

Forcing Change



It Just Makes Sense

By Carl Teichrib (www.forcingchange.org)

Traveling through the United States this past March, I was surprised to hear numerous radio spots on “readiness.” The message of the advertisements were straightforward: Disaster could strike - are you prepared?

What struck me was the source. These ad placements weren’t from some survival outfitter or retailer selling camping gear, but from the US Federal Government. Are you *Ready* was the theme.

Ready is a public service campaign launched in 2003 to educate Americans regarding emergency response. Today, this campaign uses radio advertisements, television/internet media clips, and a dedicated webpage (www.ready.gov) to spread its message of preparedness.

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Carl Teichrib, Editor.



It's ironic, but only from the stand point of public perception. In the 1990s the idea of preparedness was often viewed as an extension of the extreme side of the "right wing." This was the domain of survival magazines, late-night radio talk shows, niche book publishing houses, and independent websites. While that side has quietly existed for years and has often been ridiculed by left-of-center commentators, the advertisements I heard all came from Uncle Sam. And it's not a bad thing.



For decades the United State government has been educating people about emergency preparedness, and although there has been much criticism regarding US Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency - with many valid concerns ranging from FEMA's bureaucratic bungling to the big brother powers of Homeland Security - there is a positive side to the *Ready* campaign that needs to be acknowledged: Moving awareness into the public sphere. Regardless of your political or economic ideology, the idea of preparedness makes sense.

In the past, the US Federal Government (and other Western governments) has urged its citizens to think about and act on readiness. Rummaging through my library the other day, I found a 1976 edition of *In Time of Emergency: A Citizen's Handbook on Nuclear Attacks and Natural Disasters*, published by the US Defense Civil Preparedness Agency. Leafing through it was like peering into a Cold War cultural time capsule, with sections on understanding nuclear fallout and how to prepare a home shelter. This booklet also recommended contingency planning for earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

Of course, none of these situations exist - our world is *safe*. Right?

Somehow I don't think you're buying that line. Earthquakes and tsunamis, ice storms, looming and ongoing social unrest, regional food shortages and economic troubles, oil spills and now a nuclear disaster; all in the space of months. For many people, our news events have shattered the myths regarding public and individual security. It is causing people to think.

Some *Forcing Change* readers have dealt with these disasters at a personal level (at least one reader was in a recent news-making earthquake), others are now cleaning up flood damage, and as I write this a number of my American readers are anticipating a possible tornado outbreak - with almost 40% of the US under the umbrella of potentially violent thunderstorms. In fact, when we were visiting Indiana a few weeks ago, an auditorium we were in had to be evacuated because a tornado touched the ground a couple of miles away (it bounced down not far from a friend's house). And on our journey home we sat on the interstate in central Wisconsin, stuck in traffic, waiting for a tornado to drop from the clouds (it came down ten miles behind us).

Things happen; and whether the crisis is an act of nature or man, or whether it's local or national, it makes sense to be prepared. Some readers of *Forcing Change* have already thought through this and have acted accordingly, for others, the idea of preparedness is foreign. Regardless where you stand, wrestling with the concepts of readiness is an important and constructive exercise - hence this article.

In past issues of *Forcing Change* we've briefly touched on readiness planning. However, with the seeming rise in natural catastrophes and man-made disasters, it's important to carefully consider what preparedness means. As it says in Proverbs 27:12, "A prudent *man* foresees evil *and* hides himself; The simple pass on *and* are punished." This is really a basic principle, with application to all walks of life.

In writing this article I realize that everyone's situation will be different, and that a person can't plan for every contingency. Furthermore, I look at these suggestions and realize that I too am very ill prepared. Although my part of the world is socially stable and not in an earthquake zone, I do live in a climatically harsh region where winter can be the longest season: Sure, being stuck in your house for a three-day blizzard can be relaxing ("sorry I can't make that meeting... shucks, I guess I'll have to stay inside and enjoy a good book or a few board games with the kids..."), however, not having food supplies or suffering from a day or more of power-loss at minus 35 can be stretching - let alone having a medical emergency. Regardless of your location or situation, here are some thoughts to consider.

Spiritual:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." - Proverbs 3:5-6

"It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man." - Psalm 118:8

"Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust." - Psalm 16:1

I'm putting the bottom line first: Place your faith and trust in Jesus Christ - allow Him to be your refuge and rock. And when disasters come, personal or otherwise, you will be in good hands regardless of the outcome.

Please don't misunderstand; placing your trust in God doesn't mean you are abdicated of responsibility. Sadly, some people take this approach, effectively stating that because God is looking after them, they no longer see the need to act. Yet, the prudent man recognizes danger and takes measures to mitigate it. 1 Timothy 5 provides some context: Trust God, and don't waste yourself on pleasures. Furthermore, assist those in real need and work to provide for your own family: "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever." Obviously, sitting on our hands isn't an option.

