

4TH QUARTER 2018



JEWISH VOICE TODAY MAGAZINE

WHY IS ANTI-SEMITISM GROWING, AND HOW CAN WE COMBAT IT?

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**Open Doors That No
Man Can Shut!**

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SHALOM



Dear Partner in Ministry,
Shalom!

Greetings and welcome to this 4th Quarter 2018 edition of the Jewish Voice Ministries International magazine, *Jewish Voice Today*.

In this issue, we focus on the very difficult matter of the global rise in anti-Semitism, which is now at its highest levels since World War II.

Increasingly, we are confronted with examples of rabid, irrational anti-Semitism, such as the Columbia University professor who recently tweeted that “every evil act in the world is connected to the State of Israel.”

Such statements should seem absurd – except that more and more people actually believe them, even as others aggressively seek to destroy Israel and the Jewish people.

The articles in this issue of *Jewish Voice Today* will help you understand when and why anti-Semitism

began, who is behind it, why it persists and continues to grow, and what must happen before it will stop.

I hope these articles leave you with a greater understanding of how the Jewish people are an integral part of God’s plan as well as the role each of us plays as we look forward to the return of Yeshua (Jesus).

As you read, remember to pray for the Jewish people and for this ministry as we care for their physical and spiritual needs.

May God richly bless you!

To the Jew first and also to the Nations,

Jonathan Bernis
President and CEO
Jewish Voice Ministries International

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Melbourne protest about Israel’s attack on Gaza.
Photo credit: Israel — Stop the Bombing of Gaza (Takver from Australia)



London, UK: Protestors take part in a demonstration outside the Saudi Arabia Embassy on Al Quds Day.

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WHY IS ANTI-SEMITISM GROWING, AND HOW CAN WE COMBAT IT?

BY RABBI JONATHAN BERNIS

Josef Schuster, leader of Germany's largest Jewish organization, recently urged Jews not to wear *kippas* in Berlin's public spaces. He suggested, instead, to wear baseball caps. "It's become just too dangerous," he explained (*Associated Press*).

"Today, entering a synagogue anywhere in Sweden requires airport-like security checks. Children at the Jewish kindergarten in Malmo play behind bulletproof glass" (*New York Times*).

England soccer fans were filmed performing Nazi salutes and singing anti-Semitic songs at a bar in Russia during a celebration of their last-gasp win over Tunisia during World Cup 2018 (*UK Mirror*).

The reports are far from anecdotal. Last year, according to the *AP*:

- The U.K. logged a record 1,382 hate crimes against Jews, an increase of 34 percent.
- In the U.S., anti-Semitic incidents rose 57 percent, the largest increase ever recorded.

Historians and scholars who write about anti-Semitism often state that it is "an illogical hatred of the Jewish people."

I completely disagree.

Anti-Semitism is totally logical, deliberate and calculated. When we understand that at its source is Satan himself, we can easily comprehend why. A vicious, bloody war is raging. Satan and his hordes of demonic forces are fighting to retain control of this world. We are caught in the midst of the battle.

It's important to realize that a major part of Satan's strategy has long been to breed anti-Semitism specifically among Christians, for the purpose of completely annihilating the Jewish people.

The infamous Adolf Eichmann, sometimes referred to as "the architect of the Holocaust," once said, "Throughout history men have dreamed of destroying the children of Abraham." It's true. But why?

Satan Battles a Death Sentence

In order to understand this, we must go all the way back to the beginning of the world, when God pronounced a curse upon Satan.

God created the heavens and the earth. Then He created Adam and Eve and told him to subdue the earth and have control over it (Genesis 1:28). There was no sin or evil. No disease had access to the earth, so there was no death.

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they turned over the title deed of this earth to the serpent (Satan).

Man's act of disobedience brought a complete reversal to earth's balance. The fruit of man's disobedience was sin and ultimately death for all life on earth.

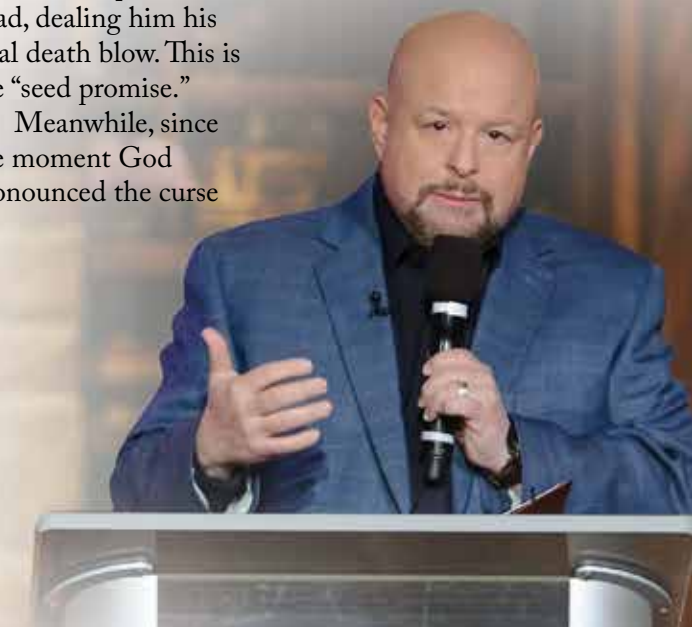
But then God provided a glimmer of hope: "He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel" (Genesis 3:15 NIV).

This is the Bible's very first prophecy of the Messiah's triumph over Satan. God said that the woman's seed (Messiah) would crush the serpent's (Satan's) head, dealing him his final death blow. This is the "seed promise."

Meanwhile, since the moment God pronounced the curse



SOAS/BDS demonstration, April 27, 2017



on him, Satan has known his days are numbered. He has continued to do everything within his power to keep that sentence from being carried out.

So what does all this have to do with the Jews and Satan's efforts to destroy them?

The Continuation of the Seed

The Fall of Man led to Cain's murder of Abel, and eventually the world was so evil that: *"The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth"* (Genesis 6:6 NIV).

God destroyed the earth with a flood, preserving only Noah, a descendant of Adam and grandson of Methuselah, and his family. After the flood, God blessed Noah and his sons, saying, *"And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you"* (Genesis 9:9 KJV). The seed continued because God declared it would.

Six chapters later, we are introduced to a man named Abram. God told him to go to a land unknown to Abram that "I will show you." Among those promises, he said:

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Genesis 12:3 NIV).

History shows that God has faithfully delivered those blessings and curses. But this is also God's promise of blessing to the world. The ultimate fulfillment of this promise is the Messiah, the Savior for all mankind.

Satan understood that the seed of the woman would ultimately bring about his destruction through the descendants of Abram, whom God renamed Abraham. So, naturally, they became his primary target to eliminate!

Anti-Semitism and attempts to destroy the Jewish people throughout history have been nothing more than Satan's attempts at self-preservation. He believes that if he can destroy the descendants of Abraham, he can then keep Genesis 3:15 – his own destruction – from happening.

Satan is the great deceiver. So it is not surprising that he has *deceived himself* into believing he can do this. His number one priority has been – and remains – to destroy the people of the seed.



Poster held by a protester at an anti-war rally in San Francisco on February 16, 2003. Source: Wikipedia

Satan Raises Up Minions

Satanic efforts to destroy the Jewish people predate the history of the Church.

One of the clearest early examples is found in Exodus. Some 430 years after Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt, the Lord was about to raise up a deliverer to bring his descendants back to their Promised Land.

