

Skyland Conference 1979-11 Report on the Mideast

by Aldy Fam Fanous

Aldy Fam Fanous discusses the historical and spiritual significance of the Middle East, emphasizing the importance of reaching its people through innovative means like radio ministry.

Duration: 1:37:48

Scripture: Isaiah 2:4, Daniel 7:25, Matthew 24:21, Acts 9:1-22, 1 Corinthians 15:8, Revelation 7:4, Revelation 14:6

Topics: "Mideast"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker recounts a personal experience of being protected from shrapnel during a bombing. Despite the danger, the speaker and their family were miraculously unharmed. The sermon also mentions the scarcity of resources such as water and food during this time. The speaker emphasizes the belief that God takes care of his own and shares a story of how bread miraculously appeared when needed. The sermon concludes with a discussion about the Middle East and the role of Scripture in understanding the happenings and conditions in that region.

Transcript

Egypt or any of the other areas where he is familiar. Well, thank you for this opportunity. As I said before, the people in the Middle East are Arabic-speaking people, and they number about 125 million people, and that is many people.

And they live in 22 nations in the Arab world and their history. And the background of these people is very, very interesting and exciting too. I want you please to turn to Genesis chapter 17, and I'm going to read to you a prayer which was offered by Abraham on behalf of his son Ishmael.

Abraham at that time was almost 100 years old. And Sarah, his wife, was about 90 years old. And God came to Abraham and told him that next year he would have, the following year, he would have a son by his wife Sarah.

And Abraham couldn't take it in. And he offered a prayer on behalf of Ishmael. What do you think the prayer was? That Ishmael might live? No.

Look at verse 17 please. Chapter 17 and verse 17. And then Abraham fell upon his face and laughed and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is 100 years old, and shall Sarah that is 90 years old

bear? And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee.

And the words I want to underscore are before thee. Because before God by nature, you and I and everybody else, everybody in the world is dead in sins and trespasses. We are dead because we are sinful.

We are sinners in the sight of God. We are made alive only when we accept him who is our life. Even Jesus Christ our Lord.

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. This is why Abraham is praying for Ishmael.

O that Ishmael might live before thee. The man of faith prayed with the eye of faith that pierced through thousands of years. And he prayed for Ishmael that Ishmael might live before God.

Ishmael is made up of two syllables. We say in Arabic, Isma, Ismail. Isma means God will hear, or God will listen.

And it is God. Ishmael or Ismail, God will hear. How does God answer the prayer? Look at verse 20 please.

And as for Ishmael, which means God will hear, I have heard thee. I say very reverently, there is a pun here. I play on words.

As for God will hear, I have heard thee. What tense in the English grammar is the verb have heard? As the present perfect, I have heard thee. It is a fact, an accomplished fact.

I have heard thee. As for Ishmael, I have heard thee. Behold, I have blessed him.

And will make him fruitful. And will multiply him exceedingly. Twelve princes shall he beget.

And I'll make him a great nation. If you wish to know the names of the twelve princes, they are mentioned in chapter 25, verses 12 to 16. That's chapter 25, verses 12 to 16.

Ever before the twelve tribes of Israel came into existence. All right. I would say, according to God's word, that Ishmael was just as much Abraham's son as Isaac was.

He was not the son of Sarah. He was not the son of the prophets. But he was Abraham's son.

Half the blood that ran through his veins was Hebrew blood, and the other half was Egyptian blood. That's scripture. His wife was Hagar, the Egyptian girl.

Half the blood that ran through the veins of Manasseh and of Ephraim, the sons of Joseph, was Hebrew blood, and the other half was Egyptian blood. Because their mother was Egyptian. Joseph was married to an Egyptian girl.

Right. Well, these people have an exciting, interesting history. And let me ask you.

God says, I have blessed him. Can there be any blessing outside of Christ? He, Christ our Lord, is the source and the fountain of every blessing. It follows, therefore, that if these people are to be blessed, and there is no blessing outside of Christ, that these people will be blessed in Christ.

And this is brought out in a number of places in the scripture. Please turn with me to Psalm 68. The 68th Psalm.

Princes shall come out of Egypt. Princes shall come out of Egypt. And the prince, you know that Jacob's name was changed into Israel, which means prince with God.

Alright. Princes shall come out of Egypt. And I'm going to read to you a psalm, Psalm 87.

You'll be surprised the meaning of the psalm. Psalm 87. The paper is thick so much.

In this psalm, the 87th Psalm, he speaks about the city of God. And geographically this refers to... And then he says in verse 3. Glorious things are spoken of thee. And he enumerates the names of the citizens of the city of God.

Verse 4. I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me. In the Arabic version it would be, I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon who know me. Who know me.

That know me, Rahab and Babylon. The whole Philistia and Ethiopia. This man was born there.

Rahab is not the Rahab of Jericho. It is Rahab in Arabic. It's a poetic name for Egypt.

The word Rahab means terror or fear. And it refers to the terror of Egypt. You will look up in the concordance or modern references.

And you will see the remark that it is true. That the reference is to Egypt. Egypt is mentioned here among the citizens of the city of God.

And we have also in Isaiah. In that day shall the Lord be known to the Egyptians. And the Egyptians shall know the Lord.

And this is happening today. I have told you about the work in Egypt. And the moving of the Spirit of God.

