

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING WITH EVANGELICAL LEADERS

Washington, D. C.

June 4 – 5, 2018

The 2018 conversation of Evangelical leaders and academics, coordinated by Rabbi Yehiel Poupko and chaired by Mark Galli, Dr. Jay Phelan and Rabbi David Sandmel gathered in Washington, D. C. in June.

After a welcome and introductory remarks, the program opened with Talmud study, led by Rabbi Saul Berman. Rabbi Berman focused on the Talmud's imperative that one cannot stand by but must become involved in order to prevent harm to others.

The day's second session was a consideration of *The Righteous Mind*, by Jonathan Haidt. Mark Galli framed the discussion, also reviewing comments made in *Hillbilly Elegy* by J. C. Vance and *Strangers in their Own Land*, by Arlie Russell Hochschild. All of these books consider the divide between liberals and conservatives, based on moral and social considerations, community values and priorities. After small group discussions, the larger group assembled to discuss some of the challenges that the books raise.

Rabbi David Saperstein framed the next discussion on The Current Administration and Israel, again followed by small group discussions, reports to the larger body and further consideration of the larger group.

After dinner, Dr. Galen Carey led discussions on The Current Administration and Israel, followed by New Testament text study, which was led by Dr. Alan Johnson.

On Tuesday, June 5, Rabbi Poupko began the day with a review of varied expressions of Zionism, focusing as well on the topic: "From Gola to Geula – From Exile to Redemption," considering the many ways Jews have, in recent centuries, sought the best path to redemption.

The final presentation of the program concerned: Evangelicals and Varieties of Christian Zionism, led by Dr. Gerald McDermott, including discussion of historical approaches to Zion in recent centuries and new expressions of Christian Zionism among Catholics, Mainline Protestants and Evangelicals.