Satan raised up Pharaoh, a type of antichrist, and implanted in him a hatred of the Hebrews. God raised up Moses, the hero who would redeem the Hebrew nation. Upon hearing that a deliverer would be raised up from among the Hebrews, Pharaoh ordered:

"Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live" (Exodus 1:22 NIV).

You know the rest of the story.

Moses was floated in a basket on the Nile. Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him in the palace. Indeed, the very person who sought Moses's destruction became his protector. God sent his redemption and ultimately used Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt.

A Continuing Redemption Plan

Haman plotted to murder all the Jews. Risking her own life, Esther appealed to the king and rescued the Jews from annihilation, which is celebrated as the Feast of Purim.

Anti-Semitism and attempts to destroy the Jewish people throughout history have been nothing more than Satan's attempts at self-preservation.

Assyria attempted to destroy the Northern Kingdom of Israel in the 8th century B.C., followed by the Babylonian captivity in 586. God's redemptive promise brought the people back.

Israel continued to cry out for her Messiah later under Roman tyranny. Satan knew that a redemptive act was about to take place, so he used another antichrist figure, King Herod.

Hearing about a long-awaited king, Herod summoned the wise men to learn where the Jewish Messiah would be born. They revealed an ancient prophecy:

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times" (Micah 5:2 NIV).

Herod responded by sending his army to destroy all male children under the age of two. Matthew 2:13-14 reveals that an angel warned Joseph in a dream. By the time Herod's troops reached Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph, with Jesus, were well on their way to Egypt.

Satan later convinced Roman and Jewish leaders to condemn Yeshua (Jesus) to death. But with His death and resurrection, Yeshua publicly defeated Satan and those working for him:

"Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross" (Colossians 2:15 NIV).

It was the ultimate act of redemption.

Genesis 3:15— A Two-Part Fulfillment

I really do not think Satan understood how God's plan was going to work. Otherwise, he would have focused all his efforts on stopping the crucifixion.

If Jesus succeeded in fulfilling Genesis 3:15 fully at Calvary, however, why does the history of intense anti-Semitism continue at the hands of those who call themselves Christians?

I can only conclude that Genesis 3:15 has not been completely fulfilled. Calvary was the down payment.

The first time, the Lamb of God came to take away the sins of the world. When He returns, He will come as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah in victory, power and judgment to destroy the enemies of God.

Satan's Surprising Weapon

Satan's ultimate goal is to destroy the Seed Promise. And, for so many reasons, he has used the Church to fight his battle.

Satan's plan is to misuse the very people who *must* bring God's message of redemption to the Jewish people. Christians, therefore, instead of provoking the Jews to jealousy (Romans 11: 11), have been used as a weapon against Jewish people, in the name of Christianity.

But followers of Jesus have a biblical mandate to share their faith *with Jewish people first* (Romans 1:16).

Knowing This, What Must We Do?

- Lead the battle against anti-Semitism with full knowledge of its source. This is full-scale spiritual warfare against Satan, ultimately not any worldly enemy or people group.
- Reach Jewish people throughout the earth with the Good News of Yeshua, their long-awaited Jewish Messiah – from young people in the Israeli military to elderly Holocaust survivors in Israel to members of the "Lost Tribes of Israel," scattered from India to Africa, South America and beyond! Does it sound overwhelming? It *should* sound familiar!

Our mission at JVMI is razor focused on these mandates from the Lord.

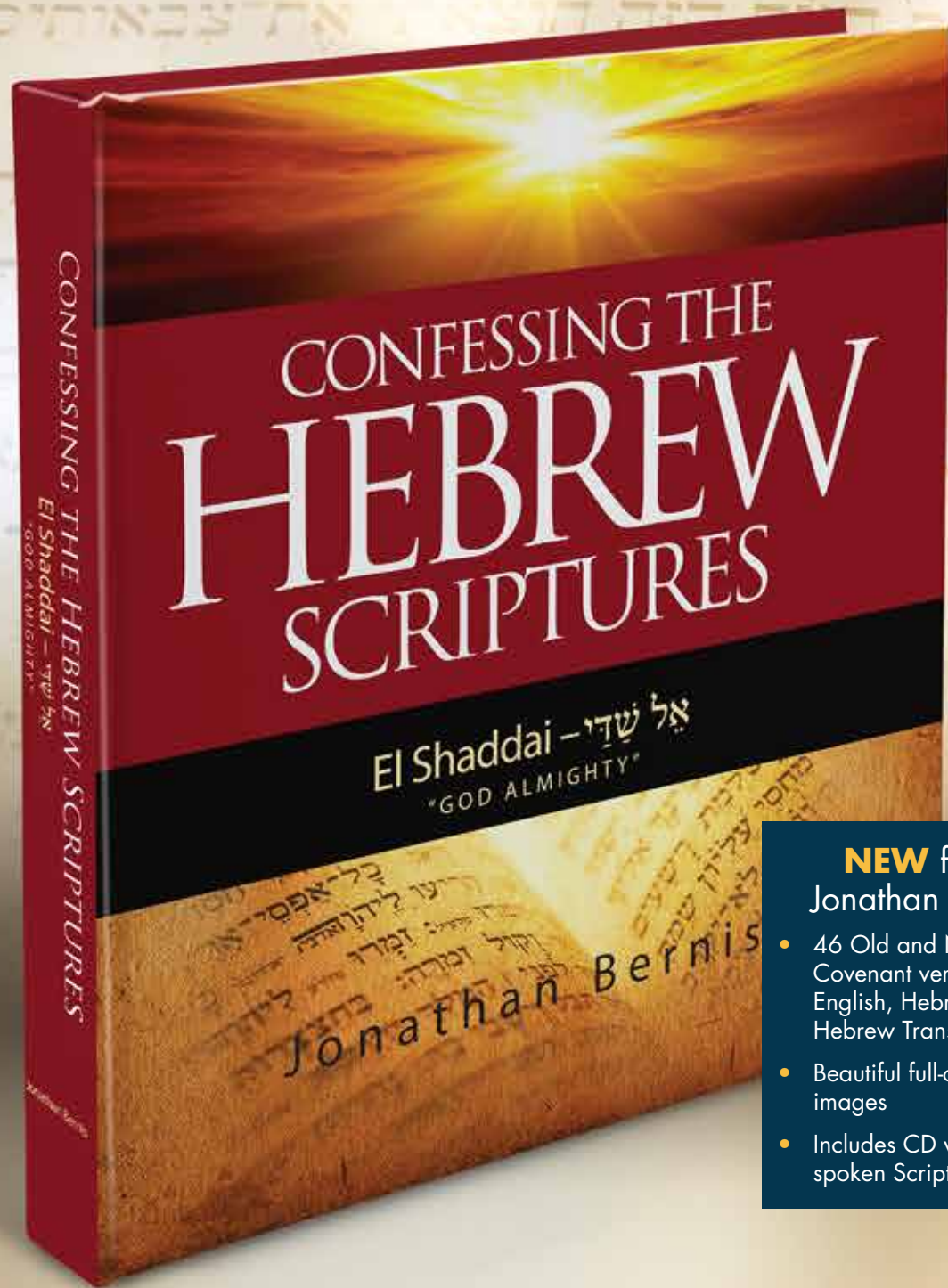
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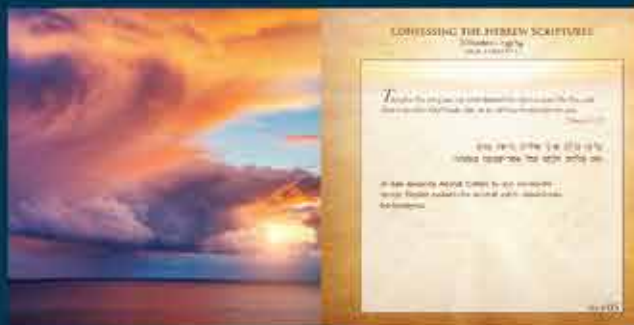
—GENESIS 17:1



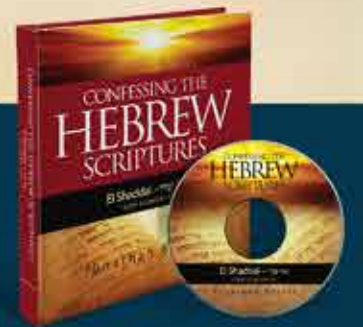
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What kind of anti-Semitism can we expect at the end of the age? Will it become more intense? More widespread? More violent? More irrational? Perhaps all of the above?

