

**General Topics :: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic?****Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/8 20:37**

James Carter  
The "Malaise Speech"  
1979

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Good evening.

This is a special night for me. Exactly 3 years ago, on July 15, 1976, I accepted the nomination of my party to run for President of the United States. I promised you a President who is not isolated from the people, who feels your pain, and who shares your dreams and who draws his strength and his wisdom from you.

During the past 3 years I've spoken to you on many occasions about national concerns, the energy crisis, reorganizing the Government, our Nation's economy, and issues of war and especially peace. But over those years the subjects of the speeches, the talks, and the press conferences have become increasingly narrow, focused more and more on what the isolated world of Washington thinks is important. Gradually, you've heard more and more about what the Government thinks or what the Government should be doing and less and less about our Nation's hopes, our dreams, and our vision of the future.

Ten days ago I had planned to speak to you again about a very important subject -- energy. For the fifth time I would have described the urgency of the problem and laid out a series of legislative recommendations to the Congress. But as I was preparing to speak, I began to ask myself the same question that I now know has been troubling many of you. Why have we not been able to get together as a nation to resolve our serious energy problem?

It's clear that the true problems of our Nation are much deeper -- deeper than gasoline lines of energy shortages, deeper even than inflation or recession. And I realize more than ever that as President I need your help. So, I decided to reach out and listen to the voices of America.

I invited to Camp David people from almost every segment of our society business and labor, teachers and preachers, Governors, mayors, and private citizens. And then I left Camp David to listen to other Americans, men and women like you. It has been an extraordinary 10 days, and I want to share with you what I've heard. First of all, I got a lot of personal advice. Let me quote a few of the typical comments that I wrote down.

This from a southern Governor: "Mr. President, you are not leading this Nation -- you're just managing the Government."

"You don't see the people enough any more."

"Some of your Cabinet members don't seem loyal. There is not enough discipline among your disciples."

"Don't talk to us about politics or the mechanics of government, but about an understanding of our common good."

"Mr. President, we're in trouble. Talk to us about blood and sweat and tears."

"If you lead, Mr. President, we will follow."

Many people talked about themselves and about the condition of our Nation. This from a young woman in Pennsylvania: "I feel so far from government. I feel like ordinary people are excluded from political power."

And this from a young Chicano: "Some of us have suffered from recession all our lives."

"Some people have wasted energy, but others haven't had anything to waste."

And this from a religious leader: "No material shortage can touch the important things like God's love for us or our love for one another."

And I like this one particularly from a black woman who happens to be the mayor of a small Mississippi town: "The big shots are not the only ones who are important. Remember, you can't sell anything on Wall Street unless someone digs it up somewhere else first."

This kind of summarized a lot of other statements: "Mr. President, we are confronted with a moral and a spiritual crisis."

Several of our discussions were on energy, and I have a notebook full of comments and advice. I'll read just a few.

"We can't go on consuming 40 percent more energy than we produce. When we import oil we are also importing inflation plus unemployment."

"We've got to use what we have. The Middle East has only 5 percent of the world's energy, but the United States has 24 percent."

And this is one of the most vivid statements: "Our neck is stretched over the fence and OPEC has a knife."

"There will be other cartels and other shortages. American wisdom and courage right now can set a path to follow in the future."

This was a good one: "Be bold, Mr. President. We may make mistakes, but we are ready to experiment."

And this one from a labor leader got to the heart of it: "The real issue is freedom. We must deal with the energy problem on a war footing."

And the last that I'll read: "When we enter the moral equivalent of war, Mr. President, don't issue us BB guns."

These 10 days confirmed my belief in the decency and the strength and the wisdom of the American people, but it also bore out some of my longstanding concerns about our Nation's underlying problems.

I know, of course, being President, that government actions and legislation can be very important. That's why I've worked hard to put my campaign promises into law -- and I have to admit, with just mixed success. But after listening to the American people I have been reminded again that all the legislation in the world can't fix what's wrong with America. So, I want to speak to you first tonight about a subject even more serious than energy or inflation. I want to talk to you right now about a fundamental threat to American democracy.

I do not mean our political and civil liberties. They will endure. And I do not refer to the outward strength of America, a nation that is at peace tonight everywhere in the world, with unmatched economic power and military might.