Which is being witnessed today in the land of Egypt. I served the Lord in the assembly in Beirut. We have about 280 in fellowship in that assembly.

I don't know exactly how many there would be now. Because some have had to leave the country because of the civil war. But we had about 280 in fellowship in that assembly.

We have 4 assemblies in Lebanon. We have about 400 assemblies in the land of Egypt. In the assembly I served the Lord in Cairo.

We have quite a number of people around the Lord's table every Sunday. And we have a prayer meeting every week. And we have a monthly prayer meeting if you please.

That goes on for 24 hours. It doesn't mean that you are there 24 hours. But the meeting goes on for 24 hours.

And the Lord has worked wonders in both places. Not only in both assemblies but in both countries. In other countries too.

But let me say something. I believe that the most effective means. That's my own conviction for various reasons.

At least 4 reasons I'm going to tell you. The most effective means to reach the people of the Middle East today. Is by means of radio.

For various reasons. A. In a number of countries you cannot go in as a missionary. You try to go as a missionary to Saudi Arabia.

And see if you are allowed a visa and given a visa or not. But I advise you not to try. Because you will be denied a visa.

Secondly. In certain places in the Middle East. There are many nomads.

People lead a nomadic type of life. They are here today. They are not here tomorrow.

And you cannot follow them in person. You may try to go on camel back. But there are no air conditioned camels.

But it is not easy anyway. It's not easy to follow them in person. Right.

Three. In some places the percentage of illiteracy is quite high. I know in certain places there are very highly educated people.

But in certain other places the illiteracy is quite high. You can't give them a tract to read or a gospel to read. You have to speak to them in person.

Number four. A Muslim will feel quite uneasy to be seen going into a church. Or a Christian meeting.

A meeting for Christian worship. But he would feel safe enough to listen to the message in the privacy of his own room. As he turns on his radio set.

For these four reasons I believe that radio today in the Middle East is the most effective means of reaching the people. And I praise the Lord that he has opened the door for us to minister to these people through radio. Through the facilities of Trans World Radio.

After I was saved, shortly after, I read an article about Saudi Arabia. That no missionary would be allowed to go to Saudi Arabia as such. And I was very exercised for these people because I love them.

And I prayed for Saudi Arabia for no less than 25 years. That the Lord would take me there. But he didn't.

But I never gave up. In 1960 we moved from Cairo to Beirut, Lebanon. By invitation.

The invitation had come at least four times for me to resign my job in Cairo. And go and take up the principalship of a high school in Beirut, Lebanon. And they wanted a Christian principal.

And three times this invitation came and we thought it was not God's time then. Because the pillar of cloud was still in Egypt for us. And we didn't go.

But when the invitation came the fourth time in 1960. My wife and I prayed earnestly. And we felt decidedly led by the Lord to leave Cairo.

And we did. Five days only after we arrived in Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. Paul Fried.

And he asked me would I be interested to broadcast over trans-world radio facilities. I said I knew why the Lord took us from Cairo to Beirut, Lebanon. And ever since I've been doing those tapes.

Not on a full-time basis but now on a full-time basis. In our ministry for the Lord. The most recent edition we broadcast on shortwave.

And on standard AM band. That station in Cyprus. With a transmitter of 600,000 watts on the standard AM band.

Now let me tell you something. The greatest power of any transmitter on the standard AM band allowed by law in the USA is 50,000. You cannot go beyond 50,000.

This is 600,000. It is so powerful it blankets the whole of the Middle East. With a crystal clear signal.

It was recorded in Johannesburg, South Africa. And the tape I have on this cassette tape. And it is very, very clear.

All the way through Africa. It covers the whole of the Middle East with a crystal clear signal. And it is really doing a marvelous work for the Lord there.

They put out a questionnaire to assess how many approximately listen to each and to every program. And they came out with the astounding figures. About 5 million people listen to each and every program.

You can imagine how I feel when I sit behind a microphone in Chatham, New Jersey. To record every message that goes to the Middle East. The Middle East today hears the gospel over the, especially over this standard AM band 28 times a week.

I don't record, don't get the false impression that I record 28 messages every week. That would be fictitious. But we have to repeat certain messages.

I record as many as I possibly can. I translate the messages for Dr. McGee, for Van Empey, for Yoder, for Brownson, plus my own programs. But we broadcast them to the Middle East.

When we had to leave Beirut, we thought this was tragic. Tragedy. The studio was confiscated.

We had to leave Beirut. What's going to happen to the messages? But praise the Lord. He moves in a mysterious way.

When we were in Beirut, we did not receive one single letter from any listener in Israel. For obvious reasons. There's no mail service between Israel on one side and any of the Arab nations on the other side.

The Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. But when we moved out of Beirut and gave the address to Monte Carlo, you ought to see the letters that are coming from listeners all over Israel, all over the Arab world. The postage of one letter from Egypt to Monte Carlo or to New Jersey is 14 Egyptian piastres.

And the 14 Egyptian piastres buy 28 loaves of bread. I mean it. It is not big loaves like the ones you are used to hear, but like the one I showed you.

But the 28 loaves of bread. And yet about 75% of the letters we receive come from Egypt. These people mean business.

And I know many of them can't even afford to send one letter, but they are. And we praise God for what has happened today. There is a hunger in the hearts of the people.

