

Israel News Desk

October 2017
with David Hoyle

It is sometime since I was able to write an article, but little has happened in the meantime in respect of the anti-Semitism that is sweeping the world and shows itself in many different forms.

In our own country the influence on the Labour Parties policies from Jeremy Corbyn, Len McCluskey and the Momentum organisation has been profound. Mr McCluskey has described allegations of anti-Semitism as "mood music" to discredit Mr Corbyn! However the varying anti-Semitic statements by leaders of the Labour Party speak volumes for the virulent anti-Semitism at the top of the Labour movement.

The Jewish press have described this as atrocious! Lord Mitchell resigned from the party and said that as a proud Jew he could not remain a member of a party "so overwhelmingly hostile to Israel and the Jewish people".

How can prominent Jewish MP's like Louise Ellman and Iven Lewis remain in a party so hostile to Jews and Israel. The BBC had to hire a bodyguard for Laura Kuenssberg whilst she covered Labour's conference!

Descriptions of denials of the Holocaust as permitted free speech are horrifying. The acceptance of racist prejudice and bullying and the failure of the Labour party to denounce it say everything there is to say about the depths to which the party has sunk. Not that the Conservatives are without fault with their constant references to Judea and Samaria as occupied territory. They were in fact re-occupied by Israel after years of occupation by the Arabs who stole the land given and covenanted to Israel by God with an everlasting covenant (Gen 15:18)

Gen 26:1-3 makes it clear that the land covenanted to Israel was through Isaac not Ishmael as the Palestinian leadership would have us believe.

Anti-Semitism is alive and well, tragically, and it was timely of Michael Gove to state to the Conservative Party Conference that "anti-Israel is no different to anti-Semitism".

The Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, spoke out against Jeremy Corbyn for staying "silent" whilst anti-Semitism festers in his party. She went on to say she did not believe the country would be safe in the hands of Jeremy Corbyn, John McDonnell and Diane Abbott. They talk of their friends in Hamas and Hezbollah and are silent on the anti-Semitism in the Labour party.

The UN - School books used by the UN in Gaza display naked anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish statements. The books examined, 150 in all, state Israel have no holy places in the Palestinian territories! Whatever happened to the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron or Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem?

Along with the Western Wall they are presented as Muslim places threatened by Jews.

Washington - America's Ambassador to Israel stated that Jewish settlements are part of Israel proper, to the embarrassment of the State Department. Thank God for David Friedman who also looks forward to the American Embassy being moved to Jerusalem.

British Universities - Sir Eric Pickles has hit out at University Vice-Chancellors for failing to deal with anti-Semitism on Campus. He stated "when it comes to dealing with anti-Semitism they are parsimonious, sanctimonious, gutless and useless"! Thank God for plain speaking, unequivocal men like Eric Pickles.

Gothenburg, Sweden - Violence broke out on a neo-Nazi march that had been re-routed away from the City's main Synagogue. However, as the march passed within 200 yards of the Synagogue fighting broke out between the marchers and anti-fascists.

Hezbollah - The leader of the organisation has called on Jews in Israel to "return to the countries they came from" before his terror organisation launches a war. He said Jews "will have no secure place in occupied Palestine".

Norway - Has offered to allow the Israeli nuclear whistle blower, Mordachai Vanunu to live in Oslo with his Norwegian wife. Vanunu served 18 years in prison and travel prohibitions were placed on him when he was released. It is unclear if Israel will allow him out.

Iran - As Mr Trump seeks to end the US deal on Nuclear development in Iran, Mr Netanyahu has raised the question with Mrs May. However Mrs May says the deal is necessary. Mr Netanyahu believes the deal needs cancelling as Iran is seeking constantly to obtain a bomb which would be a huge threat to Israel. Iran consistently calls for the annihilation of Israel.

Ezekiel 38 & 39 make increasingly interesting reading with the link up taking place between Iran, Turkey and Russia.

Rain - There were floods and power cuts in Israel after last weeks torrential rain. 150 hikers were stranded near the Dead Sea. Floods hit the coast near the Lebanese border. The rain was very welcome as the Sea of Galilee is at its lowest for 50 years after a drought in the North.

Settlements - Mr Netanyahu is on the verge of approving 4000 new settlements in Judea and Samaria. These will include Ma'ale Adumin a huge settlement close to Jerusalem and would include it being annexed to Israel.

Gaza - Israeli jets destroyed a watchtower after a rocket was fired towards Israel from nearby. Hamas and Fatah have now linked up but Hamas will not part with its vast weapons arsenal. Conflict and problems loom, not least for Israel.

Education - The appeal court has ruled against sex segregation in schools and this could seriously affect some Jewish schools.

Christians from China - marched through Jerusalem at Sukkot, the feast of Tabernacles. These were evangelical Christians showing their love and support. As Mr Netanyahu has said more than once "Evangelical Christians are our best friends apart from the Jewish Community".

Archaeology - Israel's archaeologists have discovered the first known Roman- era theatre in the Old City of Jerusalem. It is close to the Western Wall. The excavations have revealed the first row of seats and orchestra area.

UNESCO - In a real turn up for the books UNESCO has appointed a new Director-General, a Jewish ex-French Culture Minister. Audrey Azoulay's appointment is yet to be ratified. After 50 years of anti-Israel bias. America and Israel have previously announced their impending resignation in 2018 so watch this space. A change for the better may be coming.

While every day that passes we can see indications of the fulfilment of Biblical prophecy, not least in relation to Israel and pointing to Christ's return to the Mount of Olives to establish His Kingdom. That being the case the return of the Lord for his church 7 years prior to that event must surely be on the threshold of the door. If you are not saved there is still time! Call on Him now, tomorrow could be too late.

The Lord bless you,

David.