

the book of

REVELATION

sermon series

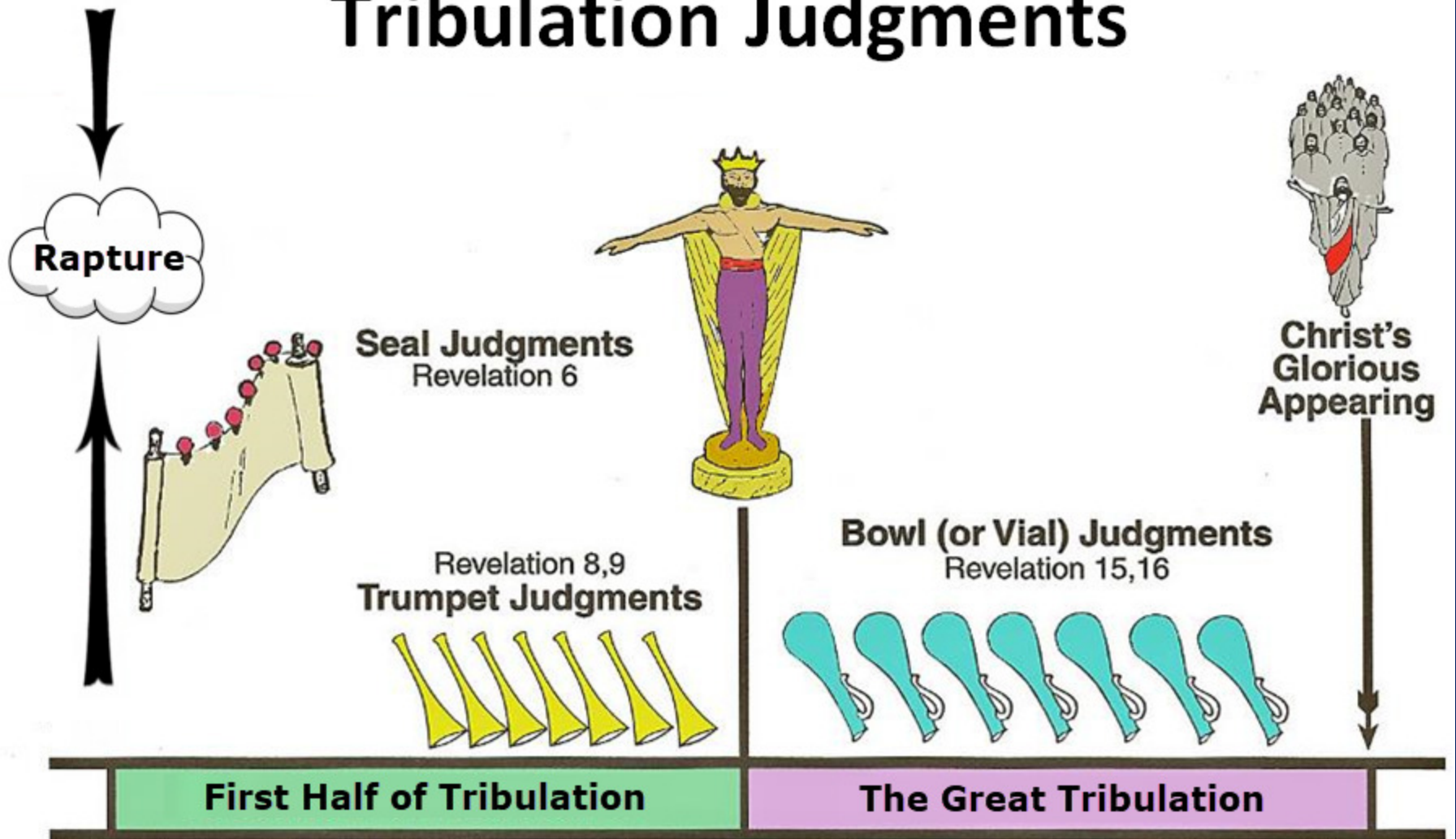


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President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Tribulation Judgments





Seven Trumpets

(Revelation 8–11)