And I praise God that the assembly people, I'm not saying this because I'm an assembly man, but because it is a fact, are the most aggressive evangelistic group in Egypt. And they are doing a fine job. I'll be open to questions.

Do you possibly have any questions to direct toward this work in the Arab nations? Yes, we have in Hebrew, in Armenian, and in Arabic. And we have a weekly, one weekly program. Because in Israel, they have religion, faith.

If you are Greek Orthodox, you can practice your faith. If you are Presbyterian, you may practice your faith. But you cannot.

It can be as much as four times. This radio ministry can cross the court to me. Wasn't it you? The Lord Jesus died.

God has brought two down to the level of Gentiles. We're all on the same level today. The same God is rich in mercy.

Here's a question. Some Christians claim that the Lord will not return until every tribe has been redeemed. I feel like Sam Jones, that old preacher of another generation.

In his day, and of which birthdays. I can appeal for you to get rid of your money and support them. That aspect of his return that has to be redeemed.

Nothing has to. Three things. One, we don't know how long the patience of God.

We do know that the body must complete. And there'll be no vacant chairs in heaven. When you get there, you're not going to be looking around and say, I wonder who was supposed to be sitting in that one.

No, the Father's house is going to be full. Now, don't ask me to explain this. But I believe it.

The Father Jesus does return. It's going to be after Gentile and Jew alike. The following question reads like this.

Why does Yasser Arafat and the Palestinians claim the West Bank as Yasser Arafat and the Palestinians claim to have been living in the land of Israel before Israel became a state? And at that time, the leaders of the Arab world promised the Palestinians that the change was not going to be long. That before long, they will take back the land and bring back the Palestinian refugees into their own land. Well, they waited and waited and waited.

Nothing happened these days. Well, they have been taking things into their hands for some time. And they have been faced with a statement made over and over again that they would push the Jews to the sea.

They said, no, we don't want to push the Jews to the sea. At least the West Bank, which belonged to Jordan before, should be given back to us. And they would establish a sovereign Palestinian state on the

West Bank, on the land of the West Bank.

So this is why they are demanding that part of the world according to what I know. I wonder if Brother Augustus... Well, in 47-48... I've got this in my room. I could have brought it to you.

In 47-48, when Israel was declared... You know, Ben-Gurion declared the State of Israel. And then the armies of Lebanon and Syria and Iraq, which had no common border, and the finest of all the Arab armies was the best trained, of course, the Arab legion trained under Gleb Pasha, who had a great love for the Arabs, trained a tremendous army. And then the Saudi Arabia and Egypt all came against Israel.

And that's the time when they were talking about that they would drive them into the sea. Well, I think I mentioned in my first little opening remark that Transjordan was what belonged, what Britain had given to Abdullah, King Hussein's grandfather. He had given it to him, and he made him an emir, the emir of Moab, and then he decided he wanted to be a king.

But when all this, the State of Israel was declared, they jumped across the Jordan River, and they took this big piece of property. If you'll take a look at the line, you'll see it's a very erratic line. It comes within seven miles of the Mediterranean.

This is when the different wars that have happened have threatened the very existence of Israel, because if they got up in the north and the south, then they could have really destroyed them. Now, at the end of 47-48, then it was that Transjordan annexed the West Bank. I believe you'll find this in any encyclopedia or any history book, if you'll search there.

And I think I mentioned before, there are only two countries, no Arab country ever recognized that the Hashemite Kingdom had any claim on the West Bank. Pakistan did, and Britain did. The Arab world was about ready to expel, actually, Jordan for grabbing that land there.

And they did. You know, I go with my friend, and we go back to Koa, the back roads. Remember the days when the only people who lived out there were living in the big black tents, the bedouins? And now they have permanent homes.

And he'll always mention that, he'll say that King Hussein told them that he would give them this land where they could live permanently. And I always want to ask the question, was it his authority to give that land? He never owned it, but he did. And so this is part of the problem.

Jews have a long, long memory. Some of the land they've purchased, for instance, the Valley of Jezreel, Megiddo, Ezdralon, which is a Greek word, which is the bread basket of the country. I showed it to you last night in the pictures.

It's about 112 square miles. It's the bread basket of the country now. Isaiah called it the Fat Valley.

That was a gift from the Turkish crowd to a family, a Lebanese family. And it was nothing but a malaria, yellow fever, soaked swamp because of a biblical stream. The outflow was blocked by the Sands of the Mediterranean.

You remember Cicero, and you remember jail, and you remember the 450 false prophets of Baal that were brought down to that stream, and their heads were made shorter. Well, the Jews, the first pioneers that came in, knew what the Bible had to say about that. And this is a historical fact.

They took a half million pounds sterling of Jewish National Fund money and bought that big valley. They bought it. And they were severely chided for wasting money on that big swamp, that malarial swamp.

Those who used to travel through that valley remember they used to have to roll up the windows because of the mosquitoes. If you read Golda Meir's book, and you should read it, you should get it in paperback. My life by Golda Meir.

And when she went, she used to put Vaseline on her hands. They had big bonfires at night. They had very little medicine, no doctors and nurses.

And she tells about it jokingly. You have long sleeves in the terrible heat to drain that malarial infested swamp. I go to Mayan Harad, which is where Gideon chose his men.

