

CHRISTIAN ANTI-SEMITISM GIVES BIRTH TO REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY

The vast majority of Christians, even well educated, are all but totally ignorant of what happened to Jews in history and of the culpable involvement of the Church. These pages of Church history are so alarming and painful we would rather not read them, but this would only be a cover-up, which is not our Father's way. Fr. Edward Flannery

Who could imagine the ones chosen to record and give the world the Scriptures, the Covenants, the Prophecies, the order of worship, the Savior, would be rejected, hated and despised by all mankind? A people of sorrows, acquainted with great grief, from whom men hid their faces and esteemed them not. They were oppressed and afflicted, like a lamb led to the slaughter, abandoned to traverse the earth to suffer alone.

ISRAEL A MESSIANIC NATION

On the stage of world events, very few of earth's populace have viewed the parallels of the Messiah's (Jesus') sufferings with those of the Jewish people, descendants of Abraham. Yet when the curtain goes up, one sees they are strikingly similar.

Christians clearly see Isaiah 52-53 as prophetic of Jesus (Yeshua). However, the Rabbis understand Isaiah 52-53 as prophetic of Israel's call and role as a Messianic nation. The path the Jewish people have trod parallels the life of the Messiah. Both had a supernatural birth, a miracle in the womb of their mothers, Sarah and Mary. Both were given honor to be a firstborn son. Both are given the name *Israel*. Both were called out of Egypt. Both have a unique ministry to the world and have endured unspeakable suffering. Both have experienced death and restoration. Over the centuries, the Jewish people, like their Messiah, have endured the crown of thorns, the beatings, the blows of death. On May 14, 1948 Israel shed her grave clothes as death gave way to new life, the dawn of restoration as Ezekiel 37 prophesied. Gen 17:15-21; Lk 1:35; Ex 4:22; Lk 3:22; Ex 3:7-8; Mt 2:13-19; Hos 11:1; Isa 49; 52-53

How amazing, as time passes into millenniums, to be privileged to stand at this point in history to see the LORD's prophetic time clock strike the hour of Israel's Restoration. On May 14, 1948, the Nation Israel, was reborn in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. *Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment? Isaiah 66:8* The hour hand on the prophetic clock of Ezekiel 37 foretelling the Restoration of Israel is straight up; the chimes are sounding the prophetic call Isaiah issued centuries earlier. *I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,... Isa 43:6.* The Jews in the Diaspora are responding to the Spirit's Call to return.

In May, 1948, Israel was a fledgling nation of 600,000 Israelis. For over sixty years, the Spirit has faithfully summoned the Jewish people to return to their Covenant Homeland. Nearly six-million Jews have streamed out of the nations to make *Aliyah*. As a struggling butterfly coming out of its cocoon so Israel, during the closing days of the *Times of the Gentiles* will continue facing adversity, pursued and pressed by the nations, as prophesied by Daniel and Jesus (Yeshua). *"They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."* Lk 21:24; (Dan 2)

At the Father's appointed hour, the breath of the Spirit will be released in preparation of Israel's full Restoration. At the Messiah's Return, He will strike the great Image of Daniel 2, closing *The Times of the Gentiles*, ascending His father David's throne as King of Israel. Once again, as in the days of King Solomon, Israel will be restored to her place of honor, the head of the nations. One greater than Solomon will reign over them, their long awaited Messiah and King.

THE BIBLICAL ERA THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH

Abraham Cohen, author of *Everyman's Talmud*, chapter XI, *The Hereafter, The Messiah*, records, *"It was taught in the School of Elijah, The world will endure six thousand years, two thousand years in chaos, two thousand with Torah, and two thousand years will be the days of the Messiah."* This prominent

teaching was espoused at the time the Messiah arrived on the scene in Bethlehem at the close of the four thousandth year. The Jewish people were anticipating the Messiah's coming and the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel. It is clearly heard in the disciples' question just before Jesus' Ascension. *"Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"* Acts 1:6

HEBREW VERSUS GREEK

THE MESSIAH OF ISRAEL - THE EXALTED REBBE

Christian scholars researching the Hebraic writings and culture have made tremendous contributions to the church. Some living in Israel have opportunity to work directly with Jewish scholars, like the late Dr. David Flusser of Hebrew University. His scholarly work, alongside the Dead Sea Scrolls, gives valid evidence the language of Yeshua, (Jesus) and the original gospels were written in Hebrew. David Freedman writes in *The Scrolls and the New Testament*, "The language of biblical religion is Hebrew, as the Dead Sea Scrolls have shown, not only for the sectarian Judaism of the first century C.E., but also for New Testament Christianity of the first century C.E." Vendyl Jones, scholar and archeologist lived in Israel and studied with Rabbis for twenty-five years. He points out, those who followed the Rabbi from Nazareth were never called Christians, but were referred to as Notzerim or the "sect of Nazarenes," (Acts 24:5) which identified them with the Rebbe of Nazareth. This is a common practice even today among the Jewish people. The term Rebbe is one who is esteemed at a higher level having other Rabbis looking to them, a Rabbi of Rabbis. Hebrew being the language in *Yeshua's* day, He never heard himself called *Jesus*. The Scriptures establish the People, the Land and the Language of Israel are inseparable. Hence, the Evil One throughout the centuries attacks the Jewish people, their Land and Language, as seen by the Roman Emperor, Hadrian. In 134-135 C.E. he determined to remove the Jews from their Covenant Land, forbidding their presence in Jerusalem at the cost of their lives. He renamed Jerusalem *Aeolia Captolina* (Greek, for god of the winds). He barred the Jewish people from speaking their language, Hebrew, without restricting Aramaic. He dealt his final devastating blow against the Jews by renaming the Covenant land of Israel, *Palestine*.