1. 1st Trumpet (8:7) – 1/3 vegetation destroyed
2. 2nd Trumpet (8:8-9) – 1/3 ocean destroyed
3. 3rd Trumpet (8:10-11) – 1/3 water destroyed
4. 4th Trumpet (8:12-13) – 1/3 luminaries darkened
5. 5th Trumpet (9:1-12) – Demons released
6. 6th Trumpet (9:13-21) – 1/3 humanity destroyed
7. 7th Trumpet (11:14-19) – Legal transfer announced

Revelation 11:15

“Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign (*basileuō*) forever and ever.’” (cf. Matt. 6:10)



5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

Seals (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7

Trumpets (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight

Bowls (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls

5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

1. Rev 7 – 144,000 Jews
2. Rev 10:1-11:13 – Announcement of no more delay and the two witnesses
3. Rev 12-14 – Israel's flight, two beasts, six scenes of hope
4. Rev 16:13-16 – Gathering of the nations to Armageddon
5. Rev 17:1-19:6 – Babylon's fall



Revelation 12–14



- A. Rev 12 – Israel's flight**
- B. Rev 13 – Two beasts**
- C. Rev 14 – Six scenes of hope**

Biblical Reality of the Angelic World

- Job 1:12
- 2 Kings 6:15-17
- 1 Chron 21:1
- Dan 10:12-13, 20
- Matt 16:21-23
- Luke 22:31-32
- Eph 6:12



2 Corinthians 2:11

“so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.”



Ezekiel 28:17

“Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.”



Satan's Two Strategies

- Rev 12:1-5 – Past failed strategy
- Rev 12:6-17 – Present & future strategy



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CAST OF 3 CHARACTERS

Revelation 12:1-5

1. SON = MESSIAH

– *Ps. 2:9; Acts 1:9*

2. DRAGON = SATAN

– *Rev. 12:9; 20:2*

3. WOMAN = ISRAEL

– *Gen. 37:9-10*



Revelation 12:4-5 (KJV)

⁴And his tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman that is about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he may devour her child. ⁵And she gave birth to a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.



Different Perspectives – Same Event

- Matt 2 – Physical World
- Rev 12:1-5 – Spiritual World



Genesis 3:15

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.”



Satanic Attempts to Stop Messiah

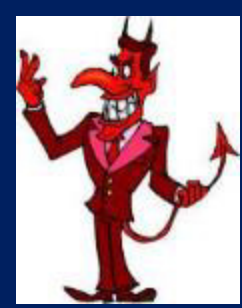
- Cain; Gen. 4, 1 Jn. 3:12
- Sons of God; Gen. 6:1-4
- Pharaoh; Ex. 1
- Athaliah; 2 Chron. 22
- Haman; Esther
- Matt 4:5-7; John 8:59
- Herod; Mt.2



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Names & Titles Demonstrating Satan's Post-Fall, Earthly Authority

(Job 1:7; 2:2; Luke 4:5-8; Rom. 8:19-22)

- Prince of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- God of this age (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Prince and power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
- Who the believer wrestles with (Eph. 6:12)
- Roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8)
- Whole world lies in his power (1 John 5:19)

Genesis 12:3

“And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”



Israel's Three Blessings to the World

(Gen 12:3b)

1. Scripture (Rom 3:2)
2. Savior (John 4:22)
3. Kingdom (Isa 2:2-3)





Satan's Progressive Defeat

1. Initial eviction from heaven (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17)
2. Eden (Gen 3:15)
3. Pre-diluvian world (1 Pet 3:19-20)
4. Cross (John 12:31; 16:11; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
5. Mid point of the Tribulation (Rev 12:9)
6. **Beginning of millennium (Rev 20:2-3)**
7. **End of millennium (Rev 20:10)**

Revelation 11:15

“Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign (*basileuō*) forever and ever.’” (cf. Matt. 6:10)



WHAT MOTIVATES ANTI-SEMITISM?

