

VOLUME

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WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD SUPPORT ISRAEL

...the Apple of His Eye

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For this is what the Lord Almighty says:

*“After He has honored me and
has sent me against the nations that
have plundered you—*

*for whoever touches you
touches the apple of His eye*

*- I will surely raise my hand against them
so that their slaves will plunder them.*

*Then you will know that the
Lord Almighty has sent me.*

Shout and be glad, O Daughter of Zion...

ZECHARIAH 2:8-10

The Apple of His Eye

The apple of one's eye is its center. The prophet Zechariah is declaring in these verses that if you come against Israel and her people it is as if you have thrust your finger in the pupil of God's eye. You have not only offended the Almighty, but you have also received His full attention.

God made covenant with the Jewish people for the land of Israel, and He does not lie or break covenant,

“God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? (NUMBERS 23:19)

This was a literal covenant for a literal land, therefore, this title deed given to Israel stood from the time it was made between God and Abraham and it still stands today and will stand forever.

In Genesis 13, God told Abraham, *“Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are... for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever”* (VV.14-15). This same title deed was passed from Abraham to Isaac: *“Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham, your father”* (GENESIS 26:3). And again, the right to the Promised Land was passed from Isaac to Jacob: *“I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants”* (GENESIS 28:13).

The Creator of the universe has declared Israel's ownership to the Promised Land throughout His Holy Word and we, as Bible-believing Christians, must acknowledge and act on our God-given mandate to stand in support of Israel and their claim to that land.



Why Christians Should Support Israel

There are several biblical reasons why Christians should stand with Israel, her people, and their claim to the land.

1. Israel is the only nation on earth created by a sovereign act of God.

Israel belongs to God himself! As Creator of heaven and earth (GENESIS 1:1), God has the right of ownership to the universe and therefore can give His land to whomever He chooses. God gave the title deed of the land of Israel to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their descendants forever (GENESIS 15:18; 17:2-8; 26:3).

Ishmael, father of the Arab nations, even though blessed of God, was clearly

excluded from the title deed to the land as plainly documented in Genesis 17:19–21,

Then God said: “No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.”

Therefore, one can conclude that in God’s eyes, the Arab nations have no biblical decree to the land of Israel then, now, and forevermore!

The boundaries of the State of Israel are recorded in Scripture (SEE NUMBERS 34:2–15;

JOSHUA 11:16–23; 13:1–22). These boundaries are further described in Ezekiel 47:13–23 and all of chapter 48.

When God established the nations of the world, He began with Israel; it is the center of the universe in the mind of God (SEE DEUTERONOMY 32:8–10; NUMBERS 34:10–15; JOSHUA 11:16–22).

The original Royal Land Grant¹ given by God Almighty to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and their seed is far greater than the sliver of land presently inhabited by Israel today.

1 Larkin, Rev. Clarence, Charts from the Book of Dispensational Truth, January 18, 1919, Glenside, PA, Larkin Estate

Our Jewish Roots

In June of 1978, I went to Israel as a tourist and came home a Zionist! I have traveled the world but as I walked the cobblestone streets of the Holy City, I knew I was home. My spiritual roots were there. I felt a very special presence in that sacred city that changed my life forever!

As I stood praying at the Western Wall, I noticed an elderly Orthodox Jewish man praying with great passion, rocking back and forth, reciting Scripture, and thought to myself, “Here we are at the same holy place, praying to the same God, quoting the same Scripture... yet I know nothing about this man or his faith.”

In the days that followed, my heart was charged with a commission from the Holy Spirit to do all that I possibly could

to bring Christians and Jews together in an atmosphere of mutual esteem and unconditional love.

I told my wife Diana what the Lord had placed within my heart, and before I left Israel I obtained every Christian, Jewish and secular research book I could find on the history of the Promised Land and her people. I attempted to recapture my feelings and thoughts on my trip home but one thing I knew for certain—I had no idea how to bring Christians and Jews together without starting an ecumenical riot.

During my nearly two years of study and research I was both astounded and ashamed of how little I knew about the history of the nation of Israel, Judaism, the Jewish people and their interaction with Christianity. My time in seminary had not taught me about the horrible things that had been done to God's Chosen in the

name of Christ. I was largely unaware of the abhorrent incidences of antisemitism throughout ancient and modern history such as the teachings of John Chrysostom (340-420), the Crusades (950 to 1350), the Spanish Inquisition (1480), and Martin Luther's book, "The Jews and Their Lies" (1543).

I began to teach our congregation some of what I had learned about our Jewish roots and how without Judaism there would be no Christianity. The root structure of a tree is the below-ground system that serves as its primary foundation, anchoring it in the soil and supplying water and nutrients throughout its branches. The deeper the root—the stronger the tree; but if the root is destroyed, the tree and its branches cannot exist.

Every believer must remember this truth: Judaism did not come to an end with the



death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, nor was it displaced by the birth of Christianity. If there had been no Israel, there would have been no patriarchs, no prophets, no apostles, no Bible, and no Savior.²

Our spiritual inheritance owes its very existence to Judaism and a Jewish Rabbi named Jesus of Nazareth.

Remember this truth: Judaism does not need Christianity to explain its existence. However, Christianity cannot explain *its* existence without Judaism.

2. Christians owe a debt of eternal gratitude to the Jewish people for their contributions, which gave birth to the Christian faith.

2 Prince, Derek. The Last Word on the Middle East. DPM International p. 108

No matter from what nation or people—every Christian owes their thanks to the Jews for their spiritual inheritance. Paul is primarily writing to the believers of Gentile origin in Romans 11: *“I am talking to you Gentiles...”* (ROMANS 11:13 NIV).

