

Pertinent Jewish Societal Foundations

The Jews have prospered wherever they spread to in the nations. A look at their societal foundations can help us tap into what will give us a good base for expanding The Kingdom into our culture. Morris Ruddick addresses this issue in his March 2016 online article, "Foundations". Here are some snippets from each of his points.

Identity

The foundations of Jewish culture is their identity. Jews hold to the belief of being a prophetic people of God whose ways reflect the pattern of their forefather Abraham: to be blessed to be a blessing. This distinction has been both unique and pertinent to their destiny. For the most part, they have resisted assimilation and from age to age they have maintained their unique identity as a culture within a culture.

Community

As a culture within a culture, Jewish communities tend to operate with an approach of being a trust society. They foster entrepreneurship and creativity from within and build incisively from the bottom-up.

Self-Sufficiency

Within that context, community-wise, when adhering to their standards, they operate in a self-regulated, self-sufficiency within their communities. Self sufficiency will result from discipline, excellence and dependable stewardship. It is why Jews have succeeded even when the societies around them have made untenable legal requirements and even contained them within ghettos. Even during severe times of persecution, Jews typically have mastered fostering the type of stewardship that serves and reflects excellence, while profiting and overcoming.

Personal Gifting

Jewish communities are known for nurturing and mentoring emerging generations to excel as individuals, yet for the benefit of community. Everyone has a gift. First defining one's gift and then developing it to where what is being done stands out in excellence among others represents something that can be successfully commercialized. It is also the foundation of true leadership.

Leadership

The Jewish brand of leadership has the distinction of operating best through influence and service. Jesus described this brand of influence as being the salt of the earth, a city on a hill that cannot be hidden. As a people, Jews are disciplined and are willing to pay the cost to live according to a higher standard, as well as to sacrifice for the future of their people.

Moral Standards

With many similarities to the ancient roots of some key Asian peoples, Jews are a moral society. Their distinctive identity upholds the standards of community, entrepreneurship, innovation, excellence and industriousness. While not exempt from corruption, Jewish standards in business, community and seats of power do tend to be higher, with corrupt practices less tolerated...However, these moral standards are significant. They form a part of knowing God's ways.

Bottom-Up Foundations

Long-term economic growth that helps society as a whole requires bottom-up economic foundations. This doesn't discount either the opportunity or importance of leveraged development from top-down investment activity or business accelerator strategies...Healthy economic structures need to foster family-owned businesses that employ a handful of employees and serve a local neighborhood...What is most pertinent and warrants examination is the Jewish model which merges the spiritual, economic and community.

Cultural Compatibility and Entrepreneurship

Francis Fukuyama contends that social capital may be as important as physical capital...Dr. Fukuyama holds that only societies with a high degree of social trust will create the foundations needed for the large-scale business organizations that compete in today's global economy...The challenge lies in the foundation of the economic structure...The reality is that without a firm foundation of entrepreneurship with community-level businesses; the economic structure will eventually soften and become top-heavy.

For a full study of this topic, read Morris Ruddick's 2016 article "Foundations" on his website (strategicintercession.org) or by clicking this link to do a search for it there (strategicintercession.org/?s=foundations). A copy of the article is also here: [COPY](#).

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