

THE MIRACLE OF REACHING THE RED SEA

Ex A 43: 16-17
18-19

in its entirety.

of our generation

people

THE BIBLICAL BOOK OF EXODUS TELLS A STORY WHICH MOST PEOPLE DO NOT ACCEPT. IT TELLS US THAT THE EARLY HEBREWS FLED FROM BEFORE THE EGYPTIANS, AND THE VERY WALLS OF THE RED SEA SEEMED TO OPEN UP SO THAT THEY MIGHT WALK THROUGH TO SAFETY. SUCH MIRACLES, WE MODERNS TEND TO BELIEVE, DO NOT HAPPEN. I, FOR ONE, HAVE ALWAYS TENDED TO TAUGH THAT THE REAL MIRACLE IN THIS ANCIENT STORY IS THAT SO MANY PEOPLE REARED IN SLAVERY, DARED TO ATTEMPT THE MARCH TOWARDS FREEDOM. HOW THE MIRACLE WAS ACCOMPLISHED SEEMED TO ME TO BE SECONDARY. *Yet, in recent days I have come much more to believe in ^{such} miracle.*

YOU AND I LIVE IN A TIME WHEN THE HEBREWS AGAIN UNDERTOOK A MARCH TO THE RED SEA. AND WHO AMONG US WILL FAIL TO SAY THAT WE HAVE WITNESSED A MIRACLE WHICH STAGGERS THE IMAGINATION. THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT IN THOSE DAYS THE EGYPTIANS ALONE HAD CHARIOTS OF IRON WHILE THE HEBREWS HAD FEW, IF ANY, WEAPONS OF WAR. SO, JUST SHORT DAYS AGO, THE EGYPTIAN CHARIOTS OF IRON, ~~WAS/WERE~~ STOOD ON THE WESTERN BORDERS OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL, ~~AND~~ WITH *a hundred* ~~TENS OF THOUSANDS~~ SOLDIERS TRAINED TO HATE AND TO KILL. AS IF THAT WEREN'T ENOUGH, THE NORTH ERN AND EASTERN BORDERS OF ISRAEL WERE RINGED BY THE SYRIANS AND THE SUPERLY TRAINED FORCES OF TRANSJORDAN. TO THE SOUTH AND EAST WERE THE FORCES OF TRANSJORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA, TO THE SOUTH AND WEST, EGYPT AGAIN. ALL IN ALL, OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION SOLDIERS SURROUNDED ISRAEL, AND NASSER, THE MODERN PHAROH, SPOKE OF UTTERLY DESTROYING ISRAEL. *Driving its people into the sea.*

IF YOU REACTED AS I DID, YOU WALKED AROUND WITH UNSTEADY LEGS, STOMACH CHURNING, MIND DISBELIEVING, FILLED WITH FEAR AND APPREHENSION IN BEHALF OF THE REFUGEES FROM HITLER'S ^{Gas chambers} OVENS. IF YOU REACTED AS I DID, YOU ASKED YOURSELF, "IS THIS A WORLD WHERE SUCH REFUGEES CAN BE LEFT ALONE ~~AT~~ AT THE MERCY OF SUCH BLOOD-THIRSTY ENEMIES?" YET, IT WAS PRETTY MUCH TRUE. ISRAEL WAS LEFT ALONE. FRANCE, WHICH HAD BEEN ITS BEST ALLY, SUDDENLY DECLARED IT WAS NEUTRAL. BRITAIN STATED THAT IT WOULD NOT GET INVOLVED. THE U.S., *home of America* PUBLICLY STATED THAT IT WAS NEUTRAL. THE S.U., USING TOUGHER LANGUAGE, STATED THAT IT WAS READY TO DO WHAT WAS NECESSARY TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS COULD NOT BE FOR THE GOOD OF ISRAEL.

