The recent political turmoil in Egypt has led to serious concerns that the 1979 peace treaty with Israel might soon be nullified by a new leadership in Cairo. In this regards, it is sobering to recall that Egypt, but for brief moments in history, has always been a great antagonist of the people of Israel.

This saga really began when Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers, was wrongly accused and left to rot in an Egyptian jail. If it were not for God's supernatural deliverance, he would have perished there! His rise to power was phenomenal as was his leadership skills. He not only saved Egypt from starvation but he delivered his family and the known world as well, and thereby guaranteed the existence of the Jewish people and the Messianic line of descent. If it were not for God's supernatural deliverance, Israel would have perished!

As time went by a Pharaoh arose “who knew not Joseph” and literally enslaved the Jewish people, murdered their babies, and threatened the nation with extinction. God went before them and provided a deliverer in the person of Moses. He brought Israel out of Egypt with great signs and wonders. If it were not for God's supernatural deliverance, Israel would have perished!

When the children of Israel got to the Red Sea, the Egyptians had them cornered. There was nowhere to go and so, once again, in response to Moses' outstretched arm, the sea miraculously parted and Israel escaped unharmed on dry land. If it were not for God's supernatural deliverance, Israel would have perished at the hands of the Egyptians!

Throughout history, up until the present day, Egypt has resolutely set itself against the purpose of God concerning the Jews and has tried, time and time again, to destroy them. In 1948, Egyptian forces advanced to within 25 miles of Tel Aviv in an attempt to “drive the Jews into the Sea.” In the Six Day War of June 1967, Gamel Abdul Nasser of Egypt had overwhelming military strength and backing by the Soviet Union when he sought once more to destroy Israel and the Jewish people. Yet again, a miracle of God happened and Nasser's army and his Arab allies were not just defeated but were humiliated by the IDF. Israel's victory was breathtaking and stunning. Yet actually, if it were not for God's supernatural deliverance, Israel would have perished!

The same was true in October 1973 when, emboldened again by Russia, Egypt attacked Israel on the holiest day of the Hebrew calendar – Yom Kippur or the great Day of Atonement. The surprise factor was complete and devastating. Even some of Golda Meir's top generals and closest advisors thought that the “game was over.” But they were wrong. Israel snatched victory from the jaws of defeat and survived. If it were not for God’s supernatural deliverance, Israel would have perished!

>> CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE
The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem

The International Christian Embassy Jerusalem was founded in 1980 as an act of comfort and solidarity with Israel and the Jewish people in their claim to Jerusalem.

Today, the Christian Embassy stands at the forefront of a growing mainstream movement of Christians worldwide who share a love and concern for Israel and an understanding of the biblical significance of the modern ingathering of Jews to the land of their forefathers.

From our headquarters in Jerusalem and through our branches and representatives in over 80 nations, we seek to challenge the Church to take up its scriptural responsibilities towards the Jewish people, to remind Israel of the wonderful promises made to her in the Bible, and to be a source of practical assistance to all the people of the Land of Israel.

The ICEJ’s United States Branch is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with offices in Washington, D.C. and in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. We are a non-denominational faith ministry supported by the voluntary contributions of our members and friends.

We invite you to join with us as we minister to Israel and the Jewish people worldwide by using the enclosed response card to make your donation to the ongoing work and witness of the ICEJ.

Please mail all donations to:
PO Box 440276
Nashville, TN 37244

Or make your tax-deductible gift online: www.icejusa.org

Upcoming Seminars & Speaking Events

Atlanta, GA
Islam in America
Sat. March 12th: 9am-12.30pm
Mt. Paran Church,
2055 Mt. Paran Road
Atlanta, GA 30327
Susan Michael

Warren-Youngstown, OH
Corrie Ten Boom/Such a Time
Fri. March 25th @ 7pm
Sat. March 26th: 9am-12.30pm
Jewish Community Center
505 Gypsy Lane
Youngstown, OH 44504
Carrie Burns & Susie Sandager

Victoria, TX
Israel, Islam & Me
Sat. April 16th: 9am-3pm
Victory Christian Life Center
1604 E. Crestwood
Victoria, TX 77901
Susan Michael

Carrollton, GA
Israel, Islam & Me
Sat. March 19th: 9am-4pm
Word of Life Church
1645 Bankhead Hwy
Carrollton, GA 30117
Susan Michael, Daryl Hedding & Michael Hines

Florence, AL
Understanding Israel
Sat. April 9th: 9am-12.30pm
Grace House, 946 Florence Road
Florence, AL 35630
Susan Michael, Daryl Hedding & Michael Hines

Corpus Christi, TX
Corpus Christi Christian Fellowship
Sunday April 17th: tbc
6602 South Staples
Corpus Christi, TX 78413
Susan Michael

Schedule an ICEJ Speaker or Seminar today!
For more details call Teresa at: (615) 895-9830.
www.icejusa.org
Passover is a special holiday for Jewish families in Israel, and many begin preparing for this joyous biblical festival well in advance. Yet it can also be a difficult season for those lacking the means to celebrate this revered occasion properly.

