

## **Demonism (part 41: the Jews—the Davidic Covenant)**

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.**

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### **#5, Animosity towards Israel (cont.)**

(Continuation of the study of Israel).

In order to understand how and why 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 the four Jewish covenants that remain in effect throughout human history. We have noted the Abrahamic and Palestinian covenants, we turn now to the David Covenant.

#### The Davidic Covenant

1. The third unconditional covenant that God initiated with Israel was the Davidic covenant. This particular covenant reaffirms the seed promises that God made with Abraham. Consider the extensive passages on this covenant (which every believer should read):

2 Samuel 7:1 Now it came about when the king lived in his house, and the LORD had given him rest on every side from all his enemies, 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells within tent curtains." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your mind, for the LORD is with you." 4 But it came about in the same night that the word of the LORD came to

Nathan, saying, 5 "Go and say to My servant David, "Thus says the LORD, "Are you the one who should build Me a house to dwell in? 6 "For I have not dwelt in a house since the day I brought up the sons of Israel from Egypt, even to this day; but I have been moving about in a tent, even in a tabernacle. 7 "Wherever I have gone with all the sons of Israel, did I speak a word with one of the tribes of Israel, which I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?'" 8 "Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be ruler over My people Israel. 9 "And I have been with you wherever you have gone and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a great name, like the names of the great men who are on the earth. 10 "I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, 11 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you. 12 "When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 "I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men, 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 "And your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever." 17 In accordance with all these words and all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

1 Chronicles 17:1 And it came about, when David dwelt in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, "Behold, I am dwelling in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under curtains." 2 Then Nathan said to David, "Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you." 3 And it came about the same night, that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, 4 "Go and tell David My servant, 'Thus says the LORD, "You shall not build a house for Me to dwell in; 5 for I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up Israel to this day, but I have gone from tent to tent and from one dwelling place to another. 6 "In all places where I have walked with all Israel, have I spoken a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people, saying, 'Why have you not built for Me a house of cedar?'" 7 "Now, therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be leader over My people Israel. 8 "And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth. 9 "And I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in their own place and be moved no more; neither shall the wicked waste them anymore as formerly, 10 even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel. And I will subdue all your enemies. Moreover, I tell you that the LORD will build a house for you. 11 "And it shall come about when your days are fulfilled that you must go to be with your fathers, that I will set up one of your descendants after you, who shall be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. 12 "He shall build for Me a

house, and I will establish his throne forever. 13 "I will be his father, and he shall be My son; and I will not take My lovingkindness away from him, as I took it from him who was before you. 14 "But I will settle him in My house and in My kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever." 15 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.

Psalm 89:1 A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite . I Will sing of the lovingkindness of the LORD forever; To all generations I will make known Thy faithfulness with my mouth. 2 For I have said, "Lovingkindness will be built up forever; In the heavens Thou wilt establish Thy faithfulness." 3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant, 4 I will establish your seed forever, And build up your throne to all generations." Selah.

Psalm 89:19 Once Thou didst speak in vision to Thy godly ones, And didst say, "I have given help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people. 20 "I have found David My servant; With My holy oil I have anointed him, 21 With whom My hand will be established; My arm also will strengthen him. 22 "The enemy will not deceive him, Nor the son of wickedness afflict him. 23 "But I shall crush his adversaries before him, And strike those who hate him. 24 "And My faithfulness and My lovingkindness will be with him, And in My name his horn will be exalted. 25 "I shall also set his hand on the sea, And his right hand on the rivers. 26 "He will cry to Me, 'Thou art my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.' 27 "I also shall make him My first-born, The highest of the kings of the earth. 28 "My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him. 29 "So I will establish his descendants forever, And his throne as the days of heaven. 30 "If his sons forsake My law, And do not walk in My judgments, 31 If they violate My statutes, And do not keep My commandments, 32 Then I will visit their transgression with the rod, And their iniquity with stripes. 33 "But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness. 34 "My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips. 35 "Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. 36 "His descendants shall endure forever, And his throne as the sun before Me. 37 "It shall be established forever like the moon, And the witness in the sky is faithful." Selah. . . . Where are Thy former lovingkindnesses, O Lord, Which Thou didst swear to David in Thy faithfulness?

1 Kings 11:9 Now the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, 10 and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not observe what the LORD had commanded. 11 So the LORD said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and you have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you, and will give it to your servant. 12 "Nevertheless I will not do it in your days for the sake of your father David, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son. 13 "However, I will not tear away all the kingdom, but I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen."

