

### WHAT TO BELIEVE

**“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness”**

(Isaiah 5:20)

Palestinians have launched over 6,400 rockets at the Israeli civilian population over the last three years.<sup>1</sup> It matters not. They deploy those rockets and mortars in populated areas. It is of no concern to the world at large. Gunman are seen “commandeering ambulances and taking children out with them to the battle”. Palestinians kill dozens of their own that “collaborated” with the Israelis rather than submitting to the murderous regime of Hamas. Still, the world closes its’ eyes and blames Israel. Alan Dershowitz refers to this as the Palestinian’s “CNN strategy”.<sup>2</sup> Hamas can do no wrong. Israel is guilty of using disproportionate force. [*That’s what Sherman & Grant used to win the Civil War. That’s how wars are won. Not by trading pawns!*] Israel is blamed for every death. Yet Hamas continues to launch rockets against Israeli civilians. On January 12<sup>th</sup> for instance, the terror group broke a voluntary Israeli cease fire put in place to allow delivery of humanitarian aid by firing missiles into Ashkelon, one of which struck an occupied house.<sup>3</sup>

So the Vatican jumps in and blames Israel, with a spokesman comparing Gaza to “a big concentration camp”. Never mind that it’s the Arabs who’ve refused to take in that indigenous Arab population. That it was Jordan that kicked Arafat’s newly minted Palestinians out of the country. The Vatican portrayed the Palestinians as a “defenseless population”, and called for an internationally enforced peace settlement. “If they can’t come to an agreement, then someone else should do it.”<sup>4</sup> Across the world, fingers are pointed at the Jews. The reality of the situation is ignored. And that is the plan of Hamas. They are seeking to unite the world in hate of Israel. When the Israelis turned over Gaza to the Palestinians in 2005 it took only hours for them to begin using the territory as a forward base for their rocket attack. Within days they had destroyed the greenhouses that the Israelis had surrendered intact. Instead, with the help of the Iranians, they turned the territory into a terrorist training camp, importing weapons and digging tunnels.<sup>5</sup> After the Hamas takeover of the region from the only *moderately terror-minded* Fatah party, Hamas has created an almost gangster-like regime, terrorizing enemies, killing-off opponents named as *Israeli collaborators*, and using the civilian population as shields in their war against the Jews. For example, Hamas had set up operational control under the biggest hospital in Gaza.<sup>6</sup> They receive the willing cooperation of the media in their attempts to influence coverage of the events.

Take for instance, the Israeli air strike in early January that killed Nizar Rayan, a Hamas military leader along with 4 of his wives and several of his children.<sup>7</sup> That is the crux of the story that the media reported. But here is part of the account that gives the rest of the story. Following is the report from Asher Intrater, of Revive Israel. “*That strike was the result of careful intelligence gathering. When Rian was located, Israeli Army and government legal advisors went through a painstaking process of bringing the strike before court judges to verify its legality according to the Geneva conventions. Fifteen (15) minutes before the strike, the Israeli army called on the telephone and asked the people to leave the house. When they received the call, they gathered people up onto the roof as a human shield. The Israeli helicopter pilot saw them, and as they figured, he didn’t want to hurt them. The pilot then fired a missile into a field next to the house to warn them. They still did not leave. Then he fired onto them a non lethal weapon to cause them to flee. Only after they left the roof did he fire the shot that destroyed the house. When the missile hit, there were a series of other explosions, indicating, as assumed by the Israeli army,*

*that the house was used for weapon storage. The policy of notifying the civilians of a coming attack is called by the Israeli army, 'Tap on the roof,' like knocking on a door before you enter a house.'*<sup>8</sup>

Yet the world's opinion is formed not by the truth, - but by the reports of a very biased media. Just as in the days prior to the Holocaust and World War II, anti-Semitism and violent attacks against Jews are beginning to spread. In Toulouse France, a burning car was rammed into the gates of a synagogue. Slogans were painted on the walls of the Israeli embassy in Stockholm Sweden. There were over 20 anti-Semitic incidents reported in Great Britain, including an attempted arson attack on a London synagogue. Violent protests broke out in Belgium and there was a shooting in Denmark, as crowds of Muslims chanted "slaughter all the Jews".<sup>9</sup> In Ontario, a powerful university workers union wants to ban all Israeli professors.<sup>10</sup> And in America, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, called for the destruction of Israel and the extermination of the Jews, with shouts of "Go back to the oven".<sup>11</sup>