Further study of this chapter reveals that Paul distinguishes between the believers of Jewish descent and those of Gentile origin—he never uses Israel as a substitute for the Church.³

In Romans 11:30-31 NIV, Paul sums up what he has been saying about the responsibility of Gentile believers toward Israel:

Just as you [Gentiles] who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their [Israel's] disobedience,

3 Prince, Derek. Our Debt to Israel. DPM International 1984 p. 4

so they too have now become disobedient in order that they [Israel] too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you [Gentiles].

God has shown Christians mercy because of the Jewish people and it is now our obligation to show mercy to them by:

1. Demonstrating indebtedness for our faith
2. Expressing unconditional love
3. Praying for the peace of Jerusalem
4. Displaying practical acts of kindness

Jesus Christ, a prominent rabbi from Nazareth, said, “...*for salvation is of the Jews*” (JOHN 4:22). Consider what the Jewish people have given to Christianity:

- The sacred Scripture

- The prophets
- The patriarchs
- Mary, Joseph, and Jesus of Nazareth
- The twelve disciples
- The apostles

The very foundations of our faith are based on the priceless contributions of the Jewish people. If we love the Savior of our faith, then it is impossible to say, “I am a Christian,” and not love the Jewish people.

3. Jesus never denied His Jewishness.

While some try to deny the connection between Jesus of Nazareth and the Jews of the world, Jesus never denied His Jewishness. Jesus told the Samaritan woman in John 4:22,

“You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.” The “we” in this verse refers to the Jewish people—Jesus was identifying Himself with His own people.

Jesus was born to Jewish parents (LUKE 1:26). He was circumcised on the eighth day in keeping with Jewish tradition (LUKE 2:21). He had His bar mitzvah on His thirteenth birthday (LUKE 2:41-50). He kept the Law of Moses (MATTHEW 5:17). He wore the prayer shawl Moses commanded all Jewish men to wear (MARK 6:56 CJB). He died on the cross with an inscription over His head, *“Jesus of Nazareth, The King of the Jews”* (JOHN 19:19).

Jesus considered the Jewish people His family for He said, *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine [the Jewish people], you did for me”* (MATTHEW 25:40 NIV). He spoke as one of them.

Jesus is called “*the Lion of the tribe of Judah*” in the Book of Revelation—the words *Judah* and *Jew* are derived from the same root word. There is no doubt that Jesus identified with the Jewish people during His time on earth and throughout eternity.

If Jesus didn’t deny His Jewish roots, why should we?

The Blessing of Blessing Israel

4. God promises to bless those who bless Israel and the Jewish people.

Paul recorded in Romans 15:27, “*For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their [the Jews] spiritual things, their [Gentiles] duty is also*



to minister to them in material things.” Time and time again Scripture chronicles the principle of God blessing those that bless the Jewish people.

Jacob and Laban

This biblical principle is illustrated with the story of Jacob and Laban. Jacob, one of the patriarchs, worked for a Syrian by the name of Laban. Laban changed Jacob's wages ten times, each time to Laban's loss. Jacob became disillusioned and informed Laban he was leaving.

Laban responded remorsefully, saying, *“Please stay if I have found favor in your eye, for I have learned by experience that the Lord has blessed me for your sake”* (GENESIS 30:27). Laban was one Gentile who recognized that the blessings of God followed the Jewish people.

Joseph and Pharaoh

The blessing continues in the story of Joseph and Pharaoh. Joseph saved the Gentile world from starvation through his divine power to interpret dreams. Pharaoh blessed Joseph by making him the prime minister of the nation and by giving to his family the rich farmlands of Goshen, which were the best in Egypt. Pharaoh treated Joseph and the Jewish people as an extension of his own family.

In accordance with Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream, the seven years of abundance began, and Joseph erected large storehouses all over the country gathering the surplus of grain that had flooded the markets. The seven years of plenty passed and the years of famine began; now the entire country found itself dependent upon the provisions stored away under the wise administration of Joseph.

During the time of lack, the people sold their land and livestock to Pharaoh in exchange for food. Through the genius of Joseph, the stored food not only provided nourishment for the masses but also purchased vast amounts of real estate outside of Egypt, thereby enlarging Pharaoh's kingdom.

Pray for Jerusalem

In Psalm 122:6, King David commands all Christians, "*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.*"

Righteousness and peace are destined to spring forth from Jerusalem to all nations of the earth; therefore, it befits all people to pray for this Holy City.

Daniel prayed three times each day toward the city of Jerusalem while he was in Babylon. Even though these prayers were outlawed, Daniel chose to continue to pray

and endure the punishment of the lion's den. The Lord protected Daniel for his courage and commitment and intervened on his behalf so he could continue to pray for the City of God.

The scriptural principle of personal prosperity is tied to blessing Israel and praying for the city of Jerusalem. This prosperity is not purely associated with material blessings but to the Lord's favor and protection as well.

The Centurion's Servant

Why did Jesus Christ go to the house of the centurion in Capernaum and heal his servant who was about to die? Jesus went there because the Roman centurion deserved the blessing of God for he had demonstrated his love for the Jews by building a synagogue in Israel (LUKE 7:5).

When you display practical acts of love to bless the Jewish people and the State of Israel, God will bless you.

Cornelius of Caesarea

Why did God the Father select the house of Cornelius in Caesarea to be the first Gentile house in Israel to receive the Holy Spirit? The answer is given repeatedly in the book of Acts, which says: “... *a devout man [Cornelius] and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always*” (ACTS 10:2). Who were the people to whom Cornelius gave these alms? They were the Jewish people that lived around him.

