Preserving American Jewish History

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series C: Interreligious Activities. 1952-1992

Box 22, Folder 2, Graham, Billy - film, "Hisland", January-June 1970.

Mr. Walter Symth Billy Graham Team Office P. O. Box 20809 Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Symth:

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Cliff Barrows. I had a lengthy telephone conversation yesterday with Mr. Barrows concerning the interest of the American Jewish Committee in setting up in New York City a special screening of the new film on Israel. We would invite to the screening a representative group of leadership individuals representing both the national and local Protestant communities. We believe the impact of such a meeting would be greatly heightened if Mr. Graham could be present to either introduce the film or to offer comments following its showing. The program would also include comments by Rabbi Mare H. Tanenbaum, National Director of Interreligious Affairs for the American Jewish Committee.

Mr. Berrows suggested the week of June 15th as a possible time for the screening. This period would be acceptable to us and we are of course open to any other elternative dates you might suggest. For your information in addition to discussing the screening with Mr. Barrows I have shared the suggestion by telephone with Dr. T. W. Wilson.

I know that I speek for my colleagues when I express a very keen desire to see this program come to fruition. I believe it can have a most healthy and meaningful impact. We certainly would be delighted to join with your organization in developing the session and look forward to continuing the relationship with Mr. Graham which was so excellently initiated in his meeting with Jewish leadership at our offices in June of last year.

I shall certainly look forward to hearing from

you.

Cordially,

Gerald S. Strober Consultant, Interreligious Affairs Department

GSS:db

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date March 2, 1970

to Marc Tanenbaum

from Gerald Strober

subject Billy Graham Film on Israel

World Wide Pictures, the film making division of the Billy Graham organization has just completed a film on Israel. The film was screened two weeks ago at the Israeli Embassy and brought forth a glowing response from those who were present. In the light of this and with the potential impact such a production on Israel could have in the Christian community and on the basis of our conversations on the film, the following proposals seem to be in order:

A screening in the New York City area for Protestant leadership representing both national and local constituencies. The screening would be coordinated by the AJC in cooperation with the Billy Graham organization. At the screening Billy Graham would either introduce the film or make comments following its showing. You would offer comments, again, either before or after the film. Besides the obvious benefits of such a session in terms of those present, we could likely be assured of major media coverage which could in addition to providing wide visability to this positive film, give circulation to Mr. Graham's remarks which again would be of a positive I have tentatively explored the possibility of setting up such a screening with two key members of the Graham organization: T. W. Wilson, Graham's closest aide and Cliff Barrows, President of World Wide Pictures and platform leader of the crusade meetings. were most enthusiastic and expressed the hope that the screening could be developed. Mr. Barrows asked me to contact Walter Smyth who handles Mr. Graham's schedule. He suggested the week of June 15th as a possible time since this is just before Mr. Graham conducts a five day crusade at Shea Stadium. He advised me to forward a copy of the letter to T. W. Wilson. I believe we can expect to have a response to the suggestion in the reasonably near future.

2. In our conversations, we discussed the possibility of regional programing around the film. Screenings could be held in the major cities, with local representatives of the Graham organization and the AJC taking part. Again key Protestant and Roman Catholic dergy and lay leaders could be invited to attend. In my conversations with Mr. Barros, I very tentatively raised the suggestion concerning regional screenings and he was very interested. He gave me the name of his executive vicepresident and distribution head and suggested that if we wanted to explore the idea that we directly contact these individuals. He also promised his complete cooperation and urged that if there were any problems that I immediately contact him directly. hope that we can be in conversation very soon with appropriate national staff to discuss this suggestion. In an attempt to facilitate discussion, I have arranged with Mr. Ken Bliss, World Wide Films distribution head to have a print of the film in our office on Wednesday, March 4th. I hope we can view the film either that afternoon at 2:30 or the following morning at 10:30. The film runs for 107 minutes. You will be interested to know that there are two versions of the film. The one we shall see and another now in preparation which is about seven minutes shorter. This second version was prepared with Jewish audiences in mind since the longer film ends with a message directly aimed at a Christian audience. Mr. Barrows said that since he expected a large Jewish interest in the film he did not want to offend Jewish viewers with a Christian appeal. Thus the second version.

GS:as

CC: J. Rudin

INFORMATION SHEET ON "HIS LAND"

Background:

"His Land" is a 54 minute color film on Israel produced by World Wide Films, the motion picture production unit of the Billy Graham organization. The film describes the modern State of Israel within the context of the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. It has a definite evangelical theological orientation and is meant for use with Christian audiences. We believe it is one of the most important and positive resources for interpretation of Israel to Christians yet produced. The Graham organization has been distributing the film to conservative Protestant churches throughout the United States. It is our concern that the film also be widely shown to more moderate and liberal Protestant groups as well as to Roman Catholics. In an attempt to facilitate its use among these groups we helped to organize a screening for national Christian leadership in New York, on May 1. The intense interest this screening caused on the part of almost all of the Christians present leads us to believe that there could be considerable value in holding screenings in major cities around the country.

Screening Audiences:

Those invited to a screening could include, council of churches and denominational executives, religious media personnel, leading clergymen and laymen and general print and broadcast media, hopefully with the aim of publishing reviews.

Screening Sponsorship:

The screening would be sponsored by World Wide Pictures who would make the film and projection equipment available. AJC involvement would be to develop an invitee list and actual coordination of the event. Comment sheets should be available which would include space for those present to indicate how the film could be used by their group. (See sample attached)

National and Field Staff Coordination:

All potential screening should be developed in cooperation with LAD, PEI and CSD.

World Wide Pictures Contact:

Mr. Kenneth Bliss Director of Distribution, World Wide Pictures 1313 Henepin Minneapolis, Minn. (612-332-8483)



Photographs courtesy World Wide Photos— Frank Raymond

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Additional copies of this discussion guide are available from:

Interreligious Affairs Department The American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022





His Land

Yes it is His Land
All of it His
He stepped it off and marked it there
To be His earthly thoroughfare
Then He blessed it with His hand
Yes, it's a great land
All of it is
And as it blooms before our eyes,
Just like an Eden paradise
The world will understand
This is His Land

Slowly from hiding but surely they come Back to the homeland their fathers were from Israel their citadel Israel their home Now they are here at last, never to roam Here they will stay and bring life to the land It's a new day and with boldness they walk Tall and so straight See them stand

Yes it is His Land
All of it is
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Suggested Uses

This study guide is appropriate for use by Jewish-Christian dialogue groups, adult and youth Bible classes and in other settings developed around the screening of the film.

To use this guide effectively, the group should select a discussion leader whose task it shall be to keep the discussion open ended and free flowing, while being sure to see that opinions are expressed by all members of the group. In addition the leader may also wish to arrange for a resource person to be present to aid in the group's deliberations.

Suggested Reading List

- * America's Jews and the Mystique of Israel by Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser (Reprinted from Christian Herald)
- *The Palestinian Jews: Did Someone Forget? by Rev. James Parkes (Reprinted from the New Middle East)
- *Israel's Hour of Need and the Jewish-Christian Dialogue by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum (Reprinted from Conservative Judaism)
- * At Peace in Jerusalem by Rev. G. Douglas Young, (Reprinted from the Jerusalem Post)
- The Refugees of Arab-Israel Conflict, by George Gruen, Institute of Human Relations
- Questions and Answers on Middle East Problems: A Pocket Guide, Institute of Human Relations

Israel: an Echo of Eternity, by Abraham J. Heschel New York, Farrar, Straus and Giroux

* Coales are available frem:

Interreligious Affairs Department The American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022



The establishment of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948 marked the culmination of Jewish hope sustained across 1,900 years for restoration of the ancient homeland — the historic center of Jewish religious, cultural and communal life.

While of primary importance to Jews, this restoration has also had profound impact upon Christians, particularly those who see in the rebirth of a Jewish nation a striking fulfillment of Biblical promise and prophecy. The film, "His Land," articulates this Christian theological viewpoint. The film suggests that the events of recent years in Israel can be explained most profoundly in the light of passages of the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament on the return of Jews to the land of Israel. From the perspective of the film the words of Ezekiel have come to pass

You, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people israel; for they will soon come home.

Reactions

- 1. How did you react to the intermingling of the historic (the burning of Jerusalem) with the symbolic (the vision of the dry bones) in the film's introduction?
- 2. How did the scenes depicting the return of the homeless following World War II affect you?
- 3. Could you identify with the Israelis shown in the film?
 Do their lives seem similar or different from ours?
- 4. How did you feel about the emphasis on reclamation of the land's physical resources? Do you see a spiritual element in this beyond the fulfillment of prophecy?
- 5. What did you think about the Jerusalem portion of the film? Did the city, as suggested by Cliff Barrows, seem a heady mixture of human and holy?
- 6. What scene or part of the film was most striking and important for you, and why?
- 7. Did the film say anything to you?
- 8. How did you react to the film's ending?



Dialogue for Discussion

Discuss the following statements made in the film in terms of your personal impressions, historical understanding, theological perspective.

- It's as if this small part of the earth, the parched desert, the rocky wilderness, waited for its people, saving its last promise of beauty for the people of the land.
- Here's a definition of prophecy for you...
 it is history that has been written down
 before it happens.
- Perhaps you really have to be a Jew to really understand that work is a form of prayer when you are home.
- For those brief hours, Israel reflects the very personal joy of just being alive. Perhaps you have to live here to understand what that means.

The Bible, Prophecy and You

How did you feel about the overall approach of the film? Can the rebirth of the State of Israel be understood in the sense of prophetic fulfillment? What are the implications of the dominant theme of the film for relations between Jews and Christians? Does the film contribute to interfaith understanding or does it polarize?

To facilitate discussion, several Biblical passages quoted in the film are listed below:

For I will bring them back to their own land which I gave to their fathers.

Jeremiah 16:15 ASV

Break forth...into singing you waste places of Jerusalem for the Lord has comforted His people. He has redeemed Jerusalem.

Isaiah 52:9 RSV

For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land.

Ezekiel 36:24 RSV

And they will say, "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden."

Ezekiel 36:35 RSV

I will plant them upon their land, and they shall never again be plucked up out of the land which I have given them, says the Lord your God.

Amos 9:15 RSV

In that day Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth.

Issioh 19:24 RSV

marie Film

March 5, 1970

Marc Tanenbaum

Gerald Strober

Over the last several years, an idea for a film on the history of Jewish-Christian relations has passed through my mind. Perhaps this idea has had a stronger impact in recent days as I note the use of the ADL films in conjunction with Roman Catholic groups and the recently produced ADL film featuring a discussion of Israel with Ed Flanmery and Franklin Littell.

I would see this as a one hour documentary type film utilizing still and moving pictures. The film would outline the history of Jewish-Christian relations and would be primarily simed at a national TV audience with secondary usage in local programming around the country.

If you feel there is any value in discussing such a project, we might contact Bill Jersey who is an acquaintance and the producer of "A Time for Burning."

I will be interested in your reactions to this suggestion.

GS:as

CC: J. Rudin

MEMORANDUM

This communication is a summary of a discussion held March 13, 1970 between Mr. Ken Bliss, World Wide Pictures, and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, Mr. Morton Yarmon, Miss Frances Rosenberg, Mr. Gerald Strober of the American Jewish Committee.

The conversation centered around potential sources and modes of circulation for the World Wide Pictures film "His Land." The American Jewish Committee's staff discussed the potential impact this film could have upon the Christian community in terms of an interpretation of Israel. The staff falt that this film should receive the widest possible circulation in the Christian community as well as in the general community at large. On the basis of these impressions, the following suggestions were made concerning modes of circulation for the film.

- 1. A screening for major Protestant denominational and interdenominational leadership. Individuals invited would include general secretaries of denominations and people with particular responsibility for mass media. Also included at such a screening would be representatives of the religious press. This screening would take place in New York City, and it was suggested that its impact could be greatly strengthened by having Dr. Billy Graham present to introduce the film.
- 2. A screening for individuals representing the film industry with particular emphasis on those involved in film distribution. Also included at this screening could be individuals representing the television networks who could be slerted to the possibility of the film's availability for television showing.
- 3. A screening for the general press with particular emphasis upon editors of major national magazines.
- 4. A suggestion was made that screenings of the film could be arranged in Europe and Latin America with the possibility of translation into French and Spanish being developed.
- 5. A screening for governmental leaders to be held in Washington, D.C. Those invited would include Senators, Congressmen and governmental aids from various key agencies.
- 6. A suggestion was made concerning the use of the film at interreligious institutes. Along with the screening of the film consideration could be given to the preparation of a syllabus or discussion guide which would relate to the theological themes raised in the film.

- 7. Several specific settings for a showing of the film were discussed:
 - A. At the National Catholic Education Association Conference, March 30-April 2, 1970, in Atlantic City.
 - B. Religious Communication Congress, Chicago, April 8-10.
 - C. Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee, Americana Hotel, New York, May 13, 1970.
 - D. At a meeting of the World Council of Churches staff, Geneva, Fall 1970.
 - E. At an international colloquium to be conducted at the Truman Peace Center of the Hebrew University, November 1-8, 1970.

The AJG staff present at the meeting, after raising these suggestions for screening and programming, stated that the American Jewish Committee would like to explore with World Wide Pictures ways in which the American Jewish Committee can help in setting up any or all of the screenings and programs, suggested. For example, our contacts with the religious and mass media and with leading individuals in the film industry could be utilized in the setting up of the screenings mentioned above. Also in terms of a Washington screening for governmental officials, our Washington representative and office could aid in the development of this kind of session. In terms of international activities, our offices in Europe, Latin America and Israel could be of assistance in programming. Likewise, if screenings were to be developed in key urban centers within the United States, our regional offices could aid in programming.

At the close of the session it was agreed that this memorandum would be prepared for consideration by appropriate officials of World Wide Pictures.

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GSS:FM

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date March 12, 1970

80 Marc Tanenbaum

from Gerald Strober

subject Use of Film "His Land" in Europe

During the month of April, Billy Graham will be conducting a crusade in Dortmund, West Germany. He also will spend some time in France during the same period. Several people associated with World Wide Pictures will be with him at that time. include Cliff Barrows and Frank Jacobson, Exec. Vice-President of World Wide Pictures. I wonder if we should contact Zach as to the possibility of the use of the film in France and Germany.

Perhaps this is one of the topics we might want to discuss with Ken Bliss when we meet with him Friday morning, March 13th.

Along the same lines, if you have not yet written to Billy Graham, I would urge you to do so. Please have a carbon of the letter mailed to Mr. Frank Jacobson, Exec. Vice-Pres., World Wide Pictures, 2520 West Olive, Burbank, California.

GS:as

CC: Jim Rudin

Cute Cholien

March 12, 1970

Dr. Billy Braham Montreat North Carolina

Dear Dr. Graham:

Last week along with several members of the staff of the American Jewish Committee, I had the opportunity and privilege to view the film "His Land".

I must say that it was a deeply moving experience. Cliff Barrows and his associate at World Wide Pictures are to be highly commended for this excellent presentation.

I was especially impressed with the integrity of the film in terms of theological perspective while fully respecting the indigenous subject matter. In the last several years I have viewed many films on Israel and the Middle East and I can say without qualification that this is the finest film on the area that I have ever seen.

I believe this film can have a significant impact upon the course of the discussion of Middle East issues within the context of American society and I would hope that it could have the widest possible circulation. I believe your organization through the film "His Land" has made an immensely important contribution to Christian understanding of Israel.