So Hamas seems willing to trade even severe military setbacks for what they see as a more strategic victory in the court of worldwide public opinion. And the "images of the horrors" suffered by the Palestinian people does seem to be taking its toll. Multiply that effect many-fold when it comes to the influence the propaganda war is having on Middle Eastern populations, influenced as they are by the incessant coverage of the Arab media, - print and cable. It is beginning to force the hand of even perceived moderate regimes, such as the Egyptians.<sup>12</sup> In fact, Egypt is walking a fine line in the Arab world as it tries to maintain its' position of leadership. While it castigates Israel for the 'barbaric' nature of its' Gaza attacks while blaming Hamas for launching the rockets that made an attack necessary from the Israeli point of view. You see, Hamas had its origins in the Muslim Brotherhood, that extremist Egyptian-born organization with a history that ties it to the anti-Jewish philosophy of Nazi intelligence in WWII, - and still exists today. The Brotherhood has a significant presence in Jordan, Syria and among the North African nations. So though officially at peace with Israel since 1979, Cairo has winked at the building of hundreds of tunnels and other smuggling activities in the Gaza Strip. Egypt is therefore rightly afraid of radical Islam and its ties to Iran. That's why it is quietly hoping that Israel does the job well of destroying Hamas and therefore Iranian influence in the region.<sup>13</sup>

For its part, Tehran is doing its best to keep the fires stoked in Gaza. After all, the fighting there has taken the focus off of Iran's nuclear armament program. Through the tracking of serial numbers and other markings, it has become clear that Iran has long provided "funds and material support" to Hamas.<sup>14</sup> Now Iran is playing hardball, calling in its chits, and threatening to cut off that supply of weapons and money if Hamas agrees to an Egyptian brokered cease-fire plan. As I write this, Israel and Egypt are both pressuring Hamas to turn over their rockets to a third party as part of the deal.<sup>15</sup> For Tehran and its Syrian toadies, this accomplishes three purposes. It provides conflict with Israel and the US on the cheap, which in turn both keeps the area radicalized and ripe for the Iranian brand of Islam, - as well as drawing attention away from the reactors in Iran.<sup>16</sup> You see, the Hamas game here is the same as Iran, is the same as al-Qaeda and so many other radical Islamic organizations. They seek the complete destruction of Israel. Here are some pertinent quotes from the Hamas Charter. "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it... There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time".<sup>17</sup>

Which brings us to this last point: Yes, Hamas is a terror organization that needs to be squelched. But it is also in the interests of *The-Powers-That-Be* to seek their defeat so that a Palestinian State can be set up. Hamas must be eliminated or neutralized in order for meaningful negotiations to go forward with Fatah. President Abbas and his Fatah party will negotiate for a peace. Remember there is much that has been offered already; - including Judea, Samaria, and half of Jerusalem. All along the way, the stage is being set for the fulfillment of prophecy.

## **PASTOR FRED: A MISSION TO INDIA**

Pastor Fredrick Naedele

[EDITOR'S NOTE: *Not long before he passed away at the end of last year, my pastor, Fred Naedele, penned a piece about some the mission work that he'd been involved in. Fred, along with a small team from our church, was preparing to leave on yet another trip to the land of India, where his missionary work had begun so many years ago. Despite ongoing trouble in the region, rest of the team still intends to go and spread the Gospel. Please keep them in your prayers.*]

Just twelve years ago, there were virtually no Christians living in one particular Asian nation, which shall for security reasons remain nameless. Islam was, - and is, - the official state religion there, and the Muslims living there would brook no challenge to their enforced faith. Today there are over a million converts to the cause of Christ and at least 38 believers have been murdered for their beliefs. Instead of destroying the movement or frightening others away, their martyrdom seems to have served as a catalyst for further conversions. What follows is a bit of the story about just how this all came about.

Now besides my pastoral work at my own church, My Father's House in Elma, NY, I've been involved in missionary evangelistic work and leadership training in Third World countries for almost 40 years. Most of my work has been in the land of India but I've also traveled to Mexico, Kenya Malaysia and Singapore. Thirty years ago we held over 35 mass crusades in India, preaching to over a million souls. Most importantly we witnessed God work among those crowds, healing hundreds from cancer and blindness and all sorts of diseases and saving thousands for the Kingdom. In the course of time we established more than 125 churches and built a successful 120-bed hospital that is still going today.

It was about eight years ago that a man came into one of our Sunday service and in a very real way my life made a sharp change. He was a diminutive octogenarian of Japanese descent by the name of Joshua Tsujimoto. As a youngster during World War II he had lived in an internment camp out west. After the war he got a degree in agriculture and became a successful local farmer. Joshua had spent the previous 18 years in a Muslim nation teaching what he knew about farming on an experimental farm. His agricultural knowledge and experience however, only served as the vehicle for his other more real passion, spreading the good news of Jesus. After that mornings church service, here is the story he told me.

After spending 16 years in that unnamed Muslim nation he had to return to the US. He was feeling sad and disappointed. He lamented the fact that in all those years he had not won many to the Lord. There was one disciple though who for security reasons we'll refer to only as "S". Now this disciple's life reads like a modern day version of the career of the Apostle Paul. "S" took his commitment to the Lord Jesus very seriously. He labored to spread the news about Jesus to the Muslim people of his village and beyond. For his efforts he was isolated in silence, disowned by his family, persecuted, hunted, stoned, beaten, suffered a form of crucifixion and left for dead. One day, Joshua received a long-distance phone call from "S" telling him that suddenly God was on the move. Thousands of Muslims were being converted and baptized. They could not publicly announce the baptismal services for fear of reprisals from the government and the Muslim communities. So they were calling them swimming parties and "S" found himself presiding over services where hundreds upon hundreds were being baptized.