Acts 10:4 states: “*Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.*”

Acts 10:31 reads, “*your alms are remembered in the sight of God.*”

The point is made three times in the same chapter: the household of a righteous Gentile who demonstrated his unconditional love for the Jewish people in a practical manner was divinely selected by heaven to be the first to receive the Gospel of Salvation and the first to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

These combined Scriptures verify that prosperity (GENESIS 12:3; PSALM 122:6), divine healing (LUKE 7:1–5), and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (ACTS 10) came first to the Gentiles who blessed the Jewish people and the nation of Israel in a practical manner.

The Bible teaches that love is not what you say—love is what you do (1 JOHN 3:18). It has been said, “A bell is not a bell until you ring it; a song is not a song until you sing it; love in your heart is not put there to stay; and love is not love until you give it away.”

It is imperative that we express our love and support for Israel and the Jewish people through practical acts of kindness.

Cursed Be Those Who Curse You

5. God judges those who abuse the Jewish people.

The Jews have suffered persecution in many forms and from many different groups of people throughout their history.

The Amalekites

In Exodus 17, there's the story of the Amalekites, the descendants of Esau, who attacked the children of Israel as they came up out of Egypt en route to the Promised Land.



God hated the Amalekites for their offense against the Jewish people and promised to be at war with Amalek until He drove his remembrance from the earth.

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." And Moses built an altar and called its name The-Lord-Is-My-Banner; for he said, "Because the Lord has sworn: the Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."
(EXODUS 17:14–16)

Hundreds of years later, God was still at war with Amalek as demonstrated when He commanded King Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites:

Thus says the Lord of hosts: "I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he

ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.”

(1 SAMUEL 15:2-3)

However, Saul refused to obey the Lord and because of his disobedience God took the kingdom from him and gave it to another. The judgment on Saul was instantaneous, because he refused to carry out God's decree against those who had attacked the Jewish people.

The Lord confirmed His judgment upon Saul through the prophet Samuel:

“The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours [David], who is better than you. And also the Strength of Israel will not

lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent.”

(1 SAMUEL 15:28)

There is an everlasting truth that must be recognized through these passages of Scripture—hundreds of years passed from the time of Moses to King Saul, but God’s judgment of annihilating Amalek’s descendants to the last “*man and woman, child and infant*” remained the same.

God does not change His mind about judging those that have come against “the apple of His eye.”

Moses and Pharaoh

Another illustration of God’s judgment on the people and the nations that come against Israel is that of the pharaoh who did not know Joseph (EXODUS 7-14).

Unlike the pharaoh who blessed the Jewish people because of Joseph, this pharaoh persecuted the Israelites during the time of Moses. He purposely made their lives grievous for he feared the Jews would grow too numerous and challenge his power. The Jews were made to suffer greatly—they were beaten with whips, they were forced to make bricks without straw, they were starved, and tragically their male children were drowned in the Nile River.

God judged that pharaoh and his administration with ten plagues that destroyed the economy of the nation. In the final plague, the firstborn in every Egyptian home died, and pharaoh himself became bloated fish food as he floated face down in the Red Sea. Moses and the Jewish people witnessed this divine judgment on their enemies as they were liberated from Egypt's bondage by the hand of God while they crossed the Red Sea on dry ground.

Haman and Esther

A third demonstration of God bringing judgment upon the Gentiles who attacked the Jewish people is vividly recorded in the Book of Esther.

Haman was the Old Testament Hitler who planned the first “final solution” for all the Jews living in Persia, present day Iran. God intervened on behalf of the Jews through Queen Esther’s bravery and the end result was that Haman and his ten sons hung from the very gallows they built to hang the Jews of Persia.

Israel and the Nations

One of the major focuses of God’s final judgment on the nations of the world will be their treatment of the Jewish people (MATTHEW 25:31-46).

The nations of the world will be separated into two categories—sheep and goats.

The “sheep” will be accepted into God’s kingdom and the “goats” will be rejected.

And the basis for their judgment is given by Christ in Matthew 25:40, *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”*”

Bottom line: the nations that show mercy to the Jewish people will receive mercy from God and the nations that deny mercy to them will be refused mercy.

God makes it abundantly clear in His Word that He will regather Israel to their own land and restore them to His favor. He has also promised to judge the nations and individuals who oppress His beloved people.

“For behold, in those days and at that time, when I bring back the captives of Judah and

Jerusalem, I will also gather all nations, and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat;

