

Flames of Freedom Podcast Episode 8

"Winds of Change"

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This is a production of Lance Toland Entertainment.

FLAMES OF FREEDOM

EPISODE 8: WINDS OF CHANGE

FADE IN UNDER

OPENING MUSIC:

SFX: OPENING MUSIC

ANNOUNCER

Welcome to Flames of Freedom,  
Episode 8: Winds of Change, a  
docudrama based on actual  
historical events brought to you by  
Lance Toland Entertainment. In the  
previous episode, we learned from  
Zipporah that Samuel's son Moses  
had been arrested for an unpaid  
gambling debt and that James  
Oglethorpe, in his youth, had been  
involved in a barroom brawl after  
being accused of being a follower  
of James, the would-be king in  
exile in France. He killed his  
accuser and was facing a lifetime  
behind bars himself for murder...

FADE IN: [Pick up from the conclusion of Episode Seven]

SFX: pub; rowdy drinkers

ZIPPORAH

[Indeed.] One night Mr. Oglethorpe  
and several of his young companions  
had been drinking at a pub near the  
docklands. Another party of young  
men sitting at a nearby table had  
become quite rowdy. One recognized  
Oglethorpe.

DRUNKARD I

Look who we have here. Royalty, I  
say. James Oglethorpe.

DRUNKARD II

Who's he?

DRUNKARD I

Who's he? If he's his mother's son,  
he's a bloody Jacobite.

(MORE)

DRUNKARD I (CONT'D)

Or have you renounced that bitch who has been licking King James's ass and the cock of all the other bloody members of the Stuart clan in France?

ZIPPORAH

Mr. Oglethorpe stood and walked casually to his accuser's table.

OGLETHORPE

Sir, I don't believe we have ever met. Your name, sir?

DRUNKARD I

Geoffrey Callenwold. What's it to you?

OGLETHORPE

I always want to know the name of the man whom I write about in my journal.

DRUNKARD I

Not only is he a worthless Jacobite. He writes in his diary like my sister. And what might you say about me, Mr. Oglethorpe?

OGLETHORPE

I have a special section for definitions of two-faced arse-holes that belong on a dung heap. I want to be certain I have your name correctly spelled when I inscribe it below the rest of the worthless snot whose names populate my shit list.

ZIPPORAH

Callenwold and the rest of his mates jumped to their feet and unsheathed their swords.

SFX: Swords being drawn; sword fight; man collapsing and dying

ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Oglethorpe did the same. These men's drunken state was no match for a sober skilled swordsman, and Oglethorpe quickly disarmed three of them, inflicting minor wounds.

(MORE)

## ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

Callenwold rushed at him, but Oglethorpe sidestepped, parried the man's attempts to stab him, and then sliced him first across the neck before burying his sword between the man's ribs. Callenwold collapsed to the ground and took his last breath. One of his friends rushed to his side.

## DRUNKARD II

Jesus. You killed him. You son of a bitch.

## OGLETHORPE

You take another step in my direction, and your fate will be the same. You men started the fight. I finished it.

## DRUNKARD II

We'll see to that. When I'm done with you, you'll be hanging from the gallows.

SFX: Musical Transition

## BENJAMIN

Did Oglethorpe go to jail?

## ZIPPORAH

For nearly five months.

## BENJAMIN

But it was in self-defense!

## ZIPPORAH

Yes, but not everyone saw it that way. Lucky for Mr. Oglethorpe, the courts finally agreed with you and exonerated him of all charges, saying he indeed did act in self-defense.

## BENJAMIN

I like him. He seems to be fearless.

## ZIPPORAH

Yes, that was his reputation. He was also, how do we say it, very impetuous.

BENJAMIN

What do you mean?

ZIPPORAH

For example, my father once told me there were rumors that he threw a glass of wine into the face of a prince. And he was just fifteen years old, barely older than you.

BENJAMIN

How in the world did he get away with that and live to see another day?

