

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
NATIONAL RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS BREAKFAST  
FEBRUARY 3, 1988      WASHINGTON, D.C.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE  
HERE WITH ALL OF YOU, AND TO SEE AGAIN MY OLD FRIENDS  
EDDIE McATEER AND BOB BILLINGS AND OTHERS WHOSE TELEVISION  
AND RADIO MINISTRIES ENRICH THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF  
AMERICANS.

THESE DAYS WHEN I SPEAK AT PUBLIC GATHERINGS I AM  
JOINED BY ONE OF YOUR MOST PROMINENT COLLEAGUES, PAT  
ROBERTSON. SO IT'S NICE THIS MORNING TO HAVE YOU ALL TO  
MYSELF.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES -- NO LESS THAN PRESIDENTS  
-- MUST SET A HIGH MORAL EXAMPLE FOR THE NATION. WE CAN'T  
HAVE CANDIDATES FOR THE HIGHEST OFFICE IN THE LAND WHO,  
FOR EXAMPLE, TAKE THE LORD'S NAME IN VAIN -- EVEN IN  
PRIVATE.

AND I WOULD ADD THAT CANDIDATES WHO SEEK TO ATTRACT DELEGATES TO THEIR CAUSE MUST BE WILLING TO PLAY BY THE RULES. THEY SHOULD WIN BY GOING TO THE VOTERS -- NOT BY GOING TO COURT TO CHANGE THE RULES.

WE ARE A GREAT NATION BECAUSE THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN ETHIC IS VERY MUCH A PART OF OUR TRADITION. STARTING THE MORNING WITH PRAYER IS A MAINSTAY -- NOT ONLY IN THE PRIVACY OF OUR HOMES, BUT IN THE SENATE. AND IT IS SOMETHING WE RELY ON FOR SOLACE AND GUIDANCE THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES.

WE ARE ONE NATION -- AND ONE WORLD -- UNDER GOD. THAT STRONG BELIEF IN THE ALMIGHTY IS WHAT LINKS US TO ALL THOSE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO LIVE IN LANDS WHERE COMMUNISM DOES NOT BLOT OUT THEIR RIGHT TO WORSHIP.

ONE NATION WITH WHICH WE HAVE PERHAPS THE CLOSEST TIES IS ISRAEL. AND ALL OF US ARE WATCHING WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ISRAEL WITH GROWING CONCERN.

ISRAEL IS AN IRONY. IT IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE WORLD'S THREE GREAT RELIGIONS, THE WELLSPRING OF OUR BELIEF IN A POWER GREATER THAN ANY MAN, A POWER THAT GUIDES EACH OF US TO LEAD A LIFE OF HONESTY, COMPASSION AND PEACE.

AND AT THE SAME TIME ISRAEL IS TODAY, AS IT HAS BEEN FOR CENTURIES, A CAULDRON OF UNREST.

FOR BOTH THOSE REASONS, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES IS A VERY SPECIAL AND IMPORTANT ONE. IT IS A RELATIONSHIP -- NOT JUST OF LONG-TIME ALLIES -- BUT OF OLD FRIENDS. A RELATIONSHIP BUILT NOT JUST ON COMMON STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL INTERESTS, BUT A SHARED SET OF VALUES -- HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL.

SHARING THOSE VALUES IMPOSES SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES ON THE RELATIONSHIP. AND ONE OF THEM IS TO BE CANDID AND STRAIGHTFORWARD IN OFFERING, NOT CRITICISM, BUT CONSTRUCTIVE COUNSEL.

I DO NOT PRETEND TO HAVE THE WHOLE ANSWER TO THE VEXING PROBLEMS OF THE WEST BANK, GAZA, AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

BUT I AM CONVINCED THAT EVERY ACT OF VIOLENCE, NO MATTER WHAT ITS CAUSE; EVERY DEATH, NO MATTER WHAT THE SURROUNDING CIRCUMSTANCES -- THESE CREATE ONLY MORE HATRED AND SUFFERING. THESE EVENTS CERTAINLY DO NOT SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ISRAEL. BUT THEY DO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF TERRORISTS AND RADICALS -- THOSE WHO CARE NOT A WHIT ABOUT ANYONE'S RIGHTS OR ASPIRATIONS, BUT ONLY ABOUT THEIR OWN PATH TO POWER.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THERE BE A NEW EFFORT AT DIALOGUE AMONG ISRAELIS, RESPONSIBLE PALESTINIANS AND, PERHAPS JORDANIANS -- WHO CAN PLAY A BRIDGING ROLE. AND AMERICA MUST BE A PART OF THAT DIALOGUE, TOO. NOW IS THE TIME TO AGAIN DEMONSTRATE OUR FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE.

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW IS A TRAGEDY; BUT IT CAN BE AN OPPORTUNITY TOO, IF ALL OF US TOGETHER MAKE IT SO.

THAT REQUIRES COURAGE -- AND ABOVE ALL OUR PRAYERS.

THE MIRACLE OF AMERICA -- AND OF ISRAEL -- IS BASED ON PRAYER, FOR PRAYER BEGINS WHERE ALL MIRACLES MUST BEGIN, WITH THE INDIVIDUAL. PRAYER CAN MIRACULOUSLY TRANSFORM HUMAN LIFE. AND WE ALL NEED IT, SOME MORE AND SOME LESS, BUT WE ALL NEED IT.

HOW OFTEN DO WE RESOLVE TO BE A BETTER SENATOR, A BETTER BUSINESS EXECUTIVE, A BETTER MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL, A BETTER HUSBAND OR WIFE OR PERSON? AND GOD ONLY KNOWS HOW SOON WE FALL BACK INTO OUR OLD ROUTINES. ''FOR ALL,'' SAYS THE BIBLICAL PASSAGE, ''HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.''

TODAY, AMERICA WE MUST AGAIN RESOLVE TO HELP ISRAEL ATTAIN ITS FULL MEASURE OF THE GLORY OF GOD.

AND SO I WOULD HOPE THAT ALL OF US WILL JOIN -- THIS MORNING AND IN THE DAYS AHEAD -- IN COMMON PRAYERS FOR TRUE PEACE IN ISRAEL AND AROUND THE WORLD.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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