JUDAISM AND GENTILE BELIEVERS

Dr. David Rausch, professor of history and Jewish studies at Ashland University (Ohio), author of *Legacy of Hatred*, underscores “Jesus was a Jew. Those who first followed Him were Jews. He chose only Jews as His disciples.” The Scriptures support the fact that these Apostles continued their Jewish identity and practices, encouraging other Jews who believed Yeshua (Jesus) was the Messiah to do so as well. Paul remained an observant Jew his whole life. Scholars who are versed in the Jewish writings point out though Paul and the other Apostles followed the Torah, they also taught and understood salvation by grace, a very Hebraic concept. Dr. Rausch states, “Christianity was/is the child of Judaism and Jerusalem was the center of Christianity in the early decades of the church. Jewish Christianity developed in Judea during the Apostolic period and was considered by the Romans to be a sect of Judaism.”

Israeli Statesman and Historian, Abba Eban, in his extraordinary work, *Heritage, Civilization and The Jews* states, “More than one writer has remarked that Christianity began as a Jewish sect. What, aside from belief in Jesus as the Messiah, served to distinguish these first synagogue-going Gentiles (*Believers*) from the synagogue-going Jews? The truth is: nothing. For Gentile (*Believer*) as well as Jew, the Temple in Jerusalem was still the center of worship (*it’s helpful to keep in mind at this point in time there was no New Testament or New Testament church*). Gentiles (*Believers*) as well as Jews observed Jewish ethics, followed Jewish leaders, and hoped for deliverance by a Jewish Messiah. The astonishing thing is that within only a century, Christianity would blossom into a separate religion, and less than two centuries later would become the state religion of Rome.” Christian scholar Dr. Marvin Wilson points out, “The roots of Christianity run deep into Hebrew soil. Though the Hebrew heritage of the Church is rich and extensive, many Christians are regrettably uninformed about it. Most of it has been treated either passively and superficially, or more often, it has simply been left unexplored. Christian seminaries, colleges and other educational institutions have been largely responsible for this lack. Time has come

for the Church to have a renewed biblical vision. It has sown the seeds of neglect long enough.”

THE FAMILY RELATIONSHIP BREACHED

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

From the time the descendants of Abraham entered the period of the *Indignation*, the captivity of Israel by the Assyrians and Judah by the Babylonians, they have suffered under Gentile domination and cruelty. The period of the *Indignation* runs parallel with *The Times of the Gentiles*. That period began with King Nebuchadnezzar and will run to the return of the Messiah, the *Stone*, which hits the great image, closing that period to begin the Kingdom age. Dan 2:34-35, 44-45

When Media-Persia conquered Babylon, King Cyrus issued a decree allowing the Jews to return to Jerusalem, as prophesied by Isaiah 44-45 and Jeremiah 25. In the course of time, the Greeks conquered the Persian empire and the Romans later triumphed the Greeks, making the Jewish people subjects of Rome. Since the Land of Israel lay in the path of these conquering nations, the Jewish people continually suffered at the hands of the aggressor. Rome was a brutal taskmaster, but as brutal as Rome was, James Carroll, author of *Constantine’s Sword*, records, Rome wrote to Pontius Pilate asking, “Why are you killing so many Jews?” Unfortunately, when the monks translated the New Testament, they painted Pilate in a different light.

FIRST JEWISH REVOLT - 66 C.E.

Alongside the Jewish suffering, the Believers (Christians) were also enduring great persecution from the Romans. Historians provide evidence that the Jews assisted the Believers during their suffering and gave them protection. The severe ongoing Roman persecution of the Jews drove the Zealots to revolt in 66 C.E. The record supports that as the Jews came to the aid of the Believers, conversely Believers stood with the Jews in their suffering, providing for their personal needs and protection. In retaliation for the Jewish revolt, the Romans stormed Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple in 70 C.E. This period marked the beginning of the Jewish Diaspora from Jerusalem and obviously halted regular Torah study for Believers under Jewish leadership at the Temple in Jerusalem.

SECOND JEWISH REVOLT - 132-135 C.E.

BAR KOCHBA REVOLT

Peter Richardson, author of *Israel in The Apostolic Church*, states, “The First Jewish Revolt had been a decisive turning point in the relationship of Judaism to Christianity. But the war of AD 132-135 was for all essential purposes the final major national blow that severed the two communities.” A consensus of scholarship indicates there were several factors provoking this revolt. The severe rule of the Romans contributed, but the immediate cause was more likely when the Romans made a prohibition against circumcision and forced other acts of Hellenization upon the Jews. Bar Kochba led the revolt against these prohibitions. He laid claim to being the Messiah, and Rabbi Akiva, perhaps the most respected scholar at that time, upheld this claim. The Believers had but one Messiah, the risen Yeshua (Jesus) of Nazareth; therefore, their loyalty could not be with the Bar Kochba cause.

SEPARATION BECOMES A BREACH

In the first century, the Apostles’ success in reaching the Gentiles with the good news of Yeshua (Jesus) added another challenge for the Jewish leaders. For now, large numbers of Gentiles were filling the Temple in Jerusalem and the synagogues. After the death of the Apostles and by the Second Jewish Revolt, 132-135 C.E. the Believers were predominantly Gentiles. At that time, the leadership instructing the Believers changed from Jewish to Gentile. Dr. David Rausch points out that these leaders began to interpret the destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem as a sign that God had abandoned Judaism, that He had provided the Gentiles liberty to develop their own Christian Theology, setting them free from Jerusalem’s influence. “It is important to understand this change, because it influenced the early Church Fathers to make anti-Jewish statements.”

