

# THE DIOGENES REPORT

“a few steps ahead of the curve”

The Wit, Wisdom & Wituperation of Emanuel L. Strunin

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## THE FAULTS OF A FOREFATHER

Unlike the “bibles” of most religions, the Torah depicts the forefathers of the Jewish people as real human beings with all the faults of humans. As I listened to a sermon this Rosh Hashanna on the Akedah—the binding of Isaac-- it dawned on me that the Torah was trying to teach us an additional lesson to that of the rejection of human sacrifice.

To understand the fault of Abraham, we have to move back from the Akedah story to that of Sodom, the city of evil that God threatens to destroy. Abraham does not accept God’s plan without an argument. He gets God to agree that he will not destroy the city if 50 righteous men live there. He argues God down to 40, then 30, then 20 and, finally 10. Since there are not even 10 righteous men in Sodom, God carries out his original plan.

But when God tells Abraham to sacrifice his son, we don’t hear a peep out of the patriarch. He doesn’t say, “hey God, you don’t want human sacrifice” or “this will end the future of the Jewish people that you promised me,” You can be certain that Abraham knows that what he plans to do is wrong—he doesn’t even tell his wife about his plan to sacrifice their son—their only son. Only God’s intervention prevents Abraham from carrying out his “mission” of unquestioning faith. I can hear God’s voice yelling to an angel: “grab that schmuck’s arm before he stabs Isaac.”

This ancient document is always teaching us lessons about the “modern” world. And an understanding of Abraham’s fault is one of those lessons. Abraham only mastered the second part of the sage advice that Hillel imparted some 2,000 years later. Hillel taught: If I am not for myself, who will be for me?; If I am only for myself, what am I?; If not now, when?

Abraham was an advocate for those pagan evil-doers, the Sodomites, but he was not an advocate for his own family, his own son Isaac. For that, he was punished. As soon as his wife Sarah heard about Abraham’s aborted plan the shock killed her. Today, we have Peace Now types and other assorted Jewish crazies bewailing the “mistreatment” of Arabs, but shedding nary a tear for murdered Jews. Their punishment is yet to come.

## **TIME FOR A NAME CHANGE**

In the ancient world, when the forefathers of the Jews had an epiphany or rose to a higher moral level they were rewarded by a name change which reflected their new status. Thus Abram became Abraham and Jacob became Israel.

In today's world, most Jewish leaders seem to sink to a lower level. To reflect these anti-epiphanies (in which the leaders completely lose touch with reality), Diogenes believes that the ancient custom of name changing should be maintained. The individual being awarded with a name change has not had just one anti-epiphany, but a continuous string of such events. For an on-going record of abusing his own people and petting the enemies of his people, we hereby christen (or islamisten) Israel's Defense Minister, Binyamin ben Eliezer with his new name...  
Usama bin Eliezer.

## **THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE MISUNDERSTOOD**

Jimmy Carter's national security advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski is all over the op ed pages imparting words of wisdom we never heard when he was in power. In a recent column he stressed the importance of having a historical perspective that will enable us to focus on the political roots of terror. He intimates that such knowledge will allow the United States to guide terrorists away from their violent approaches to changing the world. He recognizes the process but hasn't the foggiest notion as to what this knowledge can accomplish.

Zbig is very benign toward Islam but froths at the mouth when discussing nations such as India, China, Russia and, of course, Israel that are having problems with Muslims. According to him, all of these nations are taking advantage of the U. S. war on terrorism in order to settle accounts with the Muslims.

He writes: "To win the war on terrorism one must set two goals: first to destroy the terrorists and, second to begin a political effort that focuses on the conditions that brought about their emergence." He claims that the British are doing it in Ulster and the Spaniards in Basque country. From what I read, both of the countries are only working on goal one. I don't believe that they ever will get to goal two.

Obviously, Zbig's vision goes far beyond that of his president, Jimmy Carter who is only rebuilding a few houses. Zbig aims at rebuilding the cultures and political systems of the world. Where will he start? Will it be a makeover of the religious tenets of Islam or the political dictatorships in the Arab world? Or, perhaps, he will take a stab at reversing the results of the Protestant Reformation in Ulster.

Can the gentleman even figure out how to get American peacekeepers out of Bosnia and Kosovo? These are a few of the places where we now have some perspective of

the deep-seated antagonisms that divide the locals.

I suggest that America use a historical perspective not to try to solve insoluble problems but to know where to stay away from and to know who to keep away from our shores. That would be a practical and effective use to make out of a knowledge of history.

## **ACROSS MY RADAR SCREEN**

### The Uncomfortable Jew

Jonathan Sachs, the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain said: “There are things that happen on a daily basis (in Israel) that make me feel very uncomfortable as a Jew.” Of course, he wasn’t referring to the fact that Jews are being murdered every day by the Arabs. Perish the thought. The good rabbi is upset about the way that Jews are defending themselves against Arabs. How very British of him.

Jewish leaders like this selective moralist who criticized Israel’s “occupation” of the “West Bank” as immoral make me feel very uncomfortable. He must have slept through his yeshiva courses where they taught that the west bank, as well as the east bank of the Jordan were the land of Israel.

