

THE RAMPANT ANTI-JEWISH MINDSET IN THE PALESTINIAN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

I know that I complain a lot about California. Having lived in that state for 38 years I got to see the good side of the state, but the ugly part of it too, and to me, the dark side of that state is much greater than the good side. Now I'm not one for the multi-cultural thing the way that it is today. When I was a kid, multi-cultural meant the difference between Weiner schnitzel and spaghetti and kielbasa. It meant the difference between Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Jewish and Protestant. To me, Chinese food was extreme multicultural.

Things have changed drastically since then and California is a wonderful example of the new "melting pot" that America has become. Because I love to research, I have always been interested in the differences between the religions that I mentioned above. Growing up, my mother would take us to the Episcopal Church down the street. The Reverend there was Ivan Bakker. My sister and I became good friends with their two younger children. It was later in life that I found out that the Bakkers were Jews who converted to Christianity, or at least Ivan was, but he never identified with his Jewish heritage. I always wondered why? Perhaps he thought that conversion meant that he had to forsake his former heritage entirely. After reading about the doctrines of the Episcopal Church I have determined that Ivan most probably forsook his Jewish Roots because the Episcopal Church is steeped deeply in the replacement theology heresy. Ivan was probably told that he could not retain his old heritage and still love Jesus.

Over the years I have quizzed people from other countries when I found out that they retain some sort of Christian belief system. I've met Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Eastern Orthodox, Coptic Christians, Ethiopian Christians, Anglicans, and many others. I've met Taoists, Buddhists, Hindus, Animists, Shinto's and many others. Some take pride in all of the places that they have visited around the world, and that is okay. However, it is the people of those places that bring the culture and beauty and/or ugliness to a region of the world; and getting to know them is a lot more interesting. Why travel? America is now the world.

One thing that I have noticed about Romans Catholics, all of the Orthodox religions and most of the "structured" that is, liturgical branches of the Christian faith is that most of them hold to the heresy of replacement theology.

Replacement theology (also known as supersessionism) essentially teaches that the church has replaced Israel in God's plan. Adherents of replacement theology believe the

Jews are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the nation of Israel. All the different views of the relationship between the church and Israel can be divided into two camps: either the church is a continuation of Israel (replacement/covenant theology), or the church is completely different and distinct from Israel (dispensationalism/premillennialism).

Replacement theology teaches that the church is the replacement for Israel and that the many promises made to Israel in the Bible are fulfilled in the Christian church, not in Israel. So, the prophecies in Scripture concerning the blessing and restoration of Israel to the Promised Land are "spiritualized" or "allegorized" into promises of God's blessing for the church. Major problems exist with this view, such as the continuing existence of the Jewish people throughout the centuries and especially with the revival of the modern state of Israel. If Israel has been condemned by God, and there is no future for the Jewish nation, how do we explain the supernatural survival of the Jewish people over the past 2000 years despite the many attempts to destroy them? How do we explain why and how Israel reappeared as a nation in the 20th century after not existing for 1900 years? [Source: <http://www.gotquestions.org/replacement-theology.html>]

A few years ago, I was sent an email from a man who claimed that he was Greek Orthodox and he was from Greece. He was livid that I supported Israel and expressed that he was clearly Pro-Palestinian and that he hated Israel for the way that Israel treats Palestinians. For some reason I decided not to write this guy off as some fanatic fool that was going to hell in a hand basket. I wrote back and gently and politely (atypical, huh?) showed him my point and asked him to look at "real history" as opposed to the rhetoric that he had read. I directed him to some Israeli websites and of course, to scripture, prophecies and the writings of Paul and others. I also started to pray like a wild-man for this fellow. We went back and forth for short while, probably a month or so, and then I heard nothing back from him. A couple of months later he wrote back to me and apologized. He did what I recommended and researched, looking at both sides, at history and at scripture. He said that the Orthodox Church was in error, and that the Church doesn't replace Israel. He said that he had a new-found love for the Jewish people and that now he supported their right to be in their own land. He also said that he thought that the Palestinians really didn't have a claim to the land and called them interlopers. I was blessed and surprised at the same time. Instead of arguing his point, he researched everything and found out that he had been wrong, and he had the humbleness to confess his errors and to change, in other words, to repent.