THE NEW ISRAEL EMERGES

Dr. Marvin Wilson author of, *Our Father Abraham*, writes, “Paul’s warning to Gentile Believers about pride went unheeded (Rom 11:17-24). The Church had become overwhelmingly Gentile, so it reasoned that there was no more need for the support of the Root, Israel. What presumption! Now, Gentiles

claimed to have replaced Israel as the 'new' Israel; it becomes fully developed in the writings of the Early Church Fathers. This Replacement resulted in many institutions and concepts of Israel being de-Judaized or Hellenized by the Gentile Church." Episcopal Bishop John Spong clearly states, "The Bible is a Hebrew book telling the story of a Hebrew people. Jesus was a Hebrew Lord." Recalling the words of David Freedman in *The Scrolls and the New Testament*, "The language of biblical religion is Hebrew, as the Dead Sea Scrolls have shown, not only for the sectarian Judaism of the first century C.E., but also for New Testament Christianity of the first century C.E." When the Church Fathers de-Judaized the Scriptures, they stripped away the Hebrew, replacing it with the Greek, which caused the people to miss the Jewishness of the Scriptures. David Rausch states, "Now theological and political power moved from Jerusalem to centers of Gentile-Christian leadership in Alexandria, Rome and Antioch."

THE ANTE-NICENE CHURCH FATHERS Before the Council of Nicaea 110 - 325 C.E.

CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA

Some scholars credit Clement of Alexandria with writing *The Epistle of Barnabas* which explained, "... the Jewish sacrifices were abolished, their fasts not acceptable to God; that Christians, not Jews, were actually the heirs of God's Covenant with Abraham. To those who believed the Jewish people still had a future through the Covenant, the Epistle harshly stated: 'Take heed now to yourselves, and not to be like some adding largely to your sins, saying, The Covenant is both theirs and ours.' But they, [the Jews] thus finally lost it." Dr. Rausch states, "This Epistle was highly regarded in the Church and was even included in some of the early canon lists." Contrary to Clement's writings, Rausch further states, "Reading between the lines, one notes the existence of Christians who believed that the Jewish people definitely had a future through the Abrahamic Covenant and were quite vocal about it."

JUSTIN MARTYR

Dr. Rausch explains, "Many in the church were not content with claiming an interest in the Jewish Scriptures, but proceeded to try to make the Old Testament the exclusive domain of the church. Justin Martyr, one of the greatest Christian defenders of the faith,

this theme." In his dialogue with *Trypho, A Jew*, Justin Martyr emphasized that, "What was of old and had belonged to Israel was now the property of the Christians. The Jewish Scriptures... They are 'not yours but ours.'" "For the circumcision according to the flesh, which is from Abraham, was given for a sign; that you may be separated from other nations, and from us; and that you alone may suffer that which you justly suffer; that you may be desolate, and your cities burned with fire; and that strangers may eat your fruit in your presence and not one of you may go up to Jerusalem..."

ST. IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH

Fr. Edward Flannery writes that Ignatius sent fervent letters to Gentile communities against Judaism stating there is no need of "obsolete practices" in Christian hope. He wrote to the Magnesians, "Christianity did not believe in Judaism, but Judaism in Christianity." With this last observation and Barnabas' theory of prefiguration, a fertile theme originated: that the Church is, and always was, the "true Israel."

TERTULLIAN OF CARTHAGE

Tertullian wrote, "The Jewish people no longer had any witness or truth. Their only reason to exist was to testify to the misery and degradation that befell a people rejected by God. The curses of the Bible were ascribed to the Jews; the blessings of the Bible to the Christians."

ORIGEN OF ALEXANDRIA

Origen in the third century wrote, "These calamities the Jews have suffered, because they were the most wicked nation, which, although guilty of many other sins, yet has been punished so severely for none, as for those that were committed against our Jesus."

SOURCE OF REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY

Clearly anti-Semitism is the root of Replacement Theology, the most brutal of Satan's seductions. In deceiving Eve, he picked a time when Adam, who was given the Word directly, was not present. Similarly, the Evil One waited to seduce the newly engrafted Believers until Jewish Leadership, who were given the Word, the Covenants and Prophecies had passed from the scene. Satan saw the perfect time to advance his seductive plan when the church leadership baton passed from Jewish to Gentile. These Gentile leaders newly

in the faith were coming in out of paganism and were not yet solidly grounded in the Word. He was now able to release his deadly venom of anti-Semitism. He deceived the Early Church Fathers in believing the Church was the *New Israel*, replacing the *Israel of the Abrahamic Covenant*. Obviously, they did not know the Scriptures or failed to counter Satan with the Word, the eternal Covenants/Prophecies. How did Yeshua, (Jesus) counteract Satan? He quoted the Word. Lk 4:1-13 The Early Church Fathers' homilies spewed out anti-Semitic rhetoric, infecting the hearts of their congregants which then flowed out to all streams of society. History tells us these men were above reproach morally, but with eyes blinded to truth, their anti-Semitic hearts were vicious in attitude toward their Spiritual parents, the Jewish people. Inevitably, Satan is the Source of all hatred. His seductive plan was to release his deadly venom, anti-Semitism, on the Jewish people leaving a trail of untold sorrow, suffering, and death.

Scholar Fr. Edward Flannery authored *The Anguish of the Jews - Twenty-Three Centuries of Antisemitism*, a most informative work. He shares that he offered his writings to help inform Christians of our anti-Semitic past. Unfortunately, Christians did not respond. It was the Jewish community that made his book a success, the ones who had walked out the pain, sorrow and suffering. Fr. Flannery summarizes the works of the Early Church Fathers: "The anti-Judaic literature was fairly uniform in content; in short, the Jews are an apostate nation, truant from its provincial role of a chosen people."