So ICEJ AID is already working to be in a position to help hundreds of poor families when the Pessach holiday arrives this April, when we hope to provide traditional Passover baskets to impoverished families, needy new immigrants, single-parent homes, the elderly and especially Holocaust survivors.

As the time-honoured Passover Seder meal approaches, more than 1/3 of all Israelis are living below the poverty line. Local charities will need to provide basic food staples to nearly 300,000 families. Thus we look to you, our friends and supporters, to help us meet the needs of as many Jewish families as we can this holiday season.

Don’t miss this optimal time for Christians to comfort the poorest sectors of Israeli society, as we help them celebrate freedom with dignity this year. Please consider making a generous donation today! ☺️

Support the ICEJ Passover Appeal by making your donation online - www.icejusa.org
In late December, I had the privilege to accompany a group of fourteen French Jews departing from Marseilles on their flight to a new life in Israel. The Christian Embassy was sponsoring their journey home, as well as a “Red Carpet” Aliyah Fair upon their arrival, where they would join with more than 300 other new immigrants from France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Greece and Turkey.

A local Jewish Agency representative met us at the airport to introduce me to the group before departure. They included three young adults in their twenties, a middle-aged woman and ten retirees, all from cities in southern France.

The journey started with moving farewells with friends and relatives staying behind. Once on the plane, I had reserved an aisle seat with El Al so I could move about and speak further with the group members. More than half were seated right behind me, which allowed me to learn more about each one and give them more information about the ICEJ.

Lea, the youngest olim (newcomer) at 19, was travelling with her boyfriend who was studying in a Jerusalem yeshiva.

Meanwhile, Jonathan, a 22-year old student in management, did not foresee any future for himself in France. He had decided to join his sister in Jerusalem, where he will enroll in an ulpan (Hebrew language class). He will then continue his university studies and expects to do six months of military service.

Iona, 24, had a degree in personnel management and hoped she could find a job, although she did not expect it to match her qualifications. But she was first going to learn Hebrew in Jerusalem, where she had friends.

Miriam, a 47-year old divorcee, was meeting up with her fiancé, and they plan to set up a business together in Haifa.

The rest of the group, elderly singles or couples, had been dreaming of making aliyah and joining family members for a long time, but had to first wait to be free from other obligations. Germaine, 82, and her daughter Nicole were leaving behind a long trail of hardships. They had lived most of their lives in Metz, near the German border, before moving to the south of France. Germaine told me that she was the oldest of four children and had to take care of her three brothers after her mother became very sick.
In July 1942, at age 14, she and her father were arrested and taken to the notorious Paris stadium where Jews were rounded up before being deported. They were able to escape two days later and took refuge in Tours, where the rest of the family joined them. Yet, three months later they were caught again and taken to the Drancy camp. There, father and daughter were separated, never to see each other again. The mother and younger children were fortunately hidden in a hospital by nuns, who disguised them as sick, contagious patients.

The father was eventually taken to Auschwitz, where he died. Every day, 1,000 prisoners were transported to the infamous death camp. Germaine was put on a train twice, but each time she happened to be passenger 1,001 and was left behind, escaping death yet again.

At age 18, she married a young man and Nicole was her first-born. They had waited until Nicole was retirement age before making aliyah together. They were now going to settle in Bnei Brak, where Nicole has a son who teaches in a yeshiva.

Even with such chilling life stories, the atmosphere on the plane was one of joy and expectation. We had left Marseilles with near freezing temperatures and landed in Tel Aviv to a balmy 27°C!

Michal Cohen, a very friendly and energetic Jewish Agency representative, greeted us at the aircraft. We boarded buses for the old terminal at Lod, where the immigration authorities interviewed each olim separately for their citizenship documents.

We boarded the bus again and drove back to the main Ben-Gurion terminal, where the newcomers identified their baggage for transport to Jerusalem. We were then driven to the Judean Guest House, a nice new hotel near the Jerusalem Biblical Zoo, where we joined other groups of immigrants for a meal and overnight stay.

