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# *DeProgram Program*

*From the Mind of Sha'i ben-Tekoa**Transcript*<http://www.deprogramprogram.com>*Date: June 11, 2015 / כה סיון תשע"ה**Parasha: Shlach / שלח**Title: The Limits of the Zionist Mind***Copyright: Sha'i ben-Tekoa 2015****[www.deprogramprogram.com](http://www.deprogramprogram.com)**

*Shalom laYehudim, Shalom laBnai Noach, Shalom laGoyim.* It's the evening of the 6th day, *kaf-beh beSivan, tav-shin-ayin-beh, Parashas Shlach*, the evening of the 5th day, Thursday, 11 June 2015, webcasting from Herzlandia, home of the non-Jewish, post-Jewish Jew.

Well, the debate continues at the annual Herzlia Interdisciplinary Center Conference, which is no conference, as the Jerusalem Post Conference in New York the other was no conference either. I wish all these movers and shakers would come up with a better term. I mean, the invited speakers confer not at all with one another. They just express their opinions at the podium and exchange a few questions and quips over the future of the world's one little Jewish state. Nothing wrong with that, but that's not conferring.

Anyway, on Tuesday, following Tsipi Hotovely's unembarrassed, classically Jewish, that is, religious speech containing the shocking to the Enlightened idea that Israel has some kind of religious reason for remaining in Judea and Samaria other than physical self-defense, former Prime Minister Ehud Barack spoke his piece and not for the first time revealed the limits and handicaps of the Zionist mind, that is, the post-religious Jewish mind when contemplating the Jewish nation.

By all rights, Ehud Barak should be his generation's leading political thinker, this child of a Mapai Kibbutz, the leading type of kibbutz, when the kibbutzim were the leading force in Israel. Their leader was David Ben-Gurion whose community, the kibbutzniks, never constituted more than 5% of the Jewish population but nonetheless dominated the politics, the military, the labor force.

Ben-Gurion rose to the top in the Zionist movement from about 1934 on. Before then, the movement had been led by Jews living still in the Diaspora. After that, the Zionists in Eretz Yisrael took over and led the Yishuv, the Jewish community as it was called, into statehood and the War of Independence and ran everything until 1977 when they were finally voted from power.

And in this period, with the kibbutzim, the communards, constituting the national elite, Ehud Barak was born among them and stood out in his youth in numerous ways so that when he entered the army in 1960, he was already predicted by some to be destined to be chief of staff, head of the entire army and so he did become chief of staff.

During his career, he also became the most decorated of soldiers. He was said to be very bright and brave. He headed all the major commands; he led its top commando unit, led an armored corps in 1982 in Lebanon. He, as they say in the U.S. Army, punched all the tickets.

In the classic, Zionist, historical novel *Exodus* by Leon Uris, his hero Ari Ben Canaan was rumored to have been based on Yitzhak Rabin, child of the same kind of leftists, whom Uris got to know a bit during the research he did here before sitting down to write, and so Ehud Barak should be the model for the next generation of sabras, raised like Ari ben Canaan in a commune of atheist, post-religious Jews with a set of ideas and values not particularly Jewish at all.

Not that they were anti-Jewish but just general ones. When antiJew Jews like the Reform, like Obama, talk of “Jewish values,” what they are thinking of are nice ideas that all men and women of good will share. In this there is nothing peculiarly Jewish about these “Jewish values.” Like Dan Meridor discussed last webcast wanting in the name of Zionism to do justice to the Balestinians -- whatever that means.

Ehud Barak, who served the shortest tenure as Prime Minister and presided over the eruption of the second intifada during his Labor Zionist movement’s Oslo peace process, said about the time he was running for prime minister that if he were a Balestinian youth, he too would join a terrorist group.

This is typical of an Israeli leftist’s attempt to display like a peacock his respect for the Other, in direct contradiction to a true Jewish value which requires hating evil. We say that in every Friday Erev Shabbos *pesukei d’zimra* in the synagogue. We are required to hate evil.

On numerous occasions, I have read or heard antiJew gentiles wag their fingers at us because in the Bible it says we must be good to the stranger among us because we were strangers in Egypt, and not for the first, like *Tsedek tsedek tirdof*, this is a word ripped out of context radically misunderstood and, using our own text, used to beat us over the head with.