1 Kings 11:29 And it came about at that time, when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the road. Now Ahijah had clothed himself with a new cloak; and both of them were alone in the field. 30 Then Ahijah took hold of the new cloak which was on him, and tore it into twelve pieces. 31 And he said to Jeroboam, "Take for yourself ten pieces; for thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I will tear the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and give you ten tribes 32 (but he will have one tribe, for the sake of My servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel), 33 because they have forsaken Me, and have worshiped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon; and they have not walked in My ways, doing what is right in My sight and observing My statutes and My ordinances, as his father David did. 34 'Nevertheless I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand, but I will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of My servant David whom I chose, who observed My commandments and My statutes; 35 but I will take the kingdom from his son's hand and give it to you, even ten tribes. 36 'But to his son I will give one tribe, that My servant David may have a lamp always before Me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen for Myself to put My name. 37 'And I will take you, and you shall reign over whatever you desire, and you shall be king over Israel. 38 'Then it will be, that if you listen to all that I command you and walk in My ways, and do what is right in My sight by observing My statutes and My commandments, as My servant David did, then I will be with you and build you an enduring house as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you. 39 'Thus I will afflict the descendants of David for this, but not always.'"

2. Features of this covenant:

- a. The historical record in 2 Samuel 7, 1 Chronicles 17 and Psalm 89 give us a parallel accounts in a post-exilic theological context. We even see the covenant in play in the New Testament, Luke 1:32-33 *"He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and His kingdom will have no end."*
- b. Five provisions of the covenant.
  - 1) David is to have a child, yet to be born, who shall succeed him and establish his kingdom.
  - 2) This son (Solomon) shall build the temple instead of David.
  - 3) The throne of his kingdom shall be established forever.
  - 4) **The throne will not be taken away from him (Solomon) even though his sins justify chastisement. THIS IS THE DISCIPLINE PART OF THE COVENANT.**
  - 5) David's house, throne, and kingdom shall be established forever.

- c. The fourth provision above is the chastisement clause which takes place within a father/son relationship. However, that discipline would in no way abrogate the ultimate fulfillment of the covenant. It is obvious from Psalm 89 that the father/son discipline was not confined to just Solomon, but extended to the entire David line. The reference to seed throughout these passages refers to lineage of David.
3. As the passages above indicate, the David covenant is an eternal covenant. Like the Abrahamic covenant, upon which it is founded, the Davidic covenant guarantees an eternal seed on the throne of David. This will be ultimately fulfilled by David's greatest son, Jesus the Messiah. This unconditional covenant depends upon the faithfulness of God Himself, not man. Even though the nation of Israel has rejected the Messiah, God has not cast them aside. He continues to have a plan as He promised to David and David's descendants. It is unfortunate that some Christian organizations, such as the Calvinists and Presbyterians, no longer believe God has a plan for Israel.
  4. The discipline sections of the Davidic covenant apply to the Davidic direct descendants as well as to the nation as a whole.
    - a. David's descendants. This discipline began in the life of reversionistic Solomon (1 Kings 11:9-13, 29-39) and continued through the kings of Judah and Israel. God continued to strike them with "the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men" (2 Sam. 7:14). The continual discipline is profound testimony to both the depravity of the Davidic line and the faithfulness of God.
    - b. The nation. The Bible explicitly describes how many other pagan nations were used by God as His instruments of divine chastisement upon the nation of Israel, e.g., Egypt (Isa. 10:24-27), Assyria (2 Kings 17:1-41), Babylon (Isa. 13), Syria (Daniel 8), and Rome (Dan. 9:26; Matt. 23:37-39).
  5. The fifth nation, Rome, is most pertinent to the understanding the modern Jews. Rome was used by God to destroy Jerusalem because of their rejection of the messiahship of Jesus. This was prophesied by Jesus and fulfilled in history.

Matthew 23:36-24:2 "Truly I say to you, all these things shall come upon this generation. 37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. 38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! 39 "For I say to you, from now on you shall not see Me until you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'" 24:1 And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. 2 And He answered and said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down."

6. Concerning this destruction in A.D. 70, the historian Max Dimont writes:

The end was inevitable. With battering rams and portable bridges, the Romans stormed the walls of Jerusalem. Like termites they spilled into the city, slaughtering a populace reduced to helplessness by starvation. Four years of bitter defeats at the hands of the Jews had made mockery of the vaunted invincibility of the Roman legions, and only killing could now soothe their bruised vanity. The Temple was put to the torch, infants thrown into the flames, women raped, priests massacred, Zealots thrown from the wall. Survivors of the carnage were earmarked for the triumphal procession to be held in Rome, sold as slaves, held for the wild beasts in the arenas, or saved to be thrown off the Tarpeian Rock in Rome for amusement. At no time did the Romans more justly earn the grim words of their historian, Tacitus, who said, "They make a desolation and call it peace." Altogether, Tacitus estimates 600,000 defenseless Jewish civilians were slain in the aftermath of the siege (Jews, God, History, 105-6).

7. Although rabbis refuse to see the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 as a punishment for the Jewish rejection of Jesus' messiahship, they, nevertheless, seek to explain it as punishment from God in the Jerusalem and Babylonian Talmuds (Shab. 119b; Yoma 9b).
8. This discipline on Israel did not terminate in A.D. 70. It continues through history and will continue until the nation accepts Jesus as the Messiah. Even if the Jews do not recognize that it is because of rejection of Jesus that they have suffered since the fall of Jerusalem, many do link their suffering since A.D. 70 with divine judgment.

