

**REVELATION
SEVEN CHURCHES
A Call to Repentance**



**TO REPENT FOR ANTI-HEBRAISM
SEVEN CHURCHES**

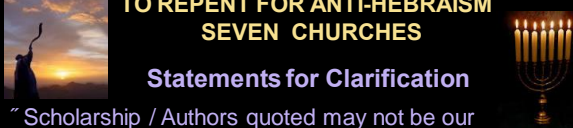
Statements for Clarification

“ Scholarship / Authors quoted may not be our theological or eschatological persuasion, but they have a contribution to make.

“ Emphases Added: Using Bold or underlining in quoted texts are often my own.

“ The **Repentance Meetings** for the Seven Churches, will precede the Historical Overlay for each Church, **Ephesus exception- Rev 2:4 root of Correction.**

“ This Call to Repentance is the touchstone of correction to restore us to our Father, our first love, the plumb line that aligns us with His Word and Ways



**TIP OF THE
ARROW – REV 2:4**

**MNL
Called to 20
Repentance Services.
This Call,
Tip of the Arrow is
A Free Will Offering
Motivated by
Revelation that
our Noxious Sins
Against Our Father,
His Word & Ways
have Inflicted Great
Pain & Sorrow to
His Heart (Gen 6:6)**



**TIP OF THE
ARROW – REV 2:4**

**SALVO OF
REPARATION**

Each Repentance is a **PHALANX** for each Church Age. These Great Sins first occurred at Jerusalem hence, at each service you will lay a stone that came from Jerusalem with your name on it before the Lord acknowledging your repentance for Rev 2:4.



**REVELATION
SEVEN CHURCHES
Historical Overlay Resume September 2 & 6**



- “ Write 5 Repentance Services July 18 . Aug 15
- “ Write Intro to the Teshuvah Prayer Guide before July 29
- “ Plan / Administrate & Present at Teshuvah Luncheon - Aug 13
- “ Plan / Administrate Preparatory Service . Aug 26
- “ Resume Revelation Class Sept 2 and 6

SEVEN CHURCHES

SMYRNA

**100 – 313 A.D.
The Historical
Record Overlaid
on the
Biblical Text
Lesson 13**





Smyrna – ANTI-HEBRAISM

I. Review
 A. Ephesus - Historical Overlay
 B. Smyrna - Biblical Text

II. Historical Background
 A. Strained Relations
 B. Jewish Revolts
 C. Transitions



III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers' Writings
 A. Justin Martyr B. Irenaeus
 C. Clement of Alexandria D. Tertullian
 E. Origen F. Hippolytus

IV. Summary




To the Seven Churches

Who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches....+ (Rev 2:7).





I. REVIEW – Rev 2:4 Correction
A. Ephesus, to Smyrna, the other five churches and to us.
 We continue to ask, What/ Who did they Love at first but have now left or abandoned ?



Concerning Rev 2:4 correction, **Scholarship suggests** that the **believers' devotion to Jesus Messiah had begun to wane.**
 As previously stated the historical record does not support this as the problem.

The key to understanding Revelation 2:4 lies in the Prophecy of Genesis 2-3.



SMYRNA
The Historical Overlay Reveals ANTI-HEBRAISM
Correcting
 2012 & 2014 teaching:

Since my 2012 & 2014 teaching I have found evidence that the rebuke given to the Church at Ephesus is not the sin of **Anti-Semitism** as formerly taught, but rather **Anti-Hebraism.**




SMYRNA
The Historical Overlay Reveals
Definition of ANTI-HEBRAISM

Anti-Hebraism . To reject our Father's Word and Ways is to reject Him.

Anti-Semitism . To reject Our Father's chosen people, descendants of Abraham and Sarah, is to reject Him (Mt 25:40).

ANTI-HEBRAISM REJECTS OUR FATHER'S WORD AND WAYS



The LORD gave Abraham and his Descendants:
 ~ Hebrew Language
 ~ Promise of being the line of the Messiah
 ~ Seven Covenants
 ~ The Word / Scriptures (Gen 15; 17; Rom 9:4)

ANTI-HEBRAISM Began– Ephesus First Century:
What began at Ephesus was received at Smyrna
“You have forsaken the love you had at first.”

