



# LAMPLIGHTER

*"Prophecy is like a lamp shining in a dark place." - II Peter 1:19*

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## Anti-Semitism

Its Roots and Perseverance





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# Observations by the Editor

## Our Cover

I took the photo on the cover of this issue while I was in Israel with a pilgrimage group this past June. It was taken at Yad Vashem, the Israeli Holocaust Museum that is located in Jerusalem.

The picture shows the entrance to the Children's Memorial. Why a memorial to children? Most people seem unaware of the fact that more than one and a half million children were murdered in the Holocaust by the Nazis.

The rows of white tree-like posts of varying heights symbolize the children whose lives were cut short at different ages. The entrance leads downward to an iron door that opens into a dark, underground room. The room is so dark that as you walk through it you must hold onto a railing to keep from losing your direction or falling.

In the center of the room there are five lit candles. These candles are reflected by hundreds of mirrors, producing innumerable dots of light in the surrounding glass walls, reminiscent of a starlit sky. In the background somber music plays while voices read out in Hebrew, English and Yiddish the names, ages, and places of origin of the children who perished in the Holocaust. To say the least, it is a heart-wrenching experience to walk through this memorial.

The Children's Memorial was designed by world renowned architect, Moshe Safdie. It was financed by Abraham and Edith Spiegel of Beverly Hills, California who lost a son named Uziel at the Auschwitz concentration camp. A bas-relief of their son, who was murdered at the age of 2½ years, appears on the wall at the entrance to the memorial.



**Uziel Spiegel**



**Dr. David R. Reagan**

Although children were seldom the targets of Nazi violence because they were children, they were persecuted along with their families for racial, religious or political reasons. Children were separated from their families when they arrived at concentration camps and were killed immediately, most together with their mothers. The fathers and older children were spared for slave labor. Many of the children were used for bizarre medical experiments. On page 11 you will find the biographies of two children who were victims of Nazi anti-Semitism.

## Our Next Issue

After reading this month's feature story about Christian anti-Semitism, you will understand why it has been so difficult to share the Gospel with Jews throughout the history of Christianity.

Yet, following the Six Day War in 1967 and the Jewish re-occupation of the city of Jerusalem for the first time in 1,897 years, Jews began to accept Jesus as their Messiah in record numbers. The key was the development of Messianic Judaism.

Next month, the Lord willing, we will take a look at this phenomenal movement. We will see where it came from, and we will consider the elements that have made it so successful. We will also consider why it continues to be so controversial among Christians, despite its success. Most important, we will see that its sudden emergence and success are very definite signs that we are living in the season of the Lord's return. ☆

# Anti-Semitism: Its Roots and Perseverance



An anti-Semitic cartoon published in Germany during the rise of Nazism. The caption reads: "Even the baptizing didn't make him a non-Jew." Source: The archives of Yad Vashem.

## Dr. David R. Reagan

I recently spoke at a conference where I was assigned the topic, "Israel in the End Times." I think I startled a lot of people when I began my presentation by asking the question, "Is there really any role for Israel in God's plan for the end times?" I'm sure most of my audience thought it was a silly question because most of them were students of Bible prophecy and they were aware of the fact that the Jewish people are the focal point of end time Bible prophecy.

But I proceeded to assure them that the question was not a silly one. I explained that for almost 2,000 years the Church at

large, both Catholic and Protestant, has maintained that due to the fact the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah, God poured out His wrath on them in 70 AD, destroying their nation and their temple, and that He has washed His hands of them, leaving them with no purpose whatsoever as a nation. In short, because of their rebellion against God in their rejection of Jesus, God has replaced Israel with the Church, transferring the blessings promised to Israel to the Church.

This is called "Replacement Theology," and those who believe in it constitute the majority of professing Christians today. Accordingly, they consider modern day Israel to be an accident of history, with no spiritual significance whatsoever.

And therefore, they would deny that God has any special plans for the Jewish people in the end times. Again, to them, the regathering of the Jews and the re-establishment of Israel are simply accidents of history, with no spiritual significance.

### The Origin of Replacement Theology

The roots of Replacement Theology and its fruit of anti-Semitism go back to the very beginning of Christianity.

This is ironic when you consider the fact that the Church began as a Jewish institution. It was founded in Judea by Jews who were followers of a Jewish Messiah, and all its founding documents were written by Jews.<sup>1</sup>

The symbol on the right is the oldest Christian symbol that has ever been found. It clearly emphasizes the Jewish origins of Christianity. The symbol is carved into artifacts found in Jerusalem that date back to the First Century.<sup>2</sup> As you can see, it shows the fish, the symbol of the Church, emerging from Jewish roots, represented by the Menorah and the Star of David. The fish became a symbol for Christians because the word for fish in Greek is *ichthys*, and Christians used the letters of this word, ICHTHUS, as an acronym for Iesous, Christos, Theos, Huios, and Soter, meaning Jesus Christ, God's Son and Savior.

But the distinctive Jewish flavor of early Christianity was not to last long. As the Church began to spread beyond Judea, its message was embraced by more and more Gentiles who had no interest in maintaining contact with the Church's Jewish roots. Even worse, the new Gentile leaders began to turn against the Jews by characterizing them as "Christ killers."

Consider the following examples:<sup>3</sup>

**Ignatius of Antioch** (ca 50-117 AD) — Taught that those who partake of the Passover are partakers with those who killed Jesus.<sup>4</sup>

**Justin Martyr** (100-106 AD) — Claimed God's covenant with Israel was no longer valid and that the Gentiles had replaced the Jews.<sup>5</sup>

**Irenaeus** (ca 130-202 AD) — Declared the Jews were disinherited from the grace of God.<sup>6</sup>

**Tertullian** (ca 155-230 AD) — Blamed the Jews for the death of Jesus and argued they had been rejected by God.<sup>7</sup>

**Origen** (185-254 AD) — He was responsible for much anti-Semitism, all of which was based on his assertion that the Jews were responsible for killing Jesus.<sup>8</sup>

**The Council of Elvira** (305 AD in Spain) — Prohibited Christians from sharing a meal with a Jew, marrying a Jew, blessing a Jew or observing the Sabbath.<sup>9</sup>

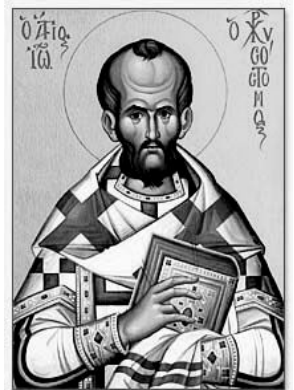
**The Council of Nicea** (325 AD in Turkey) — Changed the celebration of the Resurrection from the Jewish Feast of First Fruits to Easter in an attempt to disassociate it from Jewish feasts. The Council stated: "For it is unbecoming beyond

measure that on this holiest of festivals we should follow the customs of the Jews. Henceforth let us have nothing in common with this odious people . . ."<sup>10</sup>

**Eusebius** (ca 275-339 AD) — Taught that the promises of Scripture were meant for the Gentiles and the curses were meant for the Jews. Asserted that the Church was the "true Israel."<sup>11</sup>

**John Chrysostom** (349-407 AD) —

Preached a series of sermons against the Jews in which he stated, "The synagogue is not only a brothel and a theater, it is also a den of robbers and lodging place for wild beasts . . . Jews are inveterate murderers possessed by the Devil. Their debauchery and drunkenness gives the manners of a pig." He denied that Jews could ever receive forgiveness. He claimed it was a Christian duty to hate Jews. He claimed that Jews worshiped Satan. And this man was canonized a saint!<sup>12</sup>



John Chrysostom

**Jerome** (ca 347-420 AD) — Described the Jews as "... serpents wearing the image of Judas. Their psalms and prayers are the braying of donkeys . . . They are incapable of understanding Scripture . . ."<sup>13</sup>

**St. Augustine** (354-430 AD) — Asserted that the Jews deserved death but were destined to wander the earth to witness the victory of the Church over the synagogue."<sup>14</sup>

### The Middle Ages

By the Middle Ages, two erroneous concepts had become established Church doctrine:

- 1) The Jews should be considered "Christ killers" and should be mistreated accordingly.
- 2) The Church has replaced Israel, and God has no future purpose for the Jews.

These concepts were reinforced throughout the Middle Ages through the Crusades, the Inquisition, passion plays, the black plague epidemic, and blood libels.

In 1095 Pope Urban II called for a crusade to rid the Holy



Pope Urban II

Land of its Muslim rulers. Although the prime goal of the crusade was to liberate Jerusalem from the Muslims, Jews were a second target. The accumulated hatreds and fears resulting from charges of deicide (the murder of God) exploded with this call to arms. The abbot of Cluny asked why Christians should travel to "the ends of the world to fight the Saracens, when we permit among us other infidels a thousand times more guilty toward Christ than the Mohammedans?" Religious passion, greed, and the vulnerability of Jews led to the rise of violent mobs who murdered thousands of Jews to the

cry of “Conversion or death!” This behavior continued for eight additional crusades until the 9th in 1272.<sup>15</sup>

Passion plays abounded during the Middle Ages, and they were used to cultivate hatred toward the Jewish people. Jews were depicted as demons who knew full well that Christ was the son of God. In each play, as Christ carried the cross, he was tortured by bloodthirsty, cursing devils with hooked noses, horns and tails. The Jews were made to seem as evil as Christ was divine.<sup>16</sup>

Throughout the Middle Ages, professing Christians spread myths which helped to heighten popular hatred and fear of the Jewish people. As a result, it became commonplace among Christian groups to think of Jews as agents of Satan. One of the most popular anti-Jewish myths that gained widespread acceptance was the notion that Jews murdered Christians each year around the time of Passover in order to get blood needed to perform satanic rites. This became known as the charge of ritual murder or “blood libel.” Another common myth that circulated during these years was that Jews would steal the wafers used in communion and stab them with knives, thus killing Christ once again!<sup>17</sup>