Please be assured of my prayers for the continued good health of yourself and your family and for your important work in the coming days.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober, Consultant in Interreligious Affairs

GS:as

ARCHIVES

ARCHIVES

March 13, 1970

Mr. Ken Bliss World Wide Pictures 1313 Henepin Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403

Dear Ken:

I know I speak for my colleagues when I say how very much we enjoyed meeting you and having the opportunity to discuss mutual concerns.

I have enclosed with this communication a memorandum summarizing this morning's conversation with particular emphasis on the suggestions our staff offered concerning the film "His Land."

We look forward to hearing from you, and I hope that we will be meeting personally again in the very near future.

Cordially,

Gerald S. Strober Consultant in Interreligious Affairs

GSS:FM Encl.

T. W. WILSON MONTREAT, NORTH CAROLINA 28757

March 17, 1970

Dear Mr. Strober:

Billy Graham received your letter today. As a matter of fact, he just returned from the White House. He was in Washington over the weekend and had a chance to fellowship with Mr. Argov from the Israeli Embassy and he wanted me to personally thank you for your letter. He really appreciated it.

He leaves in a couple of days for Europe. Other-wise he would have personally replied. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Associate to Billy Graham

Mr. Gerald Strober

The American Jewish Committee

165 East 56 Street

New York, New York 10022

The American Jewish Committee 165 East 56th Street New York, N.Y. 10022 PLaza 1-4000

TO: MAT Je myarma. FROM: Q. Schwbu
For approvalFor your information
Please handle
Please talk to me about this
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Returned as requested
Your comments please
Remarks:
lease pass along + return

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

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EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTORS

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March 18, 1970

Mr. Gerald S. Strober The American Tewish Committee 165 East 56 Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Gerald:

Thanks to you and to your colleagues for the time we were able to spend together last week. It was a real privilege to become acquainted with each of you.

The memorandum of our conversations on "HIS LAND" you forwarded was quite complete. The individual details are being discussed and evaluated with my associates. I will plan to be in touch with you further in the next few days.

The possibility of previewing "HIS LAND" at your annual meeting at the Americana Hotel, May 13, 1970, stands confirmed.

Most sincerely

Kenneth Bliss

Director of Distribution

KB:mlb

cc: Cliff Barrows

Frank Jacobson

March 23, 1970

Rev. Dr. Billy Grahem Montreat, North Carolina

Dear Dr. Graham:

Through the courtesy of Cliff Barrows and Ken Bliss, my colleagues at the American Jewish Committee and I had an opportunity to preview your film on Israel entitled, "His Land."

I find it hard to come by words adequate to express our appreciation for the tremendous contribution that you and your associates have made in helping the Christian community understand the deep spiritual and historic importance of the land and the State of Israel both to Judaism and Christianity. While we differ obviously about certain fundamentals, there is no question in my mind that the love and deep emotional empathy that is contained in this film for the Jewish people and Israel will contribute to strengthening profoundly the bonds between Christians and Jews.

As we have indicated to your colleagues, the American Jewish Committee and I personally intend to do everything possible to help assure that this film receives the broadest possible sympathetic viewing that we can help arrange in every sejor community in the United States. We have in fact begun to talk with Ken Bliss about the possibility of foreign language versions of the film at a later date with which our offices in Europe, Latin America and Israel will be asked to cooperate.

Again, with deepest appreciation for everything that you have been doing to help improve understanding and friendship between both our commities. I do hope I will have the pleasure of seeing you again on one of your forthcoming visits to New York.

With warmest good wishes and my prayers for God's continued blessings over you and all the work of your hands.

Cordially as ever,

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AMERICA Rebbi Marc H. Tenenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs Department
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THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date

March 26, 1970

to

Marc Tanenbaum,

from

Gerald Strober

subject

Billy Graham Film "His Land"

Isaiah Terman passed along the attached letter to me. I think this indicates that word about the film is spreading throughout the Jewish community. I think we will have to take this into consideration as we develop programming with World Wide Pictures.

I was also concerned about a call I had from Isaiah last week. He stated that we should send a joint memoranda with ADL to the field staff concerning the film. I strongly urged against any action at this time and suggested that programming for the film was in a very preliminary stage. Isaiah mentioned that he is under obligation to announce this kind of event in a joint memorandum.

I mention this conversation as a further indication of some of the problems we may soon run into regarding use of the film.

GS:as

CC: J. Rudin

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF MINNESOTA 211 Produce Bank Building 100 North 7th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403 338-7816

March 11, 1970

Mr. Howard R. Berger
Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland
1750 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Dear Howard:

COPY

I believe I was asked by you at the recent meeting in Washington to advise about the Billy Graham picture "His Land" which I highly endorsed at that particular meeting without having first seen it.

I can now report to you that I have seen the film and while I do not believe it is a film which any Jewish organization can co-sponsor or promote in its name that it would be well for Jewish organization to urge conservative Protestant groups associated or unassociated with the Billy Graham movement to show the same in the various communities throughout the United States.

It is very pro-Israel and has some beautiful scenes in it and much propaganda which is highly favorable to our position.

However, I guess it was asking too much to have Billy Graham refrain from making it a vehicle for telling the world that the second coming of the Messiah was not far off because of the miracles which are being performed in the state of Israel at the present time.

This is not particularly harmful for the reason that Billy Graham's people automatically feel this way anyway and, therefore, the film will push them into Israel's corner even though we may not like its prophetic message.

In other words, what I am trying to say is that because of its being bound up in the Christian prophetic message I do not feel it would be appropos for Jewish organizations as such to sponsor its showing but we should encourage our conservative Protestant friends in the various communities to be sure and show the film for their groups.

I am confident that you know what I am getting at and that you perhaps can work behind the scenes to see to it that your Protestant groups get an opportunity to see this film. I would even suggest Mr. Howard R. Berger

March II, 1970

that you "sneak" in and see it yourself when it is shown in your area to get an idea first hand about what I am trying to say.

In any event because I had promised that I would let you know about my reaction to the film after I had seen it, I am following through and giving you my personal feelings about it at this time,

Hope to see you personally again in the not too distant future. With kindest personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel L. Scheiner **Executive Director**

sls/cdc cc: CRC's

P. S. I have been informed that the Israeli Information Office has purchased 6 prints of the film, so it must be half way "Kosher."

March 31, 1970 Marc Tenenhaum Gerald Streber Meeting with Ken Bliss

On March 30th Fran Rosenberg and I met with Ken Bliss at the International Hotel at Kannedy Airport. Ken was preparing to leave for Israel where he will be the advance man for the April 15th showing of the film before Mrs. Mais and the Israeli Cabinet.

Our discussion centered around the memorandum prepared as a result of our meeting several weeks ago at the A JC office. Ken reported that his esseciates were quite pleased with our initial session and reacted favorably to all the suggestions coming out of that meeting with the exception of the Washington screening for government officials. Ken's associates feel that such a screening could be viewed as an attempt by BillyGraham to influence American policy on the Middle Rast.

With regard to the specific suggestions of our memorandum, I can report the following:

1. A screening will be held for national religious leaders and the religious press in New York within the next several weeks. The tentative date is May 1st. The screening will be held at the Johnny Victor Theatre at 4:00 P.M.

Our plans are to have (invite) high level leadership from the Roman Catholic and Protestant communities as well as major media individuals. Frenk Jacobson, Exec. Vice-President of World Wide Pictures will send a letter of invitation to a list of people we develop. Mr. Jacobson will also host the screening. Gliff Barrows will be on hand to make intendictory comments and to great the invitees at an informal coffee and cake reception following the screening. We hope that an outstanding Protestant and Roman Catholic as well as yourself will make Wrief introductory comments prior to the showing of the film. I have in mind people like David Hunter and Ed Flannery. Besides preparing a list of invitees, we would attempt to build interest by making personal contacts with many of the individuals we hope will attend. Ken Bliss especially asked that representatives of black leadership be present. I see no problem in arranging this.— I would hope that M. L. Wilson

perhaps several of the black Mathodist bishops with offices in the New York area will be able to attend.

- 2. We discussed a screening for film distributors. World Wide Pictures is of course very interested in having this kind of showing and I think we need to help them bring together film distributors. As the schedule looks now, it may be that we will have to bring the distributors into the religious leadership screening because May let is the only day that we can clear at this time. I think we will need particular halp from Abner Expression and parhaps others in the agency to contact distributors concerning the screening. I have a tentative appointment with Abner for temorrow to discuss this matter.
- 3. The film will be shown on the evening of May 13th at the AJC Annual Meeting. The technical errangements for the screening will be worked out by Ken Bliss and Milton Erents. World Wide Pictures will supply the equipment and their local representative will show the film. We will have to hire one or two projectionists to "standby" in accordance with local union procedure. World Wide Pictures will send to New York their International Distribution Director for this screening. It is hoped that he would be able to talk with Each and our latin American representatives about the possibility of international screenings.
- 4. Ken Bliss raised the suggestion of holding a screening for religious leaders in the Washington, D. C. area. I think this can be worked out but it is possible that we would want to invite Washington, D. C. area leaders to the New York screening on May 1st.
- 5. World Wide Pictures reacted very favorably to our suggestion of using the film at institutes and collequium. They would also be happy to have use prepare a discussion guide for the film. Ken alies will have a script forwarded to us so that we can begin to work out a guide.
- 6. When Ken returns from Israel on April 9th he will forward toyou a print of the film for our use. I would think for example that if we wanted two or three people to introduce the film at the May lat screening, we would have to show it to them prior to that date.

If we follow through with the May 1st date we have approximately one month to work on seating this event up. I think we need to come together as soon as possible to begin planning and coordination. The foundation has been laid for a strong working relationship between AJC and World Wide Pictures and a successful screening on May 1st can greatly solidify our relationship.



THE BOUNGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

Box 937, Montreat, North Carolina 28757

April 1, 1979

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Thank you for your good letter of March 23. Mr. Graham is presently in Europe preparing for the crusade to be held in Dortmund, Germany, beginning April 5. I am sure he will want to see your letter therefore I am sending it to him.

May God continue to bless you in your significant work.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Holley

Special Assistant to Mr. Graham

HH/esf

The American Jewish Committee (Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York 22, New York FROM: RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM Georg Frists Please circulate to: For Approval For Your Information Please Handle Read and Return Returned as Requested Telephone Me Your Comments, REMARKS:

The second of th

Mr. Kenneth Bliss 1913 Henepia Minnespolis, Minn. 55403

Dear Kent

I hope you have had a fruitful and enjoyable experience in largel.

I have enclosed the lists of invitees for the May let occessing of "His Land." He have set the time at 3 p.m. on the let. The servening will be held at the Johnny Victor Theatre, 40 West 49 St., N.Y., N.Y. As I mentioned earlier, this was the only date we were able to secure for the screening.

We have divided the lists into categories. These include: religious leaders, religious press, religious TV, secular press and TV, film distribution executives. We have included this last category in the May let screening because of the one-date factor. You will of course note that we have compiled a list of well over one hundred names. Our experience has been that one must over-favite to produce a representative audience. At any rate, we would be happy to have any of the individuals listed present since they occupy leadership roles in their various professional communities.

In terms of the letter of invitation, I would suggest that they include a paragraph mentioning that introductory comments will be made by squeen individuals, including Rabbi Marc II. Temeshoun, Estimal Director of Intervaligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee. I am currently attempting to secure a Rossa Catholic and a Protestant leader to else make introductory remarks. As soon as I have confirmation on this, I will contact you. I think

it would also be helpful if you included a reply posteard with the letter of invitation. This card would help us in followup telephone conversations. Probably it would be best if the card were united to your office. I will keep in daily telephone contact with your office so the cards are returned. One of our secretaries will be available here to aid in telephone contacts.

If you can think of any other details, please do not hesitate to centect me. We look forward to working with you on this project and we have every hope for a most successful completion. Best regards.

Cordially yours,

Gerald Strober

GSTAR

be: Mort Yarmon Fran Rosenberg J. Redin M.H. Tanenbaum 7 April 1970

FO-ISR

Simon Segal

M. Bernard Resnikoff

I thought you would like to see the work we are doing here for Kenneth Bliss.

Encl.

MBR:sr

cc: Marc Tanenbaum

For invited guests only Private Screening

World wide pictures'

HIS LAND

Cinema Chen, Jaffa Road, Jerusalem Sunday, April 19, 1970, 8.30 p.m., promptly



8 April 1970

AMERICAN IEWISH

It was my distinct pleasure and privilege to spend several recent months in Israel, filming a new and exciting motion picture entitled "His Land".

A very special preview of this new production will be held for Israel associates, invited guests, and special dignitaries on Sunday, April 19, 1970, at 8:30 p.m. at the Cinema Chen, 72 Jaffa Road, Jerusalem. It will be hosted by Mr. Cliff Barrows, president of World Wide Pictures and an associate of Billy Graham.

After a private screening of the film in Washington, D.C., Ambassador Rabin wrote how impressed he was by the film's message - love for the Land of Israel and its people and the deep historical ties of the people of Israel to the Land of the Bible.

It would be an honor to have you as our guest on this special occasion. I hope it will be possible for you to attend.

Most sincerely,

Frank R. Jacobso

Frank R. Jacobson Executive Producer

R.S.V.P. regrets only by telephone to: 02-28862 or 02-24151.

with CLIFF RICHARD and CLIFF BARROWS

Music composed and conducted by Ralph Carmichael

Executive Producer Frank R. Jacobson

Written and Directed by James F. Collier/Color by Eastmancolor

Billy Graham - Euro 70

Room 202, Hotel Römischer Kaiser, Olpe 2, 46 Dortmund, GERMANY

April 9, 1970

Telephone: Dortmund 528569

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Your letter to Billy Graham dated March 23 was forwarded to him here in Germany where he is presently engaged in the Euro 70 Crusade. We have been averaging over 100,000 people per night.

Billy personally read your letter and wanted me to thank you in his behalf as he has not been able to answer his mail for over two weeks because of an extremely heavy schedule. He did very much appreciate your kind words concerning our new film on Israel entitled HIS LAND.

God bless you and again, thank you.

Sincerely yours,

T. W. Wilson

Associate to Mr. Graham

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affairs Department The American Jewish Committee 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

TWW: MW

man hele

April 14, 1970 Bernard Resalkoff Gerald Strober

I spoke by telephone with Ken Blias yesterday upon his first day back after his Israel trip. He spoke most glowingly of your assistance and cordiality. He was so delighted in meeting and working with you and I am sure you found Ken to be an extremely fine person.

I want to say we are very grateful for the excellent assistance you gave to Ken and the setting-up of the Israel special screening of the film "His Land."

Best regards.

GS:88

CC: B. Gold

S. Segal

M. Tancabass

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date

April 14, 1970

to

Marc Tanenbaum

from

Gerald Strober

subject

Jewish Invitees to the May 13th Graham Screening

Attached is the Jewish Biafran leaders list. I hope you will be able to go over this and check off individuals who should be invited to the screening of "His Land" on May 13th at the Americana Hotel.

The names of those to be invited should be forwarded to Selma Hirsh.