Traditional Jewish theology maintains that God is the ultimate, omnipotent actor in the historical drama. It has been interpreted every major catastrophe in Jewish history as God's punishment of a sinful Israel. I fail to see how this position can be maintained without regarding Hitler and the SS as instruments of God's will (Rubenstein, *After Auschwitz*, 153).

It is the emotional trauma of the Holocaust destruction that has paralyzed contemporary religious Judaism. But is the trauma of the Germans any worse than of the Assyrians in 722 B.C. or the Babylonians in 586 B.C. or the Romans in A.D. 70? Thousands of men, women, and children suffered and died horrible deaths in all of these catastrophes. And yet the Holocaust is seen as unique. Perhaps in degree it is, but certainly not in kind. In fact, a probable case could be made for the fact that the Holocaust was not even unique in degree. Let us look at the tragedy of the destruction of Jerusalem A.D. 70 which reached its climax in 135. . . . the number is around seven million. . . . In other words the loss of life must have been comparable with those who perished under the Nazis (Barry Levenson, "The Holocaust").

9. Divine discipline, "the rod of men," on Israel will continue until she accepts Jesus as the Messiah. There is to come a final chastisement that will exceed all previous disciplines. In fact, each of the Jewish Holocausts have been building in intensity and violence and will finally spill over into the final time of "Jacob's trouble."

Zechariah 13:7 "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate," Declares the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered; And I will turn My hand against the little ones. 8 "And it will come about in all the land," Declares the LORD, "That two parts in it will be cut off and perish; But the third will be left in it. 9 "And I will bring the third part through the fire, Refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them; I will say, 'They are My people,' And they will say, 'The LORD is my God.'"

Matthew 24:15 "Therefore when you see the abomination of desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains; 17 let him who is on the housetop not go down to get the things out that are in his house; 18 and let him who is in the field not turn back to get his cloak. 19 "But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babes in those days! 20 "But pray that your flight may not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath; 21 for then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever shall. 22 "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.

Revelation 12:1 And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; 2 and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth. 3 And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems. 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. 5 And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne. 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. 7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war, 8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night. 11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death. 12 "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time." 13 And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child. 14 And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his

mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Ezekiel 20:33 "As I live," declares the Lord God, "surely with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out, I shall be king over you. 34 "And I shall bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out; 35 and I shall bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I shall enter into judgment with you face to face. 36 "As I entered into judgment with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment with you," declares the Lord God. 37 "And I shall make you pass under the rod, and I shall bring you into the bond of the covenant; 38 and I shall purge from you the rebels and those who transgress against Me; I shall bring them out of the land where they sojourn, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Thus you will know that I am the LORD. 39 "As for you, O house of Israel," thus says the Lord God, "Go, serve everyone his idols; but later, you will surely listen to Me, and My holy name you will profane no longer with your gifts and with your idols. 40 "For on My holy mountain, on the high mountain of Israel," declares the Lord God, "there the whole house of Israel, all of them, will serve Me in the land; there I shall accept them, and there I shall seek your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your holy things. 41 "As a soothing aroma I shall accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered; and I shall prove Myself holy among you in the sight of the nations. 42 "And you will know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the land which I swore to give to your forefathers. 43 "And there you will remember your ways and all your deeds, with which you have defiled yourselves; and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for all the evil things that you have done. 44 "Then you will know that I am the LORD when I have dealt with you for My name's sake, not according to your evil ways or according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel," declares the Lord God."

A couple of thoughts:

Doctrinal believers should not be surprised that Israel is facing serious threats from Iran and others or receives opposition from some of the leaders of the United States. We need to understand two interrelated truths that need to be kept in balance: first, another Holocaust will come sooner or later (as per the discipline aspects of the David Covenant and the prophecies of what it will take for Israel to turn to Christ); second, that those who bless Israel will be blessed and those who curse Israel will be cursed (Abrahamic Covenant).

Believers should take great encouragement from the fact that God is faithful. God promised Abraham and David that He would bring them to Himself and into the Promised Land. In spite of their rejection of Him in the person of Christ, God has not cast them off. God is faithful. Regardless of what you are going through, remember that God is faithful and will bring you through the trials of life. What we need to make sure of is that you are not brought through in divine discipline. It is imperative that we make fellowship with Him and growth in His truth the top priority of life. Our trials are really not the issues of life. The issue of life is always the Lord, 'Ehyeh. Instead of living a life of carnality and divine discipline, every single believer has the incredible opportunity to grow in Him and the grand realities of supergrace.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Peter 4:19 Therefore, let those also who suffer according to the will of God entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

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

*Pastor Don*