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Donald B. Crawford, President

THE STAND ANTI-SEMITISM

IT'S BACK!

Anti-Semitism is on the rise the world over. It is happening everywhere in subtle form and quite direct, blatant, even violent. It is repugnant, hate-driven, and men and women of goodwill, especially Christians, should rise up and stamp it out.

Why, it is even happening in that bastion of Liberal diversity, Paris France. There, and elsewhere in Europe, many European Jews fear the revival of virulent Anti-Semitism. Signs and sides of buildings are defaced, Anti-Semitic graffiti can be found anywhere and it is commonplace to here such hate language as DIRTY JEW. Jews everywhere in Paris and France are insulted and hear comments from total strangers on the street with words like “go back where you belong.” Everywhere, there are increasing reports of attacks and threats against Jews which are prompting deep concern throughout all of Europe. Some see the beginning of the very hatred that motivated Adolph Hitler and the Nazis, hatred which was at the core of Hitler’s final solution, the extermination of the Jews. Fire bombing Jewish schools, painting swastikas on gravestones, verbally abusing and spitting on Jews has prompted one Rabbi to dub all such action “the largest onslaught against European synagogues and Jewish schools since Kristallnacht.” That of course was the night in 1938 when Nazi sympathizers in Germany stormed Jewish owned shops and homes destroying property and killing 100 Jews.

Some Jews think that this recent devilish uprising of Anti-Semitism coincided with the beginning of the intifadah against Israel almost five years ago. In fact, some if not much of this new-age Anti-Semitism comes from European Arab Immigrants who now are roughly 10% of the population of France, and growing in every other European nation. Further, it seems that Anti-Semitism is fueled directly or indirectly by leftist political parties which tend to be sympathetic to Arabs and Arab nations and against Israel.

The Anti-Semitic trend is also clear in Germany where statistics show that the number of crimes committed against Jews grew from 817 in 1999 to 1,334 in the year 2002, and are growing at a much faster pace in the present. More disturbing, violent crimes have increased almost 50% in that same timeframe. These numbers deal only with crimes that are reported. There are many, far more perhaps which are not reported. Perhaps Anti-Semitism is high in France because there are 600,000 Jews who live there. Some who have lived there for decades intend to move to either Israel or the United States because of the fear factor.

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In a day and age of diversity, liberalism, tolerance, and advancing education, it is impossible to understand how so-called enlightened countries like France and Germany can allow or even foster such sentiments. But they do. And the Jews, now victims of a Neo-Nazi mentality and course of action, are rightly concerned. In France, for one European nation, it is surprising that the Catholic Church, and in fact all churches do not rise up and condemn what is occurring and champion the Jews. It should be the obligation of every God-Fearing Christian to stand up, identify this virulent, hate-driven stuff for what it is and tell the world, especially France and Germany that this Anti-Semitism can never happen again. NEVER AGAIN!

Christians like Jews believe devoutly in the God Jehovah, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and should stand shoulder to shoulder with the Jewish people to put an end to this madness. The fate of any and all minorities or ethnicities is at stake for if not the Jews, the guns of hatred can be turned on any religion or any minority. Perhaps it may literally be the time to fight the fight of faith, and for all people of goodwill to stand and tell the haters that enough is enough. The Jew, human like all of us, is beloved of God with the promise that HE will never leave them nor forsake them.

And, neither should we!

DBC/dw