Mindset:

I've tried to explain this to more than one person: All the cool camping gear and a basement full of food supplies will mean very little if you are unwilling to learn or acquire a proper mindset. Here's what I mean.

Recently I was visiting with a friend who lives in a large community and has always lived in some type of city environment. Recognizing the need to prepare for natural or manmade disasters, he was

wondering what steps to take. The first was the most surprising to him: Challenge your outlook - after living a life where convenience has always been a two minute drive up the block, consider how your existence would change if these conveniences and public services were seriously hampered or eliminated. This isn't a simple or easy thought process. It requires looking at a host of issues we take for granted: Safe roads, accessible hospitals, groceries on the shelf, the ability to send or receive communications, working emergency services, stable electrical and gas supplies, etc. And if any of this is disrupted, do you have the mindset to deal with it? Furthermore, do you have the knowledge or skills necessary to meet the hurdles? And living in a rural area doesn't give you immunity from this challenge; in fact, a whole new set of particulars may arise.

The point of such a mindset challenge is simple: Are you willing to think? A crisis, be it local or regional, always means that business-as-usual is no longer the case. Challenging your mindset now, before a calamity occurs, means that when something happens you will start to look for working alternatives.

Please keep in mind, this is not about paranoia - it's about constructive thinking.

Social Knowledge:

"Who are the people in your neighborhood? The people that you meet each day?" I remember this little tune from the *Sesame Street* show, and it rings true today. How does it relate to dealing with crisis? Simple: By knowing your neighbors in a positive way, you are building bridges of trust and establishing a safety line. Hence, offers of help and assistance - ether towards them or you - is automatic and genuine. Investing yourself in the lives of others is extremely important on many fronts. If you want to reflect on what it means to be a true neighbor, study the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

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- Access every issue of *Forcing Change*, our fully documented monthly publication.
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Your membership helps to keep the research going!

Geographical Knowledge:

I can't stress this enough: Know where you are, what's around you, and how to navigate through your region. Too many times I have talked with people who have lived in a neighborhood for years, yet geographically-speaking, don't know what's beyond their daily routine. It's like they're wearing self-imposed blinders.

In 1997 we moved from Manitoba to Indiana, and on the weekends we loaded up the family in the car and explored our new region. I had to know what was around me; where the side roads took me; which rivers crossed my district; and the general lay of the land. Not only did this help me feel comfortable in my new surroundings, but I used this knowledge many times afterward to skirt traffic tie-ups, construction projects, and other road hazard situations.

How knowledgeable are you beyond your home community? Ten miles out? Fifty? One hundred? On more than one occasion my knowledge of regional roads and the lay of the land has allowed myself, from one hundred miles away, to successfully return home when I couldn't access the highways due to weather extremes. Now, I'm not advocating that you disregard road closures, but you may find yourself in a situation where traveling out of the problem area is the best (or only) option. This requires discerning the situation, and a knowledge of where you are and how to proceed to where you need to be.

If you spend a lot of time regularly traveling to and from different cities, can you navigate back without using major traffic arteries? A friend of mine has close family in another city 300 miles out, and he has had to ask himself; if a regional crisis happened and the Interstate closed, could I get to my children? Because this is important to him, he has taken the time to study maps, work out alternative routes, traveled side roads, and has learned his regional geography.

Similarly, another individual explained that he has a cottage a number of hours away, and that it's his family's backup location - a quiet place where people can meet. Knowing it takes more than a tank of gas to arrive at his destination, and understanding that a regional calamity might disrupt fuel supplies, he has rented a small self-storage unit in a community at the half-way point along a pre-determined route. Here, he has fuel in jerry cans and some other essentials - and refreshes these items a couple of times per year, adding and deleting items as he sees fit and as the seasons change.

Something to consider: Crisis travel is often slow going. It may require re-routing, driving extra distances to cross rivers, and unexpected layovers. Moreover, alternative routes are almost always the least direct path, automatically increasing time and distance. Conversely, an alternate route may be your only option.

Our world is a highly mobile society. It just makes sense to know where you are, what's around you, and how to get where you need to go - whether from work to home, or from home to family.

RISKY NOTE: In a related way, one gentleman who often travels to Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia carries a few silver and gold coins (they go through with his loose pocket change at airport scanners). These coins are his emergency insurance: a way of quickly paying officials or transportation handlers if he needs to leave his foreign destination during a national emergency.