I showed you a picture of that. That was about 1959. There, too, it was full of malaria and yellow fever.

But they drained all of that. So actually, they bought this land. Actually, Jews own land in what is Jordan today.

They have long memories. Let me just go off a little bunny path somewhere. Do you know that there are Jews in Istanbul today who have the keys to their homes in Spain? In the Spanish Inquisition.

Passed from one generation to another generation to another. Because they were driven out by the great Inquisition in Spain. If you go to the Prado, the second only to the Louvre in Europe as far as an art museum is concerned, you will see there how the Jews still have an Inquisition Square.

They have a big cross where the Jews were forced to go down. If they weren't willing to become Roman Catholics, and many of them did, Roman Catholics by daytime and Jews at night, they were taken down there and they were beheaded. If you go to Toledo, Spain, you will find the only Roman Catholic synagogue in the world.

St. Mary's Synagogue, the land of the tribe of Judah, is still on the wall. Cedars of Lebanon is still on the ceiling. But that West Bank, of course, was grabbed by the Hashemite family.

And, of course, this is what we're talking about. But if you're going to look at real historical facts, it never did belong to Transjordan. I think that's quite fair, isn't it? It's quite fair.

But, of course, Yasser Arafat, even though he says one thing, he's the one who told the guy's name before him that, oh, he's, last I heard he was 11 and he made a lot of money from the Saudi PLO grab. But he stayed in the hotel. But, again, remember, let's go back to what a brother said.

Today, there's one way, and much of what they are doing in the arm of the flesh, and God's going to settle it. Million trees. By international competition, Israel produces, as cows, they produce the highest per capita milk production for their cows.

They've taken the Holstein's and changed them to Goldstein's. They have various little ways that they do it. Now, it's a big money earner.

The diamonds are good. These are problems that are never going to be solved until the ministry of God is given to this man of God. To think, now, if I had started at 20 to learn Arabic, we would never in this lifetime be able to reach the Arabs.

Going in there with 500,000, 600,000 watts every single day, and booming the gospel, and, you know, this Bedouin used to travel around with flutes. It's a rare occasion you'll find it. In Arab countries, they're called, Well, if you are in Yemen, you are in Yemen.

Same Bible, same word of God, and just the same words, and he believed the same way you do believe. The Israelis, of course, don't have, except on rare occasions, in the hills of Judea, need their guns now. They need their guns to protect the Druze, D-R-U-S-E.

They're a break off from the, they're very loyal to most any state in which they live. Now, they do, they're, What is the future role of Russia in? May I just say a word here? According to the word of God, we read in Ezekiel, that there will be a war in the south, and the land of Israel will be hemmed in between. Go into details here.

And we were wondering how this could happen when Egypt was so allied to the Russians in the years gone until very recently. But we have lived to see how Egypt broke away from Russia. And if I might interpret the feelings of the Egyptians, they don't like the Russians at all.

It is in prophecy, in the word of God, and we read, as it's said in Ezekiel, it will come down against the land of Israel. The enemy for the land of Israel is not the Arabs, it's really the Russians. And as I said, When they were in Egypt, they treated the Egyptians like not second-class citizens.

They looked down upon them, and they humiliated them, humiliated them. So that, again, it was great courage. In fact, they gave them very inferior equipment.

They gave them inferior equipment. What is the future role of the united Roman Empire? Is it united yet? Well, the dictator that will rise out of the, you know, the role of the anti, he is not, he may be in the world, but he is proclaimed. A related question to that, what are your thoughts concerning grief? Would we have any questions directing this area right here before we move on? It's difficult to say.

For instance, one day I received 105 letters. In one single day. Sometimes I received 90 letters.

Sometimes 15. Sometimes 10. It's difficult to, I haven't really worked out an average.

But I do receive quite a number of letters. And my prayer has always been the Lord to send us somebody who really is out and out for the Lord and who has the burden of the Arab world who could help. Because so far it was only my wife and myself doing all this work.

All the programs and the mail and the speaking engagements and this and that and the traveling. It, it, really my day starts at 7.30 in the morning and sometimes it goes on until 11 o'clock at night. And I've been doing, I haven't had a week vacation for 5, 6 years.

And we have been praying for somebody to come and help us. And I'm very glad to tell you the prayer has been answered. About three weeks ago, the Lord sent a family, a man and his wife, who live now in California.

He's an assembly man. He is the one whom the Lord had used to start the meetings in Tantan. And he has himself asked if he could help.

And we were very delighted for the, to receive the request. It has been accepted. All right, just, our brother was mentioning about the assembly there in Beirut.

And he doesn't know, of course, a lot of people have had to leave. They have had to leave. He and I have a mutual friend by the name of Sammy Dagger.

S-A-M-I, I think in Arabic means the high one, doesn't it? The exalted one. And Dagger, D-A-G-E-R. I hope that if God brings this boy's name to you, you'll remember him in prayer.

A little over ten years ago, he was a male prostitute. Sammy was. He was the maitre d' in the Phoenicia Hotel, which was, in my judgment, the nicest in the intercontinental chain.

I met him in that hotel. I didn't know him. He didn't know me.

I didn't know what he believed. I think I just mentioned it in passing, how Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, missionaries of the Christian Missionary Alliance from Cambodia, came through there and led Sammy and his wife, Joy, who is British, led them to Christ. And, I mean, their marriage is pretty well gone.

