

Doctrinal Studies

Doctrine of Anti-Semitism

1. Definitions:

- A. American College Dictionary: "One hostile to the Jews."
- B. Funk and Wagnall's Dictionary: "Opposition to, prejudice against, or intolerance of the Jewish People"
- C. The term comes from the word "Semitic" which derives from the name of one of Noah's sons, Shem. Although anti-Semitism is almost exclusively applied to those specifically hostile to Jews, the term "Semitic" applies to any of the peoples of the earth descended from Shem. The Jews are but one branch of the Semitic peoples.
- D. The Semitic peoples include the ancient Assyrians, Midianites, Chaldeans, Moabites, Edomites, and Ammonites. Modern day peoples with at least some Semitic ancestry include Arabs, Syrians, so-called Palestinians, Jordanians, Lebanese, and even some Ethiopians! The tragedy is that many of these peoples are and have historically been among the most virulently anti-Semitic.
- E. The term "anti-Semitic" is used to mean intolerance, hatred, prejudice, opposition to, and persecution of the Jews.
- F. God formed the Jewish race for the specific purpose of being the instrument for the dissemination of the Gospel. Therefore, anti-Semitism is satanic.
- G. God selected Abram, a believing Gentile of pure Chaldean extraction, and the ninth in the line from Shem, to be the father of the Jewish race.

2. The prophecy of anti-Semitism is found in Genesis 3:15. The source of anti-Semitism is Satan.

3. There are racial, religious, and regenerate Jews.

- A. The Jewish race includes anyone who has the genes of one of the 12 sons of Jacob. Abram became a Jew at age 100, and his name was changed to Abraham. Isaac (laughter) was born to Abraham and Sarah in their old age, fulfilling the promise of Gen 12:1-3. Jacob was the son of Isaac, and the name Jacob was changed to Israel.
- B. Religious Jews are those who follow a religious system which is actually a distortion of the Mosaic Law, and a counterfeit of Grace. Religion and regeneration are antithetical. Religious people work to get God's best, whereas people oriented to Grace realize that salvation "...is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Eph 2:8, 9
- C. Regenerate Jews are those who have personally accepted Jesus Christ as Savior.

4. The United States and anti-Semitism

- A. Under the Constitution, this nation has made personal religion a matter of the privacy of the individual.
- B. Other than the Bible, the Declaration of Independence is the best document for the protection of the Jews.
- C. Race in the United States was never officially an issue until the last few years.
- D. The constitutional rights of a citizen of the United States of America are not to be related to race or religion.

- E. Jews, as citizens of the United States, have made great contributions to this country: they have fought in wars, enriched our culture, have been great professionals, scientists, artists, financiers, philanthropists, and surgeons. They have helped make this the greatest nation on the earth.
 - F. Anti-Semitism was unknown in this country prior to 1880, and is totally an un-American concept.
 - G. God promises blessing to the nations that bless the Jews, and cursing to those who curse the Jews (Gen 12:3a). History, as recorded both biblically and by secular historians has confirmed the fulfillment of this promise of God. Part of the amazing blessings and prosperity of the United States throughout our history have been because of our historic benevolence toward the Jewish people. To the extent that our country becomes infected with the virus of anti-Semitism, we can expect God to turn our country's blessings to cursing.
5. There is only one people who God has promised to preserve throughout history—the Jews. They are blessed above all other nations on the earth. We are not to be anti-Semitic!