On the one hand, when it comes to Jew-hatred, there's nothing new under the sun. It is just the same old lies repackaged in the latest contemporary form.

As The Who sang in their song *"We Won't Get Fooled Again,"* "Meet the new boss. Same as the old boss."

So, too, we can say, "Meet the new anti-Semitism. Same as the old anti-Semitism."

For a case in point, consider this recent sermon by a Muslim cleric in Damascus. As reported by The Middle East Media Research Institute on June 22, "In a Friday sermon delivered at the Lala Pasha Mosque in Damascus on June 22, Dr. Muhammad Ali Al-Malla said that the World Cup was part of a plot, outlined in *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, to distract the Arabs and the Muslims from the defiling of the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the bloodshed in Gaza. According to Al-Malla, 'the Europeans have taken upon themselves to distract the Arabs,' while the U.S. and China never qualified because their responsibility lies elsewhere – in the selling of weapons to the Muslims. The sermon was posted on the mosque's YouTube channel."

The notorious *Protocols* live again! Only this time, it's the nefarious Jews who are using their global power to orchestrate the results of the World Cup, which just happens to have been scheduled shortly after the violent Gaza protests. But of course! (For the record, the World Cup is held every four years, with the dates carved out many years in advance.)

To quote Dr. Al Malla directly, "I would like to shed light on some matters. People's lives have come to a standstill. If there is a game at three o'clock, at two

o'clock, nobody is left at work and the roads are totally deserted. 'What's happened?' you ask. 'There must be a match,' they tell you. 'Who's playing who?' you ask. An examination will show that these countries are sworn enemies of Islam – countries that conspire against the Arabs and the Muslims day and night.

"The Protocols of the Elders of Zion..." When the Jewish organization was established, one of the articles [of *The Protocols*] article 29, I think – stated: 'We shall distract the Arabs using arts and sports.' Indeed, they have done just that, and that's how we got to where we are today."

What power we Jews have! How diabolically clever we are!

So, to repeat: If you've met the old anti-Semitism, then you've met the new anti-Semitism. The same old libels are repackaged and reused for another generation and another setting.

That being said, the prophet Zechariah declares that at the end of the age, the nations of the world will join together to attack Jerusalem (see Zechariah 12 and 14).

At the very least, this means all the surrounding nations. But the language suggests more than that. Perhaps it refers to a coalition of nations from around the world. Perhaps it even speaks of every nation on the planet attacking Jerusalem.

Whatever the precise interpretation may be, we cannot downplay the magnitude of these words: *"I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all*

the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves" (Zechariah 12:2-3 NIV).

This is reiterated in the 14th chapter, where the Lord says: *"I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city. Then the Lord will go out and fight against those nations, as he fights on a day of battle"* (Zechariah 14:2-3 NIV).

It is true, of course, that the Lord says that He is the one who will gather the nations against Jerusalem. And it is true that, after some level of suffering for His people, He will intervene and deliver.

But it's also true that the nations will have reason to attack Jerusalem. Why that city? Why that people?

My guess is that, once again, Israel will be scapegoated. Israel will be blamed for a world war. Or for vast human suffering. Or for a global pandemic. It's all Israel's fault!

Israel will be behind a worldwide Internet crash. Or economic crisis. Or famine. Or plague. Israel is masterminding all this!

Again, this is similar to the Jewish people being blamed for the Black Plague or for AIDS or for all the unrest in the Middle Eastern Muslim nations. The Jewish people even get blamed for problems in the Vatican.

In the same spirit, the United Nations and its sister organizations have condemned Israel more than all other nations combined. Israel is the monster!

So, in this inter-connected age in which we

live, would it be hard to blame Israel for the latest international crisis? Would it be hard to scapegoat Israel if the stock markets worldwide collapsed? (Obviously, someone was behind the crashes, right?) And, if our understanding of the End Times is correct, would it be hard for a world leader (aka, the Antichrist) to convince the nations that rebel Israel must be punished?

"They're the ones spoiling everything! We have peace and tranquility without them! At last, we must crush them for good."

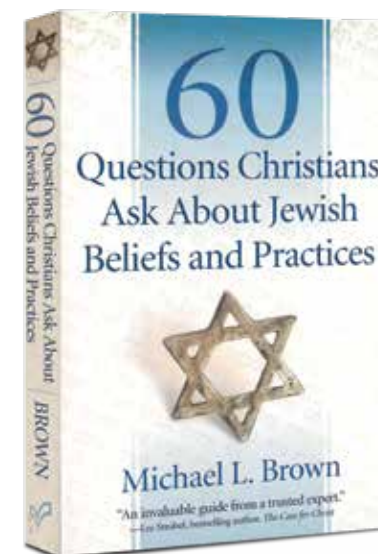
Admittedly, this is all speculation, albeit speculation based on history and with a view towards the Scriptures. But what seems undeniable is this: If the devil knows that a Jewish Jerusalem must welcome back Yeshua the Messiah, he will do everything in his power to wipe out and destroy the Jewish people, especially targeting Jerusalem.

To me, that means that anti-Semitism, in its worst and ugliest and most violent forms, will raise its ugly head at the end of the age. That is very bad news.

The very good news, though, is that the King who will return in vengeance and power will be a glorified Jew. 🇮🇱

Dr. Michael Brown

Michael L. Brown is the founder and president of FIRE School of Ministry in Concord, North Carolina, Director of the Coalition of Conscience and host of the daily, nationally syndicated talk radio show, *The Line of Fire*, as well as the host of the apologetics TV show, *Answering Your Toughest Questions*, which airs on the NRB TV network. Since becoming a Believer in 1971, he has preached throughout America and around the world, bringing a message of repentance, revival, reformation and cultural revolution.



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OPEN DOORS

BY EZRA BENJAMIN

Vice President of Global Outreach

Throughout my eight years serving on staff with Jewish Voice, one of the prophetic promises that I can't seem to get away from – and which fuels so much of our hope and urgency as a ministry – is Isaiah 11:11.

The prophet Isaiah, who had the less-than-enviable job of proclaiming to Israel that she would be scattered to the ends of the earth for her generations of hard-hearted disobedience, also had the joy of proclaiming to her that the Lord would bring her back. Isaiah saw a day when the Lord would “stretch out His hand the second time,” not just to gather Judah back from Babylon, but to gather all the tribes of Israel back from all the places in the earth where He had banished them.

