

06 Nissan Jewish Year 5765

God's chosen people

Issue 5

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The story goes back to Abraham who was called out of Assyria (modern day Iraq) through whom the Hebrews were brought forth.

God chose a people for himself to reveal his message to the world and these people were the Jewish people who he called out to be a light unto the nations.

Jewish peoples' turbulent history began in Egypt where Pharaoh kept them as slaves and inflicted cruel punishment upon them to build his cities.

They moaned and groaned for God to help them, God heard their cry and after 400yrs as prophesied God sent Moses to rescue his chosen nation.

Most people have heard the story of Pharaoh not allowing the Jews to leave and in turn God sent ten plagues on Egypt to show Pharaoh that he is no match for the God of Israel. Thus, though Pharaoh lets the Hebrews go but then later he pursues them intending to kill them. Pharaoh has not learnt his lesson that this is the living God not his idol of stone, that cannot do anything. Once again God demonstrates his might by wiping out Pharaoh's army in the sea while the Hebrews cross over the sea that parted by God's authority through Moses.

This was the start of the arduous journey of these people who had seen God's mighty acts and witnessed what God can do against those that come up to destroy his people, chosen to be a light unto the world to reveal his truths.

Most Gentile Christians forget that the first disciples were Jewish.

The Church history does not fare much better and even the church has blood on it's hands with 2000 years of anti-Semitism, let's examine this a little.

Ignatius of Antioch, in the same period, was clear in indicating the uselessness of all Jewish things

Justin Martyr in his dialogue with Trypho the Jew expressed his dismay of the Jewish people and could not understand why the early Jewish believers in Yeshua wanted to keep their culture and customs even though they were saved.

Bishop Ambrose in the 4th century, went so far as to suggest that burning a synagogue was no sin because of the Jewish rejection of Yeshua; therefore this could not be a crime if committed against the Jewish people.

The only problem is he forgot to read the Bible



carefully which states that not only Yeshua was a Jew but he was in the express image of God who loved his people and came for them to establish the new covenant but that their rejection was to bring the Gentile world into the kingdom of God. The Bible also states that all Israel would be saved in the future when God opens their eyes and they recognise their Messiah Yeshua, this does not mean that they cannot accept Yeshua today but corporately as a nation they are partially, spiritually blind. In the end time judgment Yeshua admonishes the whole world, separated the nations into goats (unbelievers) and sheep (believers) they will be judged for how they have treated his brethren (the Jews) (Matt 25:31-41)

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep

For thus said the LORD of hosts (after his glory sent me) regarding the nations that plundered you: "Truly, one who touches Israel touches the apple of my eye." Zec 2:8

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry. Isa 5:7



The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee. Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry. Jer 31:3-4

They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Jer 31:9

from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: Matt 25:31-41

John Chrysostom wrote the eight sermons against the Jews which were full of hatred.

Augustine fared no better and he did his bit to fuel the fire of anti-Semitic hatred.

Pope Sixtus IV (1471-84) issued a papal decree allowing for the creation of the Spanish Inquisitions.

In 1492, the same year that Columbus discovered the New World for Spain, Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand expelled from their country all Jews who refused to convert to Catholicism.

Pogroms in Russia!

Hitler slaughtered the Jews during the holocaust with the backing of the Roman Catholic church.

In all fairness, I must mention that there were individual Christians who stood with Jewish people to help them e.g the Ten Boom family in Holland. In their close walk with Yeshua, they gained a deep love for Jewish people, in many cases sacrificing their lives for their Jewish friends.

England—Blood libel (Hugh of Lincoln) in 1255, King Edward expelled the Jews 1290.

However Cromwell, a devout Christian, allowed them back in 1655 three centuries later.

One has to seriously ask the question 'Are these people really Christian who hate the Jews?'

Did Yeshua the Messiah teach these things to his followers?

The answer is right there in the text of the gospels for all to see that he did not order any such activity against the people he came to redeem:

Matthew 9:33 And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the **multitudes** marvelled, saying, **It was never so seen in Israel.**

In Matthew 9:33 Yeshua cast out a demon possessed individual who was dumb and he was healed instantly, this one was a special miracle of incredible messianic significance and we can all see the multitude followed him; who are these multitude?

This multitude are no other but the poor Jewish people hungry and thirsty for

God's words and Yeshua healed many and did a great deal of good to the people who followed him and such miracles had not been seen in Israel before. He was healing not only the Jews but also the gentiles and he had such love and compassion for the people in Israel as we are told in Matt 9:36 *But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.*

Yeshua was also authenticating his messiahship of which Isaiah spoke:

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. Isa 35:5-6

However Yeshua was very critical of the Pharisees and Sadducees because they had made Judaism into a business and did not care much for what God had required of them but got bogged down into the traditions of their elders.

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. Matt 15:8

So we can see that Yeshua loved the Jews and gentiles but never once said to his followers to kill the Jews or hate them for any reason, in fact he tells his followers to love their enemies and pray for their enemies.