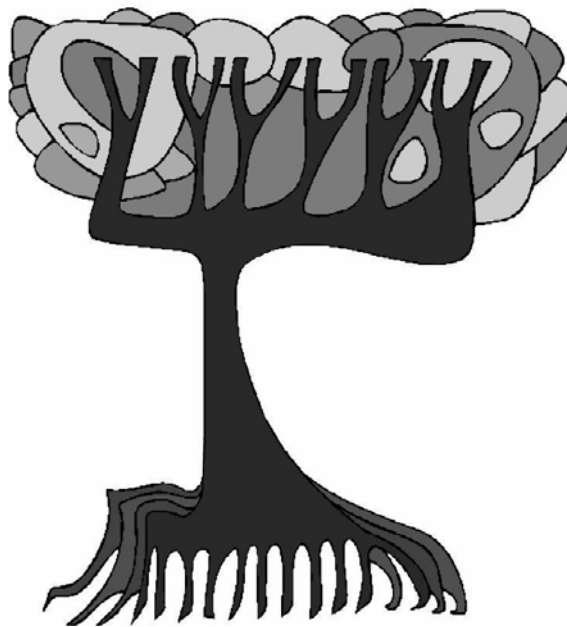
The Black Plague in the middle of the fourteenth century killed approximately one-third of the population of Europe. At the time, it was not known how the illness spread, but stories and rumors circulated that Jews had poisoned the wells. Although the accusation was totally unfounded, many Christians believed the myth. One reason it was easy to believe is because the Jews were not impacted by the plague as

much as were the Gentiles. But this was due to the sanitary laws of the Bible which the Jews carefully followed. This accusation led to severe consequences for Jews. More than sixty Jewish communities were burned to the ground with all their occupants killed, and in some places, Jews were tortured and burned to death in bonfires.<sup>18</sup>

In 1478, Pope Sixtus IV granted the monarchs of Spain, Ferdinand and Isabella, the right to establish a special inquisition in Spain to deal with baptized Jews who were suspected of remaining faithful to Judaism. Thousands were burned at the stake by order of the Spanish Inquisition. In 1492, King Ferdinand decided that all Spanish Jews should be banned from Spain. It



# Anti-Semitism



## Replacement Theology

was feared that Jews were a danger to Christianity. Approximately 150,000 Jews were forced to leave Spain.<sup>19</sup>

### The Impact of the Reformation

Unfortunately, the Reformation produced no changes in attitude. In fact, the hatred of the Jews was reinforced and intensified by the writings of Martin Luther, the very man who launched the Reformation.

Initially, Luther was sympathetic toward the Jews because he believed their rejection of the Gospel was due to their recognition of the corruption of the Roman Catholic Church.

But when they continued to reject the Gospel, Luther turned on them with a vengeance. In 1543 he wrote a pamphlet entitled “Concerning The Jews and Their Lies.” The document was an anti-Semitic diatribe. In it, he referred to the Jews as:<sup>20</sup>

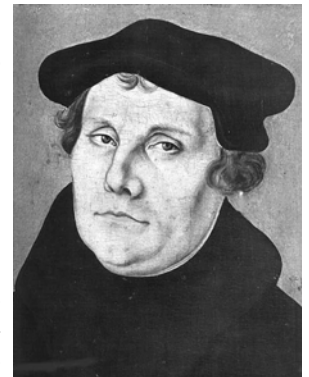
- “A miserable and accursed people”
- “Stupid fools”
- “Miserable, blind and senseless”
- “Thieves and robbers”
- “The great vermin of humanity”
- “Lazy rogues”
- “Blind and venomous”

Having dehumanized and demonized them, Luther then proceeded to make some startling proposals for dealing with them:

- 1) Their synagogues and schools should be burned.
- 2) Their houses should be destroyed.
- 3) Their Talmudic writings should be confiscated.
- 4) Their Rabbis should be forbidden to teach.
- 5) Their money should be taken from them.
- 6) They should be compelled into forced labor.

Needless to say, the Nazis gleefully quoted Luther as they rose to power and launched the Holocaust. In his book *Mein Kampf*, published in 1925, Adolf Hitler referred to Martin Luther as “a great warrior, a true statesmen, and a great reformer.” Keep in mind that Hitler was a professed Christian.

In 1924 at a Christian gathering in Berlin, Hitler spoke to thousands and received a standing ovation when he made the following proclamation: “I believe that today I am acting in accordance with the will of Almighty God as I announce the most important work that Christians could undertake — and that is to be against the Jews and get rid of them once and for all.”<sup>21</sup>



**Martin Luther**



**Adolf Hitler, who professed to be a Christian, was a great admirer of Martin Luther and often quoted him.**

Hitler then proceeded to talk about the influence of Luther on his life:<sup>22</sup>

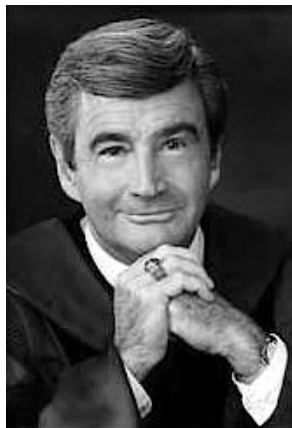
Martin Luther has been the greatest encouragement of my life. Luther was a great man. He was a giant. With one blow he heralded the coming of the new dawn and the new age. He saw clearly that the Jews need to be destroyed, and we're only beginning to see that we need to carry this work on.

At the Nuremberg trials after World War II, the Nazi leader, Julius Streicher, defended himself by saying, "I have never said anything that Martin Luther did not say."<sup>23</sup>

The terrible truth that Christians do not like to face, and which many are unaware of, is that the Holocaust was the product of 1,900 years of virulent Christian anti-Semitism.

### **The New Anti-Semitism**

The horror of the Holocaust tended to mute the most radical forms of anti-Semitism among Christian leaders. But in reality, anti-Semitism continues today in a new sophisticated form called anti-Zionism. Whereas anti-Semitism sought to drive out the Jews from the lands where they lived, anti-Zionism refuses to accept their right to live in their own land.



**Dr. James Kennedy**

A good example of the new anti-Semitism can be found in a document issued by Dr. James Kennedy's Knox Theological Seminary in 2002. It took the form of an open letter to Evangelicals concerning the land of Israel.<sup>24</sup> It has since been endorsed by hundreds of theologians and pastors, including such luminaries as R. C. Sproul.

The document begins by denouncing those who teach that the Bible's promises concerning the land of Israel are being fulfilled today "in a special region or 'Holy Land,' perpetually set apart by God for one ethnic group alone."<sup>25</sup> It then proceeds to proclaim that the promises made to

Abraham "do not apply to any particular ethnic group, but to the church of Jesus Christ, *the true Israel*" (emphasis added).<sup>26</sup>

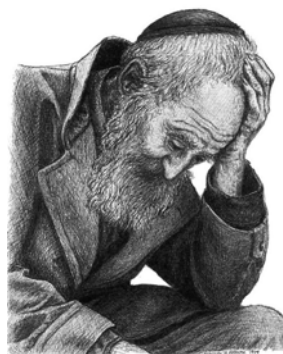
The document then specifically denies the Jew's claim on any land in the Middle East: "The entitlement of any one ethnic or religious group to territory in the Middle East called the 'Holy Land' cannot be supported by Scripture." Then, incredibly, the document asserts that "the land promises specific to Israel in the Old Testament were fulfilled under Joshua."<sup>27</sup>

Adding salt to the wounds, the document concludes with the following observation:<sup>28</sup>

The present secular state of Israel . . . is not an authentic or prophetic realization of the Messianic kingdom of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, a day should not be anticipated in which Christ's kingdom will manifest Jewish distinctives, whether by its location in 'the land,' by its constituency, or by its ceremonial institutions and practices.

And so you have it — an overview of the sad and sordid history of Christian anti-Semitism that is rooted in Replacement Theology and which continues to this day under the guise of anti-Zionism.

### **The Jewish Attitude**



I hope now you can understand why it is so difficult to share the Gospel with Jews. Because Jews have been persecuted and killed throughout history in the name of Jesus, the Jewish people look upon Christianity as their mortal enemy.

Any Jew who converts to Christianity is considered a traitor, for he is viewed as one who has joined the enemy. That's the reason that Orthodox Jews react so strongly to a child who becomes a Christian. They will sometimes declare the child to be dead and will even conduct a funeral service.

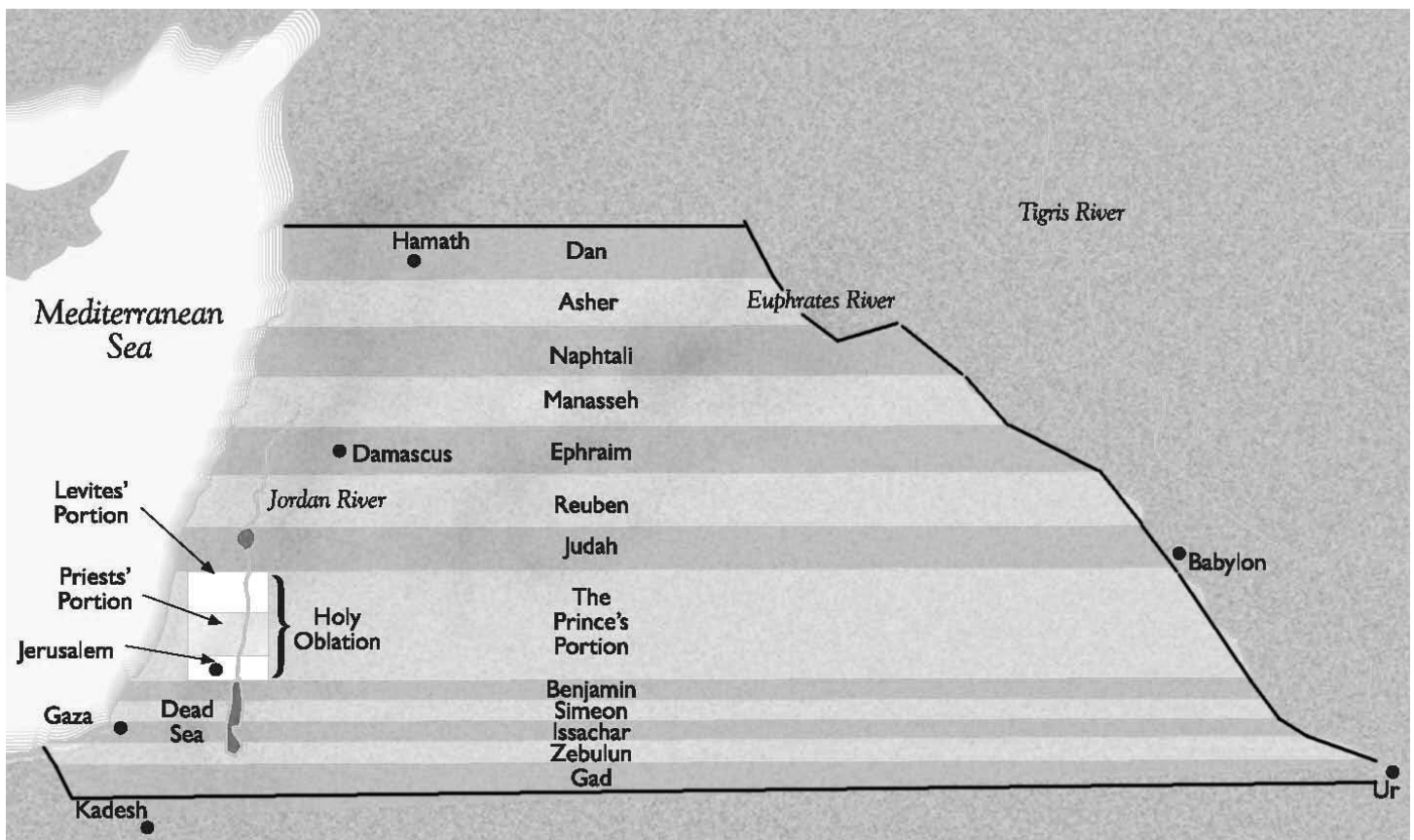
This is the reason that the Messianic Jewish Movement today is such a miracle. Beginning only in 1971, it has successfully shared the Gospel with over a million Jews worldwide and has established over 500 Messianic congregations. In the next issue of this magazine, the Lord willing, we will take an in-depth look at this remarkable movement.