The threat is nearly invisible in ordinary ways. It is a crisis of confidence. It is a crisis that strikes at the very heart and soul and spirit of our national will. We can see this crisis in the growing doubt about the meaning of our own lives and in the loss of a unity of purpose for our Nation.

The erosion of our confidence in the future is threatening to destroy the social and the political fabric of America.

The confidence that we have always had as a people is not simply some romantic dream or a proverb in a dusty book that we read just on the Fourth of July. It is the idea which founded our Nation and has guided our development as a people. Confidence in the future has supported everything else -- public institutions and private enterprise, our own families, and the very Constitution of the United States. Confidence has defined our course and has served as a link between generations. We've always believed in something called progress. We've always had a faith that the days of our children would be better than our own.

Our people are losing that faith, not only in government itself but in the ability as citizens to serve as the ultimate rulers and shapers of our democracy. As a people we know our past and we are proud of it. Our progress has been part of the li

ving history of America, even the world. We always believed that we were part of a great movement of humanity itself called democracy, involved in the search for freedom, and that belief has always strengthened us in our purpose. But just as we are losing our confidence in the future, we are also beginning to close the door on our past.

In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to worship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we've discovered that owning things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning. We've learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose.

The symptoms of this crisis of the American spirit are all around us. For the first time in the history of our country a majority of our people believe that the next 5 years will be worse than the past 5 years. Two-thirds of our people do not even vote. The productivity of American workers is actually dropping, and the willingness of Americans to save for the future has fallen below that of all other people in the Western world.

As you know, there is a growing disrespect for government and for churches and for schools, the news media, and other institutions. This is not a message of happiness or reassurance, but it is the truth and it is a warning.

These changes did not happen overnight. They've come upon us gradually over the last generation, years that were filled with shocks and tragedy.

We were sure that ours was a nation of the ballot, not the bullet, until the murders of John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. We were taught that our armies were always invincible and our causes were always just, only to suffer the agony of Vietnam. We respected the Presidency as a place of honor until the shock of Water gate.

We remember when the phrase "sound as a dollar" was an expression of absolute dependability, until 10 years of inflation began to shrink our dollar and our savings. We believed that our Nation's resources were limitless until 1973, when we had to face a growing dependence on foreign oil.

These wounds are still very deep. They have never been healed.

Looking for a way out of this crisis, our people have turned to the Federal Government and found it isolated from the mainstream of our Nation's life. Washington, D.C., has become an island. The gap between our citizens and our Government has never been so wide. The people are looking for honest answers, not easy answers; clear leadership, not false claims and evasiveness and politics as usual.

What you see too often in Washington and elsewhere around the country is a system of government that seems incapable of action. You see a Congress twisted and pulled in every direction by hundreds of well financed and powerful special interests. You see every extreme position defended to the last vote, almost to the last breath by one unyielding group or another. You often see a balanced and a fair approach that demands sacrifice, a little sacrifice from everyone, abandoned like an orphan without support and without friends.

Often you see paralysis and stagnation and drift. You don't like, and neither do I. What can we do?

First of all, we must face the truth, and then we can change our course. We simply must have faith in each other, faith in our ability to govern ourselves, and faith in the future of this Nation. Restoring that faith and that confidence to America is now the most important task we face. It is a true challenge of this generation of Americans.

One of the visitors to Camp David last week put it this way: "We've got to stop crying and start sweating, stop talking and start walking, stop cursing and start praying. The strength we need will not come from the White House, but from every house in America."

We know the strength of America. We are strong. We can regain our unity. We can regain our confidence. We are the heirs of generations who survived threats much more powerful and awesome than those that challenge us now. Our fathers and mothers were strong men and women who shaped a new society during the Great Depression, who fought world wars, and who carved out a new charter of peace for the world.

We ourselves and the same Americans who just 10 years ago put a man on the Moon. We are the generation that dedicated our society to the pursuit of human rights and equality. And we are the generation that will win the war on the energy

y problem and in that process rebuild the unity and confidence of America.

We are at a turning point in our history. There are two paths to choose. One is a path I've warned about tonight, the path that leads to fragmentation and self-interest. Down that road lies a mistaken idea of freedom, the right to grasp for ourselves some advantage over others. That path would be one of constant conflict between narrow interests ending in chaos and immobility. It is a certain route to failure.