Fallen angelic world



CONNECTING REV 12 & ANTI-SEMITISM



Satan Now Retains Heavenly Access

- Job 1:6
- Job 2:1
- Zech. 3:1
- Luke 22:31
- Rev. 12:10





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Different Perspectives – Same Event

- Matt 24:15-22 – Physical World
- Rev 12:6-17 – Spiritual World



3 WARS

Revelation 12

1. WAR = PAST

– *Rev. 12:1-5*

2. WAR = HEAVEN

– *Rev. 12:6-12*

3. WAR = EARTH

– *Rev. 12:13-17*



2 CYCLES OF SATANIC PERSECUTION



1. *“Pursues the woman”* = persecution of Israel 12:13-14
2. *“Flood from his mouth”* = tries to destroy Israel 12:15-16

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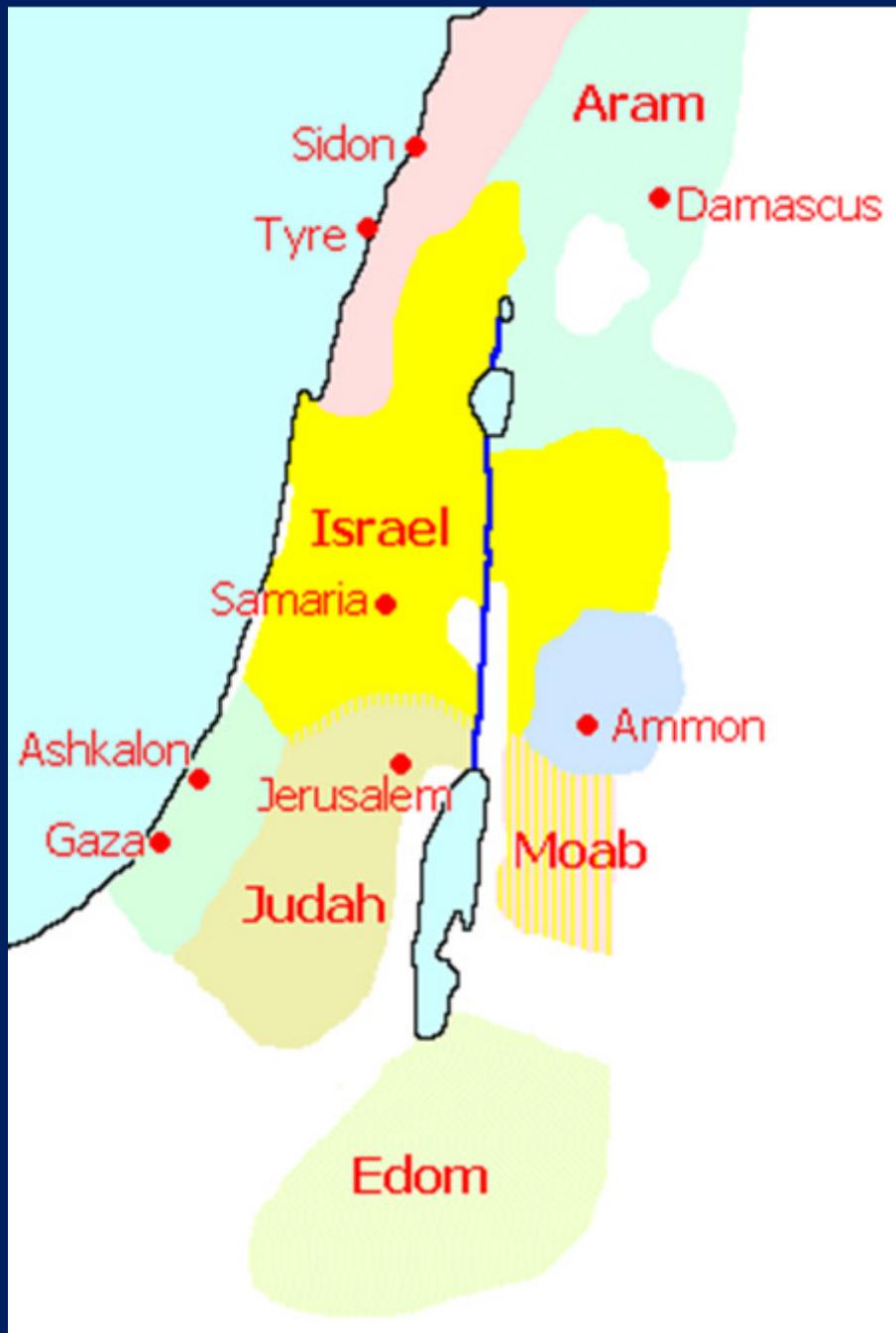
– *Gen. 37:9-10*



