NOT IN GOD'S

Confronting Religious Violence

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Monday, March 26th, 2018

Housekeeping

Opening: Betty Smith



OUR CHAPTERS THIS EVENING:

"THE WILL TO POWER OR THE "LETTING GO OF HATE" AND (CHAPTERS 14 AND 15) WILL TO LIFE"

Slide One

"The Open Heart" The final section of the book. Continuing our focus on

Slide Two

to demonstrate how Judaism can against religious violence using lessons Bible to engage this important challenge. Abraham - and to find clues from the biblical history shared by the religions of contribute to a multi-faith alliance learned from three thousand years of This final section of the book proposes

Slide Three

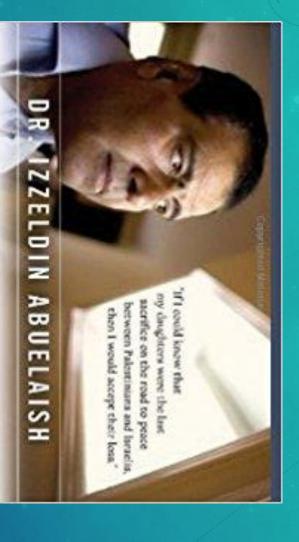
Image for chapter 13 - Book Cover for the title:

"I Shall Not Hate - A Gaza Doctor's Journey"

study of almost 10 years ago, but others will Some class members might remember this book

Please post the image of the book using this link

https://tinyurl.com/y6ubrjxq



I SH HAIL

A GAZA DOCTOR'S JOURNEY

"This story is a necessary lesson against hatred and revenge."



(238)"To be free, you have to let go of hate"

and opens conversation to the group Wayne shares some personal experience

Discuss

Slide Five

(239)Abrahamic monotheism was the first moral system to be based, not just on justice and reciprocity but on love

out of the Israelites. out of Egypt, but he still might have failed to take Egypt Moses would have succeeded in taking the Israelites



Moses with the Tablets of the Law being carried down from Mount Sinai

Slide Six

their bad experiences of the past, and give them a basis for establishing themselves as a new nation, covenantal love. This would move the people past the blueprint for a justice system based on from Mt. Sinai during their wilderness sojourn was open to the future. The Ten Commandments, which God gave to Moses

Land of Egypt.... "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the

neighbour as yourselt... Therefore you shall love the Lord your God...Your

Honour your father and your mother..." etc.

covenantal love, can lead to violence. But religion, without a basis in Can you build a society on hate?

indoctrination of hate into young people) (Sacks gives examples of Muslim

Consider -

salt..(Genesis 19:17-26) at Sodom and was turned into a pillar of immobilized by hate - looked back to look The image of Lot's wife, who -

Discuss this "silly story"



The Sodom and Gomorrah motif from the Nuremberg Chronicle by Hartmann Schedel, 1493. Note Lot's wife, already transformed into a salt pillar, in the center

Slide Nine

Memory as moral force.

It can immobilize or liberate you.

Slide Ten

What about vengeance?

Deuteronomy 32:35/Romans 12:19:

Lord "Vengeance is mine, I will repay" says the

What does this mean?

Slide Eleven

Moving from a culture of blame to one of penitence

Blame bars the path to responsibility

But - "What then shall I do?" Not - "Who did this to me?"

Discuss

HOSPITALITY BREAK

Slide Twelve

"The Will to Power or the Will to Life"

study Considering Ten Implications - from our

be more religious (255) 1. A generation from now the world will

(256)anti-Western movements will prevail 2. Within religion, the most anti-modern,

3. The West must recover its ideals (256)

4. In a world of relativism, what 'talks" is power (brute assertion of force).

(258)whole, has never faced a challenge quite like this. 5.Extremism - the West, indeed the world as a

6. Many are seeking a scapegoat for this situation.

without risk of reprisal A scapegoat must be someone you can kill

our world today (259-60) Israel and Judaism is that scapegoat for many in

campaign against the 7. There must be an international

preaching and teaching of hate

monotheistic values We must recover the Abrahamic

Christianity and Islam. (262-63) based on love at the heart of Judaism,

8. The only viable covenants are the two that God made with Noah and Abraham

covenant with Abraham. These are the covenant with Noah and the

the religions. These covenants are shared by all three of

The first - our common humanity

The second - our particular identities (264)

9. The crimes resulting from religion are caused by than letting God remake us in God's image (265) humans making God in their own image rather

10. Now is the time for Jews, Christians and Muslims to say together what they failed to say in the past

"We are all children of Abraham"

Slide Seventeen

Small or Large group discussion question

this course. One important thing I have learned from

Closing - Ken Kittridge

September. our autumn series that begins in mid-Don't forget to submit book suggestions for

See you at ACTS in September