Review Major Reference Points:
 Early Fathers began to reject the Hebrew language

- 1.) They changed Hebrew names to Greek:
 - A. Yahoshua / Yehoshua (Yahshua) with Jesus
 - B. Mashiach (Messiah) with Christ
 - C. Notzerim with Christian
- 2.) They moved away from Jerusalem, where the LORD said He would put His Name, to Antioch, Rome and Alexandria. Note: Believers were first called **Christians** at Antioch (Acts 11:26).
3. They spiritualized or allegorized the Biblical text.

What began at Ephesus continues to Smyrna.
“You have forsaken the love you had at first.”

ANTI-HEBRAISM- Seen First Century Ephesus:

- 4.) They Rejected the Hebraic Festival Passover as set forth in the Biblical text (Lev 23; Num 28-29; Deut 16) in the first century at Ephesus.

Ignatius (40-115 A.D.) in his *Epistle to the Philippians* claimed that Satan “ **fights along with the Jews to a denial of the cross**” and **‘If anyone celebrates the Passover along with the Jews, or receives emblems of their feast, he is partaker with those that killed the Lord and His apostles.’**
 Hence, they departed from the Hebraic calendar.

Alexander Roberts & James Donaldson, eds., *The Ante-Nicene Fathers, Vol 10*; David Rausch, *Legacy of Hatred*

SEVEN CHURCHES



CHURCH IN SMYRNA



100 - 313 A.D.

B. REVIEW
 Biblical Text
 Read: Rev 2:8-11



The Church at Smyrna
 Rev. 2:8-11

Messiah’s message to the Angel of the Church at Smyrna:
 The words of the First and Last, Who died and is alive, assuring the believers of the resurrection.

A most fitting message for the saints at Smyrna who were experiencing martyrdom.



SMYRNA ANTI-HEBRAISM
 Historical Background

Jewish scholar, **Walter Laqueur**, *The Changing Face of Anti-Semitism*, was Co-Chairman of the International Research Council at the Center for Strategic and International Studies

He speaks of the **Church Fathers** being exceedingly bitter in their language toward the Jewish people, such as, **murderers, betrayers, followers of Satan** very abusive. Of all the sections of the New Testament, Revelation is the most outspoken, with frequent references to the **synagogue of Satan**.



SMYRNA
 The Second of **SEVEN CHURCHES**
REWARD

“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death” (Rev. 2:10-11).



"You have forsaken the love you had at first."

ANTI-HEBRAISM
II. Historical Background
Smyrna - Suffering Age

A. Strained Relations: Jews & Jewish believers

1. Dispute between the two developed in Rome in 49 A.D.; Emperor Claudius expelled both.
2. By 64 A.D. Nero distinguished the Jewish believers from the Jewish community. Paul was imprisoned in Rome and died a martyr.
3. Historian Tacitus states, Nero was suspected of burning Rome; to avert suspicion, he blamed the believers which increased Roman persecution.



B. Jewish Revolts

1. Severe Roman persecution took its toll.
2. The Jewish Zealots gained favor with the people.
3. Fanatical nationalism drove the Zealots to revolt. Certain Jewish citizens sought to head off the revolt but it was too late.
4. Roman General Vespasian headed the conquest in the north. After 3 years of conflict, in 69 A.D. he was called back to Rome to become emperor.
5. His son, Titus, with Legion X attack Jerusalem. On 9th of Av, 70 A.D. the Temple was destroyed. Tens of thousands of Jews died by the sword or starvation or were enslaved.



"You have forsaken the love you had at first."

ANTI-HEBRAISM
II. Historical Background
Second Century

6. Destruction of the Temple A.D. 70 with Titusq leadership Legion Ten Fretensis executed the destruction and remained stationed in Jerusalem.
7. Legion X took Masada 3 years later; April 73 to find 967 Jewish Zealots valiant unto death.

Bar Kokhba Revolt 132 – 134 A.D.

1. Probably provoked by Roman prohibition against circumcision and other acts of Hellenization forced on the Jews.



Figure 39 – Bar Kokhba letter from 135 A.D.

Bar Kokhba Revolt 132 – 134 A.D.

One of the most compelling evidences for the continued use of Hebrew into the 2nd Century A.D. is General Simon Bar Kokhba's letters, dating to 135 A.D., which he wrote during the second Jewish revolt against Rome.



Bar Kokhba Revolt 132 – 134 A.D.