GS:as Enc. Gerry

Selm is Expersion we to pend there

Show show how about let me for

out - 50 we for for to push sup-

a flunday

Particepar 5 in Concident for Biofrance of Robins for Robins

August 16, 1968

Attached Memo sent to the following:

Mr. Jordan Band, President
National Community Relations Advisory Council
55 West 42nd Street, N.Y.C. 10036
Mr. Isaiah Minkoff, Executive Vice Chairman, While Jawbsen

Mr. Louis Broido, Chairman

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.
60 East 42nd Street

New York, N. Y. 10017

Mr. Samuel Haber, General Director

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President Union of American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y. 10021

Mr. Albert Vorspan

Bot Books Briske

Dr. Nelson Glueck, President
Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion
40 West 68th Street
New York, N. Y. 10023
OMr. Fritz Bamberger, Assistant to President

Dr. William Haber, President
American ORT Federation
222 Park Avenue, S.
New York, N. Y. 10003
Mr. Paul Bernick, Executive Director

Rabbi Joseph Karasick, President
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
84 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10011
| Rabbi Samson R. Weiss, Executive Vice President

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, President
American Jewish Congress
15 E. 84th Street
New York, N. Y. 10028

Or. Will Maslow, Executive Director

And Phil Baum
Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum, President
Jewish Theological Seminary of America
3080 Broadway,

New York, N. Y. 10027
Rabbi Seymour Siegal

Dr. Max Nussbaum, Chairman American Section - World Jewish Congress 15 East 84th Street

New York, N. Y. 10028

Dr. Joachim Prinz, Chairman, Governing Council - World Jewish Congress

Mr. Henry N. Rapaport, President

United Synagogue of America

3080 Broadway

New York, N. Y. 10027

Rabbi Bernard Segal, Executive Director

Rabbi Jacob Philip Rudin, President Synagogue Council of America 235 Fifth Avenue

New York, N. Y. 10016

Rabbi Henry Siegman, Executive Vice President

Mr. Samuels, National Commander
Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
1712 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington 9, D. C.

(Mr. Monroe R. Sheinberg, National Executive Director

Mr. Nathan Saperstein, President
National Council of Young Israel
3 West 16th Street,
New York, N. Y. 10011
Lette. Ephraim H. Sturm, Executive Vice President

Rabbi Zev Segal, President
Rabbinical Council of America
84 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10011
Rabbi Israel Klavan, Executive Vice President

Mrs. Michael Shapiro, President B'nai B'rith Women 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20036

Miss Miriam Albert, Executive Director

Rabbi Ralph Simon, President Rabbinical Assembly 3080 Broadway

New York, N. Y. 10027

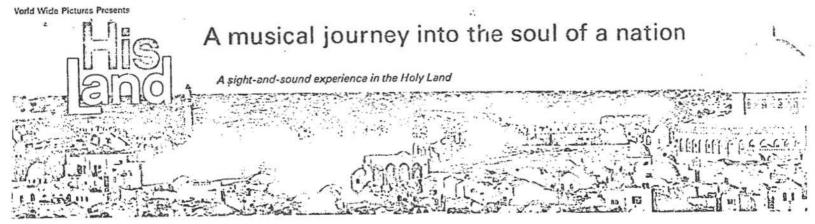
Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Executive Vice President

Mrs. Leonard H. Weiner, National President National Council of Jewish Women 1 West 47th Street, N.Y.C. 10036 Miss Hannah Stein, Executive Director

Dr. William Wexler, President
B'nai B'rith
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
Rabbi Jay Kaufman, Executive Vice President

Mr. Charles S. Zimmerman, President Jewish Labor Committee 25 East 78th Street New York, N. Y. 10021

Mr. Emmanuel Muravchik, Executive Director



April 21, 1970

Mr. Gerald Strober American Jewish Committee 165 E. 56th Street New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Strober:

Recently it was my distinct pleasure and privilege to spend several months in Israel, filming a new and exciting motion picture entitled "HIS LAND". Both the Old and New Testaments have a great deal to say about this land, its people and the events that are to take place there. "HIS LAND" captures some of the history and the spirit of these happenings.

Israeli Ambassador, Y. Rabin, after a recent private screening of the film in Washington, D.C., wrote of how impressed he was by the film's message of "love for the land of Israel and its people and the deep historic ties of the people of Israel and the land of the Bible".

A preview of this new production will be held for the Press, invited guests and special dignitaries on Friday, May 1, 1970 at 3:00 p.m. in the Johnny Victor Theatre, 40 West 49 Street, New York City.

We expect introductory comments will be made by several community leaders, including Rabbi Marc H. Tananbaum, National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee; Rev. Edward Flannery, Executive Secretary of the U.S. Catholic Bishops Commission on Catholic-Jewish Relations; and Mr. Frank R. Jacobson, Executive Vice President of World Wide Pictures and producer of "HIS LAND."

It would be an honor to have you as our guest on this special occasion. We hope it will be possible for you to attend.

Most sincerely,

Kenneth Bliss

Director of Distribution

RSVP

with CLIFF RICHARD and CLIFF BARROWS

Music composed and conducted by Ralph Carmichael

Executive Producer Frank R. Jacobson

Written and Directed by James F. Collier/Color by Eastmancolor

School of the State of the Stat

th annual meeting



may 14-17, 1970 • americana hotel • new york city

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N. Y. 10022 • PLaza 1-4000 • Cable Wishcom, New York
70-700-14

April 22, 1970

Dear Friend:

One of our constant concerns regarding the interpretation of Israel to the non-Jewish community has been the availability of quality printed and visual resources. Recently, I had the opportunity to view a newly-released film on Israel, entitled "His Land." The film produced by World Wide Pictures, the motion picture distribution outlet of the Billy Graham organization, presents a strikingly positive portrayal of Israel's experience and aspirations.

"His Land" was produced for Christian audiences and is currently being distributed to churches throughout the United States. The theological content is, of course, conservative Christian with a strong emphasis on Biblical prophecy. However, I believe this film can have a profoundly constructive impact upon Christian thinking concerning the spiritual and historic importance of the land as well as the status and security of the State of Israel.

We have scheduled a special screening of the film to be held on the evening before the opening of the 64th Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee. I want to cordially invite you to join our members and staff at this showing so that you may become familiar with this outstanding resource on Israel. The screening will be held at the Americana Hotel on Wednesday, May 13th at 8:30 P.M. Please complete the enclosed card to signify whether or not you will be able to join us.

Cordially yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Director of

mare Warech

Interreligious Affairs

MHT:as Enc.

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49 Albany Place
St. John's, Nwfld. CANADA
709 579-9884

GALLANT, FRANK
5 Stirling Closeffrminiated
Red Deer, Alta, CANADA
403 347-3201

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316 321 5993

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biances, Legas 78606
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717 737-9670

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602 936-5328

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CONLEY, DON 9818 East Avenue Valley Station, Kentucky 40272

5112 Constance derice Sousville, Ky. (502) 937-1191

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S. Franklin Mack, 289 Park Ave. So., N.Y.C. 10010

Ruth L. Robinson, 60 Sutton Place South

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Clare J. Davis, Union Theological Seminary

Norman Temme, American Bible Society

Nahum Eshkal, Consulate of Israel, 11 E. 70 St.

M Ita Michaels, United Arts Corp.

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Morton S. Taylor, The Commission, U.P.C.U.S.A. (forMr. Crouch)

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James H. Sheldon, 165 W. 46, NYC

William S. Van Meter, Council of Churches of NYC

Clare Harper, Episcopal Church

ATTENDEES MAY 1, 1970 SHOWING OF "HIS LAND"

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Laton E. Holmgren, American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, NYC 10023
Claire H. Bishop, 309 E. 52
Edward J. Flannery, Secretariat Catholic Jewish Relations
Josephine Cosgrain, Institute Judaeo-Christian Studies
Eric Spilker, Variety, 154 W. 46
Bernhærd E. Olson, NCCJ 43 W. 57th St. NYC
, CBS News, 524 W. 57
Frank A. Kostyn, United Church Herald, 297 Park Ave. So.,ny
Reb. Eugene Schneider, Office of Communication, UCC
Rev. Edwin H. Mitchell, Calvary Baptist Church, N.Y.
Mr. Jerald Hatfield, Relggion In American Life, 475 5th Ave.
J. Margaret Carter, National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Dr.

his land attendance

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Som Elford Too Lichten	ADC.	

attendance list, Billy Graham screening, MGM screening room, June 4, 1970

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Connie Ochl, El Al Israel Airlines

Mr. Kawartler, M UJA

Sol Bernards, ADL

Don Roper) Rou-Media News Canon Hobbs)

Ruth McCarty, executive editor, Vogue

Marttin Schrader, publisher, Town and Country

Miss Michaelson, Krosney Films

Hanoch Nenner) Israel Magazine Leon Fine)

Jack Gordon et al, MGM

INTERCHINACH NEWS FEATURES

Groton

May 4, 1970

Mr. Frank Jacobson, Exec. Vice Pres. World Wide Pictures, Inc. 2320 W. Olive Street Murbank, California

Dear Frank:

It was a genuine pleasure to meet you last Friday and I certainly hope you arrived home safely after your long pilgrimage.

I have enclosed the comments which I am sure you will find both infermative and helpful in terms of follow-up.

May I say how very much my colleagues and I appreciate knowing and working with Ken Bliss and we look forward with great enthusiasm to the continuation of our relationship in the coming days. We shall be happy to see you again on the 13th and I do hope we can all meet together at that time to put together our reactions to the May let screening.

Best regards.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober

GS:as Encl.

yw ten

May 4, 1970

Mr. Ken Bliss World Wide Pictures 1313 Homepin Avenue Minneapolis, Minn. 55403

Dear Ken:

· 5 - 3

I have enclosed the comments and I am sure you will find them as interesting as I did. It would seem that you have significant ground for follow-up on the basis of the May let screening.

I know I speak for my colleagues when I say how much we enjoyed working with you in the development of the screening and that we look forward with warm enthusiasm to the continuation of our relationship in the future.

I look forward to seeing you again on May 13th.

Best regards.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober

GS:as Encls.

3

SOUND TRACK

Ira Michaels 2 Bromwille Rd. Bromwille, N. Y. 10708

Magr. John Costerricher Institute for Judaeo-Christian Relations Seton Hall University South Orange, N. J. 07079

Rav. S. Franklin Mack 212 Fairview Ave. Middlesez, N. J. 08846

Dr. Robert P. Johnson 7 West 11th St. New York, W. Y. 10011

Dr. Grover Bagby Board of Christian Social Concern United Methodist Church 100 Maryland Avenue H. B. Washington, D. C. 20002

Rev. Eugene A. Schmeider Office of Communication United Church of Christ 289 Park Avenue S. New York, N. Y. 10010

Sister Rose Albert Thering Institute of Judaeo-Christian Relations Seton Hall University South Orange, N. J. 07079

Rev. William S. Van Meter Apt. 5H 3725 Henry Hudson Paway Brons, N. Y. 10463

Dr. Bernhard E. Olson National Conf. of Christian and Jews 43 West 57th Street New York, N. Y. 10019

Miss J. Cosgrain Institute of Judaeo-Chrisitian Relations Seton Hall University South Orange, N. J. 07079

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Mrs. Rebert J. Davis Union Theological Seminary 3041 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10027

Mr. Jerald Hatfield RIAL 475 Kfy Fifth Avenue, Room 911 New York, N. Y. 10017

Mr. Adam Reilly NCOMP Room 4200 405 Lexington Avenue New York, N. Y. 10017

Dr. James H. Sheldon 165 West 46th St. New York, N. Y. 10036

Miss O. Jerchower National Board, YMMA of USA 600 Lexington Avenue New York, N. Y. 10022

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HEBREW UNION COLLEGE
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

Dr. Leton B. Holmgren American Bible Society 1865 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10023

Rev. Henry G. Scott Cornerstone Baptist Church Medison St. and Levish Avenue Brooklyn, N. Y. 11221

Mr. M. Oseniek U. S. Office World Council of Churches 475 Riverside Drive New York, N. Y 10027 May 5, 1970

Mr. Ken Bliss World Wide Pictures, Inc. 1313 Hennepin Avenue Minnespolis, Minn. 55403

Dear Ken:

Here are several additional names of individuals who attended the screening and requested the sound track. These are people who are members of the American Jasish Committee and who I must say reacted most favorably to the film.

I have been working out my plans for the week of May 20th and I now plan to arrive in Knoxville about 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 23rd. I hope to spend the whole day there and attend the Crusade that evening. I will go on to Cleveland early the next afternoon. Can you suggest a hotel which will be fairly close to the Grusade setting? I am looking forward to being in Knoxville at that time.

Again, we are looking forward to seeing you next week.

Best regards.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober

GS:as Encl.

"HIS LAND" TRACK

Mr. Balph Friedman 598 Madison Avenue New York, N. Y. 10022

Mrs. Ruth L. Robinson 60 Sutton Place South New York, N. Y. 10022

Mrs. Richard Kaufman 25 East 86th Street New York, N. Y. 10028

Mrs. Ruth R. Goddard 812 Park Avenue New York, N. Y. 10021

Mrs. Philip M. Waterman 875 Park Avenue New York, N. Y. 10021

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



May 5, 1970

TO: Gerry Strober

FRUM: Mort Yarmon

Would you kindly ask Men Bliss to send the sound track for <u>His Land</u> to these five AJC people who were at the screening Friday and filled out slips and gave them to me:

- 1. Mr. Ralph Friedman 598 Medison Avenue New York, M.Y. 10022
- 2. Mrs. Ruth L. Robinson 60 Sutton Place South New York, N.Y. 10022
- 3. Mrs. Richard Kaufman 25 East 86th Street New York, N.Y. 10028
- 4. Mrs. Ruth R. Goddard 812 Park Avenue New York, M.Y. 10021
- 5. Mrs. Philip M. Vaterman 875 Park Avenue New York, M.Y. 10021

ham town.

[end]

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Jailer ..

1/1

May 5, 1970

Dr. T. W. Wilson Box 877 Montreat, No. Car.

Dear Dr. Wilson: AMERICAN EWISE

I want to say how much I appreciate your returning my call last Thursday in Atlanta. I have certainly found over the last few months that you are an individual that one can communicate with and be open and frank with on the most crucial and sensitive issues.

Your willingness to receive the information I had to convey and your positive response to my comments were most encouraging. One can only be gratified at the intensity of interest you and Dr. Graham Make in the security of the State of Israel.

You will be interested to know that the screening of "His Land" held for religious leaders and the press last Friday in New York was most successful. I must also say that we have enjoyed very much knowing and working with Ken Bliss and Frank Jacobson. Their competence and friendship have made a genuine impact upon all of us.

I will be in North Carolina on Friday, May 22nd and will go on to Cleveland for a speaking engagement on May 24th. I plan to spend Saturday, the 23rd in Knoxville so that I may attend the Comsade that evening.

Please be assured of my prayers as you, Dr. Graham and the team prepare for these important sessions.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober

GS: as



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date 6 May 1970

FO-ISR

from M. Bernard Resnikoff

subject

Selma Hirsh sent me an advance copy of the Annual Meeting program and I note a screening of "His Land" for AJC delegates.

I am thinking, Marc, considering that this film was produced by a Christian sponsor primarily for a Christian audience that a few words of introduction and explanation to the AJC audience may be in order so they are properly prepared for what they are to see. Reactions in Israel to the screening was largely favorable but was mixed. For example, I enclose a copy of a letter written by my friend Pamela Fitton. Pamela's strong reaction was not necessarily characteristic of the audience but obviously she has given the film some thought and presents a case that cannot be cavalierly dismissed. As a matter of fact it is Pamela's letter that gave me the idea of suggesting a brief introduction to our AJC audience.