All the traditions of our past, all the lessons of our heritage, all the promises of our future point to another path, the path of common purpose and the restoration of American values. That path leads to true freedom for our Nation and ourselves. We can take the first steps down that path as we begin to solve our energy problem.

Energy will be the immediate test of our ability to unite this Nation, and it can also be the standard around which we rally. On the battlefield of energy we can win for our Nation a new confidence, and we can seize control again of our common destiny.

In little more than two decades we've gone from a position of energy independence to one in which almost half the oil we use comes from foreign countries, at prices that are going through the roof. Our excessive dependence on OPEC has already taken a tremendous toll on our economy and our people. This is the direct cause of the long lines which have made millions of you spend aggravating hours waiting for gasoline. It's a cause of the increased inflation and unemployment that we now face. This intolerable dependence on foreign oil threatens our economic independence and the very security of our Nation.

The energy crisis is real. It is worldwide. It is a clear and present danger to our Nation. These are facts and we simply must face them.

What I have to say to you now about energy is simple and vitally important.

Point one: I am tonight setting a clear goal for the energy policy of the United States. Beginning this moment, this Nation will never use more foreign oil than we did in 1977 -- never. From now on, every new addition to our demand for energy will be met from our own production and our own conservation. The generation-long growth in our dependence on foreign oil will be stopped dead in its tracks right now and then reversed as we move through the 1980's, for I am tonight setting the further goal of cutting our dependence on foreign oil by one-half by the end of the next decade -- a saving of over 4 1/2 million barrels of imported oil per day.

Point two: To ensure that we meet these targets, I will use my Presidential authority to set import quotas. I'm announcing tonight that for 1979 and 1980, I will forbid the entry into this country of one drop of foreign oil more than these goals allow. These quotas will ensure a reduction in imports even below the ambitious levels we set at the recent Tokyo summit.

Point three: To give us energy security, I am asking for the most massive peacetime commitment of funds and resources in our Nation's history to develop America's own alternative sources of fuel -- from coal, from oil shale, from plant products for gasohol, from unconventional gas, from the Sun.

I propose the creation of an energy security corporation to lead this effort to replace 2 1/2 million barrels of imported oil per day by 1990. The corporation will issue up to \$5 billion in energy bonds, and I especially want them to be in small denominations so that average Americans can invest directly in America's energy security.

Just as a similar synthetic rubber corporation helped us win World War II, so will we mobilize American determination and ability to win the energy war. Moreover, I will soon submit legislation to Congress calling for the creation of this Nation's first solar bank, which will help us achieve the crucial goal of 20 percent of our energy coming from solar power by the year 2000.

These efforts will cost money, a lot of money, and that is why Congress must enact the windfall profits tax without delay. It will be money well spent. Unlike the billions of dollars that we ship to foreign countries to pay for foreign oil, these funds will be paid by Americans to Americans. These funds will go to fight, not to increase, inflation and unemployment.

Point four: I'm asking Congress to mandate, to require as a matter of law, that our Nation's utility companies cut their massive use of oil by 50 percent within the next decade and switch to other fuels, especially coal, our most abundant energy source.

Point five: To make absolutely certain that nothing stands in the way of achieving these goals, I will urge Congress to create an energy mobilization board which, like the War Production Board in World War II, will have the responsibility and authority to cut through the redtape, the delays, and the endless roadblocks to completing key energy projects.

We will protect our environment. But when this Nation critically needs a refinery or a pipeline, we will build it.

Point six: I'm proposing a bold conservation program to involve every State, county, and city and every average American in our energy battle. This effort will permit you to build conservation into your homes and your lives at a cost you can afford.

I ask Congress to give me authority for mandatory conservation and for standby gasoline rationing. To further conserve energy, I'm proposing tonight an extra \$10 billion over the next decade to strengthen our public transportation systems. And I'm asking you for your good and for your Nation's security to take no unnecessary trips, to use carpools or public transportation whenever you can, to park your car one extra day per week, to obey the speed limit, and to set your thermostat to save fuel. Every act of energy conservation like this is more than just common sense -- I tell you it is an act of patriotism.

