

Introduction, by Linda

Often I find wonderful information and perspectives in the websites that I try to read everyday. Following are three of them. One is from a favorite of mine, "Not the Bee"; one is from my favorite Bible teacher Amir Tsarfati; the last is a daily email Spirit-based thought piece. These are remarkable times. I hope you get a chance to read them. *LG*



From Not The Bee

What None Of Us Want To Admit About That Plane Crash Over The Potomac.

by Peter Heck

It didn't used to be like this. It used to be when there was a tragedy like the one that occurred last Wednesday a half mile away from Reagan National Airport Runway 33, there would be a national story on it during the nightly news, an article in the morning newspaper, and general information that would trickle out slowly in the months that followed, long after the disaster had slipped from the public consciousness.

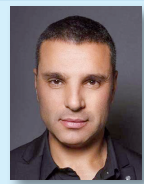
Today, events like the collision of American Flight 5432 and the Army Blackhawk helicopter utterly consume us. The explosive moment is replayed hundreds of times on 24-hour news networks, being ingested and analyzed, scrutinized and dissected by countless millions, too many of whom rush to social media to spawn absurd conspiracy theories ("That had to be intentional, there must have been someone on that plane that the government wanted dead"), and cannon fodder for political marksmen ("This is the result of DEI programs" on one side, or, "It's no coincidence that Trump made cuts to the FAA 8 days before this happened" on the other).

Not only have we lost our ability to keep our mouths shut and grieve with one another when tragedy strikes, we've also lost our ability to accept that sorrow, tragedy, and disasters happen with an all-too-common frequency in this fallen world.

And many times, they aren't the fault of anyone. They're just tragedies.

But that's something we just can't accept. We need to find someone, some villain, to blame. We need to point fingers. We need to pretend that we know how to fix it or prevent it from happening the next time. We need to believe that somehow the unimaginable pain being experienced by others actually proves that we are right about some peripheral issue.

And why? Because those things give us the illusion, they maintain our self-intoxicating mirage that we have some control over the painful realities of living in a fallen world.



From Amir Tsarfati's Telegram Channel

(Behold Israel founder and Bible teacher)

The USAID Storm is Spreading and Filling Social Media

White House spokeswoman Caroline Levitt: "These are some of the crazy priorities that **USAID has wasted money on:**

- ✓ \$1.5 million to promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in workplaces in Serbia.
- ✓ \$70,000 for a DEI musical production in Ireland.
- ✓ \$47,000 for a transgender opera in Colombia.
- ✓ \$32,000 for transgender comics in Peru.
- ✓ As a taxpayer, I don't want my dollars going to this s____ (or "shtuff.")
- ✓ "This is exactly the mission that Trump has assigned to Elon Musk - to take fraud and abuse out of the federal government."

More uses of USAID funds revealed:

- ✓ \$20 million to produce Sesame Street in Iraq to promote an LGBT agenda.
- ✓ \$2 million for sex reassignment surgery in Guatemala.
- ✓ \$27 million for gift bags for deportees in Central America.
- ✓ Hundreds of millions of dollars for irrigation and agriculture in Afghanistan that were ultimately used to increase opium production (the cultivation of the opium poppy).
- ✓ \$1.14 billion to build a port and power plant in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake - a project promoted by Bill Clinton. Nothing was actually built.
- ✓ \$74 million evaporated in 2006 under the title "Promoting Democracy in Cuba."

And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

The list goes on. It seems that Musk and Trump would enjoy revealing more and more such data.

But no matter how much we hate to admit it, the plane crash over the Potomac shook us all because it's yet another stark reminder that we don't.

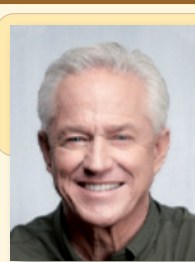
In fact, the only real power we do possess is choosing how to respond to our lack of control - either by continuing our hopeless, hapless charade otherwise, or surrendering to the God who actually does. The God who announced and initiated a kingdom that would counteract and conquer the deceptions and the dead-ends the world presents.

The inauguration of His eternal Kingdom was never just about growing numerically, or simply gaining more people to agree with our side of political fights.

It's always been about liberating man from the miry clay, the uncrossable chasm, the inescapable pit, the hopeless circumstances we find ourselves in. It's about deepening the conviction and growing the maturity of believers to remember in moments like these that no matter how dark or how bad things get, faith is the victory that overcomes the world. We all need His truth, we need His Spirit, we need His peace.

Last Wednesday night, 67 people made the journey every single one of us will take soon enough, as they stepped out of this world and into the next.

I pray that they were ready to stand in the presence of their Savior. I pray we all are as well.



FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
We honor Pastor Ray's life by continuing to share the daily devotions he prepared for you, his precious readers.

When Dreams Are Denied

Ray Bentley Ministries

"The Lord declares to you that the Lord Himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom." —2 Samuel 7: 11-12 (NIV)

God wants to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves, as King David of ancient Israel learned.

The words above were meant to comfort David because he had just been denied a deep desire: to build God's temple. *"I had it in my heart to build a house... But God said to me, 'You are not to build a house for My name, because you are a warrior and have shed blood'"* (1 Chronicles 28:2-3).

From his political enemies to his lover's husband (Uriah, married to Bathsheba), David had fought and killed for power and to protect his kingdom. God's denial caused him grief and guilt over the lives he had taken and the treachery that had destroyed good men.

But that's not the end of the story. God did not allow David to build Him a house, but He promised to "establish a house" for David.

The New Testament begins with "a record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David" (Matthew 1:1). Out of David's "house," fashioned by God, the promised Messiah came to the world. The king who loved God and repented fervently for his sins wanted to do something significant for God. But the Lord did something wonderful for and through David.

David was not so different from us.

While we long to accomplish something great for God or mankind, our efforts sometimes fail. We don't realize that the Lord wants to do something great for us.

David hoped to build a house of stone, but God built a house of flesh and blood in the person of Jesus Christ. Through Jesus, the descendant of David, the most passionate and intimate love the world has ever known changed the human race forever.

Remember. When God denies us something, even when we have the best of motives, He has an even greater plan. David's intentions were good.

But oh, how much greater are God's intentions toward us!

Lucerne Valley Residents: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION
Sat., March 8, 2025
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Behind Lucerne Valley Fire Station
33269 Old Womans Spring Rd
(Enter through gate on Ladera Rd)

Before transporting, be sure that ...

- Waste is properly labeled or in its original container.
- The container is no larger than 5 gallons. Transport no more than 15 gallons or 125 lbs.
- Containers are sound and not leaking.

- | | |
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| We DO Accept...
• Antifreeze
• Auto & Household Batteries
• Computer Monitors, TVs
• CPUs, Printers
• Fluorescent Tubes
• Home-Generated Sharps/Needles in approved container
• Household Cleaners
• Medications – separate liquids from solids (excluding controlled substances)
• Microwave Ovens
• Motor Oil/Used Filters
• Musical Cards, Clothes Irons
• Paint Products
• Pesticides & Fertilizers
• Space Heaters, Stereos, Radios
• Telephones
• VCRs/DVD Players | We DO NOT Accept...
• Asbestos
• Business/Commercial Wastes
• Explosives
• Medical Wastes other than sharps
• Radioactive Wastes
• Reactives
• Tires
• Appliances, Furniture, Air Conditioner, etc.
• Wastes from fore-closed properties & non-profit organizations |
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For questions or more information, contact:
San Bernardino County Fire
Household Hazardous Waste Program
1.800.OILY.CAT
(1.800.645.9228)
Visit Sbcfire.org/hhw!



On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web



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