Place of Hebrew Refuge: Petra in Mt. Seir in S. Jordan

1. Prepared by God (Rev. 12:6)
2. Divine provision of food & water (Isa. 33:16; Rev. 12:6)
3. Wilderness (Rev. 12:6, 14)
4. Mountains (Isa. 33:16; Matt. 24:16)
5. Defensible (Isa. 33:16)
6. Jordan (Dan. 11:41)
7. Bozrah (Micah 2:12)









Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Footseps of the Messiah, Page 296-97

“Another suggestion is the city now known as Petra...this author prefers the identification with Petra. Petra is located in a basin within Mount Seir, and is totally surrounded by mountains and cliffs. The only way in and out of the city is through a narrow passageway that extends for about a mile and can only be negotiated by foot or by horseback. This makes the city easy to defend, and its surrounding high cliffs give added meaning and confirmation to Isaiah 33:16. Only a few abreast can enter through this passage at any one time, giving this city even greater defensibility.”

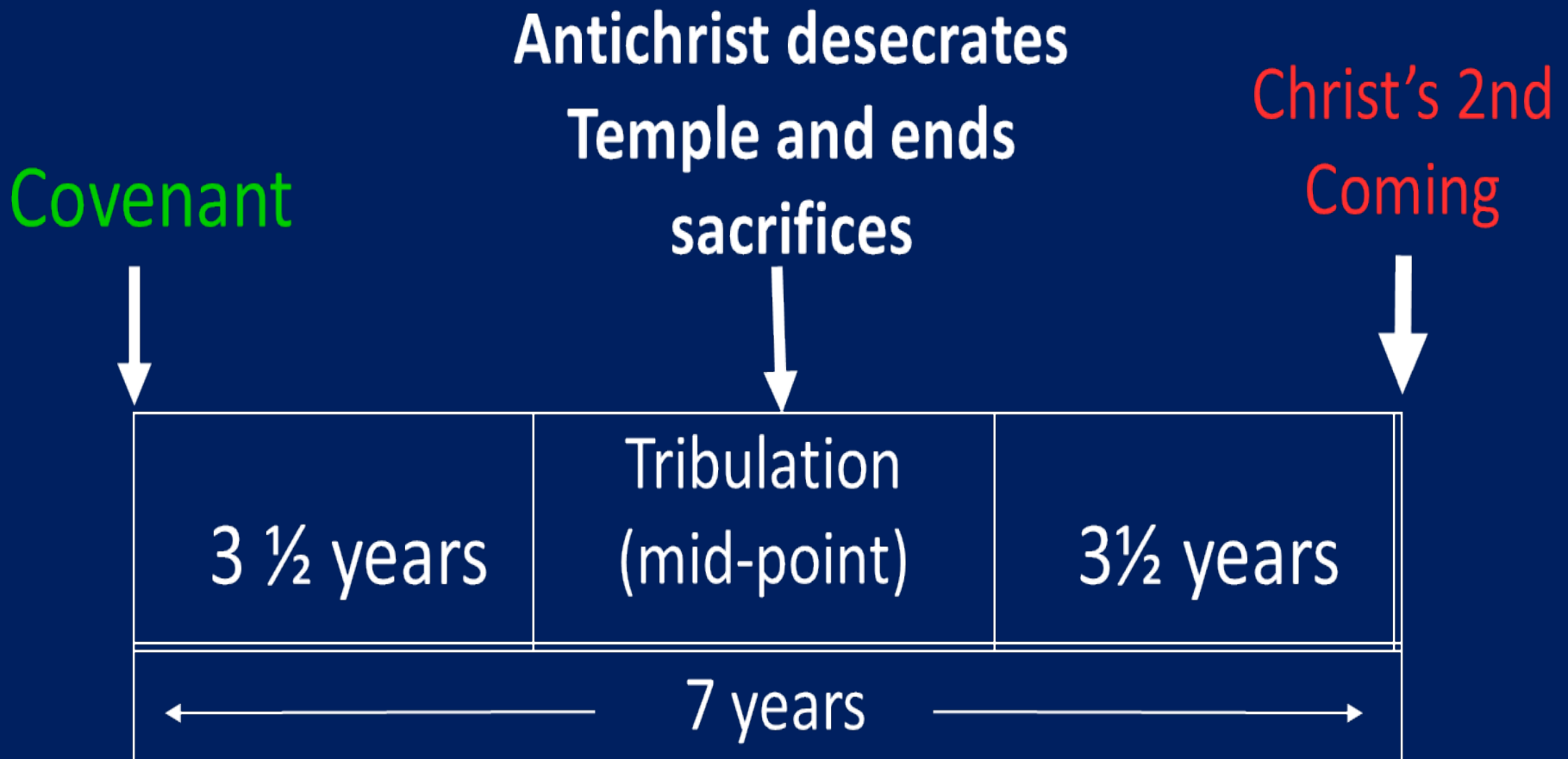


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Footseps of the Messiah, Page 296-97

“The name *Bozrah* means ‘sheepfold.’ An ancient sheepfold had a narrow entrance so that the shepherd could count his sheep. Once inside the fold, the sheep had more room to move around. *Petra* is shaped like a giant sheepfold, with its narrow passage opening up to a spacious circle surrounded by cliffs. This is not true of the town of *Buseira*. Furthermore, by modern *Petra* is a site known as *Butzeira*, which retains the Hebrew *Botzrah*...It will be a very defensible city located in Mount Seir...Furthermore, as they flee and while they are living there, food and water will be miraculously provided.”

DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



Two Rules of Interpretation



- Search the immediate context
 - ◆ Walvoord: 26X
- Search the remote context
 - ◆ Old Testament
 - ◆ Thomas: 278 / 404 verses



2 CYCLES OF SATANIC PERSECUTION