Jews,

SAID EBAN

TENSION MOUNTED AS THE U.N. FORCES WITHDREW FROM THE AREA, AND THERE WAS NO LONGER A BUFFER BETWEEN THE OPPOSING FORCES. WITH THE GULF OF AQABA CLOSED, AS ABBA EBAN SO ELOQUENTLY DECLARED, "ISRAEL BREATHED WITH ONE LUNG." BLOCKADE, *actually* SAID EBAN, AND PEACE, CAN NEVER COEXIST. ISRAEL WAITED FOR THE UN TO ACT, BUT ONLY VAGUE GENERALITIES CAME FORTH FROM THE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS. THE ~~RE~~ REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MANY ARAB NATIONS DOMINATED THE DISCUSSIONS, AND ISRAEL, COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY MENACING ARMIES WAS PICTURED AS AN AGGRESSOR. NASSAR OPENLY DARED ISRAEL TO MAKE A MOVE TO RESIST THE AGGRESSIVE ACT OF BLOCKADE.

When they were fired
2.
Israel
planned

PERHAPS WE WILL NEVER KNOW WHO FIRED THE FIRST SHOTS,
~~BY~~ ISRAEL, WITH EVERY ABLE BODIED MAN ON THE FIGHTING
FRONT, WITH ALL ~~BUSINESSES/CLOSED/~~ INDUSTRY AT A STANDSTILL,
SET OUT ON A PREARRANGED PLAN. WITHIN SEVERAL HOURS MOST
OF THE EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE HAD BEEN KNOCKED OUT, AND THE
TREND OF EVENTS WAS FORESHADOWED. STRANGE AS IT SEEMED,
THE MIGHTY FORCES OF NASSER DID NOT MOVE FORWARD BUT BACKWARD.
WITHIN MINUTES OF THE FIRST SHOTS, THE SOVIET UNION AND
THE ARAB REPRESENTATIVES WERE CALLING THE UN INTO EMERGENCY
SESSION. WHERE THEY HAD RESISTED THE APPEALS OF ISRAEL AND
THE U.S. IN EARLIER DAYS TO REMOVE THE CAUSES OF THE
EMERGENCY, WHERE THEY HAD THREATENED, TRUSTING THAT ISRAEL
WOULD PASSIVELY SUBMIT, NOW THEY TRIED TO APPEAR
AS NAIVE AND INNOCENT BABES WHO HAD ^{been} TRICKED BY THE

Trick to make it seem that only Israel had surrounded the Arab nations
as abba Eban described of the Arabs & Communist
vast expense of

IN SPITE OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ISRAELI PLANS, THE
MILITARY COMMANDER MAJ. GEN. RABIN HAD TO DECLARE LATER,
" WE SUCCEEDED BEYOND OUR WILDEST DREAMS". THE COMMUNIST
CASTRO DECLARED THAT THE JEWS COULD NOT FIGHT SO WELL,
EXCEPT THAT ISRAELI FORCES WERE BEING LED BY NAZI GENERALS.
NASSER DECLARED THAT THE JEWS COULD NOT SUCCEED SO WELL,
EXCEPT THAT U.S. AND BRITISH PLANES WERE HELPING THEM.
MEANWHILE THE ISRAELIS, FIGHTING TO DEFEND THE ~~TINIEST~~ ^{their minute}
OF LANDS, PROVED ONCE AND FOR ALL TO AN AMAZED WORLD THAT
JEWS CAN FIGHT WHEN THEY HAVE ADEQUATE WEAPONS IN THEIR
HANDS.

