

Israel – Past, Present, Future
“The bush burned with fire, and...was not consumed” Exodus 3:2

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CONTENTS

1.	<i>Introduction.....</i>	1
2.	<i>Israel - the Beginning.....</i>	3
3.	<i>Israel – the Signs.....</i>	4
4.	<i>Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion.....</i>	6
5.	<i>Israel – the ‘Re-interpretations’.....</i>	9
6.	<i>Israel – the Restoration.....</i>	14
7.	<i>Israel – “Troublous Times”.....</i>	18
8.	<i>Israel – the Future in Prophecy.....</i>	22
9.	<i>Postscript.....</i>	41
10.	<i>References.....</i>	42
11.	<i>Appendix 1 - Myths and Facts about Israel.....</i>	44
12.	<i>Appendix 2 – ‘Khazars,’ ‘Conspiracy,’ Holocaust - 2010 Notes.....</i>	47

Introduction

*Author's Note: This work was first compiled in 2002. Some new material has been added in **Appendix 2**.*

Israel is a small nation. She occupies a mere 33,000 square miles, approximately one third the size of Great Britain. The nation of Israel contains less than six million inhabitants. Yet she is almost never out of the mainstream news. A word search on 'Israel' on the BBC site alone (in September 2002) yields over 9,000 'hits', whereas a search for 'Iraq', arguably one of the most important nations in the Middle East for Britain, yields less than 7,000. Searches for Israel's other nearest neighbours yield approximately 3,000 for 'Egypt', 6,000 for 'Iran', 2,000 for 'Jordan', 2,000 for 'Kuwait', 2,000 for 'Libya', 3,000 for 'Saudi Arabia', 2,000 for 'Syria' and 5,000 for Turkey. It is noteworthy that with the exception of Jordan and Libya, all these nations are more heavily populated than Israel, some of them several-fold. Yet given that the additional word 'Palestinians' yields almost 8,000 'hits', Israel and her Palestinian problem individually far outstrip any of her neighbours with respect to western (or at least British) interest.

Moreover, of all the ancient pre-Christian nations, Israel is the only one that has not only survived but also retained much of her original identity, with respect to her present location, language, law, culture and religion – in spite of repeated attempts to annihilate her. The Old Testament records how Pharaoh, Sennacherib, Nebuchadnezzar and Haman the Agagite tried and failed to destroy Israel. Emperor Titus of Rome sacked and burned Jerusalem in 70 AD and the Jews were dispersed across Europe. However, they were not destroyed nor did they lose their national identity, even though Catholic kings, popes and crusaders persecuted them throughout the Middle Ages, in England, Spain, France and Germany^{1, p59ff, 2, p 12ff, 3, p 106ff, 4, p 43ff, 5, p 333ff}. Persecution continued under the Czars of Russia up to the time of the Revolution and was of course brought to a head – a 'Totenkopf' or 'Death's Head' – in the extermination camps of the Second World War under the Roman Catholic Adolph Hitler. (Catholic enmity towards Israel stems from the Lateran Council of 1215 AD, which condemned all 'heretics' - Jews and other non-Catholics – to death^{6, p 23ff}. However, Satan has a particular loathing for Israel because **"of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen"** Romans 9:5b. Roman Catholics almost certainly composed the notorious *Protocols of Zion* in the late 19th or early 20th century, documents that purportedly reveal a Jewish plot for world domination^{2, p3, 3, 208, 263ff, 459ff, 5 p 335} and which Hitler used to justify the holocaust, in reality a modern Inquisition.)

After centuries of exile, in spite of all their ordeals, Jews began to return to the land of Israel in the 19th century^{3, p 213}. They returned in increasing numbers after World War 1 and after the UN recognition of the State of Israel on November 29th 1947^{2, p 2, 3, p 348ff}. Nevertheless, in keeping with past history, opposition to the nation of Israel is unrelenting:

*"The division of the former British mandate of Palestine and the creation of the state of Israel in the years after the end of World War II have been at the heart of Middle Eastern conflicts for the past half century. The struggle between Jewish and Arab interests over the area has origins stretching back hundreds of years, with religious tensions centring on the city of Jerusalem - sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims alike. Israel claims Jerusalem as its capital, but this is not recognised by the Palestinians **or the United Nations**"⁷ (emphasis added). Guided by the Vatican, the UN still favours internationalisation of Jerusalem^{3, p 361}.*

"We will declare OUR STATE...with Jerusalem as its capitol; yes Jerusalem, the eternal capitol of OUR State whether [the Jews] like it or not! Now we are on OUR holy land, and we are regaining this HOLY land inch by inch"^{3, p 419} Yasser Arafat, May 1999 (emphasis in original).

Even though the UN had voted for the recognition of Israel, thanks largely to President Truman of the USA, it did nothing to prevent Arab aggression against Israel up to and after the formal establishment of the Jewish national state on May 15th 1948. *The UN acted only when the Jews came close to capturing Jerusalem.* Then, still guided by the Vatican, the UN set up the 'West Bank', which is intended to be the establishment of a 'Palestinian State' – see Arafat's comments above - and has since become a training ground for Arab terrorists^{3, p 353ff, 360ff}.

Yet Israel survives. She is **"the bush burned with fire, and...was not consumed"** Exodus 3:2 and her survival is an incredible account of God's merciful preservation, as is very evident from the accounts of her deliverance as far back as the Exodus. *Her survival down through history since then has rested entirely on God's mercy because He has chosen Israel to be a national witness to His own excellence of character.*

"For thou art a holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath

which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.” Deuteronomy 7:6-8.

Israel’s continuing survival and her future survival likewise depend on God’s mercy. The aim of this work is to show how God’s mercy toward His chosen people unfolds and is fulfilled.

2

Israel - the Beginning

The nation of Israel began with the promise of God to Abraham (Abram), **“Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”** Genesis 12:1-3. This land was at the time called **“the land of Canaan”** Genesis 12:5. It would later become known as The Promised Land, based on Exodus 12:25, **“And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service”**.

These few sentences reveal not only Israel's destiny but explain why she survives and why nations rise or fall depending on their stance toward Israel. As recorded at the time of the conquest of Canaan, **“the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel”** Joshua 10:42. He still does.

After bestowing the initial promise, God later confirmed the full extent of the land grant to Abraham, for the nation of Israel. **“In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates”** Genesis 15:18. This passage explains the purpose of one of David's military campaigns 1,000 years later. **“David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates”** 2 Samuel 8:3. The land grant to Abraham is still in force. Larkin's map ^{1, p 66} shows that it is far larger than the present boundaries of Israel.

The opinion of the UN, the Vatican and the Palestinian Authority may differ but the difference is inconsequential according to **“the scripture of truth”** Daniel 10:21b, for which **“the nations are but a drop of a bucket”** Isaiah 40:15.

In case there be any uncertainty on this matter, concerning descendants of Ishmael and Esau, consider the following:

“Behold, I have set the land before you: go in and possess the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give unto them and to their seed after them” Deuteronomy 1:18.

“And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildedst not” Deuteronomy 6:10.

“Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD swore unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” Deuteronomy 9:5.

One may wonder, from whence does the nation of Israel derive her name? Her name comes from God's encounter with Abraham's grandson, Jacob, by the brook Peniel. **“And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed”** Genesis 32:28. Often referred to in the Old Testament as **“the children of Israel”**, Exodus 19:1, the nation of Israel in God's sight consists of the lineal descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob or **“the house of Jacob”**, Exodus 19:3. They were meant to be a holy people and as go-betweens between God and the surrounding nations. **“And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel”** Exodus 19:6.

Israel – the Signs

Israel's first national leader was Moses, whom God chose to lead His people out of Egypt and to whom He gave miraculous signs, especially healing, as proof of God's calling to him. ***“And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign”*** Exodus 4:7, 8. The national life of Israel thus begins with miraculous signs. In this respect, the Jewish nation is unique, which fact explains the distinction Paul draws in 1 Corinthians 1:22 between Jew and Gentile and why Jesus' ministry to Israel was replete with signs, especially healing, Matthew 12:15. ***“For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom”***.

Following the Exodus, the Lord said to Moses concerning the children of Israel ***“I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him”*** Deuteronomy 18:18. God was speaking of Israel's Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, as confirmed by the Apostle Peter. ***“And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you”*** Acts 3:20-22.

Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, was one of the first to recognise the fulfilment of God's promise to Moses in the impending birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, or ***“the dayspring from on high”***. ***“That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life...Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace”*** Luke 1:74, 75, 78, 79.

The coming of Israel's Messiah, or deliverer was promised in Daniel 9:25, over 500 years before the birth of Christ. ***“Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times”***. Daniel 9 is a pivotal prophetic passage in scripture, setting out the highlights of Israel's destiny in 70 weeks of years, or 490 years. The time of the Lord's first coming can be deduced very accurately from this passage ^{1, p 70-71}.

When Jesus came, He manifested the signs to Israel, to show that He was ***“that prophet”*** John 1:21, like unto Moses and as proof that He was the Messiah, as Peter also testified. ***“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know”*** Acts 2:22.

Tragically, the Jews rejected their Messiah as the four Gospels describe. (The Lord castigated the Jews in Matthew 12 because they persisted in seeking for a sign – after He had given them an abundance of signs, Matthew 12:15.) Daniel had prophesied the Lord's rejection and foretold what Israel would suffer in consequence, at the hands of a false Messiah, who would first befriend her then turn on her. He is ***“the prince that shall come”***.

“And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined” Daniel 9:26.

Thus 69 of the 70 weeks were fulfilled with the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. Daniel's 70th week is yet future ^{1, p 133}. It will be the most important – and cataclysmic - period in human history, for both Israel and the Gentile nations. The events of this seven year period are foretold in the second half of Daniel 9:26 – see above – and in Daniel 9:27, which opens with the false Messiah's betrayal of Israel: ***“And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate”***.

Historically, ***“the prince that shall come”*** was Emperor Titus – see above. Prophetically, he is the satanic world ruler who arises in ***“the last time”*** 1 John 2:18, called ***“antichrist”***^{ibid.}, ***“that man of sin...the son of perdition”*** 2 Thessalonians 2:3 and ***“the beast”*** Revelation 13:2. Foreshadowed by Titus, ***“the beast”*** is clearly a Roman emperor and in ***“the last time”*** (very close to the present day!) must therefore be the Pope of Rome ⁸. The scripture is in full harmony with this conclusion from history, especially Revelation 17 and 18, which describe the rise and fall of the Roman Catholic church, designated ***“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”*** Revelation 17:5. Revelation 17:1-5 unambiguously identifies the papal church, astride and upheld by ***“the beast”***, who is

Satan, Revelation 12, closely associated with the first beast of Revelation 13, whom Revelation 18 reveals will be the *last* pope⁸. His emergence and demise will take place in the next few years. (Note that **“antichrist”** was to be preceded by **“antichrists”**, who were present even in the 1st century, 1 John 2:18. This explains why the King James translators⁹ and many godly Reformers^{10, Introduction} readily identified the popes of their day as *“that man of sin”*.)

The rise of **“the beast”** is of great and perilous significance for the nation of Israel. Revelation 13 shows that **“the beast”** has a seat, a name, a number and a mark. There is no mistaking his identity or his *modus operandi* – as Jesus Himself warned the Jews **“I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive”** John 5:43. This other, this **“prince that shall come”** of Daniel 9 is Satan incarnate. Possessed of apparently Divine ‘charisma’, he appeals to all the people of the world, including the Jews *because he has the signs*:

“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders”² Thessalonians 2:9.

“And they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” Revelation 13:4, 8. (Only true believers resist **“the beast”**. Revelation 14:12 defines them as **“the saints...they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus”**)

Because he has the signs, all but a remnant of the Jews world-wide, as well as in Israel, receive him as their Messiah and make a covenant with him in order to enjoy his protection, because she will still be menaced by Islam. *“In July 1957, the Conference of Arab Refugees declared what Moslem leaders had repeatedly stated “Any discussion aimed at the solution of the Palestinian problem which does not ensure the rights to annihilate Israel is an act of treason”*^{3, p 364}. This resolution prevails to the present day – see Arafat’s declaration above.

Moreover, Israel will have no support from the UN – see above. Given her precarious position, it is therefore entirely plausible that she would enter into a covenant with **“the beast”**, the universally accepted ruler of the ‘New World Order’ but it is a **“covenant with death”**. It appears that Israel’s own national leaders at the time are aware of and party to the betrayal of their own people, *just like Britain’s leaders, with respect to the EU and the Catholic killers of Irish Republicanism!*

“Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves” Isaiah 28:14, 15.

Before addressing the consequences of Israel’s action, which are part of her future in prophecy, one must note that disobedience to God has dogged the nation of Israel throughout her long history and resulted in the rejection of Jesus her true Messiah, as explained above.

Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion

The downside of Israel's survival despite persecution by successive world empires was that she brought this persecution on herself by disobeying the Lord's commandments. Her apostasy had begun even before she entered the Promised Land but it intensified soon after the conquest of Canaan.

“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim: And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies” Judges 2:11-14.

Despite the Divine blessing bestowed on her during the reigns of David and Solomon, Israel's disobedience to God continued for 800 years until the deportation to Babylon in the 6th century BC under King Nebuchadnezzar, designated Nebuchadrezzar in the Bible.

“Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place: But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought upon them the king of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion upon young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age: he gave them all into his hand. And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon; where they were servants to him and his sons until the reign of the kingdom of Persia: To fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths: for as long as she lay desolate she kept sabbath, to fulfil threescore and ten years” 2 Chronicles 36:14-17, 20-21.

After 70 years in Babylon - foretold in Daniel 9:2 - the nation of Israel was restored to the Promised Land under the leadership of Ezra ***“a ready scribe”*** Ezra 7:6 and Nehemiah ***“the king's cupbearer”*** for Artaxerxes, king of Persia, Nehemiah 1:11. The temple and the city of Jerusalem were rebuilt and restored, as Daniel also prophesied but the people continued to sin against the Lord – by the re-establishment of a 'multi-cultural' society, in which ***“the abominations of the heathen”*** were 'tolerated' once again.

“Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites. For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass. And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonished” Ezra 9:1-3.

“In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: And their children spoke half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves” Nehemiah 12:23-25.

In spite of stringent reforms under Ezra and Nehemiah, the nation never regained the former glory it had enjoyed during the reigns of David and Solomon. By the time of Christ, it was under Roman domination – as even the Jews acknowledged when they delivered Him up to be crucified. ***“And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away”*** John 19:14-16.

Unknowingly, the Jews had signed their own death warrant by their professed allegiance to Caesar. They compounded it further in their response to Pilate's attempt to absolve himself individually of the responsibility for the Lord's crucifixion. Pilate, as governor and a shrewd judge of character, believed that the Lord was an innocent man.

“Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified. When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it. Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children” Matthew 27:22-25.

Yet even from the cross, the Lord interceded for His murderers. ***“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots”*** Luke 23:34. The Father answered the Lord’s prayer – the answer was in fact part of an ancient prophecy by Jeremiah.

“Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the LORD, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks” Jeremiah 16:16.

This prophecy was fulfilled not only in the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who designated His followers ***“fishers of men”*** Matthew 4:19 but even after the crucifixion, by the Apostle Paul, who sought earnestly to evangelise his fellow Jews. ***“I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen”*** Romans 9:1-5.

Note once again Paul’s statement concerning ***“my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites...as concerning the flesh Christ came”***. See *Introduction*. It explains the Devil’s peculiarly intense hatred for Israel and his determination down through the centuries to destroy them. The Devil also hates the Jews ***“because that unto them were committed the oracles of God”*** Romans 3:2. They gave us the scriptures, which the Devil hates, having never recovered from the thrashing with the ***“sword of the Spirit”*** Ephesians 6:17 that he received from the Lord Jesus Christ, Whom he had the temerity to tempt in the wilderness, Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13. The highest and indeed perfect form of ***“the oracles of God”*** is of course the Authorised King James Holy Bible of 1611.

See below for evidence of the Devil’s wrath and comments in the *Appendix*.

Tragically, in addition to rejecting their Messiah, most of the Jews rejected the Christian Gospel, as the closing verses of New Testament history show. ***“For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them”*** Acts 28:27. His intercession on the cross notwithstanding, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself prophesied the nation’s downfall that would result from their rejection of Him and His words of truth. ***“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord”*** Matthew 23:37-39. So far they have not, as a nation.

The Jews’ declaration ***“His blood be on us, and on our children”*** Matthew 27:25 came to pass with the destruction of Jerusalem in April 70 AD by the Romans under Titus and the slaughter of over 1,000,000 Jews, after which the surviving Jews were scattered across the Roman Empire. After Titus, Emperor Hadrian continued the Dispersion so that by the end of the second century AD there were few Jews left in the land of Israel ^{1, p 61} – subsequently called ***“Palestine”*** Joel 3:4 after ***“Palestina”*** the land of the Philistines, Exodus 15:14. (One should note in passing that throughout history there has never existed a ‘state’ of ‘Palestine’, peopled by indigenous ‘Palestinians’ ^{3, p 232}. Present day ‘Palestinians’ are immigrant Arabs, see below. Of any aspiration to Palestinian statehood, the following declaration still applies, according to the faithfulness of God. ***“But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king? Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem”*** Nehemiah 2:19, 20.)

Many of the Jews were forced to flee to the farthest reaches of Europe, from Spain to Poland ^{3, p 151}.

Thus after the fishers came the hunters ^{3, p 124ff, 5, p 333ff}. Canute banished the Jews from England in 1020 AD. They were banished from France in 1306 AD and suffered under the Spanish Inquisition. God’s mercy preserved them but their embittered satanic foe constantly hounded them. In the 14th century, the Black Plague killed a quarter of the population of Europe. Jewish communities largely avoided the disease by following the Levitical laws of hygiene but in Germany a fanatical sect called the Flagellants blamed the Jews for the plague and set about exterminating them ^{ibid., 2, p 12-13}. Though they were gradually allowed to

return to much of Europe from the 18th century onwards, persecution of the Jews was revived and reached its peak under the 'Jaegarmen' or hunters of Germany who established the extermination camps of the Third Reich. They of course were Hitler, Goebbels, Goering and their fellow Catholics; Eichmann, Heydrich, Himmler, Hoess (Auschwitz), Koch (Buchenwald), Stangl (Treblinka), Streicher and many others ^{11, p 71, 12 p 664, 663, 13, p 235ff, 14, p 42}.

Yet God has never forgotten His people, in spite of all their sin against Him. Their destiny, together with their survival is written indelibly in scripture.