The encroachment the Early Church Fathers made on the Biblical passages pertaining to the Jewish people and Israel produced a serious breach between the Christian and Jewish communities. This breach would deepen to a sundering gulf through the work and teaching of the Post-Nicene Church Fathers.

Out of the Church Fathers' theology claiming the Church as the 'True Israel' came "*Replacement Theology*"/"*Supersessionism*;" that is, the Church replaces/supersedes Judaism. James Carroll, journalist and historian, several years after leaving the candidacy for the priesthood, authored his scholarly work, *Constantine's Sword*, in which he states, "Nowhere does Christianity betray its indebtedness to Judaism more than in its supersessionism." (*Replacement Theology*)

HOW DOES REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY EXPRESS ITSELF?

The New Testament replaces the Torah - Tanakh, the Original Scriptures (Old Testament)
Christians replace the Jews as God's people (Judaism/Israel)
The Spiritual Kingdom of Heaven replaces the Earthly Kingdom of Israel
Jesus (Yeshua) replaces the Blood Sacrifices
Sunday replaces Shabbat (Sabbath)
Rome replaces Jerusalem
The Church replaces the Synagogue

THE NEW ISRAEL ESTABLISHED

David Rausch, in *Legacy of Hatred*, writes: "The Gentile Christian church disdained Judaism and Jewish nationalism. The church believed that the Jewish Scriptures were her Scriptures...This position required some reinterpretation because, according to those Scriptures, the Jewish people are the chosen people of God, the people of the Covenant and the people of the Book,...The Gentile church attempted to reconcile this difficulty by reinterpreting those Scriptures to state that the Christian Church is the true Israel, the "new" Israel, not just grafted in as Paul declared in Romans 11:17, but totally replacing the Jewish people. This triumphalism, the attitude of celebrating a victory over an enemy, has fanned the flames of religious anti-Semitism ever since."

SOURCE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

The foul, loathsome spirit of anti-Semitism has tracked the Jewish people since the day the LORD encountered Abraham, giving him the prophetic promises of Genesis 12. At that historical point, even before He made the Blood Covenants of Genesis 15 and 17 with Abraham, Satan was alerted to the genetic line bringing his demise. (Genesis 3:15) His relentless attacks began. Jesus described him as a "liar and murderer," he will destroy millions to get at one. That One, is ultimately the Jewish people and their Offspring the Messiah of Israel, the recipients of the Covenants, Prophecies and the Kingdom. As long as they exist, Satan's kingdom of darkness is doomed.

POST-NICENE CHURCH FATHERS

FROM THE COUNCIL OF NICAEA 325 C.E. - 1500 C.E.

EMPEROR CONSTANTINE - COUNCIL OF NICAEA

Under Emperor Constantine, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. In 325 AD at the Council of Nicaea - the city named for Nike, the goddess of victory, Constantine declared, "It is unbecoming that on the holiest festivals we should follow the customs of the Jews; henceforth, let us have nothing in common with this odious people." At that time it was decided that *Christ our Passover Lamb* celebration (ICor 5:6-8) should no longer be determined by the Jewish calendar; hence, the Council moved the date and renamed this sacred festival to "Easter, after the Babylonian deity, *Astarte*, the goddess of fertility."

In *Constantine's Sword*, James Carroll points out, "When the church and state were linked in the fourth century, due initially to Emperor Constantine, Christian persecution of the Jewish people became a regular practice. By the end of the fourth century, Christianity was the official and exclusive religion of the Roman state. It would seem the church would have no more reason to fear Judaism. Ironically, the church's paranoia got worse; attacks against the Jewish community became more bitter. In 325 AD, Constantine as a "Christian" emperor forbade Jews to live in Jerusalem..." "Until his preparations for his final campaign by 323 AD, Constantine did not abandon his allegiance to the Sun god, even though he regarded himself as a servant to the Christian God..." "Outward manifestations of the emperor's Christianity, are few..." "In 326 AD, the year after the Council of Nicaea, Constantine ordered the murder of his firstborn son Crispus. In that same fateful year, he also murdered his wife Fausta."

JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

John Chrysostom, was known as the *Golden Tongue*, a man admired by the common people. He showed a complete lack of restraint toward the Jewish people in a series of eight long sermons delivered in Antioch in 387 AD. "Do not be surprised that I call the Jewish people pitiable, they really are pitiable and miserable." The only reason Chrysostom was so upset was because some Christians were fellowshiping with Jews. According to Chrysostom, "the Jews were murderers, and worse than wild beasts. Their synagogue 'is not only a

brothel and a theater; it is also a den of robbers and a lodging for wild beasts. No Jew adores God!" Chrysostom held the whole Jewish people culpable for the killing of Christ, using statements that would be reaffirmed by anti-Semites for the next sixteen centuries.

CHRIST KILLER THEME

In the teachings of the Early Church Fathers, the "*Christ-killer*" theme permeated Church history - wreaking havoc on the Jewish community. Biblical Scholar Vendyl Jones points out that the Priesthood in Jesus' time was illegitimate, that is, the office was appointed by the Romans or purchased by the highest bidder. Therefore, they were not of the line of Aaron as prescribed in the Torah. The Jewish Talmud (*Pesachim* 57) records the cruelty of the priesthood at this time. It is important to remember that while the Jewish leadership sanctioned the death of Jesus, the Jewish people as a whole followed Him in large numbers and would have crowned Him King, as seen in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, had He received their endorsement. For centuries, the Jewish people all over the world have suffered persecution, torture and death as a result of the "*Christ killer*" theme. Every passion play precipitates a new round of suffering for the Jewish people as Christians and other anti-Semites level the accusation of *Deicide* (*death of God*) upon them. Jesus said the Jewish leaders would condemn Him and hand Him over to the Gentiles who would mock, spit upon, beat and crucify Him. Mt 20:19 The reality is that each of us stands guilty as a sinner for the death of our Savior.

