

For Such A Time As This

by
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As our tour group met to finalize our trip to Israel and Greece, the Lord impressed upon me that this especially chosen group of 21 was on a mission “for such a time as this.” God surely put this group together. Few knew each other, and they came from Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Arizona, and the Denver area. Some had overcome fear and uncertainty while others came on board at the last minute knowing it was God’s will to go at this time. Like Esther, we were in an unfamiliar place but protected and desired. Esther 2:7-11.

Aside from long lines and intense security checks at the airports, our air travel proceeded smoothly. Our planes were on time, and all connections and plans fit together in a God-ordained fashion. The Jewish people were very grateful to see us, and we found Israel to be quiet and peaceful. The first evening we were there, some of us strolled along the Mediterranean Sea on a lovely beach just outside our hotel in Tel Aviv.

On Mt. Tabor we visited the church marking the place of Jesus’ transfiguration. The priest greeted us with tears in his eyes and said, “You are the first American tourist group in 14 months, and I have prayed and prayed that you would come.” Our bus driver had not had a tour group in a year. Hotels have closed because tourism is down by 90 per cent. We were the only bus at most tourist sites. Also, shops have shortened the hours they are open.

However, life goes on. Our tour guide, Jacob, was mourning the death of his first cousin, the Minister of Tourism, who had been assassinated the day we left Denver. He and other guides in Greece and Ephesus emphasized, “We must not be intimidated. Then the terrorists win.”

On the Sabbath we joined a Messianic Jewish congregation in Tiberias for a wonderful three hour service. JoAnn Dehon attends this church when she is in Israel. The message was given in Hebrew and translated into Russian and English. We had a precious time of worship in all three languages, and taking communion together was a preview of heaven. During JoAnn’s time in Israel, God provided a lovely home and ministry center called “Sunrise House.” The pastor and leaders of the fellowship joined us there for lunch. The time of sharing and praying prophetically was a glimpse of seeing. “...the Word going forth from Zion.” Isaiah 2:3b.

The Holy spirit set up divine appointments for several members of our group. Some received deep ministry, and others ministered to shop keepers, other travelers, and members of the community. One evening Clarence Wagner, director of Bridges for Peace in Jerusalem, came to our hotel. He shed much light on the situation in Israel, in America, and even the world since September 11.

You remember that Esther was in a divinely appointed place in

order to expose and defeat the plans of the devil and Haman to destroy the Jews. Esther, the Jewish bride of the Persian King, Ahasuerus, used great wisdom as she fasted and prayed, preparing herself to bring about the deliverance of her people. Mordecai, her adopted father had told her, “**Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the King’s palace any more than all the other Jews. For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, hut you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom ‘ such a time as this’?**”

Esther 4:13-14.

Our world is in crisis, hut **OIJR GOD IS IN CONTROL! HE IS THE ANSWER!** All of his people are called to be vigilant, prepared, and ready for His service. We believe that not only our tour group was called “for such a time as this,” hut that the Kansas Invasion 2002 will be another “called out assembly.” I urge you to be a part of this conference in the Heartland of America.

It is time to know that heart of God and be finely tuned to hear His voice. The eight lesson series, “Knowing God’s Heart,” is now available. See the order page to get your tapes. The revival is ready. The church needs to open her doors that the world may know Jesus -- the Messiah -- Savior. We must pray as never before, not only for America, but for the world.