

Jesus Christ Controls History: Through the Preservation of Israel; Lewis, Thieme, & Griffin on Anti-Semitism; through Preservation of the Universe

6. The race of people who will form the client nation in the Millennium is the Jewish.
7. The location of the client nation in the Millennium will be that which encompasses the land between the Nile River in Egypt and the Euphrates River in Iraq.
8. The ruling dynasty of the millennial kingdom will be from the tribe of Judah, House of David, in the person of Jesus Christ, who will rule from Jerusalem on David's throne.
9. The client nation status that Israel enjoyed in its dispensation is guaranteed to be restored following the Second Advent of Christ and populated by those Jews who, during the course of the Tribulation, believed that Jesus is the Messiah.
10. PRINCIPLE: If these covenants are dependent upon the survival of the Jewish race for their fulfillment, then it follows that the Jew must be divinely preserved in history.
11. Therefore, the preservation of the Jew, wherever he may be located, is imperative, for without the Jew these covenants cannot be fulfilled, and if the covenants cannot be fulfilled, then there is no need for the Second Advent.
12. Therefore, the preservation of the Jew in history becomes a central part of divine policy prior to the Second Advent while, on the other hand, extermination of the Jew from history becomes a major element of satanic strategy prior to the Second Advent.
13. It becomes apparent that those who are anti-Semitic are not only in opposition to the plan of God, but they also align themselves with the strategy and tactics of Satan.
14. The Jew who rejects Jesus as Messiah is in jeopardy in two areas: (1) if he should die before the Rapture his soul will be transferred to Torments and later to the lake of fire, or (2) if he should be alive at the Rapture, he must face the specter of genocidal efforts to eradicate the Jew before the Second Advent.
15. Efforts to extinguish the Jewish race from the earth are amplified during the Tribulation which Scripture refers to as the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7) but will encompass the entire earth and include its Gentile inhabitants as well.
16. The evil of anti-Semitism is therefore an effort to head off the Second Advent and a clear definition of the term is necessary. We turn first of all to the writings of Dr. Bernard Lewis, a British-American historian, born to Jewish parents in 1916 and presently the Cleveland E. Dodge Professor Emeritus of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University:

The term anti-Semitism was first used in 1879, and seems to have been invented by one Wilhelm Marr, a minor Jew-baiting journalist with no other claim to memory.

Though the name anti-Semitism was new, the special hatred of the Jews which it designated was very old, going back to the rise of Christianity. From the time when the Roman Emperor Constantine embraced the new faith and Christians obtained control of the apparatus of the state, there were few periods during which some Jews were not being persecuted in one or other part of the Christian world. Hostility to Jews was sometimes restrained, sometimes violent, sometimes epidemic, always endemic. But though hatred of the Jew was old, the term anti-Semitism did indeed denote a significant change—not the initiation but rather the culmination of a major shift in the way this hatred was felt, perceived, and expressed.

In medieval times hostility to the Jew, whatever its underlying social or psychological motivations, was defined primarily in religious terms. From the fifteenth century onward this was no longer true, and Jew hatred was redefined, becoming at first partly, and then, at least in theory, wholly racial.

The earlier hostility was basically and indeed profoundly religious. It was concerned with the rejection by the Jew of the Christian redeemer and message, and was documented by the account in the Gospels of the Jewish role in the life and death of Christ. The Jew was denounced and at times persecuted as a Christ killer and as a denier of God's truths. While this hatred might be stimulated and directed by the roles which Jews were compelled to play in medieval Christian society, their persecutors did not normally condemn them for being different in race and language.

This religious hostility acquired racial overtones when Jews were compelled, under penalty of death or exile, to adopt Christianity. A voluntary conversion may be accepted as sincere. A forced conversion inevitably arouses the suspicion, above all among the enforcers, that it may be insincere.¹

17. The next reference we note provides more of a biblical context for the evil of anti-Semitism:

The anti-Semitism clause reads:

And I [God] will bless those who bless you,
And the one who curses you I will curse. (Gen. 12:3a)

Genesis 12:3 is by no means the only statement of divine approval of pro-Semitism and divine condemnation of anti-Semitism. Other affirmations are given in principle and fulfillment throughout the Bible.