I look forward to seeing you next week. Maybe you and I can slip away together for a chat and I will treat you to a glass of buttermilk.

cc: Selma Hirsh

MBR:sr

NAP

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



Prom: Pamela Pitton P.O.Box 3467 Jerusalem

23 April 1970

un. R. dermart despixoff, Ammel Office, Tropp Texing Committee, Addox Editoin 9

err Dr. Hesnikoff.

You were kind enough to invite me to the private showing of the LAND, and I would like to say how much I appreciated the opcortunity to see it.

It will not surprise you to hear that my criterion of criticism war, first and foremost: "Will it be helpful to the Jews; good for Israel?" by this caucial criterion, I thought that at least it could do no harm to Israel, and might conceivably serve some good purpose, if only amongst Dr. Billy Graine's followers, who would know that he comes out clearly for Jews and for Israel.

Lature reflection prompts me to write, with a mense of urgency, to offer in all humility my considered orinion. I have had no percincl experience of the 'Billy Graham Syndpome', except as reported after made musting in angland, an seen in some of the less stable examples of his prokaged or and. 'converts'. I am quite shocked by the glibness of his prokaged or and. Les viat agile the tenion of the non-event story line, and the made if the presence in Israel of the cavorting Cliff Richards and the thresometer of the portentous manner in which pseudo-eignificant lines were delivered (and the beauty of some of the scenic photography), I only wish to explain my very great concern as to want the effect of this film may be, in terms of the real interests of Israel and Jews everywhere. In my view, the important of that the tents of the film are these:

- P. Graham's 'Bible-punching' is obviously of the most uncolorry and trivial to the point of blaspheny. Proughout the film, to ile is treated and referred to as though it were a magician's 'Company' of Spells.'
- B. Graham appears to support the return of Jews to Isrcel, and Israel's successes and endeavours.
- There are shots of orippled and diseased Arabs, with notion of account for their precence or their disparably deprise office of three or and account to the following of the field of the country to limit of locate.
- The subty by the Policy of Indicates and the second of the Policy of the

Warne trings so to the orar is my concerns

- o. Rany Containing will reject the D. Granes message, as conveyed in the false, and message fail to be disjusted by the bristplity of his world storage.
- b. Rejection of ly above will inevisably devalue map support a row of a ore, and even orll its validity into question.
- c. The fruity "Akab" sepect (3, above) one x. It equal giveness be not reprinte us (by just I meet Jose bad Inroel, plus the sarry not -late the straight real supportant to the cause of Inrael and of Jose everywhere.

I have I have encount to conveying the line of responding which provide the to write toose lines. I do not rejoide in the faut that the file - could be assured bookings which all show it to many thousands in there of the dubbed versions in other party of the world. Perhaps it will do no have no against light Graham adaptments. But if the points I have made a could be a negative to them, thousand and Whristian/Jew organizations might recommend on stormer showings to give or non-Javish relieves. I do not some everywhere, will be personally to a represent the country. If it is not constituted and allocate frontion that his greetest reserve. It is not constituted and allocate frontion that his could be a super-conted time-bomb.

Fours sincere.y.

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EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTORS

13th Garden

May 8, 1970

Mr. Gerald Strober
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022

Dear Gerald:

We received your note with the additional names, and soundtracks are being sent.

I am not sure I can suggest a hotel for you which would be close to the Crusade setting, but I do know that the Team will be staying at the Holiday Inn, Downtown Knoxville. I will plan to arrive there on the 22nd. I will look forward to seeing you there if things work out.

I feel the preview was most successful and there are a number of things which can be accomplished through follow-up.

Once again let me thank you and your associates for your efforts and your interest and it has been a real privilege to become acquainted with you. I look forward to being in New York on the 12th.

Kenneth Bliss

Most Sincere

Director of Distribution

KB:jg

, . · ·

The Billy Graham Association has produced a film with this title. Immediately after seeing it in Jerusalem, I was asked to make a comment upon it. This note is an attempt to reproduce in tranquility the substance of what I then said. It should be remembered that I was thinking of the film being seen as the message of a very famous Christian evangelist by men and women with no great previous knowledge of the Bible or of the complicated present situation in the Middle East.

Well executed, beautifully photographed, this is a very bad film. The first thing I felt moved to say about it may have surprised many of the audience in Jerusalem and certainly surprised me. I am not a political partisan of Israel or of Zionism and this film is obviously intended to support Israel and Zionism. But it seemed to me to be damnably unfair to Israel and to Zionism. For it makes no reference whatever to any part of the Mosaic Law or to the essential message of the Hebrew prophets or to any serious attempt by the Jews in Israel to live and rule their lives according to the will of God. There is nothing in this film about the mercy and justice of God and the need of man for repentance, faith, piety and humility.

Hebrew prophecy is mentioned often; but it is treated as if it were solely history written centuries before it happens. The film deals with predictions said to be about two subjects, Jesus of Nazareth and the twentieth century state of Israel. Christians believe that the Hebrew prophets spoke of a divine purpose which was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. It is the traditional belief of Christians and Jews that the divine purpose seen by the prophets is still being fulfilled and will be perfectly fulfilled in the future Kingdom of God. But it is a mis-representation of the prophets to separate their sayings about the Messiah and the Messianic time from what they said to the men of their own time. If they spoke of the future, it was in pointing out an everlasting law, in saying that God blesses obedience to his holy will and that sins such as cruelty, injustice and greed have terrible results.

The pictures of the state of Israel leave out its essential and distinctive characteristics. Nothing is said of experiments in social life, such as the kibbutz. Nothing is shown about laws, social services, care for children and care for the poor and the disabled. There are some pictures of Orthodox Jews at prayer and of crowds at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. But in the rest of the film the life, work, food, play and leisure of the Jews in Israel are shown as if they were exactly like those of the people of our century in the West. As I saw the film I was reminded of an Orthodox Jew recently seen in Jerusalem carrying a board with the inscription —

"Have we kept the faith for 1900 years in order that Jerusalem should be like New York, London, Paris or Berlin? What is Israel without the Torah?"

Jewish religious belief in the fulfilment of prophecy in our time leads to attempts to build a righteous and wise nation, able to be an example to the rest of the world. Such attempts should surely be mentioned in a film about prophecy.

This film assumes that Christians must unreservedly identify the twentieth century state of Israel with the Messianic Kingdom of Israel foretold by the prophets. This kind of simple identification is not the belief of the Jews and is unfair to Judaism, to the Jews and to Zionism. But I have another

criticism also. The Hebrew prophets spoke to the whole population of this country. The Arab Christian, the Arab Muslim and the Jew are all descended from the hearers of In the first century thousands of Jews and the prophets. Samaritans became Christians. In the seventh century and in later centuries many Christians and some Jews became Muslim by religion. Muslim belief is that Jesus is the Messiah and a prophet. Jews can, on religious and other grounds, exclude all Christians and Muslims from the Jewish people, as they understand that conception. It is another matter for Christians to declare unreservedly that this land was promised to a community of people from which Christians are excluded. In this film there are pictures of Muslim and Christian prayer in Jerusalem. But there is no reference whatever to the existence of Muslim and Christian elements in the local population. What is said about the Bedouin at Beersheba, as a sight for the tourist to see and as a reminder of the customs of the days of Abraham, is the only description of Arabs that I can remember from the film. About the Christian Arab nothing was said.

We are told in the film that Jesus of Nazareth will, at an unknown time in the future, return to earth to reign over all nations. All will then recognize his authority. But no call to believe in Jesus of Nazareth now is addressed to those who see the film. It seems that the sight of the state of Israel is meant to convince men that the Bible is true, simply because of events in the twentieth century corresponding to some selected passages in the prophetic books, interpreted as predictions of these events. This interpretation of prophecy is presented to those who see the film, not as the personal opinion of any man, but as the Word of God. This is done in the name of a world-famous evangelist. It is a very serious matter, a very terrible sin, that dubious private opinion should thus be proclaimed as a divine message.

These comments were made after seeing a film lasting about 55 minutes. I have been told of a rather longer version shown in the U.S.A. But the interpretation of prophecy is the same in both versions.

As of Friday, May 8, 1970

Typewritten copy of attached

Confidential

"HIS LAND" May 20, 1970

The Rev. Samuel Van Culin
Executive Secretary for Africa and the Middle East
Executive Council of the Episcopal Church
815 Second Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017 U.S.A/

Dear Sam,

At the Workers' Conference at Stella Carmel we had a special showing of the film "His Land," popularly called "The Billy Graham film on Israel" because it is produced in the name of the Billy Graham Organization and the leading actor/commentator is Graham's deputy, often considered his alter ego.

After the showing, Canon Every made several very important remarks and comments. Following Canon Every's remarks, Archbishop Appleton who, as you know, has been vigorously working for peace in the Holy Land, commented that he was very depressed by what he had seen and was appalled that an ordained minister would lend his name to such a travesty of the Biblical concept of prophecy. I believe that even some of our "non-liturgical brethren" at 475 Riverside Drive such as Harry Dorman (The Carmichaels report he is retirong this July) would not be able to tolerate the Biblical and political views expressed in this film.

During the Archbishop's current trip to London, he states that he will try to find out if anyone has approached The Rev. Billy Graham to explain to him the objections of the film that any true Christian would have, regardless of his feelings politically on the Arab-Israeli issue.

I would very much appreciate, Sam, if you or someone in Communications could write to the Archbishop at 12 Warwick Square, copy to me, about what is happening with "His Land" in the U.S. Any reviews of the film from religious publications would be most appreciated. In addition, I would personally be grateful to know, if possible, what the Middle East Institute, American Friends of the Middle East, and the Pontifical Mission (Monsignor Nolan) may be doing about the film. In the event it might be convenient, I am enclosing copies of Canon Every's remarks which you might wish to pass on to those three organizations, as well as John Pendleton in Washington.

In the event you are able to see in person or talk on the telephone with the Archbishop in London, I feel certain this subject will be very much on his mind.

As ever.

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



Confidential

Mys tructersen-

Bill- What do

The Rev. Samuel Van Culin Executive Secretary for Africa and the Hidele Hast Executive Council of the Hoiscopal Hurch 815 Second Avenue New York, .Y. 19017 U.S.A.

ar 10, 1970

Doar San,

At the Workers' Conference at stella samped to had some it will be of the film "His Land," popularly colled "The silly draham film on invest" because it is produced in the name of the filly Braham Organization and the leading actor/commentator is Graham's deputy, often considered his liter ego.

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In the event you are able to see in person or talk on the delenhene with the archbishop in London, I feel certain this subject will be very ruch on his mind.

As over,

Ron

Non-Ld J. today

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE REV. WILLIAM S. VAN METER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RELATIONS

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
CONTINUING THE WORK OF THE PROTESTANT COUNCIL
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE - SUITE 456 - NEW YORK, 10027 - 749-1214

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DISTRIBUTORS

Billy Graham

FILMS

May 22, 1970

Mr. Gerald Strober American Jewish Committee 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Gerald:

I received your letter of May 19th and appreciated noting the follow-up meeting held with your staff concerning "HIS LAND." I have also received the list of your representatives in the area of responsibility that they have.

It would be quite difficult for us to give you an updated list of the churches in the area where the film will be because we do not keep track of the churches by name and address. We will, however, plan to send you an updated list of each one of our representatives and their area of responsibility which you can then forward to your representatives for their use.

Because of a change of plans, it appears that I will not be able to see you in Knoxville this weekend; however, I will look forward to visiting with you at a later date.

With continuing best regards,

Sincerely

Kenneth Bliss

Director of Distribution

KB:cn

May 19, 1970 SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr.Ken Bliss World Wide Pictures 1313 Henepin Minneapolis, Minn. 55403

Dear Ken:

AMERICAN IEWISH

Several questions came up at our meeting of our field staff yesterday concerning the "His Land" film.

For one thing, our field men were wondering if they could get an up-to-date list of all the churches in their area in which the film has been shown or are scheduled for viewing in the next two or three months. Also, they felt it would be helpful if they could be put in touch with your representatives in each regional area.

I am enclosing with this letter a list of all of our regional people and their addresses and telephone numbers. I hope we can talk about this matter on Saturday in Knoxville.

Best regards.

Cordially,

Gerald Strober

GS:as

JEWISH COMMUNITY



RELATIONS COUNCIL

OF MINNESOTA

May 22, 1970

SAMUEL L. SCHEINER, Executive Director

TO:

Marca

CRC's

FROM:

Samuel L. Scheiner

SUBJECT:

BILLY GRAHAM FILM TITLED "HIS LAND"

You will remember that I have indicated to you in past correspondence that the Billy Graham Movement has produced an excellent film about Israel titled "His Land" which is in beautiful color and 16mm. After selling all of you on the value of this film, I then advised you that I had occasion to see it and then could not encourage Jewish organizations, as such, to sponsor the showing of the movie because of its missionary content.

It is now my understanding that there is another version of this film which has dropped the missionary portion of it and is highly acceptable for our sponsorship and showing. In fact I have been told by my local Billy Graham friend, that Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum of the American Jewish Committee has viewed this film and is highly enthusiastic over it.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to get in touch with their Billy Graham people in their particular communities and try to set up a screening of the picture "His Land" but be sure to indicate that you want the version of the film which has deleted the missionary message. In other words, what I am saying is that there is a Christian and Jewish version of the film and we should use the latter naturally.

I hope this information is of some value to you. With kindest personal regards and best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel L. Scheiner Executive Director

sls/cdc

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

70-700-22

May 29, 1970

World Wide Pictures - the film producing and distribution company established by Billy Graham - has produced a 54 minute color film on Israel that is being widely shown, especially in churches, throughout the United States. The film is available in 16 mm or 35 mm.

Mr. Graham asked AJC to help World Wide Pictures organize several previews for Christian and Jewish audiences. During the past month we cooperated in setting up four separate previews in New York City for representatives of Catholic, major Protestant denominational and national Jewish bodies. With the exception of several liberal Protestant bodies, which have had both theological as well as institutional reservations growing out of their investments in missionary enterprises in the Arab world, the reactions of the majority of the Christians and Jews have been overwhelmingly positive.

In addition, we have learned from World Wide Pictures that they have begun to show the film in a number of churches with exceptionally positive effect. For example, during the past two months some 200 churches in San Francisco have been showing the film and about 176 churches in Chicago have also been showing the film to their congregations. In Minneapolis, the largest liberal Lutheran Church has shown His Land to packed audiences, with apparently quite positive impact.

These previews have led us to the conclusion that <u>His Land</u> represents one of the most creative interpretive instruments for winning empathetic interest and support for the people and the state of Israel in its struggle for survival and security. In effect, this film is reaching more Christians--Catholic, liberal as well as conservative Protestant-- night after night with a more appealing message about Israel than most of the Jewish organizations combined could ever reach.

The purpose of this memorandum, therefore, is two-fold:

a) To alert you to the availability of this film and to suggest ways in which you can help make it available to appropriate Christian audiences, as well as for use in Jewish-Christian institutes;

May 28, 1970 -2-

b) To suggest some guidelines in relating to this film that will help avoid misunderstandings in both the Christian and Jewish communities.