“And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee...If any of thine be driven out unto the outermost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers” Deuteronomy 30:1, 4. The ***“call...to mind”*** was made public in 1860, when an Israelite conference in Paris urged the re-establishment of animal sacrifices in Jerusalem. This was a giant step in the right direction ^{3, p 244}.

“And it shall be the prince's part to give burnt offerings, and meat offerings, and drink offerings, in the feasts, and in the new moons, and in the sabbaths, in all solemnities of the house of Israel: he shall prepare the sin offering, and the meat offering, and the burnt offering, and the peace offerings, to make reconciliation for the house of Israel” Ezekiel 45:17.

This will be discussed later. Other scriptures in support of the permanence of Israel *in her own land* include:

“If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning” Psalm 137:5.

“Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD” Jeremiah 31:35-37.

“Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers...Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them. Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them” Jeremiah 33:20-21, 24-26.

In sum, God promised to restore His people to their land no matter how far and wide they have been scattered but before considering the implications of these passages further, it is necessary to address some of the alternative 'interpretations' that have been applied to Israel.

Israel – the ‘Re-interpretations’

Having failed from earliest times to destroy Israel^{2, p 20}, Satan has made repeated efforts to obscure the nation’s identity and thereby to discredit Biblical testimony to God’s faithfulness to Israel. The Devil has often used the Roman Catholic Church for this purpose. One its most prominent founders (and most effective satanic tool) was the North African theologian Aurelius Augustine, 354-430 AD, Bishop of Hippo and ‘Doctor of the Church’^{14, p 104, 15}. During the years 413-426 AD, he produced a book called *The City of God*, in which he misappropriated the material promises given to the nation of Israel, e.g. with respect to Israel’s possession of the land and applied them to the Catholic Church. (He thus penned a diabolical rationale for the bloody and futile Crusades of later centuries^{5, p 44}.) His approach to the scriptures was based on the allegorical method of interpretation, invented by the ‘Christian’ Gnostic philosopher Adamantius Origen of Alexandria, 185-254 AD and later adopted by John Calvin and other Reformers. Contrary to scripture, Calvin and his followers taught that God had cast off the Jews and Israel, so that all the Old Testament promises to Israel were to be spiritualised and applied to the Christian Church^{2, p 2-3, 5, p 44, 16, p 7}. (Calvin’s interpretation differed from Augustine’s only in that Calvin’s focus was not on the land itself. Significantly, Augustine’s teachings re-emerge in the UN policy towards Jerusalem – see **Introduction**.)

The Rev. Daniel Whitby developed a similar set of teachings in England in the 17th century, in which he claimed that Israel represented the Church of Jesus Christ. According to Whitby, literal blessings that God had promised for the land of Israel at the Second Advent, e.g. **“rivers in the desert”** Isaiah 43:20, really meant the enjoyment of salvation through hearing and believing the Christian Gospel^{1, p 4-5}. Whitby’s teachings received further encouragement in the 18th century through the results of the Great Awakening, brought about by the preaching of the great evangelists of the time, Wesley, Whitefield and others. So many souls were getting saved through their ministries that the beginning of the Lord’s thousand-year reign, prophesied in Revelation 20:4, was incorrectly assumed to be imminent.

Whitby’s influence is widespread even today. It may be found amongst the chapter headings inserted by the publishers of the Authorised Version, for Isaiah 43, which read *“God comforteth the church..., The church comforted”*. Yet the Text of Isaiah 43 has nothing to do with the church, it is about the re-gathering of the Jews to the land of Israel, verse 6, the restoration of the land itself, verses 19, 20 and the cleansing of Israel from sin at the Second Advent, verse 25. The Chapter refers three times to **“Jacob”** verses 1, 22, 28 but this name is *never* applied to the Church in the New Testament – and is wholly inappropriate.

However, similar false teachings persist among contemporary reformed and evangelical groups. One evangelical publication^{17, p 6} speaks for many of these groups with the following statement. *“Like other aspects of Israel’s covenant life, the land was a picture of gospel realities to come, not an ongoing entity to be somehow reclaimed in the future by an earthly people in 1948. The concept of “Israel” is fulfilled both in Christ and in the new people of God, the body of Christ”*. However, the author Jon Zens does not address Romans 9-11 in his article. Paul’s letter to the Romans is rightly described as the pivotal book of the New Testament for the true Church but in these chapters, Paul is describing the permanence of Israel as a nation. He is not speaking of Christians but of **“my kinsmen according to the flesh”**. See Romans 9:1-3 above.

When God first gave the future land of Israel to Abraham, He simply said **“Unto thy seed will I give this land”** Genesis 12:6. There were no conditions attached. Moreover, the land grant to Abraham was both a covenant and a promise. See Genesis 15:18 and Exodus 12:25. Even though Israel’s sin would cause them to be displaced from the land, the expulsion would not be permanent. See above, **Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion**. Paul affirms that Israel will eventually occupy all the land that God assigned to her, **“For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance”** Romans 11:29.

Further on in his article, Mr. Zens repeats a falsehood that is common amongst opponents of the nation of Israel. *“As the British withdrew in 1948, armed gangs of Zionists forced thousands of Arabs to leave their homes”*^{17, p 8}. The truth is that immediately after Israel became an independent nation in May 1948, 5 Islamic nations attacked her. They were Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and Jordan. Iran and Libya supported them. Among the first targets was a bus carrying unarmed civilians. There had been repeated acts of Arab sabotage and terror long before then and they have continued since. Between 1949-1954, Israel reported over 1600 treaty violations by Jordanian terrorists^{3, p 352ff, 18, p 3355} but the terrorists were not all external to Israel. In 1948, there were about 800,000 Palestinian Arabs on what was then Israeli territory^{19, p 120}. Arab *agent provocateurs* had long existed amongst them, like Haj al Amin Hussein, the Arab Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, who instigated attacks on Jewish civilians from 1920 onwards, including Muslim riots in the old city of Jerusalem, in which hundreds of Jews were murdered^{3, p 283, 299ff}. For example, in August 1929, a mob of 20,000 Muslims murdered over 200 Jews, screaming **“Death to the Jews! There is no God but Allah!”** The British authorities stood by and let it happen. Hussein said to the Muslims in Hebron **“We are**

proud of our great victory and of the murder of the Jews we have killed. We are proud of the great booty we have taken. We will do our best to assure you that the [British] government will not oppose you."^{3, p 278}.

Nevertheless, in spite of these repeated provocations, Israel did not try to force the Arab citizens out. *In 1948 they were ordered to leave by the invading Arabs, under pain of execution as traitors and collaborators.* About 600,000 did so. (In Haifa, the Jewish authorities there urged them not to.) However, by 1974, there were an estimated 2,000,000 Arab 'refugees'^{ibid., 3, p 357} in Israel and the number is increasing. Anywhere from 60-80% are 'new, imported' refugees, who support the Palestinian Authority, an amalgam of 6 Muslim terrorist groups, with thousands of members in total, who are also among the 'refugees'^{3, p 360, 422,}

430

Apologists for the Palestinian uprising like to emphasise Jewish atrocities against Arabs, like the massacre at Deir Yassin on April 8th 1948 by the I. Z.L., Irgun Zvai Leumi or Jewish National Military Organisation. However, Lambert^{19, p 119} states "*The Israeli Government of Ben Gurion publicly deplored the incident [and]...while in no way wishing to excuse this act...it was more than matched by Arab atrocities upon Jewish communities*". In 1947, as Israel's time of self-determination drew near, the Muslims stepped up the persecution. By May 1947, in Jerusalem alone "*the Moslems had killed scores of Jewish civilians [and] raped Jewish women...the fleeing British threatened military intervention in the war on the Arab side when the Jews attempted to drive the Egyptians out of Palestine*"^{3, p 356}. Moreover, 800,000 Jews were forcibly expelled from Arab lands between 1948-1951. Israel absorbed these refugees and did not try to force Arabs to leave Israel^{19, p 122}. Lambert affirms that the threat of execution at the hands of the invading Muslim armies was "*the overwhelming reason*" for the mass exodus of their co-religionists from Israel in 1948.

Arab aggression against Israel continued. "*Between June 1949 and October 1954, Israel reported 1612 violations of Moslem treaties dealing with the borders of the Jordanian terrorists after King Abdullah was assassinated. The UN did...nothing*"^{3, p 363}. (King Abdullah of Jordan had tried to make a genuine peace with Israel. His own people assassinated him in 1951^{3, p 361-362}.)

Persistent Arab terrorist attacks led to the Israeli counter-offensive of 1956^{3, p 384ff}. In 1967, 700,000 Jews faced 10,000,000 Muslims, with Radio Baghdad "*screaming daily "Kill the Jews! Kill the Jews! Kill the Jews!"*"^{3, p 396}.

The nations ranged against Israel during the Yom Kippur War were Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Yemen, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Jordan. Egypt alone attacked with 3,000 tanks, 2,000 heavy guns, 1,000 aircraft and 600,000 men^{19, p 15}.

Israel fought alone – and won.

The rest of the world spurned even Israel's humanitarian efforts, at least as recently as 1975, after long years of Arab hostility to Israel. "*Israel appears to have suffered ostracism from the International Red Cross, for this body recognises the Red Crescent of the Arabs and the Red Lion and Sun of the Iranians and at the same time refuses recognition to the Red Shield of David*"^{19, p 17}. Lambert also states that Israel's contribution to the alleviation of the Palestinians' deplorable living conditions is higher than that of any of her Arab neighbours, who seem unconcerned for the plight of their fellow Muslims^{3, p 121}.

With cruel irony, the Arab nations in the region appear intent of making the Palestinian problem worse. Having uprooted their fellow Arabs in 1948, they have forced them to return in much greater numbers as a cloak for terrorist incursions. "*The fake "Palestinian" refugees - now numbering 4,000,000 (who entered Palestine after 1967) have summer camps to train eight to fourteen year olds how to use bombs, grenades, automatic rifles and rocks to maim and kill Jews*"^{20, p 7}. These camps have clearly been set up for offensive, not defensive, operations. In other words, the Palestinian "*refugee*" camps are no more for "*refugees*" than the camps set up in the Republic of Ireland to train the IRA - see *The Informer* by Sean O'Callaghan.

Jewish Israel is therefore facing another genocide. Arafat's aim for Israel, like Hitler's was for Europe, is a state that is 'Judenrien' – 'Jew-free'^{3, p 281}. (This is not surprising because Hussein, the Arab Grand Mufti of Jerusalem allied himself with Hitler in World War 2, recruited saboteurs and spies to aid the Germans in North Africa and helped raise two divisions of Kosovo Moslems for the German SS^{3, p 320}. He was outspokenly zealous for the murder of Jews^{3, p 278} just as Arafat is today, although the British media does not report his comments in this respect. See **Introduction**. Hussein stepped up his murder and mutilation campaign in 1935, after Hitler came to power. His terrorist group, the Fawzi El Kawji from Syria, targeted unarmed Jewish civilians and even Muslims reluctant to join in the slaughter, of whom the Fawzi murdered approximately 2,000. Hitler and Mussolini supported Hussein financially^{3, p 305}.)

Tragically, thanks to false teachers like Jon Zens, the Body of Christ is largely unaware of these sinister developments.

Another re-interpretation of Israel is that of British-Israelism. This movement began in the 19th century with Richard Brothers, who believed that the English speaking peoples were the true Israel "*and...consequently the true heirs of all God's promises to the Jewish nation*"^{21, p 3}. Britain was of course the leading world power during the 19th century because she had a King James Bible-believing Queen on the throne who

declared *“that Book accounts for the supremacy of England”*^{22, p 18}. Having observed God’s blessing in this respect, Brothers jumped to the wrong conclusion. Like Daniel Whitby before him, he failed to heed Paul’s admonition to Timothy. **“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”** 2 Timothy 2:15. Careful study of Genesis 9:22-28 would have shown Brothers the separate destinies of the races that sprang from Noah’s sons, amongst whom God divided the world after the flood. Dr. Halley ^{ibid., p 74} states of this passage *“Descendants of Ham to be servant races; Shemites to preserve knowledge of the true God; Japhetic races to have largest portion of world, and to supplant Semitic races as teachers of God. It was fulfilled when Israelites took Canaan, Greeks took Sidon, and Rome conquered Carthage; and ever since Japhetic races have dominated the world, and have been converted to the God of Shem, while Semitic races have occupied a place of comparative insignificance and Hamitic races a place of servitude. An amazing forecast!”*.

After the decline of the British Empire, the British-Israel movement resurfaced in the United States under the leadership of the late Herbert W. Armstrong, who propagated his beliefs through his magazine *The Plain Truth*^{21, p 4}. However, the movement also survives in Britain as the British Israel World Federation²³. Its major belief is that *“the Lost Ten Tribes of the Northern House of Israel’s descendants are to be found in the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic and kindred peoples of today. As the Federation believes in the whole Bible it therefore believes the Covenants made between God and Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) are everlasting and the British nation plays an important part of God’s plan”*^{ibid.}. This belief system has been developed from a detailed comparison between ancient Israel and Great Britain, consisting of 72 *“Marks of Israel”*^{23, 24, p 17}, supported by numerous scriptures.

A similar work by Hilliard^{25, p 48ff}, attempts to draw a distinction between the words ‘Israel’ and ‘Jew’ in order to ‘prove’ Israelitish ancestry for the Anglo-Saxon peoples but these terms are used interchangeably in the New Testament^{21, p 9}. See Acts 2:5, 14, 22, 36; 26:7. (Hilliard’s work also takes up the British-Israelite theme^{25, p 42ff} that the seven-fold punishment of Leviticus 26:18 is actually a punishment of seven times 360 prophetic years, or 2520 years. Larkin^{1, p 71} decisively refutes this interpretation. However, this theme is germane to the notion that the **“company of nations”** of Genesis 35:11 is the British Commonwealth^{25, p 35} to which Hilliard applies the term **“the commonwealth of Israel”** from Ephesians 2:12^{24, Chapter 9}. Yet inspection of the context reveals that members of this **“commonwealth”** are circumcised Jews! Obviously, the practice of circumcision has no long-standing tradition amongst the Anglo-Saxon peoples, who must therefore have an essentially different lineage. Hilliard’s rationale for his use of the term stems from his account of the escape of a Jewish princess Tamar Tephi to Ireland at the time of the fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BC and her subsequent marriage into the Irish Royal Household^{25, p 104}. He maintains that the present Queen is descended from this household, which itself is alleged to have been established by members of the tribe of Judah who had emigrated from the land of Israel much earlier, even before the captivity of the ten northern tribes^{ibid.}. However, the ancient Irish Royal Household dates from long before the division of the nation of Israel into 12 tribes. See below. It should be noted, nevertheless, that Hilliard’s work is overall a very readable summary of Britain’s history from a Christian standpoint and provides a most vivid portrayal of God’s blessing to her while she remained faithful to Him and the Holy Bible.)

Moreover, the British-Israel based works either exclude or fail to appreciate the full significance of salient passages that explicitly identify Israel’s ancestry and declare her permanence such as Genesis 9:22-28; 15:18, Jeremiah 31:35-37; 33:20-21, 24-26 and Romans 9:1-3, 11:29. Solomon had observed long ago that **“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”** Proverbs 14:34, showing that Britain’s greatness came from being right with God and His Book, the Authorised King James Bible, not from an Israelitish ancestry. Queen Victoria understood this and so, it appears, did the writer of the following, with respect to the burgeoning superpower, America. (The quote has been wrongly attributed to French writer, Alexis de Tocqueville. It encapsulates a great deal of truth, however.)

“I sought for the key to the greatness and genius of America in her harbors...in her fertile fields and boundless forests; in her rich mines and vast world commerce; in her public school system and institutions of learning. I sought for it in her democratic Congress and in her matchless Constitution. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great”^{26, Introduction}.

Clarence Larkin^{1, p 64} is emphatic. *“Much has been written to try to prove that the “Anglo Saxons”, the English speaking race, are the descendants of the lost Ten Tribes. But they cannot be, for it is said of Israel, that **“they shall dwell alone, and not be reckoned among the nations”** Numbers 23:9, but the Anglo- Saxons are numbered among the nations. Israel is to remain many days without a King, a Prince or a Temple (Hosea 3:4), but the Anglo-Saxons have kings, presidents and princes, and centres of religious worship. Once more, the penalty of “Uncircumcision” is “Excision”, (Genesis 17:10-14), the “Anglo-Saxons” are “Uncircumcised” and therefore not entitled to Jewish privileges”*.

But from whence did come the British and other European nations – and by implication, the United States? Using the *History of the Kings of Britain* from the 12th century, by Geoffrey of Monmouth and *The History of*

the Britons from the 8th century, by Nennius, Bill Cooper^{27, p 69ff} traces the early British, Anglo-Saxon, Irish, Danish and Norwegian kings back to **“Japheth the elder”** Genesis 10:21. Japheth, the eldest son of Noah was known to the heathen Saxons as Sceaƿ^{ibid., p 97} and is listed in the genealogies as such. The peoples over whom these kings ruled were of the same race as they were. Significantly, **“Japheth”** means both **“God shall enlarge”** Genesis 9:27 and **“fair”**²⁸.

A further indication of the distinction between Britain and Israel is found in Daniel 7:1-4. Dr. Ruckman states that the standard interpretation of Daniel 7:4 is that the winged lion is Babylon, as found in Daniel 2:37^{5, p 366ff} but he then shows that this interpretation cannot be correct. Daniel 7:17 reveals that the winged lion is the first of **“four kings which shall arise out of the earth”**, that is *after* Belshazzar who was already in power but who would be the last king of Babylon, Daniel 5:30. The prophecy would therefore be fulfilled in history with Media-Persia, Daniel 5:31, *not* Babylon. However, Daniel 7:2 refers to **“my vision by night”**, which prophetically corresponds to the Church Age, from Pentecost to the Second Advent^{5, p 367-368}, because the Lord’s return for His children is likened that of a **“thief in the night”**:

“For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night” 1 Thessalonians 5:2.

The scripture likens the Lord Jesus Christ and Christians to lights in a dark world, with the Christians awaiting the dawn and the scripture is itself **“a light that shineth in a dark place”** 2 Peter 1:19.

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” John 8:12.

“Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world” Philippians 2:14b, 15.

“Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness” 1 Thessalonians 5:5.

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts” 2 Peter 1:19.

Paul referred to the present time as **“night”** – already well advanced in Paul’s day - and Jesus likened His followers to night watchmen.

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light” Romans 13:12.

“Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning” Mark 13:35.