MARTIN LUTHER

Dr. Marvin Wilson points out, Martin Luther initially had a high regard for the Jewish people. He expected them to convert en masse once they were presented with the Christian message free from "papal paganism." In his treatise *That Jesus Christ Was Born a Jew* (1523), "Luther pointed out that early missionary outreach to Jews failed, not because of evil or obstinacy on the part of the Jews, but because of the 'wicked and shameless' life of the popes, priests, and scholars." Three short years later, Luther complained of the Jews' stubbornness, and by the 1530s he was presenting the common medieval stereotypes accorded to Jews. He caricatured Jews as "stiffnecked," "ironhearted," "stubborn as the Devil," and "usurers." At the end of his life, he wrote

three derogatory treatises against Jews which anti-Semites would quote for the next four hundred years.

MARTIN LUTHER'S TREATISES
On the Jews and Their Lies

“What shall we Christians do with this rejected and condemned people, the Jews? I shall give you my sincere advice.”

“First, to set fire to their synagogues or schools and to bury and cover with dirt whatever will not burn, so that no man will ever again see a stone or cinder of them. This is to be done in honor of our Lord and of Christendom in order that God may see that we are Christians...”

“Secondly, I advise that their houses also be razed and destroyed.”

“Thirdly, I advise that all their prayer books and Talmudic writings, in which such idolatry, lies, cursing, and blasphemy are taught, be taken from them.”

“Fourthly, I advise that their Rabbis be forbidden to teach henceforth on pain of loss of life and limb ...”

“Fifthly, I advise that safe-conduct on the highways be abolished completely for the Jews. For they have no business in the country-side, since they are not lords, officials, tradesmen, or the like. Let them stay at home.”

“Sixthly, I advise that usury be prohibited to them, and that all cash and treasure of silver and gold be taken from them and put aside for safekeeping.”

“Seventhly, I recommend putting a flail, an axe, a hoe, a spade, a distaff, or a spindle into the hands of young, strong Jews, Jewesses and letting them earn their bread in the sweat of their brow.”

Hitler's hate-sheet editor and propagandist cited Luther at his Nuremberg trial to justify his own actions. Luther referred to the Jews as “venomous,” “bitter worms,” and “disgusting vermin.” He asserted that they were all thieves and should be deported to Palestine.

Malcolm Hay, in *The Roots of Christian Anti-Semitism*, states, that while Adolf Hitler, a Catholic, was primarily motivated by notions of racial purity, he freely relied on Luther's theology in presenting his rationale to the German people. His Nazi murder machine showed “a proper appreciation of the continuity of their history when they declared that the first large-scale Nazi pogrom (violent physical persecution of Jews) in

November 1938 (Kristallnacht) was a pious operation in honor of the anniversary of Luther's birthday.”

SEQUENCE OF ANTI-SEMITISM
REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY, SUPERSESSIONISM
THE CULPABLE PART OF THE CHURCH

Volumes have been penned concerning the sufferings of the Jewish people over the centuries. Simon Wiesenthal, Holocaust survivor, researched archives worldwide in authoring *Every Day Remembrance Day, A Chronicle of Jewish Martyrdom*. His astounding work records the multiple tragedies the Jewish people have endured each day of the year, (entries include the 11th - 20th century). Mr. Wiesenthal states, “The history of the persecution of the Jews is, as will become clear from this Calendar, at the same time a history of Christianity.” His work is convincing, an alarming documentary of the culpable part the Church has had in Jewish sufferings. It is tragic the closer one moves to the heart issue, anti-Semitism, the evidence confirms the Church was at the center. When acquainted with the writings and teachings of the Early Church Fathers, for the first time one begins to understand how Jewish sufferings are largely caused by the Church, either directly or indirectly. The Source of the deception resulting in Jewish sufferings was clearly the Evil One. The historical record revealing the sequence of anti-Semitic tragedies initiated by the Church or Christians is incomprehensible to the average Believer and leaves one stunned in disbelief. The purpose of Satan's seductive scheme, the poison of anti-Semitism, was to separate the child (Christianity) from its parent (the Jewish people). For centuries his deceptive plan has been effective.

MAJOR AREAS THE JEWISH PEOPLE SUFFERED
AT THE HANDS OF THE CHURCH OR CHRISTIANS

Simon Wiesenthal's *Calendar* reveals pertinent information for the world. “For many people the persecution of the Jews began with Hitler, when actually he represented merely the culmination point.” That is, the Holocaust was the culmination of centuries of Christian anti-Semitism. Yet Christian theologians and Christians in general are all but ignorant of these facts. In a broad overview of the source and sequence of anti-Semitism, the root of Replacement Theology,

we can do little more than highlight the great offenses, which resulted in enormous sufferings for the Jewish people. The following plots were Satan's schemes. Tragically through anti-Semitism, he outsourced his work through Christians.

