

What The Christian Owes the Jew

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Chapter 3 - CAN THE JEW BE DESTROYED?

It should be kept in mind by all who profess to follow the LORD that ALMIGHTY GOD has made promises to His people who dwell upon the earth. Some of these promises are called covenants. Let us look to GOD's covenant as found in Genesis 12:1-3:

"Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy fathers house, unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:1-3).

After the Babe of Bethlehem had grown to manhood and had attracted much attention through His miracles and authoritative teachings. He offered Himself to Israel as their KING, but few responded affirmatively by crying out ". . . **Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest**" (Matt. 21:9). Many of the people, however, particularly government officials, Jewish priests and members of the Sanhedrin answered, "**Away with him; let him be crucified.**"

Before this cruel shout arose, CHRIST had made some startling statements. Let us read what JESUS said in Luke 21:20-24:

"And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter therinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

Of course, we know that JESUS CHRIST was their long-looked-for MESSIAH. Their rejection of Him was the culminating crime of the Jews.

Their leaders were so blinded that they did not recognize their MESSIAH. Let us see what is said

in Luke 19:41-44, as follows:

"And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."

Also, note what is said in Matthew 23:37-39, which reads:

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

They condemned their MESSIAH to death, and turned Him over to the cruel Romans to be crucified. For such a crime against GOD, nothing but judgment could fall upon them. Bruised and battered, robbed and ravished and scattered, the Jews have been a byword and proverb ever since.

Their covenant land is desolate.

Their light to the Gentiles is extinguished.

Their political government has been in the hands of other nations.

Their religious leadership is transferred to CHRIST's Church.

They have no pillar of cloud by day nor Shekinah fire by night.

They are without altars, sacrifices and priesthood of bygone years.

Perfunctorily, they keep the "Great Day of Atonement," but no clean blood is shed for reconciliation to GOD.

They have no atonement for their sins.

Their sacrifices and oblations have ceased.

They are without kings, judges, patriarchs, prophets or inspired writers.

The Urim and Thummin give no evidence of divine presence.

Indeed, they are a wandering people, buried in the graveyards of all nations.

The explanation to all this may be found in three verses of Scripture.

The first is Hosea 3:4, which reads:

"For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim."

In Luke 21:24, we find the second:

"And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."

In Romans 9:25-26 is found the third passage:

"As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God."

The Jews have suffered as no other people in history. During the siege of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., under the crushing power of the Roman army led by Titus, one million Jews were slain and tens of thousands were carried away into captivity. Sixty years later, when they made their first attempt to return, half a million were killed. Fifteen hundred were slain in a single day under King John of England. For four hundred years no Jew set foot upon English soil. The Koran of Mohammed stigmatized the Jews as wild dogs. In Spain they were slaughtered by the tens of thousands and tortured in almost every conceivable manner. America has been the only country which has never persecuted the Jew. It is next to impossible to describe adequately the ghastly persecutions under Adolf Hitler in Nazi Germany. However, the Jew is indestructible!

THE JEW IS INDESTRUCTIBLE!

It is significant to note that every nation that has ever persecuted the Jew has gone down or suffered severely. Every individual who has ever persecuted Jews has suffered. The Jew is still here, but where are his enemies? The Jew will remain here until all of GOD's purposes have been fulfilled. GOD will keep that oathbound covenant He made with Abraham concerning the seed of Israel. The nations will never get rid of the Jew. He is scattered in the program of GOD until He regathers them. Only Israel can fulfill the program GOD has allotted them.

GOD has promised, **"This people shall not pass away until all is fulfilled."**

Pharaoh's army tried in vain to drown Israel, and in turn was itself drowned.

Amalek tried to annihilate Israel and was annihilated.

Sihon and Og tried to exterminate Israel, and were themselves exterminated.

Haman was hanged on the very gallows he had erected for the execution of Mordecai.

The Assyrian and Babylonian empires attempted to banish Israel, and were in turn vanquished, but Israel lives on.

Nebuchadnezzar threw three children of Israel into a fiery furnace, but they came out unharmed with not a hair even singed, for one like the Son of Man was with them.

Darius hurled Daniel into a den of lions but the hungry beasts could not devour him because an

angel gave them lockjaw.

The descendants of Esau tried to destroy Israel and were in turn destroyed.

The Roman Empire endeavored to abolish the Jew and the decline of the empire followed.

The Jew lived on.

Spain, the worst of Israel's persecutors, tried to exterminate them, and Spain has had nothing but bloody revolutions ever since.