In terms of guidelines, it is essential to point out the following:

1) This is a Christian film, made by Christians essentially for Christian audiences. It is not intended for Jewish audiences and should not be shown unless the Jewish audience understands from the onset that its message is not for them. The most significant feature of this film is that it communicates in dramatic, warmly sympathetic terms a moving documentary which communicates the humanity and living reality of the Jewish people, their struggles and achievements in Israel. To many Christians the Jews are still an abstraction, an arch-type and Israel is a headline in the newspaper that suggests war and conflict. This film enables Christian viewers to penetrate behind the abstractions and the headlines and to have a personal experience with living people in their joys and sorrows. This is no minor achievement.

In showing this film to Jewish audiences, an introductory statement of this order is essential, otherwise the film will be misunderstood.

2) If this film has not been shown to Christian churches in your community, we encourage you to try to see to it that it will be shown. We strongly urge that the film be shown under Christian auspices. That suggests that you contact close friends in the Christian community asking them to undertake to write to World Wide Pictures for a print of the film and to arrange for a preview for local Catholic, Protestant, and Evangelical leadership. The address of World Wide Pictures is 1313 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403, and the person to contact is the Rev. Kenneth Bliss. There is no cost for renting the film but shipping charges need to be covered and a "free will offering" is welcome. There are two versions of His Land. Please be sure to specify the 54 minute film designed for general audiences.

Depending on your relationship with your Christian friends, you may want to be of indirect assistance in assuring that the right lists of people are prepared, and that appropriate letters of invitation are sent out. Enclosed is a copy of a letter of invitation that Mr. Bliss sent out for the first New York preview of His Land for Christian audiences.

The objective of the preview should be to arrange for local pastors and church councils to show the film to as large audiences as possible. World Wide Pictures has prepared a study guide to be

May 29, 1970 -3-

used for Christian audiences for discussions after they have seen the film.

3) There is an area in which Jewish direct cooperation is possible and that is in the use of the film to start off Jewish-Christian institutes, seminars, dialogues, colloquia. The AJC has prepared an interreligious study guide for His Land that will be made available for discussion groups.

Even in this interreligious use the invitations should be extended by an interreligious committee consisting of local Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish leadership.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to write to us. Under all circumstances, we would be most grateful if you could keep us informed of the exact use you make of this film in both the Christian community as well as in interreligious dialogues. We would also be interested in the kind of reactions that you get to the film.

Thank you very much for your interest and cooperation.

Marc H. Tanenbaum

MHT:FM Encl.

April 21, 1970

Mr. Gerald Strober American Jewish Committee 165 E. 56th Street New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Strober: A MERICAN EWISH

Recently it was my distinct pleasure and privilege to spend several months in Israel, filming a new and exciting motion picture entitled "HIS IAND". Both the Old and New Testaments have a great deal to say about this land, its people and the events that are to take place there. "HIS IAND" captures some of the history and the spirit of these happenings.

Israeli Ambassador, Y. Rabin, after a recent private screening of the film in Washington, D.C., wrote of how impressed he was by the film's message of "love for the land of Israel and its people and the deep historic ties of the people of Israel and the land of the Bible".

A preview of this new production will be held for the Press, invited guests and special dignitaries on Friday, May 1, 1970 at 3:00 p.m. in the Johnny Victor Theatre, 40 West 49 Street, New York City.

We expect introductory comments will be made by several community leaders, including Rabbi Marc H. Tananbaum, National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee; Rev. Edward Flannery, Executive Secretary of the U.S. Catholic Bishops Commission on Catholic Jewish Relations; and Mr. Frank R. Jacobson, Executive Vice President of World Wide Pictures and producer of "HIS LAND."

It would be an honor to have you as our guest on this special occasion. We hope it will be possible for you to attend.

Most sincerely,

Kenneth Bliss

Director of Distribution

RSVP

with CLIFF RICHARD and CLIFF BARROWS

Music composed and conducted by Ralph Carmichael

Executive Producer Frank R. Jacobson

Written and Directed by James F. Collier/Color by Eastmancolor

Die Tond

Dr. Billy Graham Montreat, N.C. 28757

Dear Dr. Graham:

This morning I received a very disquieting letter from my wife who is in Jerusalem at the Institute. As I will be leaving for Israel myself on June 9th to help them at the Institute with the very large summer school program we have I thought I should get a quick note off to you before that. I shall not be back in the States until September when I continue with student recruitment and other promotion (the Conference included).

What disturbed me was the notification that the film "His Land" has been apparently recalled by members of your organization from any further showings in Israel. If the reason that has gotten out, it got to my chaplain and my wife, is that some Arab Christians and possibly other Arabs (and some Christians who do not bedieve in premillennial predictive prophecy as so many of us do) have engineered the recall then I feel a very grave mistake was made. Too many people are bowing to the Arab boycott pressures and I feel it is not morally correct for us to support it. And film is Biblically correct. The land is the Lord's and He has made promises about it as such. And--this is what His people are doing with it in our times. My one little voice may not change anything, but my conscience is better for having stated my conviction in the matter. It will be too bad if Christians, and any others who should know what God has written, would be deptived of this beautiful and informative presentation. It will be equally tragic if those who besides ourselves we call "the Lord's people" would feel that we evangelicals have let them down in a cause like this -----most especially since all the World Council, the National Council, and Christian statements constantly coming out of other parts of the Middles East, are not only anti-Israel, but in particular of late appealing to their constituents to search the Scriptures on this very point, namely, are there those who are using the Scriptures to advance their political cause. When we talk prophecy we are not, of course, trying to advance a political cause. Rather we are trying to tell the world what God has said.

I remain, very cordially yours, in Christ,

Key paragraphs from a letter from Cliff Barrows dated June 2,1970 addressed to me in Highland Park.

By telephone I was informed of your letter to Mr. Graham regarding the film "HIS LAND" which was given to your wife at my instruction some time ago by Roy Gustafson.

To my knowledge, this film has not been recalled. I will certainly check on it and find out as much as I can about the rumor.

As soon as I have any farther information on it, I will let you know, but please assure your wife that to my knowledge, and I was the one who

authorized the film to go, it has not been recalled and will not be.

G.D.Y. June 3,1970

Highland Park, Illinois June 5,1970

Mr. Cliff Barrows
"Melody Lane" Route 7
Greenville, South Carolina 29609

Dear Mr. Barrows:

Thank you very much for your kind and explanatory letter of June second. I appreciate very much your early reply.

May I qoute from the letter from my wife under date of May 28 from Jerusalem?

A very disturbing situation has arisen. Jim Hutchens (Cliff,

Jim is our chaplain, a former Green Beret airborne chaplain in Korea and Vietnam who is to be the chaplain at Wheaton next year. He has been ours this past year as well as an M.A. student with us. You may know his book put out by Moody Press, ABeyond Combat.) tried to get the film "His Land" from Mr. Van der Hoeven who told him that it had been taken back to the U.S. by Mr. Gastafson because of pressure from Arab Christians and non-Arab Christian leaders here such as some Anglicans and missionaries, etcetera. Now who the individuals are I do not know but one can guess! I called Van der Hoeven For the facts and he was so very upset. It seems the film was also promised him by Mr. Gustafson but then Mr. Gustafson changed his mind and felt the pressure was such that he knew Billy Graham would not want it shown here if it would upset the East Jerusalem people, etcetera. Van der Hoeven was really in a "tizzy" and I do not blame him. He said they were bowing to Arab hate and Israel would pay for it, even though Israel had helped so much when the film was being made. I agree! We heard indirectly, not from Van der Hoeven, but Jim Hutchens heard it that was mixed up in this. Jim is quite upset by it. He is going to call Cliff Barrows and tell him that if Israel did not ban this why should we, a few Christians, be able to do this. Jim wanted the film for our last meeting of the Student Christian Fellowship which we hold on campus, as you know. Van der Hosven also said that he was told that his place (the Garden Tomb) was not neutral enough ground to show the film. Such nerve: END OF QUOTE:

ir. Cliff Barrows - page

June 5,1970

For the above reason I am not able to understand your paragraph number one.My wife, apparently, never had the film.

I am sure that we all agree that the film should be used with discretion and that we all know that it was produced with a Christian audience in mind. It does, for such an audience, show so beautifully that God has spoken upon this subject and I know that the American Jewish Community, at least, (I have not been home yet since its release there) is grateful that Israel is thus favorably being shown to Christian audiences. We must not forget the very negative attitudes being expressed rather continuously by W.C.C., M.C.C. and non-Israel church groups in the Middle East, Lebanon in particular. Israel needs friends desperately particularly in view of the effectiveness of Arab propaganda in this country, the U.S.A. Who better to give this friendship than those of us who hold millennarian views such as you and the Team.

I am sure there must be some misunderstanding at some level and pray that Divine wisdom may be given you all in the handling of the rest of this matter. Please do be assured of our earnest prayers too.

Very cordially yours, in Christ,

Douglas Young

P.S. I return to Israel leaving Chicago on June 9th and arriving home on the 10th. There is so much to be done there but I will have to return here in the last week of August for two additional months of recruiting students for 1976-72, working with our associated schools and those others we are cultivating, and with the promotion of the Jerusalem Conference on Biblical Prophet, for June 1971. If you should care to write me again between those dates my address in Israel also appears on the letterhead.

May hammend !

OFFICERS: President
*LINN J. FIRESTONE Vice-President
*SAM H. KAUFMAN 2nd Vice-President *ISRAEL KRAWETZ 3rd Vice-President
*DANIEL DAVIS Secretary
*OREN STEINFELDT



211 PRODUCE BANK BUILDING 100 NORTH 7TH STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55403 **TELEPHONE 338-7816**

JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF MINNESOTA

June 4, 1970

*DR. NATHAN FREIDSON **Executive Director** SAMUEL L SCHEINER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

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Joel Labovitz

Mrs Stuart Seller

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum American Jewish Committee 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Marc:

As you perhaps know or have heard, I announced to the Executive Committee of the NJCRAC at a meeting held in Washington in January that the Billy Graham Movement had produced and excellent film on Israel titled "His Land." I had not as yet previewed the film for I had just been informed about its production from a good friend of mine who is prominent in the movement. I urged all those present to obtain screenings of the film in their particular communities and to push it.

However, later when I had a chance to preview the film in Minneapolis I was moved to write all those who heard my announcement telling them to encourage the showing of the film to Christian groups but not cosponsor the showing for the reason that it had a strong missionary content in it.

Since that time I heard from my friend again to the effect that the missionary portion of the film has now been deleted for showing to Jewish groups and that it is now wholly acceptable for showing to the Jewish community. They informed me that you had seen the film and had nothing put praise for it.

I further understand that recently the New York Times had a story with reference to the film in which the American Jewish Committee or you, personally, are quoted as saying that it is a fine portrayal of Israel and its life.

I am indeed happy that the American Jewish Committee has seen fit to applaud the efforts of the Billy Graham Movement for making this film and for making a version of it acceptable for showing by Jewish groups.

I would be very much interested in seeing the New York Times story about this film. I will appreciate your obtaining a copy of the story *Member of Executive Committee and forwarding it to me at your convenience.

Beneficiary Agency for Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds Minneapolis

St. Paul 3

In any event, I want you to know that your opinion is highly valued by my friends here at the Billy Graham Headquarters. I believe that everything that you and I can do to improve our relationships with conservative theologians is all to the good.

In any event, I wanted you to know that your kind words about the film have not gone unnoticed by those at the helm of the Billy Graham Movement here.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes.

ARCH

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel L. Scheiner Executive Director

sls/imb
cc/ Morris Fine
Joel Ollander
Samuel Spiegler
Mrs. Florence Kaufman

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



June 4, 1970

Rabbi Mare Tumpenburn American Jouish Committee 165 Cam C&A Treet New York, New York 10022

Dear Marci

As you perhaps know or have heard. I amounted to the Executive Committee of the CD CRAC as a meeting beld in Vaskington in January that the Billy Graham Movement had produced and excellent film on largel titled. The head. I had not as yet previewed the film for I had just been informed about its production from a good friend of mine who is prominent in the movement. I orged all those present to obtain screenings of the film in their particular communities and to such it.

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In any event, I want you to know that your opinion is highly valued by my friends here at the Billy Graham Headquarters. I believe that everything that you and I can do to improve our relationships with conservative theologians is all to the good.

In any event, I wanted you to know that your kind words about the film have not gone unnoticed by those at the helm of the Billy Graham Movement here.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel L. Scheiner Executive Director

als/imb
cc/ Morris Fine
Joel Cllander
Samuel Spiegler
Mrs. Florence Kaufman

[end]

Original documents faded and/or illegible



June 5, 1970

Dr. Billy Graham Montreat North Carolina

Dear Dr. Graham:

I very much enjoyed meeting with you on May 23 in Knoxville and was especially happy to have the opportunity to tell you personally how much I and my colleagues appreciate the marvelous film, "His Land." I must also say that the courtesy and warmth of reception shown to me by your colleagues, T. W. Wilson and Grady Wilson, made me feel indeed that Southern hospitality continues to flourish.

On behalf of my colleagues I should like to invite you to an informal meeting with Jewish leaders at the American Jewish Committee during your stay in New York later this month. It is our feeling that such a meeting could continue the dialogue established during your visit with us last June. At that session a number of key themes were explored and it is our hope that we might continue with you in discussion of some of the crucial issues which face the religious communities today. I am sure you are sware that the warm reception given you by those who were present indicates the keen interest these individuals have in your comments, views and activities. I personally believe that a meeting of this type can make a major contribution toward building the understanding so vitally needed in the contemporary world.

I know that your schedule will be quite overwhelming during your stay in New York and I would suggest that perhaps June 29th might be a good date for a meeting. We are of course flexible and if you agree to such a session I am certain that we can arrange a mutually acceptable date.

You will be interested to know that the Evangelical Theological Society has issued an invitation to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum to develop an academic consultation of Jewish and Evangelical scholars during the annual meeting of the Society at Westmont College later this year. Rabbi Tanenbaum has accepted this invitation and the first stages of planning are under way. This will likely be the first such meeting of scholars representing these faith communities. I know that Rabbi Tanenbaum will be writing you concerning this and several other matters in the very near future.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, your family and associates as you prepare for the coming days.

Cordially yours,

Gerald Strober Consultant Interreligious Affairs Department

GS:rd

cc: Dr. Walter Smyth Dr. T. W. Wilson

June 5, 1970

Mrs. Mildred Scheenbaum Office of Mr. Irving Bernstein National UJA 1290 Avenue of the Americas New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Schoenbaum:

Since we talked yesterday, arrangements have been made for the showing of the Billy Graham film, <u>His Land</u>, for Monday, June 29 at 3 P.M. The showing will take place at the Johnny Victor Theatre, 40 West 49th Street.

You may find the attached memorandum of some usefulness. We are inviting a few of our key people to this same preview and are sending them this memorandum plus the New York Times story.

Will you let me know as soon as you can how many persons you ex-

Warm regards to Rabbi Herbert Friedman and Rabbi Irving Berastein.

Cordially,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director of Interreligious Affairs

MHT:MSB Encl.