ZIPPORAH

As best I can recollect, Oglethorpe was serving Prince Eugene of Savoy and had joined him and the Prince of Wurtemberg for a glass of wine. Playfully, the Prince of Wurtemberg dipped his fingers in his goblet and flicked some wine into Oglethorpe's face, laughing the whole while. Oglethorpe didn't find it particularly funny, even if the Prince was royalty...

SFX: sounds of men drinking and laughing

OGLETHORPE

That's a good joke. But I believe we do it much better in England.

PRINCE OF WURTEMBERG

(laughing)

Really? As far as I can see, the only thing you do better in England is Bangers and Mash.

ZIPPORAH

Oglethorpe filled his cup to the brim, then flung the entire contents into the Prince's face.

SFX: wine splashing in a man's face.

OGLETHORPE

Now, that's how we do it in England.

FRENCH GENERAL

(in broken English)

My prince, I think this young lad  
has shown you up.

ZIPPORAH

With great sobriety, the German  
prince wiped his face with his  
sleeve and stared at Oglethorpe.  
Tension filled the room.

PRINCE OF WURTEMBERG

(breaking out in raucous  
laughter)

SFX: Other partygoers join in the  
laughter SFX: Musical Transtion

ZIPPORAH

Yes, our Mr. Oglethorpe had, what  
do the Ashkenazi Jews call it? Is  
it not chutzpah? He was someone who  
rarely backed down, and it served  
him well when he was elected to  
Parliament. Did you know that he  
became an advocate for the Jews at  
a time when that was not very  
popular in England?

BENJAMIN

How was that?

ZIPPORAH

According to my father, it goes  
back to his days at Oxford, where  
he read an interesting book by a  
philosopher who challenged the  
English to reconsider their  
centuries-old hatred of us Jews...

SFX: Musical transition

STUDENT I

Frankly, I have never actually met  
a Jew before, but I have it on good  
authority that you can't trust  
them.

OGLETHORPE

So, you would condemn them as a  
people on hearsay alone?

STUDENT I

Everyone knows what these people are like. Besides, they killed Christ.

OGLETHORPE

You're telling me that Mr. Solomon, the tailor who made these clothes, traveled back nearly two thousand years to kill Jesus?

STUDENT I

Don't be ridiculous.

OGLETHORPE

It's you who is being ridiculous, my friend. If you read John Toland's work on Reasons for Naturalizing the Jews, you'd realize that you're a prime example of the typical English bigot. You think of yourself as a rational intellectual, but you're blind to your own misbegotten beliefs. In my experience, Jews are hard-working and contribute to the life of this great country. Why should we shun them?

STUDENT I

Oglethorpe, why is it you are always standing up for minorities and the downtrodden? These people want to destroy what is best in England. They're vermin. Cromwell made a grievous mistake by allowing them back into this country.

OGLETHORPE

That, my friend, is where we part ways. What use is this fine educational institution if it produces people like you with no capacity for independent thinking?

STUDENT I

You insult me, sir.

OGLETHORPE

Rather, it is this place that insults my intelligence.

(MORE)

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

I'd rather spend my time with Jews  
and the working class than waste my  
days in frivolous debates with  
those who know nothing of the  
world.

SFX: Oglethorpe gathers his books and opens the door to  
depart

PROFESSOR

Mr. Oglethorpe. Mr. Oglethorpe,  
come back!

OGLETHORPE

(stopping at the door)  
Good day, sir. I think I shall  
pursue my education elsewhere in  
more suitable environs.

SFX: Musical Transition

BENJAMIN

So, he never went back to Oxford?

ZIPPORAH

No.

BENJAMIN

Maybe I can follow in his footsteps  
and skip going to University...

ZIPPORAH

That is not the lesson I want to  
convey, young man. Your education  
is everything, do you understand  
me? If you tell your parents I gave  
you that notion, I'll disavow every  
word!

BENJAMIN

I was just kidding, Nonna.

ZIPPORAH

Young man, there's a little of the  
devil in you, but I like your  
spirit.

BENJAMIN

(brightly)  
So, what else can you tell me about  
Mr. Oglethorpe?