1. *“Pursues the woman” = persecution of Israel 12:13-14*
2. *“Flood from his mouth” = tries to destroy Israel 12:15-16*

Daniel 9:26

Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.



Descriptions of Satanic Hatred

- Wrath 12:12
- Persecution (*diōkō*) 12:13
- Sweep away 12:15
- Enraged (*orgizō*) 12:17
- War (*polemos*) 12:17



How Israel Has Blessed the World

(Gen 12:3; Rom 9:4-5)

☆ Patriarchs	☆ Biblical writers
☆ Law	☆ Early church
☆ Prophets	☆ Early Christian martyrs
☆ Messiah (Jn 4:22; Rom 9:5)	☆ Paul
☆ Apostles	☆ Future kingdom



Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. ³⁸ Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! ³⁹ For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’”



MODERN TRENDS IN ANTISEMITISM

Revelation 12





Christian Anti-Semitism

“First, their synagogues should be set on fire...Secondly, their homes should likewise be broken down and destroyed..Thirdly, they should be deprived of their prayer books and Talmuds...”

Martin Luther, *Concerning the Jews and Their Lies*, cited in Michael Brown's *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood*, pp. 14-15.



Christian Anti-Semitism

“...Fourthly, their rabbis must be forbidden under threat of death to teach any more...Fifthly, passport and traveling privileges should be absolutely forbidden to the Jews...Sixthly, they ought to be stopped from usury (charging interest on loans...”

Martin Luther, *Concerning the Jews and Their Lies*, cited in Michael Brown's *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood*, pp. 14-15.



Christian Anti-Semitism

“Seventhly, let the young and strong Jews and Jewesses be given the flail, the ax, the hoe, the spade, the distaff, and spindle, and let them earn their bread by the sweat of their noses...We ought to drive the rascally lazy bones out of our system...”

Martin Luther, *Concerning the Jews and Their Lies*, cited in Michael Brown's *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood*, pp. 14-15.