BCC: Bert Gold Mort Yarmon

His time June 8, 1970 Mr. George Dugan Newsroom The New York Times 229 West 43rd Street New York, N. Y. AERICAN JEWISH Dear George: All of us are so very pleased and grateful for the excellent story that you did on the Billy Graham film. It is simply incredible how much impact your articles have. We have received literally dozens of telephone calls from Christians and Jews inquiring as to how they can get to see the film. Maybe Billy Graham should cut you in for a percentage. Again, many thanks for everything. Cordially, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affâirs MHT: MSB

(this family)

June 8, 1970

Dr. Billy Graham Montreat, North Carolina

Dear Dr. Graham:

I broadcast a weekly radio commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System and last Sunday I took the liberty of devoting my commentary to the theme of "Billy Graham and the Jewish Community."

I thought that you might find it of some interest to see the enclosed text.

In behalf of all of us I want to thank you again for the great contribution that you and your associates have made in producing His Land. Except for the theological dissent of a small number of liberal Christians, we have had only the most positive reactions to the film. If you have not seen it, I also enclose a clipping from The New York Times.

The attached memorandum has been sent around to Jewish leadership, including rabbis from all branches of Judaism throughout the country, in order to help prepare them for proper understanding of the film.

I do hope we will have occasion to meet again when you are next in New York City.

With warmest personal good wishes and my prayers for God's continued

care over you, I am

Cordially as ever,

MHT:MSB Encls. Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affairs



June 9, 1970

Mr. Samuel L. Scheiner
Executive Director
Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota
211 Produce Bank Building
100 North 7th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403

Dear Sam:

Thanks for your thoughtful note. I appreciate your taking the time and trouble to write.

Enclosed is a copy of the <u>New York Times</u> story. Also enclosed is the text of a recent radio broadcast that I prepared on "Billy Graham and the Jewish Community."

With warm regards ...

Cordially,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affairs

MHT:rd

Mr. Morris Lefko Rugoff Theaters, Inc. 595 Madison Avenue New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Lefko: AMERICAN IEWISI

You will note from the enclosed New York Times story that the American Jewish Committee has been involved in bringing Billy Graham's film on Israel, His Land, to the attention of the Christian and general community.

This film has been praised, almost without exception, by everyone who has seen it -- Israeli officials, religious leaders, Americans from all walks of life -- as warranting the widest possible attention.

We need the best advice we can get on how this can be done. Will you please attend a screening that we are arranging Monday, June 29, at 3 P. M., at the Johnny Victor Theater, 40 West 49th Street (RCA Building, street level).

Following the screening, which runs 54 minutes, we'll spend 15-20 minutes with you discussing what we should do next in connection with the film's promotion and distribution. Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, AJC's director of interreligious affairs, will be on hand to explain some of the religious and practical implications of an essentially Fundamentalist approach to Israel, both for Jewish and for Christian audiences.

My secretary will phone to check your office on this date.

Cordially yours,

Bertram H. Gold Executive Vice-President

/pz -- Rnc.

for this land

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York 22, N. Y. • Plaza 1-4000

date June 9, 1970

to Marc Tanenbaum

from Haskell Lazere

subject "HIS LAND" FILM

In going through the material on the Billy Graham film "His Land", I noted that they have both 16 and 35mm prints. What efforts, if any, have we made to get the short version (without the proselytizing) into commercial theatres?

It strikes me that Walter Brecher, who is a member of our Executive Board, could be very helpful in New York in this regard and that there are probably numerous others in cities across the country who could be similarly helpful. If the film has the endorsement of various councils of churches around the country, it strikes me also that placing the film in commercial theatres might be an appealing project for them.

Let me know quickly if you want me to proceed with Walter Brecher and perhaps through him to other exhibitors throughout the New York area.

HLL:a

cc: B. Gold

G. Gruen

S. Samet

M. Yarmon

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date June 9, 1970

to Rabbi A. James Rudin

from Judah Graubart

subject Usage of "His Land" in Minneapolis

I have attached a copy of a letter to Marc Tannenbaum from Sam Scheiner the JCRC Director in Minneapolis concerning the film "His Land", which has, I think some programmatic possibilities for AJC.

In discussing the matter with Joel we considered in the Twin City the possibility of using the film as a means of bringing together some of the church leadership in the Twin Cities area. Thus, we thought in terms of an off the record showing for top level clergy sponsored perhaps by the World Wide Pictures, the JCRC and AJC. The showing would be off the record in the sense that the two Jewish organizations would not be involved as sponsors of an official program, which, I think you would agree in this case would be quite inappropriate.

In pulling together this kind of meeting (assuming its successful), I think we could succeed on two levels. First, AJC's involvement would give us a number of contacts in the Twin Cities area, which we could hopefully utilize our advantage. Thus, for example, we might bring in speakers to churches as part of a program on the Middle East. I think you or Gerry Strober could fit in beautifully there.

Second, we might also be able to obtain some sort of dialogue with the church leadership. That is, perhaps the showing of the Graham film (or some similar such program), could be the beginning for the first of a series of periodic (say every few months) meetings of the Christian clergy on the Middle East, where we might be able to funnel in our speakers' material, etc.

Do let me know what you think of all this, and if you have any comments.

Best regards.

JG:ps

B. P. S. I have learned that this week Alex is in New Haven. But you'd better get in touch with him before he's off again.

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum American Jewish Committee 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Mare:

As you perhaps know or have heard, I emerged to the Executive Committee of the NICNAC et a meeting held in Washington in Juneary that the Billy Grainen Movement had produced and excellent tilm on Israel titled 'The Land." I had not so yet previoused the film for I had just been informed about its production from a good frient of mine who is prominent in the movement. I arged all those present to obtain screenings of the film in their particular communities and to push it.

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Since that time I heard from my friend again to the effect that the willsionary portion of the film has now been deleted for showing to Joviella groups and that it is now wholly acceptable for showing to the Jamica community. They informed me that you had seen the film and had nothing put praise for it.

I further understand that recently the New York Times had a story with reference to the film in which the American Jewish Committee or year, personally, are quoted so saying that it is a fine portrayal of larged and its life.

I am indeed happy that the American Jewish Committee has seen At to oppland the efforts of the Dilly Graham Movement for making this filter and for making a version of it acceptable for showing by Jewish acceptable for showing by Jewish acceptable.

I would be very much interested in ecoing the New York Times stury about this film. I will appreciate your obtaining a copy of the story and forwarding it to me at your convenience.

In any event, I want you to know that your epinion to highly whited by my friends been at the Billy Graham Neadquarters. I believe that everything that you said I can do to improve our sulchesships with come realist the declarates to all to the good.

in any event, I wanted you to know that your kind would about the film have not your ampliced by those at the below of the Milly Caphage Movement here.

With kindent personal regards and best wishes.

A.R.C.H.

Very discerely yours,

Sanstel L. Schulner Executive Director

cio/imb cc/ Morris Pins Joel Cllander Samuel Spiegicz Mrs. Florence Konfonn

[end]

Original documents faded and/or illegible



June 12, 1970 HASKELL LAZERE JOSEPH DAMES

Mort Yarmon referred to me the carbons of the memorandum addressed by you to Marc Tanenbaum that you had sent to him.

In line with your thinking, we had previously arranged a showing on Monday, June 29, at 3 P. M., at the Johnny Victor Theater, 40 West 49th Street (RCA Building, street level). To this showing, we have invited nine people who are, according to our informants, knowledgeable about the general distribution of film.

I am certain that Mr. Walter Brecher would be a valuable addition to the gathering, and I suggest that you send him a letter along the lines of the xerox which I have attached herewith.

Thank you.

June 9, 1970

More Tanenbaum Haskell Lazere

"HIS LAND" PILM

In going through the material on the Billy Grahem film "His Land", I noted that they have both 16 and 35mm prints. What efforts, if any, have we made to get the short version (without the proselytizing) into commercial theatres?

It strikes me that waiter Brecher who is a member of our Executive Board could be very helpful in New York in this regard and that there are probably numerous others in cities across the country who could be similarly helpful. If the film has the endorsement of various councils of churches around the country, it strikes me also that placing the film in commercial theatres might be an appealing project for them.

Let me know quickly if you want me to proceed with Walter Brecher and perhaps through him to other exhibitors throughout the New York area.

ILL:a

cc: B. Gold

G. Gruen

S. Samet

M. Yarmon

Mr. Meshulem Riklis
Rapid American Corporation
711 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rik:

AMERICAN IEWISH

As I told you Saturday night, there is a film on Israel which I think it is important that you see. You probably read about it in The New York Times, it is the Billy Graham film on Israel, His Land.

A special screening has been arranged on Monday, June 29 at 3:00 p.m. at the Johnny Victor Theater, 40 West 49 Street (RCA Building, street level). We have invited some key people who are knowledgeable about the general distribution of film so that they can advise us after the showing how best to promote the film for showing in commercial houses.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, AJC's director of interreligious affairs, will be on hand to explain some of the religious and practical implications of an essentially Fundamentalist approach to Israel, both for Jewish and for Christian audiences.

I hope you can see the film and that you will bring Judy with you, if she is free. Also, if you have one of your top theater people available, perhaps he could come too.

I will check with you later in the week to find out how many will come. The film lasts 54 minutes. I think you will enjoy virtually all of them except perhaps for the Christological illusions.

Cordially.

Haskell L. Lazere

HLL:a

P. S. Your safari movie was the best home movie I have ever seen. You are very clever.

ba: J. Dames -

Mr. Sheldon Gunsberg Walter Reade Organization, Inc. 241 East 34th Street New York, M. Y. 10016

Dear Mr. Gunsberg:

Bert Gold, the executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, has asked me to thank you for your tentative acceptance of his invitation to attend the screening of Billy Graham's "His Land" on Monday, June 29 -- 3 P. H., in the Johnnie Victor Theater, 40 West 49th Street.

Mr. Gold looks forward with great pleasure to meeting you there and to receiving your guidance on the feasibility of securing a general distribution for the film.

Most sincerely,

Joseph Dames

/pz

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Monty Pomm Executive Director Jewish Community Council 3500 West End Avenue Nashville, Tenn. 37205

Dear Monty:

I certainly enjoyed talking with you today and it seems like your Federation Board meeting tomorrow will have a full agenda.

Attached is the information on the Billy Graham file and I do hope that ways will be found to present this to the widest possible and T do hope that ways

I am also attaching a copy of the letter which went out from the Atlanta Federation over the signatures of the president and the vice president for Community Relations and perhaps you might consider utilizing the NEWSWEEK reprint in a similar way.

I shall welcome opportunities to be of assistance to you particularly in your efforts to deal with the Soviet threat in the Hiddle East.

Cordially yours,

Lee J. Price Asst. Southeast Area Director

LJP:dwa Enclosures

Cc Samuel Katz Will Katz



June 26, 1970

Dear Mr. Bliss:

It was with great interest that we read material from The American Jewish Committee praising, from a critical point of view, the new film "His Land."

While it is important that this motion picture becseen by Christian audiences, we believe that it is terribly important for Jews to view it as well. Toward that end, we would like to incorporate it into a special congregational affair scheduled for Wednesday, evening, October 14th when we shall usher in the Festival of Succot with a family worship service followed by a congregational dinner and program.

Would you be kind enough to let us know if you can make a 16mm copy of the film available to us for viewing at that time. If we can keep the print in the community for a few days, then I shall contact both the Catholic Diocese and the local Council of Churches letting them know of its availability, in hopes that they can arrange appropriate programs at that time, too.

When you write, would you be kind enough to tell us what fee you expect to receive per showing so I can discuss this with the planning group with which I am working.

Please do let us hear from you as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Allen I. Freehling

Mr. Kenneth Bliss World Wide Pictures 1313 Henepin Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403

cc: Gerald Strober
Mr. Seymour Samet

Monday, June 29, 1970 -- 3 P. M.

Johnnie Victor Thester

Harold Bernard

~ Walter Brecher

Joseph Dames

Arthur Feuer

Bruce and Lee Goldstein

* Sheldon Gunsberg MERICAN JEWISH

FEUGENE PICKER

Eugene Sattler

Sidney Singer, Sr. N

Morton Sunshine

Levis Swiller

Judith Wittenstein

The American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York 22, New York

	Date	
FROM:	RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM	
	Please circulate to:	ä
	For Approval V E S	UT.
	For Your Information	×
_	Please Handle	8
	Read and Return	
	Returned as Requested	
	Telephone Me	œ.
	Your Comments, Please	
REMARI	KS:	
711	very and aformed -	· ·
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Marc:

Joe Dames has mailed an invitation for June 29th.

Background:

"His Land" is a 54 minute color film on Israel produced by World Wide Files, the motion picture production unit of the Billy Graham organization. The film describes the modern State of Israel within the context of the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. It has a definite evangelical theological orientation and is meant form use with Christian audiences. We belive it is one of the most important and positive resources for interpretation of Ismal to Christians yet produced. The Graham organization has been distributing the film to conservative Protestant churches throughout the United States. It is our concern that the film also be widely shown to more moderate and liberal Protestant groups as well as to Roman Catholics. In attempt to facilitate its use among these groups we helped to organize a screening for national Christian leadership in New York, on May l. The intense interest this screening caused on the part of almost all of the Christians present leads us to belive that there could be considerable vaule in holding screenings in major cities around the country.

Screening Audiences:

Those invited to a screening c ould include, council of churches and denominational executives, religious media personnel, leading clergymen and laymen, and resular print and broadcast media, logical and print are an appropriate and processing the conservations.

Screening Sponsorships

Naional and Field Staff Coordinations

All potential screenings should be developed in cooperation with CSD, IAD and PEI, - CSD,

World Wide Pictures Contact:

Mr. Kenneth Bliss
Director of Distribution, World Wide Pictures
1313 Henepin
Minneapolis, Minn.

612-332-8483

COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Dr. Laton E. Holmgren American Baptist Society 1865 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10023

Courents

Remarkable photography

Magnificent music

Tasteful scenario

Theological positions needlessly overstated.

Important stress on Biblical relevance but unsuitable for ABS use because of theological viewpoint.

COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Rev. Frank A. Kostyn, Assoc. Ed. United Church Hereld 297 Park Avenue So. New York, N. Y. 10010

Comments

Photograph was great! Music was inspring. The story was low key even though I wasn't completely in agreement with "conservative" theological (religious) approach. I was a bit uneasy about the political under tones.

Possible Use

If we had press kit with infor, would prepare review for our magazine.

COPPLENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Rev. Norman L. Temma American Bible Society Broadway and 61st St. New York, N. Y. 10023

Comments

An ambitious undertaking but I fear it attempts too much. I would have preferred two films--one obviously geared to a Jewish audience and the other to a Christian populace. The end is the weakest part-too decidedly pitched to a given interpretation and playing on the much oversuded Hallelujah chorus.

Possible Use

Too much interpreation for our use.

4

Our purpose is to make the Bible available without note and comment. We will, however, have no hesitancy about telling others of the many admirable qualities of this film.

COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Mr. Jerald Hatfield Religion In American Life 475 Fifth Avenue, Boom 911 New York, N. Y. 10017

Comments

Beautiful photography but production is too slick to make the "propaganda line" credible.

Possible Use

Hone



CORPORNTS ON "HIS LAND"

Mrs. Robert J. Davis -A-V Librarian Union Theological Saminary 3041 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10027

Comments

The photograph is much better than the narration which tends to be a bit hokey in spots - especially in section on Ezek. dry bones. Some good editing in contemporary style near beginning and end.

Possible Use

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

To update Sunday School ideas of the Holy Land.



COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Mr. Alan A. Harper CBS News 524 West 57th St. New York, N. Y. 10019

Comments

Moving and effective - Namy striking and exciting visuals - underlying humanity of theme cannot fail to affect many. Narrator and singer did not work for me - unsuccessful blend of poetic realism and documentary style with them.

A R C H I V E S

COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

Rev. Rugene A. Schneider Office of Communication United Church of Christ 289 Park Avenue So. New York, N. Y. 10010

Comments

Dull.

Photography - technically good.

Concept of "prophesy" not acceptable in my denomination.

Lacks Arab point of view of the holy places.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date

to

from

subject

10

Marc: These are the comments on the Graham film that I did not send over to Geo Dugan.



We would appreciate your comments on "His Land".

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Name and Organization

ARCHIVES

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

Invitation List "His Land"

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	NCC R.H. Edwin Espy David Hunter Jon Reiger Gerald Knoff Robert Dodds Cynthia Wedell	Eli- Mangi Mangi Mandi	met Alauno viet Mence work.	- Nec - ewil y = Necio	Floric Maire Tilong
Pa	American Bible Society Rev. Laton E. Holmgren - Rev. Robert T. Taylor Rev. Norman L. Temme Lutheran Council Rev. C. Thomas Spitz, National Association of Events Dr. Clyde Taylor Averta Council Religion in American Life Rev. David Gockley	National media]	Laguer's B		5 A 190
	NCCJ Dr. Sterling W. Brown Dr. David Hyatt United States Office WCC Dr. Eugene Smith Rev. Charles Lutz Factor	Rane And	, " "		i.
	National Committee of Black	k Church	nen		
F	Council of Churches NYC Rev. Dan Potter	Van hi	Placedon		
	AME Bishop John D. Bright				

AME Zion
Bishop Stephen G. Spottswood

American Baptist Convention

Dr. Edwin Tuller

Rev. Robert Torbert

Rev. James Christison

Episcopal Church

RT. Rev. John Hines

Rt/Rev. Stephen Bayne

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Rev. Peter Day

National Baptist Convention

Rev. Sandy F. Ray

Progressive NBC MER CAN EW S

Dr. Gardner C. Taylor

Rev. W. A/ Jones Jr.

Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Robert Marshall

Orthodox Archbishop Lakovos Stephangel

Arthur Dore

Schwaman

Reman Catholic Church Terence Cardinal Cooke

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Harold Aprague

United Methodist Church

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Bishop Prince Taylor

Rev. J. Edward Carothers

Dr. Grover Bagby

United Presbyterian Church William P. Thompson

Durley Ward

Brokep Harman Rev. J. Rev. John C. Smith Rev. Donald Black Rev. Kenneth Neigh bury Anstern

Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker Rev. James Keller Rev. Stephen Olford Rev. Norman V. Peale Cannon Walter D. Dennis



possible invitees to His Land

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Didd Hunter
Jon Reiger
Gerald Knoff
David Stowe
Robert C. Dodds
William Fore
Herbert E.Love

American Bible Society

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Rev. Robert T. Taylor

Rev. C. Thomas Spitz Jr.

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Religion in AMerican Life Rev. David Gockley

National Conference of Charles and Jeus Dr. Sterling W. Brown Dr. David Hyatt

U.S. Conference WCC Dr. Eugene Smith Rev. Charles Lutz

National Committee Black Churchmen Dr. M.L. Wilson Dr. Edler C. Hawkins

Council of Churches, NYC Rev. Dan Potter

AME Bishop John D. Bright

AME Zion Bishop Stephen G. Spottswood

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Dr. Edwin Tuller
Rev. F. Sharn
Lin Robert Torbat
Charles

Episcopal Church Rt. Rev. John E. Hines Rev. Peter Day Rt. Rev. Richard B. Martin

Progressive NBC
Dr. Gardner C. Taylor

Roman Catholic Church
Terence Cardibal Cooke
Most Rev. Francis Mugvero
Rev. Edward Flannery
Rev. John Oesterricher
Rev. Bernard Law
Msgr. George Higgins
Rev. John Sheerin

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Rev. Everett Parker
Rev. Edward Powers

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Rev. Hohn C. Smith
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International Film Foundation
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Flick Magazine
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NYC



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Miss Louisa Wilson Hager YMCA Magazine 600 Lexington Ave. New York, N.Y. 10022

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

PLEASE CREDIT
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
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HEBREW UNION COLLEGE
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGIOM

COMMENTS ON "HIS LAND"

M. Oseniek (for Faith Pompanio World Council of Churches 475 Riveraide Drive New York, N. Y. 10027

Councille

A real spiritual experience - better than any sermon!

The music was wonderful.

AMERICAN JEWISH

In or by the "Committee for the Church and the Jewish People" and the study on "Living Faiths."

INFORMATION SHEET ON "HIS LAND"

Background:

"His Land" is a 54 minute color film on Israel produced by World Wide Films, the motion picture production unit of the Billy Graham organization. The film describes the modern State of Israel within the context of the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. It has a definite evangelical theological orientation and is meant for use with Christian audiences. We believe it is one of the most important and positive resources for interpretation of Israel to Christians yet produced. The Graham organization has been distributing the film to conservative Protestant churches throughout the United States. It is our concern that the film also be widely shown to more moderate and liberal Protestant groups as well as to Roman Catholics. In an attempt to facilitate its use among these groups we helped to organize a screening for national Christian leadership in New York, on May 1. The intense interest this screening caused on the part of almost all of the Christians present leads us to believe that there could be considerable value in holding screenings in major cities around the country.

Screening Audiences:

Those invited to a screening could include, council of churches and denominational executives, religious media personnel, leading clergymen and laymen and general print and broadcast media, hopefully with the aim of publishing reviews.

Screening Sponsorship:

The screening would be sponsored by World Wide Pictures who would make the film and projection equipment available. AJC involvement would be to develop an invitee list and actual coordination of the event. Comment sheets should be available which would include space for those present to indicate how the film could be used by their group. (See sample attached).

National and Field Staff Coordination:

All potential screening should be developed in cooperation with IAD, PEI and CSD.

World Wide Pictures Contact:

Mr. Kenneth Bliss
Director of Distribution, World Wide
Pictures
1313 Henepin
Minneapolis, Minn. (612-332-8483)

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land".

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Name and Organization_____

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Good diemsion starter on place of few in modern world

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

will promote through our publications

Name and organization Matorial Catholic Office for

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."
Beautiful, warm, stirring, powerful.
makes me want to go back to Israel very soon and
to continue to ungo others to do so
needs good discussion guide to facilitate use
in Christian groups with varied backgrounds.
We are also interested in learning what possible use you or
your organization may see for this picture. Chadlend resource for kelping to understanding human reality
of contemporary restal.
Excellent bruking resource for groups pleaning pelagemages
Name and organization William I. Ven hete Council of Churches
Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with
our representative.

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

I think this film is superb
I think this film is superb I shall use my of portunities to have it viewed.
We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.
DR. Robert P. Johnson Name and organization Presbytery of NewYork City
Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.
WORLD WIDE PICTURES
We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."
Interesting graphic, informations, semi-documentary presentation of the land of travel with a very pronounced interpretation of O.T. prophers of a literalistic warnets haracteristical conseporation Christian evangelication
pronounced interpretation of O.T. prophers
of a conseporture Christian evangelication
Hu lyman quality of Israel speople and their life today in beautifully presented. We are also interested in learning what possible use you or
your organization may see for this picture.
I would hope it night be well provided
In toucal + religious learning as well as theological from a Bugley discussion,
Name and organization Board & Christian hourd Concum-
Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative. Will Well offer during
washington DC 20000
armington DC ZUDON

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land." Jerhand
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The success tanding of the fall of a come
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The film should be required recting
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your diganization may see for this picture.
he chown at next meeting of national
mara-na
Name and organization OTILLE TEREHOWER- NATIONAL
Board - J.n.C.A.
Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with
our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES
We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."
\~,
I real spiritual experience - better than any
1 Per sent o
permon, it muse was morninger.
AP Y
We are also interested in learning what possible use you or
your organization may see for this picture.
The study on Living Faths! the Church of the Jewish Page and
The study on during Fathy.

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

Name and organization M. Openus

[start] AMERICAN JEWISH Original documents



We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization

Name and organization

Alcha Alcha (Chrody Franks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with)

our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Reputiple photography. Not all constituent denominations of the DCC would agree with the point of view expressed in the film, but they would be open to viewing the film-

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Possible review of both the film + record in spectrum magazine. Possible showing to the NCC stapp.

Name and organization Spectrum Pute Journal of Reliquent Education

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative. please send a copy of the record, also I weed basic engo on been: address over)

[end]

Original documents faded and/or illegible



We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Deeply moving; a statement of faith that needs to be discussed among christians; a film coe'll be glad to use and to recommend. Congrapulations

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

1. Programs on Jewish- Christian relan, he: /srowel,

Home and organization Northing Conference of Christing

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

well conceived, excellent shortograph, music, warration.
Day a good job of bringing the land and he story of "he Book" to l. La.

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

many will wolcome it gladly

Name and organization S. F. hall Office of Communication,

United Church of christing,

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Photography was great! Music was inspiring.

The story was low key even though I wasn't conscient in agreement with "conservative" theological (religious) approach. I was a bit uneasy about the Ware also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

If we had press kit with nito, would prepare review for nu magazine.

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

blantiful shotography, but production is too blick to make the propaganda line" credible.

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

none

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."
the Photography is much better from the harration which tends to be a bit hokey in specially in section on Eyek. dry bonds.
in Apola - copicially in second wing words,
here beginning send! in contemporary style

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Shuday shoot ideas of the Holy Land.

Name and organization

Mrs Robt J Davis , A-V Librarian Union Theological Seminary 3041 Broadway New York, New York 10027

Please pend record

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

An Ambitious undertaking, but I fear it attempts
too much. I would have preferred two Films.

One abviously GEARED To A JEWISH AUDIENCE AND
THE OTHER TO A CHRISTIAN POPULACE. THE END
IS THE WEAKEST PART -- too DECIDEDLY PITCHED TO
A GIVEN INTERPRETATION AND PLAYING ON THE MUCH OVERWe are also interested in learning what possible use you or HALLEUNA
your organization may see for this picture.

Too Much INTERPRETATION FOR OUR USE.

Name and organization NORMAN TEMME

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

A remarkably interesting film, with a remarkably valid theme, Technically excellent, and attention compelling,

your organization may see for this picture. (I concur with sugariting on Caron Van Meter's paper

Chairman, Public Information Dept.

Council of Charches of New York City

Name and organization

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

address: 165 W 46 St., New York; N.Y. 10036

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

MOUNG & EFFECTIVE - NANY STRIKING AND EXITING

VOUALS - UNDERLYING HUMANITY OF THEME

CHONOT FAIL TO AFFECT WANY.

MARRATOR OFFINGER DID NOT WORK FOR ME UNSXLESSFUL
BLEYD OFFICERLISM & DOCUMENTARY STYLE WITH THEM
We are also interested in learning what possible use you or
your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization ALAN A. HARPER . CBS NEWS

we would appreciate your comments on his Land.
Dull.
Photography-techically good
Photography-techically good concept of "prophecy" not acceptable in
My denomination
We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.
Lacks Arab point of view of the holy places.
Name and organization CA (West S)

ARCHIVES

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Will tred my comments by mail

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization

Mrs. J. W. Ostensieles Ant of J-Un Studies

PHEASE SEND RECORD

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

I have seen the land with my own eyes and you have done a splendid job of catching its beauty + its people.

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Tosephine Casgrain

Name and organization

Inst Judgeo Christian Studies, Scton Hack University

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land." It bring home the reality of the land and people which should weke if a Valueble Velicle for thewing to Chrickan auchieus even though the Arah problem is least forther than for the stray of course draw chike the forms what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture. It use in Ferhaer- Christian feericas and there reeks. Also truegaghe-church descretion group trent of Ludace Cheighan Herles Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with

our representative.

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

WILL CALL

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Name and organization

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Excellent photograppy and application It causes one to desire to vent the Holy Land.

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization Colvery Bys. Club

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Remarkable flotography.

Magnificant mulic.

Tasteful Acenario

Tasteful Acenario

Theological positions needlessly overstated.

Theological positions needlessly overstated.

The unsuitable Jas ABS was because of

Theological visiopoint.

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

> DR. LATER & AT HORKGARN AMERICAN POIBNE SOCIETY 1865 PORDMAN

Name and organization

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

A very moving film, which should be seen by all Christians.

The mention of Daich as having feretold so literally lesus' coming is unfortunate, even for a Catholic. Herverer compassion inforemost. We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

I hope this file is shoren in Europe too.

Name and organization Carie Auchot Brih

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

Terrific Photography
Powerful Sound.
Potent use of O. T. Hroughout
God preparation for contrastation personally us K Guspel

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

We plan on showing it before June 24th

Name and organization CALVARY BASTIST CHURCH

INVITATION LIST SCREENING OF FILM "HIS LAND"

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Time Magazine Ju -6-1-12

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Dr. Robert P. Johnson Presbytery of New York City 7 West 11th Street New York, N. Y. 10011

Comments

I think this film is superb.

Possible Use

I shall use my opportunities to have it viewed.

Mr. S. F. Mack, Office of Communication United Church of Christ 212 Pairview Avenue Middlesex, N. J. 08846

Comments

Well conceived, excellent photograph, music, narration.

Does a good job of bringing the land and the story of "the book" to life.

Possible Use

AMERICAN JEWISH

Many will welcome it gladly

Rev. Bugene A. Schneider Office of Communication United Church of Christ 289 Park Avenue So. New York, N. Y. 10010

Comments

Dull.

Photography - technically good.

Concept of "prophesy" not acceptable in my denomination.

Lacks Arab point of view of the holy places.

Dr. Grover Bagby Board of Christian Social Concerns United Mathodist Church 100 Haryland Avenue, H. E. Washington, D. C. 20003

Comments

Interesting graphic, informative, semi-documentary presentation of the land of Israel with a very prenounced interpretation of Old Testament prophesy of a literalistic variety characteristic of conservative Christian evangelicalism. The human quality of Israel's people and their life today in beautifully presented.

Possible Use

I would hope it might be well promoted in Mathodist circles as both a basis for historical and religious learning as well as theological discussion.

Rev. William S. Van Meter Council of Churches of N Y C 475 Riverside Drive New York, N. Y. 10027

Comments

Beautiful, warm, stirring, powerful.
Makes me want to go back to Israel very soon and to continue to urge others to do so.

Needs good discussion guide to facilitate use in Christian groups with varied backgrounds.

Excellent resource for helping to understand human reality of contemporary Israel.

Excellent briefing resource for groups planning pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

Josephine Casgrain Institute Judaeo-Christian Studies Seton Hell University South Orange, N. J. 07079

Comments

I have seen the land with my own eyes and you have done a splendid job of catching its beauty and its people.



Dr. Bernhard E. Olson National Conference of Christians and Jews 43 West 57th Street New York, N. Y. 10019

Comments

Pessible Use

ly moving, a statement of faith that needs to be discussed among Christians; a film we'll be gladto use and to recommend. Congratulations.

ARCHIVES

Programs on Jewish-Christian relations, re: Israel, theological discussion, etc.