Skills:

No matter what you do for a living, learning new and practical skills should be high on your list. Taking a first-aid course is a great idea. If you don't know how to swim, learn. Basic mechanical skills are invaluable, learn to garden, buy a book on knot tying and figure out a few loops (this is far more valuable than most people realize). Do you know how to drive a standard? Can you discern upcoming weather conditions by reading the sky? Call your cousin who farms and ask to help with butchering, and while you're there, have him show you how to properly operate a chainsaw - an extremely handy tool in many crisis situations. You get the point.

The rewards in developing new skills and abilities are many and ongoing. The side benefit is this: The more practical skills you have, the better you will be equipped to handle stressful situations.

Vehicles:

Consider carrying an emergency kit or crisis pack in your vehicle. Here are some suggested items, (think about what your needs are, weather situations, etc.), and keep these items in a back pack; something that can be taken with you if the vehicle has to be abandoned.

- First Aid Kit (learn how to use it).
- Basic tools (learn how to use them), including a good knife and/or a combination pocket tool. However, never replace a stocked tool kit with a multi-tool like a Leatherman. Multi-tools have their place, but are not a replacement.
- Battery jumper cables.
- Space heat blanket (they are typically made of a silvery substance that traps heat, are very compact, and good to have in any season). Candles and an old soup-can may be used to keep warm during a winter road problem; obviously, matches or a lighter are necessary too. Hand warmers are good to have too.
- Water bottles (filled - a little tougher to have during winter months!) and/or water purification tablets.
- Money. I know one person who always carries an extra \$50 in his car's supply kit, and has used it to buy emergency fuel, pay for towing, and other roadside situations.
- Flashlight and extra batteries. Light sticks and road flares are also good to have.
- Back-up medication (especially if you have ongoing medical needs).
- A roll of toilet paper and other sanitary items.
- Shovel or small spade. If you have space this can be a very handy tool. Where I live it seems winter lasts "thirteen months-of-the-year," and every season I end up digging out somewhere. (Remember, a shovel can be useful anytime of the year).
- A coil of rope or other lashings; if you have space, consider adding a tow rope.

- Dry food goods: Granola bars, trail mix, etc.
- A quality family-band radio set. These are inexpensive, can easily be kept in a vehicle, and are handy in any situation.
- Maps.
- A pad of paper and pen/pencil.

Home:

- Food supplies: It used to be that everyone had a pantry with months of food stuffs available, something I remember my grandparents and parents regularly stocking. Now, most “pantries” are little more than glorified condiment closets. Man cannot live by ketchup alone! If you have space for a pantry (and/or freezer), fill it, use it, and restock it often. Think about it as your personal grocery store away from the supermarket, and as a backup in case of emergencies. Having food available alleviates a multitude of worries.



- Water: If you have a well or cistern, you already have what you need. Otherwise, consider storing at least a gallon of water per person/per day for consumption purposes. A three day supply is the minimum. And always keep your kettle full - I grew up having to deal with regular water shortages, and the kettle saved us many times (soap in your eyes or shampoo in your hair is no fun when the water runs out... there better be water in the kettle!).
- Energy: Secure a good back-up generator, and if possible have it properly hooked up to your house. You will also need a stored fuel source. **NOTE:** Another option is to acquire a solar back-up generator. These units collect solar-generated power through panels and feed it into a battery pack, then using an inverter it transfers the DC current into useable AC. Plans exist on the internet for people who can tackle a do-it-yourself project, or you can purchase a complete unit through the *Forcing Change* store (go to www.forcingchange.org and check out the top tab that says “Store”).
- Cooking: A camp stove, charcoal barbecue, or propane-fired grill is a necessity if the power goes out for too long. Steno-stoves are also an option, as are homemade can-stoves in a pinch. Just don’t burn your house down.
- Lighting: Candles, flashlights and batteries, and camp-lanterns are highly prized if the electricity is out and the sun has set.
- Fire Extinguishers, a First Aid Kit, and extra medication.