## **HEADLINES AND COMMENTS**

Headlines from the world’s press. Comments by Diogenes.

### **Arab States Oppose Any Attack On Iraq**

How do they feel about an attack by Iraq?

### **Gunmen Kill Chief Of Colombian Secret Police**

I guess he wasn’t secret enough.

### **Greece’s Most Wanted Terror Suspect Surrenders**

I hear that the cops backed him up in an alley.

### **Researchers Determine Genetic Fingerprints Of Healthy Sperm**

So a sperm really means it when he says, wait until I get my hands on that egg.

### **Israel Foils Huge Car Bombing**

Sharon claims he might have done something to the Arabs if the bomb went off.

### **Yemen, U. S. Discuss Naval Cooperation**

Oh, no! Not another Cole!

**Ritual Candles Eyed In Calif. Fire**

It supposedly was a Santeria ceremony. “Strange fire” always causes problems.

**Episcopal Priest Defrocked**

And he wasn't even frocking altar boys.

**Pick Priests With Care Pope Exhorts Bishops**

Do you think they'll try the bell test?

**Sharon Sees First Palestinian ‘Cracks’**

That's what you see when you stick your nose up Arab ass.

**US, Tying Rights Case To Aid, Irks Egyptians**

We should know by now that civil rights is not a Muslim thing.

**Canada Imposes Visas For Saudis**

A couple of them got in who didn't speak French.

**New X-Ray Technology Helps Customs Guard US Borders**

They've stopped a dozen guys with TB.

**Justice Department Starts Inquiry At Sunbeam**

Maybe they will put Chainsaw Al through the shredder.

**Greek Fugitive Hid From Police At Nude Beach**

They didn't recognize him because he was the 10<sup>th</sup> guy in the line; he usually was the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Israel Supports Creation Of Palestinian Force**

Proof positive that Jewish stupidity is unlimited.

**A Brazilian State Battles Crime In High Places**

The Brazilians have no right to get involved in Wall Street.

**Rabbis Looking For Words To Explain 9/11**

Have they finished explaining the Holocaust?

**QUOTES I LIKE**

In the world to come, I will not be asked: why weren't you Moses?

I will be asked: why weren't you Zusya?

Rabbi Zusya

The person who writes the bank's commercials  
is not the person who makes the loans.

Anonymous

I have left orders to be awakened at any time in case of national emergency,  
even if I'm in a cabinet meeting.

Ronald Reagan

There was only one occasion in my life when I put myself on a strict diet and I can  
tell you, hand on my heart, it was the most miserable afternoon I have ever spent.

Denis Norden

I'm a wonderful housekeeper. Every time I get a divorce, I keep the house.

Zsa Zsa Gabor

In America, you can always find a party. In Russia, the party always finds you.

Yakov Smirnoff

I loathe people who keep dogs. They are cowards who haven't got the guts  
to bite people themselves.

August Strindberg

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Then give up.  
No use being a damn fool about it.

W. C. Fields

## COMMENTS FROM READERS/RESPONSES FROM DIOGENES

Except for the quotations, you scare me-nazis, shredders, enemies under every rock.

Response: While some Jews may have reason to worry about the Jew-haters you see under every rock, you have nothing to worry about. Usama bin Laden and Yasir Arafat have both told Diogenes that they love you. A similar message was scribbled by Adolf in his bunker just before he committed suicide. By the way, Diogenes is not concerned about who is hiding under the rocks but only about the rocks that the Arabs are throwing at Israelis.

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Although I don't agree with much that you write, I am glad that you are back to writing. The writing will keep your juices flowing. My lament is that moderate Democrats are not as passionate or as articulate as you.

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Maybe the temple in Mecca will be built when all yeshiva students will spend two years serving in the Israeli army before committing themselves to a lifetime of antizionist activity while under the protection of ZHL. And when all the illustrious orthodox rabbis agree that orthodox Jews aren't the only real Jews. I must admit that some of my best friends are orthodox. Other than that Happy New Year

Response: You may not be aware of it but in less than a generation most of the top brass of the IDF will be Orthodox. For a number of years now, most of the volunteers for the tough assignments in the Israeli military have been Orthodox. They have not been the "black hats" but the "knitted kippahs." They have made up the bulk of the volunteers for the paratroops, the tank corps and other of the most difficult and dangerous assignments. The effete sons of the kibbutz--your friends--who once flocked to these assignments now prefer to sit in Tel Aviv cafes and sip latte. The left wing leaders who once screamed about the Orthodox not pulling their share of the burden, now complain that there are too many kippahs in the elite units. As for the black hats, let's not have them interfere in the somewhat smooth working of the military, but they should not receive any government funding until they join Israeli society on a full-time basis.

Glad you agree on the black hats. And I do know that the knitted kippah boys are now doing their share of the dangerous work in the elite groups. Took awhile. Problem is if an orthodox anybody heads any military that bothers me. Because God is always on their side. A God for every side. In any event that doesn't give them the right to assume that only they are the good Jews. Or applaud the assassination of Rabin. Moreover without the left wing pioneers there wouldn't be an Israel let alone cafes to buy lattes. Miss you on Yom Kippur.

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**(If anything in this Report has baffled you. E-mail me your questions.)**

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