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July 15, 2011

<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Jewish-Apologetics88.pdf>

JEWISH APOLOGETICS (88)

Answering Jewish Objections to Isaiah 53 as a Reference to Jesus

Objection #72: Isaiah 53 contains the words of the repentant kings of the nations rather than the words of the Jewish people.

Brown's short response to this objection:

This is not possible. The servant of the Lord in Isaiah 53 was smitten for the sins of his people, while he himself was guiltless. In complete contrast to this, the Torah promised that the people of Israel would be smitten for their own sins, not for the sins of the nations. Even more importantly, the sufferings of the servant of the Lord in Isaiah 53 bring healing to those for whom he suffered, whereas when Israel was smitten by its enemies because of its sins, God subsequently judged those nations for overdoing the punishment. Israel's suffering brought judgment rather than healing to Assyria, Babylon, Greece, and Rome—to name just a few of the nations used by God to judge his people Israel. . . . At any rate, the text plainly says that the servant was suffering for the sins of "my people" which in context must refer to Israel, with either God speaking ("My people") or the prophet speaking ("my people").¹

A point in this discussion that must never be overlooked is that God's protective covenant with Abraham and by extension the Jews—I will bless them who bless you and curse them who curse you (Gen. 12:3)—remains in effect throughout human history even up through the Tribulation. There is only one nation/people under the unconditional protection of God and that is the nation of Israel. Regardless of whether the Jews or in the right or wrong, God continues to bless those who bless the Jews and curses those curse the Jews as per Genesis 12:3. Even with as many flagrant violations of laws of divine establishment that our nation is guilty of, none will

¹Michael L. Brown, *Messianic Prophecy Objections—Volume 3*, (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003), 62-66. In his book, Brown lists the objection and then gives a short response which is followed by a more developed response. This DDR series, for the most part, tracks the objection and his *short* response after which you will find my comments. I highly recommend his book if you are interested in his longer responses (there is far too much material to include in the DDRs).

bring down judgment on our country quicker than being anti-Israel. The fact that our President has expressed negative attitude towards the nation of Israel is cause for grave concern.

Attached to this e-mail is an outstanding biblical summary by Dr. Leventhal on the historical outworking of God's unconditional protective covenant for the Jews on both an individual as well as a national level – see “Gen 12:3 God's protection clause for Israel.pdf”

You can access the entire dissertation at

<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Holocaust%20Dissertation.pdf>

Pray for the peace of Israel!

Psalm 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

Pastor Don