2. Simon, known as Bar Kokhba ("son of a star"), led the revolt. He claimed messiahship and was endorsed by the leading

rabbi of the day, Rabbi Akiba, based his endorsement on Num 24:17, *I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.*



Jupiter
Greek God of War

Bar Kokhba Revolt 132 – 134 A.D.

3. More than half a million Jews perished; Hadrian completely destroyed Jerusalem and built a new city.
4. He named it Aeolia Capitolina in honor of himself.
5. Hadrian constructed a temple to Jupiter on the site of the Jewish Temple.



**Bar Kokhba Revolt
132 – 134 A.D.**

Hadrian's Temple to Jupiter on the site of the Jewish Temple.

Temple to Jupiter

6. He **banned the Hebrew language and forbade the Jews to enter the city** at the cost of their lives. He filled the city with **Greek-speaking pagans**.



**II. Historical Background
C. First Century Transitions to
Second: The "New" Israel Emerges**

Scholar, Dr. Marvin Wilson states, "Paul's warning to Gentile believers about pride (see Rom 11:17-24) went unheeded. The Church had become overwhelmingly gentile, so it reasoned that there was **no more need for the support of the root (Israel)**. What **presumption!** At first the **Gentiles** were but a **rejected wild olive branch** allowed by God's mercy to be grafted into the believing family of Abraham. But in the second, third and fourth centuries a new spirit of **arrogance and supersessionism** had arisen. Paul never anticipated that things would



develop this far. He insisted that God did not reject His people for God's gifts and His call are irrevocable (Rom 11:29; cf. v.1). Yet the Gentiles claimed to have replaced Israel. As the new' Israel, the gentile church spiritually

expropriated what had belonged to Israel. Though this spiritualizing interpretation begins in certain passages of the New Testament, **it becomes fully developed in the writings of early Church Fathers.**

At first the Church was a remnant within Israel, participating in new-covenant life inside a renewed Israel of God. Of this Jewish *haburah* (religious brotherhood), Gentiles had no part. For when the Church began, Gentiles were described as those who do not know God (1 Thess 4:5) (**Eph 2:11-12**). But now



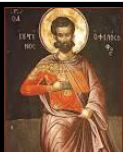
those formerly outside the covenant had displaced those physical **sons of Abraham** who had given them **spiritual birth**. **This displacement resulted in many institutions and concepts of Israel being de-Judaized...by the gentile church.**

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 Christians**. The Jewish Scriptures were a central part of this transference (**Anti-Hebraism**). They are **not yours but ours**, Justin stated emphatically to Trypho. **Our Father Abraham** (pp. 88-89)

Justin Martyr



100 . 167 A.D.

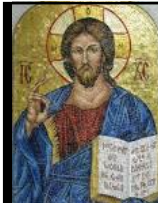


SMYRNA - ANTI-HEBRAISM

**III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
Writings 100 – 313 A.D.**

A. Justin Martyr (100 . 167 A.D.)

Martyr was a convert. A Gentile philosopher who died a martyr in Rome. He was greatly influenced by Platonic thought. He wrote *The Jews are separated from other nations and justly suffer*. He specifically underscores his point by focusing on the fact that Jewish cities are burned with fire and Jews are desolate, forbidden to go up to Jerusalem, for you have slain the Just One, and His prophets before Him; and now you reject those who hope in Him. Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho* 16.



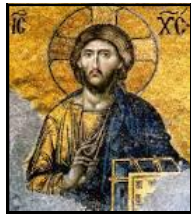
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**III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
Writings 100 – 313 A.D.**

**B. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons
130 – 202 A.D.**

David Rausch states, "Irenaeus declared that the Jews were disinherited from the grace of God and would never have hesitated to burn their own Jewish Scriptures. *Legacy of Hatred*, p. 22

Irenaeus was among those who contributed to a system of **allegorical exegesis** that had disastrous effect of wrenching the Biblical text from its plain historical meaning. Dr Marvin Wilson, p.97



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III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 C. Clement of Alexandria
 150 – 215 A.D.

Merrill Bolender in *When the Cross Became a Sword*, writes Clement emphasized Greek philosophy rather than the Tanakh as the primary means God gave the Gentiles to lead them to Jesus as the ultimate Word of God. He blended Greek philosophy with Christianity to make Christianity acceptable to the Gentiles (**Anti-Hebraism**). It is said that Clement was more comfortable with Plato than he was with Moses. This resulted in his students looking more to Athens than to Jerusalem.