Our Nation must be fair to the poorest among us, so we will increase aid to needy Americans to cope with rising energy prices. We often think of conservation only in terms of sacrifice. In fact, it is the most painless and immediate way of rebuilding our Nation's strength. Every gallon of oil each one of us saves is a new form of production. It gives us more freedom, more confidence, that much more control over our own lives.

So, the solution of our energy crisis can also help us to conquer the crisis of the spirit in our country. It can rekindle our sense of unity, our confidence in the future, and give our Nation and all of us individually a new sense of purpose.

You know we can do it. We have the natural resources. We have more oil in our shale alone than several Saudi Arabias. We have more coal than any nation on Earth. We have the world's highest level of technology. We have the most skilled work force, with innovative genius, and I firmly believe that we have the national will to win this war.

I do not promise you that this struggle for freedom will be easy. I do not promise a quick way out of our Nation's problems, when the truth is that the only way out is an all-out effort. What I do promise you is that I will lead our fight, and I will enforce fairness in our struggle, and I will ensure honesty. And above all, I will act.

We can manage the short-term shortages more effectively and we will, but there are no short-term solutions to our long-range problems. There is simply no way to avoid sacrifice.

Twelve hours from now I will speak again in Kansas City, to expand and to explain further our energy program. Just as the search for solutions to our energy shortages has now led us to a new awareness of our Nation's deeper problems, so our willingness to work for those solutions in energy can strengthen us to attack those deeper problems.

I will continue to travel this country, to hear the people of America. You can help me to develop a national agenda for the 1980's. I will listen and I will act. We will act together. These were the promises I made 3 years ago, and I intend to keep them.

Little by little we can and we must rebuild our confidence. We can spend until we empty our treasuries, and we may summon all the wonders of science. But we can succeed only if we tap our greatest resources -- America's people, America's values, and America's confidence.

I have seen the strength of America in the inexhaustible resources of our people. In the days to come, let us renew that strength in the struggle for an energy-secure nation.

In closing, let me say this: I will do my best, but I will not do it alone. Let your voice be heard. Whenever you have a chance, say something good about our country. With God's help and for the sake of our Nation, it is time for us to join hands in America. Let us commit ourselves together to a rebirth of the American spirit. Working together with our common faith we cannot fail.

Thank you and good night.

What did Carter see? Is the path that he feared realized?

In Christ

Jeff

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/10 0:31**

This is one man's opinion of Carter's wisdom....

## THE COMING MALAISE

by J. R. Nyquist

Remember President Carter's 1979 Malaise Speech? Americans were losing faith in the country's future, he said. They were closing the door on America's past. President Carter wanted to turn things around. He warned that rising materialism would not "fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose." He said it was a crisis of American spirit. In response to this crisis, Carter wanted the authority to ration gasoline, form an "energy mobilization board," create a bureaucracy to guarantee that we would "never use more foreign oil than we did in 1977," set oil import quotas and develop solar power. "These efforts will cost money," Carter explained, "a lot of money...."

The country rejected President Carter's call, and subsequently enjoyed three decades of prosperity. Carter's policy was rejected because the American people didn't want a lower standard of living. They didn't want to forfeit their economic freedom. The American people cling to material happiness with a ferocious animal cunning. They do not believe in giving up, or giving over to obstacles. They want a good life. Their materialism is fundamental, and so is their comfort. They will reject any politician who tells them bad news. They will reject any policy based on pessimism. This is the lesson of the 1970s, taught by the great teacher of the 1980s - Ronald Reagan.

What we are seeing today is reminiscent of the 1970s. First, there is dollar inflation, understated by government statisticians. Then there is the stagnation in the U.S. economy. An old depressing pattern has appeared again. We see an American president discredited and the presidency weakened; an unpopular overseas military commitment; rising oil prices; increasing government regulation and higher taxes. We know what happened at the end of the 1970s. American weakness and malaise led to aggressive Communist moves in Africa, Latin America and Asia (Angola, Nicaragua and Afghanistan). Then came the humiliation of the Iran Hostage Crisis.