One of the specific areas mentioned in this keystone verse is ‘Ethiopia,’ or ‘Cush,’ which at the time comprised a kingdom and region encompassing much of East Africa and its Horn. And the prophet saw (Isaiah 11:12) that God would act to regather His scattered people Israel from these lands in such a way as to “raise a banner for the nations” – the peoples of the earth would know and see exactly what He was doing.

I believe that the return of tens of thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel in recent decades – some walking through the desert in bare feet to reach the borders of Israel, and thousands perishing along the way – reveals clearly that we are living in the days of, at least, the beginning of the fulfillment of this great

promise to God's chosen people.

He is stretching out His hand to regather the exiled remnant of His people to their identity, their inheritance, and their land, in a way which clearly demonstrates His covenant faithfulness to a stubborn, hard-hearted, yet beloved, people. Today, the Ethiopian Israeli community numbers nearly 150,000. And the faucets controlling the *Aliyah* (return to Israel) of this weary and historically persecuted community have been tightened to only a trickle. Yet, tens – even hundreds – of thousands of people remain throughout the Horn and Eastern regions of Africa who are emerging on the world scene.

Additionally, tens of thousands remain in Ethiopia, as well as in predominately Muslim neighboring areas. And tens of thousands more, called the Lemba, live in Zimbabwe and other parts of Southern Africa. Still tens of thousands more – subsets of some of these larger communities – are emerging in yet other countries throughout Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Some have been scattered, separated from family members. Others have been forced to live in shanties made of trash on the edges of cities and villages because the locals hate them. Many are victims of prejudice and superstition, which excludes them from jobs, justice and even basic human rights.

Others have undergone forced conversion (in name) to more predominant religions to avoid the stigma of being a minority. Still others bear the

shocking testimony – and the physical proof – of having been beaten, tortured and burnt for their unique identity. And all this has occurred for one common testimony which, though it brings trouble, they cannot and will not deny: “We are Jewish. We come from Israel. We are Israel.”

Lest we be too easily lulled into apathy in this age of “tolerance” where “everything and everyone is ok” and dozens of major world cities host Holocaust Museums in prominent locations, let me be absolutely clear: In my travels throughout Africa, Europe and beyond for Jewish Voice, I have seen with my eyes and heard countless testimonies confirming that the confession of Jewish identity today still costs many of my people around the world their safety, well-being, and even their lives.

At Jewish Voice, we believe and depend upon the bold, faithful declaration of the Messianic Jew named Paul to the Believers at Corinth, that “*all the promises of God are Yes in [Yeshua]*” (2 Corinthians 1:20). We wholeheartedly believe that the One Who was able to save His people Israel from their sin through the blood of a Messiah Who would come in the manner He promised, at the time He promised, to the place He promised, to the people He promised, and to raise Him from the dead as He promised, thereby redeeming His people (and all peoples!) from the grave, is surely also able, in Yeshua, to fulfill every other promise He has made to our people in the Scriptures.

Yeshua conquered death and the grave, though we esteemed Him not, and though we as a people have broken every promise, He will remain faithful to keep His promise. This humbling, yet glorious, reality fuels us as a ministry. It compels us to travel around the world, Outreach to Outreach, Festival to Festival, season to season, proclaiming and making known the merciful loving kindness of a promise-keeping God to our Jewish people and their neighbors wherever they may be.

But this tremendous task comes with remarkable





challenges. Searching out our scattered Jewish brethren in the nations of the earth has led Jewish Voice to some of the most remote hilltops, the most unforgiving climes, the most politically tumultuous, most religiously divided, most economically depressed, most demonically oppressed villages and nations alike.

Without going into unnecessary detail, our pursuit of the remnant of our Jewish people has led us to dictatorships, regions unrecognized by the United Nations, regions stricken by years of drought, nations on the brink of bloody civil war, governments in tumultuous transition, Muslim hotbeds, towns governed by openly, murderously anti-Semitic leaders, slum neighborhoods known for superstition and ritual murder, villages dedicated to witches, and communities plagued by deadly disease.

Amidst such unsavory circumstances and against such formidable challenges, it would be so easy to become discouraged, fearful, or simply to give up hope and pursue a less challenging ministry with more readily visible fruit. What spurs me on through the rocky terrain is another promise, also found in Isaiah. The Lord promises to Eliakim, a governor in Israel, in Isaiah 22:22 (NKJV), *“The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder. So he shall open, and no one shall shut; and he shall shut, and no one shall open.”*

Isaiah prophecies that this man, because of the favor of God, will have complete authority in Israel to shut and to open doors; to lock and to unlock. And his decisions shall not be undone. And if all this for a mere man in Israel, how much more for the Messiah, the One found worthy! We know from Revelation 3:7

that Yeshua, given the Name that is above every name, ultimately holds the key of the house of David. What He shuts, the Word tells us, no one shall be able to open. And the doors He opens, no one and no thing shall be able to shut.

We know and believe, in our work among scattered Jewish communities around the world, that all the promises of God are Yes in Yeshua. And, though He lead us as a ministry to some of the most difficult, treacherous corners of the world, we know that the One in Whom the promises are fulfilled is also the One with all authority to open every door required to step in and fulfill them. Where God wants to stretch out His hand and fulfill His promise to remember our people and to regather them to Himself through Yeshua – even in the most unlikely of places where all that can be seen in the natural are the most fortified of doors and the highest of walls – we see Yeshua placing before us, time and again, open doors that no man can shut, like the Believers in Revelation!

Quite literally: Governors of regions closed to outsiders have hosted us at their banqueting tables as we served the Jewish people in their midst in Yeshua’s Name. Presidents of nations generally hostile to the Good News of Yeshua have welcomed us into their palaces to speak with their officials. Countries ravaged by political paranoia who would not recognize the nation of Israel have welcomed us in to serve their Jewish communities. Cities that drove our teams out in the past under threats of violence for our faith have come again calling for and even demanding our return.

Though they despise our testimony and resent our prioritization of serving the persecuted Jewish people in their midst, yet against their “better judgment,” they ask for our return. How can these things be? Because the God of all flesh, Who will be found faithful, is opening doors that no man can shut.

Paul recognized that, even with open doors, trials remain. He told the body of Believers at Corinth that he would remain where he was, “For a wide and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”

So too, we at Jewish Voice recognize that even the most God-ordained of ministry opportunities among Jewish communities and their neighbors are nearly always met with fierce opposition. Years of ministry in the far corners of the earth have shown us that the most extraordinary open doors into the hearts and communities of our distressed Jewish people are met with the most extraordinary opposition.

But it is precisely in the midst of such fierce battle that we remember, and we pray (please pray with us this year!) in full assurance, that the doors Yeshua is opening unto Jewish Voice – and those like you who serve with us in this vital ministry –

no one shall be able to shut.

I look forward to sharing with you during the coming months with more specificity the types of doors the Lord is opening into Jewish communities in the regions where we serve. I will also share the specific challenges associated with those open doors, so that you may pray with us.

The 2018-19 Outreach season ahead contains some of the most exciting open doors I have ever encountered in my years traveling the world and also some of the most significant opposition. Until then, may we be found faithful to see and to walk through the incredible open doors of ministry that the Lord is opening unto us at Jewish Voice during these next crucial years of ministry.