### **The Response of Scripture**

**W**hat does the Word of God have to say about all this? To begin with, it strongly repudiates anti-Semitism. Psalm 129:5-8 says that "all who hate Zion" will be "put to shame . . ." It further states that no believer should ever give a blessing to such a person.

With regard to the allegation that the Jews are "Christ killers," the Word clearly identifies who murdered Jesus and makes it plain that they were not exclusively the Jews. In Acts 4:27 we are told that Jesus was killed through a conspiracy that involved "both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel." In reality, all of us have the blood of Jesus on our hands, for all of us have sinned (Romans 3:23), and Jesus





**The boundaries of the land of Israel and its division among the tribes as promised to the Jews in Ezekiel 47:15-48:35. This promise will be fulfilled during the millennial reign of Jesus.** Source: "Charting the End Times CD" by Tim LaHaye and Thomas Ice.

died for all sinners (1 Corinthians 15:3).

Regarding the idea that God has already fulfilled the land promises to the Jews during the time of Joshua, it is interesting to note that long after Joshua, David wrote in the psalms that the land promise is everlasting in nature and is yet to be fulfilled (Psalm 105:8-11). The fact of the matter is that the Jews have never occupied all the land that was promised to them in the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 15:18-21).

Concerning the claim that the Jews have been rejected by God, there are a couple of biblical principles that need to be kept in mind. First, the Bible affirms that the Jews were called as God's Chosen People to be witnesses of what it means to have a relationship with Him (Isaiah 43:10-12). And the Bible makes it clear that this calling is "irrevocable" (Romans 11:29).

Second, in direct contradiction of Replacement Theology, the Bible teaches that the Jews have never been rejected by God because of their unbelief. In Romans 3 Paul asserts point blank that their rejection of Jesus has not nullified God's faithfulness to the promises He has made to them (Romans 3:1-4). Paul makes the point again in Romans 11:1 when he asks, "I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He?" He answers his own question with an emphatic statement: "May it never be! . . . God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew" (Romans 11:2).

It is true that the Jewish people are currently under discipline because of their rejection of their Messiah. Over and over in their Scriptures the prophets said they would be disciplined if they were unfaithful, but always the promise was made that they would be preserved. An example of this type of prophetic state-

ment can be found in Jeremiah 30:11 —

"For I am with you," declares the Lord, "to save you; for I will destroy completely all the nations where I have scattered you, only I will not destroy you completely. But I will chasten you justly, and will by no means leave you unpunished."

God has preserved them in His grace because He loves them. In Zechariah 2:8 God proclaims that the Jewish people are "the apple of His eye," and He warns against anyone trying to harm them.

Another reason they have been preserved is because God is determined to bring a great remnant to salvation (Isaiah 10:20-22). This promise is made repeatedly throughout the Hebrew Scriptures and is confirmed by Paul in the New Testament in Romans 9-11. The salvation of this remnant is described in detail in Zechariah 12:10 where it says that at the end of the Tribulation the remaining Jews will come to the end of themselves and will turn their hearts to God in repentance and accept Yeshua as their Messiah.

That believing remnant will go into the Millennium in the flesh and will comprise the nation of Israel to whom God will fulfill all the promises He has made to the Jews (Isaiah 60-62). During the Millennium the nation of Israel will be the prime nation in the world through whom God will bless all the other nations (Zechariah 8:22-23).

In summary, the Word of God makes it clear that Israel definitely has a role and a future in the end times.

## Crucial Questions

The first question most people usually ask in response to these biblical points about Israel in the end times is this: "Why would God continue to pursue such a stubborn and rebellious people?"

The answer is that they are witnesses of God, and through them God is demonstrating His unfathomable grace. Only a God of grace would put up with them! But that is true of you and me as well. God is not doing one thing for the Jewish people that He is not willing to do for all of us. He pursues us in love despite our sinfulness, and regardless of how stiff-necked we may be, He never washes His hands of us.

This brings us to a second question: What is God's plan for the Jews in the end times? How will He bring about the salvation of a great remnant?

Let me outline the answer for you briefly:

- 1) The Jewish people will be regathered in unbelief from the four corners of the earth (Isaiah 11:11-12). This is the most prolific prophecy in the Old Testament. Incidentally, if God has no purpose left for them, why would He go to the trouble of regathering them?
- 2) Their state will be re-established (Isaiah 66:7-8).
- 3) They will once again occupy the city of Jerusalem (Zechariah 8:7-8).
- 4) All the nations of the world will come against them over the issue of the control of Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:2-3).



- 5) The Antichrist will come to their rescue by guaranteeing them peace and allowing them to rebuild their temple (Daniel 9:27).
- 6) But at the end of 3½ years, the Antichrist will declare himself to be God, and the Jews will reject Him (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4).
- 7) The Antichrist will then attempt to annihilate the Jews, and he will succeed in killing two-thirds of them (Revelation

12:13-17 and Zechariah 13:8-9).

- 8) At the end of the Tribulation, when the Jews have come to the end of themselves, they will turn to God and receive Jesus as their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10).
- 9) Jesus will return at this point in time, and He will regather all believing Jews to Israel where He will establish them as the prime nation in the world (Deuteronomy 30:1-9).
- 10) The blessings of God will flow out to the nations through the Jews during the Millennium (Zechariah 8:22-23).

As you can see, the Jewish people have a very central role in end time Bible prophecy.

## The Perseverance of Anti-Semitism

A perversion of Christianity has been the source of most anti-Semitism in the Western world. Throughout northern Africa, the Middle East, and parts of Asia, anti-Semitism has been promoted by Islam. The Qu'ran calls Jews "the children of monkeys and pigs."<sup>29</sup>

But there are anti-Semites in this world who are neither Christian or Muslim and who have never even met a Jew. For example, several years ago five of the top ten best selling books in Japan were virulently anti-Semitic, blaming all the problems of Japan on an "international Jewish conspiracy."

Why is anti-Semitism so widespread, so persistent, so virulent, and so irrational? It's because it is fundamentally a supernatural phenomenon.

Satan hates the Jews with a passion. He hates them because God provided both the Bible and the Messiah through them. He hates them because God called them to be His Chosen People. He hates them because God has promised to save a great remnant of them. He hates them because God loves them.

The result is that he works overtime to plant seeds of hatred in people's hearts toward the Jews. He is determined to destroy every Jew on planet earth so that God cannot keep His promise to save a great remnant. He tried to annihilate them in the Holocaust. He failed. He will try to destroy them once again during the last half of the Tribulation. He will fail again.

## Conclusion

God is in control, not Satan. God has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Satan and Mankind to the triumph of His perfect will in history.

The Jews will be preserved. A great remnant will be saved. All the promises to the Jews will be fulfilled.

And when will this occur? At the end of the Tribulation when Jesus returns to triumph over Satan. On that glorious day, the Jewish remnant will cry out "*Baruch Haba Bashem Adonai!*" meaning "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 23:39).

***Maranatha!*** ☆



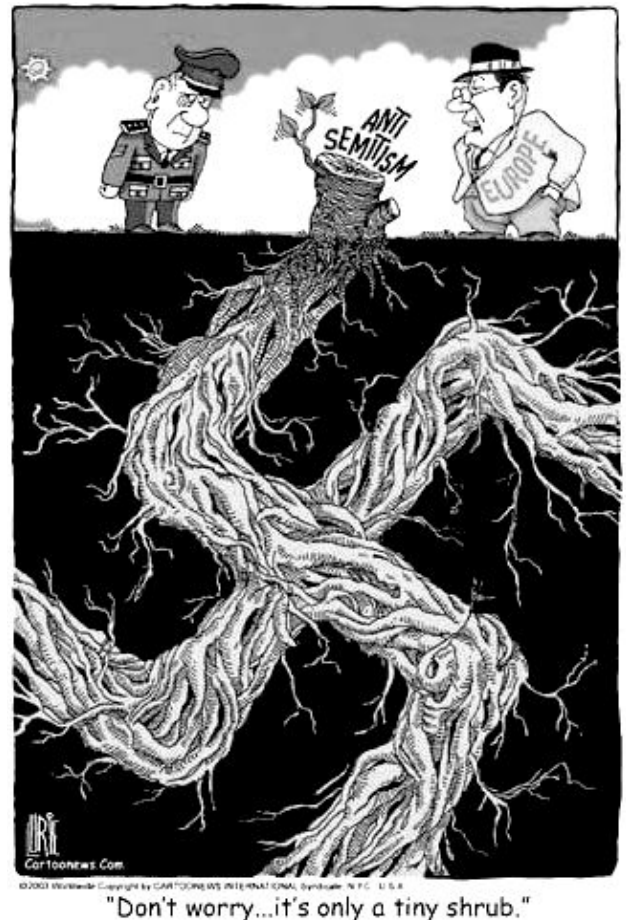
## Notes:

- 1) It is generally assumed that Luke, who wrote the Gospel of Luke and the book of Acts, was a Gentile, but this is probably incorrect. For evidence that Luke was a Jew, see the article that begins on page 12.
- 2) Reuven Efraim Schmalz and Raymond Robert Fischer, *The Messianic Seal of the Jerusalem Church* (Olin Publications: Tiberias, Israel, 2nd edition, 1999).
- 3) There are several good summaries on the Internet of the anti-Semitism of the early Church Fathers. See, for example:
  - a) YashaNet, "Anti-Semitism of the 'Church Fathers,'" [www.yashanet.com/library/fathers.htm](http://www.yashanet.com/library/fathers.htm), accessed on May 28, 2007.
  - b) Anonymous, "The History of the Church in Relation to Israel," <http://fp.thebeers.f9.co.uk/history.htm>, accessed on May 28, 2007.
  - c) Wikipedia, "Christianity and Anti-Semitism," [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity\\_and\\_antisemitism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity_and_antisemitism), accessed on May 28, 2007.

