

Demonism (part 40: the Jews—the Palestinian Covenant.3

Ten ways Satan is effectively paving the way for the Antichrist.

#1, Globalism, One-World Order.

#2, Occultism.

#3, Apostasy.

#4, Worldwide Web.

#5, Animosity towards Israel.

#6, Buildup of the kings of the east, Asian power.

#7, Buildup of the king of the north, Russian power.

#8, Buildup of Europe (the European Common Market), the Revived Roman Empire.

#9, Preparation of the Jews to accept the False Prophet.

#10, Destruction of the United States as we presently know it.

#5, Animosity towards Israel (cont.)

(Continuation of the study of Israel, her relationship with God, and God's promises).

Since Israel plays such a key role in the angelic conflict throughout human history, especially in the end times, it is crucial for every believer to understand why Satan hates her so much and seeks her destruction. Satan's rage against Israel is directly related to God's unconditional covenants.

We are now in the midst of noting the three dispossessions and three restorations of the Jews in regard to their promised land:

- Israel's three dispossessions: 1) Egyptian ending in 1445 B.C. with the Exodus; 2) the two phases including the Assyrian (722 B.C.) and Babylonian (586 B.C.) captivities; and 3) the Roman A.D. 70. which has lasted until 1948.

- Israel's three restorations: 1) When Joshua returned the Jews to the promised land after four hundred years of bondage; 2) When Nehemiah, Ezra, Zerubbabel, Haggai, and Zechariah restored the Jewish people after captivity from the Babylonians; and 3) in 1948. Strictly speaking this third restoration may not be the third restoration spoken of in Scripture. The Bible speaks of a third restoration that will take place in the Tribulation when the Lord returns to establish the Millennium. However, the prophets often speak of a regathering of the Jews in unbelief before the Tribulation. It may very well be that the establishment of Israel in 1948 was the first stage of an indeterminate period of regathering of the Jews in unbelief. 1948 was the first time since A.D. 70 that the Jews who had been dispersed through the entire world began to return to their homeland. The fact that they are returning in large measure in unbelief fits the descriptions of the prophets (cf., Isa. 28:14-22; 49:23; Jer. 30:2-24).

Before moving to the next covenant, I would like finish our look at the Palestinian land covenant by noting a few comments of various scholars regarding the effects of the scattering the Jews all over the world. Indeed, the sufferings of the Jews at the hands of the Gentile nations are unparalleled in history.

1. Charles Feinberg summarizes the fate of dispersed Israel,

During the time of Israel's rejection she is scattered, persecuted, and blind. The scattering of Israel had been the subject of Moses' prophecy in the Book of Deuteronomy. He foretold: "The LORD shall scatter you among the nations"; "The LORD shall scatter thee among the people, from one end of the earth even to the other"; "I said, I would scatter them into corners" (Deut. 4:27; 28:64; 32:26). Before His crucifixion Christ, predicting the destruction of Jerusalem, said of Israel that "they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations" (Luke 21:24). Blessing for Israel has been linked with dwelling in the land. How literally the words of Christ and the prophets have been fulfilled in this instance! The Jew has been the man without a country, the wandering Jew. They are to be found in every country of the world. There are white Jews and black Jews, Indian Jews, French Jews, German Jews, English Jews, American Jews, and so on. But always there are Jews, for God in His scattering of them has preserved their national existence for His yet future purposes. Israel scattered has not meant Israel blessed. Far from it, for she has been hounded and persecuted to this day. To read the tale of Israel's woes is to learn of a people which has been the object of the hatred of all nations. But so it is always: the world hates that which God has loved (*Israel at the Center of History Revelation*, 129-30).

2. J. Palmer Muntz notes that

This dispersion of Israel is one of the great tragedies of history. How bitterly and relentlessly have the Jews been persecuted! They have been banned and banished from almost every nation. They have been shamefully treated and downtrodden, ruthlessly plundered, abominably abused, diabolically tortured and barbarously martyred. But Israel, dispersed and persecuted is also the miracle of history in her preservation. No other people could have survived such treatment without extermination or utter degradation (“The Jew in History and Destiny” in the *Sure Word of Prophecy*, 228.)

3. David Baron adds,

The history of the Jews since the destruction of the second Temple is one of long martyrology, the record of an almost unbroken chain of unparalleled suffering—a chronicle of massacres, oppressions, banishments, fiendish tortures, spoliations, and degradations which have been inflicted upon them for the most part by so-called Christian nations. . . . At the cost of repetition, it must be emphasized that the calamities and sufferings of Israel are due in the first instance to God’s retribution anger against His people on account of their sins and apostasies, and are in fulfillment of prophetic forecasts, predictions, and warnings, some of which were uttered at the very beginning of their national history (*The History of Israel*, 76, 79).

4. The Holocaust historian Raul Hilberg maintains that the Nazi annihilation of six million Jews was the natural result of three consecutive policies against Jewry during its dispersion in Western civilization.

Anti-Jewish policies and anti-Jewish actions did not have their beginning in 1933. For many centuries, and in many countries, the Jews have been victims of destructive action. What was the object of these activities? What were the aims of those who persisted in anti-Jewish deeds? Throughout Western history, three consecutive policies have been applied against Jewry in its dispersion. . . . Since the fourth century after Christ, there have been three anti-Jewish policies: conversion, expulsion, and annihilation. The second appeared as an alternative to the first, and the third emerged as an alternative to the second. . . . The missionaries of Christianity had said in effect: You have no right to live among us as Jews. The secular rulers who followed had proclaimed: You have no right to live among us. The German Nazis at last decreed: You have no right to live. These progressively more drastic goals brought into the wake a slow and steady growth of anti-Jewish thinking. The process began with the attempt to drive the Jews into Christianity. The development was continued in order to force the victims into exile. It was finished when the Jews were driven to their deaths. The German Nazis, then, did not discard the past; they built upon it. They did not begin a development; they completed it (*The Destruction of the European Jews*, 1, 3-4).

A few thoughts:

It is obvious that God's Word stands true throughout history. He promised to scatter the Jews as well as bring them back to their homeland in unbelief. There can be no doubt this is *exactly* what we see throughout human history. God is always faithful! God controls history, absolutely!

There was a time in America when the general population understood the history and importance of Israel. This is no longer the case. Many do not even know why we have traditionally supported Israel. Who even talks about how God will bless and curse nations in response to how they treat Israel? We hear a lot of talk about how to rebuild America's financial soundness, but not a word about how part of our financial well-being is related to our treatment of Israel. There was a time when this was understood by many, but no longer. When our president thumbs his nose at Israel's elected leader, some may think it is uncouth, but who thinks about how our leader's attitude to Israel has ramifications on how God treats us? Certainly, not many of the upcoming new generation. The only hope is doctrinal believers who are grounded in philosophical realism, for they are the only ones oriented to Total Truth.

In 'Ehyeh (the True-Good-Beautiful),

Paster Don