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; Matt 5:44

The irony is that the Jews were

not the enemy but the Romans were!

Clearly the example that Yeshua set was one of love and going the extra mile not one of hate and yet we see many individuals throughout the Church history did the complete opposite.

The bible tells us:

Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: Joel 2:17-19

The priests and ministers above are no than the true believers of Messiah Yeshua pleading for the Jewish people.

God dealt with the nations who persecuted his people.

Spain—no longer rules the seas.

Russia—broken and divided.

Germany—Has no real powerbase today.

England—no longer rules the world as before.

Muslim Nations—Though rich but are powerless and impotent in world affairs.

Further Muslims did not think much about this and they also followed the example of their prophet Muhammad who drove the Jews from the Arabian peninsula yet they also claim to believe in Jesus as Messiah but certainly one has to question which Messiah? The Jewish Messiah who loves and cares for his people or the Qur'anic Messiah who is so far disconnected from his people.

The Muslim nations today are hell bent on destroying the Jewish nation and driving Israel out to the sea and take over their God given land.

How many people today are praying for the Jewish people as in the above scripture for their salvation and safe keeping?

How many people today are actively helping Israel against her struggle to survive?

Clearly this is the precedence which sets us apart.

Who are the true believers and who are the false?

No right minded Christian today can hate the Jews and claim to follow Yeshua, the two are incompatible and irreconcilable. If the Christians today are misled as in the past and taught false doctrines by their church leaders then they need to take heed and make themselves right with God because Yeshua is coming back soon to judge the nations. There is no excuse not to know the Bible and it's teaching about the Jewish people and the importance of the land of Israel.

Simon

Purim

In Persia several hundred years before the Christian era when Haman a Persian Jew hater plotted to destroy the Jews during the reign of King Ahasuerus. (Xerxes)

Haman, a court favourite of King Ahasuerus, was jealous of Mordecai, a Jew, and presented a reasonable case against the Jews to the king. The kingdom of Persia had been kind to the Jews, and after the Babylonian captivity of seventy years allowed them to return to Israel to build the Jerusalem temple. After this event Haman attested to the King Should not the Jews show their gratitude to the king by accepting their religion of Zoroastrianism i.e fire worship? Haman's petition to King Ahasuerus against the Jews was presented in quite clear words and seemed reasonable though had ulterior motives.

And Haman said unto King Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them. If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed. (Esther 3:8-9)

Haman made a fatal error of judgment forgetting what had happened with Pharaoh King of Egypt when God delivered Israel for which the Jewish people celebrate Passover festival today. He forgot that the God of Israel is real and a personal God who led Israel by his own hands and will not allow Haman's plan to fruition, the God of Israel YHWH had said to Abraham I will bless those who bless my people and curse those who curse my people. (Gen 12:3) and promised Abraham that his seed i.e Isaac and Jacob (the Jewish nation) through whom Yeshua was going to be born would be a blessing to all the nations and the whole earth would be blessed through them i.e the salvation that would come through his blood sacrifice on the cross and the gift of eternal life to all.

This is why the Jews celebrate Purim today remembering the deliverance that came through Mordecai and Queen Esther of Persia. Mordecai was able to inspire his people to repent in sackcloth, in fasting and prayer and the God of Israel heard their cry and the decree got turned down and Haman was put to death and the Jews haters silenced.

Haman's folly is evident in that he had just invoked the curse in genesis upon himself and that curse is not a minor curse but a

curse which means infliction of punishment leading to pain, suffering, humiliation, and even death for those who go against the God of Israel. Let all those nations today that seek to destroy the Jews and are Jew haters be warned e.g Europe, Russia, Asia, middle-east that God is no respecter of people and he will not allow you to carry out your vile plans and your end will be destruction. That you heap upon yourself which you will invoke by that very curse Haman invoked upon himself or you can go the other route and bless Israel and be blessed and flourish. Choose wisely because God says:

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: Deut 30:19

Messiah Yeshua became the greater Mordecai who came to die for his people on the cross to save them and us from our sins for which our punishment would be eternal hell. But the God of Israel loves us all though he chose a nation (the Jewish people) to deliver his message, the Bible. He is the God of all flesh and chose to reveal his mercy through Yeshua of Nazareth, who died on the cross two thousand years ago and rose after three days, and this Yeshua proclaimed to be God's Word born in flesh i.e God in flesh. After fulfilling his mission on Earth, to die for the sin of Many he returned unto his father

in heaven. I attest there is one God revealed in three persons of the triune Godhead, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This is the same God that saved me five and a half years ago when I was yet a Muslim and would have faced eternal condemnation for following Muhammad's false god Allah who can neither hear nor speak. Praise my saviour Yeshua that today I have an eternal hope to be in the presence of our wonderful God YHWH.

We can have eternal life by Yeshua's work on the cross through blood atonement or we can try and reach God by our own efforts and fail and end up in eternal condemnation because the Bible says the only way to heaven is through Yeshua of Nazareth.

