



THE REMINDER

Looking Over Jordan

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Doris Campbell | 3RD |
| Ron Lamkin | 20TH |
| Denise Roach | 22ND |



FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH



- Income: \$8064
- Expense: \$7573

Your gifts are truly appreciated!

Everyday in the news we hear about the war in Gaza. Since the worst terror attack in the history of modern Israel last October, the Israeli Defense Force has been operating in Gaza to defeat the Iranian terrorist organization Hamas, which translates to “Satanic Gang” I think.

Also in the news we are hearing about thousands of American citizens gathering together to protest the war in Israel. Many of these fine citizens are chanting, “Death to America” and “Death to the Jews.” Yet another morally superior display, paid for by international Marxists.

How should Christians respond, and what are we to think of these things?



Firstly, I have always discouraged people from making a 1:1 correspondence between the modern state of Israel and Biblical Israel. There are many similarities or overlaps, but they are not identical. In 1948, God didn't simply “resurrect” a new version of ancient Israel and bestow upon it all the covenant blessings. Some versions of popular theology endorse this idea, but I believe the church is the outpost of the Kingdom of God, and that Jews are welcomed into this as they repent of their sins and put their trust in the Lord. In other words, I don't believe we should imagine that in Israel everyone will go to heaven automatically because of some special arrangement. I don't believe we should think that Israel is “heaven on earth” because that country is somehow closer to God than Rolling Roads Baptist church. (I actually believe the opposite!)

Secondly, It is (obviously) inappropriate spiritually to think of all Palestinian people as automatically evil and hell-bound. While Gaza is a tragic sad place filled with dysfunction, this is because of sin, greed, corrupt government, and misguided foreign policy. It has been this way for over a century. With the proliferation of weapons spreading forth from (surrendered to the Taliban by Biden) Afghanistan, Iran's terrorist groups have become much more dangerous to the civilized country of Israel. So civilized people defend themselves.

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Thirdly, Christians ought to always condemn wanton careless loss of human life. This includes in a war, and wishing for genocide during protests. I doubt many paid protestors who parrot their rally leaders could explain how they would defend themselves from terrorism, because they've never experienced it. So while we pray for and work for peace, we choose life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as our goal for everyone on earth. Because of sin, war is possible.

Lastly, I believe Christian people should take personally the actions of those who chant "death to America" or "death to Israel." Why should we be offended? The issue is what is meant by what is said. While there may be many very fine young people misled into such protests for easy money, their leaders do wish harm to everyday Christians, to cherished American and civilized ideals, and to Christian individuals and their families. They want our beliefs to go away, and for all power to rest with them. Marxists work for world domination. Marxists sow disunity and chaos, and will find any excuse and opportunity to do so.



Pray and work for peace by spreading Jesus' message of salvation. Anyone can change, God asks everyone to "repent and believe the gospel."

Happy because of Jesus,

Pastor James



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plenty to
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Pregnancy Network
"Share the Change"
Baby Bottle Campaign
Sunday, May 12 - June 16



LIFT UP THE WORD
LIGHT UP THE WORLD

THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024



WWW.NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG

*For you are my lamp, O Lord,
and my God lightens my
darkness. For by You I can
run against a troop, and by
my God I can leap over a
wall. This God—His way is
perfect; the word of the
Lord proves true; He is a
shield for all those who take
refuge in Him.*

2 Samuel 22:29-31