- Blankets: Good and heavy blankets are a must. For winter environments this is obvious, but don't look at blankets as a winter-only item; summer nights can be cool, people may be in shock, and a multitude of other uses crop-up.
- Tools: For some people there can never be enough tools! But tools are necessary; if you're stuck in your home you may need to quickly shut off gas or water valves, cut through or remove objects, board up wind-shattered windows, or tear a hole through the wall. Cordless power tools are great, so long as the batteries are up. Otherwise, keep a good selection of hand tools where they are reachable. Spades and shovels should also be added, and if you know how to safely operate a chainsaw, this may make the difference between clearing fallen trees and gaining mobility, or staying put and waiting for someone else to come along. A good crow bar/pry bar and heavier hammer should be included. And don't forget Duct Tape; this can be so handy in a pinch situation.
- Radios: A battery powered radio is a must. Quality family-band radios should be considered.
- Emergency Pack or Bug-out Pack: A pre-packed kit that is stored in your house but designed to go with you in case of a quick home evacuation. Such kits can be pre-purchased (see the *Forcing Change* store) and then added to as needed, or they can be designed and put together by yourself. Kits should include personal medical supplies and first aid items, water bottles and purification tablets, dry food goods, flashlight and batteries, ponchos and/or space heat blankets, money in the form of smaller bills and coins, at least one change of cloths per person, and sleeping bags or blankets if they fit. Go to the *Forcing Change* store and check out the Evac Pack for more ideas. What's the point of something like this? First it will supplement your vehicle's kit, and if you end up in an emergency shelter or in another location, you'll have a more robust supply to draw from - items you will be familiar with.
- Plan: Establish an emergency plan. This will include how to contact and meet with each other, if possible, during or after a crisis. Remember, members of a household can be scattered during the course of any working day; Parents in different job locations or at appointments, children in school, etc. Therefore, a communication and rendezvous plan is important. Part of this plan should include a contact person outside of your community, as local lines may be down yet an outside line could remain open. *Ready.gov* also recommends that every person in the household should know the contact numbers, and either have a cell phone or a pre-paid calling card. A rendezvous point should also be pre-planned, along with an alternative in case the first location is unworkable.
- Retreat: Some people may have friends or family in the region, yet beyond their immediate or local area. If this is your case, talk to your friends or family about using their home as a retreat point if a local disaster causes you to flee your home. Discuss what this would mean for a two-day event, a week, or even ten days. This is a very real scenario: I have family who have had to leave their home due to extreme overland flooding. Thankfully they had a place of retreat outside the crisis area.

As our world seems to be sliding into anarchy, as natural and man-made disasters appear to be on the rise, it just makes sense to think about preparedness. But all the thinking in the world won't do much good unless you act; and not just for yourself, but for your family and your neighbors.

“Preserve me, O God, for in You I put my trust.” - Psalm 16:1. **FC**

Is This the Beginning of Sorrows?

Editor's Note: I have known Gary Kah since the mid-1990s, and from 1997 to 2001 I was part of his research team in Indiana. Gary and his family are good friends; I count it a privilege to know them personally.

Gary is the former Europe & Middle East Trade Specialist for the Indiana government. While in that position he traveled extensively overseas working closely with the economic staff at American Embassies. His books, *En Route to Global Occupation* and *The New World Religion*, along with his timely research newsletter, *Hope for the World Update*, may be obtained by dialing 317.290.4673 or by visiting his website at www.garykah.org.



By Gary Kah (www.garykah.org)

While Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, his disciples privately approached him wanting to know when his return and the end of the world would take place. Jesus answered,

Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am the Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.
— Matthew 24:4-8 (KJV)

Amazingly, today's news headlines mirror these words of warning spoken by Jesus 2,000 years ago. Spiritual deception and apostasy abound, much of it moving forward under the false banner of Christianity. Uprisings and rumors of wars blanket the Middle East. The frequency of major earthquakes is increasing – six of them in just over a year. And, famines and pestilences are spreading across the globe with thousands dying every day. Jesus told us not to be alarmed when we see these things because this would be the beginning of an unfolding sequence of events that would eventually culminate in His return. However, the Lord also made it clear that we would go through very difficult times between now and then (verses 9-13).

Given the current momentum, it is probably safe to say the pace will not slow down – it will only quicken the rest of the way. There will be a groundswell of spiritual deception between now and the end of 2012, and even more to follow as the stage for the Antichrist is cleverly set via the popular teachings of interfaithism and a growing fascination with mysticism, alien beings (demons), and the occult.

More conflict can also be expected in the Middle East and elsewhere as the path for a “new age” is cleared. And, devastating earthquakes are certain to touch every continent on earth, with North America quite possibly being next in line. The West Coast, especially, is overdue for a major shaking. How much longer will God be merciful?

THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION

Of all the sudden changes sweeping the planet, developments in the Mideast are the most intriguing. In the space of less than two months the entire Islamic region has erupted in rebellion and violence. Where will it all end? Is this alleged movement toward democracy genuine, as the media would have us believe? Or, is a hidden hand orchestrating events with a diabolical purpose in mind?

Here are some things to watch for in the days ahead as events continue to unfold.

Take special note of a) how the uprisings are affecting Christians in the region; b) whether hostility toward Israel and the Jews will increase; and c) in what ways these developments will advance the cause of the new world order.

Muslims vs. Christians

Unbeknownst to most Westerners, the persecution of Christians in the Islamic world is on the increase. While our government and media are applauding “the move toward democracy,” the fact of the matter is the Muslim revolution is producing greater instability and intensified persecution of Christians.