I had prepared a gift from the ICEJ for each member of my group, including beautiful music from the Popov family.

After a relaxing morning, we were offered an afternoon visit to the Western Wall. There, each one received an historic photograph of the Wall taken in the 1870s. The ceremony ended with the singing of HaTikvah – Israel’s national anthem.

The Aliyah Fair was scheduled for the next day, giving me many more opportunities to talk to different immigrants from France; during meals, on the buses, in the hotel lobby, all the way through the fair and right up to the final ceremony. A young lady from Marseilles, puzzled when I told her that God had promised the land of Israel to the Jewish people, asked me to tell her more about it. She obviously didn’t have a clue!

On many occasions, I was asked about the Christian Embassy and our calling to comfort Israel. Every time, I could see their faces light up, so surprised to find out that someone cared about them! One older couple would congratulate me every time they saw me! Another dear couple said they had Evangelical friends in France, and assured they felt Jews and Christians were becoming closer.

On the last afternoon the Aliyah Fair concluded with a gala ceremony, when the new arrivals received their Israeli ID cards. The chairman of the Jewish Agency, Natan Sharansky, and his top assistant Eli Cohen were on hand to welcome the new citizens and also thank the Christian Embassy for co-sponsoring the event.

After a musical group performed a medley of Israeli folk songs, the immigrants were anxious to receive their citizenship papers. Eli Cohen pulled me up to the front table so I could help hand out the identity cards. It all went very fast, as the hall resounded with clapping as each name was called out. Cameras flashed and balloons floated up to the ceiling.

Finally, the entire crowd of some 400 new Israeli citizens gathered for a group photo before saying tearful goodbyes and boarding buses for their new homes across Israel. What an exciting ending and superb organization! It was really amazing. The French olim did not have enough words to express their marvel and gratitude at the royal treatment they had received!

The ICEJ’s Aliyah Operations will be continuing to bring thousands of Jews home to Israel from across the globe in 2011. Please support this vital work by making an online donation at: www.icej.org

Paule Bessac serves as the Representative and Administrator of ICEJ-France and lives in Antibes on the Côte d’Azur.
Crossing the Bridge

It is past time that we stand up for the civil rights of ‘infidels’ under Islam

David Parsons

Hot on the heels of the documentary, With God On Our Side, another new anti-Israel film funded and produced by Evangelicals is making the rounds. Little Town of Bethlehem features three protagonists – a Palestinian Muslim, a Palestinian Christian and an Israeli Jew – who have concluded that non-violent protest is the best way to end the bitter Israeli “occupation”. In following the trio, the film seeks to draw a direct parallel between the Palestinian cause and the American civil rights struggle in the 1950s and 60s. The analogy is clear: Bethlehem is Selma, Alabama, and the Palestinians and their leftist Israeli and foreign friends are walking arm-in-arm with Dr. King across the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

“...a theological shock to Islam’s supremacist world view”

Such comparisons are not new. Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice both drew the same connection in comments about Palestinian nationalism while serving as US secretaries of state. Never mind that Dr. King had openly declared his support for the Zionist enterprise. Yet he could do so and still be consistent with his great moral principles because the analogy between the Palestinians and the Jim Crow South actually runs in a completely different direction.

IN THE OLD SOUTH, the whites had convinced themselves that they were inherently superior to blacks and thus owned and traded them like chattel. Such notions of racial superiority had become so ingrained that even the most ignorant, poor white man felt he could lord it over any black man – even those with more money and education. America paid for this glaring injustice with a horrific Civil War, but even that great conflict was not enough. Slavery may have been abolished, but Southern whites refused to give up their sense of superiority over blacks for another hundred years, until Dr. King bravely led a non-violent movement which achieved equality for all Americans.

The Zionist movement, however, challenged this belief system. The victory of a rag-tag Jewish militia over much larger Arab forces in 1948 was a theological shock to the Islamic world. How could the lowly Jews go from the nadir of the Holocaust to besting Arab armies on the battlefield in less than three years? Herein lays the root of Muslim attraction to Zionist conspiracy theories and even Holocaust denial. The evil Jews must have lied and manipulated their way to triumph and independence.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict will not be resolved until this Islamist superior mentality falls. The current slaughter of Christians across the Middle East is further evidence that Muslims refuse to surrender their historic sense of supremacy. It is past time that we all join arm-in-arm to cross that proverbial bridge and challenge Islam’s claim to dominance over infidels.