Christian Anti-Semitism

“...Therefore away with them... To sum up, dear princes and nobles who have Jews in your domains, if this advice of mine does not suit you, then find a better one so that you and we may all be free of this insufferable devilish burden—the Jews.”

Martin Luther, *Concerning the Jews and Their Lies*, cited in Michael Brown's *Our Hands Are Stained with Blood*, pp. 14-15.

Martin Luther

“Luther, Martin,” in Encyclopaedia Judaica, Vol. 8, 693.



The Encyclopaedia Judaica says
*“Short of the Auschwitz oven and
the extermination, the whole Nazi
holocaust is pre-outlined here.”*

Lucy Dawidowicz

“Luther, Martin,” in Encyclopaedia Judaica, Vol. 8, 693.



“...both Luther and Hitler were obsessed by the ‘demonologized universe’ inhabited by the Jews.”



Lutheran Statement

<https://www.ccjr.us/dialogika-resources/documents-and-statements/interreligious/759-lwfijcic1983>

*“We Lutherans take our name and much of our understanding of Christianity from Martin Luther. **But we cannot accept or condone the violent verbal attacks that the Reformer made against the Jews...The sins of Luther’s anti-Jewish remarks, the violence of his attacks on the Jews, must be acknowledged with deep distress. And all occasions for similar sin in the present or the future must be removed from our churches...Lutherans of today refuse to be bound by all of Luther’s utterances on the Jews.”***



John Calvin

Commentary on the Prophet Daniel (Vol 1, p. 185). Bellingham, WA:
Logos Bible Software. *Commentary on Daniel 2:44-45*. (2010).

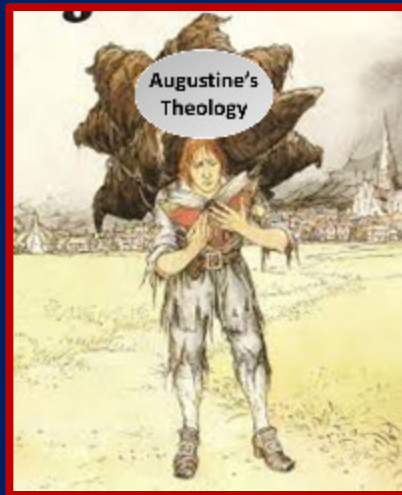
“But here he [the rabbi] not only betrays his ignorance, but his utter stupidity, since God so blinded the whole people that they were like restive dogs. I have had much conversation with many Jews: I have never seen either a drop of piety or a grain of truth or ingenuousness—nay, I have never found common sense in any Jew. But this fellow, who seems so sharp and ingenious, displays his own impudence to his great disgrace.”



John Calvin

1. John Calvin, *Ioannis Calvini opera quae supersunt Omnia*, 50, 307; Sermon on Gal. 1:6–8; quoted in Selderhuis, *Calvin Handbook*, 145;
2. John Calvin, *Supplementa Calviniana*, V, 145, 10; Sermon on Mic. 40b–11; quoted in Selderhuis, *Calvin Handbook*, 145;
3. John Calvin, *Ioannis Calvini opera quae supersunt Omnia*, 27, 6; Sermon on Deut. 10:1–8; quoted in Selderhuis, *Calvin Handbook*, 145.

Calvin repeatedly refers to the Jews as “profane unholy sacrilegious dogs,” describing them as “a barbarous nation” and “the people of Israel rejected by God.”



Zechariah 12:3

“³ It will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it.”



Zechariah 14:2

“² For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city.”