I surmised that if my Greek friend had a problem with Jews because his Church taught replacement theology, maybe other Orthodox people have a dislike for Jews too. I worked for a while with a Russian Orthodox lady that took a liking to me because when she was being lied to

by the Mormons, I gave her information in Russian about the Mormon cult. She informed me that although she didn't have a problem with Jews and our right to Eretz Israel, that there were many in the Russian Orthodox Church that hold to replacement theology. Of course, aside from her confirming this, it has been confirmed throughout history by the pogroms and purges that the Russians have inflicted on the Jews over the centuries, all in the name of Christianity. She felt remorse over the way that the Communists treated the Jews too. I found this interesting because this woman was actually a medical attendant to Khrushchev when he was Premier over the USSR.

I had the pleasure of meeting many Armenian Orthodox people. I got close to one family. Her family took me in like I was one of their family. They were former Communists; only joining the party to survive during hard times. They were later persecuted because of their feigned communism and immigrated to the US to get away from persecution that patriotic Armenians put them through. They were nice people who didn't have an opinion one way or another where the Jews are concerned, although the wife, whom I worked with, did seem to have an unexplained love for the Jewish People. There were however others that had strong opinions against Jews. I conducted my polls covertly because mention of Jews often brought up anger. One particular man, named Martin, when asked if there were Jews in Armenia became indignant and yelled at me, saying; "No Jews, Armenia is a Christian Nation." Others echoed Martin's sentiments, and his son, who understood English much better, told me that Armenian Orthodox, per se, see Jews as cast off and Christ Killers. Now to be fair, I've met Armenian Orthodox whose families immigrated to America nearly a century ago that are ardent supporters of Israel. I feel that since several generations have grown up in America, who was pro-Israel for decades probably helped them to form that opinion. Also, the Armenians at the beginning of the 20th Century suffered a genocide at the hands of Ottoman (Islamic) Turkey, so both Jews and Armenians have suffered ethnic cleansing. Modern Armenians have no memory of those events and the feelings fade after time and generations pass.

My like for research brought me to the internet where I wanted to find out just what churches or denominations adhere to replacement theology. I found a list that seems to be pretty popular on the internet, which lists (in bold) all of the major denominational and Orthodox bodies that cling to the heresy:

*Approximately 100 Million American Church Members Have Very Little to No Understanding of Bible Prophecy –
Bill Koenig*

January 17, 2005

Note from Bill:

Today there are approximately 100 million American church members who have very little to no understanding of Bible prophecy. These church members are from replacement theology churches that don't teach Bible prophecy and who look at prophetic scriptures as allegorical and not literal. Consequently, they do not understand the importance of Israel to the God of Israel or God's redemptive plan for Israel and the nations. (To Read "The Error of Replacement Theology" – By Clarence H. Wagner Jr. [click here.](#))

These church members also have no understanding of the biblical significance of what is transpiring today in Israel, Russia, China, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and in other Middle East nations. They are also not aware of the significance of the formation of the European Union, new ID technologies and much more.

I have shared the biblical significance of our times with some of these people and almost all of them can't process the information mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Many of these people, due to fear or unbelief, do not want to hear more. Sadly, they also have no biblical point of reference in which to start if they had interest.

The good news is those who understand Bible prophecy are fully aware of the significance of Israel, God's time clock, and are watching the times with great interest and expectancy.

Below is a list of the 25 largest churches in America. The churches that are highlighted in bold are confirmed replacement theology churches. We are still attempting to confirm a few of the smaller church positions.