The word in Hebrew for stranger in several cases is *ger*, which derives from the verb *lagur*, to reside. A *ger* is someone residing in your community who is not of your community. The Torah never imagines a Land of Israel cleansed of all non-Jews. If so,

there would be no laws in the Torah governing the treatment of these “resident aliens.” That is a legal term in the United States and as “resident alien” in the States it is not a term of hostility or insult, just a dry, legal category, so the Bible enjoins respect for the rights of the *ger*, and in many cases equality.

Moreover, as the Sages taught, in many cases, perhaps most of them, the *ger* is a *ger tzedek* (one of the sub-categories) meaning an alien converting to Jewishness, to Judaism, a proselyte whom we are required to love.

This word simply cannot be used to refer to any and all non-Jews here such as today’s allegedly archaic Balestinians. Judaism is not a synonym for inhuman stupidity. We are not required to love neighbors who murder our children, who kidnap them and slaughter them and explode themselves in our rush hour buses and bus stops and fast food restaurants.

Ehud Barak’s problem is that his thinking far more resembles that the non-Jew, even the Christian. For example, I remember when reporter Terry Anderson of the AP who was kidnapped in Lebanon in the 1980s and was held hostage in an apartment for five/seven years much of the time tied to a radiator like a dog. And when he was liberated, he said that as a Catholic he was obligated to forgive his captors. Well, that is not Jewish morality.

At the Herzlia Conference, Barak criticized the Netanyahu government for falling prey to a victim mentality. Throwing out the Zionist cliché that Israel had brought the Jewish people back to the stage of history -- which is not true, we have always been on it -- he said, “We have to take out destiny in our hands.”

He said that if the government were led by the Zionist Union’s Isaac Herzog, “Israel would not be facing the current wave of BDS actions. A government working to separate from the Balestinians would place the burden of proof on the Palestinians. International legitimacy is a fundamental source of power for Israel nowadays. Had Israel been willing to concentrate building in settlement blocs and stop it outside of them, that would fundamentally change Israel’s situation. The lack of distinction between settlement blocs and outside of them is very dangerous. The building beyond the settlement blocs essentially endangers the settlements themselves. Israel should not believe it can control the West Bank” and he called for “a regional arrangement, including the moderate Arab countries, the Palestinians and Israel.”

I say this is barely thinking at all, let alone clear-eyed, incisive and useful thinking. It is wishful thinking mistaken for policy, which is so typical of these Israelis who grow up in a post-Jewish bubble, lacking religion, lacking interaction with non-Jews. Barak’s remarks here are as simple-minded as those of Rabin and Peres at Oslo. They all imagine some of kind of utopia and want our enemies to share it with us because we are all the same. Thus can an Ehud Barak see uncritical moral equivalence between Israeli soldiers and Arab terrorists. He could have been a terrorist if he had been born an Arabian, he said.

In his imagination, it is a given that a final peace agreement will include Arab and world recognition of the so-called settlement blocs, and so the error of Netanyahu is building outside of them. Barak says that if Bibi had confined new housing starts to them, this would have “fundamentally changed Israel’s situation.”

But the distinction that he makes here, that is so crucial to Israeli policy in his head, is not shared by our enemies who are not only the Ancient Ones but the Europeans. For them, all Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria built on formerly Arab-governed territory are “illegal in international law” which is a fancy way of saying that unlike all other nations in the world, Israel is not entitled to keep the spoils of war and must return what it conquered in 1967 to those who aggressed against it and give them another shot.

This other-worldly rule according to which Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria are “illegal in international law” is this generation’s way of declaring land ownership off-limits to Jews in Judea and Samaria as it had been in Europe for thousands of years. The Europeans believe they still have the right to tell us where we can and cannot live.

It is this generation’s way of saying, “No Jews outlawed.”

Tell that to Ehud Barak but he won’t understand what you are talking about.

\* \* (Musical Interlude) \* \*

Now, one last observation on Ehud Barak’s performance at Herzlia: his advice that Israel strive for “a regional arrangement including the moderate Arab countries, the Palestinians and Israel.”

This man has his head in the clouds. Which “moderate Arab countries” does he have in mind? This is a verbal construct only, for there are no moderate Arab countries, *i.e.* those who think the way we do, who think like people in the West think. And as for these imagined “moderate Arab countries wanting a regional arrangement” too: this is just wishful thinking mistaken for serious strategic analysis.