The Russian czars took similar steps against the Jews and Russia is held in the demon grasp of communism.

Germany also tried the same tactics and history has recorded the disastrous results. The Germans have seen their government crumbled under the might of Allied power, and the Jew lives on. Germany's Frederick the Great once truly said, "No nation ever persecuted the Jew and prospered!"

One would think the Jew-haters and persecutors might learn from history, if not from the Word of GOD.

Let us see what we find in Jeremiah 30:10-11 and 16:

"Therefore, fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the Lord; neither be dismayed, O Israel; for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with thee, saith the Lord, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished . . . Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey."

A Jew once said to Isabella, queen of Spain, "When you would curse us you cannot, for there is a blessing upon us; and, when you would bless us you cannot, for there is a curse upon us."

On two different occasions the Jews saw proud Egyptians perish in the Red Sea. They witnessed the crash of Babylonian power. They saw the ruins of Macedonia's conquests. They beheld the destruction of the Medes and the Persians. They have outlived the Caesars, and survived the Dark Ages. They have come through civilizations, revolutions and retributions; yet they have kept pace with progress, discovery and art. They remain today as distinct as the day their history began. They are without a king, but very soon their KING will come and reign.

Meditate carefully on what Paul says in Romans 11:1-2, 11-12, 15 and 25:

"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he

foreknew. Wot ye not what the Scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, . . . I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness? . . . For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? . . . For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in."

Then what is the future for the Jews? After the Church has been caught up to be with the LORD, many of the Jews will have been restored to the Promised Land. They will return to the worship of GOD as the seed of Abraham. **"The olive branches will be grafted back in again."** This takes place during the day of Jacob's trouble, when Israel will pass through the melting pot. A nation will look heavenward for its MESSIAH. When Antichrist has had his day, suddenly CHRIST will return from Heaven with all the heavenly hosts. A nation will then be born in a day!

I call your attention to Hosea 3:4-5:

"For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days."

The paramount part of this message is that you and I are living in the day when these things are coming to pass. In the face of present day signs and fulfilled prophesies, it seems that every one would accept the LORD JESUS CHRIST and confess Him before the world as their SAVIOUR.

To the Jews [that might be reading here], most kindly would I say: Your day of terrible trial and persecution is just ahead. I would emphasize that the Church of JESUS CHRIST is in no way responsible for this persecution. A true Christian loves both Jew and Gentile, and will work for the salvation of each.

Read carefully Acts 3:19-21:

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the Heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began."

To any of you who hate the Jew; let me offer this advice -- leave the Jew alone; leave him in the hands of GOD, Who will take care of him and his enemies as He did in ancient days.

To the Church I would say -- do everything in your power to convert every Jew possible. Your Bible says, "**to the Jew first.**" I am glad I can look any Hebrew in the face with the knowledge there is love in my heart for him.

But most important of all -- I would urge you who are not saved to settle this matter without delay! Let me talk for a few moments, heart to heart, to the sinner. A sinner can never do anything to show himself worthy of forgiveness. The ground on which GOD forgives the sinner is not man's worthiness, or anything any human being can do or be. It is done for CHRIST's sake. You are forgiven because CHRIST paid the penalty for your sin and cancelled it. Ephesians 4:32 says:

". . . God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Let us suppose a poor man is given a check by some kind person. He is told to present it for payment at the First National Bank. As he trudges along in the direction of the bank, he begins to be skeptical. He thinks, "Maybe the bank won't give me the money." He glances at his ragged clothing -- his poverty is so apparent; his name is unknown at the bank. Taking courage, however, he walks slowly into the bank and hands the check to the teller. The bank employee then looks at -- what? Does he look at the man's unkempt raiment? Not at all! He looks at the name on that check. It is the name of one of the bank's best customers. And because the teller knows the name and signature so well, the money is handed over to the man without a word.

Unsaved man, when you come to GOD seeking salvation, do you think for a moment GOD takes into account your worthiness to be saved?

Do you imagine He takes into account how many sins you have committed? No! "**Though your sins be as scarlet,**" He has said.

Well, what does He look at?

Listen to me -- ALMIGHTY GOD in Heaven looks upon a cruel Cross where His only begotten SON was crucified for you! He sees the sin of the world laid upon His SON. He sees your sins, my sins, all men's sins laid upon His SON. He sees the blood that was shed for you and me. GOD can do only one thing -- forgive you! John 3:17:

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

~ end of chapter 3 ~