HERE IN AMERICA, JEWS EXPERIENCED MANY CONFLICTING
EMOTIONS. AT FIRST, WE FEARED FOR THE VERY LIVES OF OUR
~~COMPATRIOTS~~ RELIGIOUS COMPATRIOTS. WE WANTED THE U.S. TO
HELP THEM, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, WE DID NOT WANT TO
SEE WAR BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE S. U. WE DID NOT FEEL
THAT ISRAEL COULD SURVIVE ALONE, AND YET, WE KNEW THAT NO
HELP WAS AT HAND. EVEN IF ISRAEL WERE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF,
WE FEARED THAT THERE WOULD BE A HUGE LOSS OF LIFE. WHAT
UNFOLDED WAS LIKE A MUCH AMPLIFIED LEGEND. IT COULD NOT BE
HAPPENING, AND YET IT HAPPENED. WHAT ABBA EBAN CALLED
" A SUCCESSFUL RESISTANCE", THE WORLD IS CALLING " ONE OF
THE GREAT MILITARY VICTORIES OF ALL TIME". THE MIDDLE EAST
HAS BEEN SAVED, AT LEAST FOR A ^{while}, FOR JEWISH LIVES,
FOR A ~~TINY~~ DEMOCRATIC ^{press} ~~RESISTANCE~~ ^{survived by} DICTATORSHIPS,
FOR THE WEST IN ITS WORLD-WIDE BATTLE AGAINST COMMUNISM.
WHILE ISRAEL STOOD ALONE IN ITS FATEFUL HOUR, ITS VICTORY
IS NOT JUST A VICTORY FOR ISRAEL. IT IS A VICTORY FOR ALL
DEMOCRATIC FORCES.

IN THE LONG SAGA OF JEWISH HISTORY WHICH STRETCHES
BACK FOUR THOUSAND YEARS TO ABRAHAM, THERE HAS BEEN NO
GREATER VICTORY FOR A JEWISH STATE. INDEED, THE LATEST
SUBSTANTIAL JEWISH ARMED RESISTANCE, UNTIL THE BIRTH OF
MODERN ISRAEL, WAS OVER 1900 YRS. AGO, WHEN BAR KOCHBA LED
AN ILL-FATED REVOLT AGAINST THE ROMAN MASTER IN 135 ~~CE~~-AD.
The Assyrians had CONQUERED NORTHERN ISRAEL IN 721 BCE;
THE BABYLONIANS HAD CONQUERED JUDAH IN 586 BCE; THE GREEKS
HAD CONQUERED JUDAH IN 330 BCE; AND THE TEMPLE IN
JERUSALEM WAS DESTROYED WITH THE ROMAN CONQUEST IN 70 AD.

w/ young boys digging trenches
+ perforating mine
sold
2 men

350 Egyptian

dictator

actually

press

while

survived by

SINCE THE 2nd CENTURY OF THIS ERA, THE JEWS HAVE BEEN A PEOPLE THAT ESCHEWED ARMS. IN 1900 YEARS THEY DEVELOPED DEEP ROOTED CHARACTER TRAITS AS A PEOPLE TRAINED TO BOW LOW IN THE FACE OF OPPRESSION, TO TURN THE OTHER CHEEK IN THE FACE OF INSULT, TO MOVE ON TO STILL ANOTHER COUNTRY WHEN ATTACKED. THEY ENDURED THE ~~XXX~~ LACK OF HOSPITALITY OF SPAIN, ENGLAND, RUSSIA, POLAND, GERMANY AND STILL OTHER NATIONS, WITHOUT STRIKING BACK. INDEED, THE WORD " POGROM", OR ATTACK ON THE JEWISH COMMUNITY, WAS A HOUSEHOLD WORD IN EVERY JEWISH HOME. ALWAYS JEWS WONDERED, WHEN WOULD THE NEXT WAVE OF HATRED COME. FINALLY, HITLER CAME TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT ALL OTHER ANTI-SEMITES HAD BEEN AMATEURS. UNFORTUNATELY, COUNTRIES LIKE AMERICA THAT HAD ~~received~~ ^{welcomed} THE JEWISH REFUGEES FROM RUSSIA IN THE LATE 19th CENTURY, PERMITTED ONLY A TRICKLE OF ~~JEWS~~ ^{JEWS} THOSE FLEEING BEFORE HITLER TO ENTER AMERICA. BOATLOADS OF REFUGEES THAT CAME TO AMERICA AND TO OTHER NATIONS WERE SENT BACK TO GERMANY WHERE THE NAZIS WELCOMED THEM AS ~~FOOD~~ ^{Victims} FOR THE CREMATORIA. BRITAIN, ^{under Arab} ~~MEANWHILE,~~ ^{pressure,} FOUGHT TO KEEP THE JEWS FROM ENTERING PALESTINE. ~~MEANWHILE,~~ SLOWLY BUT SURELY, ~~JEWS~~ ^{JEWS} FOUND THEIR WAY TO THIS DESERT LAND, MUCH AS A HOMING PIGEON RETURNS TO ITS MASTER, HOWEVER FAR AWAY FROM ITS HOME IT MAY BE.