And may we make much of our ministry, that as the Lord uses us to fulfill His promises to our people, all the peoples and nations watching will know and believe in the God of Israel and His Son, our Messiah, Yeshua. The One Who called us is faithful, and He also will do it. Amen and Amen. 🕊️

Ezra Benjamin

Ezra Benjamin has served at Jewish Voice in the Global Outreach Department for just over eight years. Ezra joined the staff of JVMI as a Logistics Manager for Outreaches and Festivals. He senses a strong calling to be a help, a blessing, and a light to his people – especially those hurting or suffering in remote communities of the world. Ezra is now the Vice President of Global Outreach, overseeing the planning and execution of medical and festival outreach events among Jewish communities outside North America.



A Promise... and a Warning!

Since its birth in 1948, the Jewish homeland has faced consistent challenges and threats to its legitimacy and very existence from both hostile neighbors and anti-Semitic voices in virtually every nation on earth.

But this kind of hatred isn't limited to the Land itself. Millions of Jewish people in the U.S. and around the world are victims of discrimination and even violence. Anti-Semitism today may wear a more "respectable facade" (thanks in part to the liberal media), but its roots are just as evil.

For more than 50 years, Jewish Voice Ministries International has been a leading champion for Israel and God's chosen people. We stand firm on the promise (and warning!) that God spoke to Abraham in Genesis 12:3:

"My desire is to bless those who bless you, but whoever curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Those who curse Israel will face God's curse. But those who bless Israel will receive God's blessing. It is our desire to be a blessing by ministering the love of Yeshua (Jesus) to Jews around the globe.

We do it by offering hope to impoverished Jewish communities in Africa through free medical, dental and vision clinics; bringing water-purifying LifeStraws® to remote villages with no other sources of clean drinking water; delivering much-needed humanitarian aid to elderly Holocaust survivors living in Israel – and of course, by proclaiming Yeshua (Jesus) to Jewish people who have never heard the Good News of their Messiah.

As we bless Israel, we are taking up arms in a

spiritual fight against anti-Semitism. When you give generously to support Jewish Voice, you're doing the same thing. Together we're transforming thousands and thousands of lives, one soul at a time.

With your support – though the darkness may grow – we will continue to shine the light of Yeshua, and the darkness will not overcome it (John 1:5).

Please take a moment to prayerfully consider sending the most generous gift of support you can to join us in the spiritual fight against anti-Semitism.

As you give to bless Israel, we want to send you one or more expressions of our appreciation. It's our way of saying "thank you" for standing with Israel in these dark times.

Thank you again. Because of faithful partners like you, lives continue to be changed through the hope and healing of Yeshua!

OUR THANK YOU GIFTS TO YOU

For your gift of \$45 or more:

Confessing the Hebrew Scriptures: El Shaddai, God Almighty, book by Jonathan Bernis

There is no one like our God! When God revealed His name to Abraham as El Shaddai, God Almighty, He declared Himself the all-powerful, all-sufficient God. He is able to nurture us, meet our needs, and do the impossible. In this sixth edition in the *Confessing the Hebrew Scriptures* series, *El Shaddai, God Almighty*, you'll meditate on inspiring verses describing our sustaining Almighty God. This encouraging volume contains Old and New Covenant verses written in English, Hebrew and the transliteration from Hebrew. A CD including Scriptures spoken in Hebrew enables you to learn pronunciation and begin confessing the Hebrew Scriptures yourself. Discover the powerful promises of God and watch your faith grow as you confess His Word in the *Lashon HaKodesh*, the Holy Tongue of Hebrew.

Why Satan Hates the Jews: The Spiritual Roots of Anti-Semitism, booklet by Jonathan Bernis

Anti-Semitism is known as "the oldest hatred." We hear the tasteless, whispered jokes based on cultural clichés and stereotypes. We see it in the news to increasing degrees. The question is, "Why is anti-Semitism still with us?" In this powerful booklet, Rabbi Jonathan Bernis answers this question and explains the biblical history of when anti-Semitism began and why there is still such hatred toward the Jewish people today.



2034

For your gift of \$65 or more:

"Miracle of Israel" DVD

"The Miracle of Israel: How the Miraculous Story of Israel's Restoration May Hold the Key to Our Future" tells the story of the only nation in the history of the world that has maintained a national identity for centuries without a homeland. The documentary explores four ancient prophecies in light of modern events and highlights four miracles that are distinct threads of the fabric of the Jewish people's survival and restoration.

ALSO INCLUDES

Confessing the Hebrew Scriptures: El Shaddai, God Almighty
Why Satan Hates the Jews: The Spiritual Roots of Anti-Semitism



2035

For your gift of \$250 or more:

Oryx Shofar

Through the ages, the shofar has been used to call Jewish People to prayer, to announce holidays, in processions, as a musical accompaniment, and even to signify the start of a war. We have obtained a very limited number of shofars made from the horn of the oryx, a large antelope from Africa. This shofar is a wonderful keepsake and a reminder of your sacrificial support to bless Israel and Jewish people around the world. These shofars are natural animal horns and therefore are one-of-a-kind with natural variations in color, texture, and/or finish, but all are beautiful and have been tested to be functional before shipping. Size ranges between 22–26 inches in length.

Shofar Stand

This beautifully crafted wooden stand will display your shofar as a special keepsake and conversation piece. Made in the USA out of pine wood.

ALSO INCLUDES

"Miracle of Israel" DVD
Confessing the Hebrew Scriptures: El Shaddai, God Almighty
Why Satan Hates the Jews: The Spiritual Roots of Anti-Semitism



2036

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT.

THE LIE OF THE BDS MOVEMENT



BY JACK ZIMMERMAN

ANOTHER DAY DAWNS HERE IN ISRAEL AS I SIT ON MY HOTEL BALCONY OVERLOOKING THE HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM.

We've just completed our annual Jewish Voice Israel Tour, and nearly 200 people joined with us to discover this land for themselves; many for the very first time.

They also discovered something else: While the news media leads us to believe Israel is dangerous, while on tour, you realize it is actually a land of peace. Only when people come here do they see the truth.

The same can be said for those who support "BDS," or the "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions" movement. This movement calls for withdrawing support for Israel and for companies doing business in Israel and the West Bank. Further, they demand that the wall between Israel and the Palestinian territories be dismantled to allow Palestinians free access to the border of Israel.

BDS calls for such actions because its supporters claim that Israel is occupying Palestinian land, discriminating against Arab citizens of Israel, and denying Palestinian refugees the right of return to their homes.

I wonder how many of these BDS folks have ever been to Israel to witness whether what they're saying is true. Because, if they actually looked into their claims, they'd likely be shocked, if not ashamed. I'd like to take a few moments to address their accusations.

The claim: "Israel is occupying Palestinian land, and this violates international law."

The truth: According to international law, the only binding agreement regarding the land was, and remains, the 1922 Mandate for Palestine. This affirms the Jewish people's connection to Palestine (Israel) for

their national home.

More importantly, according to the Bible, Israel should be more than 10 times as large as it is right now (Numbers 34, for example). In other words, 90 percent of what rightfully belongs to Israel is being occupied by some of the very nations that accuse her of occupying *their* land.

The claim: "Israel discriminates against Palestinians and Arab citizens of Israel."

The truth: Funny, that's not what the Arab citizens of Israel say. They will gladly tell you that they – just like Jewish Israelis – have their own political parties and serve in the Knesset and the Supreme Court. A recent Harvard study showed that more than 80 percent of Palestinian citizens would rather live in Israel than in their own historical Arab countries of origin, where they *would* be discriminated against.