A Christian missions organization, that we are close to, recently sent us a confidential report on the true situation in Egypt. We have omitted the names of Christians to protect their identity, but here are some excerpts from that report:

“In Cairo’s suburb Giza, our ministry team... endured great hardship in the last two months. Christmas and New Year were marked by bombings of churches. Fear started to spread in people’s hearts and the famous revival-like atmosphere in churches turned to tears and sadness. Then came the revolution and brought with it uncertainty, more bombings of churches, murders and looting, food supply shortages, the verge of complete economic collapse and the feeling of hopelessness...

The situation in Egypt... even with the new military-controlled government in place is nothing short of a MAJOR CRISIS... Iran, Al-Qaeda and [the] Muslim Brotherhood are known to be the forces behind this uprising as well as the release of 15,000 prisoners into the streets of Egypt. The criminals are looting and raping. A Christian Egyptian woman was raped in front of her husband on their way to church. The churches continue to be bombed since the incident before Christmas.

The uprising, which spread like wildfire across [Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and other Islamic countries, represents] the takeover of the Middle East and parts of Africa by Radi-

cal Islam. It will attempt to spread its domination just as violently across the rest of the world. It has crossed the borders of America already.”



We have received other reports of Islamic aggression against Christians. The following news brief was forwarded to us by a Christian colleague in Israel, who received it from *INN*.

“ISLAMISTS MASSACRE TWO COPTIC FAMILIES IN EGYPT: News of an Islamist massacre of two Christian Coptic families has emerged from Upper Egypt with the return of Internet connections to the country, after a one-week Internet blackout imposed by the troubled regime. The massacre, not the first in Egypt in recent weeks, took place January 30 at the village of Sharona. According to the report, the Islamist murderers, aided by Muslim neighbors of the Copts, stormed the homes of the families, gaining access to the houses’ roofs from the roofs of the families’ Muslim neighbors. They killed eleven, including children, and seriously injured four more people.” [1]

In early March, another 13 people were wounded and 140 killed in fighting that broke out in Egypt as a result of a church being burned down by Muslims. Surprisingly, this massacre gained some international attention as CNN briefly covered the story. [2] In every case involving conflict between Arab Muslims and Christians that I am aware of, Muslims have been the instigators and primary aggressors.

Evangelist Franklin Graham, who has been involved in ministry work throughout northern Africa and has firsthand insight regarding the goals and atrocities of Islam, directly warned Americans in a March 18th interview with *Newsmax*.

“The Muslim Brotherhood is very strong and active here in our country... We have these people advising our military and State Department. We’ve brought in Muslims to tell us how to make policy toward Muslim countries. It’s like a farmer asking a fox, “How do I protect my hen house?”

When asked whether President Barack Obama was doing enough to protect Christians at home and abroad, Graham responded,

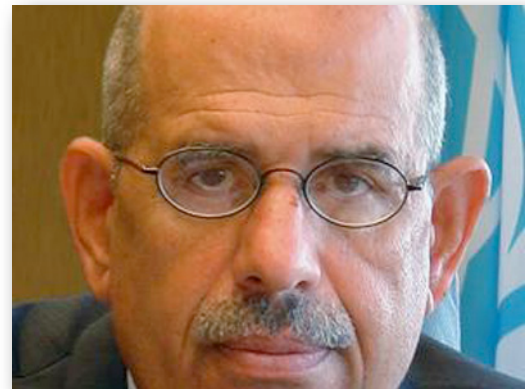
“No. If anything it’s the opposite. Muslims are protected more in this country than Christians... The president has made many statements but he doesn’t back them up. We have to do more to protect the Christians in the Muslim world. Their lives are in danger.”

Graham went on to note,

“Under [Egypt’s Hosni] Mubarak and [Jordan’s] King Hussein and other moderate leaders, Christians had been protected ... Eleven million Christians live in Egypt and I fear for them, because if the Muslim Brotherhood comes to power, you’re going to see a great exodus of Christians. Same thing in Tunisia and Lebanon. I fear for the church because the Muslim Brotherhood is going to be a very terrible thing.” [3]

Muslims and the New World Order

One doesn’t have to look far to discover the influence of prominent globalists in the Islamic Revolution. For example, Mohamed El Baradei, who has risen to the top of Egypt’s liberation movement to become its chief spokesman, served on the board of directors of International Crisis Group (ICG) until returning to Egypt in January to lead the revolution. ICG is one of the most pro-world government organizations in existence. Prior to stepping down in order to spearhead Egypt’s uprising, El Baradei worked side-by-side with ICG’s other elite board members who include George Soros, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Javier Solana (one of the most powerful figures in the European Union), and Wesley Clark – all of whom are staunch globalists. [4]



Mohamed El Baradei

According to Michael D. Evans, best-selling author of *Jimmy Carter: The Liberal Left and World Chaos*, “El Baradei showed up in Cairo only two days after the uprising began and was immediately named a negotiator by the Muslim Brotherhood.” [5] If the “Brotherhood” ends up with the single largest block of power in Egypt – which is all but certain to happen – the forces of globalization will be able to dictate whatever agenda they have in mind. Even more troubling: Among Arabs there is a saying – “As Egypt goes, so goes the Arab world.”

