

437 2 - The One Above

(Suggested: Copy, paste and read in Subfolder: Faith & Topical Issues)

This time we again give our attention to the Hamas-Israel conflict due to its central importance in the unfolding of God's plans as laid out in His Word. In view of the ceasefire just announced this Reflection has been amended. Much of its original contents, undergirding the present situation and contradicting the western media's ingrained anti-Israel bias, can shortly be found on the This Week page of our website www.fsmins.org, under the heading 437 2 – SUPPLEMENT – a pdf document well worth looking at and copying into your "Faith & Topical Issues" Subfolder.

In the light of the new ceasefire here we now concentrate on comments by various well-informed people as to what is really going on.

First we come to the input of Dr Mordechai Kedar, a "religious Zionist" and expert in Israeli-Arab relations:

Hamas base their weapons in civilian areas, using civilians as human shields and actually hoping for civilian casualties caused by Israeli attacks. The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) warn all occupants of such buildings or areas before any attack, and then use precision weapons to limit "collateral damage". It is still war and is still horrible, but the notion that the Israelis are the wild warmongers is nonsense. Israel longs for peace, as its track record since 1948 demonstrates, with offer after offer and concession after concession.

Dr Kedar recommends that Israel targets the Hamas leaders themselves (as has been happening) – "they send others to martyrdom but do not go themselves". Then further he states, "Freedom is not given for free. We fought to get our freedom. If we don't fight to preserve our freedom we will have no freedom. Peace is given in the Middle East only to the invincible".

Next are words written by Hugh Fitzgerald, one of the expert writers for "Jihad Watch" (see the Supplement), whom we came across last time:

The Biden Administration – "wants to impose a clear demarcation between Israel in its pre-1967 lines – lines which only reflect where the armies of each side stood when the shooting stopped in 1949, and were

never meant to be permanent borders – and the new territories that Israel won in the Six-Day War.

“In so doing, the Biden people are ignoring the Palestine Mandate, and the territories assigned by it to the future Jewish state, which included the entire West Bank. They are also ignoring U.N. Resolution 242, which allows Israel to keep territories won in that war which it needed to retain if it was to have “secure [i.e., defensible] and recognized boundaries.”

In addition - “The Biden administration privately confirmed to Congress last week that the Palestinian Authority has continued to use international aid money to reward terrorists but said the finding won’t impact its plans to restart funding”. What do we make of that?

In the words of Dr Kedar, “Israel needs good government guts to stand up to the United States”, but such “guts” are lacking in Israel at present because of political stalemate, which is one reason why its foes are on the march.

Now we come on to these words of Dennis Prager, described as “an American conservative radio talk show host and writer”:

“There is a right side and a wrong side. Israel has consistently been the defender, not the aggressor. If the Arab terrorists put down their weapons, there would be peace. If the Israeli Army put down their weapons, they would be slaughtered”.

“What will keep the peace between Israel and the Palestinians is not a “two-solution” based on a treaty ... What will keep the peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors is what kept the peace between the West and the Soviet Union during the Cold War – the strategy of deterrence. As long as Israel remains, and is seen to be, militarily much stronger than its potential enemies, the Jewish state will be able to keep the peace”

“The IDF is not successful because of its numbers ... The IDF succeeds because they are G-d’s nation. They succeed because they stand united ... They defend their nation with a strength that goes far beyond the physical strength of a human. It’s an internal and eternal strength that is in the DNA of the Jewish people ... They are still here”.

In coming to close, and turning to our prayers hopefully now better informed as to the realities of the situation, we remember with

thanksgiving that the Lord God Almighty is indeed in charge, graciously working out His promises and purposes through all this current hatred against Israel.

As Avi Abelow of “Pulse of Israel” (see Supplement) says, “We will prevail, as always, because the One above is looking out for us”. Please God, Yes, and please God too, that Avi and his fellow Jews will come to see that “I and [my] Father are one” (John 10.30, KJV) – that “the One above” is none other than God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the Son being Yeshua - the Jews’ long-longed-for Messiah who alone can and will bring them their peace (egs., Isaiah 9.6; 52.13-53.12 / Ezekiel 34.23-31 / Matthew 24.29-35 / John 16.33; 20.17-29 / Galatians 1.3-5 / Ephesians 2.14 / Hebrews 13.20 / ...).

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