Prophetically therefore, the visions of Daniel 7 most likely refer to imperial powers of **“the last time”** 1 John 2:18, equivalent in scope and influence to ancient empires of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. The first of these would be Britain, *whose empire bore some vital equivalence to that of Media-Persia*. They were each the largest in extent in their own era, as a glance at any Biblical and contemporary atlases will show. *Moreover, they each allowed the Jews to return to their homeland*, Persia according to the decree of Cyrus and Britain according to the Balfour Declaration of 1918, *which was the decree of a king, George V of Great Britain*^{3, p 242-243, 5, p 370}. *They were the only world empires ever to do so.*

“Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up” 2 Chronicles 36:23.

Lord Balfour wrote to Lord Rothschild on November 2nd, 1917, according to this extract from the initial draft of the Declaration, : *“His Majesty views with favour the establishment in Palestine of the national homeland for the Jewish people, and will use [His Majesty’s government’s] best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object”*.

“Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?” Ecclesiastes 8:4.

In sum therefore, Britain is distinct from Israel because Britain has been the heart of a great world empire, whereas this distinction cannot in any be applied either to Israel or the Jewish people, as Larkin has shown – see citation above.

To ensure that there is no misunderstanding about the true identity of Israel, Cooper gives detailed listings of the genealogies of Noah’s sons in the appendices of his book, where he enlarges upon the Table of Nations, as found in Genesis 10. He makes it abundantly clear that Britain and Israel each have a distinctly different lineage, the latter being descended from Noah’s second son Shem, with no wholesale ‘crossover’ to Japheth’s line at any time down through the centuries. The history of the Jews in Europe after the

Dispersion shows that they largely retained their racial integrity – thanks in no small part to persecution by Catholics – see **Introduction** - who forced them to live in ghettos from as early as the 13th century^{3 p 174}.

The Catholic inquisitors of World War 2 certainly had no doubts about the racial background of those whom they were gassing and incinerating. Neither, it seems, did the victims and nor do Arafat's Muslim terrorists of the Palestinian Authority.

One recent and rather bizarre re-interpretation of Israel is that she is really **"Mystery Babylon"** of Revelation 17:5²⁹. Texe Marrs states that **"God's Word is clear: Mystery Babylon is that great city Jerusalem, whose final ruler shall rise from the bottomless pit. Both Matthew 23 and Revelation 18:24 agree, and no man can disannul the scriptures"**. Texe is referring to Matthew 23:35 **"That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zechariah son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar"** but he omits the context. The Lord is speaking of the shedding of **"righteous blood"** as recorded in the Hebrew Old Testament, which begins with Genesis and concludes with 2 Chronicles^{12, p 507}. Abel is slain in Genesis 4:8 and Zechariah in 2 Chronicles 24:20-22. Revelation 18:24 does refer to **"the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth"** but the culprit is **"that great city"** of Revelation 17:18 and 18:10, 16, 19 and 21, by whose sorceries **"were all nations deceived"** verse 23. The first mention of **"sorceries"** in scripture is in Isaiah 47:9 and 12, not with respect to Jerusalem but instead to ancient Babylon, which is associated both spiritually and prophetically with Mystery Babylon. Compare Isaiah 47:7-9 and Revelation 18:7, 8 and see, for example, *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop and *Babylon Mystery Religion* by Ralph Woodrow for a more detailed comparison. See also **Israel – the Signs** above. Moreover, ancient Babylon was a great city, Daniel 4:30 but this description is never applied to Jerusalem in scripture, in either Testament. Further, it is difficult to understand why sea faring men, Revelation 18:17, would lament the destruction of a land-locked city over 30 miles from the seacoast of Israel!

One reason for Texe Marr's interpretation is Revelation 11:8, where Jerusalem **"spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt"**. He cites with reproduced photographs articles from *The Jerusalem Report*, July 16, 2001 and *The International Jerusalem Post*, October 12, 2001, which describe annual 'Gay Pride' parades in Jerusalem, attended by up to 50,000 sodomites and their supporters. This evidence shows that Jerusalem is now a most *unholy* city, in a most lamentable spiritual condition and could *carnally* be described as **"Sodom and Egypt"**. However, she will not fully be *spiritually* **"Sodom and Egypt"** until ruled over by **"the son of perdition"** 2 Thessalonians 2:2-4, whom, alas, she is waiting to receive^{3, p 453-454, 5, 217-218}. In God's sight, she is still **"the holy city"** Revelation 11:2, whom the Gentiles will **"tread under foot forty and two months"** but whom the Lord will cleanse:

"When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning" Isaiah 4:4.

The most precious blood of all was shed in the vicinity of Jerusalem, that of the Lord Jesus Christ, 1 Peter 1:19 and there will be future bloodshed in Jerusalem, Revelation 11:8 but Isaiah's prophecy indicates that Jerusalem will be restored to become on earth **"the city of the great king"** Matthew 5:35, Ezekiel 48:35. From her will emanate the Law of the Lord. **"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem"** Isaiah 2:3. Not so Babylon:

"And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all" Revelation 18:21.

6

Israel – the Restoration

Returning to Israel's Dispersion amongst the nations – see above – God had promised that it would not be permanent.

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea” Isaiah 11:11.

The Jews have been re-gathered to Israel *twice* in history. The first re-gathering began in 536 BC, following the decree of Cyrus, King of Persia, 2 Chronicles 36:23 – see above – and Ezra 1:1-3, precisely 70 years after Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon had carried off the first contingent of Jewish captives. Cyrus' decree was itself a fulfilment of prophecy, Isaiah 44:28, 45:1, Daniel 9:2^{30, p 16}. This re-gathering continued well into the 5th century BC, under Ezra and Nehemiah^{ibid., p 185ff}.

However, the scripture also prophesied the *second* re-gathering, which would be **“from all the lands”** and would be a permanent re-settlement in the land of Israel. As indicated, the Romans under Titus and Hadrian had forced the Jews to flee to farthest reaches of the empire.

“Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;” Isaiah 43:5, 6.

“Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be said, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers” Jeremiah 16:14, 15.

“And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God” Amos 9:14, 15.

The Lord Himself has promised to return and re-establish temple worship in Jerusalem.

“After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things” Acts 15:16. This passage is a reference to Amos 9:11, 12 but its reiteration in Acts is highly significant because it indicates a future fulfilment. When James cited the passage, *the temple was still standing*, Acts 3:1, 5:42, 22:17, 24:12, 25:8 etc.

Ezekiel 40-48 describes in detail the ‘setting up’ of the temple in Jerusalem and the restoration of worship. Prior to that, Ezekiel 37, the famous ‘dry bones’ passage, describes the re-gathering of the Jews to Israel, a process which is not yet complete.

“Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel” Ezekiel 37:11, 12.

“And say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them forevermore” Ezekiel 37:21, 24, 26.

An intriguing feature of this passage is the re-appearance of David, who may well have responsibility for future Israel as the Lord's viceroy, having declared that **“my flesh shall rest in hope”** Acts 2:26. This is strictly a reference to the Lord Jesus but David is **“of them that sleep in the dust of the earth”** and **“shall awake...to everlasting life”** Daniel 12:2 so the verse could have application to David personally.

But of more immediate concern is the question from where will **“the whole house of Israel”** be re-gathered? The Dispersion of the Jews into the various parts of the Roman Empire by Titus and Hadrian accounted only for the descendants of those who returned with Ezra and Nehemiah. One has to consider

also the descendants of the so-called ten lost tribes taken captive by Assyria in 721 BC ^{1, p 60}, from whom movements such as British Israelism derive their teachings – see above.

Larkin ^{1, p 65} states that *“When God called Abraham from Ur of the Chaldeans it was from an idolatrous country, and he was called a Hebrew (one who has crossed over); and when Israel relapsed into idolatry God sent them back to the other side of the Euphrates. History says that the Ten Tribes were taken to Assyria, and prophecy says they are to be **brought out of Assyria** (Isa. 11:11, 16), the plain inference is **they are still there**. Josephus says they were there in A.D. 70; so does Jerome in his notes on Hosea, written in the fifth century. We have never heard of their leaving, and so they have been identified with certain peoples living in the fastnesses of the mountains of Kurdistan, by Lake Oroomiah in Persia. These people have many modified observances of the Mosaic Ritual, as Peace Offerings, Vows, First-Fruits, Tithes, etc.”* (emphasis in original). Some of their ancestors later joined with the Judean Jews during the Babylonian captivity of the 6th century BC and returned to Jerusalem with Ezra and Nehemiah ^{21, p 8}. The identity of the ‘lost’ tribes was certainly maintained up to the birth of Christ, because the prophetess Anna was *“of the tribe of Aser”* (Asher) Luke 2:36.

Larkin also describes how the ‘dry bones’ passage relates to a graveyard of nations ^{1, p 64}. *“The cry of the “bones” in verse 11, where they say – “Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts,” is not the cry of **individual dead** Israelites, but the cry of a **dead nation** that has been “cut off” from its own land. It is the cry of a **Spiritually and nationally** dead people. By the word “graves” we are not to understand “literal graves,” for the bones were **not in graves but scattered over the valley**. What the passage means is, that God is going to bring back His people Israel, who are **buried in captivity** in the **“Graveyard of the Nations,”** and place them again in their own land”. “His people” includes both the descendants of the Jews of the Dispersion and of those carried away by Assyria.*

The restoration will be completed when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to rule the nations of the world literally, physically and visibly in Jerusalem. Note that the United Nations has purloined part of the passage that follows to justify their ungodly attempt to bring in the kingdom without the king.

“The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” Isaiah 2:1-4.

To sum up, as Dr. Ruckman has stated succinctly ^{2, p 4} *“Someday God is going to “dump” the Gentiles. Someday God is going to “save” Israel as a nation. He is going to restore Israel as a nation to Palestine. He is going to restore Israel to Jesus as their Messiah”*.

This is happening now. Fundamentalists tend to associate Jewish aspirations to return to Israel with the Zionist movement of the late 19th century initiated by the Austrian Jew Theodore Herzl ^{17, p 7}. In fact, groups of Jewish exiles called Karaites were advocating a return to the land from as early as the 10th century AD ^{3, p 146}. Some 60,000 re-entered the then land of Palestine between 1880 and 1914 ^{3, p 213} as a result of the later exhortations from Herzl and others ^{3, p 220ff}. Herzl had urged for the creation of a home in Palestine for the Jewish people in August 1897 at the First Congress on Zionism, convened in Basel, Switzerland. Twenty years later, On December 11th 1917 the British forces under General Allenby (whose name in Arabic means ‘Prophet of God’, Allah-bey) captured Jerusalem. The stage was set for the fulfilment of Herzl’s aspirations. Lord Balfour, Chaim Weizmann, who supplied acetone-based propellant for British naval shells in World War 1 and international Jewish banker Baron Rothschild (‘Red Shield’) established what became known as the Balfour Declaration ^{3, p 225ff} identifying Palestine as *THE* national homeland for the Jews. See above.

However, Lord Balfour subsequently changed the wording to *A* national homeland, in a compromise measure ^{3, p 243}. This did not satisfy Rome, who had already declared her opposition to the Jewish homeland through Cardinal Merri Del Val, the Spanish Secretary of State ^{3 p 233ff}. To counter the Declaration, the Vatican purchased large tracts of land in Palestine between 1917 and 1920, called ‘the West Bank’, which it turned over to Muslim ‘settlers’ as a staging area for the terror groups in operation today, known collectively as the ‘Palestinian Authority’ ^{3, p 243ff}. The Vatican’s hand was strengthened by the Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1919, drawn up by Georges Picot of France and Sir Mark Sykes of England, to make the land of Palestine ‘international territory’ ^{3, p 260, Map 8}. Winston Churchill strengthened it further when he met with Muslims and Roman Catholics in Cairo on March 27th 1921 and transferred two-thirds of the then land of Palestine to the Muslim Caliph Abdullah ^{3 p 266ff}. The land transferred later became what is today Jordan. Jews had been excluded from the meeting.

“The Catholics have been chiefly responsible for the uniting of Moslems and Catholics against us, because the Vatican wishes to have something that amounts to power over Palestine. The Vatican persisted in its

opposition to Zionism for many years in this manner; using the problem of the 'holy places' to serve as an alibi for its position. The Vatican's fundamentally anti-Zionist position has finally crystallized; it has adhered to it consistently for many years, and will for years to come" Chaim Weizmann, June 1921^{3, p 292}.

Within the House of Lords, one lone British voice was raised in protest at this betrayal of Israel. The old Puritan, Sir John Haslam stood up and read from the prophecy of Amos, with tears running down his face.

"In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old" Amos 9:11.

He urged his fellow peers to support Israel, admonishing them that otherwise they *"were not doing right"*. *"For she was still God's chosen people, and since the Abrahamic promises (Genesis 12, 15) had been given unconditionally, there had to be a time when they would be fulfilled regardless of Israel's spiritual condition in the Church Age"*^{3, p 288-289} (emphasis in original). Tragically, like the wise man of Ecclesiastes 9:16 **"his words are not heard"**.

Organised Arab attacks against Jews in Palestine continued throughout the 1920's and 1930's, aided and abetted by Haj al Amin Hussein, the Arab Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and his allies, Benito Mussolini and Adolph Hitler^{3, p 305}. The League of Nations did nothing to oppose them. Instead, Churchill supported Arab aspirations for Muslim control of Palestine. He published a 'white paper' in 1939 that restricted entry of Jews to the land to 75,000 per year. Nearly 6,000,000 Jews therefore remained in Europe to perish in the Nazi Inquisition, or Holocaust. Over 95% were not 'International Bankers' etc. but ordinary individuals, who were pursuing ordinary occupations before their incarceration^{3, p 314, 318-319, 326-327}. This bloodletting was in part the judgement of God on the declaration that their ancestors made two thousand years before at the times of the murder of God's Son. **"We have no king but Caesar"** John 19:15.

Yet God had promised that **"The remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God"** Isaiah 10:21. In spite of the Holocaust **"God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew"** even though **"blindness in part is happened to Israel"** Romans 10:2, 24. God was fulfilling His promise. Prior to and for several years after World War 2, Jews continued to return to the land illegally, smuggled in by means of chartered merchant ships. The British, who still controlled Palestine, intercepted many of the ships but could not stem the flow of immigrants, who arrived in their thousands^{3, p 337ff}. The numbers had swelled from approximately 180,000 Jews dwelling in Israel in 1932 to 500,000 in 1945^{2, p 2}. One perceptive Baptist evangelist said in 1948 **"The First World War was to prepare the land for the Jew, and the Second World War was to prepare the Jew for the land"**^{3, p 343-344}.

The British terminated their Mandate or oversight of Israel in May 1948 and refugees could return freely – even though it was to a war zone. See **Introduction** and **Israel – the 'Reinterpretations'**. Nevertheless, Israel today has a population of almost 6 million, see **Introduction**. However, the **"troubulous times"** Daniel 9:25, have continued and intensified for Israel, up to the present. They are set to continue, for both Israel and the rest of the nations, for the same reason that brought down judgement on an erring king, Asa, according to the warning of Hanani the seer. (One notes that whilst one million Jewish babies perished during the Holocaust, the Israelis themselves aborted 1.1 million infants between 1948 and 1989^{31, p 5}. That figure would be much higher by now.)

"For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars" 2 Chronicles 16:9.

Not only has Israel failed to acknowledge her Messiah but nations and individuals the world over have spurned the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour, bringing down judgement upon themselves for both here and hereafter:

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" Psalm 9:17.

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" John 8:24.

"When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power" 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.

There will be no confusion about this judgement when it is fulfilled. It will not be attributed to 'Allah', 'global warming', 'rogue states', 'fundamentalist extremists', 'right wing fascists', 'Al Quaeda terrorists' or 'white supremacists' etc. It will be attributed to **"the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world"** John 1:29 at His first coming and Who returns at His second **"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God"** 2 Thessalonians 1:8 and this judgement will be non-discriminatory:

"And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of

the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:15-17.

The way to escape this judgement is to heed the Gospel of Christ, *before the judgement falls*.

"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" John 1:12.

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" John 6:37.

Returning to Israel's "***troubulous times***", Dr. Ruckman has shown that there was one observer whose insights into events concerning Israel between the wars were positively Biblical in their accuracy, though this individual did not profess the new birth, John 3:3, in his writings on the Middle East. Yet so precise were his predictions about Israel, the Middle East and both Nazi and Arab Muslim aspirations, that they merit special comment.

Israel – “Troublous Times”

The observer was a British Officer of Danish parentage, Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen. Peter Hathaway Capstick documented the Colonel's adventurous life in his book. *Warrior: The Legend of Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen*. New York: St. Martin's, 1997. One reviewer³² stated that *“In a military career that lasted more than a quarter of a century, Meinertzhagen (1878-1967) served in some of the fading empire's hottest spots: India, East Africa (where he was stationed during the First World War), and Palestine. His speciality was intelligence gathering, but, as Capstick emphasizes, he was a hard-nosed killer who got his early training in the African bush. It is also clear that Meinertzhagen was an extremely complex man: Xenophobic and imperial in outlook, he nevertheless became a passionate advocate for Zionism, even meeting twice with Hitler in the thirties on behalf of the Jews. His fate was to be an empire builder in an age when the empire was crumbling”*. The Colonel was in charge of intelligence gathering during his tenure in Palestine and served on Allenby's staff.

Dr. Ruckman has summarised salient entries from Colonel Meinertzhagen's Middle East Diary^{3, p 251ff}, which covered events in the region for the first half of the 20th century. See also the *Bible Believer's Bulletin*, July, August and September 2001. The Colonel's 500+ page diary, published by Thomas Yoseloff, New York, in 1960, contains insights that are unparalleled. He identified the news media and the Vatican as the two main enemies of Israel, predicted the assassinations of Count Bernadotte, King Abdullah of Transjordan and Sadat of Egypt. The latter two victims were killed by their own side for putting out genuine peace proposals to Israel. The UN had sent Bernadotte to ensure that the old city of Jerusalem remained in Arab control after the Jewish victory of the 1948 war. Though the old city remained in Arab hands until the Six-Day War of 1967, the count was assassinated by the Israeli Stern Gang, who were professional 'hit men'^{3, p 360-361}.

The Colonel also prophesied *“an unending campaign of anti-Jewish terrorism until the Second Advent of Christ”*^{3, p 252}. Moreover, he met with virtually all the leading personalities of the time. Besides Hitler, they included Lawrence of Arabia, Franz Von Papen, King George V, Chaim Weizmann, Lloyd George, General Allenby, Winston Churchill, Herr Ribbentrop, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, the kings of Jordan and Trans-Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rothschild. The Colonel's diary entries, which summarise the comments he made to all the leading decision makers of the time, foretell the stark tragedy of the Arab-Israeli conflict as it unfolded over half a century. The comments are not 'politically correct'.