FORCED CONVERSIONS
CONVERSION - EXPULSION - ANNIHILATION

The year 1391 is a year full of massacres of Jews who refused to convert to Christianity and be baptized. Raul Hilberg, a foremost scholar of the Holocaust writes: “Since the fourth century after Christ there have been three anti-Jewish policies: (forced) conversion, expulsion, 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 proclaimed: you have no right to live among us. The Nazis at last decreed: you have no right to live.” As Christians, we must keep in mind the Jewish community views Hitler as a Christian, for indeed, he identified himself as such. He remained on the Catholic Church rolls to his death.

BLOOD LIBEL

The source of Blood Libel was anti-Semitism. Jews were accused of killing Christian children in order to use their blood to make Passover matzah. It first appeared in the English town of Norwich in 1144, and shows up throughout European history until the twentieth century. It brought great sufferings and death to the Jewish people.

RITUAL MURDER

The source of Ritual Murder was anti-Semitism. A ridiculous, drummed-up charge by anti-Semites that Jews kill young Christian boys (children) in order to use their blood to make Passover matzah, part of the Blood Libel. In some parts of the world, the Jews continue to suffer from such lies.

BLACK DEATH

Some modern scholars believe the bubonic plague may have killed more than one-third of the population of Europe. It was widely believed that the plague was caused by the Jews having poisoned the wells with a mix of animal and human parts. As a result the butchery of Jews between 1348 - 1350 was unprecedented when

when it began in southern France and swept through Switzerland and western Germany.

HOST DESCRATION LIBEL

Host Descration Libel is another source of anti-Semitism, accusing Jews of conspiring to steal and pierce the wafer of the Host in order to torture the body of Jesus.

THE CRUSADES

Fr. Edward Flannery writes, Christian hatred eventually gave birth to the Dark Ages and the Crusades. In 1096, during the First Crusade to the Holy Land, the crusading armies, called Knights of the Cross, left a trail of Jewish blood across Europe. Within six months, ten-thousand Jews had been slaughtered, up to one-third of the Jewish population of Germany and France.

Some Crusaders gave Jewish communities an opportunity to save their lives by meeting demands for huge amounts of gold and silver. Those who could not meet the ransom demand were butchered in the name of God. Some Jewish communities chose another avenue. Believing life was a gift from the Almighty, they offered their life back to Him. They said a final prayer, then killed their wives and children mercifully, lest the cross-carrying Crusaders rape and butcher them. The fathers then committed suicide to preserve the sanctity of the Name of the Almighty One.

The Crusaders thought of themselves as holy men on a holy mission. In reality they were a misled mob of thieves, murderers and rapists who believed their sins had been forgiven in advance by the pope. Not only could a Crusader consider his sins forgiven, but all his financial debts to any Jewish creditor were canceled. As a "bonus," the Crusaders were permitted to rob the Jews of their possessions, murder the householder and rape their daughters and wives. All was forgiven by the pope even before they left on the Crusade, claiming it was the will of God.

The Godfrey Crusade in 1099 was the first to reach Jerusalem. They invaded the city through the Jewish quarter. As the onslaught began, desperate Jews sought protection in the synagogue. Crusaders discovered the

synagogue full of men, women and children behind locked doors. The Crusaders set it on fire, marching around the synagogue singing "Christ We Adore Thee," while 969 Jews inside with horrified screams begged for mercy as they were burned alive. When a Jewish person sees a cross, they are reminded of gas chamber doors slamming, synagogues burning and two-thousand years of slaughter and suffering.

THE SPANISH INQUISITION

The Inquisitions began in the eleventh century in Europe. The Spanish Inquisition began in 1481, striking the Jews like a bolt of lightning. For years the Jews of Spain were under extreme pressure to convert to the Roman Church. The Inquisition was established by the Roman Church and received its power directly from the pope. Its purpose was to purge the Church of heretics, particularly former Jews whose forced conversions to Christianity were in question. Rabbi Joseph Telushkin describes the period of the Inquisition this way, "Those people who refused to confess even after being convicted, or who were courageous enough to acknowledge that they were still Jews, were repeatedly tortured to force them to concede to the truth of Christianity. During the centuries in which the Inquisition had power, thousands of secret Jews were put on the rack, had water forced down their throats after their noses were pinched shut or subjected to other tortures. All these actions were carried out by priests who claimed to be motivated only by love of the people they were torturing." Hundreds were sentenced to be burned at the stake and thousands returned to the Church in terrified obedience.

In October 1483, the Inquisition was extended under the fanatical leadership of Tomas deTorquemada. The levels of torture he employed against the Jews would not be equalled again until the time of Hitler's Nazi SS Corps at its highest level of madness. Torquemada printed "Manuals of Inquisition," giving hints on how to extend and intensify the suffering of Jews on trial by flame, garrote, rack, whip or needle. Inquisitional tortures continued from the late fifteenth century into the eighteenth. During that time, 323,362 people were burned alive and 17,659 were burned in effigy. It is one of the darkest periods of Spanish history.

ROMAN CHURCH POLICY SHAPED THE THIRD REICH

Dennis Prager and Rabbi Joseph Telushkin co-authored *Why the Jews? The Reason for Antisemitism*. They state, "Christianity did not create the Holocaust; indeed Nazism was anti-Christian, but it made it possible. Without Christian antisemitism, the Holocaust would have been inconceivable...Hitler and the Nazis found in medieval Catholic anti-Jewish legislation a model for their own, and they read and reprinted Martin Luther's virulently antisemitic writings. It is instructive that the Holocaust was unleashed by the only major country in Europe having approximately equal numbers of Catholics and Protestants. Both traditions were saturated with Jew-hatred."

