

January 23, 2009

IS THERE HOPE WITH HILLARY FOR IRAQI CHRISTIANS?

“UNDER GOD” IN THE PLEDGE AND MORE

SOCIAL NETWORKING AND THE RFC - The day after the election results were in and it was apparent that Barack Obama would be the next president of the United States, I attended a high level meeting in Washington, DC. The major topic of discussion was “what went wrong?” and I had a lot to say in that regard, including the failure of Senator John McCain to address social issues important to many of us.

One of the men present was Ralph Benko, an Internet expert who explained how Barack Obama was able to raise nearly double the funds that John McCain did. His explanation made most of us speechless. He explained that fund raising for a political campaign or any cause oriented organization could no longer be done using the Internet or e-mail as had been done in the past. He told us that Barack Obama and liberal groups had raised the huge amount of money they did by using social networking sites. Most people think of social networking sites as Facebook or Myspace, but this was refined by the left. They had their own social networking sites where individual groups could form and raise funds and take actions independently of the parent organization. In other words, the content and the organization were controlled by the members, not by the leaders of the organization.

Instead of Barack Obama having one fund raising organization which he ran, he had thousands of fund raising organizations that transferred funds to him. So many in fact, that it is a blur. One donor named “Mr. Good Will” gave Barack Obama many times the legal amount of contributions, and lots of dollars appear to have come from overseas IP addresses in violation of the law. But there is no way to track that, and it is water over the dam so to speak.

Ralph Benko’s point to us was simple: If we wanted our organizations to grow we had to abandon the old model of completely top down leadership and adapt to allowing members of our organizations to take on leadership roles and run “groups within the group.” This just about scared everyone at the meeting to death. Everyone wants to have control from the top of all content and direct groups, but that is not working for us and we are not getting funding; meanwhile the far left is.

I pray that this is not as complicated to read as it sounds when I write it!

I took his message seriously as did the head of just one other organization. We have begun by establishing our own social networking site to protect “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance. Now we need people, people such as you, to sign up at the site and either join small groups or start one up yourself, perhaps even just a small one for your Sunday School class. For many, a social networking site may seem a challenge, but I urge you to go to the site and look at it, and at the very least, just sign on as a member and watch for a while how it works.

The site is at www.pledgeundergod.com.

Please refer others to this important site as well!

FACEBOOK FOR IRAQI CHRISTIANS - This is yet even more on social networking. Facebook is the number one social networking site and it has a “causes” section. The Religious Freedom Coalition has a Facebook page to expose the crisis faced by Iraqi Christians. If you have a Facebook account please look for the cause ***Iraqi Christian Refugee Project of the Religious Freedom Coalition***. The more people we can inform about the Iraqi Christian refugee situation the more likely we are to be able to help.

THE PRESIDENCY

A FAREWELL TO GWB- When George W. Bush was sworn in as Governor of Texas in 1995, my wife Nancy and I were present at his inauguration in Austin, Texas. We moved the offices of the Religious Freedom Coalition to Washington, DC from Dallas, Texas shortly after that. We were also at both of George W. Bush's presidential Inaugurations, in 2001 and 2005, and in fact participated in Inaugural Balls both times. Coming full circle now, we were invited to the farewell ceremony for President George W. Bush at Andrews Air Force Base shortly after Barack Obama was sworn in. This was a somber event for many of us who were present. As the aircraft carrying President Bush rose into the sky, the access to the White House we had enjoyed for many years was ended.



William and Nancy Murray at the farewell ceremony for President George W. Bush and Laura Bush at Andrews Air Force Base.

For the past eight years I have been privileged to a weekly conference call with White House officials and daily e-mails that gave me insider information. My wife and I were not invited to any Obama Inaugural balls.

BUSH'S LAST PROCLAMATIONS - Before leaving office, George W. Bush issued two proclamations of interest to social conservatives. He proclaimed January 18th as National Sanctity of Life Day. The March for Life will be held in Washington, DC on January 22nd, the anniversary of Roe V. Wade. In the past he would have proclaimed the date of the March for Life event as Sanctity of Life Day. This year, President Bush could not issue a proclamation for that date because Barack Obama would be president that day.

It is VERY doubtful that President Barack Obama will ever issue a "Sanctity of Human Life" proclamation because he simply does not believe an unborn child is a human life. President Bush also proclaimed January 16, 2009 as Religious Freedom Day. Obama may do that next year, but if so, we have to wonder what “religious freedom” might mean to Obama and his supporters.

OBAMA'S GAY MILITARY - Barack Obama has indicated that one of his first orders as Commander-in-Chief will be to eliminate the "don't ask, don't tell" policy toward homosexuals in the military initiated by President Clinton and continued by President George W. Bush. Under the new order to be issued by Obama, homosexuals will be allowed to openly flaunt their sexual encounters in the military. Why is this a problem? Just one reason is that in a combat unit men must act as a team. When "lovers" are in the unit they watch out for each other and not for the team.

OBAMA AND GAZA - President Obama was silent on the Gaza conflict before he was sworn in, but the liberal media was not. ABC, CBS, NBC and particularly CNBC repeatedly broadcast photos of dead and injured Palestinians and directly inferred that Israel is the aggressor. The following

has not been reported by most major American media outlet since the conflict began: 3,200 rockets were fired at Israel from Gaza in 2008; 6,500 rockets were fired at Israel since it gave up Gaza in 2005; and 543 rockets were fired at Israel from Gaza during the six month "cease fire" in 2008. Twenty-eight Israeli civilians were killed and 1,000 injured by rockets fired at Israel from Gaza.