The claim: "Israel is denying Palestinian refugees the right of return to their homes."

The truth: What right of return? The story goes that during Israel's 1948 War of Independence, thousands of Arab residents of Israel were forced out, becoming refugees, and it's now time to right the wrongs of 70 years ago. It's now time to quote the words of former Syrian Prime Minister Khalid al-Azm who wrote in his memoirs (published posthumously in 1973) that the refugee problem was caused by, "the call by the Arab governments to the inhabitants of Palestine to evacuate it (Palestine) and leave for the bordering Arab countries... **We** [emphasis mine] brought disaster upon a million Arab refugees by inviting them and bringing pressure on them to leave."¹

Arab sources admit that they, themselves, are to blame for this problem. Yet BDS conveniently blames it on Israel.

If BDS is so intent on supporting the Palestinian cause, one must wonder why they'd boycott companies like Sodastream, which had a plant in the area. Perhaps BDS didn't realize that many of the company's employees were Palestinians? As a result of the boycott, Sodastream had no choice but to lay off



Activists hold a banner reading "Boycott Israel" during a protest in Oslo, Norway.



Anti-Israel protest in Washington, D.C., Photo credit: Shutterstock.com

90 PERCENT OF WHAT RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO ISRAEL IS BEING OCCUPIED BY SOME OF THE VERY NATIONS THAT ACCUSE HER OF OCCUPYING *THEIR* LAND.

500 Palestinian workers. Was this a victory for BDS?

And, finally, the wall. Both BDS and the international community seem to be preoccupied with taking down the wall under the guise of allowing Palestinians to cross the border freely.

What few people seem to realize is that every day Israel allows more than 50,000 Palestinians to enter Israel in order to work. No one's keeping peaceful Palestinians out. The wall is there so the terrorists won't get in.

And, to quote Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, "Ay, there's the rub!"

Maybe that's been the intent all along: To convince Israel to take down the wall – not to permit peaceful Palestinians to pass (they are already coming in legally anyway), but to allow terrorists access to destroy Israel once and for all.

Perhaps that is the real key to what the BDS movement is really all about. 🇲

¹ Memoirs of Khalid al-Azm 1973. Retrieved from <http://cojs.org/1973-palestinian-refugees/>

Jack Zimmerman

Jewish Voice Ministries Staff Evangelist, Jack Zimmerman, is a former stand-up comedian and has an engaging wit and dynamic speaking style. A Messianic Jewish Rabbi, Jack has a deep understanding of the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith that makes him a valued and respected teacher of the Scriptures. He is also an award-winning reporter, radio and television host, and has taught Bible classes throughout the United States and at theological universities in Russia and the Ukraine.

A RISING TIDE of ANTI-SEMITISM

Source: Anthony Crider; 9 April 2018
(UTC) — Charlottesville "Unite the Right"
Rally_wikimedia.org

BY DAVID BRICKNER



The spiritual roots of anti-Semitism

A reporter for *The Forward*, a well-known Jewish newspaper based in New York City, once asked me what Jews for Jesus does as an organization to combat anti-Semitism.

Among other things, I explained our commitment to inform Christian friends about this scourge wherever it raises its ugly head. After all, evangelical Christians remain Israel's best friends in the world. Christians, more than any other people on the planet, should understand the dark spiritual nature of anti-Semitism and be prepared to fight against it.

All the way back to the time when God called Abram out of Ur of the Chaldees, anti-Semitism has been a manifestation of the cosmic conflict between God and Satan. You see, God chose Abraham (the new name he gave to Abram) and his descendants to be His chosen people and a blessing to the entire world. He promised, "I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3 NKJV).

From that time until today, Satan has been trying to make God out to be a liar. He knows that if he can destroy the Jewish people, he can prove that God cannot or will not keep His promises to Abraham, thus undermining God's credibility.

So, if you can view history through this particular lens, it isn't hard to see the spiritual battle raging all around us. The Hamans, Herods, Hitlers, Husseins and Hezbollah's of history have all been satanically inspired in this fight against God's chosen people. But God has given Christians the opportunity to fight on the winning side by standing with the Jewish people

and withstanding the schemes of the devil.

Identifying the threat today

Many Christians remain unaware of the rising tide of anti-Semitism, even though it is happening all around us. There are essentially two prominent forms of anti-Semitism today: political and religious. Political anti-Semitism comes both from the left and the right.

Like the Nazi party in Germany in the 1930s and '40s, right-wing ultra-nationalism has reared its ugly head here in America. It has resurrected the ancient canards regarding nefarious Jewish influence in places of power and secret Jewish plans for world domination, made popular by *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, an anti-Semitic pamphlet published in Russia at the end of the 19th century.

Do you remember the horrifying march in Charlottesville, Virginia, in the summer of 2017? Under the rallying cry of "Unite the Right," marchers chanted, "The Jews will not defeat us!"

This political anti-Semitism remains deeply embedded on the far right in America and rears its ugly head on a regular basis. Acts of anti-Semitism were up 57 percent in 2017 from the previous year, according to *The New York Times* (March 17, 2018).

From the left, Anti-Semitism today takes the form of anti-Israel activity most commonly expressed in the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement (BDS), an effort to force companies, unions and even Christian denominations to oppose Israel economically.

If it seems like these developments are not relevant

to us in America, consider this: A study recently released by Brandeis University documented growing anti-Semitism and anti-Israel sentiment on U.S. university campuses. BDS support is especially active today on college campuses among both students and faculty.

This comes as no surprise to those of us who are Jewish; we all know students who have encountered anti-Israel and anti-Jewish remarks or graffiti ... even on some of our favorite Christian campuses.

Some of the most appalling anti-Semitic attitudes and actions have originated at the United Nations. Joining the long list of examples, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recently ratified a shocking resolution to deny Jewish ties to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem by a shameful 10–2 vote (eight nations abstained). With calculated and clearly political intent, the resolution ignores the undeniable Jewish and Christian connections to the Temple Mount. Referring to the location by its Arabic name, *Haram al-Sharif*, the resolution accuses Israel of endangering this holiest of sites and calls Israel to cease celebrating its Jewish heritage in Jerusalem. The U.S. has officially withdrawn from UNESCO because of this and other anti-Israel bias.

Religious anti-Semitism is being expressed primarily through radical Islam and is well documented, especially in Europe. In countries such as France, Belgium and Germany, it is widely considered unsafe these days for Jewish men to walk around wearing *kippas* or skull caps. Physical assaults against individual Jews on the streets of Paris have become so common they are no longer reported in many newspapers unless the victims die. Our own Jews for Jesus branch office has been ordered by the police to increase security, resulting in cement barriers being installed to prevent possible car bomb attacks by Muslim extremists.

Perhaps the saddest form of religious anti-Semitism is that practiced by Christians. It is subtle, taking the position that Christians should not share the Gospel with Jewish people. Instead, it holds, Jews should be left alone.

The Bible tells us that the Gospel is "to the Jew first." Yet these people say the Gospel is not for the Jew at all! This would seem to mean that either the Gospel is not good enough for the Jew, or the Jew is not good enough for the Gospel.

Last year, in anticipation of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's Reformation, the German Lutheran Church published a resolution that promotes a spiritual form of anti-Semitism: Denying the Church's right, much less responsibility, to share Jesus with the very people through whom and to whom He first came. It's critical for Christians who care about Jewish people to understand this issue.