There are also some good timeline summaries of Christian anti-Semitism:

- a) [www.answers.com/topic/timeline-of-antisemitism](http://www.answers.com/topic/timeline-of-antisemitism)
- b) [www.religioustolerance.org/jud\\_pers1.htm](http://www.religioustolerance.org/jud_pers1.htm)
- 4) John G. Gager, *The Origins of Anti-Semitism* (London: Oxford University Press, 1983), pp. 127-129.
- 5) Centre for the Study of Historical Christian Antisemitism, "Justin Martyr," [www.hcacentre.org/JustinMartyr.html](http://www.hcacentre.org/JustinMartyr.html), accessed on May 28, 2007.
- 6) LeadershipU, "The Jews as the Christians Saw Them," [www.leaderu.com/ftissues/ft9705/articles/wilken.html](http://www.leaderu.com/ftissues/ft9705/articles/wilken.html), accessed on May 28, 2007.
- 7) John T. Pawlikowski, *Journal of Religion & Society*, "Christian Anti-Semitism: Past History, Present Challenges," <http://moses.creighton.edu/JRS/2004/2004-10.html>, accessed on May 28, 2007.
- 8) Centre for the Study of Historical Christian Antisemitism, "Origen," [www.hcacentre.org/Origen.html](http://www.hcacentre.org/Origen.html), accessed on May 28, 2007.
- 9) California State University at Northridge, "Canons of the Church Council at Elvira (Granada) ca. 309 AD," [www.csun.edu/~hcfll004/elvira.html](http://www.csun.edu/~hcfll004/elvira.html), accessed on May 28, 2007.
- 10) New Advent, "Easter Controversy," [www.newadvent.org/cathen/05228a.htm](http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05228a.htm), accessed on May 28, 2007.
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"Don't worry...it's only a tiny shrub."

## **Encountering the Horror**

**Dr. David R. Reagan**

There is a memory related to anti-Semitism that still plucks at my heartstrings. It occurred at one of the most dismal places in all the world, a place in Jerusalem called Yad Vashem. In English, we call it the Holocaust Museum. As its name indicates, it is a collection of historical artifacts which authenticate every aspect of one of man's most horrible crimes.

If you have any sensitivity at all, it is a tough place to walk through. It is arranged in chronological order. The first room records, in graphic photographs, the rise of Hitler.

The next room shows the beginnings of the Nazi persecutions of the Jews. On and on it goes, step by bloody step. Jewish shops are closed. Jews are arrested and taunted in public. Cattle cars are filled with human cargoes destined for work camps and ovens. There are films of executions. The prison clothing of adults and children is displayed, along with gold bricks made of fillings extracted from corpses.

### **A Difficult Place to Deal With**

Nothing is left to the imagination. Yet, the imagination cannot comprehend such bestiality. It is overpowering. I have seen entire groups walk through without speaking a word. I have witnessed people fainting. Others have gone hysterical. Some almost run through, not wanting to see any of the horror.

When I take a group there, I never try to keep them together



Corrie ten Boom's tree in the Avenue of the Righteous at the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem. Standing next to it are Shirley Halff on the left and Joy Gring on the right.

as a group. It is too personal a place. I just give them a general introduction outside and then turn them loose to move through at their own rate of speed. I normally allot an hour and a half for them to get back to the bus.

If they finish early, I urge them to walk down the Promenade of the Righteous, a beautiful garden area outside where trees have been planted in memory of the righteous Gentiles who risked their lives to save Jews from the Holocaust. One of those trees is dedicated to Corrie ten Boom.

### **A Lost Daughter**

In 1984 when I visited Yad Vashem with a group that included my family members, everything seemed to go well until it was time to depart. We counted heads, and my daughter, Ruth, 23 years old, was missing. I started searching for her, but I just couldn't find her anywhere — in the museum or outside. I went through the museum a second time but still did not see her.

As I was about to exit, I noticed a stairway was open that I had rarely seen open during regular tourist hours. I knew where it led because I had been there several times. It led to a long, narrow, dark room where individual records are stored concerning each person who perished in the Holocaust. This is a research facility that is rarely visited by tourists.

I went bounding up the stairs and peered into the dark room. At the far end I could make out the form of a person in the shadowy darkness. No one ever speaks above a whisper in this room, so I could not call out to see if it was Ruth.

### **A Brutal Discovery**

I walked to the other end. It was Ruth. She was standing there holding onto a display stand with both hands. The stand had a dim light on it. The light illuminated a sample document under glass. It showed the photograph of a little girl ten years old. The document contained her vital statistics — place of birth, parents, home address, place of arrest, place of imprisonment, date and place of execution. It read in matter-of-fact style.

Ruth was weeping. I put my arm around her and hugged her.

"Daddy," she whispered, "how could this happen?"

I couldn't speak. We just stood there, arm in arm, weeping together, staring at the picture of a child who represented six million of God's Chosen People. ☆

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**Note:** This article was taken from Dr. Reagan's book, **Trusting God: Learning to Walk by Faith**. The book may be purchased from the ministry for \$15 either through our website ([www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com)) or by calling 1-800-705-8316.

## **Putting a Face on the Horror**

**Dr. David R. Reagan**



### **Abraham Beem**

Born June 13, 1934 in Leeuwarden, Holland.

Abraham, the son of Hartog and Rosette Beem, was a five year-old schoolboy when the Germans invaded Holland in May 1940. Abraham's father was a high school teacher in the small city of Leeuwarden, in northern Holland. The Jews of the Netherlands were well-integrated into the general popula-

tion and they were active in all aspects of the country's social, cultural and economic life.

When the Germans invaded, they immediately embarked upon steps to separate the Jews from the rest of the population. Beginning in October 1940, they liquidated Jewish businesses and banned Jews from most professions. The rich became poor and the middle class was reduced to subsistence levels. At first, the Dutch population resisted the anti-Jewish measures enacted by the Germans. But the Germans reacted brutally, and were able to break up most organized resistance.

Many Jews were forced into restricted ghetto areas in July 1941, and after May 1942, all Jews had to wear the yellow star. Beginning in mid-July 1942, the Germans began rounding up Holland's Jewish citizens. They were first taken to transit camps, and from there to death camps in Poland, where they were murdered.

Abraham's parents decided that the family would go into hiding. They felt that the children would be safer posing as non-Jews in a rural village. Abraham and his older sister were sent to the village of Ermelo, and a Christian family, willing to risk death to save them, was found. Abraham was given a new name and identity. He was known as Jan de Witt, and he attended school along with the other village children.

The Nazis, realizing that many Jewish children had been sent into hiding, intensified their search. They found collaborators willing to turn them in for payment. Nine year-old Abraham was denounced as a Jew in February 1944. Abraham, along with his older sister Eva, was deported to the Auschwitz death camp in Poland, where both were murdered upon arrival. ☆

The Nazis were meticulous record keepers. From their records and the testimonies of surviving family members and eyewitnesses, the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem has compiled individual files on millions of persons who were murdered in the Holocaust (or the *Shoa*, as it is called in Hebrew). To search for specific names, access the "The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names" at [www4.yadvashem.org/lwp/workplace/IY\\_HON\\_Welcome](http://www4.yadvashem.org/lwp/workplace/IY_HON_Welcome). ☆

## **Jacqueline Morganstern**

Born 1932 in Czernowitz, Rumania.

Jacqueline was the daughter of Suzanne and Karl Morganstern. She moved to Paris with her parents as a tiny child to escape the oppressive antisemitism of Rumania. Jacqueline's father and uncle owned a beauty shop in the center of the city. When the Germans occupied Paris in 1940, Jacqueline was an eight year-old schoolgirl. Her parents were forced to give their shop to a non-Jewish Frenchman.



Jacqueline and her parents fled to Marseilles, a city in southern France not occupied by the Germans. They carried forged papers identifying them as non-Jews. They were discovered, however, and denounced to the Gestapo.

On June 20, 1944, Jacqueline and her parents were deported to the Auschwitz death camp. At first, the family was spared. Jacqueline and her mother were sent to the women's camp. Jacqueline's mother soon became weak because she gave most of her food to her daughter. After she fell ill, her mother was sent to the gas chambers.

Upon her mother's death, Jacqueline was sent to a special children's barracks. The 20 children in these barracks were being held for use in experiments. The barracks were heated and the children were provided with decent food. The staff sang songs to the children, taught them games and distracted them from the horrible smells of the crematoria. Most of the children spoke only Polish, but Jacqueline found one child who spoke French, and they became close friends.

In the fall of 1944, Dr. Kurt Heissmeyer, the doctor who had requested the children for experimentation, had them transferred to the Neuengamme concentration camp. Jacqueline and the rest of the children were injected with tuberculosis cultures. Shortly before the end of December 1944, they became extremely ill. In January 1945, Dr. Heissmeyer decided to operate on the children. He wanted to find out how their glands had reacted to the TB infection.