Sammy, because of the... Do you drink Arak? Oh, no, the Lord forbid. Well, Arak is a very strong one. Sammy and his wife use it.

Isn't it amazing that God reaches into families that have no Christian background and saves somebody and they become great? It just is not inherited. I believe in Arabic they have an extent. But anyway, Sammy... How do you know these things? We've known.

We've known. Anyway, Sammy used to go to those bars and clubs. If you knew Beirut before all this trouble, you could go to about half a dozen of them every night and you wouldn't reach all of them.

You'd go to different ones every night for a year. There were so many of them. It was the Paris of the Middle East.

He said, now I go home and I study my Bible until 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning. And I know every morning. Franklin Graham was here yesterday morning, Billy's son.

Sammy Dagger had a tremendous influence on Mr. Graham's son. Tremendous influence on him. In fact, the Arab Christian is the one who had a tremendous influence on that young man.

There have been many that have left. Many Christian workers have left. Each one must decide for himself what he's going to do.

But Sammy has stayed. He has 11 Bible classes every week. I've been with him and going to the homes.

We bought him a Volkswagen Camper so he could go into the villages. As Brother Benoist knows, there are hundreds of villages in Lebanon without a single believer. There is the Orthodox and the Maronites.

But I tell you, they're great enemies of the gospel. In fact, Sammy was in one and here they were going to have prayer. And this Orthodox priest had his hat on.

And so Sammy said, most respected one. He wasn't going to call him father. And I said, most respected one, why don't you remove your hat, as the Bible says, when we pray.

And this priest said, I am above the Bible. Well, you know who they listen to after that, don't you? When anyone says I'm above the Bible. Well, we had 5,000 copies of Peace with God printed up.

5,000 copies of How to Be a New Man, all in Arabic. To give to the peacekeeping force. These soldiers came from the Sudan.

These that came from Saudi Arabia. These that came from Syria. And to give out to these.

They're all gone now. Well, we bought this camper, Volkswagen Camper. And in the last terrible siege, everything around where Sammy lived would have been hit.

With the exception of Sammy's apartment. His the only one. There are about 56 pieces of shrapnel that went into that Volkswagen Camper.

But in the middle, Sammy was down in a basement. I forget how many were down there. Just a little stinking place.

With women and children and men and trembling with all this fighting. These Syrians are magnum. Yeah, they're crazy.

And they were shooting in the crossfire. And so Sammy had a little camper stove with some fuel. And he also, when he knew this was coming, in his apartment he filled the bathtub.

He filled every vessel full of water. And he had three Bible classes with them. They were all trembling.

These people were unsaved. He had a children's meeting. He had a young people's meeting.

And he had an adult meeting. He had the children's meeting because he knew the adults would listen. They ran out of food.

He went out in the middle of all of this. And the man refused to open his shop. He said, the only thing I've got is corn.

He said, I'll take that. And he brought the corn and brought back. And roasted the corn for the people.

The babies were crying. He said, what's wrong with the babies? He said, they're dirty. Sammy went up and heated the water and brought it down.

He said, I'll have some every day. Now, a little, it's a little church building. In the middle of all of this, and you can't imagine.

It's just like an earthquake hit it. The whole thing is leveled. But this one building that was standing, they've rented it.

They have more than 100 believers now. Now, he wasn't able to get there when he was down in that basement. And they were concerned about a plant.

The plant would be dead. So show how God takes care of. You take care of God's things.

He's going to take care of yours. When they went in, they found out there was a little leak in the roof or something. And a little drop of water would come down.

And I saw it in May, just a few weeks ago. I saw it. A little drop of water would come down.

A few minutes, another drop of water. Another drop of water. And it kept that plant green.

Until they came back, and then things stopped. They didn't need it anymore. Now, that's a fact.

And it's absolutely miraculous what has happened. God's going to take care of it. Sammy is there today.

He won't leave. We call him at 4 or 5 o'clock in the morning. Oh, he grabs the phone like that.

He says, Sammy, what in the world are you doing? I said, I'm up with my Bible. I'm studying this Bible. And what God has taught him.

He said, you're going to Israel tomorrow. Oh, I'd love to go with you. Please tell them that I love them.

Not because they're Jews, but because they're sinners. And Sammy is something else. I tell you, we get a letter from him.

We file every letter. He came to faith in the Intercontinental Hotel. He's a food and beverage manager down in Saudi Arabia.

But he wants to come back. I'd say to you right now. You say, first of all, find out what the will of God is for your life.

Secondly, do it. Thirdly, do it cheerfully. Find out what the will of God is.

Do it. And do it cheerfully. Have fun in the faith.

And would you do it? I said, sure. So God has his people everywhere. And also, they were sending their secret police into these meetings.

But so many were getting converted that they quit sending them. They were going in there with tape recorders. But they don't get into politics.

They just don't fool with the politics. They stay like we ought to be doing. They stay right with the word of God, and God is saving them.

And the Lord has his people everywhere. Again, the Father's house is going to be there. One day, the shooting had been going on for some time outside.

It was deafening noise to come back to ourselves. We were living in Ashrafieh. And Ashrafieh was really hardly here.

And what happened to us? We looked around us. And behind us in the cement wall, we found pieces of shrapnel. We counted them.