Mr. Alan A. Harper CBS News 524 West 57th St. New York, N. Y. 10019

Comments

Moving and effective - Many striking and exciting visuals - underlying humanity of theme cannot fail to affect many. Marrator and singer did not work for me - unsuccessful blend of poetic realism and documentary style with them.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Rev. Harold M. Martin National Council of Churches - Room 753 485 Riverside Drive New York, N. Y. 10027

Comments

Beautiful photography. Not all constitent denominations of the NCC would agree with the point of view expressed in the film, but they would be open to viewing the film.

Rossible Use

Possible review of both the film and the record in SPECTRIM Magazine. Possible showing to the NCC staff.

Mr. Jerald Hatfield Religion In American Life 475 Fifth Avenue, Room 911 New York, N. Y. 10017

Comments

Beautiful photography but production is too slick to make the "propaganda line" credible.

Possible Use

Nene

AMERICAN JEWISH A R C H I V E S

Mrs. Robert J. Davis -A-V Librarian Union Theological Seminary 3041 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10027

Comments

The photograph is much better than the narration which tends to be a bit hokey in spots - especially in section on Exek. dry bones. Some good editing in contemporary style near beginning and ead.

Possible Use

ARCHIVES

To update Sunday School ideas of the Holy Land.



Dr. James H. Sheldon Chairman, Public Information Dept. Council of Churches of H Y C 165 West 46th Street New York, N. Y. 10036

Comments

A remarkably interesting film with a remarkably valid theme.

Technically excellent, and attention compelling.

ARCHIVES

Possible Use

Same as Dr. Van Meter

Mr. Adam Reilly National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures 405 Lexington Avenue - Room 4200 New York, N. Y. 10017

Comments

Good discussion starter on place of Jew in modern world.

Possible Use

Will promote through our publications

9

Miss Ottilie Jerchower National Board - YWCA 600 Lexington Avenue New York, N. Y. 10022

Coments

Perhaps the finest film made to premote understanding between the major religious - the warmth, the understanding of the problems in Israel, the amening achievements already accomplished are presented with beauty and heart. The film should be required seeing.

ARCHIVES

Pessible Use

Perhaps should be shown at next meeting of National Board late this year.

Rev. Norman L. Teame American Bible Society Broadway and 61st St. New York, N. Y. 10023

Comments

An ambitious undertaking but I fear it attempts too much. I would have preferred two films--one obviously geared to a Jewish audience and the other to a Christian populace. The end is the weakest part--too decidedly pitched to a given interpretation and playing on the much oversuded Hallelujah cherus.

Possible Use

Too much interprettion for our use.

Our purpose is to make the Bible available <u>without</u> mote and comment. We will, however, have no hesitancy about telling others of the many admirable qualities of this film.

Rev. Frank A. Kostyn, Assoc. Ed. United Church Herald 297 Park Avenue So. New York, N. Y. 10010

Comments

Photograph was great! Music was inspiring. The story was low key even though I wann't completely in agreement with "conservative" theological (religious) approach. I was a bit uneasy about the political under tones.

Possible Use

If we had press kit with infor, would prepare review for our magazine.

rs. Claire H. Bishop 09 East 52md Street Y & N. Y. 10022

maents

very moving film, which should be seen by all Christians.

ion of Isaiah as having foretold so literally Jesus' coming ortunate, even for a Catholic. However, compassion is foremost.

ible Use

hope this film is shown in Europe too.

Mr. George W. Dekvo (Colvery Beptiet Church) 8816 St. James Avenue Eleburat, New York 11373

Comments

Excellent photography and application.

It causes one to desire to visit the Holy Land.



Rev. Edwin Mitchell Associate Minister Celvary Reptist Church 123 West 57th Street New York, N. Y. 10019

Comments:

Terrific photgraphy

Powerful sound

AMERICAN IEWISH

Potent use of Old Testament throughout

Good preparation for confrontation personally with Gospel

Posible Use

We plan on showing it before June 24th

Rev. Henry G. Scott Cornerstone Reptist Church Medison and Lewis Ave. Brooklyn, N. Y. 11221

Comments

This is the most inspiring and informative film I have ever seen.



Dr. Laton E. Hologran American Raptist Society 1865 Broadway New York, N. Y. 10023

Comments

Remarkable photography

Magnificent music

Tasteful scenario

Theological positions needlessly overstated.

Important stress on Biblical relevance but unsuitable for ABS use because of theological viewpoint.

F-HIS LAND

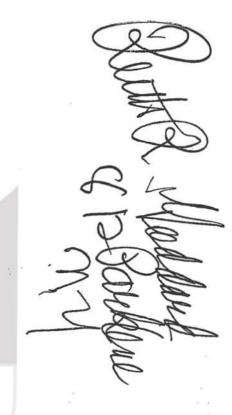
We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."
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We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

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We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization amusican fluid Committee

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this with our representative.

Ruth J. Robinson 60 Lutter Place Lowers 91.4, C 10022

WORLD WIDE PICTURES

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

It is excellent and should have Tremendon appeal to all peoples

To western cultures

what possible use you

We are also interested in learning what possible use you or your organization may see for this picture.

S98 Wedison avenue Name and organization

Thanks so much for your cooperation. our representative.

We would appreciate your comments on "His Land."

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your organization may see for this picture.

Name and organization

Thanks so much for your cooperation. Please leave this our representative.

THE WASHINGTON SCENE

HYMAN BOOKBINDER, AJC's Washington Representative WERE - 1300 kc

interviews leading personalities on the national scene on alternate Saturday afternoons, 5:07 P.M. (Right after the news) . Tune in WERE March 27th, April 10th, April 24th and alternate Saturdays thereafter.

"HIS LAND"

Thursday evening, February 18th, marked an event in Chapter programming that evoked widely divergent reactions. Planned in cooperation with the Jewish Community Center as the premier showing to a Jewish audience in Cleveland of "His Land", the color film on Israel produced by Evangelist Billy Graham's World Wide Pictures, the evening developed inadvertently into a study in comparative religion.

Whether it was a case of "crossed wires" or simply a misunderstanding in the arrangements, we were provided with the long version of the film, intended for Christian audiences, rather than the shorter version which was designed for audiences not considered targets for proselytizing.

The error was discovered too late to rectify except by last-minute cancellation of the program. In fairness to the standing-room-only crowd that came out despite one of Cleveland's most unpleasant downpours, it was decided that the show must go on.

Reverend Gerald Strober, the AJC's National Consultant on Religious Curricula, put the film into its proper perspective as a Christian message, and helped to make it for many an important lesson in comparative religion as well as a beautiful portrayal of Israel.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ELEANOR W. ASHMAN Non-Profit Organization
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The establishment of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948 marked the culmination of Jewish hope sustained across 1,900 years for restoration of the ancient homeland the historic center of Jewish religious, cultural and communal life.

While of primary importance to Jews, this restoration has also had profound impact upon Christians, particularly those who see in the rebirth of a Jewish nation a striking fulfillment of Biblical promise and prophecy. The film, "His Land," articulates this Christian theological viewpoint. The film suggests that the events of recent years in Israel can be explained most profoundly in the light of Hebrew Scriptures and New Testament passages dealing with the return of Jews to the land of Israel. From the perspective of the film the words of Ezekiel have come to pass

You, O mountains of Israel, shall shoot forth your branches and yield your fruit to my people Israel; for they will soon come home.

REACTIONS

- 1. How did you react to the intermingling of the historic (the burning of Jerusalem) with the symbolic (the vision of the dry bones) in the film's introduction?
- 2. How did the scenes depicting the return of the homeless following World War II affect you?
- 3. Could you identify with the Israelis shown in the film?
 Do their lives seem similar or different from ours?
- 4. How did you feel about the emphasis on reclamation of the land's physical resources? Do you see a spiritual element in this beyond the fulfillment of prophecy?
- 5. What did you think about the Jerusalem portion of the film? Did the city, as suggested by Cliff Barrows, seem a heady mixture of human and holy?
- 6. What scene or part of the film was most striking and important for you, and why?
- 7. Did the film say anything to you?
- 8. How did you react to the film's ending?

DIALOGUE FOR DISCUSSION

Discuss the following statements made in the film in terms of your personal impressions, historical understanding, theological perspective

- It's as if this small part of the earth, the parched desert, the rocky wilderness, waited for its people, saving its last promise of beauty for the people of the land.
- Here's a definition of prophecy for you.. it is history that has been written down before it happens.
- Perhaps you really have to be a Jew to really understand that work is a form of prayer when you are home.
- For those brief hours, Israel reflects the very personal joy of just being alive. Perhaps you have to live here to understand what that means.

THE BIBLE, PROPHECY AND YOU

How did you feel about the overall approach of the film? Can the rebirth of the State of Israel be understood in the sense of prophetic fulfillment? What are the implications of the dominant theme of the film for relations between Jews and Christians? Does the film contribute to interfaith understanding or does it polarize?

To facilitate discussion, several Biblical passages quoted in the film are listed below:

For I will bring them back to their own land which I gave to their fathers. Jeremiah 16:14 RSV

For I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land.

Ezekiel 36:24 RSV

I will plant them upon their land, and they shall never again be plucked up out of the land which I have given them, says the Lord your God.

Amos 9:15 RSV

I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for My people to go home, and create rivers for them in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19

Break forth..into singing you waste places of Jerusalem for the Lord has comforted His people. He has redeemed Jerusalem Isaiah 52:9 RSV

And they will say, "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden."

At that time I will change the speech of my returning people to pure Hebrew so that all can worship the Lord together.

Zephaniah 3:9

In that day Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth. Isaiah 19:24 RSV

HIS LAND

Yes it is His Land
All of it His He stepped it off and marked it there
To be His earthly thoroughfare
Then He blessed it with his hand
Yes, its a great land
All of it is
And as it blooms before our eyes,
Just like an Eden paradise
The world will understand
This is His Land

Slowly from hiding but surely they come
Back to the homeland their fathers were from
Israel their citadel
Israel their home
Now they are here at last, never to roam
Here they will stay and bring life to the land
Its a new day and with boldness they walk
Tell and so straight
See them stand

Yes it is His Land
All of it is
He stepped it off and marked it there
To be his earthly thoroughfare
Then He blessed it with His hand
Yes, its a great land
All of it is
And as it blooms before our eyes
Just like an Eden paradise
The world will understand
This is His Land

SUGGESTED USES

This study guide is appropriate for use by Jewish-Christian dialogue groups, adult and youth Bible classes and in other settings developed around the screening of the film.

To use this guide effectively, the group should select a discussion leader whose task it shall be to keep the discussion open ended and free flowing, while being sure to see that opinions are expressed by all members of the group. In addition the leader may also wish to arrange for a resource person to be present to aid in the group's deliberations.

SUGGESTED READING LIST

* America's Jews and the Mystique of Israel by Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser (Reprinted from Christian Herald)

The Palestinian Jews: Did Someone Forget? by Rev. James Parkes (Reprinted from the New Middle East)

Israel's Hour of Need and the Jewish-Christian
Dialogue by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum (reprinted from
Conservative Judaism)

At Peace in Jerusalem by Rev. G. Douglas Young, (reprinted from the Jerusalem Post)

The Refugees of Arab-Israel Conflict, by George Gruen, Institute of Human Relations.

Israel: an Echo of Eternity, by Abraham J. Heschel New York, Farrar, Straus and Giroux

* Reprints are available from:

Interreligious Affairs Department The American Jewish Committee Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Across a barren land, scarred by centuries of war and neglect, the spectres of ancient Israel appear, hover, and fade away. Suddenly there is movement of a different sort, and slowly, steadily, a startling transformation begins to take place.

Thus begins "HIS LAND," the thrilling story of Israel from ancient to modern times. "HIS LAND," a one-hour color feature motion picture, takes you on a journey through space, time and current events. You see graphically, the fact that Israel today is a living testimony to the words of the prophets when they proclaimed that Israel would take her place among the nations of the world.

In the company of Cliff Barrows and Cliff Richard, England's popular star, who sings a number of new Ralph Carmichael songs, some of which were actually written on location, you travel the vibrant streets and lonely solitary paths of this nation whose destiny is daily discussed in the counsels of governments all over the world. . . the same paths taken by Jesus and the prophets: Galilee. . . the wilderness . . . Jerusalem . . . the Mount of Olives . . . mingle with the people of modern Israel as they work, play and build a nation.

Words of Scripture come to life as the two men reflect upon the events that in recent years have confirmed much of the ancient prophecies. You are witness to the fact that out of death and desolation is emerging a new Land . . . a "Land of milk and honey," where the future climactic events of history will take place.

"HIS LAND	," rich in color a	and authentic sig	ghts and s	ounds, with a
popular musical scor called a musical jou				
	at		·	
(date)		(time)		

"HIS LAND," truly a feast of color, sound and song. An unforgettable experience!

with CLIFF RICHARD and CLIFF BARROWS

Music composed and conducted by Ralph Carmichael

Executive Producer Frank R. Jacobson

Written and Directed by James F. Collier/Color by Eastmancolor



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N. Y. 10022 • PLaza 1-4000 • Cable Wishcom, New York

ISRAEL

"HIS LAND" - REV. DR. BILLY GRAHAM FILM ON ISRAEL

The Billy Graham film organization, World Wide Films, has produced a 54 minute color film with a sympathetic portrayal of the State of Israel. His Land represents one of the most creative interpretive instruments for winning empathetic interest and support for the people and the State of Israel in its struggle for survival and security. The film is a moving documentary communicating the humanity and living reality of the Jewish people, their struggles and achievements in Israel.

With the exception of those groups having theological and institutional reservations growing out of their investments in missionary enterprises in the Arab world, the reactions of the majority of Christians and Jewish audiences have been overwhelmingly positive.

Many - among them Premier Golda Meir and Mayor Teddy Kollek - have viewed it as the most sympathetic portrayal of the people of Israel restored to their ancestral land that has been made by any Christian since the creation of the Jewish state.

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In conjunction with an interreligious study and discussion guide for <u>His Land</u> which AJC has prepared, AJC proposes to use the film extensively in Jewish-Christian institutes, seminars, dialogues, colloquia and other discussion groups. For this purpose, AJC will purchase 200 prints of the film at a cost of \$30,000; print the Interreligious Study Guide at a further cost of \$5,000 and initiate interreligious dialogues conducting film previews, conferences, institutes, etc. at an additional expenditure of \$15,000.

AJC is seeking the sum of......\$50.000.



Dear Friend:

In a New York Times review of Monday, June 1, 1970, Mr. George Dugan says, "A Methodist minister described it as graphic, a Roman Catholic nun called it excellent, a Presbyterian pastor hailed it as superb, and a rabbi said nothing like it had ever been done before. They were talking about a documentary motion picture about Israel, entitled, 'His Vand,' the 'His' referring to Jesus Christ."

Israeli Ambassador, Y. Rabin, after a recent private screening of the film in Washington, D. C., wrote of how impressed he was by the film's message of "love for the land of Israel and its people and the deep historic ties of the people of Israel and the land of the Bible."

A very special preview of this new production will be held for the Cleveland area clergymen on Wednesday, December 9, at 3:00 P.M. at the Shaker Theatre, 3516 Lee Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio.

It would be an honor to have you as our guest on this special occasion. I hope it will be possible for you to attend.

Most sincerely,

Kenneth Bliss

Director of Distribution

KB:cn

with CLIFF RICHARD and CLIFF BARROWS

Music composed and conducted by Ralph Carmichael

Executive Producer Frank R. Jacobson

Written and Directed by James F. Collier/Color by Eastmancolor