CLARENCE DARROW, THE GREAT AMERICAN LAWYER, VISITED PALESTINE IN THESE EARLY DAYS, ^{misleadingly} AND SAID, " IT IS NOTHING BUT A LAND OF SAND AND STONE, AND THE STONES ARE THERE TO KEEP THE SAND FROM BLOWING AWAY". YET THE JEWS SAUGHT TO CLAIM THIS SAND, FOR AT LEAST, IT WAS THEIR SAND. THE ARABS WHO LIVED THERE WERE THREATENED BY THE COMING OF THE JEWS, MUCH AS THE AMERICAN INDIANS WERE THREATENED BY THE COMING OF THE PURITANS AND THE PILGRIMS. BUT THERE WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH LAND FOR ALL, AND THERE WAS NO ARAB STATE OF PALESTINE, ONLY A COLLECTION OF SMALL TOWNS AND WANDERING TRIBES. THERE IS NO NEED TO ~~DESCRIBE~~ ^{in detail} WHAT THE JEWS HAVE DONE FOR THIS PART OF THE WORLD. THEY HAVE BROUGHT MODERN HOSPITALS WHERE THERE WERE NONE. THEY HAVE BROUGHT MODERN UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS OF TECHNOLOGY INTO WHAT WAS A PRIMITIVE ENVIRONMENT. THEY HAVE TURNED THE WASTE LAND INTO A GARDEN, AND THEY WERE ENTITLED TO REAP SOME OF THE FRUITS OF THEIR MAGNIFICENT EFFORTS.

NASSER TRIED TO DENY THEM THESE FRUITS. IN SO DOING, HE MADE NECESSARY AND POSSIBLE THE MIRACLE OF ISRAELI ARMS WHICH WE HAVE RECENTLY WITNESSED. WHEN YOU TELL THIS STORY TO YOUR ~~CHILDREN~~ ^{CHILDREN}, GRANDCHILDREN, YET UNBORN, THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE YOU. THEY WILL DISMISS IT AS A TALE OF THE PAST WHICH IS ALWAYS SUSPECT BECAUSE IT ^{is} THE PAST. LET US HOPE THAT IN THEIR TIME, ^{such} MIRACLES WILL NO LONGER BE NECESSARY, AND THAT PEACE AND CONFIDENCE WILL BE THEIR LOT.

MEANWHILE EVERY ^{American} JEW SHOULD HAVE LEARNED ONE LESSON CLEARLY IN THIS SITUATION. WHILE THE STATE OF ISRAEL IS NOT OUR STATE, WHILE WE ARE NOT ITS CITIZENS, STILL IN CRISIS, THE JEWS STAND ALONE. IF THEY DO NOT HELP EACH OTHER, THEY COMMIT THE SIN OF TURNING ONE'S BACK ON ONE'S BROTHER. ^{THE ARABS} HAVE THEIR OIL MONEY TO SOOTHE THEIR WOUNDED ~~WOUND~~ PRIDE. THEY HAVE FORTY MILLION OF THEIR BRETHREN TO SYMPATHIZE WITH THEM. THE 2 1/2 MILLIONS JEWS OF ISRAEL HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT OUR RESPECT AND THE RIGHT TO OUR CHARITABLE CONCERN. THEIR ~~ED~~ MONEY HAS SUFFERED A SEVERE BLOW BY THIS ^{great sacrifice} ~~THEIR~~ MILITARY VICTORY WAS NOT WON WITHOUT THE LOSS OF MANY KILLED AND MANY MORE WOUNDED. HOSPITALS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED AND HAVE TO BE REBUILT. ~~NATIONAL SHRINES~~ CAREFULLY BUILT TO ^{preserve} ~~THE~~ ^{religion} ~~MAJESTY~~ OF BIBLICAL TIMES HAVE BEEN BADLY DAMAGED. SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN LEVELLED. HOMES HAVE BEEN BOMBED OUT. U.S. JEWS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE \$600 BILLION DOLLARS. HOW MUCH WILL YOU GIVE?