At least 184 pieces around us on the floor, behind us in the wall, in the front of the apartment. All of it was gone. And not one shrapnel hit any of us.

How could you explain it? That I was sitting here, and the shrapnel behind me in the wall, embedded very heavily in the wall. You know, the angel of the Lord, he did. But, one hour later, at times, Walter was very scared.

Sometimes half an hour he had to get back because of the children. If we get killed, both of us, the children will be left. But if I go, if I'm killed, at least you stay behind and help the children.

And that made sense to her. And I reached the hospital in Ras Beirut. I'm going to tell you what I saw.

Acute, instant glaucoma. As a result of the gas and what not. So I was operated upon and stayed nine days in the hospital.

We depend wholly and entirely on a mail, regular, steady mail service to send out the tapes and receive mail from the listeners. So please pray. I expect you'd like also reading.

I can show you where it came through the window. It ricocheted off the wall and went through the top of little Anna's pajamas and out the bottom and never touched her. And of course, as our brother said, the food was getting scarce and the bread line was lined up at four o'clock in the morning.

And Joy said, Sammy, you better go out and get the bread. She didn't get bread. She stood in the line and God rebuked her.

I've never seen the righteous forsaken in their seat begging bread. So he went at seven or eight o'clock. He thought he'd go back.

And the truck was coming down the street. It was a bread truck. And he stopped and said, is this bread for sale? She said, sure.

He came home with a whole armful of that pizza bread. These things are real. These things are all real.

And God takes care of his own. Just to be around these. And his family, with no Christian background at all, but he loaded.

For the afternoon, we have more questions that need to be answered tomorrow. And the area we've been covering, give him thanks for our time and be dismissed. Transworld Radio throughout the countries of the world, and he has brought with him, they're right down here on the rock wall, some maps of the coverage of Transworld Radio.

And on the back, it has something mentioned about the transmitters, where they're located, and the countries that they reach. So they're there for your perusal, and take one and enjoy it right here on the rock wall. Well, where to begin? We know not, so we'll just jump in at a question and wade our way from there.

There seem to be two questions that regard the Jewish people, the Jewish movement that is abreast today. One concerns the Zionist movement, and the other, the Messianic Jews. The question reads, what is the Zionist movement? How would you define them? The other, what are Messianic Jews, and what do they believe? Since we have no Jewish brethren on board.

In answer to the question of what is a Messianic Jew, a Messianic Jew is a Jew who has found that Jesus is indeed the Messiah. If those ordinances differ, then you can get rid of the Jew. If these ordinances differ, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever.

Thus saith the Lord, if heaven holds the seed of Israel forever. I wasn't exposed too much to the Bible, though. And after my bar mitzvah at 13, I of course just left.

I found them empty, and I came back and made a decision that if I was going to be a Jew, let me go all the way. And I went back into the traditional study of Judaism. I was dating my cousin Faith, but it did start me

to read the New Testament.

And as I went back into traditional Judaism, I discovered a number of things in the Messianic age where we would, and what we considered the basics. But as I went back into the traditional, I found that the old Jews did believe in hell. They were just, what? And there was nothing.

Through reading the New Testament, I knew that purportedly Jesus was the Messiah. The biggest thing that kept me from coming to the Lord, I know the biggest thing was if I didn't want to, my sin, but mentally was the fact that I could not confess Jesus to be God. The night I got saved, I sat in a minister's home and shared with him why this Jew would never become a Christian.

I believe in Jesus as a good man. And I remember as I was going back to my dorm room, when you have a fight, many times you take over what you said. I knew that I was a sinner.

I was saying that Jesus Christ really is God. Two trains just collided. I was going about 45 miles an hour, so I didn't have time.

But I just cried out to God in my heart, just to tell you. And I cried out to Jesus and found in that moment what a Messianic Jew really was. I found Jesus as the Messiah.

The only thing I knew when I got back to my dorm room, everything came after that as far as what had happened, but I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that Jesus Christ was a Messianic Jew. Well, we might further that question then about Jewish people, the Zionists. I think you ought to back up a little bit on the Messianic Jews.

There are groups, and very zealous, that have taken the Jews for Jesus, taken his place as he has. There's a Jewish church, and a Gentile church, and an Egyptian church, and a Swede church, do you? I think that was one of the big things why Peter and John had to go to the Great Revival, because you would have had a Samaritan church and you would have had a Jerusalem church. There's only one church, and as we've said two or three times before, the Body of Christ.

The church has some young friends, well, quite young. First of all, the Charismatic group get a hold of them, or they'll burn you. Then the Seventh-day Adventists get a hold of them, and they'll legalize them.

And then the Jews for Jesus group gets them. Well, these young people had never been under Judaism in any shape, form, or whatever it might be. Why bring them back? They get saved, the same as a Swede, or an Egyptian, or a Jacobite, or the Lord's people in the church.

Of course, the Zionist movement is nothing new, and it can have many connotations to it. Theodor Herzl was the one who believed. He said, Mr. Ben-Gurion, when did you first have the vision for what we see in Israel today? And of course, he started talking about it first.

But you are the one that had to build what we see in the ancient land of Israel today. And his answer was very interesting, especially for those of you who work with children. He said, when I was a little boy in Poland, my grandfather used to put me on his knee, and he would teach me Hebrew words.