Pastor John Hagee in his timely book, *In Defense of Israel*, has paralleled The Roman Church Policies with the Policies of Hitler's Third Reich. (pp. 30-32) The Roman Church Policies are followed by Hitler's Third Reich Policies:

ROMAN CHURCH POLICIES AGAINST THE JEWS

- Prohibition of intermarriage and of sexual intercourse between Christians and Jews, Synod of Elvira, 306 C.E.
- Jews and Christians not permitted to eat together, Synod of Elvira, 306 C.E.
- Jews not allowed to hold public office, Synod of Clermont, 535 C.E., Fourth Lateran Council, 1215 C.E.
- Jews not allowed to employ Christian servants or possess Christian slaves, Third Synod of Orleans, 538 C.E.
- Jews not permitted to show themselves in the streets during Passion Week, Third Synod of Orleans, 538 C.E.
- Burning of the Talmud and other books, Twelfth Synod of Toledo, 681 C.E.
- Christians not permitted to patronize Jewish doctors, Trulanic Synod, 692 C.E.
- Jews obligated to pay taxes for support of the Church to the same extent as Christians, Fourth Lateran Council, 1215 C.E.
- Jews not permitted to be plaintiffs or witnesses against

Christians in the courts, Third Lateran Council, 1179 C.E.

- Jews not permitted to withhold inheritance from descendants who had accepted Christianity, Third Lateran Council, 1179 C.E., Canon 26
- The marking of Jewish clothes with a badge, Fourth Lateran Council, 1215 C.E., Canon 68
- Construction of new synagogues prohibited, Council of Oxford, 1222 C.E.
- Christians not permitted to attend Jewish ceremonies, Synod of Vienna, 1267 C.E.
- Jews forced to live in ghettos away from Christians, Synod of Breslau, 1267 C.E.
- Jews not permitted to obtain academic degrees, Council of Basel, 1434 C.E., Session XIX
- Mass extermination of the Jews in the Crusades. Fourth Lateran Council called upon secular powers to “exterminate all heretics,” 1215 C.E. The Inquisitions burned them at the stake by the thousands while confiscating their property.

ADOLF HITLER

John Toland in *Adolf Hitler*, volume one, gives biographical information concerning Hitler’s early life. He attended a Christian school under the tutelage of Padre Bernard Groner. As a small boy, Hitler told a friend that it was his deep desire to be a priest. After he had written *Mein Kampf*, a text stating his personal and political philosophy including his desire to exterminate the Jews, he gave public testimony, “I am now, as before, a Catholic and will always remain so.” When Hitler signed a treaty with the Vatican in Rome, he said, “I am only continuing the work of the Catholic Church.” While he was primarily motivated by notions of racial purity, he relied on Luther’s theology in presenting his rationale to the German people. As stated, his large-scale Nazi pogrom launched an atrocity November 9-10, 1938 (Kristallnacht) in honor of the anniversary of Luther’s birthday.

HITLER’S POLICIES AGAINST THE JEWS

PARALLEL ROMAN CHURCH POLICIES

- Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor,

September 15, 1935 (RGB1 I, 1146)

- Jews barred from dining cars, December 30, 1939, Document NG-3995
- Law for Re-Establishment of the Professional Civil Service, April 7, 1935 (RGB1 I, 175), in which Jews were expelled from office and their civil service jobs
- Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor, September 15, 1935 (RGB1 I, 1146), forbade Germans from hiring Jews
- Decree authorizing local authorities to bar Jews from the streets on certain days (i.e., Nazi holidays), December 3, 1938 (RGB1 I, 1676)
- Nazi book burnings in Germany
- Decree of July 25, 1938 (RGB1 I, 969), forbidding Germans from patronizing Jewish doctors
- Jews to pay a special tax for Nazi party purposes imposed on December 24, 1940 (RGB1 I, 1666)
- Jews not permitted to institute civil suits, September 9, 1942 (NG-151)
- Decree empowering the Justice Ministry to void wills offending the “sound Judgment of the people,” July 31, 1938 (RGB1 I, 937)
- Decree of September 1, 1941, forcing all Jews to wear the yellow Star of David (RGB1 I, 547)
- Destruction of synagogues in the entire Reich, November 10, 1938 (Heydrich to Goring PS-3058)
- Friendly relations with Jews prohibited, October 24, 1941 (Gestapo directive, L-15)
- Jews forced to live in ghettos, order of Heydrich, September 21, 1939 (PS-3363)
- All Jews expelled from schools and universities throughout the Third Reich with the Law against Overcrowding of German schools and Universities, April 25, 1933 (RGB1 I, 225)
- Hitler’s “Final Solution” called for the systematic slaughter of every Jew in Europe. He took their homes,

jobs, possessions (even gold-filled teeth), their names, and finally their very lives. His justification? “It’s the will of God” and “It’s the work of the Church.”

John Hagee points out, “The Holocaust did not begin with Hitler lining the Jews up for the gas chamber, it began centuries earlier with religious leaders sowing the seeds of hatred within their congregations toward the Jewish people.”

In *The Roots of Christian Anti-Semitism*, Malcolm Hay writes, “When a German general was asked at the Nuremberg Trials how six-million people could be systematically murdered by the German people who were among the world’s most advanced societies, he said, ‘I am of the opinion that when for years, for decades, the doctrine is preached that Jews are not even human, such an outcome is inevitable.’”

Fr. Edward Flannery, in *Anguish of the Jews, Twenty-Three Centuries of Anti-Semitism*, writes, “Most people would rather not read these pages of history or simply circumvent the reality - others like myself want to shut it out because the truth is so alarming and the facts so painful, but these are not God’s solutions - they are all a great ‘cover up.’” So, in light of these enormous tragedies what are we to do?