The trauma of the 1970s ended with the appearance of Ronald Reagan in the White House. Weathering a severe recession with steady optimism, Reagan shepherded the United States toward a period of sustained prosperity and apparent victory in the Cold War. As we look ahead to next year's presidential race, however, we don't see anyone resembling Ronald Reagan. The likely winner will be a Democrat and the Democrat philosophy isn't the philosophy of Reagan. The Republican Party has been wounded by President Bush's failed Iraq adventure. In recent days the polls show the three leading Democratic candidates beating the top Republican candidates. Furthermore, an economic downturn is expected by the end of the year and the party in the White House generally gets the blame. So instead of getting a Ronald Reagan, the country would be getting something else - though nobody is sure what that would mean.

The Republican candidates haven't found their footing. They haven't found the right things to say. Attempting to mimic Reagan won't work, because the public mood has shifted and the Democratic candidates can also mimic Reagan. Underneath the surface, the country has been changing. It is more self-absorbed and more cynical. It seems that community interest has been gradually surrendering to fanatical interest groups and their politically neurotic adherents. The United States is no longer a healthy republic.

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Perhaps I am alone in thinking that a monster has been growing inside America. It is the monster of political passion, misguided ideology and moral confusion. It is a monster born of a consumption culture whose intellectual and moral standards have been falling. There is every reason to believe that the political criminals of the future will pose as do-gooders. Their urge, however, will be to reduce the people to subjection while pillaging the economy. The clever demagogue knows how to divide and conquer. He creates and exploits the dividing line between rich and poor, black and white, immigrant and native. Listen carefully. Notice whether a presidential candidate appeals to goodness and justice or resentment and envy.

It is not a good thing when resentment and envy gain the upper hand in political discourse. Those who seek prosperity at other's expense easily imagine that wealth is a matter of theft. Through the repetition of this theme, people may gradually come to accept an evil idea. If this idea hardens into a universal belief, the political arena can degenerate into gangsterism. The political cynicism of our time, in which all political leaders are rated as criminals, logically leads to the assumption that crime pays. Once this generalization gains common acceptance, everything is transformed and the United States becomes an Asiatic country.

I will end with a quote from Gustav Le Bon: "Our epoch... can be understood only by grasping the role played by the mysticism of the people and their leaders." He further stated: "One cannot govern a people with true ideas but only with beliefs accepted as truths."

end of article...

In Christ  
Jeff

**Re:, on: 2007/8/10 1:58**

The world has become increasingly secular 15 years prior to the Jimmy Carter administration more since Jimmy Carter administration. I still believe there is no authority established except what God establishes. We are to pray for those in authority. JESUS being the supreme authority. Americans may very well get the most secular president ever in 08 due to more increasing secular opinionated majority of "what has God and HIS WORD got to do with anything". The people say we have our constitution and it is separate from God's will, we have rights and they have nothing to do with God's will and we will not consider anything GOD said in making our laws. Remember the people back in the Old Testament that wanted a King and God gave them what they wanted. Ok he said, you want a king, I'll give you a king. If Jesus was recognized by the majority of the people in America to be their KING, the KING in the way they live their daily lives, then who HE places in authority will reflect that. If the majority does not recognize KING JESUS, then HE will give us a king with a little k, but the faithful will still be under the authority of THE KING with the capital K, regardless.

**Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/13 0:33**

President Carter made this observation a generation ago:

Quote:  
-----In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to worship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we've discovered that owning things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning. We've learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose.  
-----

Seeing where we have walked in this nation, was his insights prophetic?

In Christ  
Jeff

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**Re:, on: 2007/8/13 8:09**

I think we would do better to quote the president who came after Carter...

...but that would be politically incorrect tho.

:-)

(**Not** trying to start a political debate... just making a comment)

Krispy

**Re:, on: 2007/8/13 8:13**

Quote:

-----Seeing where we have walked in this nation, was his insights prophetic?  
-----

In order for anything to be "prophetic" it has to be the very words of God being spoken thru a man... and I dont believe th is was the case w/ Carter. I think he was simply an obviously intelligent man making an observation.

Dennis Miller has made the same observations, and I wouldn't consider for a minute that God was speaking thru him.

Mark Twain... same thing. Anyone can look around and make the right observations about the course of a society, but th at doesnt mean they are speaking on behalf of God.

Jimmy Carter was/is not a prophet. He was a politician. **BIG** difference.