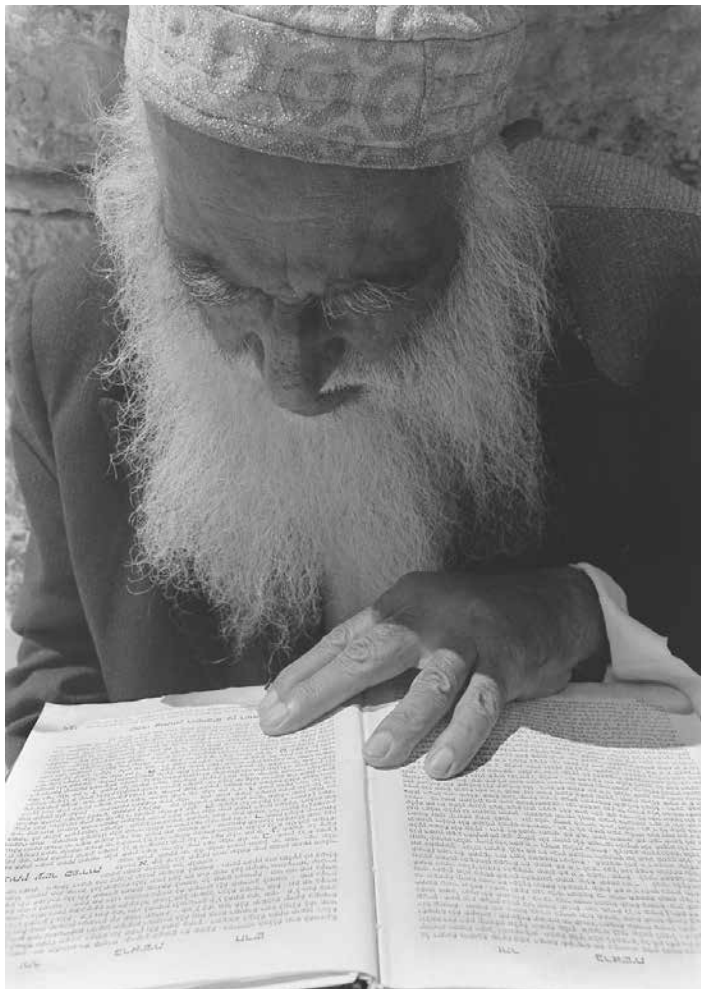
And I will enter into judgment with them there on account of My people, My heritage Israel,

Whom they have scattered among the nations; they have also divided up My land.
(JOEL 3:1-2)

History proves that the hatred and persecution of the Jewish people did not end in biblical times. From about the fourth century on, the Church has treated the Jewish people with prejudice, contempt, injustice, and barbarous cruelty.

Sadly, most Christians are ignorant of these historical facts, but the Jewish people have these horrible incidences engraved on their minds.⁴

4 Prince, Derek. The Last Word on the Middle East. DPM International p. 108



The warped doctrine of the early church which maligned the Jewish people by charging them with the death of Jesus Christ played a significant part in centuries of animosity, bigotry and antisemitism.

John Chrysostom

To this day many Christians believe John Chrysostom (349-407), the Archbishop of Constantinople, to be a saint and a renowned theologian. Chrysostom was an important early church father and celebrated for his eloquence in preaching and public speaking as well as his denunciation of the abuse of authority by both ecclesiastical and political leaders.⁵

What is not widely known is his hatred of the Jews as expressed in several of his sermons. These homilies were seen as “the

5 Wilken, Robert. “John Chrysostom” profile, *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity* (ed. Everett Ferguson), New York: Garland Publishing, 1997

decisive turn in the history of Christian anti-Judaism, a turn whose ultimate disfiguring consequence was enacted in the political antisemitism of Adolf Hitler”.⁶ Chrysostom’s discourses on the Jewish people were said to be “the most horrible and violent denunciations of Judaism to be found in the writings of a Christian theologian.”⁷

Chrysostom described the Jewish people as “lustful, rapacious, greedy, perfidious bandits, inveterate murderers, men possessed by the devil.” He labeled them as being full of debauchery and drunkenness, which he asserted gave them the manners of the pig and lusty goat, and said, “I hate the synagogue precisely because it has the

6 Katz, Steven (1999), “Ideology, State Power, and Mass Murder/Genocide”, *Lessons and Legacies: The Meaning of the Holocaust in a Changing World*, Northwestern University Press

7 Parkes, James. *Prelude to Dialogue* (London: 1969) p. 153; cited in Wilken, p. xv.

law and the prophets...I hate the Jews also because they outrage the law..."⁸

It is tragic enough to know that one of the most revered church fathers felt this way about the Jewish people, but what is more heartrending is the profound effect this hatred had on the attitudes and theology of Christians for centuries to follow.

The Crusades

The Crusades (1095–1291) became a deep-seated part of the history of antisemitism in the Middle Ages. The first Crusade instigated new persecutions of the Jewish people that would continue for centuries. During the Middle Ages, the Crusaders massacred entire Jewish communities on

8 Flannery, Edward H. *The Anguish of the Jews*, New York, N.Y.: Macmillan Publishing Cp., Inc., 1965, p. 49, 48

their way from Europe to “liberate” the Holy Land.

After capturing Jerusalem, the Crusaders continued to rape, plunder, and murder the Jewish people on their journey back through Europe and did so in the name of Christ, carrying the cross before them as their sacred emblem.