On April 20, 1945, when the British were less than three miles from the camp, all 20 children were brought to a school in Hamburg. They were injected with morphine and fell asleep. Thirteen year-old Jacqueline and her friends were then hanged one by one. ☆



**Women children at Auschwitz judged unfit for labor. They are on their way to Gas Chamber 4.**



# **Was Luke a Gentile?**

**Dr. Thomas S. McCall**

As we speak and teach the Word, we often mention that the whole Bible is a Jewish book, and that all the writers of the Bible, Old and New Testaments, were Jews. Frequently, someone asks the question, "What about Luke, wasn't he a Gentile?" This has been taught throughout church history for so long and so consistently, that it is assumed without question it must be true. However, when you study how this conclusion was reached by biblical commentators, you realize how slender their evidence is. The idea that Luke was a Gentile seems to be based more on tradition than any strong biblical evidence.

### **Importance of the Question**

It may not seem important whether or not Luke was a Gentile, but when you think about the magnitude of his work, the issue becomes truly significant. By counting the pages written by Luke in both his Gospel and Acts, it is clear that Luke wrote more pages of the New Testament than any other writer, including Paul and John. If Luke was a Gentile, then the Lord entrusted more pages of New Testament revelation to a Gentile than to any other writer. This would be remarkable, to say the least.



Personally, as a Gentile Christian, I would love to have one of "our guys" as a writer in the canon of Scripture, so I am naturally reluctant to find otherwise. However, the evidence appears overwhelming to me that Luke was, in fact, a Jew. The matter cannot be settled conclusively, because the Scriptures never specifically tell us Luke's background, but the arguments for his being a Jew appear to far outweigh those for his being a Gentile.

### **Arguments for Luke Being a Gentile**

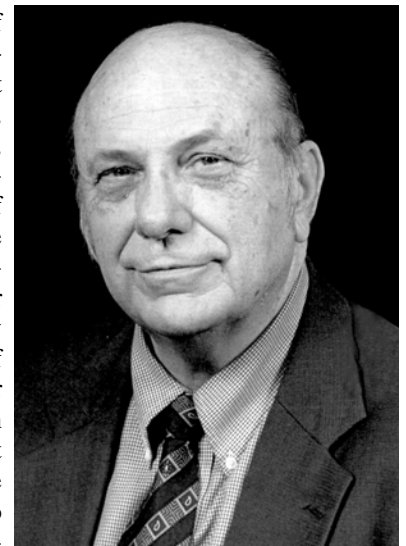
Usually, biblical commentators simply assert that Luke was a Gentile, without offering any proof at all, as it is so universally believed. Some commentaries, though, present arguments for sustaining the concept of the Gentile background of Luke. Chief among these arguments are the lists from the Epistle to the Colossians.

#### **The Lists in Colossians**

In Colossians 4, the Apostle Paul closes his letter by listing the various people who are with him as he writes the epistle, and some of those who are addressed. In these lists Paul makes mention of some who are of "the circumcision" (Colossians 4:10-11), and are, therefore, Jews. Although it is not perfectly clear which men are referred to, they are presumably the previous three: Aristarchus, Mark and Jesus called Justus. Paul apparently does not include Tychicus and Onesimus, mentioned before in verses 7-9, as being in the circumcision group.

Later in this same chapter, in verse 14, Paul refers to Luke, the beloved physician. The argument is made that, as Luke is not

mentioned in the list of those of "the circumcision," he therefore must not be a Jew. However, this is very slim evidence, indeed. In the above reference, Paul is speaking of his fellow workers in the preaching ministry. However, Luke was not ever described as being actively involved in the work of preaching, but was rather Paul's personal physician and historian. It would not be appropriate to put Luke in the list with those who were active in the preaching ministry, regardless of background.



**Dr. Tom McCall**

Thus, there are reasons other than background why Luke would not be included in the list of "the circumcision." It is risky to build a concept on evidence which is so weak, and this is the strongest evidence in the Bible that those who believe Luke was a Gentile use to prove their point.

### **The Name and Profession Arguments**

Proponents have also argued that the name Luke (Lukas) is, in itself, evidence that he was a Gentile. However, the very names mentioned in Colossians 4 as being in "the circumcision" are Gentile names: Aristarchus, Marcus and Justus. Paul's name itself is a Roman name, which he used throughout his ministry among the Gentiles, instead of his Hebrew name, Saul. In the same way Peter's Hebrew name was Simon. The fact of the matter is that most Jews who lived in the Diaspora used two names: one, a Jewish name, which was used in the synagogue, and the other, a Gentile name, which was used in business.

Others have actually claimed that Luke's profession as a physician would be evidence that he was a Gentile. This would assume that there were no Jewish doctors in the Roman world. Such an idea is preposterous. Christ referred to physicians in Israel on several occasions:

"Physician, heal thyself . . ." (Luke 4:23)

"They that are sick have need of a physician . . ." (Matthew 9:12)

There is as much reason to believe that Jews were in the medical profession in ancient times as they are today.

Thus, none of the arguments supporting the idea that Luke was a Gentile are strong. It is helpful, then, to turn to the arguments that Luke was a Jew.

### **Arguments for Luke Being a Jew**

There are several arguments that support the idea that Luke was a Jew. As has already been stated, there are no specific statements as to the background of Dr. Luke. Therefore, the only way we can know anything about Luke's background is from inferences in the Scriptures.

## The Rule: Oracles Given to Jews

After showing the sinful condition of the Jewish people, explaining how the Jews are just as much subject to sin as are the Gentiles, Paul asks the question, “What advantage has the Jew?” His answer was, “Much in every way, chiefly because that unto them were committed the oracles of God” (Romans 3:1-2). The main advantage that Paul recognizes in the Jewish people was that when God gave revelation to the human race, He gave it to and through the Jews. He did not utilize the Gentile people for this purpose. This was the rule: that Jews were the vehicle for revelation. If Luke was an exception, the burden of proof is on those who would claim that he is an exception.

Thus, one has to prove conclusively that Luke was a Gentile before one should abandon the clear rule about the Jewish writing of Scripture. We must assume that Luke is a Jew unless the evidence is so overwhelming that we must conclude he is a Gentile. As we have seen above, the evidence from the lists in Colossians is so weak that it does not meet that criterion. Gentiles are blessed in many ways, especially during this Church Age, but God has never indicated that He has changed His rule of using only Jews to record His revelation.

### Trophimus, Not Luke, the Cause of Paul’s Arrest

Dr. Luke was a constant companion of the Apostle Paul from the time that he joined the missionary apostle when he sailed from Troas to Europe. Luke accompanied Paul on his fateful last return trip to Jerusalem, and was an eyewitness to the arrest of Paul in the Temple in Acts 21. The crowd was greatly agitated by the presence of Paul in the Temple, and charged him with bringing Gentiles into the Temple precincts. This was a crime punishable by death. Luke explains that Paul never did bring any Gentiles into the Temple, but he was seen on the streets of Jerusalem with “Trophimus an Ephesian.” Apparently, Paul brought Trophimus with him to Jerusalem so that the apostles and the mother church there could see first-hand the fruits of his labor among the Gentiles. Even though the charge was false, they were able to spread the rumor among the people, and cause a near riot against Paul on the Temple Mount, and for this reason he was arrested.

The point is that, when the Jewish people wanted to accuse Paul of bringing a Gentile into the Temple, they chose Trophimus. Why didn’t they choose Luke, who was also with Paul, and was an eyewitness to these events?

If Luke were a Gentile, it would have been far easier, and far more believable, to accuse Paul of bringing Luke with him into the Temple, rather than Trophimus. The fact that Luke was not mentioned in the accusation is a strong indication that he was not a Gentile. Luke was with Paul on several occasions when they made the various trips to Jerusalem in order to report on their missionary efforts to the Apostolic Church. The issue was never raised about Luke being a Gentile, although he was there in Jerusalem with Paul. As Luke was not controversial when he traveled with Paul to Jerusalem and the Temple, our assumption must be that he was also a Jew. Thus, there was no mention of Luke as a problem when Paul was arrested.



Painting of “Saint Luke” by Master Theodoric (ca 1360-1364).

## Luke’s Intimate Knowledge of the Temple

Another argument for the idea that Luke was a Jew is that he showed such an intimate knowledge of the Temple — more than any other of the Gospel writers. When he described the announcement to Zacharias concerning the birth of John the Baptist, Luke went into considerable detail to describe the rotating selection of the Levitical priests for service according to their families. He further described the position of the priest before the Altar of Incense, where the angel appeared to Zacharias (Luke 1:8-20).

The fact that Luke alone of the four Gospel writers gives this account, and he does so with such vivid detail, argues for his being a Jew, familiar with the Temple procedures. One could even speculate that Luke might have been a Levite as well, as he knew so much about how the Temple operated. Is it logical to assume, without question, that Luke was a Gentile, when he had such a clear understanding of the most intimate workings of the Temple, where no Gentile was allowed to go?

### Luke’s Intimate Acquaintance with Mary

Yet another argument is the striking intimacy that Luke had with the mother of Jesus, Mary. He relates the story of the birth of Jesus primarily from Mary’s point of view, and then said that she hid these things “in her heart” (Luke 2:19,51). How did Luke, of all the Gospel writers, get so close to Mary that he was able to find out what she had hidden in her heart? As close-knit as the Jerusalem church was, and as difficult as it must have been for Gentiles to have gotten to the “inner circle” of the apostolic leadership, it seems highly unlikely that Luke could have gotten that close to Mary if he were a Gentile.

Actually, it appears that Luke might have served Mary for a time as her personal physician. This is speculation, but how else could he have had such a close relationship with her, so that he could draw from her the details she had hidden in her heart, and had discussed with few others? Luke would have had the opportunity to consult with Mary on the occasions when Paul made his reporting trips to Jerusalem, and especially while Paul was in prison in Caesarea for two years. Such access would have been quite understandable if Luke were a Jew, but would have been most unlikely if he were a Gentile.

My conclusion is, then, that we must infer that Luke was a Jew. The idea that he was a Gentile appears to be based on nothing more than wishful thinking and tradition. The biblical evidence strongly supports the position that Luke was a Jew, and we should always believe the Scriptures over tradition, when there is a conflict between the two. ✚

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*Dr. Tom McCall has authored or co-authored more than ten books about various aspects of Bible prophecy, many in association with Zola Levitt. He has taught college level courses in Biblical Studies, Prophecy, and Archaeology at Dallas Baptist University and Dallas Bible College and has served as Guest Lecturer at Dallas Theological Seminary and Biola College. He currently heads up the School of Tyrannus in Tyler, Texas ([www.schooloftyrannus.net](http://www.schooloftyrannus.net)).*

## Christian-Bashing

The secular media had a field day rejoicing over the recent death of Jerry Falwell:

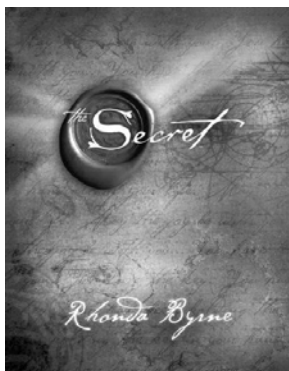
Featuring the ghastly headline, “Sigh of Relief Over Falwell’s Death,” the *Chicago Sun Times* columnist, Cathleen Falsani, wrote: “In fact, my first thought upon hearing of the Reverend Falwell’s passing was: Good! . . . ‘good’ as in ‘Ding-dong, the witch is dead.’”