Victor Sharpe, Mideast expert and author, recently weighed in on the strategy of Radical Islam:

“[Following the US] call for “free” and democratic elections in Gaza, a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood (Hamas) used the democratic process to come to power and immediately trashed all semblance of democracy by instituting oppressive Sharia law and raining thousands of missiles upon Israeli towns and villages.” [6]

Now, Sharpe contends, the Obama administration is taking Islamic radicalism to the next level. His article titled, “Obama Well Knows What Chaos He Has Unleashed,” minces no words in blaming Obama for the revolution. He writes,

“Obama is no fool; he engineered this...

Under Obama’s watch, the true democratic revolution against the mullahs in Iran was snuffed out because the American president refused to support the demonstrators in the streets of Tehran. In contrast, the same Obama ordered Hosni Mubarak to leave office and let the rioters in Cairo have “free” elections.” [7]

Prior to Mubarak’s fall, *World Net Daily’s* Jerusalem bureau chief, Aaron Klein, reported:

“Mubarak’s regime feels Obama is pushing the advancement of the Muslim Brotherhood against US interests... They are genuinely trying to understand why Obama is seemingly championing the anti-regime protests.” [8]

Victor Sharpe argues,

“The grotesque policies of Obama have caused Lebanon to fall under Islamic occupation, with the Iranian puppet, Hezb’allah, now controlling the Lebanese government. Jordan’s kinglet, Abdullah, sits on a powder keg whereby his throne is under increasing pressure from violent members of the same Muslim Brotherhood.” [9]

The leader of Jordan’s Muslim Brotherhood, Hammam Saeed, has confirmed his organization’s goals, boasting that the unrest will spread across the Mideast until Arabs succeed at toppling leaders allied with the United States and until the Arab world can fully destroy the nation Israel. [10]



Muslims vs. Jews

No nation is more directly impacted by the action of Islamic revolutionaries than Israel, whose citizens are understandably on edge over developments in surrounding states. Jan Markell, a Messianic Jew and the President of Olive Tree Ministries, expresses her concern: “Israel has Hezbollah and Syria to her north, Hamas to the west, and could have the Muslim Brotherhood to the south controlling Egypt. This is truly a recipe for disaster.” [11]

Markell elaborates:

“The frightening possibility is that rather than being a force for liberation, these regional protests may, in fact, be undermining democracy by imperiling pro-Western allies one-by-one and fertilizing the soil for Khomeini-like Islamic factions to gain power and sow their killing fields. It could be the Iranian Revolution of 1979 all over again in these nations, and if it is, it represents a horrific scenario for Western and Israeli interests – as well as for the people who will find themselves the victims of the Islamist bloodbaths that will by necessity ensue...

Just where this is ultimately going is uncertain, and what role Israel will play is unknown. Since the theory is that there would be world peace if only the Palestinians had their own state, perhaps all of this will be blamed on Israel. Millions of rioting Middle East Muslims could turn on the Jewish state. With the mood of the current US administration towards Israel, America might offer little help.” [12]

The Obama administration has been tightening the screws on Israel from the moment it took office. President Obama is currently at the forefront of pressuring Israel to sign a seven-year agreement that would have the Jewish state concede much of historic Judea and Samaria to the Palestinian Authority. As a minimal consolation, Israel would be permitted to lease these lands back from the PA for the duration of the agreement.

This proposal was officially put forth last November, but negotiations were well underway prior to that time. Aaron Klein published an article on September 1, 2010 revealing that major concessions were already being offered by Israel. Reporting from Jerusalem, Klein wrote,

“Ahead of the start of today’s Mideast summit in Washington, the Israeli government publicly conceded [that] sections of Jerusalem will become part of a Palestinian state while holy sites would be governed by a ‘special regime.’

Speaking in an interview with Israel’s Haaretz newspaper, Defense Minister Ehud Barak outlined a deal with the Palestinians: ‘West Jerusalem and 12 Jewish neighborhoods that are home to 200,000 residents will be ours. The Arab neighborhoods in which close to a quarter million Palestinians live will be theirs.’

