

EARNESTLY CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH –May 2024

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THE JEW: Living Proof of the Living God

The story is told of King Louis XIV (of France) who asked the philosopher Blaise Pascal to provide him PROOF for the existence of God. Pascal without any hesitation replied, “*Why, the Jews, your Majesty – the Jews.*”

Apologetics is a reasoned defense of the Christian faith. There are all kinds of different types of apologetics related to archeology, related to human reason, related to true science, and so forth. But I like to say that ISRAEL is exhibit “A” in terms of Biblical Apologetics. In terms of special revelation God has chosen to reveal Himself to the world through the Jew.

Right now, we are witnessing a WORLDWIDE surge in antisemitism that defies explanation. That is unless you know and understand what the Bible teaches. Apart from understanding the reality of spiritual warfare in which the “ruler of this world” (under the sovereign hand of God) sways the entire world this makes no sense (cf. Jn. 12:31, 14:30, 16:11).

The Devil is good at what he does, which is that he “deceives the whole world” (Rev. 12:9). Revelation 12 in a broad sweeping way gives an overview of Satan’s war on Israel and her Messiah. God’s plan revolves around Israel and her Messiah and Satan desperately tries to thwart this plan. He tried to have the Christ-Child destroyed as soon as He was born (Rev. 12:4; Matt. 2). Fail! The Christ was then caught up to God in the ascension where the Devil can no longer touch Him (Rev. 12:5). So, what does the Devil do? He goes after the WOMAN (Israel) in an attempt to destroy her which will come to a climax in the time of *The Great Tribulation Period* (see Rev. 12:6, 13-17).

God has permanently bound Himself to the nation of Israel in a COVENANT relationship. His very name and integrity are tied to Israel. In the Bible He is called the God of Israel 203 times. The enemies of Israel want her destroyed which has the Devil’s fingerprints all over it. In this attempt to destroy Israel God will either be vindicated or discredited. His whole reputation is on the line.

Jeremiah 31:35–36 (LSB)

35 Thus says Yahweh, Who gives the sun for light by day And the statutes for the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; Yahweh of hosts is His name:

36 “If these statutes are removed From before Me,” declares Yahweh, “Then the seed of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me forever.”

As long as the sun, moon, and stars are in place you can be assured that the nation of Israel is not going anywhere. You have God’s Word on it. The history of Israel is totally unique! They ALONE are the one chosen nation (Amos 3:2). They are God’s special “witness” nation (Isa. 43:10). Their history was uniquely marked out prophetically from beginning to end (Amos 3:7). God said they would be scattered throughout the whole world and they were (Deut. 4:7; Lk. 21:24). God said in the latter days He would bring them back to the land and He has (Jer. 16:14-15). They return, first in blindness, which is where they are today as a people generally (Rom. 11:25). Ezekiel 38 places them back in the land “brought out of the nations” (v.8) in the “latter days” (v. 16). THEY ARE THERE!

In 1948, Israel after 1900 years of being exiled from the land, was once again restored to her land of nativity – the land of PROMISE! Never before in the history of the world has an exiled people ever returned to their native homeland to once again become a nation. Especially considering it happened after almost 2000 years! This is unheard of in the history of the world, but there it is prophesied by God clear as day in the Holy Scriptures! Israel is LIVING proof of the living God!

Thot: “The modern Jewish State of Israel is proof that God continues to fulfill His prophetic Word and that we are quickly approaching the end of this age.” – **Jim Showers**

Earnestly Contending, Pastor Dwight J. Oswald