According to European powers and the American press, the rocket attacks should be endured by Israel, and any retaliation is unjustified. President-elect Obama had no comment, but Israeli generals did. My contact in the Israeli military told me that the invasion of Gaza was begun in early January for fear that the United States would not side with Israel in the United Nations after January 20, 2009. The planning of the action included a secret "truce date" to get Israeli soldiers out of Gaza before Barack Obama was sworn in. Just a few days before the Inauguration a "truce" was declared and Israel announced it would have its troops out before Obama was sworn in. TRANSLATION: "We don't trust Obama's commitment to Israel, so we did the best we could to punish the terrorist organization HAMAS and get back out of Gaza before he came to power."

THE CONGRESS

LEFT'S ANTI-SEMITISM SHOWS ON GAZA - All except one of the leaders of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, including former Democrat presidential candidate Richard Kucinich, either voted against or answered "present" on a resolution supporting Israel against the terrorist organization HAMAS. On Youtube there is a video available from MEMRI entitled *Hamas: In Their Own Words*. I would urge you to view it if possible because it shows America what kind of common enemy we have with Israel. HAMAS not only wants to destroy Israel and kill all Jews, they want the destruction of Christianity and of the United States.

OUR CULTURE

INAUGURAL "PIG SEX" - This is beyond disgusting. As part of their celebration in helping to elect Barack Obama, homosexuals planned to hold a "pig sex" event at the Doubletree Hotel here in Washington, DC. The hotel is owned and operated by the Hilton Hotel Corporation. The acts and conduct that is advertised by gays at their Internet site cannot be reproduced here, but I can say that the activities make those in Biblical Sodom look mild in comparison. The events were actually planned for conference rooms with portable toilets set up to "play in." The hotel staff would have been expected to clean this all up. In my weekly e-mail to supporters of the Religious Freedom Coalition I asked that both the Doubletree Hotel and the Hilton Hotel Corporation be contacted. Other organizations urged their supporters to act as well. After first denying that such an event was planned, the Doubletree Hotel management finally admitted it was a booked event and then canceled it. It is truly disgusting that the hotel agreed to this in the first place. Do you get my weekly e-mails? You can sign up at www.rfcnet.org!

THE PEOPLE SAY: "DEBT IS THE PROBLEM" - A new poll indicates that 80% of Americans believe that the problem with the economy is government and personal debt. Personally I believe that a tax structure that promotes use of debt rather than equity led to the meltdown in 2008. Rather than sell stock, companies borrowed funds to expand. No interest needs to be paid to those who invest in stock, but a bond holder wants his interest payments regularly. Every one of the corporate bankruptcy filings, including that of Circuit City and others, came about because they could not make interest payments on a huge debt load. Retailers such as Macy's owe so much money that even a two or three percent decline in sales puts them in great jeopardy.

More debt is coming! The Federal Reserve Bank has put the taxpayers on the line for almost one trillion in debt by lending funds to banks at a zero interest rate and taking over bad debts. At the same time Congress authorized \$700 billion to assist in stopping the financial hemorrhaging of the banks. WAIT, THERE IS MORE! Now there is going to be another one trillion in “stimulus” to be voted on by the Democrat controlled Congress.

Add up all the money the Federal Reserve Bank, President Bush, President Obama and the Congress spent or plan to spend on the financial crisis, and it comes to well over \$3 trillion. Where does all this money come from, since we don't have it to spend? The government will issue bonds and pray that the Chinese and the Arabs buy them. If they don't, our government goes broke just like the banks that couldn't borrow more money.

How much is a trillion dollars? A trillion seconds is 31,588 years. Therefore, if you spent \$1 per second or \$3,600 per hour, it would take 31,588 years to spend it all. However, if you invest it in CDO's, SIM'S or other Wall Street magic, the money will be gone by the end of this year.

INTERNATIONAL

HILLARY CLINTON AND THE IRAQI REFUGEES - This week a new Administration was sworn in as Barack Obama became the 44th president of the United States. As soon as it became apparent that Hillary Clinton would be the new Secretary of State, we contacted her about the dire situation of Iraqi Christian refugees. Several letters were sent to her including one that was hand delivered last week by myself and Father Keith Roderick. We wanted to make sure that Hillary Clinton is well aware of how bad the situation is for Iraqi Christians, even before she moves into her new office at the State Department. Please pray we can actually work with Secretary of State Clinton and move forward to get real help for the suffering Iraqi Christians.

The first week of February we are organizing meetings between concerned Congressmen and representatives of the State Department. Iraqi Christians will be present to tell their stories. My good friend, Governor David Beasley of South Carolina will join us in pushing for real changes in Congress and at the State Department regarding the Iraqi Christian refugees. Already we have appointments with several congressmen and Senators.

In addition, through the offices of a congressman, we have arranged a “forum” in one of the congressional office buildings. Both congressmen and members of Hillary Clinton's new team will be present at the meeting

Our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering in Iraq need our continued prayers and support. Please consider a gift to the Religious Freedom Coalition this month to assist those in such urgent need.

William J. Murray, Chairman