Martin Luther

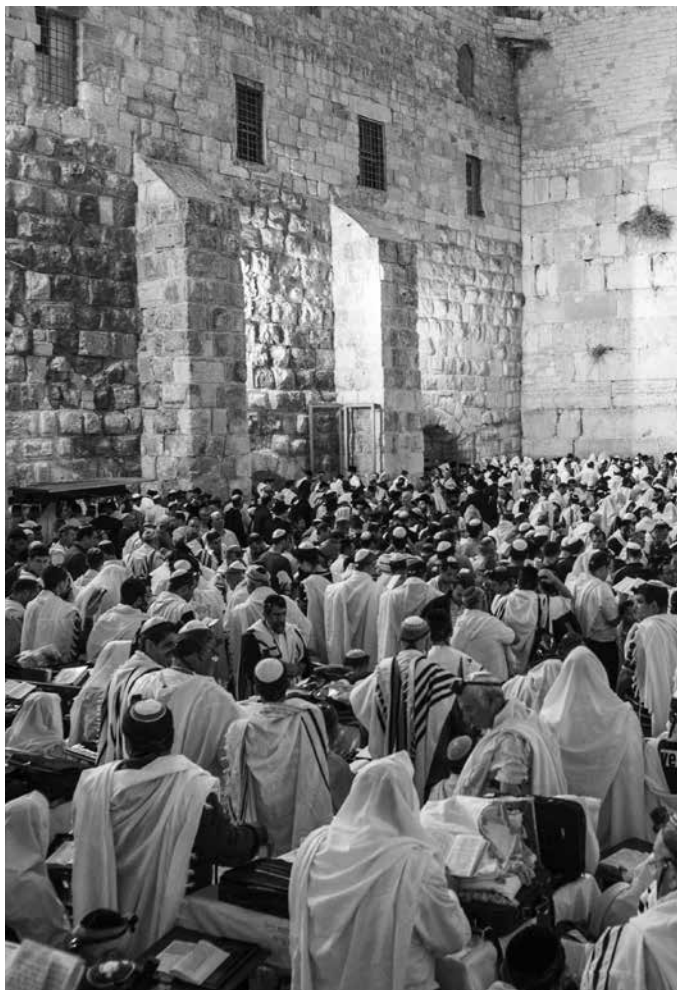
When Martin Luther (1483–1546), a German professor of theology, composer, priest, and an influential figure in the Protestant Reformation, first published his Ninety-five Theses of 1517, he anticipated that the Jewish people would be convinced by it and would convert to Christianity. When they did not, Luther became angry and disillusioned and considered the Jews blasphemers and liars because they rejected the divinity of Jesus.

One of Luther's major works on the Jews was his 60,000 word dissertation, *The Jews and Their Lies* (1543). In it, Luther argued that the Jews were no longer the Chosen People but "the devil's people." He advocated setting synagogues on fire, destroying Jewish prayer books, forbidding rabbis from preaching, seizing Jewish property and money, and smashing up their homes, so that these "envenomed worms" would be forced into labour or expelled "for all time."⁹

Martin Luther's destructive impact persisted after his death and eventually led to the expulsion of Jews from several German-Lutheran states.

Historians believe that Luther's anti-Jewish rhetoric contributed significantly to the development of antisemitism in Germany

9 Gritsch, Eric W. (2012). *Martin Luther's Anti-Semitism: Against His Better Judgment*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. ISBN 978-0-8028-6676-9. pp. 86-87.





and provided an “ideal underpinning” for the Nazis’ attacks on Jews.¹⁰

Reinhold Lewin, noted Protestant professor and author on Luther, stated that anybody who “wrote against the Jews for whatever reason believed he had the right to justify himself by triumphantly referring to Luther.” And according to Robert Michael, renowned expert on the historical and theological roots of antisemitism, “just about every anti-Jewish book printed in the Third Reich contained references to and quotations from Luther.”

Church historian and author Martin Brecht said of Luther, “There was a world of difference between his [Luther’s] belief in salvation and his racial ideology. Nevertheless, his misguided agitation had

10 Grunberger, Richard. *The 12-Year Reich: A Social History of Nazi German 1933–1945* (NP:Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1971), 465.

the evil result that Luther fatefully became one of the ‘church fathers’ of antisemitism and thus provided material for the modern hatred of the Jews, cloaking it with the authority of the Reformer.”¹¹

Spain

During the 15th and 16th centuries Spain was a dominant power in Europe with a preeminent culture, a powerful military, and an empire that spanned two hemispheres.

In 1478, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain submitted an official request to the Roman Church for a tribunal of the Inquisition in Castile to investigate Jews they believed had made a false conversion to Christianity.

¹¹ Brecht, Martin, Martin Luther, tr. James L. Schaaf, Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1985–93, 3:214.

By 1487, King Ferdinand endorsed the formation of the Spanish Inquisition Tribunals and in March 31, 1492, the Spanish monarchs ordered the Edict of Expulsion (also known as the Alhambra Decree). In it, the Jewish people were accused of trying “to subvert their holy Catholic faith and trying to draw faithful Christians away from their beliefs.”

Through the Edict of Expulsion, Jews were only given four months to either convert to Christianity or leave the country. Under the decree, any Jew who did not convert or leave Spain by the deadline of July 31, 1492 was brutally tortured before being executed through burning at the stake.¹²

Christopher Columbus, an Italian explorer living in Spain, was funded by two Jewish court officials, Louis de Santangel,

12 Elliott, J. H. “Imperial Spain 1469-1716”, St. Martin’s Press, 1964.

chancellor of the royal household, and Gabriel Sanchez, treasurer of Aragon. On August 3, 1492, three days after the deadline to expel the Jews, Columbus sailed from Spain in search of a new home for the Jewish people; that refuge would later be called America.

God had given Abraham and his descendants a special blessing, *“I will bless those who bless you, and curse those who curse you, and through you, will be blessed all the families of the earth”* (GENESIS 12:3).

There is debate as to whether Christopher Columbus was a Jew, but what is clear is that he helped establish a country that accepted the Jewish people, and in keeping with God’s blessing, America has been a nation abundant in liberty, prosperity, and opportunity for all people.¹³

13 Eshman, Rob. Was Christopher Columbus a Jew? The Jewish Journal October 12, 2009



Within a century of torturing the Jewish people who refused to convert to Christianity through the mandates of the Spanish Inquisition and expelling them from its lands as a result of the infamous Edict of Expulsion, Spain declined to a second-rate power.