Today there is such a misuse of the words prophet, prophecy and prophetic. We stick that word on anything that resoun ds with us. I can look up and say "The sky is really blue this morning... it's gonna be a hot one" and someone somewher e would say "Wow... that was prophetic!"

And this is part of the reason the church is in the shape it's in. We dont understand simple vocabulary and word definitio ns, let alone scripture.

This speech, or whatever it was, is one of the very few instances where I can say "I agree with you, Mr. Carter" ... but le ts not make it out to be more than it is.

Let's stick to quoting prophetic scriptures and sermons.

Krispy

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by Rahman, on: 2007/8/13 9:11**

i'm not gonna get into a long drawn out debate about whether or not what Pres. Carter said was prophetic or not, tho his being a Christian might have some bearing on the astuteness of his observations ... i know with myself viewing the world , and it's happenings, thru scripture makes things pop out that the unsaved can't even begin to see ... Anyhow ...

Bro Krisp wrote ...

"In order for anything to be "prophetic" it has to be the very words of God being spoken thru a man..."

--- Amen, technically i totally agree and that would be God-sense ---

Bro Krisp also wrote ...

"Anyone can look around and make the right observations about the course of a society"



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--- Anyone bro Krisp? ... Coulda fooled me :-P ... But amen, that would be common sense ...

Two different senses maybe but with this one thing in common, the speakers are coming at us in the importance of warn ing like Paul Revere, but the greater masses pooh-pooh such warnings as the paranoid rantings of Chicken Little ...

i think the Gustav Le Bon quote: "One cannot govern a people with true ideas but only with beliefs accepted as truths" sums things up pretty good for much of the saved and unsaved ...

Seems in our present society the revealers and warners against our laxities and excesses of both ilk, those with God-se nse and those with common-sense, are candidates for a pit ...

**Re:, on: 2007/8/13 9:26**

I agree brother.

Krispy

**Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/14 2:09**

Brother Krispy wrote:

Quote:  
-----In order for anything to be "prophetic" it has to be the very words of God being spoken thru a man... and I dont believe this was the case w/ Carter. I think he was simply an obviously intelligent man making an observation.  
-----

I am sorry for the use of the word 'prophetic" as you have said that it must be of God.

What I was pointing to was the fact that Jimmy Carter recognized and identified what ailed this nation 30 years ago. No w we see the fruits of what he warned us of. We see that we as a nation have sold our soul for materialism. China warn ed the U.S. last week that if we didn't stop harrassing them about the trade inbalance they would dump the U.S. currenc y.

Now in terms of Jimmy Carter, as you wrote,

Quote:  
----- I think he was simply an obviously intelligent man making an observation.  
-----

Do you think that God can give wisdom to those whom He sets in place?

In Christ  
Jeff

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/14 2:16**

Again Jimmy Carter said:

Quote:  
-----In a nation that was proud of hard work, strong families, close-knit communities, and our faith in God, too many of us now tend to w orship self-indulgence and consumption. Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns. But we've discovered that owni ng things and consuming things does not satisfy our longing for meaning. We've learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose.

-----  
The worship of material things has gone a long way in breaking down the family and community in which we live. In the last 30 years we have become the greatest debtor nation in the history of mankind. This speaks of a debasement of the moral fabric of this nation. Jimmy Carter warned the nation of this demise. But the nation did not heed this warning...

In Christ  
Jeff

**Re:, on: 2007/8/14 6:43**

Quote:  
-----China warned the U.S. last week that if we didn't stop harrassing them about the trade inbalance they would dump the U.S. currency.  
-----

We're a bunch of fools if we think the current Chinese government is our friend. Unfortunately we've created a lot of these messes we're currently in. I'll definately agree with that.

Krispy

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/16 0:32**

Carter said...

Quote:  
-----Human identity is no longer defined by what one does, but by what one owns.  
-----

In an article written

by Paul L. Kasriel  
Senior Vice President & Director of Economic Research  
The Northern Trust Company  
August 13, 2007

From 1929 through 2006, there were only 13 years in which households incurred deficits — i.e., spent more in total than they earned after taxes. Two of these household-deficit years occurred during the Great Depression of the 1930s, three occurred shortly after the end of World War II and one occurred in 1955. The remaining seven household-deficit years occurred in 1999 and 2001 through 2006. Three things to note: (1) that households have run deficits in six out of the past seven years is unprecedented; (2) the magnitude of the 2004, 2005 and 2006 household deficits are unprecedented, and; (3) the household deficits starting in 1999 occurred in a period when asset prices showed extraordinary increases....

end of thought in article...