## ZIPPORAH

I learned from my father that there were winds of change happening all over England in those years. The papers were filled with stories about James Oglethorpe, who had become a Tory and was challenging the status quo and time-worn traditions. Little did we know how our destiny would soon be intimately tied to his when he rebutted a man named George Bailey one fall day in 1729...

SFX: Musical transition

SFX: Parliament Commons Room, electric with energy, shouting, and members bolstering the words of their caucus as the Speaker attempts to maintain some semblance of order.

## GEORGE BAILLIE

...In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, would we soften our stance on crime, our streets shall be overrun by riffraff and it shall not be safe to walk out of this chamber or our dwellings, day or night! Hence, I oppose any changes to the rules and laws by which we all live. And why should the poor not live by 'em as well? If they break the law, they should pay the price for their deeds! If they can't afford to reimburse their jailers for food and lodging and suffer as a consequence, who is at fault? They hath none to blame yet themselves!

## SPEAKER

Sir, thy time has elapsed.

## GEORGE BAILLIE

I am not yet finished speaking...

## SPEAKER

Sir, thou hast used all thy time. Now, please stand down.

SFX: George Baillie's party colleagues begin shouting to give him "more time."

SPEAKER (CONT'D)

Order. Order. Settle down, or I shall bid the sergeant at arms to eject thou from this hall. Order! Mr. Baillie's time hath elapsed. I recognize Mr. Oglethorpe. Thou hast ten minutes, sir.

SFX: The House quiets somewhat, but there are still a few shouts of "more time."

SFX: Baillie shuffling his papers and steps from lectern to his seat.

ZIPPORAH

My father told me that as Oglethorpe approached the lectern, passing Baillie along the way, Baillie greeted him with an icy stare.

GEORGE BAILLIE

(under his breath)

May thou and thy liberal ideas sear in hell, sir.

OGLETHORPE

(under his breath)

Mr.

Baillie, not before you are consumed in the devil's fire as well.

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

(clearing his throat)

Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving me the floor. And Mr. Baillie, might I say your arguments are filled with misconceptions, untruths, and vile prejudice.

SFX: Baillie leaping from his seat.

GEORGE BAILLIE

I will not have my good name impugned by this...this fool of a man.

SPEAKER

Order. Mr. Baillie, this is my last warning, sir. Sit, or I will have you ejected.

GEORGE BAILLEE  
(grumbling under his  
breath)

OGLETHORPE

As I was saying, if we are to fix this social ill, a harsh penal code with no compassion for the plight of the poor is no solution. My committee concluded our visits to the Marshalsea Prison in Southwark only a fortnight ago, where some are jailed for no more than a shilling despite a recent act of Parliament. It is a travesty. People imprisoned for nothing other than petty debt are being starved to death. Just eight months ago, my good friend Robert Castell was tragically imprisoned for a debt of five pounds but had no means in his pocket to bribe the jailer. What was his punishment for having landed on hard times? Being placed in a cell designed for four men yet crammed with forty suffering from smallpox. They may as well have hung him on the gallows, for it were a death sentence. Not for murder! Not for theft! He died of smallpox in a cesspool because of a minor debt.

ZIPPORAH

Mr. Oglethorpe pointed at Baillie, who looked away in shame.

OGLETHORPE

Mr. Baillie, is this the justice you're advocating? We have created a penal system that is hell on earth. Some of you in the opposition might protest that you knowest many gracious souls who grant hard-earned money to support the poor prisoners who cannot fend for themselves. Yet where doth that money go? For assistance for which it is intended? No! It lines the pockets of the warden!

SFX: verbal protests from the opposition

CHARLES MORRIS

Careful Mr. Oglethorpe. Thou be prosecuted for slander with such reckless accusations!

OGLETHORPE

I shall gladly defend my worthy name in the courts, sir. For I have ironclad proof and first-hand testimony!

SFX: the hubbub dies down

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

Some of thou know many of our Jewish brethren who have been fortunate to escape from Portugal and Spain, evading the evils of the Inquisition. Yet I shall let thou in on a secret. In addition to Portugal's brave wines and quaint olives, we are importing their instruments of human suffering and torture--sheers, thumb screws, iron collars, and iron caps to be used at the whim of jailers.