On the night Falwell died, CNN’s Anderson Cooper interviewed Vanity Fair’s professional atheist, Christopher Hitchens. When asked what he thought about Falwell, Hitchens replied: “I think it’s a pity there isn’t a Hell for him to go to.” He proceeded to refer to “the empty life of this ugly little charlatan.” He called him “a toad” and “a horrible person.” He concluded by referring to him as “a bully and a fraud.”

Amanda Marcotte, the former official blogger for the Edwards presidential campaign, stated, “The gates of Hell swing open and Satan welcomes his beloved son.”

On HBO, Bill Maher observed: “And now a new rule: death isn’t always sad. Millions are asking, ‘Why, why, God, why didn’t you take Pat Robertson with him?’ . . . I know you are not supposed to speak ill of the dead, but I think we can make an exception.”

*“Realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come . . . For men will be . . . haters of good.” — 2 Timothy 3:1-3*



## New Age Seduction

The number one best-selling book on the *New York Times* list is *The Secret* by Rhonda Byrne. It has been endorsed by Oprah Winfrey, and it has sold more than 6 million copies.

The author is an Australian talk-show producer who claims to have discovered “the secret” about two years ago.

The “secret” turns out to be the old lie that you can be a god who can create your own reality through the power of your mind. In short, the “secret” is the “law of attraction.” Translated, that means that if you will think positive things, then good things will happen to you. On the other hand, a focus on the negative will bring ill-health and bad luck.

It is a godless, self-centered philosophy that is in step with the nature of our times. In his review of the book, Dave Hunt stated, “*The Secret* is not a secret at all, but recycled Hinduism, Shamanism, and New Age folly.”

The one reality the book fails to address is death. If a person can determine everything about his life through the power of his thoughts, then why can’t he simply will to keep living?

*“The Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.” — 1 Timothy 4:1*

# TIMES and Seasons

## Pagan Idolatry

History was made on July 12th when a session of the United States Senate was opened with a prayer by a Hindu priest named Rajan Zed.

He began and ended the prayer with “Om,” the mystical Hindu syllable. The prayer was taken from the Hindu *Vedras*, the religion’s holy scriptures. The full text of the prayer can be found in the *Congressional Record*.

In similar manner, on April 4th, a session of the State Senate of Texas was opened for the first time with a prayer by a Muslim imam who both prayed and sang, honoring Allah as the one and only true god.

How can our legislators be blessed by prayers to false gods?

*“You shall not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” Exodus 34:14*

## Christian Pandering

The 21st Century Church seems willing to resort to any method to attract people. Many churches have replaced worship with entertainment. Serious preaching of the Word is now being put aside for comedy routines. One evangelical church recently advertised a sermon series entitled, “Funky Things Christians Do.” The specific topics were: “The Groovey Ghost” (The Holy Ghost), “The Funky Dunk” (baptism), and “Daddio’s Dinner” (the Lord’s Supper). Yes, this was a church that claims to be evangelical! Instead of confronting the world, many churches seem intent on pandering to worldly lusts.

*“The time will come when they [believers] will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths.” — 2 Timothy 4:3-4*

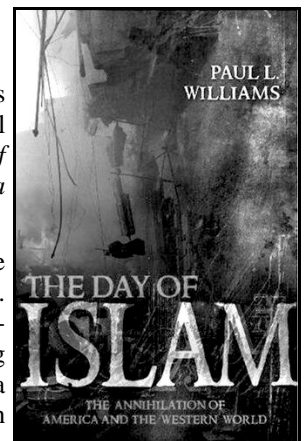
## The Islamic Threat

A deeply disturbing new book has just been released by author Paul Williams. It is entitled, *The Day of Islam: The Annihilation of America and the Western World*.

Williams is a seasoned investigative reporter and former FBI consultant. In this book he maintains that al-Qaida is not content on detonating one nuclear device or even simply a “dirty bomb.” Instead, the intention is to explode real nuclear devices in seven U.S. cities simultaneously. He claims the cities that have been targeted are New York, Washington, D.C., Las Vegas, Miami, Boston, Houston, and Los Angeles.

FBI Director, Robert Mueller, confirmed Williams’ claim in a recent interview with NewsMax.

*“Men will faint from fear over the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.” — Luke 21:26 ❖*

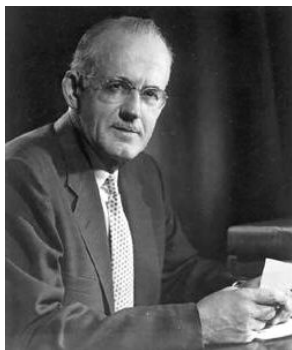




## The Bible in 50 Words

God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, bush talked, Moses balked, Pharaoh plagued, people walked, sea divided, tablets guided, promise landed, Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets warned, Jesus born, God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died, Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.

## Insights from A. W. Tozer



A. W. Tozer (1897-1963)

"No society can rise above its religion, and no religion can rise above its concept of God."

"The reason people worship God casually is because they do not seek His glory and holiness."

"Christianity today is not transforming people; rather it is being transformed by the people. It is not raising the moral level of society; it is descending to society's own level, and congratulating itself that

it has scored a victory because society is smilingly accepting its surrender."

## The Most Significant Historical Event

What would you select as the most important historical event?

The fall of the Roman Empire?

The discovery of America?

The invention of the airplane?

The explosion of the first atomic bomb?

When man walked on the moon for the first time?

No, it is none of the above. The most significant event of history was the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

It's interesting that in 2001, *Sports Illustrated* magazine featured an article on the greatest comebacks of all time. Surprisingly, they selected the resurrection of Jesus as number one. It was stated this way: "Jesus Christ, 33 AD: Defies critics and stuns the Romans with His resurrection."

## Quick Quotes

"There are people who believe that the Bible is inspired only in spots and that they are inspired to pick the spots." — W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas for 50 years.

"The statement that there are no moral absolutes is an absolute statement. The statement that it is wrong to moralize is a moralizing statement. The statement that tolerance must be our guideline for life is an intolerant statement." — Chuck Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship.



W. A. Criswell (1909-2002)



## Food for Thought

## Three Appearings of Christ

"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with Him in glory." — Colossians 3:4

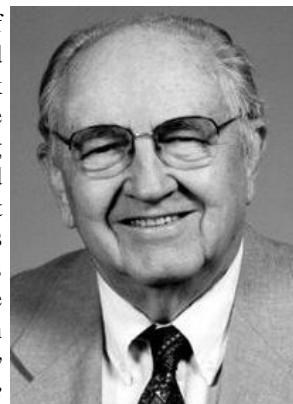
The wonderful promise of this text actually refers to the third appearing of Christ. The New Testament speaks of His past appearing, His present appearing, and His future appearing. These three appearings are all set forth in one fascinating passage of scripture, Hebrews 9:24-28, where three different Greek words are used in reference to the three appearings.

1) His past appearing — "... now once in the end of the world hath He **appeared** to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." (Hebrews 9:26). Here the Greek word for appear is *phaneroo*, meaning "become apparent after being hidden." His appearing had been prophesied since the beginning of the world (Luke 1:67-70), and finally, He had come.

2) His present appearing — "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to **appear** in the presence of God for us" (Hebrews 9:24). The Greek word here is *emphanizo*, which means "manifest or declare openly." He is now our "advocate with the Father" (1 John 2:1), where He "also maketh intercession for us" (Romans 8:34).

3) His future appearing — "... unto them that look for Him shall He **appear** the second time without sin unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28). The Greek in this case is *optomai*, meaning "gaze at face-to-face."

Our text (Colossians 3:4) speaks of His future appearing at the Second Coming. However, here the Greek for "appear" is again *phaneroo*, the same as used for His past appearing in Hebrews 9:26, as discussed above. This usage assures us that His future appearing will be just as real to us as His past appearing was to His first disciples. And when He shall appear, we shall appear with Him in glory! — A devotional by Dr. Henry Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research.



Henry Morris (1918-2006)

## The 23rd Channel

The TV is my shepherd, I shall not want. It makes me lie down on the sofa. It leads me away from the Scriptures. It damages my soul. It leads me in the path of sex and violence for the sponsor's sake. Yea, though I walk in the shadow of my Christian responsibilities, there will be no interruption, for the TV is with me. Its cable and remote control, they comfort me. It prepares a commercial before me in the presence of my worldliness. It anoints my head with Humanism, my coveting runneth over. Surely laziness and ignorance shall follow me all the days of my life, and, I shall dwell in my house watching TV forever, Amen. (Author unknown) ✚

## Legal Victories

In April the **United States Supreme Court** upheld a nationwide ban on the practice of partial birth abortion. This ruling upheld a law passed by Congress and signed by President Bush in 2003.

Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel of the Liberty League Legal Institute, applauded the Court's decision with these words: "This is a great victory for life and a final blow to the barbarism of partial birth abortion."

The decision was 5-4, demonstrating the importance of President Bush's recent appointments to the high court.

In June the **Texas Supreme Court** ruled unanimously (9-0) in behalf of Pastor Buddy Westbrook of the Crossland Community Bible Church in Ft. Worth, Texas. The pastor and his church had been sued for slander by a lady who was disciplined by the church for sinful activity. She objected to the fact that the pastor mailed out a disciplinary letter to the entire congregation in which he revealed her sin and her refusal to repent.

Hiram Sasser, an attorney for the Liberty League Legal Institute, summed up the court's ruling by stating, "The U.S. Constitution protects the right of a church to choose its members and govern itself in any manner it chooses according to doctrine and faith, without government interference."

## Good Legislation

This past June the Texas State Legislature overwhelmingly passed a bill entitled "The Religious Viewpoints Anti-Discrimination Act."