The fruits of what President Carter warned this nation of are being manifested by the debt we incur to create the identity of our outward appearance. This is moral decay which has permeated both the leaders and the subjects of this nation.

We are drunk with a wine that causes us as a nation to stumble.

In Christ

**General Topics :: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic?**

Jeff

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/8/16 5:15**

Carter's speechwriters were well informed and accurate...but unfortunately Carter was not a strong enough President to make self control look good.

The secular humanists were already in place in the schools, pushing me, me, and me.

Looking out for No. 1 was published soon after this speech, a harbinger of things to come.

Self control looks even worse now.

And even though I fight for self control myself, and have virtually no personal debt, we are caught in a trap set when the Federal Reserve was instituted, and when the trap was set off as we went off the gold standard under Nixon, with Democrats in power in both Houses agreeing to it.

The corporate interests won.

Their political friends won on both sides.

We have legalized theft via inflation, as well as through corporately pushed goods AND debt.

Half the country does not care what happens *next* year so long as *this* year they look good.

I hate it, but in reality, what can we do?

It's **supposed** to happen.

Blessings,

Forrest

**Re: - posted by mom23beagles, on: 2007/8/18 11:28**

I wouldn't place too much stock in anything Jimmy Carter-related. The man is anti-Israel and therefore, in my books, not credible.

8-)

**Re:, on: 2007/8/18 13:24**

Quote:  
-----Mom said: I wouldn't place too much stock in anything Jimmy Carter-related. The man is anti-Israel and therefore, in my books, not credible.  
-----

Mom, do you have credible sources for this? can you list online statements given by Jimmy Carter for his anti Israel stance?

Thank you

**General Topics :: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic?**

**Re: - posted by mom23beagles, on: 2007/8/18 13:47**

Quote:  
-----Mom, do you have credible sources for this? can you list online statements given by Jimmy Carter for his anti Israel stance?  
-----

You betcha, absolutely. The most recent anti-Israel tirades are well-documented in his latest book, "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid".

Check out this website, with statements from that very book:

([http://www.americanthinker.com/2006/11/the\\_world\\_according\\_to\\_jimmy\\_c.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2006/11/the_world_according_to_jimmy_c.html)) [http://www.americanthinker.com/2006/11/the\\_world\\_according\\_to\\_jimmy\\_c.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2006/11/the_world_according_to_jimmy_c.html)

This one as well:

(<http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-carter8dec08,0,7999232.story?coll=la-home-commentary>) <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-carter8dec08,0,7999232.story?coll=la-home-commentary>

The man is clearly anti-Israel. If he was a Bible-believing Christian, he would realize that the long-standing aggression between Arabs and Jews dates back to Abraham and Sarah/Hagar. The Word is clear, there will never be peace between Jews and Arabs - Genesis 16:12.

If you need more proof, just Google "jimmy carter" and "israel" and you'll see for yourself.

**Re: - posted by ccchhrrriiiss (), on: 2007/8/18 14:12**

Hi Compliments and Mom...

Quote:  
-----  
Compliments wrote:

Quote:  
-----Mom said: I wouldn't place too much stock in anything Jimmy Carter-related. The man is anti-Israel and therefore, in my books, not credible.  
-----

Mom, do you have credible sources for this? can you list online statements given by Jimmy Carter for his anti Israel stance?  
-----

While I wouldn't go so far as to say that Carter is anti-Israel, he has been accused of unfairly taking the side of the Palestinians. Recently, fourteen "fellow" members of the Carter Center (Jimmy Carter's organization for world policy) recently resigned as a result of Carter's latest book, "*Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid*." The controversial book speaks about Carter's own view about the prospects of peace in the Middle East. Some have accused the book of being soft on Palestinian terrorism, as well as signifying that the root of all terrorism in the Middle East is the establishment (and Western recognition) of the State of Israel.