Now these new converts became the targets of persecution. Upon hearing that these new believers had rejected Islam their neighbors were dragging the Christians out of their homes, beating them sometimes to within an inch of their lives and then setting fire to their homes and all their belongings. There is a very real cost to being a Christian in a Muslim nation. The most amazing thing is that they would not deny their belief in Jesus Christ no matter what was done to them. In one village three men were beaten to unconsciousness before being taken to a hospital. Coming to, they still refused to deny their Lord. All three were miraculously healed, gave their witness at the hospital and ended up winning that facility to Christ.

Though you may never hear of it in the mainstream media, the movement continued to grow exponentially. In time a woman named Annie became a pastor figure to about 500,000 females. She too suffered incredible persecution, once having been beaten and a coke bottle stuffed up her vagina before being found by "S" who got her to the hospital. Her husband left her after this incident. She survived and we are now paying her rent for both her and her teenage daughter. They have no other means of support other than her ministry.

Some years later, "S" managed to come to the US to escape the government agents that were seeking to assassinate him for his leadership role in this growing movement. Through a series of circumstances he ended up at our church during a prayer meeting and immediately our hearts bonded. He told me that they had been just riding on the move of the Holy Spirit but had had no teaching. He asked if I could come to his country and instruct them in some leadership principles. We agreed and in February of 2008 my wife Donna and I went to see what God was doing.

Needing to hide the Christian nature of our trip, we traveled as potential investors to a commercial venture that serves partially as a front for their training center; - a fish farm where they raise shrimp and tilapia. It was there that many of the leaders came to hear us. Being sensitive as to what to teach, after much prayer we decided to take a page out of the Bible. We asked them if they had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They said "no" and so we spent the next four nights teaching about it. These leaders soaked it up like sponges. What we witnessed was like the Book of Acts. God worked wonders that week. In the months that followed these same leaders spread out into new areas with even greater success. "S" reported that he had not seen anything like it. In the first "swimming party" they held, 700 souls were baptized. Even the Mullahs in the mosque got saved and in fact the mosque went out of business.

At present we are preparing for a crusade this February in India, then heading down to "S"'s mystery country to bring more teaching. We are taking a team of 6 for which we will need about \$20,000 for two weeks of meetings. Please pray that God will meet our needs and that there will be great rewards for the Kingdom of God.

Pastor Fredrick Naedele

If you would like to help financially with this mission trip, please designate that it is for the **India Mission** and send your contributions to: **My Father's House // 140 Pound Rd // Elma, NY 14052**

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- <sup>1</sup> Moral Clarity in Gaza, Washington Post, January 1, 2009
  - <sup>2</sup> Melanie Phillips, Depravity And Double Standards, The Spectator (UK), January 9, 2009
  - <sup>3</sup> Hamas breaks 3-hour cease fire with rocket attack on Ashkelon, Jerusalem Post, January 12, 2009
  - <sup>4</sup> Vatican deplores Gaza situation, BBC, January 9, 2009
  - <sup>5</sup> Moral Clarity in Gaza, Washington Post, January 1, 2009
  - <sup>6</sup> FOX News, January 11, 2009
  - <sup>7</sup> Hamas leader killed with four wives in Israeli strike: medics, Herald Sun (Australia), Agence France Press, January 2, 2009
  - <sup>8</sup> Asher Intrater, Revive Israel, January 5, 2009
  - <sup>9</sup> John Leicester, Gaza conflict spreads in Europe with Jews attacked, Breitbart, AP, January 6, 2009
  - <sup>10</sup> CUIPE calls for ban on Israeli professors, National Post (Canada), January 6, 2009
  - <sup>11</sup> Joseph Abrams, Protester Calls For Jews to 'Go Back To The Oven' at Anti-Israel Demonstration, FOX News, January 8, 2009
  - <sup>12</sup> Despite Gaza Attacks, Hamas Thinks It Has the Upper Hand, TIME Magazine, January 6, 2009
  - <sup>13</sup> Zvi Mazel, Analysis: The Egyptian tightrope act between Israel and Hamas, Jerusalem Post, January 12, 2009
  - <sup>14</sup> From an NPR report, January 10, 2009
  - <sup>15</sup> Israeli ultimatum, DEBKAFfile, January 12, 2009
  - <sup>16</sup> Iran warns Hamas not to accept truce, Jerusalem Post, January 12, 2009
  - <sup>17</sup> Hamas Charter, The Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), MidEast Web.Org, August 18, 1988