their new motor home is almost paid for.

**Urgent Needs** — We have two urgent needs. The first is a cargo van to replace our pickup truck that is worn out. The cost will be around \$18,000. The second need is to replace the ministry's operational software program that contains our mailing lists and financial records. This must be done before the end of this year. The projected cost for software and equipment is \$20,000. Please give these needs your prayerful consideration. Thanks.

**Free Books** — Our publisher, New Leaf Press in Arkansas, has made a number of copies of Dr. Reagan's book, **Wrath and Glory** available for free distribution to foreign missions and to inmates in U.S. prisons. Foreign missionaries and prison chaplains should contact the ministry for free copies which must, in turn, be distributed free of charge.

**Video News** — In mid-April, we did a remote video shoot at the home of Darlene Cates, the actress who was featured in the movie, "What's Eating Gilbert Grape." Dr. Reagan interviewed her about her Christian testimony. We hope to have the interview ready for distribution this summer.

The ministry will be video taping three or four programs in mid-May to serve as pilot programs for a television series that we hope to launch in the fall of this year. The program will be called "Christ in Prophecy" and will present discussions of major issues in Bible prophecy. Gary Fisher of Lion of Judah Ministries in Franklin, Tennessee, will join Dave and Dennis in making the programs. We need to raise a significant amount of money to get this television program on the air. Please pray for the Lord to motivate some major donations. ✝



The Lamb & Lion video crew with Darlene Cates at her home.



## A Unique Way to Witness Your Faith

Early this year Dr. David Reagan's wife, Ann, came to him and said, "Have you noticed that everywhere you look you see American flag decals and stickers with the slogan, 'God Bless America!'"

"Yes," David responded, "what's your point?"

"Well, I think that slogan is wrong!"

"What do you mean?" he asked.

"The way I see it," Ann replied, "God has already given our country an abundance of blessings. The need is not for God to bless America, but for America to bless God!"

Ann's insightful point struck home to Dave's heart. The more he thought about it, the more he was convinced that she was right on target with her observation. So, Dave went to the

# AMERICA BLESS GOD!



## 2 Chronicles 7:14

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For information, call 1-800-705-8316.

The sticker is reproduced above in its actual size, 4" by 5."



Ann Reagan stands next to the sticker on the ministry's van.

ministry's graphic artist, Keith Fink, and asked him to put Ann's idea into a graphic design.

The result was the sticker displayed on this page. Dave came up with the idea of adding the reference to 2 Chronicles 7:14 which reads: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

The sticker is appropriate for putting on backpacks, briefcases, luggage, auto windows — and any other place where you would like to witness your faith.

The horrors of September 11th were not meant to give birth to pride in the form of a revival of patriotism. Rather, they were a wake-up call for Americans to repent and recommit themselves to God.

The stickers sell for \$1 each, with a minimum order of 10. There are no shipping charges. You can order 10 or more by calling 1-800-705-8316 between 8am and 5pm, Central time, Monday through Friday.



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