To cite two examples: The Lord blessed the house of Potiphar, the Egyptian, for Joseph's sake (Genesis 39:5) but judged Egypt for enslaving the Jews (Gen. 15:13-14). While He prospered Cyrus, King of Persia, for his attitude toward captive Judah (Ezra 1:1-4), God executed wicked Haman and all who sought to exterminate the Jews during the reign of Xerxes (Esther 3:5-6, 13; 6:10-9:15).

¹ Bernard Lewis, "Anti-Semites," *Semites and Anti-Semites: An Inquiry into Conflict and Prejudice* (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1986), 81-82.

Thus, a correlation exists between the rise and fall of individuals, nations, and empires and their attitude toward the Jews. The clause first presented in Genesis 12:3 serves as a warning not only to Satan and his demonic hordes but to all mankind. God will bless all who bless the Jews and punish all who seek their destruction.²

18. Nations are judged for their anti-Semitism; likewise for individuals. You cannot harbor hatred of the Jews and participate in verbal or overt persecution of them and get away with it.
19. The doctrinal statement of Grace Doctrine Church addresses this problem:

Anti-Semitism is defined as intolerance, hatred, prejudice, opposition, and persecution of the Jewish people; and represents a satanic plot to eliminate the Jews from history. God has promised the Jews a reigning Messiah who will rule them in their own land called Israel. In order for Christ to fulfill these divine promises to Israel, Jews must survive until His Second Advent. Thus, anti-Semitism becomes a part of Satan's desperate plan to circumvent Messiah's return. Every member of the human race is warned by God Himself to avoid any form of anti-Semitism: "I will bless those who bless you and I will curse those who curse you" (Gen. 12:3). Consequently, Grace Doctrine Church stands in righteous opposition to any vestige of anti-Semitic thought, comment, or action. Further, anyone associated with this church that engages in anti-Semitic actions will be withdrawn from the fellowship. (Zech. 2:8-9; Revelation 12)³

VI. Jesus Christ controls history through the preservation of the universe.

1. The Bible begins with the declarative statement that God created the universe:

Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2. The member of the Trinity who was the agent of creation was Jesus Christ:

Colossians 1:16 - For by means of Him [Jesus Christ] were all things created [κτίζω, *ktizō*: from no preexisting materials] in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers—all things were created [κτίζω, *ktizō*] through Him [διά, *dia*: indicating agency] and for Him [εἰς, *eis*: indicating purpose].

Colossians 1:17 - And He [Jesus Christ] has existed eternally before all things [the angelic race and the universe], and by means of Him [Jesus Christ] all things hold together [intensive perfect active indicative of συνίστημι, *sunistēmi*: literally: to stand together with; to join parts together into a whole].

² R. B. Thieme, Jr., "The Source of Anti-Semitism," *Anti-Semitism*, 4th ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2003), 15.

³ Joe Griffin, *40 Proclamations: The Theology of Grace Doctrine Church*, (St. Charles: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 2008), no. 33.

3. Further proof that the physical laws sustaining the universe were created by Christ is noted in:

Hebrews 1:3a - The Son is the radiance of His glory and the representation of His essence, and He sustains all things by His powerful word.

v. 10 - You founded the earth in the beginning, Lord, and the heavens are the works of Your hands.

4. This present universe is not permanent since the Lord intends to bring it to a fiery end and replace it with new heavens and a new earth. Its destruction is prophesied in:

2 Peter 3:10 - The day of the Lord [comprises events beginning with the Rapture of the church and concluding with the destruction of the universe; this context indicates the latter] will arrive as a thief in the night [without warning], in which the heavens [the universe] shall completely disappear with a great noise and its elements shall dissolve with fervent heat [e.g., nuclear fission], and the earth and its works [the human-good production of men] that is in it shall be burned up.

v. 11 - Since all these things shall be destroyed in this way, what sort of persons should we become in holy conduct and lifestyle as God would have it,

2 Peter 3:12 - as you eagerly look forward to the coming day of God [the eternal state] and strive for its coming? That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by burning and the structure of the universe will melt with intense heat!

v. 13 - But according to His promise [**Isaiah 65:17; 66:22**] we are looking for a new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

5. If Jesus Christ created the universe, if the Rapture of the church is imminent, if the Tribulation is prophesied to last seven years, and if His millennial kingdom is prophesied to last for one-thousand years, then it follows that the earth and the universe will continue on a steady course for at least 1,007 more years.