It should be noted that from the 13th to the 16th centuries European countries expelled the Jews from their territory on at least 15 occasions. Spain was preceded by England, France, and some German states, among many others, and succeeded by Portugal and at least four more expulsions.¹⁴

Nazi Germany

Volumes have been written about the atrocities committed against the Jewish people by Hitler and his goose-stepping

14 Anti-Semitism. Jerusalem: Keter Books. 1974.

Nazis. It is widely accepted that many of the statements they used to disseminate their antisemitic policies were directly attributed to the teachings of Martin Luther.

The intensity of German and Polish hatred toward the Jews was not new; it had deep roots going back many centuries but the responsibility for this antisemitic philosophy can be linked to the so-called Christian Church. The Nazis merely perfected this hatred and reaped the harvest of evil that the Church had sown for centuries.

The Ghettos

The Jewish ghettos did not originate with the Nazis. Their origin is traced back to medieval times when restrictions on the areas Jews were allowed to live became commonplace throughout Europe. The

term “ghetto” originated from the name of the Jewish quarter established in Venice, Italy in 1516 when government authorities forced the city’s Jews to live in that specific area of the city.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, officials ranging from local authorities to the Austrian emperor ordered the creation of ghettos for Jews in Frankfurt, Rome, Prague, and several other cities.¹⁵ However, the ghettos were certainly perfected during World War II when the Germans established at least 1,000 ghettos in German-occupied and annexed Poland and the Soviet Union alone.¹⁶

Hundreds of thousands of Jewish people died in these ghettos and most of the

15 Ghetto, Holocaust Encyclopedia

16 Types of Ghettos, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.

survivors were transferred to Nazi death camps.

The disturbing fact remained that no major Christian denomination in Europe or elsewhere raised their voices to denounce the Nazi policy of Jewish discrimination, persecution, or annihilation.

Remember this truth: the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob does not forget.

It is to be noted that what men or nations do to the Jewish people, God will do exactly the same to them. The Egyptians killed Jewish children in the Nile River and in turn God sent a plague that killed the firstborn of every house in Egypt that did not have the lamb's blood on the door. The tears of the Egyptians matched every Jewish tear to the last drop.

I traveled to West Berlin in 1984 as a guest of the U.S. military to minister

during their annual week of spiritual renewal. While there, I was taken behind the Iron Curtain into East Berlin through Checkpoint Charlie. What I witnessed was the stark contrast between capitalism and communism. West Berlin was an oasis of boundless abundance created by the “risk and reward” system of capitalism while East Berlin was a grey and barren desert with nothing to offer but empty promises—it was the poster child for communism.

Separating East and West Germany were two ten-foot-high barbed wire fences with a no-man’s-land approximately thirty yards wide. These barriers were lined with machine gun towers and patrolled by communist guards and attack dogs.

After our visit to West and East Berlin, Diana and I traveled to Dachau, to personally witness the site of one of the many concentration camps where



tens of thousands of Jewish deaths were documented and countless others were left unrecorded. I was awestruck by the striking similarity of the walls surrounding East Berlin and the Dachau concentration camp: the machine gun towers, the barbed wire and the no-man's land where the attack dogs and Nazi guards were allowed to patrol—their startling likeness was more than coincidental.

I repeat once again: we will all answer to God for how we treat the Jewish people—the apple of His eye.

Britain

Britain retained its far-reaching empire throughout its many victories in countless battles including two World Wars.

However, the history of antisemitism existed for thousands of years in England. In the twelfth century, medieval Britain was

a leader in establishing harsh legislation and discriminatory conduct toward Jews, unequaled by the rest of Europe.

From the Norman Conquest of 1066 on, there was a steady progression of persecution, forced conversion, extortion, and expropriation of Jews. One notorious example was the Norwich case of 1144 which instigated the blood libel in the Middle Ages; this was the first time Jews were accused of using the blood of Christian children for their Passover matzoth.

These and other false charges coupled with hateful attitudes toward God's Chosen culminated in the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290 under Edward I. It was the first ejection of a major Jewish community in Europe.

Britain was not only the first country in medieval Europe to expel Jews but also one

of the last to take them back. It took more than 350 years before the Jewish people could return to the British Isles under Oliver Cromwell in 1656.¹⁷

Britain later attempted to obstruct the rebirth of Israel during its mandatory power over Palestine in 1920-1948. From that moment in its history Britain's empire underwent a process of weakening and collapse and today, less than a generation later, like Spain, it is a struggling, second rate power.

I ask these questions—where are the Medes and the Persians?

Where are Haman and his sons? Where are the Babylonians?

Where is the pharaoh that murdered Jewish babies in the Nile?

17 Wistrich, Prof. Robert S. The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs. Antisemitism Embedded in British Culture. June 11, 2008

Where are the Amalekites?

Where is the Grecian Empire?

Where is the Roman Empire?

Where is the Ottoman Empire? Where are Mussolini, Stalin and Adolf Hitler and his murdering Nazis?

Each are footnotes in the boneyard of human history because they all made a common mistake—they attacked the Jewish people, and God Almighty brought them to judgment as promised in Genesis 12:3.

America, the Arab Nations, the United Kingdom, the European Union, Russia, China—indeed, *all* nations are in the valley of decision. Every nation that presumes to interfere with God's plan for Israel stands against God—He is rising to judge the nations of the world based on their treatment of the “apple of His eye.”

Israel and the Land

Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) gave one of the greatest speeches ever given on the floor of the United States Senate in defense of Israel and its tie to the Promised Land in April of 2002 titled, “Seven Reasons Why Israel Is Entitled to the Land.” Below is an abridged version of the senator’s powerful speech in addition to some updated facts:

1. The archaeological evidence says it’s Israel’s land.

Every new archaeological dig supports the fact that the Jews have had a presence in Israel for three thousand years—including coins, pottery, and other cultural artifacts as well as whole cities. The Jewish claim predates the claim of any other people in the region.