He'd teach me nouns before he'd teach anything else, like head, and nose, and chin, and knee. And then he started to tell me about a land that belonged to my people, a land which the Bible calls the land of Israel. And he said he told him to me in such a way, he said he made an impression on me that I said,

Ben-Gurion said to me, he said, I said as a little boy, I'm going to the land of Israel.

And when he was finished with little school he could have in Poland, because he was a Jew, they wouldn't let him go to university. His father wanted to send him to Switzerland, but he said, no, I'm going to the land of Israel. And he greatly grieved his father.

This was when these Zionists were moving, and they were meeting in little groups, talking about the land of Israel. And so he went to Israel. He changed his name from David Green, or David Gruen, to David Ben-Gurion, which means David, son of a young lion.

And one of his jobs was taking care of the sheep, so the old lion was lying down with the lambs. Those were the days, as I told you in our opening remarks, of the Turkish Empire, the Ottoman Empire. So he went to Istanbul and studied Turkish law.

Turkish law is still in vogue in many parts of the country there today. There are two or three such laws. And then he went to what you know as Thessalonica in the Bible, Thessalonica.

And he studied Aristotle and Plato, and he studied Greek. He constantly studied until he died at 86. He used to stand on his head every day, too.

He studied Eastern religions. But I thought, my, someone put something into the heart of that child, and we see the fruit of it today. So when you hear the children's meetings here, these could be the most important meetings in the whole camp.

But the Zionists were started pretty much, pretty largely, by Theodor Herzl. Now, I know that there are bad connotations with that word, with the word Zionist. But I understand the word Zionist is that Israel is the homeland for the Jew.

And Ben-Gurion, of course, some rich Jews from New York came, and they had \$25,000, and he gave them as a gift. What could we do for you? What could we do for you? He said, send me your sons. He said, what made America great? Money or people.

And that was what he, over \$3 million from the Jewish people. Any questions regarding the Jewish people? Is that what you understand the Zionist movement to be? I didn't with Ben-Gurion. He would only stay with Isaiah.

The first thing he wanted to argue with me was what he did. Ben-Gurion believed that the prophets were the architects of the... I think I said it the other day, when you asked the question, Messianic Jew, we usually use that expression. No hyphenated children.

Such a thing. I never tell anybody I'm a Swedish Christian, but God has no hyphenated children. We are believers.

All right. We have a question here concerning the city of Jerusalem. In your opinion, will Israel ever return the last of Jerusalem? I think in all fairness, I believe that Jerusalem right now is where the mostly Armenian cliques, they have their freedom for their... When the young men broke even the gate, they said, we will go in and fight.

Swear to us on an oath. If they ever did. But of course, I believe that in the tribulation of the great, there is going to be some time next week, and if it does, I won't be home.

This concerns the temple, and the question just says when, where. When will it be built? I believe that I will not be here. A well-known conservative preacher repeatedly states that prophecy is not presently being fulfilled.

It is being fulfilled today. It may not be fully fulfilled. They say the state is being set, bringing to pass.

All right. I told you yesterday of a prophecy, a prayer that was offered thousands of years ago. Remember where it is? It is in Genesis, chapter 17, and verse 18.

Abraham prayed for Ishmael. He prayed that Ishmael might live before God. Before God, by nature, you and I are dead.

But look what the prayer was. And Abraham said unto God, that's verse 18, chapter 17, verse 18. Oh, that Ishmael might live before thee.

Before thee. And I am seeing Ishmael today living before God because I see thousands of people turning to the Lord. And I have been in meetings, and I have seen conversions, and I have seen things happen today.

All right. And we turned to Isaiah 19 the other day. And if you wish, turn to Isaiah 19.

That's a great chapter. And if I might repeat what I said, verse 18 came true before our eyes. In that day, remember those three days, the three words are repeated over and over and over again.

In that day. In that day. All right.

Verse 18. In that day shall five cities in the land of Egypt speak the language of Canaan, and its word is there today. Don't tell me it was a coincidence to call the city of the sun.

It's called Heliopolis. H-A-L-H-E-L-I-P-O-L-I-S. Now, this cannot be a coincidence.

19. And they will turn. They worshiped the River Nile.

They worshiped pharaohs, snakes, so many deities. And the Nile was one of the deities who could touch the River Nile. And yet Isaiah does say, they will turn the river.

It literally happened in our days. In the Arab, thousands of people have been put out. This thing happened.

Look at chapter 19 again. 21. And the Lord shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the Lord in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation.

Yea, they shall bow, bow. I praise the Lord that this is true. Look at verse 24.

In that day shall Israel be a third with Egypt. With Egypt. Five years ago this could not have been possible.

Today it is possible. We have lived to see that this thing happened. It is with, not against.

In that day shall Israel be a third with Egypt, and with Assyria. You will ask me, Muhammad, the night is darkest when the dawn is nearest. With Egypt and with Assyria.

Even a blessing in the midst of the land. Whom the Lord of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed be Egypt, my people. According to this verse, who is God's people? Well, you answer this question.

Blessed be Egypt, my people. And Assyria, the work of my hand. And Israel, mine inheritance.

How can we see these things happening and say, Prophet, it is not being fulfilled today? Thank you. Oh, I think I know who the, and he is a great Bible teacher. In fact, Brother Phineus translates his material.