David Parsons serves as ICEJ Media Director & Contributing Christian Editor of the Jerusalem Post Christian Edition in which this article appeared.

Learn more: www.jpost.com/ce
ISRAEL
A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

2011 FEAST OF TABERNACLES

October 13-18 Mark Your Calendar

Event Schedule

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH
Opening Ceremonies (7:30pm)
International Convention Center Jerusalem

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14TH
Morning Seminars (8:30am)
International Convention Center Jerusalem
Evening Celebration (6:30pm)
Outdoor event at the Ein Gedi Spa (Dead Sea)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH
Evening Celebration (7:30pm)
International Convention Center Jerusalem

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16TH
Morning Seminars (8:30am)
Evening Celebration (7:30pm)
International Convention Center Jerusalem

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17TH
Morning Seminars (8:30am)
Evening Celebration (7:30pm)
International Convention Center Jerusalem

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
Morning Seminars (8:30am)
Grand Finale Evening Celebration (7:30pm)
International Convention Center Jerusalem

Please Note: Events, times, locations, and speakers are subject to change.

Angus Buchan
Malcolm Hedding
David Pawson
Jurgen Buhlker
Werner Oder
Allen Jackson

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Since 1979, Israel and Egypt have enjoyed a rare season of peace between the two nations. Ambassadors have been exchanged and even tourism has flourished between the two countries, albeit mainly because Israelis have gone to visit Egypt! This peace, although it initially shook the Arab world, broadened out in time to include Jordan. Sadly though, neither Arab nation is under democratic rule, thus leaving room for discontent and anger against military dictatorships which suppress opposition and basic freedoms. This in turn breeds radicals and these have mushroomed in the form of the Muslim Brotherhood and other groups opposed to the regime. The “street” has now been filled with rage. The fact that now-ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak kept the peace treaty with Israel was fully exploited, thereby turning him into a traitor for some and increasing public resentment against him.

Even though the recent opposition to Mubarak’s government was driven to some degree by a more secular segment of society, it did increasingly include the Muslim Brotherhood, whose leaders applauded Osama bin Laden when his al-Qaida cells attacked New York on 9/11. Sadly, all the reports coming out of Egypt confirm our worst fears and that is: Many demonstrators are filled with rage against Israel and agree with the goals and vision of the Muslim Brotherhood at least on this one question. Like Iran, they too desire the destruction of Israel.

It was just a matter of time before Mubarak stepped down, to be replaced by a new leadership that may be more democratic but undoubtedly will be more hostile to Israel. With the passing of time, we could see Cairo’s Embassy closed in Tel Aviv and Egypt returning to its age-old position of hostility and antagonism. This in turn means that Israel could truly be encircled by a state-sponsored terror network that will have the means to engulf it. If not for God’s supernatural deliverance, Israel will perish!

Though biblical scholars are pondering what all this upheaval means, it is true that the God we serve “watches over Israel day and night.” However, the Prophet Ezekiel envisages a day that has yet to arrive, when an alliance of Middle East nations will attempt, one last time, to destroy Israel and remove the Jews finally and forever from the land of promise (see Ezekiel 36-39). Egypt will be among them! In Ezekiel’s time, nation-states were not as well defined as we have them today and so, when the Prophet speaks of Ethiopia, Put and Libya he is talking about the whole region of North Africa. This region, in concert with many other nations, will swoop down upon Israel to destroy her. Israel will be overwhelmed and helpless! But the God of Israel will step in again and deliver her by amazing judgments that will leave the world astonished. If not for God’s supernatural deliverance, Israel will perish!

All this is to say that we must pray, yes as never before, because the picture rapidly developing in the Middle East today is approximating more and more to the picture painted by Ezekiel and indeed the other Hebrew Prophets, including Daniel and Zechariah. At the very least the stage is being set and those who know their God will see it and “do exploits.” But, it will take commitment and determination because following after the heart of God will always cost everything. Prayer, Paul reminds us, is hard work (Colossians 4:12).

However, this is not the end of the story. Egypt is destined for glory! She gave shelter to the Christ child and thus preserved his life (Matthew 2:13-15). She historically attacked the Messianic line but in the end gave protection to the Messiah. God has not forgotten this and thus, in the end, in the Messianic age, she will be united gloriously with Israel and Assyria and become a highway of blessing! (See Isaiah 19:18-25). If it were not for the grace of God, we would all perish!