Yeshua saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6

You might ask how do we know the blessings are true, If we look at the nations who persecuted the Jews in the past they have been reduced to nothing, today one nation stands out, the nation of USA. This is one of few nations in the world who not only helped the Jews and gave them shelter in the past but stands by the Jews and God took this two hundred year old nation and made it into a superpower and that is the evidence that God's blessings are very real and the curses are real also.

Simon

Passover

A lot of Christians will be celebrating Easter in April 9th-11th this year namely good Friday and Easter Sunday while the Jewish people will be celebrating Pesach (Passover) 6 April to 13th.

Our story begins in Egypt while the Jews were slaves of Pharaoh and they cried out to the God of their forefathers to come save them from this heavy bondage.

The God of Israel heard their cry and sent Moses to rescue them and Moses was given power from above to unleash the mighty works of the one living God. Egypt had experienced nine plagues yet Pharaoh still thought he could win against this mighty God.

The ten plagues are listed below:-

Blood

Frogs

Vermin

Beasts

Cattle Disease

Boils

Hail

Locusts

Darkness

Slaying of First Born

Pharaoh was so hard hearted that he did not want to let the Hebrews go so this was the time for the tenth plague in Egypt and God told Moses which is recorded in Hebrew Bible;

Then Moses said, "Thus says the LORD: 'About midnight I will go out

into the midst of Egypt; and all

Passover Continued

the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the first-born of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the first-born of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals. Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again.

But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel. (Exodus 11:4-7)

God told Moses he was going to kill the firstborn of every living creature this included humans and animals alike there was to be absolutely no distinction, the Pharaoh of Egypt thought he was the greatest and most powerful king and did not consider that his authority could be challenged but little did he realize that he was to be humiliated and humbled because he was not speaking to an idol but the real living God who will show him his mighty works.

We also see this today in the world rulers who rule recklessly and subdue their people e.g Saddam Hussein who murdered and ruled his people but was finally caught hiding in a hole in the ground brought low by the hand of God.

God spoke to Moses:

And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying,

This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.

Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for a house:

And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover.

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man

and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.

(Exodus 1:12)

God commanded the Jews to sacrifice a lamb and take the blood and put the blood on their doorposts almost forming a cross and roast the lamb and eat it in a hurry, with bitter herbs and wearing their shoes so they remember their affliction and how bitter the stay was in Egypt.

This was in fact the Passover i.e death that was going to come to every household would simply Passover after seeing the blood on the doorposts of these houses as God did distinguish between the ones who had the blood and those that did not.

Even if someone who was a thief that night had believed God's word would be protected from death had he put blood on the doorposts of his house.

The Passover is significant of us passing from death to life.

This clearly shows that all world religions promoting good works to reach heaven are in vain because personal works cannot make you right with God. This is why Yeshua tells us we must believe in his work, his personal sacrifice, his atonement by his blood, in order to be justified and observe his commandments, this is the only way for us to go to heaven. *Yeshua saith unto him, I am **the way, the truth, and***



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My mission is to proclaim the truth of the Scriptures, because it is a commandment of our Lord Yeshua HaMashiach.

Mat 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Our Lord also said

John 14:15 If ye love me, obey my commandments.

Simon (an ex-Muslim convert disciple of Yeshua and faithful to his words).

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the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6

Now Yeshua is this Passover lamb for us today for those that believe in his blood sacrifice, we are protected by his covering and as long as we are under Yeshua, death cannot touch us we cannot spiritually die and we have a sure hope of eternal redemption but in order to become a member of Yeshua's body we have to repent of our sins and accept Yeshua as Lord of our life who is the God of Israel revealed in his person. *For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: I Cor 5:7b.*

Yeshua was numbered among the transgressors (Isaiah 53:12) and the Romans sentenced Him to death. They consigned His body to a common grave, an unmarked hole in the ground. But God had prepared Joseph of Arimathaea, a member of the council, or Sanhedrin, to intervene and ensure that Jesus would be buried in a cave Joseph owned. We know from NT writings that he also became a disciple of Yeshua.

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: (Matt 27:57).

The New Covenant scriptures uphold by showing that Yeshua's death was at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of Nisan 14 which is a Wednesday.

Passover in both A.D. 30 and 31 fell on a Wednesday.

Assuming Messiah died on Wednesday at the "ninth hour" that is 3 p.m. our time.

The three days and three nights scenario means Jesus rose first day of the week early Sunday remembering Sunday started in Jewish calendar from Saturday 6pm. The body was put in the tomb early hours of Thursday i.e ceremonial preparation in that day would have lasted about twelve hours.

This clears the error of Roman Catholicism of good Friday which is not even close to being accurate.

The term 'Easter' is the Spring Equinox of the Pagan celebrations of the goddess Ishtar. Eostre and Eastre are all version of this goddess.

This really is a Paganised version of events and is not what the Bible teaches us to observe so all believers should be aware that Easter eggs and bunnies which are completely unbiblical.

Thus saith the Lord, learn not the ways of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. (Jeremiah 10:2)

Simon

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Psalm 122:6