SFX: ominous musical transition

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

Even worse, when prisoners canst not or are unwilling to pay bribes, they are locked up with putrefying bodies as rats devour the faces of the corpses. Or the jailers use thumbscrews and skullcaps on the inmates to exact more money from the indigent. And we bid ourselves civilized? This is not Spain or Portugal, this is our England, and we collude with the jailers who repurpose heinous tools and practices to extract confessions for what? Being indigent and dispossessed? Gentlemen, poverty is not a crime. It is a circumstance that can be remedied if we only lend our brothers a helping hand.

(MORE)

## OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

If thee are like me, our time does call upon us to awaken to the words of that great contemporary philosopher, John Toland, when he describes the deep and irrational prejudices that hast driven how we hast treated the Jews here and in every country of Europe. I quote, "The Jews are far from being an Excrescence or Sponge and useless members in the Commonwealth. Rather, they are as obedient, peaceable, useful, and advantageous as any." Should'st we compose the like mistake with the poor and dispossessed? When they also could contribute to the well-being of our communities as the Jews doth when granted a chance. We must reject false interpretations of scripture to justify such a harsh penal system. Wouldst Jesus condone these barbaric acts? Of course not. Hence why doth we? Therefore, I propose that we release all debtors from prison and do our best to aid in their employment. Together, we can forge a new direction for our country's penal system. Mr. Speaker, I yield the floor.

SFX: Applause from the Tories in the Commons.

SFX: musical transtion

## ZIPPORAH

While Oglethorpe's fellow Tories were celebrating his speech's success, the Whigs sat motionless and watched with disdain. A few minutes later, as Oglethorpe was exiting the chambers and being congratulated by many of its members, JOHN PERCEVAL, also known as LORD EGMONT, approached him. Perceval was in his early fifties then and a man of commanding presence. Politically, he was quite connected and respected, and served on the committee chaired by Oglethorpe that investigated the prison system.

PERCEVAL  
James, well spoken.

OGLETHORPE  
I appreciate your kind words, John.  
It did hit the mark, did it not?

PERCEVAL  
Indeed. It is time to act. Let us  
request the King approve a measure  
to create a new colony in the  
territory south of Carolina and  
north of Florida that grants  
advantage to the poor, allotting  
them land where they can thrive and  
prosper without the encumbrances of  
London society.

OGLETHORPE  
That is a sterling idea. Do you  
believe we could persuade him to  
approve such a bold action?

PERCEVAL  
How can he deny such a project if  
we name it after him? That's not to  
say there shall be political  
challenges, yet that doesn't worry  
me. Join me at my club for lunch to  
dwell on this further.

SFX: Musical transition

ZIPPORAH  
And so, Percival and Oglethorpe put  
into motion the plans to create the  
Great Colony of Georgia. By 1731,  
they were ready to gather men  
interested in becoming Trustees of  
the colony. It was a motley  
assembly of political and religious  
leaders.

PERCEVAL  
Gentlemen, thank you for taking the  
time to consider this historic  
endeavor to create the new colony  
of Georgia. James, please outline  
what we have in mind.

OGLETHORPE  
Thank you, John. We are all here  
because we wish to help poor and  
distressed families.

(MORE)

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

By settling these people in a new colony, we can erase the stigma of poverty for those willing to work hard to lift themselves from the stranglehold that suppresses their human dignity.

HEATHCOTE

(clearing his throat as he stands)

OGLETHORPE

Yes, Mr. Heathcote.

HEATHCOTE

Sir, can you reassure us we will not replicate the despicable practices of slavery prevalent just north of the proposed settlement? If the poor can use slaves to do their work, what motivation will they have to better themselves?

OGLETHORPE

I agree with that sentiment. As a director of the Royal African Company, you all are aware of my efforts to end this hideous practice. If all assembled here become trustees, Lord Egmont and I insist you concur with Mr. Heathcote's assessment. There will be no slaves in Georgia!