Colonel Meinertzhagen wrote in March 17, 1917 *“Met with His Majesty [King George V] who said he desired Palestine for Biblical reasons...he said he envisaged the Jews coming in as a member of the Empire. I thought that a splendid idea...but there are already signs of serious anti-Semitism in Whitehall and efforts to stultify the Balfour Declaration”*^{33, p 15}.

December 12, 1917: *“Lawrence [of Arabia] promised that Palestine would be a self-governing province under Arab sovereignty. Really, I cannot see the Jews being over-lorded by Arabs!”*^{33, p 15}.

“The Jews are virile and brave and intelligent. The Arabs are decadent, stupid, dishonest...poor fighter(s), although adept at looting, sabotage, and assassinations”^{3, p 255}.

November 10, 1919: *“The Banco di Roma has fallen under suspicion as a political agency. Italian Roman Catholic organisations in Palestine have been active. It is well known that the Vatican is violently opposed to Zionism...I sent a letter to the King telling His Majesty that our government needs to take a firm, open stand with clear definitions on the Balfour Declaration or there will be trouble”*^{3, p 261, 33, p 15}.

March 1919: *“In 50 years time both Jew and Arab will be obsessed with nationalism. A national home for the Jews must develop sooner or later into sovereignty. Jewish and Arab sovereignty must clash”*^{33, p 15}.

May 30, 1919: *“It is again urged that an official statement be made by His Majesty's Government that the Balfour Declaration stands. The increasing evidence of the anti-Jew attitude of our Palestinian Administration, if true, shows that the Jews in Palestine are little better off than the Jews in Russia. The Middle East is in a horrible mess owing to lack of policy”*^{33, p 15}.

He wrote to Churchill: *“The British officials here have all worked against Zionism. I have received no help from anyone. The Catholic French Consul in Jerusalem has written to his chief in Beirut that he was energetically inciting Moslems against Jews and was trying to turn the Jews against the British Administration. I consider these events (Muslim riots co-ordinated by Haj al Amin Hussein, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem) were an exact replica...of a pogrom. The police proved inadequate and sided with [their] co-religionists. The Moslems then demanded the removal of the Zionist Commission and the disbandment of the Jewish Battalion that was part of our army (38th Battalion, the Royal Fusiliers)”*^{3 p 274-275}. Years later, Catholic Sinn Fein/IRA would demand – successfully – the disbandment of the police reserve B Specials and the Ulster Defence Regiment and the dismantling of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in their efforts to coerce Ulster into a united Catholic Ireland. It was a repetition of history, with the same tactics, ideologically

the same subversive terror groups, blood brothers in terror and same pusillanimous politicians on the other side.

June 5, 1921: *"The British government is whittling down the Balfour Declaration: Both the POPE and the French have identified themselves with the anti-Zionist movement. Surely it is time we stood by our policy and told the Arabs we shall not be intimidated or tolerate interference"*^{33, p 16}.

"[Haj al Amin Hussein] is quite unscrupulous and grossly dishonest. Sooner or later his appointment will be regretted by us. I spoke with Winston Churchill about it but he shrugged it off. I warned him, without mincing words, of the harm we should expect from such a scoundrel"^{3, p 275}. See comments under **Israel – the 'Reinterpretations'**. In 1921, after Churchill had transferred most of Palestine to the Arabs, he had written thus:

June 21, 1921: *"I exploded on hearing that Churchill had severed Trans-Jordan from Palestine in an interview with him and Abdullah on March 27th. Abdullah was placated at the expense of the Jewish national homeland, which embraces the WHOLE of Palestine. This reduced the Jewish national home to one-third of its original existence, Biblical Palestine. It was another promise broken and a dishonest act. I told Churchill this was grossly unfair and was tearing up the Balfour Declaration by degrees"*^{3, p 284}. The Colonel's subsequent writings showed him to be a visionary.

June 22, 1921: *"There is increased agitation against Zionism and increased anti-Zionist demonstrations. I believe this is promoted by fear of superior Jewish brains, the fear of the poor for the rich, of the uneducated for the educated, and by the knowledge that the eventual dispossession of Arabs by the Jews is inevitable and the Jewish immigration spells an eventual Jewish State. The Land question can be fixed by public works and it only needs the hand of man, capital, intelligence, and energy. All of these factors are foreign to the Arab race. Churchill said he could do nothing about Trans-Jordan, and Abdullah had come to stay. I said Abdullah's tenure would cease, and I would not want the Jews to be surrounded on all sides by hostile Arabs. Lawrence said Trans-Jordan should be Arabian. I said there are thousands of acres of land in Trans-Jordan lying fallow owing to Arab laziness [i.e. the problem is not LAND, it is RELGION]. So now, we British are faced with a solid block of anti-Zionism opposition in Palestine. Now it is proposed to give the Jews a small strip of Coastal Palestine. The country is unique, indivisible, and a sacred entity; it cannot be partitioned into three states. [NATO and the UN proposed this in 1947^{3, Maps 10, 11}]. Who is going to police the frontiers? Who is going to prevent the restless and fanatical Arabs from raiding the Jews? Who is going to stop Catholic propaganda in this new Arab State? Who will stop this violent gospel of anti-British poison coming from a rejuvenated Roman Empire? Churchill has broken his pledge to give the Jews sovereignty over Palestine due to his fear of the Arabs and the trouble they might cause"*^{3, p293-297, 303, 33, p 16, 18}.

(This author well remembers the words of an English oil-refining engineer who worked at the refinery in Haifa for several years. He was there when 'Palestinians' invaded the site before World War 2, hacking Jewish workers to death until an unarmed British Staff Officer drove up in an open staff car and ordered them out. This actually happened, it is not a 'tall tale'. This engineer said in about 1967 *"The Jews will never give in now that they've got Israel back. The Arabs are a hopeless lot"*. Although in the future, some of Israel's politicians will totally turn traitor, because Daniel 11:30, 39 predict that the Antichrist will **"have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant"** in order to **"divide the land for gain"**, that Englishman's assessment has up to now proved correct.)

October 17, 1922: *"I visited Trans-Jordan where Philby is in political charge"*. This is Philby, *"the bisexual double agent"* who later defected to the Soviet Union^{33, p 18}. Communism, Islam and Catholicism are an unholy trio!

The Colonel stated to the Institute of International Affairs in 1929 *"I would still regard Zionism as the fulfilment of prophecy; the rescuing of one of the world's great people from a position which was becoming intolerable and which was a disgrace to the civilized world. By establishing Zionism, Great Britain has paid its debt which the world owes to the Jews for their culture, abilities, and influence. It is no small matter that Great Britain should have been given the Mandate for Palestine, a land of so many sacred associations for the whole of Europe"*^{3, p 303-304}.

October 27, 1932: *"When Palestine enters the League of Nations it will do so as a Jewish State"*^{34, p 11}. This proved to be true 16 years later.

November 14, 1945: *"No Arab is going to come to an agreement with a Zionist. Why should he? The Arabs know perfectly well that England has wrecked Zionism. Why should the Arabs salvage what their sympathisers have wrecked? The ONLY solution to the Jewish Question is the gift of Palestine to the Jews. It should have been done in 1919. That the Jews will eventually get Palestine I have no doubt, but it will not be through any effort of His Majesty's government"*^{34, p 11, 20}. It will be done at the Second Advent. **"And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children forever: and my servant David shall be their prince forever"** Ezekiel 37:25

February 20, 1947: "For to me there is no shadow of a doubt that the Old Testament prophecies will emerge and be fulfilled as a strong, healthy Jewish sovereign state in Palestine, at no distant future. It is an evil day for us to pit our brains and our strength against that of the Jews. England decided to refer the whole Palestine-Jewish question to the United Nations without any constructive suggestions. It is the complete abdication of Britain's moral influence in the world and its equally complete admission of failure."^{3, p 297, 35, p 8}.

May 18, 1948: "The Zionists have proclaimed a Jewish State in Palestine. When our mandate terminated it was a signal for the invasion of Palestine by five Arab nations. Trans-Jordan was officered by British officers. The whole of Palestine and Jewry have been hopelessly bungled, and I am thoroughly ashamed of our government, our PRESS, our people, and my religion"^{35, p 8}.

September 2, 1948: "Bernadotte tried to give Jerusalem to the Arab. As it is the Jews will get him". They did^{35, p 8}.

September 19, 1948: "There is no doubt that for years to come all Arab states will strive to drive the Jews into the sea...and there will be no sympathy with Israel among the nations of the world"^{35, p 8}. This is the situation in 2002, 54 years later, except for a remnant of support for Israel in the USA. However, there is support for Israel from elsewhere. **"They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them"** Psalm 118:12.

November 10, 1948: "In spite of every effort to enforce a truce in Palestine fighting continues. There can be no mediation between Zionism and Islam until Israel has occupied what is her right in Palestine"^{35, p 13}. See **Israel – the Beginning**.

April 23, 1949: "We befriended the Jews in 1818-1919 and were strong and prosperous. Our deterioration coincides with an increasing determination 'not to let my people go' and a general sabotage of Zionism. German persecution met with its own reward; America has befriended the Jews and is now the greatest nation in the world; THAT CANNOT BE COINCIDENCE"^{35, p 13}.

January 1, 1953: "The destruction of Israel is the supreme aim of ARAB policy. In regards to responsibility, I blame the United Nations for not translating the armistice agreements into a final peace settlement. At the root of the matter is appeasement of the Arab states and appeasement in any form, especially when applied to Arabs, never pays. How quickly we have forgotten MUNICH"^{35, p 13}. One could add, "especially when applied to Sinn Fein/IRA" as successive British governments are learning to their cost but which they all refuse to recognise. This has been rightly been called "political cowardice of the first degree"^{36, p 1}. Colonel Meinertzhagen had observed many years earlier, in 1929 that "The Arab...quickly and surely understands authority and respects strength. If the Arabs were convinced that Downing Street and every member of the Palestinian Authority were determined to carry out government policy in the spirit of the Mandate we should have perpetual peace in Palestine"^{34, p 11}.

Dr. Ruckman notes "how Arafat stole this 1929 designation for the British Mandate and misapplied it to four terrorist organisations in 1998"^{ibid.}. It now includes SIX Muslim terrorist organisations. See **Israel – the 'Reinterpretations'**.

The Colonel had met Adolph Hitler early in 1939, in company with Goering, von Papen, Ribbentrop and Gestapo agents. Hitler shook the Colonel's hand and then gave the Nazi salute, declaring "Heil Hitler!". Colonel Meinertzhagen returned the salute and declared "Heil Meinertzhagen!" As Paul had said **"But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:)"** Galatians 2:6. Evidently there were no repercussions but the Colonel concluded of Hitler that "He means to have his war and he means to kill millions. To satisfy his lust for power, Hitler's war will involve the whole world; whoever wins will lose. If the war breaks out, I shall feel very much to blame for not killing those two [Hitler and Ribbentrop]". Colonel Meinertzhagen was armed with a loaded pistol as part of his dress uniform when he met Hitler^{3, p 312ff}. Over 6,000,000 Jews perished in the subsequent Holocaust, 90% of the Jews of Europe^{3, p 325ff}.

The Colonel was one of the few who understood the real significance of the post-World War 2 Palestinian 'refugee' problem. "In 1951, now in his 60's, Colonel Meinertzhagen (M.H.) turns up again "like the ghost of Christmas past". He is found dining with a Lebanese contractor in Kuwait. Part of the conversation goes like this: M.H.: "Why do not you Arabs with all your resources of oil do something for those refugees in Palestine?" Lebanese: "Good God man! Do you think we are going to destroy the finest PROPAGANDA we possess? Why, it's a gold mine!" M.H.: "Isn't that rather unkind and IMMORAL?" Lebanese: "Baah! They are just human rubbish, but a political gold mine!"^{3, p 358ff}. See also **Israel – the 'Reinterpretations'** for Lambert's assessment of the attitude to the Palestinians of the neighbouring Arab states^{19, p 121}.

The Colonel had two more observations, which bring the record up to the present and are a beacon not only for Israel but also for the whole world, pointing to the Second Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ.

December 1, 1954: "Compromises never succeed. The Internationalisation of Jerusalem is NOT 'vital to peace'. Jerusalem is the heart of Israel and must form part of it"^{35, p 16}.

And finally...

“Any mother with more than one child would know that human society is permanently saturated with inequalities but that social equality can be achieved by FORCE – temporarily. In the end, natural laws will intervene and enforce inequality; the more equality we get the less LIBERTY and a great deal less fraternity results. Social equality is a declaration of ambition based on jealousy”^{35, p 16}.

As the Lord said of “social equality” **“As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths”** Isaiah 3:12.

It is time to conclude with the scriptural description of Israel’s future, developing some of the Biblical passages that have earlier been alluded to.

Though Israel is yet to go through great trial, she will eventually be able to say of her returning Messiah **“He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake”** Psalm 23:3.

Israel – the Future in Prophecy

The scriptures provide an outline of Israel's history beyond 2002 and up to the end of this millennium, written in advance. There are many scriptures that could be referenced on this subject but it is hoped that the salient passages have been adduced. The works by Clarence Larkin and Dr. Ruckman form the basis for the commentary that accompanies these passages. See **References**.

Although the exact timing of these future events is not known, they must unfold in the next few years and the stage is being set now. The scripture itself testifies to this conclusion. 2 Peter 3:8 states that **“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day”**. This verse therefore indicates a day-millennium scale for the earth's history and Dr. Ruckman has noted that **“life”** appears at the beginning of the fifth day^{37, p 28ff}, Genesis 1:20, in the account of the creation of **“the heavens and the earth, which are now”** 2 Peter 3:7. This would correspond to 4,000 years from **“the beginning of the creation”** 2 Peter 3:4, on a day-millennium scale. *Significantly this time interval would also coincide with the Incarnation, the First Advent of the Lord Jesus Christ, in Whom “was life; and the life was the light of men”* John 1:4 and Who came **“that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”** John 10:10. Then, on the seventh day, God **“rested...from all his work which he had made”** Genesis 2:2, corresponding to a seventh millennium of rest. The scripture shows clearly that this rest period will begin at the Second Advent^{37, p 47-48}.

“The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers...The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing” Isaiah 14:5, 7.

“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one” Zechariah 14:9.

According to a Biblical chronology, the world is now in its seventh millennium, so these events concerning Israel's future cannot be long delayed. Moreover, when the Lord came the first time, the Jews were in their homeland, not converted to Jesus the Messiah, Daniel 9:26, Rome was in power and the Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus, had decreed **“that all the world should be taxed”** Luke 2:1^{5, p 303, 8, p 58-59}. All these conditions are fast coming to pass now, with the Jews back in Israel, Rome increasingly prominent in world affairs, especially with respect to Israel, see **Introduction** and with the creation of a common currency for the nations of Europe, controlled by the European Central Bank. The German foreign minister Joscha Fisher has confirmed that the launch of the euro **“was a profoundly political act, because a currency...symbolises the power of the sovereign who guarantees it”**^{38, p 138}. The ECB is set to become Europe's Caesar and given the Vatican's influence with the UN, the ECB will be able to exert influence far beyond the borders of Europe. In the words of the Lord Jesus Christ, men will have no option but to **“render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's”** and will face execution for rendering **“to God the things that are God's”** Mark 12:17, Revelation 12:11, 20:4. The setting for the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is therefore as it was for the First! Virtually all is ready for the return visit of **“the dayspring from on high”** just as Zechariah prophesied, Luke 1:67, 78. Note that the Jews cannot yet say **“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people...That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us”** Luke 1:68, 71. Deliverance for the Jews did *not* come at the First Advent so that Zechariah's prophecy must therefore be pointing to the Second.

The last verses on the Old Testament exhort Israel to turn back to the Law of the Lord.

“Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse” Malachi 4:4-5.

This was to be John the Baptist's ministry. Although John was not Elijah, John 1:21, the Lord Jesus Christ nevertheless affirmed that John could have fulfilled Malachi's prophecy *and the First Advent could have merged into the Second without any gap of 2,000 years*.

“And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias [Elijah], to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord” Luke 1:17.

“For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come” Matthew 11:13-14.

The Jews rejected their Messiah even though they were given a second chance to receive Him at the time of the stoning of Stephen. The Lord had prayed on the cross **“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do”** Luke 23:34 and this prayer was answered, according to Stephen's testimony:

“But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God” Acts 7:55-56.

Matthew 26:64 shows that the Lord’s ***“coming in the clouds of heaven”*** was then imminent. Compare Revelation 1:7. However, the Jews rejected Stephen’s testimony, just as they had rejected their Messiah – see ***Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion*** and Lord’s return has therefore been postponed for two millennia.

During His earthly ministry, the Lord drew attention to signs that would precede His return. Matthew 24, Mark 13, Luke 17 and 21 all record His discourse on these matters and the most significant sign was that which concerned Jerusalem.

“And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them. But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven. But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake” Luke 21:8-12.

Part of this prophecy was fulfilled in the Book of Acts, during the ministries of Stephen, Paul and others of the Apostles but by inspection most of it refers to the present day and one should be alert to these important ***“signs of the times”*** Matthew 16:3. However, the major sign concerns Jerusalem:

“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. Then let them which are in Judea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled” Luke 21:20-24. The time when Jerusalem is ***“compassed with armies”*** is approaching, although it has not come to pass yet. When it does, the desolation of Jerusalem will have been the result of the treachery of Israel’s leaders. It takes place after Israel’s leaders make a covenant with the Satanic world ruler, ***“the beast”***, Revelation 13:1, before he receives ***“his deadly wound”*** Revelation 13:3 but during the time when he is enthroned in Rome as ***“that man of sin”*** 2 Thessalonians 2:3, the Catholic pope. See ***Israel – the Signs***. The Book of Revelation describes him as a conqueror, who brings temporary peace to a world beset, as now, with ***“the beginning of sorrows”*** Matthew 24:8. See also Luke 21:8-12.

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer” Revelation 6:1, 2. Note that this rider has a bow but no arrows. He is a conqueror but not by force of arms. The Prophet Daniel describes the manner of the conquest. Though the Books of Daniel and Revelation warrant a much more detailed study than is possible in this work, the manner of the conquest is clear. It is *peaceful*. He has the ‘kiss of peace’, like Absalom, 2 Samuel 15:5^{8, p 63} and Judas, Matthew 26:49. He will undoubtedly believe in the ‘peace process.’ Crucially, it is peace without righteousness, Isaiah 32:17 and without ***“The Prince of Peace”*** Isaiah 9:6. It is thus a peace that will be short-lived.

