

### SO WHY HAVEN'T YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS?

Here are two quizzes. The second one is at the end of this article. The first one is right here: *“Everything that Christians have come from the Jewish people. The Word of God: every word in the Bible is written with Jewish hands. The Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were Jewish. The Prophets: Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Danie - all of them are Jewish. The first family of Christianity: Mary, Joseph, Jesu - Jewish. The Disciples, the Apostles, were Jewish. Jesus said ‘Salvation is of the Jews.’*

*“The point is if you take away the Jewish contribution to Christianity, there wouldn’t be a Christianity. Therefore it’s time for the Christians to stop praising the dead Jews of the past — Abraham, Isaac and Jacob — while resenting the Jews across the street.”*

Q.: Who said this?

- 1.A famous Zionist who has for 25 years promoted the annual “Nights to Honor Israel” nationwide.
- 2.A Texan media mogul, who has donated \$8.5 million to Israeli hospitals and orphanages, helped bring 12,000 Russian Jews to Israel and speaks of Israel on 120 stations on 5 networks?
- 3.A Christian minister.
- 4.All of the above.

The answer is number 4.

The quote is by Rev. John C. Hagee, pastor of the over 18,000-member Cornerstone Church in San Antonio. In his most recent book, “Jerusalem Countdown”, he warns of nuclear Iran: “There is a new Hitler in the Middle East. He’s talking about killing Jews. He will soon have the ability to do so with nuclear weapons.”

Hagee’s love affair with Israel began in 1978, after he “went there as a visitor and came home a Zionist”. In June 1981, Israel attacked and destroyed the Iraqi Ossirak nuclear reactor. Pastor Hagee was shocked at the vicious criticism of Israel by the U.S. media and government spokesmen. His responded by calling a press conference and organizing an event he called “A Night To Honor Israel”. It was a difficult task: Jewish community leaders were suspicious of his motivation; Christian pastors were indifferent, even hostile.

During the next 25 years Pastor Hagee’s pro-Israel stance was accepted by hundreds of evangelical congregations throughout the U.S. During that time Pastor Hagee met with every Israeli Prime Minister, addressed the Knesset, prayed at the Wall, was interviewed by all major Israeli media and has cultivated close ties with American Jewish organizations, including the California-based Israel Christian Nexus. Hagee’s ideas have become a force for Israel among the 40 – 50 million Evangelical Christians in the U.S. and Central America.

Early in 2006, Pastor Hagee went on to expand his pro-Israel activity by creating the non-profit foundation “Christians United For Israel” (CUFI). It is an umbrella organization for all Christians who accept that God, “Will bless those who bless the Jews and curse whoever curses the Jews” (Genesis12:3). CUFI’s slogan is from Isaiah: “For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not remain quiet...”

A CUFI inaugural meeting was scheduled for July 18 in Washington, D.C. A banquet hall that could seat 1000 guests was reserved for the supporters who were going to lobby their Capitol Hill representatives the next day. After a few days it was obvious that the hall couldn’t accommodate all those who wanted to participate. An additional hall was reserved and a few days later, yet another one.

In the end, by July 18, over 3500 Christian pastors and leaders came to Washington to speak for, act for, defend Israel!

They sat through a 4-hour banquet for a video greeting from Israeli P.M. Ehud Olmert, appearances by dozens of Senators and Congressmen and an impassioned speech by Rev. Hagee who demanded of Condoleeza Rice that “Israel not be restrained in destroying the Hezbollah”, in

language that Jewish leaders are usually too cautious to use. Later, late that night, there was a briefing session with office addresses, talking points, maps, appointment procedures, even what to wear, for the 3500 Christian clerics who were going to take the Hill by storm in the next two days.

And now another quizz to complement the one that began this column:

If 3500 Christian pastors and community leaders come to Washington to act on behalf of Israel, **and, if** they represent 40 to 60 million American voters who take their views very seriously, **and, if**, they are part of an organization that was created just 5 months ago, **and, if** this organization is likely to greatly expand within a year or so, in time for the next elections, and will control many millions of votes, what should the news media do about it?

*1. Run front-page stories and give them prime-time TV coverage.*

*2. Ignore it as if it never happened because, after all, this is just a bunch of religious fanatics and politically incorrect and ignorant right-wingers who shouldn't be given exposure. Let's face it – these people are not nearly as interesting as anti-Bush film stars, gay activists, environmentalists or self-appointed black leaders who can get headlines by just being there.*

If you are one of the hundreds of millions of Americans who didn't read about the Christians United for Israel conference in Washington in your newspaper – L.A. and N.Y. Times, Washington Post, etc., etc., - seen it on any of the national TV news channels and are now learning about this for the first time – well, answer #2 is correct.

Sad, isn't it? And why do you think this is?