REVEREND ARTHUR BEDFORD

Sir, may I speak frankly.

OGLETHORPE

Yes, Reverent Bedford.

REVEREND ARTHUR BEDFORD

That is all very well, but what of the matter of spirits? Rum, in particular. We cannot have the poor lose all initiative because they are inebriated day and night. I propose we forbid the presence of rum and all distilled spirits in the colony.

SFX: The assembled men respond with a "Hear, Hear."

OGLETHORPE

I agree, Reverend Bedford. And can support such a position. In addition to forbidding rum, gentlemen, as members of the Church of England, we must guard against the invidious control that papists would exert if allowed into the colony. With the Spanish less than two hundred miles to the south, we cannot have Catholic sympathizers among us. Agreed?

SFX: The assembled men respond with a "Hear, Hear."

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

Yes, Reverend Smith.

REVEREND SMITH

Mr. Oglethorpe, you must be aware of the ongoing persecution of Protestants by papists. What place will there be in this new colony for those escaping religious persecution by the Pope and his European allies?

OGLETHORPE

Reverend, I have complete sympathy for those being singled out, dispossessed of their homes, and murdered because of their faith. We will always welcome any Protestants seeking refuge as long as they are committed to helping us build a prosperous new colony...Yes, Lord Carpenter.

LORD CARPENTER

Sir, though I approve, there is the matter of finance. How will this effort be funded? It is unreasonable to expect Parliament to underwrite the entirety of the colony. Perhaps we can solicit private money.



OGLETHORPE

Well said, sir. I am responsible for disbursing Joseph King's charity fund of £15,000, £5,000 of which is designated for establishing a colony in America and another £5,000 for Christianizing Negroes and the Indian populations there. While this is a good beginning, we must deputize commissioners to help us raise additional monies. Mr. Vernon has agreed to assist in this matter and has identified several wealthy gentlemen who sympathize with our cause and will raise and contribute funds. Thank you for your efforts, Mr. Vernon.

OGLETHORPE (CONT'D)

I recognize Mr. Eyles.

FRANCIS EYLES

Sir, I applaud your work, but how do you propose the colony not just survive on our largesse but thrive and contribute to the Crown's wealth?

OGLETHORPE

Excellent question. Lord Egmont and I have conferred with agriculturists, and we see enormous opportunities in Georgia. Silk production there could employ upwards of 20,000 people. We also expect flax and hemp to be major crops, not to speak of the fine wines we hope to produce in coastal regions of Georgia to rival those of France and Spain. Any other questions? Yes, Mr. Towers.

THOMAS TOWERS

When can we expect approval from the Prime Minister and the King?

PERCEVAL

(rising from his seat)  
James, allow me speak to that. I am, how can I put it delicately, working behind the scenes?

(MORE)

PERCEVAL (CONT'D)

I suspect no later than 1733, we will be ready to send the first settlers, assuming James can convince a hundred or more hearty souls to make the journey.

THOMAS TOWERS

And who will lead the colony?

OGLETHORPE

Sir, I have decided to take the charge.

THOMAS TOWERS

A brave choice, sir, to give up everything you have here...

OGLETHORPE

I am young Mr. Thomas and have yet to find a suitable bride. What better time in one's life for an adventure? And might I remind you, Georgia is contested land? We'll have to deal with the Spanish. My military training will, hopefully, be invaluable. If there are no further questions, I would like to see a show of support for all who wish to become founding Trustees of our new Colony of Georgia.

SFX: Raising of hands and shouts of "hear, hear."

SFX: MUSICAL TRANSITION

BENJAMIN

But how did all of that affect us?

ZIPPORAH

That's where the story becomes interesting. Remember Anthony da Costa?

BENJAMIN

The man who helped your father bail Moses out of jail?

ZIPPORAH

Yes. He wasn't just wealthy. He was one of the richest men in all of England. It was only natural that Mr. Vernon, Oglethorpe's colleague, would seek his assistance.

