

A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE NOT TO FORGET

I opened the paper for May Day. I didn't remember it was the season of HaShoah for Jews. The feature article was *Paying Tribute — Ashland synagogues remember those who died during genocides*.

Rabbi Zaslow explains it:

“We light candles and remember the 6 million Jews killed by Hitler in the genocide...

And we link it to remembrances of other genocides.

Though we remember our own, we see ourselves in alliance with them in this somber commemoration.” (HaShoah)

Other genocides to be commemorated,

—the Hutu majority in Rwanda in 1994 killed up to 1 million of the Tutsi...

—in Cambodia in the late '70's, the Khmer Rouge killed up to 1.8 million...

—Turks wiped out 1.5 million Armenians in the late 1910's...

—millions of Native Americans killed in the European settling of the Americas.

The rabbi adds a little sermon he will use for the day:

“I will address the ongoing need for vigil against the rising tide of white nationalism and that we call on our leaders for a better future...

and to clearly and unconditionally call out white nationalism,

which is behind 70% of attacks on American Jews...

There's been a steady uptick in anti-Semitism in the last decade in this country, and it mostly comes from white nationalists.

They want a pure country of whites, and they fear people of color, LGBTQ, synagogues, black churches and mosques.” (Rabbi David Zaslow)

Let the people say, Amen!

Rabbi Zaslow is a Jewish protester, in a long line of Jewish protesters...like Amos and other troublesome prophets...and need I mention Jesus? Doesn't he know that his little sermon could get him killed?

Of course he does. He sadly admits that his synagogue will be guarded and locked for these memorial times. He knows that Mosques and many Christian Churches of all denominations also fear those stirred to violent acts by those caught up in “*the rising tide of nationalism*” in our country and throughout the world. He is pleading for allies “*to call on our leaders for a better future...to clearly and unconditionally call out white nationalism...*”

Yes, the rabbi knows that speaking out can get you killed.

Silence is deadly too.

As an unremarkable disciple of a crucified Jewish rabbi trouble-maker I believe I see signs of his life in the world today. I want to declare my solidarity with those who do not let unspeakable grief memories destroy courage and hope for the future.

Art Morgan, May 2, 2019