"If the Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no more Israel. "

Benjamin Netanyahu



Conclusion

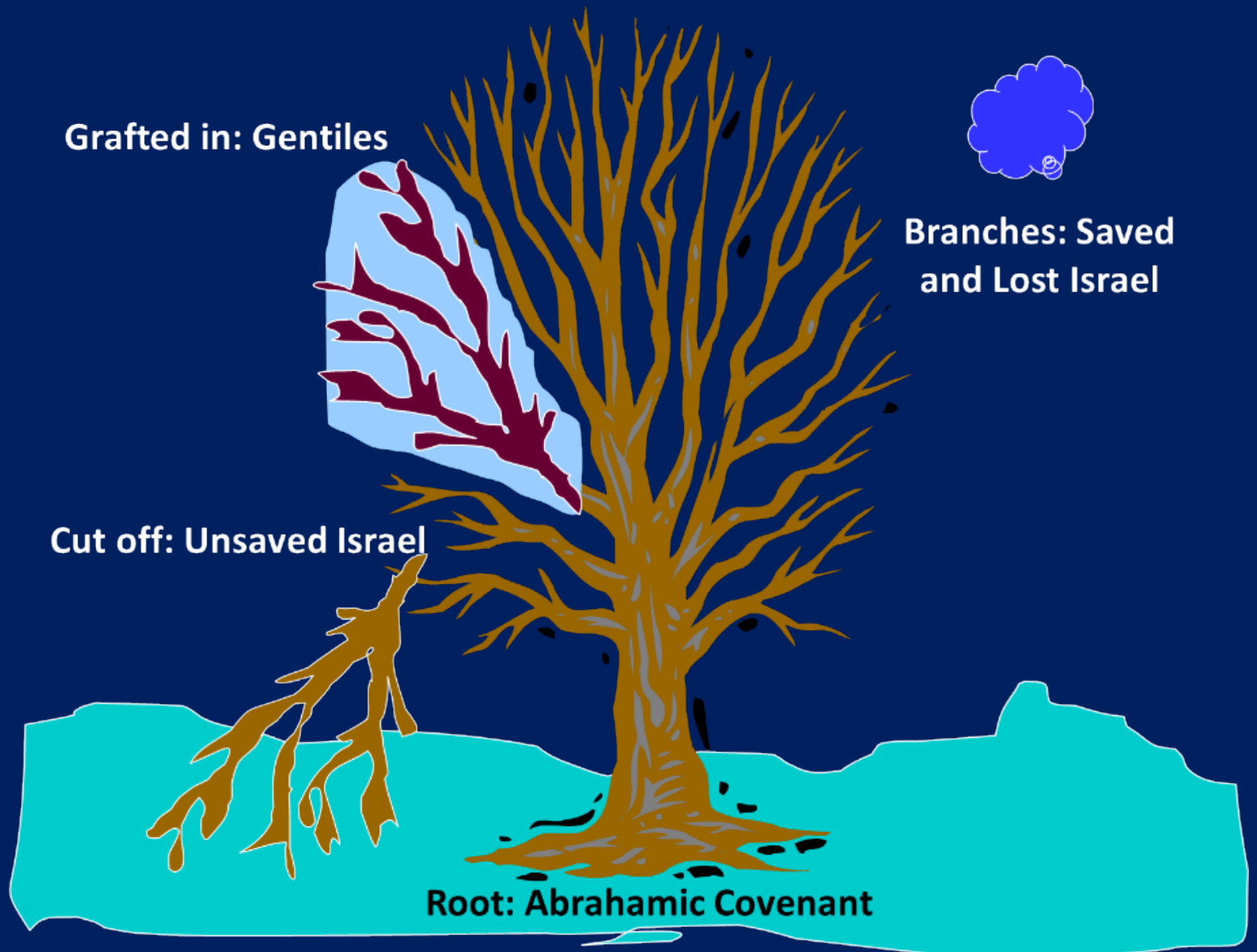
Grafted in: Gentiles



**Branches: Saved
and Lost Israel**

Cut off: Unsaved Israel

Root: Abrahamic Covenant



Romans 11:13, 17-21

“But I am speaking to you who are Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle of Gentiles, I magnify my ministry...But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, ¹⁸ **do not be arrogant toward the branches**; but if you are arrogant, *remember that* it is not you who supports the root, but the root *supports* you. ¹⁹ You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” ²⁰ Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; ²¹ for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.”



Romans 11:28-29

“From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of *God’s* choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.”



Application

- Recognize Anti-Semitism and its source
- Do not take part
- Expose it (Eph. 5:11)
- Do not be surprised by it





“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)