Yet, you know, I've heard him make that statement. Zechariah chapter 12 and chapter 14. Well, if it isn't the age, you know.

Of course, we all believe, I think, here today, that this is primarily the age of mystery. This is the age of the church. But coming events cast their shadows before.

And many of you have been to the Middle East. You've been there. You've been to Israel.

I don't know how anyone, any believer can be there. Even in the midst of all the unbelief. Among God's ways are behind the scenes.

What we're seeing is the foreshadowing of the real fulfillment. But it certainly. I heard that personally on TV and radio.

He made a reference to the prophecy of Isaiah that they will learn war no more. He realized that what he was doing is the fulfillment of that prophecy. And I praise the Lord for this.

These next two questions have to do. It seems to be on the matter of salvation. Do you believe the Bible teaches that you'll be saved after the rapture and be sealed by the rejection? We're picking out a spot.

No, we don't know who has really heard, do we? We don't know who's really heard. Like you've gone into a meeting where the gospel's gone forth in power. He has been there and he's heard with these ears here.

But we don't know who's heard with the ears of the heart. Have refused the gospel? God shall send that believe the lie and that they might all be damned. Well, we don't know all those ideas.

Sealed to pass. And then it speaks about an unnumbered company of Gentiles that shall come up out of the tribulation by way of death. They're going to seal their belief with their own blood.

But once a person has really heard and has refused it, he's going to receive the mark. This is one reason I don't believe that any other church will be in the tribulation. Because there would be many that would receive the mark of the beast.

We think we get people and they get saved and we get them coming along and they're taught. And all of a sudden you think they're really rooted and grounded in the faith. And the first thing you know they're running off after some isomazomous spasm.

They're gone somewhere. They are deceived. The elect in this age can be deceived.

But the elect in that age will never be deceived. But there will be an unnumbered company of Gentiles. If I were anyone living in this age, I sure wouldn't take a chance and say, well, when the church is gone I'll have my chance then.

Because they won't. But there will be an unnumbered company of Gentiles that will be saved. But I don't believe there's anybody that's ever really heard with the ears of the soul and has knowingly rejected Christ when the rapture takes place, they'll seal their destiny.

Is that a good Egyptian philosophy or not? I think, I really believe that you are a mind reader. Thank you. Do we have any remarks addressed? If they have not heard the gospel, then what is their position after the church is raptured? Well, they that haven't got the law, if there are really people living today, if there are, conviction once, well, they're under condemnation.

And I cannot see that there is anybody in the world who has not condemned him or her in a difficult situation. The apostle Paul said that he was a prematurely born baby, didn't he? He said that there will be, in the tribulation of the grave, there will be Jewish preachers. One nation be born in a day.

They will preach the gospel of the kingdom, not the gospel... But listen, if the apostle Paul is any picture of a Jew who is really filled with the spirit, then what in the world kind of blessing will be when you get 144,000 just like him roaming the earth? There's never been anyone like Paul. I believe there'll be two groups of Jews in the tribulation of the grave. There'll be the 144,000 who will be sealed, and I believe there'll be a group that will have a place prepared for them for time, time, and half a time, three and a half years.

And to every nation, and kindred, and tongue. And one final question, and we can spend 20 minutes on it, or we may take others from the audience. And I wrote out beside it a summary because it was... What light does Scripture shed on happenings and conditions in the Mideast during these years that have followed the formal recognition of Israel as a state? There are many of them there.

I'm sure you have the same problem I do. I don't know how they get my name in so many... Pennsylvania. That's 28 loaves of bread.

This is a letter. May I read it? Yes, please. This is a letter from Jordan that says, It gives me great joy to send you this, my first letter, and to tell you how the faith that I received the Lord Jesus as my Savior, Please send me any Christian letters.

And this is for the Arabians. Thank you for your letter, and for the booklets you sent me. You explained to me what 13 letters, but I must remember one letter.

And if you receive 100... Would either of you brethren care to summarize any of our discussion for the week? Back here. All right. What part in the movement toward Israel would the Jews in the United States take? Well, do you think they'll be... You're suggesting that possibly they may be driven out of this country, or will they leave and go back freely? I couldn't give you a chapter and verse on this, except that Jeremiah's passage, that there are two means that God will get them back to the land, and that is the hunters and the fishers.

I'm going home to St. Petersburg tomorrow, in the will of God. The strangest children. This is a miracle that in our day, Hebrew is the modern language.

And this is happening. Engineers were... But they need engineers in Israel. Anti-Semitism is all... Miami paper.

Pleading with the people... They are safe and secure. And there is definitely... Is it true that many of the Jewish young men, are they recruited to go over and serve here, and then come right back just... Is it, it's not a... Is it more or less as impressive... In Rhodesia. Now it's going down the street.

He leaves his wife and kids there. Here is a people among the nations. He's not... Where's the Lord? He came back to his own land, to the land.

Here is a people that live alone, and among the nations. How free are the Jews to leave Russia now? I ask that there are 50,000 that'll leave... Well, thank you for the time you've given us, here, during the afternoon of this week. I will let you out about 10 minutes early.

And you've been some good questions, and I think the session has been very profitable this week. And I thank all of you for coming. I think our brother... Perhaps our brother Gene Wade would dismiss us now in prayer.

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