And to top it all off, he calls for the Balestinians to be part of this regional arrangement as if all parties -- Israel, the so-called “moderate Arab countries” and the Balestinians -- are of the same mind on the advisability of an arrangement in which Israel lives in peace.

And I meant it before when I said our enemies are not only the Arabs but the Europeans. Last webcast, Tuvia Tennenbaum’s new book *Catch a Jew* was mentioned dealing with, evidently, the battalions of Europeans living among us on the payroll of some Euro-based anti-Jew operation.

And today JPost ran a piece by one Yitzhak Santis, chief of programs at Gerald Steinberg’s NGO Monitor, who revealed the extent to which these enemy NGOs are financed by the Catholic Church. For sure, the current and previous popes made nice to us Jews in their words, but in terms of attacking us, the Church is an active player in the

BDS campaign. I was amazed to learn that the anti-Jew Jews in the Israel NGO called Zochrot –which sort of means “memories”, an outfit that runs around planting signs at Jewish communities where Arabs had lived before running away in 1948, bearing the name they used to be called. It is a way of keeping alive their Arab names, just like in the UNRWA areas where school children are taught to name some area in pre-1967 Israel as their hometown. Ask a ten-year-old in one of these areas where he is from and he won’t name the place where he was born and lives. He is likely to answer Jaffa, Haifa, Ramleh, etc. even if in truth so many of their grandparents were really from Algeria and Iraq and Yemen.

Well, it turns out Zochrot is funded by the Catholic Committee Against Hunger and for Development, the CCFD. Yitzhak Santis also claims that the brouhaha last week around the head of Orange, the French Telecom company that operates in Israel under the name the Partner corporation, was the “culmination of a well-funded, highly organized campaign by a coalition of French NGOs,” chief among them this CCFD outfit. Santis goes further and claims this Catholic organization “actively promotes the global campaign to delegitimize Israel including pushing BDS and the maximalist Palestinian demands of a right of return. In 2012 and 2013, the CCFD transferred \$88,500 dollars to Zochrot. Overall, 84 percent of its budget comes from Christian charities. Between 2014 and 2015, its budget was over one million dollars coming from these Christian charities, 41% of them Catholic. CCFD also funds Breaking the Silence.”

In another words, if anyone thinks Christendom has outgrown completely its anti-Jew animus, think again.

For sure, there has been a sea change among many Christians such as the Evangelicals and other conservative Protestants, but that is a far cry from a reality in which Christian Jew-hatred has gone with the wind completely.

Not by a long shot, evidently. Consider the yearly pronouncements of one of the Presbyterian church associations, and the Church of Scotland whose local prelate is an outright religious anti-Jew who says the Bible confers no right of ownership of this country to the Jewish people that is any more valid than that enjoyed by the Ancient Ones, this mythical invention that anti-Jews like him rely on to camouflage their hatred today.

So it was heartening yesterday to read of new Justice Ministress Ayelet Shaked promoting a bill to tax or eliminate the foreign funding of these anti-Israel NGOs manned by anti-Israel Israelis. She clearly accused these foreign-funded domestic NGOs of “eroding the legitimacy of Israel to exist as a Jewish and democratic state.”

Of course, these NGOs are opposed to her initiative, calling this “a dangerous step which could turn Israel into another Turkey or Russia.” A spokeswoman for B’Tselem, one Sarit Michaeli, said, “What we have here are many years of intense efforts to discredit Israel’s human rights community, primarily related to our work exposing human rights violations.” According to YNETnews, Sarit Michaeli is a “veteran activist who has spent year gathering evidence of alleged transgressions in the West Bank.”

The dishonesty here is just intolerable. A better self-portrait of Michaeli would be that of not a “human rights activist” but “enemy agent,” for if she were truly concerned

for “human rights in the West Bank,” she would write reports not only on what she says we Jews do to the Arabs but what the Arabs do to us and what they do to one another in their rarely covered in the media fratricidal strife between Hamas and Fatah and for sure their violations of Jewish human rights in such activities as throwing rocks at us and stabbing us and running us over and murdering us.

Btselem is not a “human rights organization” but an “Arab rights organization” only.

\* \* (Musical Interlude) \* \*

Let’s see, another major story today in Israel was the brouhaha over Bar Ilan University’s refusal to license on campus a public event in honor of Gay Pride Month.

“Month”? If memory serves, there used to be a Gay Pride Day. I guess now it is Gay Pride Month. Can we expect a Gay Pride Year in the near future, a Gay Pride Decade then a Gay Pride Century?