(MORE)

## ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

But little did Vernon know that da Costa and his associates had their own agenda. One Evening in 1732 Da Costa and two of the other wealthiest Jews in England. ALVAREZ LOPEZ SUASSO was one of the wealthiest men in London and could trace his lineage back to Spain, where his family had been wealthy bankers before 1492. FRANCIS SALVADOR was also one of London's wealthiest Jews and one of the largest shareholders of the Dutch East India Company.

## ANTHONY DA COSTA

I had the good fortune this past Thursday to run into Lord Egmont. He tells me that he and James Oglethorpe are appealing to the King to start a new colony in America--they're calling it Georgia.

## FRANCIS SALVADOR

Wise decision appealing to the King's vanity.

## ANTHONY DA COSTA

Indeed. As you might expect, there are some headwinds from the Prime Minister, but I suspect they will succeed. They're looking for commissioners to help them raise money to support the colony. He inquired if we might have some interest in the matter.

## ALVAREZ LOPEZ SUASSO

Maybe what we have here is a solution to our dilemma. Just yesterday, Rabbi Nieto informed me that twelve more penniless immigrants from Eastern Europe showed up at the synagogue's doorstep, expecting help. While we all appreciate the importance of charity, there are limits.

## FRANCIS SALVADOR

What do you suggest?

ALVAREZ LOPEZ SUASSO

Let us volunteer our services to assist Lord Egmont. And then insist they relocate these Jewish peasants to the new land where they will be Lord Egmont's and the King's responsibility for support, not ours.

ANTHONY DA COSTA

And what makes you think they'll take so many Jews? The ancestors of these trustees are the same ones who kicked us out of England in 1290. Do you really think they have had a major change of heart?

FRANCIS SALVADOR

Times have changed, Anthony. Look at us. Three Jews, well-positioned in English society.

ANTHONY DA COSTA

True. But let's proceed with caution. If we play our hand right, in the end, they will need us and our money more than their prejudices.

ALVAREZ LOPEZ SUASSO

Please inform Lord Egmont that we would be happy to assist.

ANTHONY DA COSTA

Yes. I'll see him at the club tomorrow.

SFX: Musical transition

BENJAMIN

Was our family the Jewish peasants he wanted to ship to America?

ZIPPORAH

No, by no means. We weren't peasants. But there were many people being persecuted coming to England, not just from Portugal, but also from Prussia, where state and Church-sponsored violence aimed at Jews was a daily occurrence. And they, like us, came to England with nothing but the shirts on their backs.

(MORE)

## ZIPPORAH (CONT'D)

That's how my father met the Sheftall family one day while studying Talmud with the Rabbi. BENJAMIN and PERLA SHEFTALL fled from Prussia due to restrictive edicts from the King and the escalating violence against Jews. They were still young then, but the stress of their escape showed visibly in Perla's face.

SFX: Musical Transition

## RABBI NIETO

It's been told that two famous rabbis, Hillel and Shammai were each approached by a non-Jew who wished to convert. Hillel was gentle, lenient, and compassionate. On the other hand, Shammai was very strict in his interpretations of the Torah. The gentile said he would accept Judaism if a rabbi taught him everything he needed to know about Torah while the rabbi stood on one foot. [chuckling] First, he went to Shammai, who had no patience for such a fool and sent him away. But when he went to Hillel, he accepted the challenge, stood on one foot and said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. That is the whole Torah; the rest is commentary!"

## SAMUEL

(chuckling)

SFX: knock at the door.

## RABBI NIETO

Yes, come in.

## DAVID MENDES MACHADO

Rabbi, sorry to interrupt. Two people just arrived from Prussia and were directed here rather than to the Ashkenazi Synagogue.

## RABBI NIETO

And why haven't you already invited them in?

DAVID MENDES MACHADO  
Of course. Give me just a minute to  
bring them in.

SFX: time passing; another knock at the door and it swings  
open

DAVID MENDES MACHADO (CONT'D)  
Rabbi, let me introduce you to  
Benjamin and Perla Sheftall.

