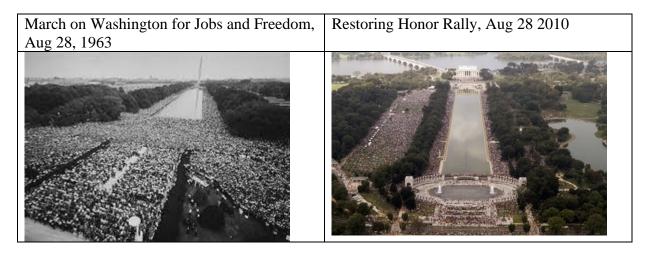
Florian Galler Psychonomic Newsletter, Aug 30, 2010

Infamy



Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech on Aug 28, 1963 in Washington is regarded as one of the finest speeches in the history of American oratory.

The name of Saturday's "Restoring Honor" event which was held at the same site and on the anniversary date of Luther's speech is pure infamy. The Saturday event was organized by Glenn Beck who is a hatemonger of Fox TV and also Sarah Palin who is another hatemonger of Fox TV contributed to the it. The message of this "Beck rally" is clear: Honor is not endangered for this reactionary patriots by the misled wars of the previous administration and torture in Abu Graib or by the reckless abuse of power by companies like Goldman Sachs which led world economy to the brink. Preventing the emancipation of discriminated people and maintaining injustice and irrationality that's what will restore honor for these mentally confused people.

What could be the consequences of the Restore Honor rally?

Beck rally signals election trouble for Dems

By PHILIP ELLIOTT, Associated Press Writer Philip Elliott, Associated Press Writer, Sun Aug 29.

WASHINGTON – If Democrats had doubts about the voter unrest that threatens to rob them of their majority in Congress, they needed only look from the Capitol this weekend to the opposite end of the National Mall.

•••

Neither Democrats nor Republicans can afford to ignore the antiestablishment fervor displayed Saturday during Beck's rally that took on the tone of an **evangelical revival**.

Billed as a nonpolitical event, it nevertheless was a clarifying moment for those curious as to what clout an anti-Washington sentiment could have on midterm congressional elections in November. The gathering was advertised as an opportunity to honor American troops. But it also illustrated voters' exasperation — and provided additional evidence that Democrats in power — as well as some incumbent Republicans — may pay the price when voters go to the polls.

The **tea party is** essentially a loosely organized band of **anti-tax, libertarian-leaning political newcomers** who are fed up with Washington and take some of their cues from Beck. While the movement drew early skepticism from establishment Republicans, these same GOP powerbrokers now watch it with a wary eye as activists have mounted successful primary campaigns against incumbents.

The Beck rally further demonstrated the tea party activists' growing political clout.

If the GOP is able to contain and cooperate with the tea party, and **recharge its evangelical wing** with Beck-style talk of faith, it spells the kind of change Ratliff and others like him are searching for.

•••

It looks as if the tea party movement will be boosted by the rally. Irrationality in politics and pressure against rational incumbents in the US Senate and in the US House of Representatives could increase. Evangelicals with their theology of creation and general hostility towards science threatening to push us behind the ages of enlightenment could become more influential again. So irrationality in politics could increasingly look unsurmountable and rational hopes concerning the midterm elections in November might vanish. Therefore we should be ready for a strong downward movement in stock prices.

Even if rational expectations seem bleak we should allow for the possibility that a current irrational upsurge might be a peak of irrational confidence. Finally where would they lead people?

Anyway despite of the momentarily irrational upswing reasonable people should not give support or direction to the irrational movement. Politics should be aware not to make important concessions to the irrationality in politics. The movement is insane and everybody involved in it will see their reputation damaged.

English Proofreading by Rudy Weiler (www.rweiler.ch)