This legislation incorporates various decisions of the United States Supreme Court making it clear that the religious freedom of students is protected by law. Specifically, it protects a student from being punished for expressing a religious viewpoint verbally or in a class assignment. It also allows students to organize religious groups and activities. Further, it creates guidelines for student speakers at graduation ceremonies and other school-wide events.



**Kelly Coghlan**

One of the chief crafters of the legislation was Kelly Coghlan, a constitutional law attorney from Houston. When the bill passed, he issued the following statement: "It will now be clear that Texas public schools are not anti-religion zones, school officials are not prayer police, and religious students are not enemies of the State. This bill does not require or suggest that any child express a religious viewpoint, it just protects them

if they do. Religious children do not receive special rights, preferential treatment, or extra protection, just equal rights, equal treatment and equal protection."

Let us pray that other states will soon pass similar legislation.



## An Inspirational Story

Ira David Sankey (1840-1908) was the pioneer music director of the masses in American evangelism. Known as "The Sweet Singer of Methodism," he became the renowned associate of D. L. Moody, providing his crusades with anointed music that would prepare hearts for the messages.

More than any other person, Sankey was the one who ushered in the gospel song era. He was a gifted leader of congregational worship and of choirs. He was also a soloist of great ability.

When Sankey was at the height of his ministry, he was traveling one day on a steamer in the Delaware River. Some passengers had seen his picture in the newspaper and knew he was associated with the famous evangelist, D. L. Moody.

They approached him and asked if he would sing one of his own compositions. Sankey said he preferred a hymn by William Bradbury entitled "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us." One of the stanzas begins, "We are Thine, do Thou befriend us; be the guardian of our way."

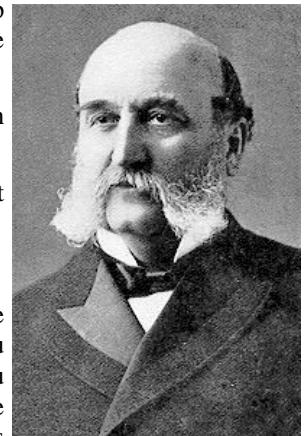
When he finished, a man stepped up and inquired, "Were you in the army, Mr. Sankey?"

"Yes," Sankey replied, "I joined in 1860."

"Did you ever do guard duty at night in Maryland in about 1862?"

"Yes, I did."

"Well, I was in the Confederate Army," said the stranger. "I saw you one night at Sharpsburg. I had you in my gun sight as you stood in the light of the full moon. Just as I was about to pull the trigger, you began to sing. It was the same hymn you sang tonight," the man told the astonished Sankey. "I just couldn't shoot you."



**Ira Sankey**

Life is filled with near misses. We know only a fraction of the many situations in which God has preserved us from severe physical injury or death.

[Adapted from *Men of Integrity Devotional Bible*, a publication of Christianity Today International, Tyndale Press, 2002.]

## Overcoming Homosexuality

Michael Glatze, the founding editor of *Young Gay American* magazine, recently stunned the homosexual community by announcing that he is no longer a homosexual. The radical change in his life, Glatze recalls, began with "inner promptings" which he now attributes to God.

In an interview with WorldNetDaily, Glatze stated that his deliverance from the homosexual mindset "was the most liberating, beautiful, and astonishing thing I've ever experienced in my entire life." ✚

## New Programs

In June we shot a total of eight new television programs, most of which will be broadcast either late this year or early next year.

We began the month videotaping two interviews with Dr. Charles Ryrie, the renowned author of the *Ryrie Study Bible*. The first interview concerned the nature and integrity of the Bible. The second focused on Bible prophecy.

During the second interview, Dr. Reagan asked Dr. Ryrie if he believed we are living in the season of the Lord's return. Dr. Ryrie responded, "Absolutely!"

Dr. Reagan then asked why he was so confident. "Because," Dr. Ryrie responded, "I have irrefutable proof in my coat pocket." At that point he reached into his pocket and pulled out an envelope. Holding it up in the air, Dr. Ryrie said, "In this envelope is absolute proof that Jesus is coming soon."

He then opened the envelope and handed Dr. Reagan a piece of paper. "What is that?" he asked.

"It's a ten shekel note."

"Who printed it?"

"The state of Israel."

Dr. Ryrie then pulled another piece of paper out of the envelope and handed it to Dr. Reagan. Again, he asked, "What is that?"

"A ten euro note."

"Who issued it?"

"The European Union."

"I rest my case," said Dr. Ryrie.

His point, of course, was that the Bible prophesies that in the end times, right before the return of Jesus, Israel will be re-established and the old Roman Empire will be revived.

### Prophecy Partner Conference

In late June we held our annual Prophecy Partner Conference, and Dr. Reagan used the occasion to videotape five presentations about the fundamentals of Bible prophecy. A sixth will be added to these and then all six will be presented as television programs. Additionally, the six programs will be put on two DVDs and then

packaged as an album entitled, "The Fundamentals of Bible Prophecy." The album will also include a teacher's guide and study guides for students.

One of our special guests at the Prophecy Partner Conference was Ted Pearce. Ted is a very gifted musician who specializes in Messianic Jewish music. He and Joel Chernoff together constitute the new version of



Ted Pearce



Dr. Charles Ryrie

## "Christ in Prophecy" Broadcast Schedule

DayStar Network DirecTV Channel 369      DISH Channel 263				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day & Time	Wed. 4:00pm	Wed. 5:00pm	Wed. 6:00pm	Wed. 7:00pm
	Sun. 10:30pm	Sun. 11:30pm	Mon. 12:30am	Mon. 1:30am

Inspiration Network Available on cable networks				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day & Time	Tues. 5:30pm	Tues. 6:30pm	Tues. 7:30pm	Tues. 8:30pm
	Wed. 8:00am	Wed. 9:00am	Wed. 10:00am	Wed. 11:00am

FaithTV Network SkyAngel Channel 9708				
Zone	Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Day & Time	Sun. 10:00am	Sun. 11:00am	Sun. 12:00pm	Sun. 1:00pm

the recording group called Lamb. We videotaped a 45 minute concert that Ted presented, and we will be using some of the songs from that concert on future programs. For information about Ted's solo albums, see [www.tedpearce.com](http://www.tedpearce.com). ✚



Dr. Charles Ryrie is shown above, seated on the left, with the Lamb & Lion video crew.

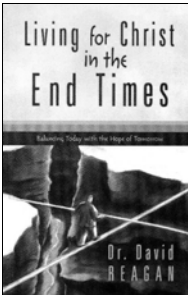


# Resource Materials for the Study of Bible Prophecy

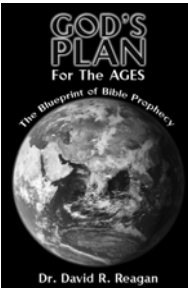
## Books



**Wrath and Glory.** Dr. Reagan's explanation of the book of Revelation. Written in a down-to-earth and easy-to-understand manner. It provides guidelines for interpretation, and responds to the most frequently asked questions about Revelation. It also explains how the book relates to Christian living. 240 pages. \$15.



**Living for Christ in the End Times.** A hard-hitting commentary on how Christians are to respond to the decay of society and the increasing apostasy within the Church. The book is full of practical guidelines for overcoming paganism and living a triumphant daily life in the power of the Holy Spirit. It also contains many insights about end time Bible prophecy. 263 pages. \$15.



**God's Plan for the Ages.** Dr. Reagan's newest book. It provides an overview of every aspect of Bible prophecy regarding both the First and Second Comings of the Messiah, with a special emphasis on end time prophecies. Contains 42 in-depth chapters and several charts and diagrams. 415 pages. \$15.



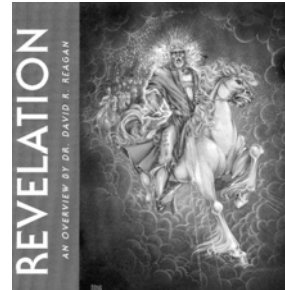
**The Christ in Prophecy Study Guide.** Lists in chronological order all the prophecies in the Bible concerning both the First and Second Advents of the Messiah. Represents seven years of research. Printed in a large format (8½ by 11") with a special binding that allows the pages to lie flat. Provides both topical and scripture indexes. Third edition. 150 pages. \$15.



### Jesus is Coming Again!

Dr. Reagan's book for children (pre-school and elementary). This is one of the only books ever published for children about end time prophecy. Beautifully illustrated in full color. Large format (8½ x 11"). Durable cover. Contains teaching tips for parents, together with a list of Scripture references. 28 pages. \$10.

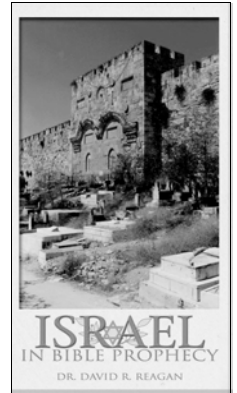
## Audio Program



**An Overview of Revelation.** Dr. Reagan presents an in-depth survey of the book of Revelation, covering it verse by verse. Twelve audio tapes or 12 CDs in an album. \$35. Also available on one MP3 CD for \$15. A study guide is available to accompany the album. The cost of the guide is \$5. Our most popular study resource.

## Video Programs

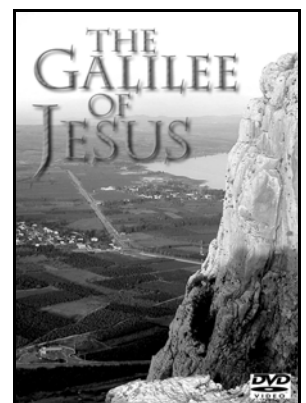
**Israel in Bible Prophecy.** An exciting survey of seven prophecies that are being fulfilled in Israel today, all of which point to the soon return of Jesus. The video was shot on location at various sites in Israel. Appropriate for both individual and group study. Shows how the Jews are the key to understanding end time prophecy. Contains significant historical footage. 65 minutes in length. VHS or DVD, \$15.



**Revelation Revealed.** Dr. Reagan presents a 75 minute overview of the entire book of Revelation, covering the book chapter by chapter. The video is rich with maps, charts, diagrams, still photos, animations, and video footage. Dr. Reagan clearly demonstrates that the book of Revelation can be understood and is relevant to Christian living here and now. Appropriate for individual or group study. VHS or DVD, \$15.