RABBI NIETO  
Welcome to London and Bevis Marks  
Synagogue. I am Rabbi Isaac Nieto.  
This is my good friend, Samuel  
Nunes, from Lisbon. An immigrant,  
like you.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL  
Thank you. I am Benjamin Sheftall,  
and this is my wife, Perla.

RABBI NIETO  
Please sit. You both must be  
exhausted.

SFX: Rabbi pulling two chairs up for them.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL  
Thank you.

RABBI NIETO  
David, please bring tea for  
everyone and some of those nice  
little scones.

SFX: footsteps and door closing

DAVID MENDES MACHADO  
Certainly.

RABBI NIETO  
Where are you from?

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL  
Frankfurt an der Oder. It's a small  
town on the Oder River, near  
Poland.

RABBI NIETO  
I am told there have been edicts  
against the Jews by the Prussian  
King.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

Yes...I thought we could go on with our lives like always, but this last edict was not like the others. It gave us no choice but to flee.

RABBI NIETO

Others have told me that there has been increasing violence against us Jews.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

Regrettably true. These edicts seem to have unleashed something horrible, seething under the surface. One morning, the town mayor posted an edict from the King. When I heard gentile merchants shouting for our death, it made our decision to leave easier...

SFX: crowd hubbub in a square

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL (CONT'D)

What does it say?

CROWD MEMBER

The bastard King decrees we have to go.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

What?

CROWD MEMBER

Start packing and get out now while you can.

SFX: mood changing to ominous

MERCHANT ONE

Filthy vermin. We're sick of your stench...

MERCHANT TWO

Christ killers...

MERCHANT THREE

Take your dirty money and get off our land...

SFX: back to present moment

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

That's when things really got ugly. One of the merchants shoved an older man I knew to the ground and others gathered around and started kicking him.

MERCHANT FOUR

Judensau! Schwein!

SFX: footsteps on cobblestones; door swinging open. Man panting

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

I turned and ran as fast as I could to get home. I found Perla in the kitchen cooking and took her by the shoulders.

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL (CONT'D)

(panting and out of  
breath)

We're leaving. Now!

PERLA SHEFTALL

Leaving? For where?

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

Anywhere but here. The King has just decreed we're no longer welcome, and there's a murderous gang of thugs rioting and killing Jews in the marketplace. Gather your clothes--anything you can carry by yourself in a satchel.

PERLA SHEFTALL

I have to say goodbye to my parents...

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

No time.

PERLA SHEFTALL

My sister...

BENJAMIN SHEFTALL

Perla, if we want to be alive by the time the sun sets, we must leave Frankfurt now...



END

ANNOUNCER

This is the conclusion of Episode eight of Flames of Freedom. Written by Richard Stone. Produced and directed by Mark Simon at Cue Tone Productions. Audio Engineering, Original Music, and Sound Design by David Wilson. Executive Producer Lance Toland. Special thanks to our ensemble cast...Special thanks to our ensemble cast...Zipporah played by Angelines Santana. Benjamin played by Jamie Treselyan. Diogo Nunes played by Juan Pablo Gamboa. Gracia Nunes played by Gabriela Lopetegui. James Oglethorpe played by Ian Russell. Additional roles played by Brad Davidorf, Barry Stoltze, Francois Clemenceau, and Roxanne Rittman.

[pick up from previous recordings]  
Thanks to Rabbi Saul Rubin, whose assistance throughout the development of this series was invaluable. And for their guidance and support of this project from its early inception, special thanks to Rabbi Robert Haas of Congregation Mikve Israel in Savannah, GA, Rabbi Rachael Bregman of Temple Beth Tefilloh in Brunswick, GA, Rabbi Shalom Morris of Bevis Marks Synagogue in London England, and Lord Peter Levine of London City, England, and the Jewish Heritage Alliance for their support. This has been a production of Lance Toland Entertainment, copyright 2024. All rights reserved. Flames of Freedom is a docudrama based on actual historical events. To learn more about this story, the actors, and the production backstory, join in on the conversation on Facebook at Flames of Freedom or at [flamesoffreedom.net](http://flamesoffreedom.net).