Note also in the context the raising of taxes by Caesar, corresponding to the First Advent, Luke 2:1.

“And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand” Daniel 8:25.

“Then shall stand up in his estate a raiser of taxes in the glory of the kingdom: but within few days he shall be destroyed, neither in anger, nor in battle” Daniel 11:20.

“And in his estate shall stand up a vile person, to whom they shall not give the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by flatteries” Daniel 11:21.

These verses could describe the transition from ***“that man of sin”*** to ***“the son of perdition”*** 2 Thessalonians 2:3. An attempt is made to assassinate him, presumably pre-meditated, not out of ***“anger”*** or on impulse but he recovers.

“And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast” Revelation 13:3.

Afterwards the scripture calls him **“the beast that...goeth into perdition”** Revelation 17:12, which indicates the transition.

Israel’s leaders make an agreement with him before this, while he is still **“that man of sin”**, by which they believe they can achieve peace, yielding to him at least some of their national sovereignty, according to Daniel 11:21.

The statements of Israel’s leaders in the following passage show that they know whom they are dealing with and are aware of their wilful disobedience to God.

“He shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant” Daniel 11:30b.

God had said to the nation of Israel **“Thou shalt have no other gods before me”** Exodus 20:3 but here Israel has pledged allegiance to Caesar, as at the time of the crucifixion when her leaders declared **“We have no king but Caesar”** John 19:15b. See *Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion*. Now they break the holy covenant again by their agreement with **“Death, and Hell”**, the Catholic pope. See below.

“Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves” Isaiah 28:14, 15.

The Lord is of course fully aware of the ‘treacherous deal’ between the antichrist and Israel’s leaders, whom He calls **“robbers of thy people”**.

“Woe to thee that spoilest, and thou wast not spoiled; and dealest treacherously, and they dealt not treacherously with thee! when thou shalt cease to spoil, thou shalt be spoiled; and when thou shalt make an end to deal treacherously, they shall deal treacherously with thee” Isaiah 33:1.

“And both these kings’ hearts shall be to do mischief, and they shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end shall be at the time appointed” Daniel 11:27.

“Also the robbers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fall” Daniel 11:14b. The **“vision”** would be Israel dwelling securely and peacefully, following their ancient laws, customs and religion, Ezekiel 38:11. It will fail because Israel’s leaders will have placed her under the protection of the Roman antichrist, robbing God of His glory, Isaiah 42:8 **“I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images”**.

This covenant allows them to resume full temple worship – implying that the temple must first be rebuilt, an event yet future^{30, p 212} but foretold in scripture. See also comments under *Israel – the Restoration*. The Lord is speaking through His prophets.

“In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old: That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this” Amos 9:11, 12.

“After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things” Acts 15:16, 17.

This prophecy is yet future. No Jewish temple has yet been built so that the builders could **“possess the remnant of Edom”** and **“That the residue of men might seek after the Lord”**. In this age, men **“seek the Lord”** through being evangelised as *separate nations*, Acts 1:8, 17:26, 27. *The coming together of the ‘United Nations’ eventually to submit to “the beast”, the Roman papal antichrist, is the greatest hindrance to effective evangelism that the Devil has devised!* No ‘exclusive’ Gospel message could be tolerated on the world scene. All ‘faiths’ and ideologies have to be integrated and brought forcibly into subjection to Rome. This will most likely be a task for the satanically-led UN forces and EU ‘army’ and police. Readers will already be aware that it is becoming increasingly difficult, even among nominally Protestant countries, to proclaim unequivocally that Jesus Christ is **“the way, the truth, and the life”** John 14:6. One could eventually be judged guilty of a ‘hate crime’. See also *Introduction* and comments above.

The prophet Isaiah foresaw Israel’s apparent security and a keen awareness that it was illusory:

“From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs, even glory to the righteous. But I said, My leanness, my leanness, woe unto me! the treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously; yea, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously” Isaiah 24:16.

The pope confirms this covenant, meaning that he makes it secure, which is the sense of the word **“confirm”** when it first appears in scripture. See Ruth 4:7, where another covenant is entered into and confirmed, or secured. The benefit to the Roman conqueror will probably be in the form of money, obtained

by taxation – see above – and possibly donated to the pope’s cause of world domination via the influential House of Rothschild. See above, *Israel – “Troublous Times”*. Note the Israelites had great wealth when they entered the land the first time because Exodus 12:36 states that **“they spoiled the Egyptians”**. When they returned to the land after the Babylonian captivity, following the Decree of Cyrus in 536 BC, Ezra 1:4 shows that the Persians assisted them with **“silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem”**.

Note also that the confirming of the covenant is said to be **“with many,”** Daniel 9:27, possibly Israel’s parliament. She is an apostate nation who thus has many rulers, Proverbs 28:2.

Following the scriptural pattern it is therefore very likely that contemporary Israel has accumulated vast stores of wealth - and it is certainly God’s intention to concentrate the riches of the world at Jerusalem, following the final battle for the city’s deliverance:

“And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance” Zechariah 14:14.

The Vatican loves wealth and is always eager to assimilate more, despite its already vast financial empire. See *The Vatican Billions*, by Avro Manhattan, available from Chick Publications. These two sets of vested interests would therefore seem to be an appropriate setting for the **“covenant with death”**.

It is possible that Judas’ betrayal of the Lord to Israel’s leaders just before the crucifixion is a forewarning of the **“covenant with death”**^{12, p 590ff}. Observe that Judas makes a *promise* to Israel’s leaders. *That is, he ‘confirms’ a covenant and the scripture strongly points to Judas as the antichrist! Observe that the leaders give him money in return! And Judas, although he is himself a devil, John 6:70, 71, he is full of Satan the Devil at this point and is thus directly associated with Death and Hell, Isaiah 14:9, Hebrews 2:14.*

“Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money. And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude” Luke 22:1-6.

Note that the Lord typified Israel, according to scripture.

“And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved” Hosea 12:13.

“When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son” Matthew 2:14, 15.

Moreover, Matthew 26:2, 14, 15 and Mark 14:1, 10, 11 indicate that Judas entered into the covenant at about the beginning of the last week (strictly speaking half-week) of the Lord’s earthly life. The Lord’s betrayal occurred at about the middle of that week^{12, p 218, 584ff} Luke 22:48 and He ‘returns’ at the end of the week, *in the morning*, Matthew 28:1-10, Hosea 6:3, Joel 2:2. *His resurrection is like that of Israel - and thus typifies both the Second Advent and Israel’s resurrection at that time:*

“After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight” Hosea 6:3.

“A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations” Joel 2:2.

“And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land” Ezekiel 37:13, 14a.

There is also a sense in which Judas’ betrayal of the Lord Jesus Christ caused **“sacrifice to...to cease”**. The Lord’s death on the cross is **“one sacrifice for sins forever”** Hebrews 10:12 and **“the veil of the temple was rent in twain”** Matthew 27:51, indicating **“a new and living way”** to God **“through the veil, that is to say, his flesh”** Hebrews 10:20.

However, Judas’ action would also point to future treachery – see below – and in strange way, so would the manner of the Lord’s death on the cross. He typified **“the serpent in the wilderness”** John 3:14, Numbers 21:9, **“his visage was so marred”** Isaiah 52:14 that He became **“a worm and no man”** Psalm 22:6 and God **“hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin”** 2 Corinthians 5:21. One could almost say that on the cross, the Lord could have said to His Father **“I was as a beast before thee”** Psalm 73:22, such that His own Father forsook Him prompting the anguished cry **“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken**

me?" Matthew 27:46. Thus He drained the cup of sorrows that He prayed would pass from Him, Matthew 27:38, 39.

Note also that on the cross the Lord therefore *did* break a covenant, the Old Testament manner of salvation, Romans 7:22-25, 2 Corinthians 3:6, 14, Hebrews 10:3, 4, 11, 12, 19, 20.

"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh" Romans 8:2, 3.

Therefore, whilst effecting redemption and full salvation on the cross, the Lord, via Judas' betrayal of Himself (Israel in type) *was also typifying the actions of the antichrist (Judas) in Daniel 9:27*. He breaks a covenant in the middle of a week and causes the sacrifice and oblation to cease, both as ***"man of sorrows"*** Isaiah 53:3, ***"Saviour of all men"*** 1 Timothy 4:10 *and in type as "that man of sin"* 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 2 Corinthians 5:21! Observe that the Lord is also a human sacrifice on the cross. Though the manner of His death, by crucifixion, differs from that inflicted by the antichrist during the tribulation, which is by beheading and also by incineration, Revelation 6:9, 13:13, 15, 20:4, the Lord is nevertheless ***"poured out"*** as ***"an offering for sin"*** Isaiah 53:10, 12. The antichrist will pour out the blood of his Jewish victims during the tribulation, Psalm 16:4. See below. Moreover, the hour of the Lord's death is close to that when the Passover lamb has its throat cut in the temple – just as the antichrist will shed the blood of humans sacrificed in the temple during the tribulation ^{4. p 183-184}. Moreover, the 'church' of antichrist 'eats' Jesus Christ even now in the 'mass', according to its perversion of John 6:35 and its mass is a re-crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jewish saints will be eaten in a cannibalistic mass during the tribulation, Psalm 14:4, 16:4, Isaiah 7:13. See discussion later of Revelation 11:2-8.

Historically, ***"sacrifice and oblation"***, or offering, in the temple did continue after the Lord's death on the cross, as the scripture confirms, e.g. Acts 21:26, Hebrews 10:2, 3, 11 but this would not effect the essential typology of the last week of the Lord's life. In sum this is as follows. Judas, the antichrist, 'confirms' a covenant with Israel's leaders at the beginning of the week, Isaiah 28:15, Daniel 9:27, Matthew 26:2. Judas betrays Israel, typified by the Lord, in the middle of the week, Isaiah 28:18, Luke 22:48. Judas breaks the covenant in the middle of the week, Isaiah 28:18, Daniel 9:27, and the Lord, in becoming ***"sin for us"*** – and even thus typifying ***"the man of sin"*** – also breaks a covenant Hebrews 10:12, in the middle of His last week. Finally, the Lord's return and Israel's resurrection take place at the end of the week, Hosea 6:3, Matthew 28:1-10.

One should also note that at about the middle of the week, after the crucifixion, Judas makes a brief appearance in the temple, with his blood money, Matthew 27:5, 6. This event may foreshadow his latter day intrusion into the temple to oversee human sacrifice, 2 Thessalonians 2:4, Revelation 6:9 – see below. It appears that Judas hangs himself soon after this appearance, Matthew 27:5, Acts 1:18 and the earthquake of Matthew 27:51 pitches him into Gehenna, ***"the valley of Hinnom"*** Nehemiah 1:13, 11:30, south of Jerusalem ^{12. p 635}. This could correspond to his transformation from ***"that man of sin"*** to ***"the son of perdition"*** John 17:12, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, Revelation 13:3, 17:11.

Judas' death could also typify the fate of the antichrist, whom the Lord casts into the lake of fire at the end of Daniel's 70th week, Revelation 19:20. This lake of fire is in Edom, which is itself in the south Isaiah 34:6, 9-10.

Finally, Pilate's personal reluctance notwithstanding, *the Romans put Jesus to death*, just as the Roman papal antichrist will put Jews to death during the latter half of Daniel's 70th week, Matthew 27:24, 35, Mark 15:15, 25, Luke 23:24, 33, John 19:16, 23, Zechariah 11:17, 13:8,9, Revelation 13:15. Many Jews must perish at the hands of the beast and his deputy, the false prophet, Revelation 16:13, because the Lord commanded Israel ***"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image...thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them"*** Exodus 20:4a, 5a. Compare Daniel 3:15-18, 28.

Luke 22 and related passages may therefore be depicting in type salient features of Daniel 9:26, 27 and identifying in type the key personalities of Daniel's 70th week, with respect to the equivalent betrayals of Jesus and Israel. This is surely a matter for prayerful reflection because if this interpretation is correct, it confirms the conclusion of Larkin and other futurist writers that all of Daniel's 70th week is still future and that none of it was fulfilled during the early period of the Book of Acts. This has continued to be a matter of some debate between pre-millennial fundamentalists in recent years.

Returning to the actual fulfilment of Daniel's 70th week, confirmation of the covenant marks the beginning of it. This final week of Daniel's prophecy culminates in the Lord's return. See ***Israel – the Signs***.

"And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate" Daniel 9:27.

The peace is shattered by an outbreak of global war, which will eventually engulf Israel's perfidious rulers.

“For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape” 1 Thessalonians 5:3.

“And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it” Isaiah 28:18.

(It is obvious that the Bible does not set out all of Israel's future in a 'logical sequence'. One has to compare scripture with scripture, 1 Corinthians 2:13.)

Revelation 6: 3 describes the threat of invasion from the north and from an Arab-African confederacy, which would point distinctly to Israel's most bitter antagonist at present, Islam. This could be the start of ***“the overflowing scourge”***.

“And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword” Revelation 6:3, 4.

Famine, Death and Hell will stalk the globe in the aftermath of war.

“And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth” Revelation 6:5-8.

Basic foodstuffs will become expensive commodities – an incentive to ***“receive a mark”*** in order to ***“buy or sell”*** Revelation 13:16, 17 – *but it may be that the liquor industry and the oil industry will be protected!* Perhaps at this time one may not be able to get enough to eat but one may still be able to drink and drive just as the prophet Nahum foresaw! ***“The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings”*** Nahum 2:4.

Note that ***“Death, and Hell”*** are capitalised in Revelation 6:8, revealing a personification of the ***“death, and...hell”*** of Isaiah 28:15^{5, p 144-145}, none other than the true identity of the Conqueror of Revelation 6:1, 2. He is Apollyon, the Destroyer, Revelation 9:11, imbued with ***“the power of death”*** Hebrews 2:14 and ***“his power, and his seat, and great authority”*** from the Devil, ***“the dragon”*** and ***“that old serpent”*** Revelation 12:11, 13:2. He is also ***“the son of perdition”*** John 17:12, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, ***“the beast that...goeth into perdition”*** Revelation 17:12 – Judas Iscariot, ***“which also was the traitor”*** Luke 6:16 and whom the Lord called ***“a devil”*** John 6:70, 71^{12, p 454-455}. Note further that Judas was an integrated man, of Kerioth, in Moab:

“But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet” Amos 2:2. (The association with Moab draws attention to Numbers 22, which describes the unholy trinity of Balak, king of Moab, Balaam, ***“who loved the wages of unrighteousness”*** 2 Peter 2:15 and ***“the high places of Baal”*** Numbers 22:41. These three entities typify the full cohort of world rulers that arise during Daniel's 70th week, the unholy trinity consisting of the beast, the false prophet and the dragon, Satan ***“that old serpent”*** Revelation 12:9, 13:4, 11, 16:13.)

Like Judas during the Lord's earthly ministry, the beast has some association with Israel, even as one of her leaders – see comments on Daniel 11:21 above.

“And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end” Ezekiel 21:25.

Yet acquisition of the dragon's ***“seat”*** and his association with ***“the great whore”*** of Revelation 17:1-8 identifies him specifically as the Roman pope. He is truly 'integrated'!

However, he is *the last pope* because the Lord will destroy this 'man of Kerioth' at the Second Advent:

“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders” 2 Thessalonians 2:7, 8. See also Revelation 19:20.

Before this, the 'man of Kerioth' will break the ***“covenant with death”*** in the middle of the seven year period of Daniel's 70th week and the treachery of the ***“trucebreakers”*** 2 Timothy 3:3 and them that ***“dealest treacherously”*** will trigger a multi-national invasion aimed at annihilating Israel. See Daniel 9:27 above and note that in verse 26 ***“the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are***

determined". This prophecy was partly fulfilled by the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD by the Romans under Titus but there was no **"flood"** at that time. This indicates that the final fulfilment is yet future because there is a flood in Revelation 12:15, yet one more device that the devil uses to destroy Israel. **"And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood"**.

The multi-national – or *United Nations* – invasion of Israel will possibly be a component of the global war prophesied in Revelation 6:3 – see above. Note that some of the ancient nations listed in the original prophecies have their modern counterparts without any change of name, e.g. Ethiopia and Libya. **"The Hagarenes"** are also North African and almost certainly Muslims, from Hagar, Sarah's maid and mother of Ishmael by Abraham, Genesis 16:1-5. Prominent amongst the invaders is **"the land of Magog"** identified as modern Russia^{2, p 11ff, 27, p 200-201}. **"Gomer"** is identified with Germany^{27, p 199, 37, p 264}. Israel's invaders therefore consist of Muslim nations, EU nations and nations from a potentially enlarged EU, including the former Soviet bloc. This is after all, the pope's vision, **"a new united Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals"**^{38, p 37}.

"They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have helped the children of Lot. Selah" Psalm 83:4-8.

"And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them. After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee. Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought: And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates" Ezekiel 38:1-11.

If this invasion is part of the wars of Revelation 6:3, 4, it would place that passage in the middle of Daniel's 70th week. If not, one would still have to conclude that a 'peace process' has provided some respite for Israel even though conflict is raging elsewhere, because the land is said to be **"at rest"**. The effect of the **"covenant with death"** would be that for a time Israel dwells safely, for the first time in decades and militarily stands down so that her villages are **"unwallled"**. (There is a parallel with Britain, who dismantled much of her military infrastructure in Ulster in a very short space of time, following the 'Good Friday' Agreement. This agreement could be described as Britain's **"covenant with death"**.)

Israel's rest is extremely short. She would be annihilated by this overwhelming force but as in ancient time **"the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel"** Joshua 10:42. Note that His judgement extends across Europe, from **"the land of Magog"** to **"them that dwell carelessly in the isles"**.

"Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured. Thou shalt fall upon the open field: for I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD. And I will send a fire on Magog, and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles: and they shall know that I am the LORD" Ezekiel 39:1-6.

Despite the crushing defeat inflicted on Gog and Magog, who become food for vultures and jackals, it appears that the papal antichrist, driven by satanic obsession will convene an entire UN invasion of Israel. (If this seems far-fetched, one should remember that despite repeated disasters, the Catholic Crusades to the 'Holy Land' continued for centuries.)

God had long ago prophesied the destruction of the forces of the UN assembly **"upon the mountains of Israel"**, part of His greater judgement as indicated in Ezekiel 39:6 above.

“Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy”
Zephaniah 3:8.

