

'Mite' Makes Right

Zionist evangelist says God wants U.S. to attack Iran
... and suckers to give generously to his pro-Israel church

By James P. Tucker Jr.

Thousands of fundamentalist Christians joined atheist Jews in another "solidarity" event that filled the pockets of Israeli flak John Hagee with gold while filling the minds of innocents with the notion that a merciful God endorses aggressive war and mass torture and slaughter of Palestinian men, women and children.

The gruesome message was sent to Congress and the world when Christians United for Israel (CUFI), founded by high-income television evangelist John Hagee, met in Washington July 16-19. CUFI organizers announced that God wants the United States to launch a holy war against Iran to protect Israel and allow further expansion of its borders. No Israeli blood is to spill, only that of Americans.

Hagee works hard to keep his finances under cover but it involves big bucks. In 2003, *The San Antonio Express-News* investigated Hagee's filings with the IRS. The newspaper reported that Hagee received millions of dollars in compensation and benefits in 2001 for his church and TV work and had a trust that includes a nearly 8,000-acre, \$2.1 million Texas ranch with a mansion and three barns for his horses, cows, servants and limousines.

Embarrassed, Hagee reorganized his holdings in a manner that allowed him to avoid making public filings. In September 2004 he had his Global Evangelism Television re-registered as a church under the name Grace Church of San Antonio. Churches, unlike religious TV companies and other nonprofit groups, are exempt from filing detailed returns with the IRS. A further reorganiza-

tion moved all assets into Cornerstone Church. None of the church's financial records are publicly available, yet Hagee said the change was for "greater clarity."

The vast majority of evangelical ministers are good, sincere people working to save souls, feed the hungry and clothe the naked. But Hagee is among a few well-known exceptions. Evangelist Jimmy Bakker preached honesty and chastity, but had sexual relations with a young girl on his staff and went to jail for tax evasion, where he shared a cell with Lyndon LaRouche.

Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart exploited Bakker's downfall in an effort to claim his empire. But Swaggart's own empire went belly up when it was learned that he patronized prostitutes. In the 1950s, evangelist Oral Roberts exhorted the "widow to give her mite." Poor, frail old ladies would trot down his sawdust trail and put coins in his cup. Roberts, according to *Time*, wore \$60 shirts—expensive 50 years ago.

But thousands of well-dressed evangelicals gave their "mite" to Hagee as a price for favor with God. "When you give, it qualifies you to receive God's abundance," Hagee tells his flock. "If you're not prospering, it's because you're not giving."

While Hagee's flock was inside the Washington Convention Center calling for an American invasion of Iran, a diverse group—men, women, old and young—were outside educating those who entered. Among them were Willis Carto, founder of Liberty Lobby in 1955, and Washington-area radio evangelist Dale Crowley Jr.

Both presented copies of Crowley's special report titled "Open Letter to Jerry Falwell," which documents Israel's brutal occupation of Palestinian lands and unques-



Rev. Dale Crowley hands out anti-Zionist literature.



Who would Jesus bomb? The answer is "nobody."



These protesters make more sense than John Hagee.

tioning blank-check support by the United States. "Open Letter to Jerry Falwell" was published by *American Free Press*. Order it by calling AFP at 1-888-699-NEWS.

Author-philanthropist E. Stanley Rittenhouse passed out literature challenging Biblical interpretations of "Christian Zionists." Representatives of *Pharisee Watch!* also challenged claims of Biblical blessings for demanding aggressive war against Iran on behalf of Israel. ★

Catholic Priest Battling the 'Beast'

By Mark Glenn

At a time when Christianity's most powerful leaders shamelessly appease the Zionist agenda, true Christians who hunger and thirst for righteousness will find comfort in the actions of one leader who is standing up against the beast even at the risk of losing his life. With a strong Spanish accent and passion in his voice that would make John the Baptist envious, Fr. John Martinez of Oklahoma is out there like a voice crying in the wilderness, trying to warn Americans that they are being deceived concerning the state of Israel, which he views as the embodiment of anti-

Christianity. More than this though is Martinez's warning that Christians will have to answer to God one day for enlisting themselves in the service of evil by supporting the Zionist agenda and its wars in the Middle East.

"As Christians, we do not have the option of remaining silent on this matter," Martinez told AFP. "Our Lord Jesus was very clear on this—'Those who deny Me before men, I will deny before My Father.' We can neither participate in this, nor sit by silently, as something completely contradictory to what Our Lord demands is taking place. . . . This is mass murder and as much opposed to traditional Christian teaching as is the murder of the unborn."

When asked about what he thought the real agenda at work was with regard to the Zionists, he was equally frank: "To institute upon the world an anti-Christian, anti-God totalitarian system based on Jewish racial supremacy, to make Israel the capital of the world and to finally finish what Israel's leaders were not able to do 2,000 years ago, which was to exterminate the message of Jesus, the arch-enemy of the pharisees." When asked about the possibility of war with Iran, he was emphatic: "It is not a matter of 'if' but rather 'when.'" ★

Martinez has made available two disks on this subject, which are available by contacting him at 313 S. 17th St., Frederick, Okla., 73542. The cost for the disks is \$10 each or both for \$15. Martinez needs support in order to continue his mission. Order Glenn's book *No Beauty in the Beast* (303 pp.) from TBR, P.O. Box 15877, Washington, D.C. 20003 for \$25 postpaid. Outside U.S. enclose \$11 S&H.