The nation which seemed doomed to extinction
is now the dominant power in
the mid-East
achieved
years to live
now has
before millions of
achieved

See A
Sunday
10

B

So to C

The Bible tells us that God hardened Pharaoh's heart, in order to make the victory over him more complete. It almost seems that
on the ^{circumstances} ~~circumstances~~ which Israel

MEANWHILE EVERY AMERICAN JEW SHOULD HAVE LEARNED ONE LESSON CLEARLY IN THIS SITUATION. WHILE THE STATE OF ISRAEL IS NOT OUR STATE, WHILE WE ARE NOT ITS CITIZENS, STILL ITS PEOPLE ARE INFINITELY PRECIOUS TO US. IN THIS CRISIS, AS IN SO MANY PAST CRISES, THE JEWS STOOD ALONE. FROM SOME QUARTERS CAME EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD WILL, BUT THERE WERE NO HANDS TO HELP. IF THIS CRISIS HAS DONE NOTHING ELSE, IT HAS WELDED TOGETHER THE INTERNATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY. WE KNOW NOW THAT WE MUST DEPEND UPON EACH OTHER FOR WHATEVER HELP WE CAN GIVE EACH OTHER.

THE ISRAELIS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL NOT PERMIT THE WORLD TO RID ITSELF OF ITS JEWS. THEY HAVE BEEN WILLING TO RISK THEIR LIVES TO ESTABLISH THIS POINT. WHILE THE ARABS DID NOT ^{physically} ENCIRCLE YOU AND ME, THE ISRAELIS HAVE WON SOMETHING PROFOUND FOR US ALSO. ~~WHAT!~~ HOW MUCH ARE WE WILLING TO DO AND GIVE FOR THAT WHICH THE ISRAELIS HAVE PRESERVED FOR US?

EVEN NOW, WITH ISRAELI ARMIES TRIUMPHANT, THEIR ECONOMY STANDS BADLY WOUNDED. HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE NEEDED TO BRING EQUILIBRIUM TO AN ECONOMY WHICH HAS ENDURED A TRAUMATIC SHOCK. THE MILITARY VICTORY, TO BE SURE, WAS EARNED AT A SACRIFICE OF MANY KILLED AND MANY MORE WOUNDED. BUT THESE WERE NOT THE ONLY CASUALTIES. HOSPITALS WERE DESTROYED. THEY MUST BE REBUILT. NATIONAL SHRINES, CAREFULLY BUILT TO RESERVE TREASURES DATING TO BIBLICAL TIMES, HAVE BEEN BADLY DAMAGED. SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN LEVELLED. HOMES HAVE BEEN BOMBED OUT. SURELY, WE WILL WANT TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP IN THESE AREAS. SURELY, THE GIFT OF MONEY AT THIS TIME SEEMS TO BE SO ~~small~~ ^{a gesture} A RESPONSIBILITY AS TO BE ALMOST ~~belittling~~ ^{an inadequate expression of our feelings}.

A FEW DAYS BEFORE FIGHTING BROKE OUT, ONE OF OUR MEMBERS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM A TEEN-AGE FRIEND IN ISRAEL.

THE LETTER SAID IN PART, "WE IN ISRAEL ARE NOT AFRAID, FOR WE ARE NOT ABOUT TO GIVE UP THAT WHICH IS SO PRECIOUS TO US." THE LETTER ALSO SAID, "WE KNOW THAT THE JEWS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WILL ^{not be undaunted} DO WHAT THEY CAN".

WHAT IS IT ^{let} THAT YOU CAN DO? ^{ask of each of us} ^{ask of myself} ^{ask of myself} "WHAT IS IT THAT I CAN DO THAT I MIGHT BECOME A PART OF THIS MIRACLE".

Kaddush

Then Kaddush