‘There will be a special regime in place along with agreed upon arrangements in the Old City, the Mount of Olives, and the City of David,’ added Barak.” [13]

Radical Muslims have been able to apply pressure on Israel in a variety of ways, with the United Nations being their most reliable ally and chief weapon against the Jewish state. Consider these facts:

- Of the 175 UN Security Council resolutions passed before 1990, 97 were directed against Israel.
- Of the 690 UN General Assembly resolutions voted on before 1990, 429 were directed against Israel. [14]

Since 1990, in situations involving tension between Israel and the Palestinian Authority or PLO, every resolution has gone against Israel. Not once has the UN condemned the Palestinians – not even when acts of blatant terror had been committed.

Between the efforts of Barack Obama and the UN, the additional push coming from the EU and the Vatican (mainly behind the scenes), and the intense pressure being applied by Muslim countries, it will be just a matter of time before an agreement is reached. The only question is when, and how?

Timing of Events

In my travels over the last few weeks, a favorite topic of discussion among Christian analysts has been concerning Israel's next move. Will the ongoing revolution successfully cast itself as pro-democratic and freedom-loving to the point where Israel will actually proceed with signing a peace accord? Or, will the revolution lead to an all-out war with Israel first – followed by a peace treaty with the Antichrist. Only time will tell, but most believe there will be war first and that it will begin soon (historically speaking).

The thinking behind this is that wars have been effective in advancing the cause of world gov-

Carnegie Endowment and the Muslim Brotherhood

On April 13, 2011, Dr. Nathan Brown of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace testified before the US House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. His approach was straightforward: The Brotherhood is now mainstream in the Middle East, and the US should therefore endeavor to view the Brotherhood as a viable movement in the region. The following is taken from the Carnegie Endowment's overview of Dr. Brown's testimony:

- **Recognize the Brotherhood's political maturity:** Despite its radical roots, the Muslim Brotherhood has clearly and consistently renounced violence for decades and is deeply committed to peaceful political change. U.S. policy and rhetoric should reflect this reality.
- **Support political integration:** American interests in Egypt are best served through the development of a stable and inclusive political system. Toward that end, the Brotherhood should be allowed to organize a political party and contest elections if it so chooses.
- **Take a realistic view of the Brotherhood's popularity:** Though often described as the best organized political force within Egypt, the Brotherhood is a cautious and conservative organization that will have to make many adjustments to successfully compete in free and fair elections.

"There is every reason to be interested in the Brotherhood's myriad (and surprisingly diverse) country-based movements, but there is no reason to fear it as a menacing global web," concludes Brown.

ernment because major changes occur more easily during times of crisis. World War I, for example, led to the forming of the League of Nations – the first significant political step toward a world government. World War II resulted in the founding of the United Nations, which today exists in the form of a limited world government. If this pattern holds up, then a third world war might be used to take mankind the final step into a comprehensive system of global government – a new world political, economic, and religious order under the direction of the Antichrist.

Could the current Islamic revolution lead to such a war? John McTernan, author of *As America Has Done to Israel*, expresses his view on the matter:

“I do not see any downtime with events...

Islam is rising and is going to look fearful. Much like the Nazis in the late 1930's. I have warned about the Muslims creating a caliphate and this is exactly what is now forming. This entire revolution has nothing to do with freedom or democracy. The Muslims will say this for the blinded Hard Left Fascists. Muslims are going to unite and it is for one purpose and that is to destroy Israel and probably the West.

All the events you are now witnessing are geared toward destroying Israel. It may not appear like this right now, but Satan is organizing this with the goal of destroying Israel. [However,] God is setting a trap for the Muslims and Allah...

It appears that the Muslims in Europe will rise up against the West and try to join this caliphate. This will bring massive bloodshed to Europe. If they start in Europe, it will spread to America. In the end, I see Islam being crushed, but not without incredible death and destruction. Allah is the god of war, and he is not going away without a ferocious fight.

I still think the final jihad will start with all-out war between the Israelis and the Palestinians. The trigger is going to be Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. The coming Islamic caliphate will respond to conflict, and all the nations around Israel will be drawn into the war, to their doom. This will be the Obadiah/Psalm 83 war... Egypt will not take part in the great battle described in Ezekiel 38, 39 as it [will be] totally destroyed in the prior war. The events now unfolding are preparing Egypt for this war.” [15]

While other interpretations of these prophesied events exist, there is almost unanimous agreement among my Christian colleagues that the world is about to become much more violent. The only disagreement seems to be over whether this time of predicted war and bloodshed begins prior to the reign of the Antichrist or if it will wait until after he makes (and breaks) his treaty with Israel.

Regardless of how the sequence of events unfolds, I believe that our time of speaking freely is short. The question becomes what should Christians do?