Call for Christians to stand with the Jewish people

I believe all Christians need to grasp the importance of what's happening, respect God's favor on the Jewish people, and take action.

It is my duty to call on all brothers and sisters in Christ to stand with the Jewish people for their very right to exist, to pray urgently for their safety and salvation, and to persistently seek to ensure they hear the life-saving Gospel, remembering that salvation for Gentiles is through a "grafting" into the "holy root" of Israel (Romans 11:17).

While these developments are not unexpected in light of Scripture, it's still shocking to watch them unfold. What a tragedy it would be if, in the name of political correctness and maybe even fear, Christians keep silent when Jewish people are threatened. What a shame it would be to see more and more Christians avoid sharing the Jewish Messiah with His very own people.

All Christians should heed the words of Mordechai to Esther: "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14 NKJV).

God is working His plan *right now*. That means there is even greater urgency to be a part of that plan by standing in opposition to anti-Semitism and carrying His Word to Jewish people who are willing to consider that Jesus just may be their Messiah. 🇺🇸

David Brickner

David Brickner is Executive Director of Jews for Jesus, a missions organization on the forefront of Jewish evangelism that reaches Jewish people for their Messiah in 14 countries and 26 cities. David oversees the worldwide ministry from its headquarters in San Francisco. He has authored several books and has been interviewed on national television shows such as *Larry King Live*.

COULD YOUR OLD OIL WELL OR FARM LAND REALLY GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT?

... AND SHARE THE GOOD NEWS IN ISRAEL OR ZIMBABWE WHILE NETTING YOU TAX SAVINGS?

BY JVMI STAFF WRITER

We've all heard about donating cars to a favorite charity, as well as the reports that it can supposedly be more beneficial than selling the automobile and making a cash donation.

But could that really be true? And do worthwhile ministries like Jewish Voice welcome such gifts? Or are they complex and less desirable?

Non-cash donations are actually very welcome at Jewish Voice, explains wealth management expert Bill Zalewski, and they can be quite easy. But even more advantageous to both JVMI and our valued partners are donations called "appreciated non-cash assets."

Zalewski, a Managing Director at Merrill Lynch and also a friend of Jewish Voice Ministries International, supports JVMI's purpose of transforming lives and seeing all Israel saved. Bill focuses his practice on designing tailored donation strategies for philanthropic families. He recently explained just what "appreciated non-cash assets" can be. So we asked a few questions to help share his expertise with our partners.

JVMI: First, what got you interested in Jewish Voice, Bill, and how are you invested today?

Bill Zalewski: What got me interested was learning about the work Jewish Voice is doing in proclaiming the Gospel, growing the Messianic Jewish Community, and engaging the Church concerning Israel and the Jewish people.

I'm involved in two ways: One is through my private foundation, and the other is helping clients make a larger impact with their own gifts to support the essential JVMI Medical Outreaches and spread the Good News that Yeshua is the long-awaited Jewish Messiah.

JVMI: As a wealth manager, would you advise your clients to give cash or non-cash assets, and why?

BZ: Every client's situation is different. But in general, if a client is considering a gift, the most impactful benefit would be to use appreciated non-cash assets.

Let me explain: If you give a non-cash asset, such as a stock or mutual fund, a business interest, real estate, or oil and gas interests that had a cost or purchase price of \$1, and today it's worth \$10, you are able to avoid the taxes you would otherwise have had to pay on that \$9 gain. The organization is able

to avoid taxes on the full \$10 gift as well. In this case, you would maximize your gift by avoiding possible tax liability.

Of course, it's always important to verify with your own CPA what's most appropriate for your situation.

JVMI: Then why don't more partners help their favorite ministries through non-cash gifts?

BZ: They would if they truly understood the opportunity! In our country, 62 percent of net worth is in the form of non-cash assets, yet less than 2 percent of gifts received by non-profit organizations are these types of assets.

Partners often just don't know this is a possibility or how significant the advantages can be. Yet they are commonly the largest and best types of gifts to give. For instance, if you have a small investment in a successful business, you're able to give away shares at a much-appreciated value and get a significant deduction.

JVMI: How can our partners work with their financial advisors to get the most out of their charitable giving?

BZ: I suggest they approach it through these three steps:

- Working with your advisor, clarify and prioritize your goals. Start by securing an income stream in retirement that you can't outlive, then make sure you understand the distribution strategy and are comfortable that it's secure.
- Work with your advisor to articulate and structure when and how to leave money for your children and/or others in your family.
- Discuss what impact you hope to make on organizations you are passionate about.

This is how I work with my clients who want to make a difference for Jewish Voice. I'd be happy to help any JVMI partners who are interested in learning how they can strategically maximize their giving in order to make a greater impact through this great organization.

Bill Zalewski

Bill Zalewski, Managing Director at Merrill Lynch, is a Wealth Management Advisor with special designations of Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) and Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP®). For more information about making a difference with your non-cash gifts, please contact your personal Jewish Voice Representative or call us at 1-855-550-1455.

Call 1-855-550-1455
or visit jewishvoice.org/apf
to learn more and to get started now.

Note: Abraham Promise Fund is only available in the U.S.

Reflections on the Jewish Feasts

Through the Feasts, God established "appointed times" for Jewish people to mark a variety of remembrances, offerings and celebrations. The Jewish Feasts provide us opportunities to enrich our faith by entering into God's presence to connect with Him around a theme of His choosing. Gentile Believers in Yeshua have much to gain by understanding the Jewish Feasts as well. *Appointments with God: Reflections of the Jewish Feasts* includes teachings about each Feast, as well as daily devotions for Passover, Sukkot and Chanukah. It presents many Scripture readings, insightful questions and designated spaces to record your thoughts. This book will guide you to find deeper meaning each year in these appointments with God.



Receive the *Appointments with God: Reflections on the Jewish Feasts* book as our thanks for your **gift of \$15 or more** to the ongoing international outreach of Jewish Voice Ministries.

JUST USE THE ENCLOSED REPLY FORM
TO REQUEST YOUR COPY TODAY.

THE MODERN FACE OF ANTI-SEMITISM



BY JASON SOBEL

As the Spanish philosopher George Santayana so eloquently said, “Those who don’t learn from the

past are doomed to repeat it.” It’s been approximately 73 years since the Holocaust, and it seems like the world is forgetting the history and lessons of that horrible genocide against the Jewish people. Anti-Semitism has been rising at an alarming rate: anti-Semitic occurrences in the U.S. rose 57 percent in 2017, according to the most recent annual report of the Anti-Defamation League.

While the rise of overt anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. and Europe is very concerning, the new face of anti-Semitism is more subtle, and I believe even more insidious. This new swell in anti-Semitism is no longer just coming from extreme right-wing, Neo-Nazi groups, but from left-wing intellectuals, artists and political figures, as well.

Anti-Israel and the New Anti-Semitism

Being anti-Israel, also known as anti-Zionist, has become popular on college campuses among students and left-leaning academics. Large-scale organized protests against the State of Israel, such as Israel Apartheid Week, are common on college campuses from coast to coast. This movement has garnered much support and can be found in more than 55 cities around the world.

This increase in anti-Israel activities is directly connected to the rise in anti-Semitism since these groups and activities delegitimize and demonize the Jewish State of Israel. This delegitimization is

accomplished through claiming that Israel is an illegal entity with no right to exist.

This rise in anti-Israel sentiment and activities almost always tends to demonize the Jewish State and her citizens. Popular slogans include “Zionism = racism,” “Zionism = ISIS,” and “Israel = apartheid state.” At the root of this demonization is the imputing of evil motives to Israel.