In the public letter that was signed by these former Carter Fellows, Carter was reprimanded for painting what they considered an "untrue" portrayal of Palestinians living under "the thumb of a brutal occupying force." These former members stated that they expected such slanted information from "uninformed journalists with an agenda," but not from a former President and renowned public figure. They also stated:

Quote:  
-----The facts in dealing with the conflict are these: There are two national narratives contesting one piece of land. The Israelis, through deed and public comment, have consistently spoken of a desire to live in peace and make territorial compromise to achieve this status. The Palestinian side has consistently resorted to acts of terror as a national expression and elected parties endorsing the use of terror, the rejection of territorial compromise and of Israel's right to exist. Palestinian leaders have had chances since 1947 to have their own state. A...  
-----

A professor from Harvard Law School, Alan Dershowitz, offered to allow President Carter the opportunity to address students about the themes in the book and take part in an open debate on the issue. Carter accepted the offer to speak, but without any sort of confrontation through questions or debate.

While there are certainly some questions about reported Israeli conduct in regards to the Palestinians, it is impossible to speak or write about this issue without an advanced knowledge of the situation. There are many false rumours about th

e situation which often go reported by the press. The root of the issue is not at the Israeli buildings. Rather, the Palestinians (who NEVER had an official state, but rather, a territory) REFUSED to adhere to the British and UN mandates for dividing the territory (which actually worked in the favor of the Palestinians, giving them the better areas). The Palestinians refused any division of the land amongst the Jews and Palestinians, and war ensued (again and again and...).

Even today, while the public leadership of Palestinians claims to only want the original mandate recognized, everyone involved in the process realizes that this is simply untrue. The Muslim world wants Israel to be completely removed with all Middle Eastern lands in the control of Muslims. While there has always been a question about the fairness of the land taken following the Palestinian refusal of cooperation and losses from the subsequent wars, the fact remains that there was a strong Jewish presence in the land BEFORE 1948. The idea that the Jews (on behalf of the US, UK and the UN) completely uprooted an already existing government is simply untrue.

Regardless, here are some articles about the book and both the criticism and support thereof. I hope this helps...

(<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/14/books/14cart.html?ex1323752400&enb64637188428bfe8&ei5090&partner=rssuserland&emcrss>) New York Times Book Review

(<http://thelede.blogs.nytimes.com/2007/01/12/carter-and-his-critics-the-skirmishes-continue/>) Article about Book and resignations

(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/12/06/AR2006120602171.html>) Washington Post article about Book

(<http://www.ihf.com/articles/2006/12/07/news/carter.php>) International Herald Tribune article

(<http://www.meforum.org/article/1633>) Academic Policy Journal, *Middle East Forum*, criticism of Carter's book

(<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16579676/>) MSNBC article about resignation of Carter fellows

(<http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/01/11/carter.resignations/index.html>) CNN article about resignations

Video of Carter's apology concerning some of his comments in the book

(<http://www.bpnews.net/bpnews.asp?ID24844>) Baptist Press News article about possible Arab financial ties for book

(<http://www.newsbusters.org/node/10405>) Criticism of possible bias in CNN's coverage of Carter book situation

:-)

**Re: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic? - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/23 4:26**

Quote:  
-----We remember when the phrase "sound as a dollar" was an expression of absolute dependability, until 10 years of inflation began to shrink our dollar and our savings. We believed that our Nation's resources were limitless until 1973, when we had to face a growing dependence on foreign oil.  
-----

Three days after this speech President Carter asked Paul Volker to take the position of the Chairman of the Federal Reserve. In short order Volker began to raise interest rates that destroyed inflation. You see, inflation is caused by loose money policies and easy lending standards. As more people are allowed to borrow more money, the prices of the assets which people are purchasing increase beyond the assets actual value.

But now looking back, we see that what Carter warned the nation of, seeking to create our identity by what we own, has come to be. There has never been a time in this nation's history where the common folk have owed so much to own so little.

**General Topics :: Was President Jimmy Carter's famous speech prophetic?**

In Christ  
Jeff

**Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2007/8/23 4:30**

Many in the world mockingly called President Carter the "peanut farmer." The 'peanut farmer" had a plaque on his desk which said something to this affect...

"My God your sea is so vast, and my boat is so small."

In Christ  
Jeff