▲ Pastor John Hagee and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

Pastor John Hagee and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin ►



The Philistines are extinct, as are other ancient peoples. They do not have the unbroken line the Israelis have. The first modern Israelis are direct descendants from the original Israelites.

2. Israel has a historic right to the land.

Israel existed as a nation until the time of the Roman Empire. Even after the dispersions in 70 and 135AD, a strong Jewish presence remained. The Turks took control five hundred years ago and ruled until they were defeated by Great Britain in World War I when British Field Marshall Edmond Allenby took Jerusalem without firing a shot.

Grateful for the contributions Jewish scientists and businessmen had made to the war effort, Britain promised in 1917 to set aside certain captured lands (all present-day Israel and Jordan) for a Jewish homeland. There was no

outcry over the plan because the land was considered worthless at the time, unable to sustain any sizable population.

Israel's inhabitants began to grow only after the Jews reclaimed it and the land had begun to prosper. No nation in the region has a longer-standing historic claim to the land than Israel. Saudi Arabia was not created until 1913; Lebanon, 1920; Iraq, 1932; Syria, 1941; Jordan, 1946; and Kuwait, 1961.

3. Israel's practical value to the Middle East.

A. Israel is a marvel of modern agriculture. She has produced more food out of a desert than any other land, using such brilliant inventions as drip irrigation. The Arab nations should befriend Israel, import Israeli

technology, and make the Middle East like Israel—a food exporter.

B. Israel is among the world leaders in medical procedures, research, and technologies. Israelis invented the Pill-Cam, innovative wound treatment, and early detection and prevention of certain cancers and so much more.

C. Israel is among the world's leaders of high-tech inventions such as the computer processing chip in all desktops, laptops, and notebooks, anti-virus computer technology, mobile phone technology and laser projection keyboards used with the tablet, to name a few.

D. Israel has one of the largest discoveries of natural gas off the coast of the Mediterranean.

E. Israel is a shining example of democracy in the Middle East.

4. Israel's land: the ground of humanitarian concern and security.

Six million Jews were slaughtered in Europe in World War II. Jews were persecuted in Russia under the czars, under communism, and even now in nations around the world as antisemitism raises its ugly head. For their own protection and development, the Jews need their homeland. If not there, then where?

The enemies of Israel threaten to wipe Israel off the map. Why? The land they live in is tiny compared to the vastness of the Arab nations. The entire nation of Israel would fit into Oklahoma seven times (over 31 times within the state of Texas). The enemies of Israel seek to destroy Israel because of the hatred they have for God's chosen—the apple of His eye.

5. Israel is a strategic ally of the United States.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) brings great stability to the troubled Middle East. If the IDF were not able to sustain peace in the region, the United States would need to commit thousands of troops at the cost of billions of dollars to secure a land that is critical to our national security.

Israel is a strategic obstacle to groups hostile to America in the Middle East. We have only one friend in the region we can count on. Israel votes with the United States in the United Nations more than any other nation, including England, Canada, France, and Germany.

6. Israel is a roadblock to terrorism.

The war we currently face is not against a sovereign nation but against a fluid group of terrorists who move from one country



to another. They are almost invisible until they raise their ugly head of death and destruction. We need our alliance with Israel to aid us as we combat this unconventional war against radical Islamic terrorism.

Senator Inhofe made the following prophetic statement: “If we do not stop terrorism in the Middle East, it will be on our shores. I believe the spiritual door was opened for an attack against the United States because the policy of our government has been to demand and pressure the Israelis not to retaliate in a significant way against terrorist strikes launched against them.”

Since its independence in 1948, Israel has fought eight recognized wars, including the War of Independence (1948–1949); the Sinai Campaign (1956); the Six-Day War (1967); and the Yom Kippur War (1973).

They have also defended themselves in two Palestinian intifadas as well as a series of armed conflicts and terrorist assaults.

In all cases, Israel was attacked—they were never the aggressor and most importantly, they have been victorious against impossible odds.

7. We must support Israel's right to the land because God said so!

In Genesis 13:14–17, the Bible says, *“The Lord said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you.”*

God's Promises of the Land to Israel¹⁸

- **Genesis:** 12:1-7; 13:14-15; 13:17; 15:7-10; 15:17-21; 25:5-6; 26:1-6; 28:10-13.
- **Exodus** 3:8, 17; 6:2-4, 6-8; 13:3, 5, 11; 20:12; 23:23, 30-31, 33; 32:11, 13; 33:1.
- **Leviticus** 14:34; 20:24; 25:2, 23, 38; 26:42, 44-45.
- **Numbers** 13:2; 14:23-24, 30-31; 15:2; 26:53, 55; 27:12; 32:11; 33:51, 53-54; 34:2, 12-13, 17, 29.
- **Deuteronomy** 1:8, 21, 35-36; 2:31; 3:18, 20, 28; 4:1, 5, 14, 21, 38, 40; 6:10, 18, 23; 7:1, 13; 8:1, 10; 9:5, 23, 28; 10:11; 11:8-9, 21, 31; 12:1, 10; 16:20; 17:14; 18:9; 19:1-3, 14; 21:1, 23; 24:4; 25:15, 19; 26:1-3, 9-10, 15; 27:2-3; 28:11, 52; 30:3-9, 20; 31:21, 23; 32:43, 49, 52; 34:1-2, 4.