It is sometimes argued by supporters of the Historicist approach to prophecy that the references to antiquated weapons in Ezekiel 38 and 39, e.g. bows, arrows, swords, shields and bucklers, and the reference to mounted cavalry must mean that the battle is an ancient one and not future. This claim is said to be reinforced by the statements in Ezekiel 39:9, 10 with respect to the aftermath of the battle, which show that the discarded implements of the invaders are made not of metal but of flammable material. **“And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years: So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD”**. One writer, Gary DeMar, evidently makes such claims in his book *End Times Fiction*, published in 2001 by Thomas Nelson and Sons and reviewed by the secular news outlet WorldNetDaily.com on April 5th, 2002.

However, DeMar and other Historicists have overlooked the following:

1. The events of Ezekiel 38, 39 take place **“in the latter years”** and **“in the latter days”** 38:8, 16. This is clearly a reference to future events, not ancient ones. See Job 19:25, for **“the latter day”** and 1 Timothy 4:1 for **“the latter times”**. The context is clearly future.
2. One should not be concerned about apparently contemporary terms used by Old Testament prophets to describe weaponry. The Bible has to be understood by *all* generations, not just today's. 'AK47' and 'RPG' would mean nothing to a Vaudois or Waldensian believer of the 2nd century AD and the Lord is assuredly mindful of this. **“The bows and the arrows”** easily translates into **“artillery”**, see 1 Samuel 20:40. (It is interesting that the oldest armed body in the UK, according to the *Guinness Book of Records*, is The Honourable Artillery Company, which received its Charter from Henry VIII in 1537, when it was The Finsbury Archers). Mounted cavalry easily translates into armoured vehicles with caterpillar treads and 'horsepower', see Jeremiah 51:27 and Nahum 2:4. One should also note that that the horses and horsemen of Ezekiel 38:4 are **“all of them clothed with all sorts of armour”**. Could this not be tank regiments? A 'sword' in the Bible is not just a 'gladius', the full meaning includes a device that can kill at a distance, Revelation 19:21 and can 'prick the heart' at a distance, Acts 2:16-36, 37. The context shows that this is a deep insertion, not just a scratch - i.e. as might be caused by a modern firearm. These latter references relate to a supernatural and spiritual context respectively, not a physical one but there is no reason why they could not be a source of ideas. For example, Genesis 2:21 points to anaesthesia, Leviticus 14:51 to aseptic surgery and the 'talking lightnings' of Job 38:35 to Mr. Bell's invention. (For that, one needs the **“God of forces”** Daniel 11:38, which of course has a bad scriptural connotation, even though it might be put to good use. See Luke 10:18, note the 666 connotation of this verse and compare it with Revelation 13:13!)
3. Ezekiel 38:9 could easily imply an airborne invasion, with ground support - like Operation 'Market Garden', September 17th 1944.
4. Point 2 notwithstanding, *literal* mounted cavalry may actually participate in the battle, especially if the terrain is unsuited for vehicles. As recently as 1978 Russia had an estimated 70% of the world's horses and was intent on breeding a Siberian 'super-horse' to withstand temperatures of zero Celsius. A veteran of General Patton's 3rd US Army stated that cavalrymen could have occupied Berlin in 24 hours *and prevented the Russian occupation*. However, the city streets were too narrow for tanks and tracked vehicles. Fallen rubble and shortage of gasoline posed additional obstacles for vehicles, causing delays that resulted in the Russian victory. These obstacles would not have deterred trained horsemen ^{2, p 18, 26}. Although armoured and tracked vehicles were used extensively in the wars that Israel fought with her Arab neighbours in 1967 and 1976, the World War 1 campaigns in Sinai and Palestine showed that mounted regiments could function extremely efficiently in terrain that is almost unchanged since Biblical times. See *The Desert Column* by Australian writer, Ion L. Idriess, published by Angus and Robertson, 1951.
5. Clarence Larkin's book *Dispensational Truth*, first published in 1918 and cited frequently in this work, is the main reference from which the later Futurist authors, Lindsey, LaHaye, Kirban and others, obtained most of their material. Larkin effectively deals with the Historicist approach to Eschatology and the alleged Jesuit origin of the Chiliastic or Futurist approach ^{1, p 4-5}, which is basically the one he expounds and which actually dates from the Apostolic Age. The objection that Futurism is a Jesuit plot therefore does not withstand rigorous analysis.

In the meantime, God has chosen witnesses from the tribes of Israel, who preach the gospel of the kingdom, namely that the Lord is coming back to rule, just as the Lord Jesus Christ preached at the First Advent. **“Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the**

kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel” Mark 1:14, 15.

“And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed a hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel” Revelation 7:2-4.

These are 144,000 Jewish evangelists – see Matthew 24:14 below. Their witness is world-wide as are their converts, who believed their witness to **“this gospel of the kingdom”**, namely to worship and obey **“the Lord’s Christ”** even at the cost of one’s life, not **“the beast”**. See Luke 2:26, 1 John 2:18, Revelation 6:9, 13:4, 15.

“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb” Revelation 7:9.

The Jewish witnesses especially exhort their fellow countrymen to be reconciled to their Messiah and sever themselves from **“Babylon the great”**, whom they are serving via the **“covenant with death”** Isaiah 28:15. See also Jeremiah 51:45 and note the historical precedent in Numbers 25:3, where **“Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor”**. This passage shows how Jerusalem could spiritually become **“Sodom and Egypt”**. See Revelation 11:8, discussed in **Israel – the ‘Reinterpretations’**.

The following passages may be used evangelistically to encourage saved Catholics (there are some!) to leave the papal church but doctrinally, the reference is to Israel, **“my people”**^{5, p 480}. God warns them from heaven but the witnesses would no doubt relay the message. Note also the element of **“the day of vengeance”** Isaiah 63:4 and Zephaniah 3:8 above, because Babylon (Rome) is to be rewarded double for her iniquity.

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird” Revelation 18:1, 2.

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double” Revelation 18:4-6.

Tragically, most of Israel remains disobedient and is subjected to further persecution by the forces of the Roman antichrist. Succeeding in his efforts to **“obtain the kingdom by flatteries”**, Daniel 11:21, the antichrist transfers his capital from Rome to Jerusalem, where the temple is rebuilt. Note the emphasis on rebuilding the temple during the first re-gathering of the Jews under Ezra, which will have its counterpart in the future:

“We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and build the house that was builded these many years ago, which a great king of Israel builded and set up” Ezra 5:11b.

It is interesting that the exiles who returned with Ezra included **“The children of Adonikam, six hundred sixty and six”** Ezra 2:13. The number is associated with **“the beast”** of Revelation 13.

“Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six” Revelation 13:18 – another 6+6+6 verse. See Luke 10:18 above and 1 John 2:18, that also deals with the antichrist.

“Adonikam” means **“my Lord has arisen”**²⁸. This could mean **“Lord of the uprising”** or rebellion against God, just as the beast rebels against God. **“And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven”** Revelation 13:6. It could also be a reference to the ‘resurrection’ of the Roman antichrist after his **“deadly wound”** has healed. See Revelation 13:3 above. However, it has been shown that prophetically, Persia may correspond to Great Britain in that both allowed the Jews to return to their homeland. See discussion on the Balfour Declaration in **Israel- the ‘Re-interpretations’**. If the return under Ezra is intended to portray the re-gathering of Israel in these last times, this suggests that **“that man of sin”** may be living in Israel right now! Like Judas, he would be an integrated man, of Jewish-Arabic parentage and, presumably, *in line for a cardinal’s hat!*

When the temple is rebuilt, the ‘man of Kerioth’, **“the son of perdition”**, defiles it. He enters the holy place – a desecration that brought swift judgement upon King Uzziah in ancient time. **“Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censor in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy**

even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar” 2 Chronicles 26:19.

Paul describes the entry of the Roman papal antichrist as follows and Paul’s description matches those given by Daniel, Daniel 9:27, Jesus, Matthew 24:14-22 and John, Revelation 11:2-8.

“Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” 2 Thessalonians 2:4.

“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened” Matthew 24:14-22. Note the term **“great tribulation”** in verse 21.

“But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified” Revelation 11:2-8.

“My two witnesses” is a reference to Moses and Elijah, see comments on Malachi 4:4-5 above, with respect to John the Baptist’s ministry. Elijah is said to return **“before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord”**. Moses appeared with Elijah on the mount of transfiguration in consultation with the Lord Jesus Christ about His decease at Jerusalem and this appearance most likely explains his presence with Elijah in Revelation 11. See Matthew 17:1-3, Luke 9:30, 31. They are the most prominent of the Jewish witnesses and are able to bring down God’s judgement on their opponents. The manner of this judgement corresponds to that of the plagues inflicted upon Egypt, Exodus 7:20; 8:6, 17; 9:6,10, 23; 10:13, 22; 12:29, Psalm 105:27-36 and the judgements brought down by Elijah during his ministry 1 Kings 17:1, 18:37, 38, 2 Kings 1:10, 12, 14, James 5:17, 18. Comparison of the scriptures thus enables the witnesses to be identified.

They prophesy for the latter half of Daniel’s 70th week, until they are executed by **“the son of perdition”**, who is **“the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit”**. The manner of execution is almost certainly by beheading. It signals the start of a ghastly pogrom that involves a grisly Catholic ‘mass’ with human sacrifice, during which most of the Jews world-wide, numbering approximately 14,000,000³⁹, are put to death, including two-thirds of those resident in Israel at this time. Again, the writers of scripture prophesied these terrible events centuries in advance. It is the time of greatest trial for the Jews, worse even than the Catholic Nazi Holocaust of World War 2. Note that despite the persecution of Jews down through the centuries, no attempt at a cannibalistic mass was attempted. See **Israel – the Apostasy and Dispersion**. (Hislop⁴⁰, p 232, notes that the word cannibal comes from **“Cahna-Bal”**, the **“Priest of Baal”** or **“a devourer of human flesh”**.) Significantly, Revelation 11:2 shows that the UN temporarily achieves its aim. Jerusalem is ‘internationalised’ during half of Daniel’s 70th week, most likely the latter half, when **“the son of perdition”** is king in Jerusalem. *Remember that even now the UN favours internationalisation of Jerusalem – see Introduction.*

“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it” Jeremiah 30:7. Jeremiah is making reference to the Second Advent of the Messiah.

“Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD” Psalm 14:4.

“Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips” Psalm 16:4.

“Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land. But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it

shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof” Isaiah 6:11-13.

“Woe to the idol shepherd that leaveth the flock! the sword shall be upon his arm, and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened” Zechariah 11:17. This is a reference to the **“profane wicked prince of Israel”** and his **“deadly wound”** that was healed. The Lord will destroy him at the Second Advent. See Ezekiel 21:25, 2 Thessalonians 2:7, 8 and Revelation 13:3 above.

“And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God” Zechariah 13:8, 9.

The above reference indicates how the Lord preserves His faithful remnant, those who believed the testimony of Moses, Elijah and the 144,000 faithful witnesses. Survivors of this remnant will flee to the remotest areas of the land, including the refuge of Selah Petra, in the wilderness, south of the Dead Sea, to escape **“the son of perdition”** when his armies converge on Jerusalem.

“And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days” Revelation 12:6. The woman in the passage is Israel, according to the description that Joseph gives in Genesis 37:9, showing that **“the sun and the moon and the eleven stars”** pictures Israel, Joseph himself being the twelfth **“star”**^{5, p 287, 320ff} where she will be miraculously fed but not without danger.

“We got our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness” Lamentations 5:9.

The location of the city of refuge for the Jew in Selah Petra is confirmed by the repeated occurrence of the word **“Selah”** in the Psalms^{41, p 13}. This word is not just a **“musical interlude”**. It is the **“rock of...refuge”** ordained by God into which the man-slayer may flee in order to escape **“the avenger of blood”**, as set out in the Old Testament.

“But the LORD is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge” Psalm 94:22.

“Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spoke unto you by the hand of Moses: That the slayer that killeth any person unawares and unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood” Joshua 20:2, 3.

The Jews are man-slayers. They are Christ killers, Acts 3:15 and the antichrist is **“the avenger of blood”** but the present generation of Jews are accomplices **“unwittingly”** and therefore merit protection – in Selah Petra or in mountainous areas such as Bashan and Gilead. Note that the southern wilderness is the same as that through which Israel travelled on her journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. She will return to the wilderness, according to the prophecy of Hosea, spoken long after the Exodus.

“Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her” Hosea 2:14.

The Jews continue to undergo great suffering at this time, because the Devil is intent on finishing off the faithful remnant. The Devil is able to furnish a flood in his efforts to destroy her:

“Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth” Job 40:23.

Revelation 12:15, 16 matches Daniel's prophecy with respect to the Devil's flood:

“And the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined” Daniel 9:26b.

There is miraculous intervention from the Lord to deliver His remnant, by means of an earthquake, to devour the flood brought on by the Evil One.

“And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” Revelation 12:14-17.

The above passage also indicates that Israel is able to fly part of the way out of danger^{5, p 323}, by means of an airlift to safety.

At the end of Daniel's 70th week, the Lord will shatter the armies of **"the beast"** at His return. (Note that the passages of scripture describing these events are not necessarily chronological but hierarchical with respect to detail, in a rather 'journalistic' style, instead of a 'logical sequence'. When the Lord wrote the Authorised Holy Bible, He possibly had in mind that most readers of the scripture would be more familiar with news papers (Acts 17:21!) than with scientific text books!) Revelation 19 announces the Lord's literal invasion of earth from heaven.

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean" Revelation 19:11-14.

This is God's final 'showdown' with the nations of the world when, driven by the devil, they converge on Jerusalem so that she is **"compassed with armies"** Luke 21:20. The battle will be on a vast scale, extending from the valley of Meggido in the north to the focal point at Jerusalem, **"a place called...Armageddon"** is literally **"the hill of the crowded"**^{5, p 459-460}, an apt designation because the host is vast. **"And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them"** Revelation 9:6.

"For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon" Revelation 16:14-16.

"Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem" Zechariah 12:2^{3, p 268-269}.

The following passages show that the returning Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, is overwhelmingly the Victor in the great battle around Jerusalem. The passage from Joel 2 shows that His own host accompanies Him. They are indestructible, supernatural, glorified beings, the saints who have been **"raised incorruptible"** and **"put on immortality"** 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52, Christians, who believed **"the gospel of the grace of God"** Acts 20:24 and were saved in every nation and in every age from Calvary onwards.

This passage therefore provides an answer to the question, where is the Church, the body of saved, born again Christian believers during the terrible events of the **"great tribulation"**? The answer is that the Christians have been **"caught up...in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air"** 1 Thessalonians 4:17, before these calamities take place^{1, p 78ff, 5, p 104ff}. In 1 Corinthians 15:51, 52, Paul also refers to the **"mystery"** of this catching away of believers. This term is used because this particular event was revealed to Paul, not to the writers of the Gospels who described other aspects of the Second Advent. The Church, which the scripture terms **"the body of Christ"** 1 Corinthians 10:16 and **"his body, of his flesh, and of his bones"** Ephesians 5:30, merits a separate study. However, in brief, to become a **"member"** of this body 1 Corinthians 12:27, one has only to **"believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved"** Acts 16:31, according to the plan of salvation outlined in 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4. See **Israel – the Restoration**. One will then be caught away before the time of **"Jacob's trouble"** or the **"great tribulation"** – see Matthew 24:21 above.

The size of the enemy host explains another vivid passage of scripture that describes the Lord's victory:

"And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs" Revelation 14:20. The distance is 200 miles. Nevertheless Israel continues to suffer at the hands of Satan and his host until the very end, despite the merciful provision of more than one **"city of refuge"** Joshua 21:13, in Selah Petra and elsewhere in the remoter parts of the land, including Bashan and Gilead. Here too God will miraculously feed His people.

"And out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Mahanaim with her suburbs" Joshua 21:38. Note that **"for"** in the verse means 'because of'.

"Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I show unto him marvellous things" Micah 7:14, 15. Observe that the context of this passage is future and draws an analogy with the Exodus. Note also the Lord's reference to possible cities of refuge in the mountainous places of the land^{12, p 32}.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid" Matthew 5:14.

If the Jew is fed miraculously, Micah 7:14, these mountain fastnesses would be very difficult even for a modern army to subdue. *And the Lord Jesus Christ showed that food could be provided miraculously for His followers:*

“And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and broke, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude” Matthew 14:19. Devotionally, the passage could be used to show how the ‘bread’ of the word of God, Matthew 4:4, may be used and reused to give spiritual life, 1 Peter 1:23, just like a Gospel tract may pass through many hands, bringing salvation time and again. However, prophetically, the passage points to the Jews’ supernatural food in the wilderness at the time of the Second Advent.

Further passages show how poignantly Israel will be reconciled to her true Messiah, in spite of her suffering. See later. It appears from the passages in Zechariah 12 that believing Jews will be amongst the relieving forces. *Note that the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ is speaking, using the pronoun “me”.*

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon” Zechariah 12:9-10.

Inspection of the scriptures reveals the route that the Lord will take on His return, with His supernatural army

“And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them” Deuteronomy 33:2.

This passage was *not* fulfilled during the Exodus. The Lord came alone in Exodus 19, not with ***“ten thousands of saints”*** but He *will* return with His saints at the Second Advent.

“To the end he may establish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints” 1 Thessalonians 3:13.

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him” Jude 14, 15.

Any Bible map will show that Seir and Paran are at least 50 miles north of Mount Sinai, so Deuteronomy 33:2 cannot refer to the giving of the law in Exodus 19. It is showing that the Lord’s host is moving inexorably up ***“the king’s highway”*** Number 20:21, with the Lord Jesus Christ at its head. Although this advance follows the route of the Exodus, which typifies it, it is *not* the Exodus. The children of Israel were not called ***“saints”*** during the Exodus but rather ***“a stiffnecked people”*** Exodus 32:9, inclined to rebellion, who would forsake the Lord after the death of Moses, Deuteronomy 32:27. Further, the Lord did not ***“shine forth”*** during the Exodus journey, He was ***“by day in a pillar of a cloud”*** Exodus 13:21.

The Lord’s host will move into Edom, bringing relief to the beleaguered remnant in Selah Petra, soundly defeating the first of the foe and eventually bringing rain to the relief of a parched land suffering severe drought following the testimony of Moses and Elijah. See Revelation 11:2-8 above and compare with 1 Kings 18:41-45. The Lord actually brings forth ***“rivers in the desert”*** for His people *as He had done before*, Numbers 20:8, 1 Corinthians 10:4.

“Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert” Isaiah 43:19. This passage has wonderful devotional application but the doctrinal context is the Second Advent.

“Thy bow was made quite naked, according to the oaths of the tribes, even thy word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers” Habakkuk 3:9. Note the reference again to Selah Petra. The Lord is slaying His foes, most likely converging on Petra and He is refreshing the Jewish remnant there.

“LORD, when thou wentest out of Seir, when thou marchest out of the field of Edom, the earth trembled, and the heavens dropped, the clouds also dropped water. The mountains melted from before the LORD, even that Sinai from before the LORD God of Israel” Judges 5:4, 5.

This did not happen during the Exodus or at the defeat of Sisera, the site of which, Mount Tabor, *is over 100 miles north of Edom.*

“O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah: The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was

moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel. Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary” Psalm 68:7-9.

The earth didn't shake when Israel marched through the wilderness during the Exodus journey, only during the judgement on Korah, Numbers 16:21. Although God intervened supernaturally during the conquest of Gibeon in Joshua 10:10-12, none of the battles of the Exodus or Canaan corresponds to the Lord's victory in Edom south of the Dead Sea. The Lord wins this battle on His own.

“Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come” Isaiah 63:1-4.

Luke 4:19 shows that this is not a First Advent passage. The Lord only quoted half of Isaiah 61:2 in Luke 4:19 because He came to bring salvation the first time, Luke 2:30, *not vengeance*. Isaiah 63:1-4 rightly inspired Moody and Sankey in their evangelistic ministry but doctrinally the passage is a reference to the Second Advent, especially Revelation 14:20, see above. The prophet Habakkuk makes this very clear.

“God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power. Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet” Habakkuk 3:3-5. ***“Teman”*** is another reference to Edom, *not Sinai of the Exodus*.

“The sun and moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, and at the shining of thy glittering spear. Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger. Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah” Habakkuk 3:11-13.

Habakkuk's prophecy is yet future. The supernatural events of Joshua 10:10-12 will be repeated at the Second Advent but the Lord Himself did not display ***“arrows”*** and a ***“glittering spear”*** during the conquest of Canaan. He used hailstones only - though these too will reappear at the Second Advent. See Isaiah 28:17. The remainder of the passage shows how the Lord will personally deliver a crushing blow to the papal antichrist before casting him and the false prophet into the lake of fire, which is also yet future. See Revelation 19:19-21 below and compare with Genesis 3:15. The Lord's word is a ***“sure word of prophecy”*** 2 Peter 1:19, though it may take many centuries to come to pass.

The great geological upheavals that the Lord's return causes will help the Jewish remnant in or near Jerusalem to escape the forces of the Roman antichrist. Some, alas, will have delayed their flight too long, those possibly associated with Israel's leaders, politicians and civil servants used to soft living and unused to making emergency decisions, like Lot whose dithering nearly cost him his deliverance.

“And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him” Genesis 19:16.

Note another possible carnal association between Jerusalem of the last time and ***“Sodom and Egypt”*** of Revelation 11:8. ***“Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fullness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy”*** Ezekiel 16:49.

“But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses” Matthew 11:8.

God had warned the inhabitants of Jerusalem of the impending calamity through the prophet Hosea:

“The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children” Hosea 13:13. As indicated, they are slow to heed and reap the terrible consequences, though final deliverance is near.

“For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. And ye shall flee to the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like

as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with thee.” Zechariah 14:2-5.

Finally, the remaining Israelites flee, aided by the earthquake. Then shall come to pass a ghastly feast for the carrion birds of prey, like that which was the fate of Gog and Magog, Ezekiel 39:4. This is another cruel irony because the followers of antichrist worshipped devils, which are likened to birds in scripture. They had persisted in this idolatrous worship in spite of God's judgements that had fallen before the battle at Jerusalem.

“And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk” Revelation 9:20.

“And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies” Revelation 18:1, 2.

This Babylon is **“MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”** Revelation 17:5, the Roman Catholic Church. See *Israel – the Signs*. God blames her for all the bloodshed on earth and thus He wreaks vengeance on her.

“And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth” Revelation 18:24.

“For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand” Revelation 19:2.

“And, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; Speak unto every feathered fowl, and to every beast of the field, Assemble yourselves, and come; gather yourselves on every side to my sacrifice that I do sacrifice for you, even a great sacrifice upon the mountains of Israel, that ye may eat flesh, and drink blood. Ye shall eat the flesh of the mighty, and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, of lambs, and of goats, of bullocks, all of them fatlings of Bashan” Ezekiel 39:17-18.

The Lord destroys the armies of the Roman antichrist and summarily executes the leaders. The **“lake of fire”** is in the area of ancient Edom, south of the Dead Sea. It has been kindled by **“the breath of the Lord”** and burning pitch – most likely erupting from the earthquake that occurs at the Lord's return – see Zechariah 14:2-5 above.

“For Tophet is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it” Isaiah 30:33.

“The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, it is made fat with fatness, and with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams: for the LORD hath a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Idumea” Isaiah 34:6. Clearly, the battle lines extend south, even to Edom.

“For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion. And the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch, and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch. It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up forever: from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it forever and ever” Isaiah 34:8-10.

“And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh” Revelation 19:19-21.

Daniel describes the antichrist's end.

“And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” Daniel 11:45.

Israel's traitorous leaders, who made the **“covenant with death”** Isaiah 28:15, will perish at the Second Advent, if they have not already died at the hands of **“the beast”**.

“Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste. Judgment also will

I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place” Isaiah 28:16, 17. This is another flood, of hail, that no doubt melts and overwhelms the traitorous leaders, just as the flood of Exodus 14:28 inundated Pharaoh and his host.

The ravenous beasts and birds of prey glut themselves. See Ezekiel 39:17-18 above. The following passage is also a fulfilment of Simeon’s prophecy that the Lord would ***“lighten the Gentiles”*** and be ***“the glory of thy people Israel”*** Luke 2:32.

“Thus ye shall be filled at my table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, and with all men of war, saith the Lord GOD. And I will set my glory among the heathen, and all the heathen shall see my judgment that I have executed, and my hand that I have laid upon them. So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward. And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me, therefore hid I my face from them, and gave them into the hand of their enemies: so fell they all by the sword. According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions have I done unto them, and hid my face from them. Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Now will I bring again the captivity of Jacob, and have mercy upon the whole house of Israel, and will be jealous for my holy name; After that they have borne their shame, and all their trespasses whereby they have trespassed against me, when they dwelt safely in their land, and none made them afraid. When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies’ lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations; Then shall they know that I am the LORD their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there” Ezekiel 39:20-28.

Joel’s prophecy emphasises the advance of the Lord’s army of glorified saints, the most fearful armed invasion the world has ever seen, or ever will see, made up of indestructible supernatural warriors more terrible than *Terminator!* It is irresistible and accompanied by more supernatural phenomena, as both Joel and Peter prophesied:

“Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?” Joel 2:1-11.

“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more” Joel 3:14-17.

Isaiah prophesies Israel’s conversion at the return of her Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, showing that it is miraculous, spontaneous and completed in a day.

“And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD” Isaiah 59:20. It appears that all Israel will turn to the Lord at this time, at or near the end of Daniel’s 70th week.

“Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children” Isaiah 66:8.

“For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day” Zechariah 3:9.

Paul confirms Isaiah’s and Zechariah’s prophecies.

“And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob” Romans 11:26.

Isaiah also reveals the fate of the Lord’s enemies and even after the battle at Jerusalem, there is a further judgement, that which the Lord executes upon all the nations of the world. The ***“burning pitch”*** of Edom, see Isaiah 34:8-10 above, becomes the pyre of those slain by the Lord.

“For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many” Isaiah 66:16.

“And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh” Isaiah 66:23, 24.

“And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts” Malachi 4:3.

This is the judgement of the nations, as found in Matthew 25.

“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 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” Matthew 25:31-34.

“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” Matthew 25:41.

Satan is captured and bound.

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years” Revelation 20:1, 2.

Jerusalem is then established as the true international capital of the world, with the Lord reigning in Zion. There will be genuine peace the world over, because ***“The Prince of Peace”*** is on the throne, fulfilling the prophecy of the angel Gabriel to Mary.

“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end” Luke 1:32, 33.

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” Isaiah 2:2-4.

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” Isaiah 9:5, 6.

However, the Lord will rule with ***“a rod of iron”***, Psalm 2:9. Disobedience to the Lord will be summarily punished – by casting into the lake of fire on earth, in Edom, see Isaiah 34:6 above – and thus idolatry, sin and evil will be eliminated. There will also be an end to prophecy, because the Lord will be reigning visibly in Jerusalem and the inhabitants of earth will no longer ***“walk by faith, not by sight”*** 2 Corinthians 5:7. 1,000 years of uninterrupted peace and rest will ensure, with the Lord’s people reigning with Him. These include the Christians, who in their lives and witness remained faithful to the Lord. ***“If we suffer, we shall***

also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us” 2 Timothy 2:12. (Those who did not will lose reward but not salvation. See 1 Corinthians 3:14, 15.)

Those put to death for their faithful testimony to the Lord during the harrowing years of great tribulation shall also reign with Christ.

“Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel” Psalm 2:6-9.

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years” Revelation 20:4.

“In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall no more be remembered: and also I will cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to pass out of the land. And it shall come to pass, that when any shall yet prophesy, then his father and his mother that begot him shall say unto him, Thou shalt not live; for thou speakest lies in the name of the LORD: and his father and his mother that begot him shall thrust him through when he prophesieth” Zechariah 13:1-3.

Media idols and icons will no longer be remembered!

“And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the LORD will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles” Zechariah 14:17-19.

“As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth” Matthew 13:40-42.

Israel will be fully reconciled to her Messiah, the temple and temple worship will be fully restored. Ezekiel 40-48 gives full details of the temple’s reconstruction and ordinances of service and worship.

“So the spirit took me up, and brought me into the inner court; and, behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house. And I heard him speaking unto me out of the house; and the man stood by me. And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, where I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel forever, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, neither they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcasses of their kings in their high places” Ezekiel 43:5-7.

“And the name of the city from that day shall be, The LORD is there” Ezekiel 48:35.

At the end of the 1,000-year reign of the Lord Jesus Christ, Satan is released to incite another rebellion against the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven. It is short lived. The Lord Jesus Christ executes judgement with rigour and dispatch. **“For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth”** Romans 9:28. (Note that under the Lord’s reign, the world is not a ‘global village’. Separate nations continue to exist, including **“Gog and Magog”**, as the scripture says **“according to the number of the children of Israel”** Deuteronomy 32:8, suggesting twelve national groupings.)

“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever” Revelation 20:7-10.

“Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death” 1 Corinthians 15:24-26.

“We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth” Revelation 11:17b, 18. This passage is remarkable in that it shows how the redeemed in Heaven review the whole of human history including the Daniel 70th week and the thousand year reign of the Lord and His saints, *while looking back from eternity*^{5, p 275ff}.

With death and the devil subdued, ***“the last enemy”*** 1 Corinthians 15: 26, then will come to pass the words of the grand old hymn:

***Hail to the Lord’s anointed, great David’s greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
To take away transgression and rule in equity.***

***He comes in succour speedy to those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in His sight.***

***He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.
Before Him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
And righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.***

***Kings shall fall down before Him, and gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing;
For He shall have dominion o’er river, sea and shore,
Far as the eagle’s pinion or dove’s light wing can soar.***

***For Him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end:
The mountain dews shall nourish a seed in weakness sown,
Whose fruit shall spread and flourish and shake like Lebanon.***

***O’er every foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest.
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His Name shall stand forever, His Name to us is Love.***

Of this future, that which Daniel said of old to King Nebuchadnezzar he says to all:

“The great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure” Daniel 2:45b.

Postscript

At the time of writing, one may believe the Gospel of Christ and thus be assured of salvation, eternal life, forgiveness of sin and deliverance from ***“the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth”*** Revelation 3:10. See comments on this Gospel at the end of ***Israel – the Restoration*** and comments on the Church, the body of true believers, above.

Daniel's 70th week, ***“the time of Jacob's trouble”*** Jeremiah 30:7, begins after the Church is delivered from this hour. This is the time of which the Lord said ***“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be”*** Matthew 24:21. It will still be possible to get saved but the Christian Gospel that applies today will no longer be in operation⁴³. Those left behind after the Church is ***“caught up together...to meet the Lord in the air”*** 1 Thessalonians 4:17, will have to ***“endure unto the end”*** Matthew 24:13, both in order to *get* saved and to *stay* saved. They will have to ***“keep the commandments of God, and...the testimony of Jesus Christ”*** Revelation 12:17, 14:11. Above all, they must refrain from taking ***“the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name”*** Revelation 13:17, the forerunner of which exists now, as the '666' bar code on most goods, *including food*. Those seeking salvation in the great tribulation must be willing to love God more than life itself.

“And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death” Revelation 12:10, 11. See also Revelation 6:9, 20:4.

Taking the mark will result in the judgement of hell:

“And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name” Revelation 14:11.

“The time of Jacob's trouble” cannot be far off. During this time, Satan and his hordes will have free rein – and reign! This world will become a den of terror for anyone left behind after the Lord has returned briefly to catch away His Church ***“as a thief in the night”*** 1 Thessalonians 5:2.

Anyone who knows not the Lord should therefore act upon the admonition of the apostle Paul without delay, while the offer of grace is still open:

“We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)” 2 Corinthians 6:1, 2.

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Appendix 1 - Myths and Facts about Israel

My Father's House Ministries, www.raptureme.com/rr-israel.html

Author's note. This excerpt provides further comment on the millennia long persecution of Israel, which will proceed into the future until the Lord returns. See **Israel – Apostasy and Dispersion**.

“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” Revelation 12:17.
See second paragraph:

The devil hates the Jewish people with a passion. The Jews are the ones that gave mankind the Bible and the Saviour Jesus Christ. It should come as no surprise that nations who are demonically controlled would share in the devil's hatred of Israel. On this page I've listed a number of popular myths about Israel, and I've also provided facts to counter those lies.

MYTH:

“The land of Israel is really the land of Palestine.”

FACT:

The term “Palestine” is believed to be derived from the Philistines, an Aegean people who, in the 12th Century BC, settled along the Mediterranean coastal plain of what is now Israel and the Gaza Strip. In the second century AD, after crushing the last Jewish revolt, the Romans first applied the name Palaestina to Judea (the southern portion of what is now called the West Bank) in an attempt to minimize Jewish identification with the land of Israel. The Arabic word “Filastin” is derived from this Latin name. There is no language known as Palestinian. There is no distinct Palestinian culture. There has never been a land known as Palestine governed by Palestinians. Palestinians are Arabs, indistinguishable from Jordanians (another recent invention), Syrians, Lebanese, Iraqis, etc.

MYTH:

“The Jews have no historic claim to Israel.”

FACT:

There is only one people who have continuously lived in Israel for the past 3,700 years - the Jews. Jerusalem, in particular, has had a Jewish majority since the 1840s, 40 years prior to the beginnings of Zionism. Seventy-five percent of the land in east Jerusalem, which the press calls “historically Arab east Jerusalem,” has been owned by Jews since 1947. The nations that inhabited the land prior to the Jews are no longer in existence, for they have been absorbed into various other peoples throughout the millennia. The Arabs of Israel only came to the land in 632 with the Muslim invasion

MYTH:

“The creation of the state of Israel in 1948 changed political and border arrangements between independent states that had existed for centuries.”

FACT:

The boundaries of most Middle East countries were arbitrarily fixed by the Western powers after Turkey was defeated in World War I and the French and British mandates were set up. The areas allotted to Israel under the UN partition plan had all been under the control of the Ottomans, who had ruled Palestine from 1517 until 1917. When Turkey was defeated in World War I, the French took over the area now known as Lebanon and Syria. The British assumed control of Palestine and Iraq. In 1926, the borders were redrawn and Lebanon was separated from Syria. Britain installed the Emir Faisal, who had been deposed by the French in Syria, as ruler of the new kingdom of Iraq. In 1922, the British created the emirate of Transjordan, which incorporated all of Palestine east of the Jordan River. This was done so that the Emir Abdullah, whose family had been defeated in tribal warfare in the Arabian peninsula, would have a Kingdom to rule. None of the countries that border Israel became independent until this century. Many other Arab nations became independent after Israel.

MYTH:

"Israel violates the human rights of the Palestinian Arabs."

FACT:

The FACTs are different. Israel granted full citizenship to all of the Palestinian Arabs who fell within its borders after the War of Independence. Arabic is an official language in Israel. Israel remains to this day one of the few countries in the Middle East where Arabs can legitimately vote and the only one where women can vote.

MYTH:

"The West Bank is part of Jordan."

FACT:

The West Bank was never legally part of Jordan. Under the UN's 1947 partition plan - which the Jews accepted and the Arabs rejected - it was to have been part of an independent Arab state in western Palestine. But the Jordanian army invaded and occupied it during the 1948 war. In 1950, Jordan annexed the West Bank. Only two governments - Great Britain and Pakistan - formally recognized the Jordanian takeover. The rest of the world, including the United States, never did. During the 1950-1967 period of its occupation, Jordan permitted terrorists to launch raids into Israel. Amman lost the West Bank after the Jordanian army entered the 1967 war.

MYTH:

"Jerusalem is Islam's third most holy city."

FACT:

Muslims try to connect Jerusalem to Islam by using a vague passage in the Koran, the seventeenth Sura, entitled "The Night Journey." It relates that in a dream or a vision Mohammed was carried by night "from the sacred temple to the temple that is most remote, whose precinct we have blessed, that we might show him our signs...". In the seventh century, some Muslims identified the two temples mentioned in this verse as being in Mecca and Jerusalem. And that's as close as Islam's connection with Jerusalem gets - myth, fantasy, wishful thinking. Meanwhile, Jews can trace their roots in Jerusalem back to the days of Abraham.

MYTH:

"The Temple Mount has always been a Muslim holy place and Judaism has no connection to the site."

FACT:

The area of Solomon's Stables is believed to date as far back as the construction of Solomon's Temple. According to Josephus, it was in existence and was used as a place of refuge by the Jews at the time of the conquest of Jerusalem by Titus in the year 70 AD. More authoritatively, the Koran - the holy book of Islam - describes Solomon's construction of the First Temple (34:13) and recounts the destruction of the First and Second Temples (17:7). The Jewish connection to the Temple Mount dates back more than 3,000 years and is rooted in tradition and history. When Abraham bound his son Isaac upon an altar as a sacrifice to God, he did so atop Mount Moriah, today's Temple Mount.