A CALL TO PREPARE THE WAY

TO MAKE READY FOR THE LORD A PEOPLE PREPARED

How then do we account for the progeny of Judaism turning on our Spiritual Parents, like a rebellious teenager giving little consideration to the debt of love he owes? Not only have we failed to show them love and appreciation, we abandoned, persecuted even annihilated our Spiritual family, the Jewish people. Even now large segments of Christendom are totally unaware of the history of Christians and the deathly plight the Jewish people endured for centuries at the hands of the Church. Ignorance of our past paves the way for our present day apathy to Jewish sufferings, the centuries of atrocities without number, without remorse or shame. A large segment of the Church embraces the false concept that we replaced Israel, the Jewish people; what was theirs is now ours. Satan’s oldest and most effective tool, deception, has worked well in his battle against the descendants of

Abraham. Only to the measure we know the Covenants, Prophecies and Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation will we be alerted to his devices.

Michael Brown, author of *Our Hands Are Stained With Blood*, admonishes believers, “It is a tragic fact of history that the *outward, visible* Church is stained with the blood of the Jewish people. This painful memory is so vivid in Jewish hearts that an Orthodox Jewish author wrote: ‘Today, one of the most fundamental causes of Jewish suffering is the hatred of Christians towards Jews and the Jewish faith.’ From his birth, every Christian, practicing or nominal, imbibes the belief that the Jews, i.e., any and every individual Jew, are answerable for the murder of his Messiah.’ ”

Some Christians take the position they are not responsible for the injustices the Roman Catholic Church committed against the Jewish people for centuries in the name of Christian. This is exactly what we have done for centuries; every Jew has been accused and suffered for the death of Jesus. In truth, it was an illegitimate leadership who condemned Him, turning Him over to the Gentiles who crucified Him. The Scriptures support that the masses of Jews followed Him and sought to make Him their King, though He never responded, knowing that was not His mission at His first coming.

ANTI-SEMITISM

SOURCE OF SIX MAJOR GRIEVANCES

Over a ten year period, the Spirit revealed six major grievances He has with the Church. All six directly connect with the sins we Christians have committed against His/our family, the Jewish people, over the centuries and continue to commit to this very day. The root of these sins is:

ANTI-SEMITISM

WE LEFT OUR FATHER’S FIRST LOVE, ISRAEL

On 9-11-1992, the Spirit released His first major Correction: “We/the Church, have left our first love.” When the Early Church Fathers were poisoned with the deadly venom of anti-Semitism, they (we) left our Father’s first love, Israel, the Jewish people. (Ex 4:22) To this day, the anti-Semitic spirit is clearly manifesting itself within the Church at large.

The Spirit revealed from the anti-Semitic Root five Grievous Offenses:

- Our hearts are encrusted, hardened toward the Jewish people.
- Our eyes are scaled, blinding us to the Covenants, Prophecies and future Blessings given to the Jewish People.
- Our hands are stained with the blood of the Jewish people.
- Our hearts are filled with pride toward the Jewish people. (As we judged them, we are being judged).
- Hence for centuries the spirit of witchcraft has operated through the Church; we are guilty of dominating, controlling and manipulating the Jewish people.

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD ISSUES A CALL TO REPENTANCE

In light of all that is revealed, what would our Father have us do? The Scriptures are clear; we are called to humble ourselves and repent. But some want to say, “they really were not Christians or they would not have acted so demonically toward the Jewish people.” We remind ourselves, there is no doubt that Martin Luther was a Christian. Others have said, “neither I, nor my Church have committed these offenses.” We must face reality. These enormous injustices were done in the name of Jesus Christ; that is what the Jewish people know and have experienced.

Let us remember the stern words our Savior spoke to the leaders of His day, when they said, “If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.” Jesus answered them, “Thus you witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.” Mt 23:30 As He continues speaking, He passes a severe prophetic judgment upon them. What was the appropriate action these leaders should have taken to avoid His severe judgment? Had they humbled themselves repenting, taking steps toward making retribution for their sins and their fathersh then they would have encountered mercy instead of judgment. Lev 26:40-42 Herein we find a lesson for ourselves.

STEPS IN REPAIRING THE FAMILY BREACH

First, we are called to repent for our ignorance, our apathy regarding the past atrocities committed against the Jewish people in the name of Christ.

Secondly, we are called to repent for the sin of theft. Even as Eve, our mother, took that which did not belong to her, we the Church have taken that which was not ours, proclaiming and embracing that the Church is the *New Israel*, (*Replacement Theology*). Having assumed this position of the *New Israel* has caused a misinterpretation of the Scriptures in claiming for the Church those passages which are written to Abraham’s descendants, the Jewish people. This sin of presumption grieves our Father’s heart.

Thirdly, He calls us to respond to His present corrections, the *Six Grievances* He has enumerated. Therefore, let us humble ourselves before the LORD, taking full responsibility for all these wrongs, injustices, atrocities and the innocent Jewish blood that has been shed directly or indirectly over the centuries by the Church or individual Christians.

Fourthly, let us seek ways of retribution, that we might express our sincerity to our family, the Jewish people, to whom we owe everything that we possess spiritually. For herein we *Prepare the way for the Visitation of His Presence*. Whether that visitation is a move of the Spirit or in preparation for His Return, herein we *Make Ready for the Lord a People Prepared*.

Let us accept the Call of Apostle Peter, *Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. Acts 3:19-21*

For the honor and joy set before us, let us humble ourselves in true repentance. Let us seek our Father’s mercy and forgiveness for the past and present, that we might be an instrument of blessing to the glory and praise of His Name, demonstrating that our Savior has not died in vain. *For His truth, His corrections and His mercy be honor, glory and praise forever, Amen*