The answer: Live your life each day as if you only have one month to live. Consider your priorities. Make God number one in every facet of your life. Share His Gospel of truth with unsaved loved ones and prepare your heart and mind to endure difficult times for the sake of Christ. Persevere and stand firm to the end.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” — Ephesians 6:10-13

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.” — James 1:12

If you have never accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, **please** do so now. Pray the following words in faith, and mean them with all of your heart:

“Lord Jesus, I am a sinner and I need you. I believe that you are the perfect Son of God and died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. I repent of my sins. I receive you now as my Savior. Thank you for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Please give me the desire and strength to love, obey, and serve You. In Your name I pray, Amen.”

Endnotes:

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2. *CNN*, March 9, 2011.
3. *Newsmax*, “Franklin Graham: World’s Christians in Grave Danger,” by Chris Gonsalves and Kathleen Walter, <http://www.newsmax.com/Headline/franklin-graham-christians-muslims/2011/03/18/id/389992>, March 18, 2011.
4. “Obama Well Knows What Chaos He Has Unleashed,” by Victor Sharpe, http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/02/obama_well_knows_what_chaos_he.html, February 5, 2011.
5. “Obama Well Knows What Chaos He Has Unleashed,” by Victor Sharpe, Quote by Michael D. Evans, http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/02/obama_well_knows_what_chaos_he.html, February 5, 2011.
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7. *Ibid*.
8. Jan Markell’s *Understanding the Times – Olive Tree Ministries*, “News Briefs,” Quote by Aaron Klein, January-February-March, 2011.
9. “Obama Well Knows What Chaos He Has Unleashed,” by Victor Sharpe.
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11. Jan Markell’s *Understanding the Times – Olive Tree Ministries*, “Khomeini’s Return,” Jan.- Feb.- March, 2011.
12. *Ibid*.
13. *WorldNetDaily*, “Israel concedes Jerusalem before negotiations even begin,” by Aaron Klein, <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=197921>, September 1, 2010.
14. *News from Jerusalem*, “Mind-Bogling Facts About Israel...!!! Did you know??,” <http://www.thejerusalemgiftshop.com/israelnews/israel/israeli-news/617-mind-bogling-facts-about-israel-did-you-know.html>, April 20, 2010.
15. *Daily Digest*, “Ezekiel 30:3,” by John McTernan, February 16, 2011.

Pushing Israel Around

The following is an excerpt from the April 19, 2011 online edition of the *Los Angeles Times*. Notice how the will of the international community is poised to act against a sovereign nation. The piece was penned by Edmund Sanders.

"Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is under mounting pressure to unveil a new plan for solving the longstanding Israeli-Palestinian conflict or risk having the U.S. and international community move ahead with a strategy of their own.

Israel won some breathing space with the postponement last week of a meeting of international powers in Berlin, but American and European diplomats are continuing to prod Netanyahu to lay out his vision for restarting peace talks and ending the occupation of the West Bank. If he does not, diplomats warned, the so-called Mideast quartet—the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations—may attempt to jump-start the process by formally endorsing, for the first time, the creation of a Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Netanyahu's government has vehemently opposed such a move.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton signaled last week that international patience over the stalled peace process was growing thin and that the recent Arab world unrest made a resolution of the conflict more pressing. She promised "active American leadership" and a reinvigorated U.S. approach that would be announced in coming weeks.

"The status quo between Palestinians and Israelis is no more sustainable than the political systems that have crumbled in recent months," Clinton told an audience at the U.S.-Islamic World Forum in Washington. Some viewed the statement as a signal to Netanyahu to move quickly with his own plan.

"The Israelis are facing a bit of pressure with the way things are proceeding," said a Western diplomat in Israel, who did not want to be identified while speaking about the sensitive matter. "People are starting to look to the U.S. for some kind of action"...



... U.N. and EU representatives were hoping to use the meeting to push for a quartet statement endorsing the pre-1967 war borders, with agreed-upon swaps, as a basis for future talks. But U.S. officials argued for a delay, saying they first wanted a guarantee from the Palestinians that if such a statement were released, they would return to the negotiating table. The U.S. also worried that the move might lead Israel to boycott talks...

...Palestinian leaders are nonetheless increasingly confident that their September statehood strategy is gaining steam. At an international donors conference in Brussels last week to aid the Palestinians, a U.N. report was released that praised Palestinian Authority institutions dealing with finance, law, education and infrastructure as being ready for statehood. But U.N. officials worry that progress could stall if a peace deal is not reached soon.

Israel staunchly opposes U.N. recognition of a Palestinian state, saying the Palestinians are trying to avoid the difficult decisions that should be made at the negotiating table.

Israeli analysts say Netanyahu's alternative plan, if he announces one, would need to be ambitious and detailed enough to rival the Palestinians' initiative. U.S. and European officials are pushing Netanyahu to formally embrace using the 1967 borders as a basis for talks, as some of his predecessors have done, and agree to East Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital.” *FC*

Forcing Change

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