Two nights ago, the leader of a group of sodomite students in that religious university issued an angry statement after he had met the dean of students who told him no. Bar-Ilan would not tolerate a public observance displaying pride in being a sodomite – my words of course, not his.

These aggressive sex addicts are truly soul mates of the radical left in Peace Now who insist that if you do not accept Peace Now’s political agenda, you don’t want peace now.

Likewise, the sodomites demand that everyone agree that there is nothing wrong with what they do, and anyone who does not is a hateful bigot.

In truth, as Sarit Michaeli is less a human rights than a Palestinian Jew-killer activist, so today’s sodomites want far more than tolerance. They want approval and will not be satisfied with just tolerance of their activities so long as they are conducted outside the public square. I am all for that kind of tolerance.

No, they demand that society be cleansed of all opponents of their perverse practices and they will not be happy until they have imposed their will on everyone else.

Like the “human rights” activists who have eyes only for Israelites allegedly aggressing against Ishmaelites and not the other way around, these so-called gay activists demand tolerance and even approval as they are intolerant and disapprove of those who disagree with them.

I hope Bar Ilan holds fast to its refusal. No good has come from the acceptance and even praise for sodomy over the last almost half-century now. I consider it a symptom of decadence. It was a hallmark of the end of classical Greco-Roman culture.

I connect it as well to that other repulsive behavior in society today of tattooing the body. In previous generations, in my youth, that was considered, as it had been for centuries, a mark of the pagan, the heathen, whose cultures remained polytheistic, magical and cruel. No profit has emerged from this social collapse.

I also connect it to the collapse of language in formerly polite society in which these days the filthiest words pour out of mouths everywhere. I sometimes think, when spending a few minutes looking at what passes for entertainment in popular culture these days – the movies, the made-for-TV dramas and comedies, that a new law has been passed in Hollywood requiring screen writers to insert after every other word the one beginning with the letter f and ending with the letter k, or the gerund form ending in i-n-g, or preceded by the word “mother.”

Such popular entertainments are characterized these days by these streams of obscenities, and I consider this too a symptom of societal collapse. And not only that but the intolerable laziness on the part of these creative writers. Every time you use a curse word, you admit that you are at a loss for words.

Standup comedians likewise spew filth non-stop, when in decades past we could laugh ourselves silly without such verbal ugliness. We laughed over the brilliant comedies of the Marx Brothers and Jewish comedians on TV who made us laugh without using one dirty word.

I connect it as well to the fashion of women in the West these days with hemlines worthy of streetwalkers a generation ago.

I hope then Bar Ilan holds on and does not succumb to pressure from the Enlightened. Evidently, this month’s Gay Pride Month will feature “transgenders.” The Enlightened tell us that Bruce Jenner is now a woman, even though he has no womb, has no breasts, no mammary glands for nursing a baby. Surgeons have inserted bags of some saline solution in his chest to create the illusion of breasts but they are not.

It is a world, I think, losing its mind.

\* \* (Musical Interlude) \* \*

To end the week on an up note: It was heartwarming yesterday to hear of Education Minister Naftali Bennett and Culture and Sport Ministress Miri Regev deciding to deny government funding to an Arab theater in Haifa producing a play honoring an Arab currently serving life sentence for not only murdering but first torturing an Israeli soldier back in 1984.

Predictably, the leftist MK, the brainless head of Meretz Zahava Galon, protested that this is a “sure sign of a country deteriorating into fascism” and said she would fight “any limitations on art.”

I guess she means art like that installation in a Swedish museum a decade ago glorifying a suicide bomber who exploded herself in a Jewish restaurant in Haifa. That *object d’art* was a toy sailboat with her picture nailed to mast floating in a pool of red water symbolizing all blood that she spilled blood; and you may remember Israeli Ambassador Zvi Mazel, bless him, who did not hesitate to wreck that installation in that stupid museum.

On Tuesday, Bennett said, “The citizens of Israel will not fund plays that show tolerance toward the murderers of IDF soldiers.” There’s that word again, “tolerance.”

A leftist like Zahava Galon who waves the banner of artistic freedom like this is the same who demands approval of perverse sexual practices.

These people have lost any moral compass. They live in a world of amorality which in practice is immorality. They have regressed to the Garden of Eden before Adam and Eve ate the apple and learned the difference between good and evil.

*Leila tov veShabbat shalom miEretz Yisrael.*