18 Brim. Billye. God's Promises of the Land to Israel. A Glorious Church Fellowship Inc.

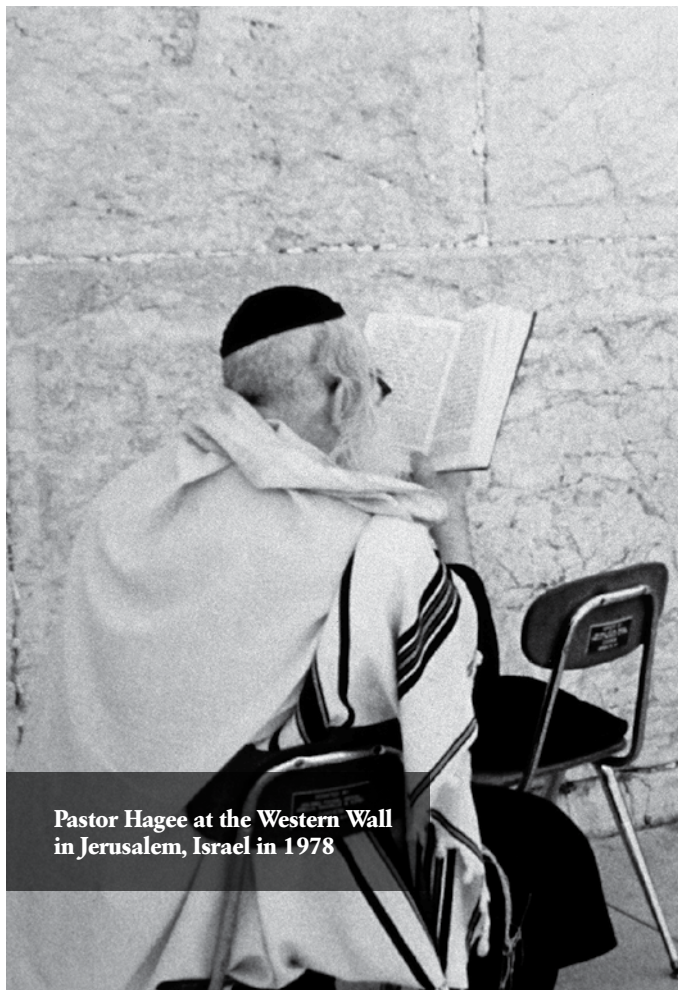
- **Joshua** 1:2-4, 6, 11, 15; 2:9, 14, 24; 13:1; 14:9; 18:1-3, 10; 19:51; 21:43; 23:5; 24:3, 8, 13.
- **Judges** 2:1.
- **1 Kings** 8:22, 33-34, 36, 40.
- **2 Kings** 21:8.
- **1 Chronicles** 16:13-18.
- **2 Chronicles** 6:25, 27, 38; 7:20; 33:8.
- **Nehemiah** 9:5, 7-8, 15, 36.
- **Psalms** 44:1-3; 105:8-11; 135:10, 12; 136:21-22.
- **Isaiah** 14:1-2; 49:8, 12; 60:18, 21; 61:4, 7.
- **Jeremiah** 3:16-19; 11:5; 12:14; 16:14-15; 23:7-8; 24:6; 25:5; 30:3; 32:22; 32:41, 44; 33:11.
- **Ezekiel** 20:39-42; 28:25; 34:13; 36:6-12, 24, 28; 37:3-4, 10-14, 21-22, 25; 39:26, 28; 45:1; 47:13-14; 47:21; 48:29.

- **Hosea** 2:15, 20, 23.
- **Joel** 3:2.
- **Amos** 9:14-15.

The Lord has declared it in His Word and that settles it!



**Pastor John Hagee and Rabbi Aryeh Scheinberg
(1940-2021) after 35 years of friendship**



**Pastor Hagee at the Western Wall
in Jerusalem, Israel in 1978**



Israel Lives

As I stated in my book, *In Defense of Israel*, the Jewish people have suffered persecution and pogroms; they have outlived Pharaoh's slavery, Haman's gallows, and Hitler's final solution. And I have no doubt that long after Hamas, Hezbollah, and ISIS have been added to the boneyard of human history, and long after the crisis with Iran has been resolved, the flag of Israel will still fly over the ancient walls of the sacred city of David. Jerusalem will continue to be the praise of all the earth and the Jewish people will remain the "apple of His eye" for Israel lives!



▲ Pastor John Hagee and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

Pastor John Hagee and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ▼





In February of 2006, after standing with Israel for over twenty-five years, I invited four hundred of America's foremost evangelical leaders to join me in forming a national organization titled, Christians United for Israel. The purpose of this association was to bring Christians and Jews together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and unconditional brotherly love in order to emphasize that what we have in common is far greater than the differences we have allowed to separate us over the centuries.

Christians United for Israel is now over 10 million members strong, and we continue to remain true to our mission of educating and empowering millions of Americans to speak and act with one voice in defense of Israel and the Jewish people.

If you desire to become a member of Christians United for Israel, I invite you to go to CUFI.org and join us today, for as King David said,

“You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for the time to show favor to her; the appointed time has come.”

(PSALM 102:13 NIV)

PASTOR John Hague



MISSION AND VISION

As the largest pro-Israel organization in the United States, with over 10 million members, Christians United for Israel (CUFI) is the foremost Christian organization educating and empowering millions of Americans to speak and act with one voice in defense of Israel and the Jewish people.

CUFI's diversity across political, ethnic, generational and denominational lines maximizes our impact in communities, the media, on campus, and in our nation's capital. CUFI is committed to confronting indifference and combating antisemitism in all its forms wherever it may be found.