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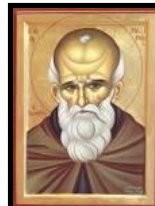
III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 D. Tertullian
 160 - 220 A.D.

Tertullian joined other Christian theologians teaching the Jews were under a divine curse. Numerous writers point out that he was a prolific writer and credited as having **coined the term “trinity.”** Father Edward Flannery records that Tertullian’s *Adversus Judaeos* is the **first systematic attempt to refute Judaism**. *Anguish of the Jews*, p.40

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 III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 E. Origen 185 - 254 A.D.



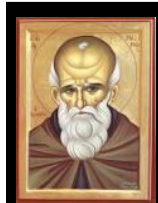
Origen was a Neo-Platonist philosopher of Alexandria, Egypt. He is credited as the **father of the allegorical method** of interpretation and **made allegory the only way to truly understand the Scriptures**. His knowledge of philosophy and theology brought him fame and influence throughout the Roman world, even by the emperor. His students become leading theologians using the **allegorical method** which helped to establish it as official Church teaching and lay the foundation for anti-Semitism (**anti-Hebraism**) in the Church.



SMYRNA - ANTI-HEBRAISM
 III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 F. Hippolytus of Rome
 200 – 235 A.D.

Jewish scholar, Walter Ziffer quotes from, **Anti-Jewish Patristic literature:**

“The Jews are under divine reprobation forever. Let their eyes be darkened that they see not. And surely ye have been darkened in the eyes of your soul with a darkness utter and everlasting. For now that the true light has arisen, ye wander as in the night and stumble on places with no roads and fall headlong as having forsaken the way that says, I am the Way. Furthermore hear this yet more serious word: And their back



SMYRNA - ANTI-HEBRAISM

III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 F. Hippolytus of Rome
 200 – 235 A.D.



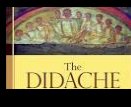

do thou bend down always. That means, in order that they may be slaves to the nations, not four hundred thirty years, as in Egypt, nor seventy years as in Babylonia, but bend them to servitude. **He says, ‘Always.** how do you indulge vain hopes, expecting to be delivered from the misery which holds you?+ (Hipp. C.Jud.6), *The Birth of Christianity from the Matrix of Judaism (From Jewish Sect to World Religion)* pp. 233-234

SMYRNA - ANTI-HEBRAISM
 III. Ante-Nicene Church Fathers
 Writings 100 – 313 A.D.
 G. Cyprian 200 - 258 A.D.



Cyprian wrote *Three Books of Treatises Against the Jews*. Dr Wilson points out most of the Christian literature throughout the second and third centuries reveal more of the same: **a general ridicule and contempt for the Jewish people and Judaism (Hebraism)**. Beside several treatises by Cyprian, Hippolytus wrote *Expository Treatise Against the Jews*. Tertullian wrote a treatise titled *Against the Jews*. Irenaeus and others are also among the list.

IV. SUMMARY: EPHESUS - ANTI-HEBRAISM
"You have forsaken the love you had at first."

			
Ignatius of Antioch 40-115 A.D.	Epistle of Barnabas 80-115 A.D.	Church Fathers 80-100 A.D.	Clement I Pope of Rome 80, 120 A.D.

In **pride**, Eve rejected Adam's word (the Father's Word) and was deceived; in **pride** the Church Fathers rejected the Apostles' word (the Father's Word) and were deceived. Example, Ignatius stated, if anyone celebrates the Passover with the Jews or receives the emblems of their feast, he partakes with those that killed the Lord.

IV. Satan's attack is on the Word - Anti-Hebraism.
The Church Succumbed to Pride & Presumption.
 At **Smyrna**, Satan scaled the Church Fathers' eyes so they **presumed** their opponent to be Judaism, the very Root and source of Life of the Church (Rom 11:13-18).

**REVELATION – SEVEN CHURCHES
 CALL TO REPENTANCE - PERGAMUM**
 Friday, 6:30 P.M. July 18 Terrace Rm
 Repenting for the Sin Arrogance



Antipas Martyred
 92 A.D. on
 Zeus's Altar.

Pergamum where Satan dwells
 Zeus was the god of the
 Greeks as Jupiter was to the
 Romans.

Zeus on his throne-
 Interior of his temple