MYTH:

"Under Israeli rule, religious freedom has been curbed in Jerusalem."

FACT:

After the 1967 war, Israel abolished all the discriminatory laws promulgated by Jordan and adopted its own tough standard for safeguarding access to religious shrines. "Whoever does anything that is likely to violate the freedom of access of the members of the various religions to the places sacred to them," Israeli law stipulates, is "liable to imprisonment for a term of five years." Israel also entrusted administration of the holy places to their respective religious authorities. Thus, for example, the Muslim Waqf has responsibility for the mosques on the Temple Mount.

MYTH:

"The Arab states have had to keep pace with an Israeli-led arms race."

FACT:

In most cases, the reverse was true. Egypt received the Soviet IL-28 bomber in 1955. It was not until 1958 that France provided Israel with a squadron of comparable Sud Vautour twin-jet tactical bombers. In 1957, Egypt obtained MiG-17 fighter planes. Israel received the comparable Super Mystere in 1959. Egypt had submarines in 1957, Israel in 1959. After the Egyptians obtained the MiG-21, the Israelis ordered the Dassault Mirage III supersonic interceptor and fighter-bomber. Egypt received ground-to-air missiles - the SA-2 - two years before Israel obtained HAWK missiles from the United States. Later, Washington reluctantly agreed to sell Israel Patton tanks.

MYTH:

"Israel's destruction of Iraqi nuclear facilities was an unjust act."

FACT:

Back in June 1981 after the Israelis bombed the plant at Osirak the UN Security Council unanimously condemned Israel. Washington ostentatiously held up its delivery of armaments to Israel. A decade later, however, the strike looks awfully good. Had Saddam Hussein been armed with nuclear weapons during the war with Iran, much of Tehran would by now be obliterated and large sections of Iran annexed to Iraq. More: Iraqi forces might have rolled straight from Kuwait into Saudi Arabia-long before American forces could have arrived. Today, [2002] Saddam could already control five of the oil-rich countries and thereby over half the world's oil reserves. Economic disaster would be one result; and American troops would have no good place to land.

MYTH:

"Israel has been an expansionist state since its creation."

FACT:

Israel's boundaries were determined by the United Nations when it adopted the partition resolution in 1947. In a series of defensive wars, Israel captured additional territory. On numerous occasions, Israel has withdrawn from these areas. As part of the 1974 disengagement agreement, Israel returned territories captured in the 1967 and 1973 wars to Syria. Under the terms of the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, Israel withdrew from the Sinai peninsula for the third time. It had already withdrawn from large parts of the desert area it captured in its War of Independence. After capturing the entire Sinai in the 1956 Suez conflict, Israel relinquished the peninsula to Egypt a year later. In September 1983, Israel withdrew from large areas of Lebanon to positions south of the Awali River. In 1985, it completed its withdrawal from Lebanon, except for a narrow security zone just north of the Israeli border. That too was abandoned, unilaterally, in 2000. After signing peace agreements with the Palestinians, and a treaty with Jordan, Israel agreed to withdraw from most of the territory in the West Bank captured from Jordan in 1967. A small area was returned to Jordan, the rest was ceded to the Palestinian Authority. The agreement with the Palestinians also involved Israel's withdrawal in 1994 from most of the Gaza Strip, which had been captured from Egypt in 1973.

MYTH:

"Israel is the aggressor in the current conflict."

FACTS:

One: *The Palestinians are the aggressor; they started the conflict, and they purposely drive it forward with fresh killing on almost a daily basis.*

Two: *The Palestinians regard this second intifada not as a sporadically violent protest movement but as a war, with the clear strategic aim of forcing a scared and emotionally exhausted Israel to surrender on terms that would threaten Israel's viability.*

Three: *As a tactic in this strategy, the Palestinians will not fight Israeli forces directly but instead have concentrated their efforts on murdering Israeli civilians. The greater the number, the more pathetically vulnerable the victims - disco-goers, women and children in a pizza restaurant - the better.*

Four: *Israel has acted defensively in this conflict; and while Israeli forces accidentally killed Palestinian civilians, their planned lethal attacks have all been aimed only at Palestinian military and terror-group leaders.*

The words of Solomon are apposite:

"He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him"
Proverbs 18:17.

Appendix 2 – ‘Khazars,’ ‘Conspiracy,’ Holocaust -2010 Notes, Updated 2013

The Khazar Heresy

Some right-wing conservatives in the UK and the US, including Christian fundamentalists, insist that the Jews of today are in reality the descendants of Gentile Khazars and not Biblical Jews. Dr Peter Ruckman summarises the matter quite in his book *Israel: A Deadly Piece of Dirt* (see **References**), pp. 207-209. Comments in braces are from American Baptist researcher Eric Jon Phelps, www.vaticanassassins.org/.

“On the evening of the Bolshevik Revolution, there were still 3,000,000 Jews in Russia; many of them took Communist posts in Lenin’s dictatorship.

“When these Jews became ‘commissars,’ they were all labelled as full-blooded ‘Reds;’ so, much of the anti-Semitic literature in America between 1920 and 1980 blames the Jews for the promotion of Communism. Along with this one will find (in the radically anti-Semitic publications in Europe [put forth by the Jesuits] the false information to the effect that every Jew in America is really a Russian ‘Khazar.’

“This means that any right-wing Conservative - especially the Roman Catholic Conservatives - can safely persecute Israel (or ‘Israelites’ or ‘Jews,’ etc.) and get away with it without incurring the curse that God mentioned to Abraham (Gen.12:1-3), which was passed on to Isaac and then Jacob and then to the twelve literal Jewish TRIBES...

“The way that American Catholics try to get out from under this curse - so they can treat Jews the way Hitler treated them - is to pretend that the modern Jew is not the real ‘Israel.’ Conservative Protestants produce Scripture to support this delusion (Rom. 2:29) [refusing to distinguish those who are “Jews inwardly” referred to in this scripture, and those who are racial Jews as were the Apostle Paul (Acts 21:39) and the Apostle Peter (Gal. 2:14)]...

The ‘party line’ with British-Israelites, Black Muslims, and ‘Yahwehists’ is that the modern Jew is nothing but a mongrel half-breed Jew, ‘like the ones who killed Jesus Christ.’ If you can couple the Khazars with the Protocols [authored by French Jesuits in their Community of Sion in Valais just prior to the Dreyfus Affair] (see App. 1), you can carry out Adolph’s ‘final solution’ without any qualms of conscience. That is the material on which he ‘cut his teeth’ in [Jesuit-ruled, Roman Catholic] Vienna before World War I.

‘Khazaria’ was a land of nomad, heathen Russians who lived in central Asia between the Black and Caspian Seas. They stretched inland (north of the Georgia-Armenia area by about 400-500 miles; extending from Guranji on the east, to the Oxus River, to Buda and Kazimierz on the west). The Jews of the Diaspora had the good fortune to lead one of their kings (Bulan) to become a convert to Judaism (see Esther 8:17) in A.D. 700 [A.D. 740]. A later king (Obadiah) invited Rabbis into Khazaria to set up a ‘Supreme Court.’ It had seven judges; these judges were two Jews, two Christians, two Moslems, and one ‘heathen.’ (A fair and square set up if you ever saw one!).

In A.D. 970, Russian troops attacked Khazaria, and by 1016, they had overrun it and driven every Jew out of Russia or Byzantium (Constantinople) or to seaports on the Mediterranean in Greece, Albania, and Turkey. There is no historical evidence, whatsoever to prove that one single Jew in Europe or America is (or ever was) a ‘Khazar.’ If either case were true, it would mean nothing. Every ‘Caucasian’ in America today was certainly not from the Caucasus (A Caucasian) in his former ‘estate.’ Hundreds of thousands of them had been Germans, Irishmen, and Englishmen; and thousands of them had been Frenchmen, Slavs, and Italians. ‘Khazaria’ went out of business more than 900 years ago.”

Additional notes follow.

2010 Notes - ‘Khazar’ Jews

One of the main planks of anti-Semitism is that modern Jews are ‘Khazars,’ or descendants of converted Gentiles. This falsehood is used as a means of justifying Muslim terror in Israel.

However, Esther 8:17 states **“And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king’s commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.”**

The scriptural lesson here is that a mass conversion of Gentiles to Jews will only take place through fear.

No such circumstances have arisen amongst Gentiles, anywhere, at any time, during the Jewish Diaspora of the last two millennia.

Scripturally, therefore, it must be concluded that the supposed ‘Khazar’ ancestry of modern Jews is a lie - and all that derives from it, including support for the supposed ‘Palestinians’ against Israel.

2010 Notes Updated 2013 – Jewish ‘Conspiracy’

Anti-Semitism in the West often focuses on an alleged ‘Jewish ‘Conspiracy.’

There is no Jewish Conspiracy. Anti-Semitism stems from greed and jealousy.

It is common knowledge that the Jew is unusually gifted with respect to making money. God has given the Jew this ability to enable him to survive the millennia-long Diaspora. But the Gentile loves money. Greed and jealousy on his part toward the Jew therefore often follow.

It is true that some Jews have used their unusual money-making abilities for avaricious ends, e.g. international profiteering (Rothschild, Schiff) and even criminal ventures (Lepke, Lansky, Siegel, Cohen, Schultz etc.) - although the latter group has been greatly outnumbered by Italian, Sicilian and Irish Catholics.

Of course, it is also regrettably true that some Jews have engaged in nefarious politics with globalist implications, e.g. Marx, Trotsky, though again, they are far outnumbered by Papists, especially the SJ, Society of Jesus, or Jesuits.

But all such activities are entirely out with the Jewish scriptures. If the Jew obeys his scriptures, he *cannot* engage in a conspiracy against his host community, his host nation and by extension, against any nation and therefore the world, as God’s instructions to His people through the prophet Jeremiah show unequivocally.

“And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace” Jeremiah 29:7.

Historically, that instruction applied to the Babylonian Captivity under Nebuchadnezzar but in principle, it applies to the Diaspora.

However, a Muslim *can* engage in conspiracy, and indeed *must*, according to his belief system. Any non-Muslim country is perceived as being part of *Dar-al-Harb*, the House of War¹. Jihad, including conspiracy, must be pursued until that country, e.g. Britain, is forced into *Dar-al-Islam*, the House of Islam.

The same applies for the Catholic, whose belief system requires that the whole world be brought under the thralldom of the Pope of Rome. (Contemporary Marxists will basically fall into line with Papists, under the aegis of ‘Liberation Theology.’ Sinn Fein/IRA members Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness are two examples.)

A British Catholic *may* perceive his first loyalty to his host nation but he violates his own belief system in so doing and is therefore not a ‘good’ Catholic. The same applies to a Muslim. Both Catholicism and Islam are church-state ideologies. Judaism is also a church-state but only within the biblically ordained borders of the land of Israel, which is another reason why a scriptural Jew cannot engage in a global conspiracy.

The following comments are apposite, as they apply to Britain but by extension to the USA or any nominally Protestant nation. They encapsulate the true Catholic position with respect to the ruler-ship of that particular nation.

“Let us never forget that whatever [Queen Elizabeth’s] boasted authority may be it is as nothing and less than nothing compared to that of the Vicar of Christ².”

“The law of God that is the Pope’s command will be or rather has been and is being carried into effect: the Parliamentary lie will be spit upon and trampled underfoot³.”

The truth of those comments had tragic consequences for the Jewish people in Europe in the 1930s. **Albert Close was a Protestant Christian historian. He revealed that when Oxford Don, Mr R.H. Crossman, was investigating the pre-war Hitlerian blood purges, he was told repeatedly, “The pope [is] behind all the trouble⁴.”**

Mr Crossman attempted to broadcast this from Berlin in July 1934, via the BBC. The broadcast was suddenly cut off when he mentioned the pope. No explanation was ever given. The then BBC Chairman, Lord Reith, was part of the cover-up.

That BBC cover-up helped bring about World War 2. That war resulted in 60,000,000-80,000,000 dead according to the latest estimates⁵, including 500,000 deaths from Britain and the Commonwealth and almost 6,000,000 Jewish deaths. See additional details below under **2010 Notes Updated 2013 – Nazi Inquisition (aka Holocaust)**.

It is no accident, that the present-day director-general of the BBC is Mark Thompson [2004-2012]⁶, who is a Catholic, as is Mark Byford, his deputy [2004-2011]⁷.

Thompson is said to be the most influential lay Catholic in Britain⁸. No doubt he is. The BBC still portrays the pope as a man of God, not the antichrist (which he is).

In other words, Britain, Israel, the USA and the Jewish people have the same enemy as they have always had. Our national leaders do not understand this because, if not conspiratorial agents of the enemy themselves (which is entirely possible) then as Paul reveals in Romans 11:25, they are conceited and ignorant - which adjectives are also apposite if they *are* enemy agents.

“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.”

At the Second Advent, the Lord will remove the blindness that besets all nations, including Israel.

“And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations” Isaiah 25:7.

And Zechariah 14:9 will come to pass.

“And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one.”

Amen.

2010 Notes Updated 2013 – Catholic Nazi Inquisition (aka Nazi Holocaust)

That the WW2 Holocaust took place is demonstrated by a number of reputable sources.

This author received eye-witness accounts from a senior NCO of the 2nd Battalion, the Grenadier Guards and an officer of the 6th Battalion, the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) who independently gave graphic accounts of the state of Sandbostel Camp in May 1945.

These sources are considered by this author to be impeccable.

A written account of caring for Sandbostel victims is found in *A Nurse's War* ISBN 0 7221 5774 6, by Brenda (n) McBryde, QAIMNS/R. Parallel accounts of Belsen, liberated in April 1945, may be found in *Grey Touched with Scarlet*, by Jean Bowden and *Front-Line Nurse*, by Eric Taylor, ISBN 0-7090-5819-5. These books may be difficult to obtain but they are very detailed.

As for the numbers of Jews who died in the camps, the modern estimate of almost 6,000,000 agrees closely with the figure given in the well-researched booklet *The Godfathers*, based in part on 'insider' testimony by a converted ex-Jesuit priest, the late Dr Alberto Rivera, who indicates 6,500,000 Jewish deaths, p 23.

See www.chick.com/catalog/comics/0114.asp.

A detailed breakdown of victims by location (concentration and extermination camps) may be obtained from Purnell's *History of the Second World War*, Volume 5, p 2150ff. The item was written by a Czech national, Rudolph Vbra, who was sent to Auschwitz in June 1942 and escaped in August 1944, serving afterwards with the Czech Partisans. Vbra's figures are as follows. Note, they appear to be separate from Russian POW deaths, as these victims would have been incarcerated in ordinary POW camps - such as Stalag 11B, near Fallingbostel and Stalag 18C near Markt Pongau, Austria, where British POWs captured at Arnhem, September 1944, were also sent.

Deaths - Extermination Camps (Essentially for Jewish inmates. All of these camps were located in Catholic Poland (90% Catholic⁹), not Germany, which was still partly Protestant, though all her leaders were Catholic - co-religionists of Tony and Cherie Blair and Gerry Adams.)

Auschwitz-Birkenau	2,000,000
Belzec	600,000
Chelmno	600,000
Maidanek	1,380,000
Sobibor	250,000
Stutthof	67,500
Treblinka	<u>731,800</u>
Sub total	5,629,300

Deaths - Concentration Camps (Including non-Jews. These camps were smaller, incurred deaths from forced labour or disease and were mostly located in Germany. The list is not exhaustive. Alderney¹⁰, in the Channel Islands, for example, was also a concentration camp in WW2 after the original inhabitants were moved to a German l'ag in 1940-41.)

Belsen-Bergen	50,000
Buchenwald	63,500
Dachau	70,000
Flossenburg	74,000
Mauthausen	138,500
Ravensbruck	92,000*

*For women. A number of British female SOE agents, including the beautiful and courageous Violette Szabo, *Carve Her Name with Pride*, starring Virginia McKenna, 1958, were executed there in WW2.

Sachsenhausen	100,000
Theresienstadt	<u>35,000</u>
Sub total	<u>623,000</u>
Total	6,252,300

Of whom approximately 90% were Jews, at a minimum.

Rudolf Vbra's figures essentially agree with contemporary estimates and that of Dr Rivera, who testifies in *The Godfathers* that today's Holocaust i.e. Inquisition deniers are Vatican-spawned. Rome has never challenged the late Dr Rivera's testimony. See also Dr Ruckman's *Ruckman Reference Bible* Appendix 15.

Moreover, Gerald Graber in his book *History of the SS*, David Mackay Co., 1978, ISBN 0-297-84720-1, p 11, confirms that Himmler and other Nazis, including Hitler, went to mass regularly as school pupils and took their Catholicism very seriously¹¹. Graber gives a 6,000,000+ figure for Jewish deaths in the extermination and concentration camps of WW2.

Another work, *El Alamein Halting a possible Holocaust in the Middle East* by Kelvin Crombie ISBN 978-0-9783630-1-5, reveals that Hitler intended to send a specialized SS murder squad, the Einsatzkommando Egypt, to the Middle East to eliminate all Jews in that area after an anticipated victory by Rommel's Afrika Korps. Arab collaborators would assist the squad and be rewarded with full occupation of the land of Israel. The Allied victory in North Africa forestalled these joint intentions of Rome, Hitler's Germany and the Arabs but Crombie's book thereby gives independent testimony to the pope's WW2 efforts to wipe out Jewry.

"And in her ["MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" Revelation 17:5, i.e. the Catholic Church] was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth" Revelation 18:24.

Alan O'Reilly
November 2010 updated August 2013

Appendix 2 References

- 1 *Slavery, Terrorism and Islam* by Peter Hammond, Christian Liberty Books, pp 23ff
- 2 *Jesuit Plots from Elizabethan to Modern Times*, Albert Close, The Protestant Truth Society, p 39
- 3 *Top 100 Most Influential Lay Catholics*, Ekklesia
- 4 The Catholic *Vindicator*, cited in *No Pope Here*, by Dr Ian R.K. Paisley, p 19, also *The Popish Plot Exposed by Rome Herself*, www.ianpaisley.org
- 5 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II_casualties
- 6 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Thompson_%28television_executive%29
- 7 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Thompson_%28television_executive%29
- 8 *The Tablet*, July 26th, 1851, cited in *No Pope Here*, by Dr Ian R.K. Paisley, p 19, also *The Popish Plot Exposed by Rome Herself*, www.ianpaisley.org
- 9 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholicism_in_Poland
- 10 en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alderney_concentration_camps
- 11 *Bible Believers' Bulletin*, Bible Baptist Church, P.O. Box 7135, Pensacola, Florida 32534, December 2005, pp 1, 13