For example, the Israeli military is not defending its national security, they say, but murdering innocent women and children. Some take it a step further and say that Israel is actively pursuing a campaign of ethnic cleansing. These claims are utterly false and ridiculous, but when something is repeated enough, uninformed people begin to believe it.

Being critical of Israel is not in and of itself a form of anti-Semitism. At times, Israel does do things that are wrong, and fair comment and criticism are reasonable. Being critical of Israel crosses the line and becomes anti-Semitic when the Jewish State is portrayed to be, by its very nature, a racist, colonialist, apartheid entity that discriminates against Palestinians by denying their basic human rights. This type of rhetoric is not mere criticism but forms a caricature of Israel that is unfair, harmful and is, in essence, anti-Semitic.

BDS & Anti-Semitism

The BDS movement is a global campaign that calls for numerous types of boycotts against Israel. It isn’t new. In a 2009 interview with *Forward Magazine*, Omar Barghouti, co-founder of BDS, describes the movement as follows: “BDS is a comprehensive boycott of Israel, including all its products, academic and cultural institutions.” The inspiration behind the BDS movement is the global sanctions that helped to end apartheid in South Africa.



March 2017, Anti-Israel Protest, Washington, D.C. | by tedeytan

The BDS movement presents itself as a social justice movement seeking to end injustice and ensure equality for Palestinians. Wanting equality for Palestinians is admirable, but a little digging makes it clear that this movement also wants the eradication of Israel as a Jewish State:

“Justice and freedom for the Palestinians are incompatible with the existence of the State of Israel.” – As’ad AbuKhalil, BDS activist, 2012

BDS’ continued delegitimizing of Israel’s right to exist as a Jewish State, its constant demonization of Israel, and its singling out Israel for human rights violations while ignoring the serious violations in places like Syria, even when perpetrated against other Palestinians, demonstrate that BDS is anti-Semitic in its essence. This new form of anti-Semitism doesn’t seek the genocide of the Jewish people, but rather, the destruction of Israel as a Jewish State. It’s important to remember that Hitler’s final solution did not begin with murdering Jews but with calling for boycotts against Jewish businesses, which led to their isolation. By denying Israel’s legitimacy, those seeking to implement BDS are guilty of perpetrating harm against the well-being of the Jewish people.

Holocaust Denial, Anti-Semitism, & the Anti-Israel Connection

Anti-Semitic and anti-Israel views are usually inextricably bound to Holocaust denial. The reason is twofold. First, the Holocaust made overt anti-Semitism politically incorrect and unacceptable after World War II in mainstream America. In addition, support for a Jewish homeland within the United Nations was in large part due to sympathies that

resulted from that genocide of 6 million Jews. So it should be no surprise that the new anti-Semitism, under the guise of being anti-Israel, also promotes various forms of Holocaust denial.

Israel supporters protest in Geneva, June 2015 Source Global Vision



There is no better example of the connection between Holocaust denial and anti-Israel propaganda than in the book written by Mahmoud Abbas, the current Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority, titled *The Other Side: The Secret Relationship between Nazism and Zionism*. In his book, Abbas asserts that the Nazi genocide against the Jews was a Zionist myth, which he calls a “fantastic lie” used by Jews “in order to gain the solidarity of international public opinion with Zionism.” Like most Holocaust deniers, Abbas does not deny the Holocaust altogether but greatly minimizes its scope by fixing “the number of Jewish victims at only a few hundred thousand.”

The anti-Israel BDS movement often uses this same argument to delegitimize Israel and the right of a Jewish State to exist. But the new anti-Semitism within the anti-Israel movement takes this even one step further, calling Israeli Zionists modern-day Nazis who are perpetrating genocide against the Palestinians.

The new face of anti-Semitism, which denies the Holocaust, de-legitimizes, demonizes and holds Israel to a double standard as part of its anti-Israel agenda. Calls for boycotts and sanctions against the Jewish State must be vigorously opposed. Followers of the Jewish Messiah can’t stand by and remain silent in the face of such attacks against the biological relatives of Yeshua (Jesus)!

Lutheran Pastor Martin Niemöller, who was imprisoned by the Nazis, wrote a poem titled “First they came...” which was meant to speak to the cowardice and indifference of German intellectuals who did nothing. In the last section of his poem he writes,

“Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out – Because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me – and there was no one left to speak for me.”

May we take his words to heart, and may we not fail to act. 🇮🇱

Jason Sobel

Raised in a Jewish home in New Jersey, Jason Sobel encountered the Lord and found his true identity as a follower of Jesus (Yeshua). Jason works with many spiritual, entertainment and marketplace leaders. His unique message brings him around the world to speak at high-profile events, where he empowers a diverse audience to discover their potential and experience tangible blessings as they access their unique inheritance.



Hebrew School

WITH KEVIN GEOFFREY

In the beginning, Israel was welcomed into Egypt as a mere tribe of 70 souls, but within a generation, the people multiplied to such an extent that the king of Egypt grew concerned with their numbers and enslaved them. As the years passed, they were worked ruthlessly, their lives made bitter with hard labor, and their newborn sons decreed to be killed. This, the Scriptures say, was because the Egyptians were “in dread” or “loathing” of the people of Israel (Exodus 1:12).

Though ADONAI eventually delivered them and birthed Israel into a full-fledged, theocratic nation, this life of slavery and oppression would be the baseline to which all of Israel’s future blessing or punishment would be compared. Israel’s experience in Egypt also establishes an important Scriptural pattern: Israel’s condition is defined and affected by its relationship with other nations. While Egypt’s feeling toward Israel is described only as “dread” or “loathing,” it is hatred (שנאה, *saneh*) of Israel – or, anti-Semitism – that describes the sentiment of all of Israel’s future enemies.

Leviticus 26:14-17 (NASB) says:

*“But if you [Israel] do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments, if, instead, you... break My covenant, I, in turn, will do this to you: ...I will set My face against you so that you will be struck down before your enemies; and those who hate you (שנאה, *saneh*) will rule over you, and you will flee when no one is pursuing you”* (emphasis added).

The good news, however, is that according to Deuteronomy 30:1-10, ADONAI promises that when the Jewish people wholeheartedly return to God, all oppression and persecution against Israel will stop,

and the curses against her will instead be turned on her haters!

While this theme is repeated many times throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, an interesting portion of the book of Revelation may help put things into perspective. In Revelation 12, the dragon is “the ancient serpent,” in fact, “Satan,” who is angrily pursuing Israel (the woman with a crown of twelve stars), and warring against the children of Israel who are “guarding the commands of God, and having the testimony of Yeshua” – in other words, Messianic Jews, or Israel’s faithful remnant.

What, then, can we take away from all this? First, while it appears that anti-Semitism is part of the curse against Israel for her national unfaithfulness toward God, her deliverance from anti-Semitism will come to pass when the Jewish people return to God. And second, though an attempt to thwart this return will be (or is already being) actively conducted by Satan himself, the key to this return – as well as the end to anti-Semitism – requires the salvation of the Jewish people through faith in the Messiah Yeshua. **The root of anti-Semitism is hate; the cure for anti-Semitism is Yeshua!** Indeed, it was prophesied of our Master:

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people, And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of David His servant – As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old – Salvation from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us” (Luke 1:68-71, quoting Psalm 106:10, NASB).

Kevin Geoffrey

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