**The Galilee of Jesus.** Our newest video program about Israel. Contains four TV programs about the Galilee that have been edited together. The first is an introduction to the Galilee. The second focuses on Nazareth. The third is about the miracles of Jesus in the Galilee. The final segment investigates the Transfiguration, looking at where it occurred and what is its significance. DVD only, \$15.



All resource items listed on this page can be ordered by calling **1-800-705-8316**, Monday through Friday, between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Central time. Or, they can be ordered from our website at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com). ☒

# Ministry News



**Website** — Check our website regularly during the next few months and watch its transformation by our new Web Minister, Nathan Jones.

Nathan will be making it more interactive and will be updating it daily. If you have any suggestions for improving the website, please contact Nathan through the site which is located at [www.lamblion.com](http://www.lamblion.com).

**Video Shoot** — We are planning to take a video crew to Israel next March to shoot television programs. The tentative dates for the trip are March 15-27. The estimated cost will be \$3,000 per volunteer. That price includes three meals a day. The cost of the trip is tax-deductible since it is a short-term missions trip and not a tour of Israel. We need people to perform a variety of tasks like hauling equipment, taking still photos, holding cue cards, manipulating reflector screens, and keeping careful notes on each scene that is shot. If you would be interested in being a part of the crew, please contact our Media Minister, Don Gordini at [don.lamblion@gmail.com](mailto:don.lamblion@gmail.com). Thank you!



The video crew we used in 2004 for shooting a series of TV programs about the Galilee of Jesus is shown above getting set for a scene on the shore of the Sea of Galilee.

**Conferences** — The annual prophecy conference sponsored by **Maranatha Evangelistic Ministries** will be held at First Baptist Church in Broussard, Louisiana on September 15th. Featured speakers will be Al Gist, Don McGee, Don Crosswhite, and Dave Reagan. For detailed information, call 337-837-1125. In October Dr. Reagan will be speaking at the annual prophecy conference sponsored by Jan Markell's **Olive Tree Ministries**. It will be held at Grace Church in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. The dates are October 19 and 20. Other speakers include Joel Rosenberg, Ron Carlson, Jason Carlson, and Caryl Matrisciana. For further information, call 763-493-3010. In November (2-4) **Lamb & Lion Ministries** will sponsor a prophecy conference at Concord Baptist Church in Jefferson City, Missouri. The featured speakers, in addition to Dr. Reagan, will be Al Gist, Don McGee, and Gary Fisher. For details, call 573-893-2876.

**Churches** — In October, Dr. Reagan is scheduled to speak at the Ebenezer Church of Christ in Harrodsburg, Kentucky (5-7).

**Missions** — Lamb & Lion recently provided John Ishmael's ministry in India with \$1,500 to enable him to purchase a lap top computer and a digital camera. ✚



# Communications

**TV Program** — "I am regularly watching your wonderful program, 'Christ in Prophecy,' wherein you are giving an accurate picture of prophecy concerning the fulfillment of the Lord's Word. I am really enjoying the program. May the Good Lord rightly bless your ministry as you spread the good news of the Lord's soon return." — M. S. Bowaz, pastor of The Zion House of Prayer in Mysore, India.

**Meetings and Audio Materials** — "Dr. Reagan, I first heard you speak at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY. My mother and aunt and I almost didn't come to hear you because Revelation always scared us to death. But after hearing you, we have not been able to get enough of Revelation. It's now a book of hope instead of a book of dread. I can put your tapes on at night, and you can put me right to sleep! It's definitely not because you're boring. I think it's because I get so wrapped up in what you're saying that I'm not thinking of all the things I usually worry about. It's just all so interesting. Thanks for your wonderful ministry!" — Janet Mathews of New Albany, Indiana.

**Conferences, Videos, and the Magazine** — "We would like you to know we were encouraged by your teaching at the Steeling the Mind Conference in San Juan Capistrano. The set of DVD's that we purchased at the conference have been very informative, and we enjoy your enthusiasm for the Lord's Word. One last thank you . . . Your *Lamplighter* magazine contains a lot of information and is written so that the lay person can understand. It is also well-organized, and we love the pictures you provide of each person you are focusing on in the articles. Your labor is not in vain! (Hebrews 6:10)." — Joe and Betty Austin in Brea, California.

**Books** — "I am 90 years old, and I want you to know that your wonderful book, *God's Plan for the Ages*, has been a great blessing to me. I love the way you believe God's Word — with no fancy interpretations." — Alfred Smith in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Radio** — "Thank you for your obedience to the Lord concerning your teachings about Israel. Twenty-three years ago you became my first teacher regarding God's heart for Israel. The Lord willing, by the end of 2007 I am heading to Jerusalem to work as a nurse at Hadassah Hospital. My journey to Zion began with your daily teachings on the radio. I am forever grateful to you!" — Vonnice Ward in Bedford, Texas.

**Question** — "I am 99 years old and am a Jew. I would like to know when Jesus is coming. I know He will make His office in Jerusalem." — Bonnie Pfaff in Maryville, Tennessee.

**TV Program** — "I recently had a friend spend some time with me. I told her that I do two things on Wednesday evening. I set out the garbage cans on the curb and I watch Dave Reagan at 7:00!" — Mairon B. Blaylock in Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Magazine** — "I am writing to request your magazine, *The Lamplighter*. I am 12 years old, and I really appreciate your magazine, but I would like to receive my own issues of it." — Jesse Forsblade in Stillwater, Minnesota. ✚



## A Message of Hope

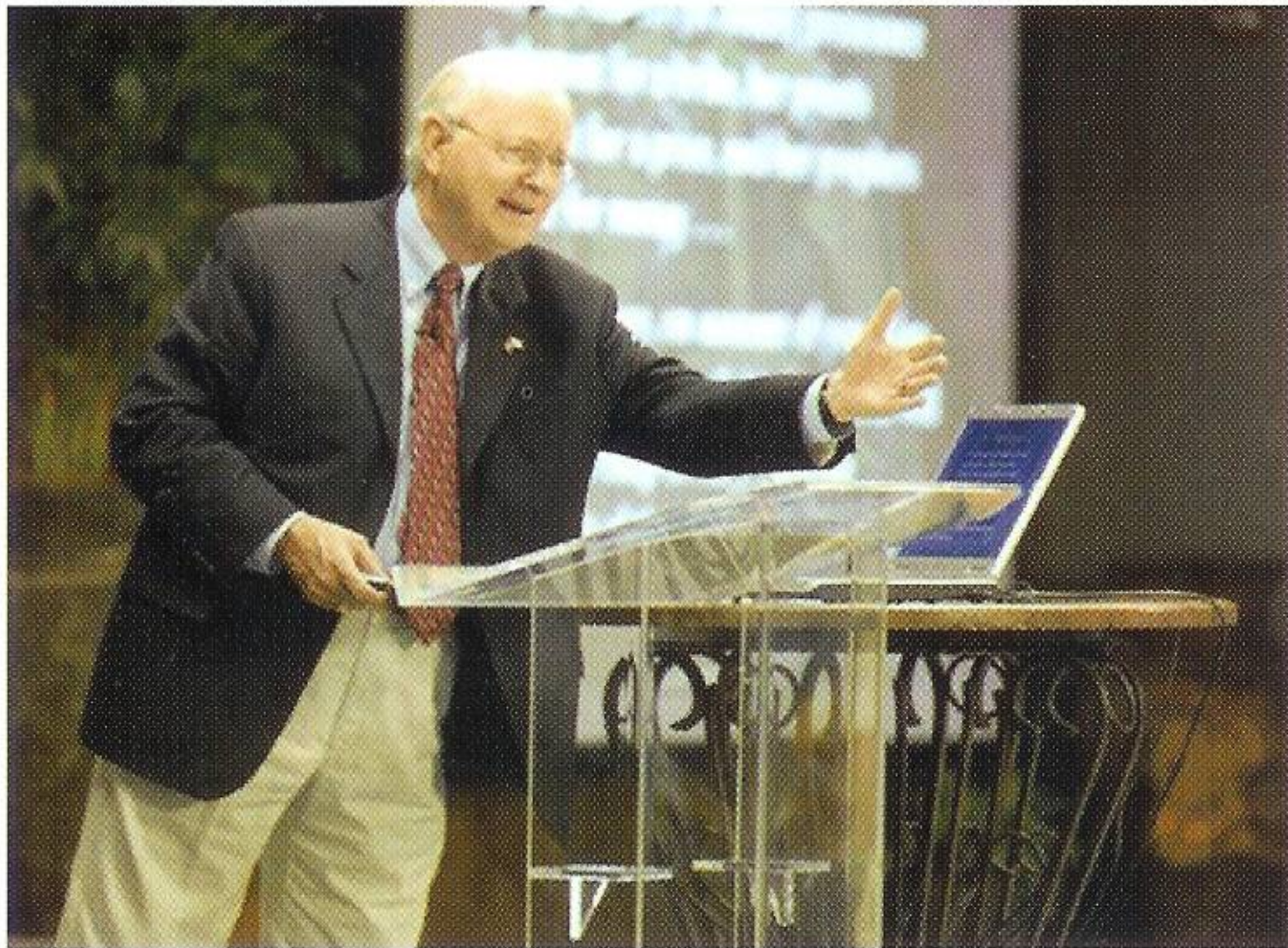
**A**t long last! We have produced a video recording of Dr. Reagan presenting his most frequently requested sermon and the one he has preached more than any other.

He preaches through Psalm 2 verse by verse, showing how it is one of the most powerful passages in the Bible concerning the Second Coming of Jesus.

As he explains each verse, Dr. Reagan demonstrates how the psalm answers some of the questions that are most frequently asked today:

- What on earth is God doing?
- Does He know what is going on?
- Does He care?
- Is evil going to triumph?
- Why doesn't God do something?

It is a passionate presentation from beginning to end. In the process Dr. Reagan emphasizes that God has the wisdom and power to orchestrate all the evil of Man and Satan to the triumph of Jesus.



Dr. Reagan preaching.



In short, Dr. Reagan shows how we are going to win in the end and then participate in the Lord's worldwide, glorious reign.

The message is filled with hope, and you will be shouting, "Maranatha! Maranatha!" with Dr. Reagan as he concludes this presentation.

This is a great resource to use with churches and Bible study groups.

DVD format. Up front menu for quick jumps to various parts of the message. 60 minutes in length. \$12. +



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