

Demonism (part 48: The Jewish Remnant)

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.)

We have been noting the special privileges of Israel as God's elect nation. Her privileges must never be divorced from her responsibilities. In the Scriptures, great privilege always brings great responsibility and accountability. Once she was elected by God, she had to continually live under His stewardship, always accountable to Him personally. God's love is always a tough love—an intense love which includes discipline for betterment.

Proverbs 3:11-12, My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD, Or loathe His reproof, 12 For whom the LORD loves He reproves, Even as a father, the son in whom he delights.

This means that God's punishment of sin and evil is no contradiction of His loyal love, His *chesed*. It is precisely because He loved Israel so much that He took Israel's sin so seriously. God's choosing is inseparably connected to divine discipline for disobedience. It is because Israel is so special among all the nations of the world that she is held to a much higher standard.

Amos 3:2 "You only have I chosen among all the families of the earth; Therefore, I will punish you for all your iniquities."

God's love is intense and therefore, could be severe: it is willing to hurt in order to save, to shatter all false securities and strip Israel of His temporal gifts, if so be that in the end, in nakedness and brokenness, she might learn to know the Truth. God's correcting love is never separated from His tenderness with her.

Hosea 11:8 How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I surrender you, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart is turned over within Me, All My compassions are kindled.

Isaiah 63:9 In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the angel of His presence saved them; In His love and in His mercy He redeemed them; And He lifted them and carried them all the days of old.

Moses understood this all too well:

Deuteronomy 8:11 "Beware lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today; 12 lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, 13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, 14 then your heart becomes proud, and you forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 15 "He led you through the great and terrible wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water; He brought water for you out of the rock of flint. 16 "In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end. 17 "Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.' 18 "But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. 19 "And it shall come about if you ever forget the LORD your God, and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I testify against you today that you shall surely perish. 20 "Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so you shall perish; because you would not listen to the voice of the LORD your God.

In fact, Israel's entire history, right up to the present, bears testimony to the severe discipline imposed on her by the God of her election (cf. Deut. 30:1-20):

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.

In short, it can be said that Israel's election guarantees her existence. However, it is not to be an existence free from national accountability to the God of her election. Just as the Holocaust is related to the consequences of the breach of the divine covenant, so likewise it can be related to the consequences of divine election. The covenants give out the details or fine print of the election. They spell out the obligations and privileges of the divinely-ordained election.

All the woes of the Jewish people, including the Nazi Holocaust, do not repudiate the election of Israel. Quite the contrary, these woes reaffirm the election of the nation as per Amos 3:2 (see above). As has been said many times before, the hand of God always remains upon the Jew, either for blessing or cursing. Despite attempted Jewish rejection of her own election (Deut 17:14-20; 1 Sam. 8:1-22; Ezekiel 20:32, And what comes into your mind will not come about, when you say: 'We will be like the nations, like the tribes of the lands, serving wood and stone'), God's election of the nation of Israel remains intact forever.

In the midst of divine discipline on Israel through the ages there has always been and will always be a faithful remnant of Jews. These are Jews who remain true to God in the midst of national apostasy. The remnant can be considered in three ways: historically, prophetically, and contemporarily. Historically, the remnant included such believers as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Isaiah, Amos, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Malachi, Ezra, Nehemiah, et al. Despite the horrific Jewish degeneracy and reversionism around them, these men remained faithful to Bible doctrine and Yahweh.

The remnant considered prophetically are those who will be faithful during the Tribulation. Many prophets spoke of the faithful remnant of the coming Tribulation (Joel 2:32; Hosea 5:15-6:3; Amos 9:8-15; Micah 2:12-13; Isa. 10:20-23; Daniel 12:10, "Many will be purged, purified and refined; but the wicked will act wickedly, and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand). Not only are there scores of passages in the Old Testament that speak of the future remnant in the tribulation, Jesus Christ also spoke of the remnant (Matt. 19:28; 24:15-31). This remnant will number 144,000 (Rev. 7:1-8; 14:1-5). In the next DDR we will consider the contemporary remnant of faithful Jews and how they relate to the church age.

On 'Ehyeh's Glory Road,

Pastor Don