The Church

U.S. Membership Denominational Ranking: Largest 25 Denominations/Communions – 2004 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches

- 1. The Roman Catholic Church – 66,407,105**
2. Southern Baptist Convention – 16, 427, 736
- 3. The United Methodist Church – 8,251,042**
4. The Church of God in Christ – 5,499,875
- 5. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – 5,410,544**
- 6. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – 5,038,006**
7. National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. – 5,000,000
8. National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. – 3,500,000
- 9. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) – 3,407,329**

10. *Assemblies of God* – 2,687,366
11. ***The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*** – 2,512,714
12. ***African Methodist Episcopal Church*** – 2,500,000
13. *National Missionary Baptist Convention of America* – 2,500,000
14. *Progressive National Baptist Convention Inc.* – 2,500,000
15. ***The Episcopal Church*** – 2,333,628
16. ***Churches of Christ, Corsicana, Texas*** – 1,500,000
17. ***Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America*** – 1,500,000
18. *Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc.* – 1,500,000
19. *American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.* – 1,484,291
20. ***African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church*** – 1,430,795
21. ***United Church of Christ*** – 1,330,985
22. *Baptist Bible Fellowship International* – 1,200,000
23. ***Christian Churches and Churches of Christ, Joplin, Mo.*** – 1,071,616
24. ***Jehovah's Witnesses*** – 1,022,397
25. *Church of God, Cleveland, Tenn.,* – 944,857

Source: <http://watch.org/showart.php3?idx=64261rtn=/index>

Now, remember that the list contains the largest 25 churches, not all of the churches that ascribe to replacement theology. In addition, this is just a list of Churches in the United States. I know of several churches in the Eugene, Oregon area that subscribe to the heresy. They tend to suck people in with an appearance of genuine love for ALL people, except for Jews. Oh, and they will accept Jews if Jews surrender their heritage, traditions and Torah adherents. Other churches not mentioned on the list are, for example, the Armenian Orthodox and Russian Orthodox Churches. Notice that the list above contains mostly mainline churches that have direct ties with either Orthodox or Catholic origins.

Having dealt with many people online, I've heard it all. One guy proudly proclaimed that, "it is impossible for Hebrews to be saved." Many others like to rail on Messianic Jews, stating that the Torah has been done away with and that Jews, and/or people who are getting back to Hebrew Roots are heretical because they contend that we are trying to meld Old and New Testaments and that we're trying to live by works, not by faith. I will admit that there are Judaizers in the Roots realm, but again, they are just a small minority, not all Messianics or Hebrew Roots people. However, when you think about it, it was just a handful of Jewish "leaders" that accomplished Elohim's will by manipulating the Romans to crucify Yeshua, yet most Jews that I know have experienced persecution 2000 years later because of those "few leaders." When it comes to us Jews, everyone gets ascribed the guilt of just a few.

Now that we have a list that shows the American denominations, or sects of Christianity that are ardent in their belief in replacement theology, let's look at the Christian population of those who call themselves Palestinians.

Around 50% of Palestinian Christians belong to the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem, one of the 16 churches of Eastern Orthodoxy. This community has also been known as the Arab Orthodox Christians. There are also Maronites, Melkite-Eastern Catholics, Jacobites, Chaldeans, Roman Catholics (locally known as Latins), Syriac Catholics, Orthodox Copts, Catholic Copts, Armenian Orthodox, Armenian Catholic, Quakers (Friends Society), Methodists, Presbyterians, Anglicans (Episcopal), Lutherans, Evangelicals, Pentecostals, Nazarene, Assemblies of God, Baptists and other Protestants; in addition to small groups of Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons and others.

The Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theófilos III, is the leader of the Palestinian and Jordanian Orthodox Church of Jerusalem, but Israel has refused to recognize his appointment. If confirmed, he would replace Patriarch Irenaios (in office from 2001), whose status within the church became disputed after a term surrounded by controversy and scandal given that he sold Palestinian property to Israeli Orthodox Jews. Archbishop Theodosios (Hanna) of Sebastia is the highest ranking Palestinian clergyman in the Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Fouad Twal, is the leader of the Roman Catholics in Jerusalem, Palestine, Jordan, Israel and Cyprus. The Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem is Suheil Dawani, who replaced Bishop Riah Abou Al Assal. Elias Chacour, a Palestinian refugee, of the Melkite Eastern Catholic Church is Archbishop of Haifa, Acre and the Galilee. Bishop Dr. Munib Younan is the president of the Lutheran World Federation and the Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL). [Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palestinian_Christians]

Notice from the list that almost all of the sects named are or have connections with either Roman Catholic or some Orthodox sect, or they are mainline denominations of Protestantism that, although they left the majority of the Vatican's dogma behind, still cling to some traditions of their mother church.

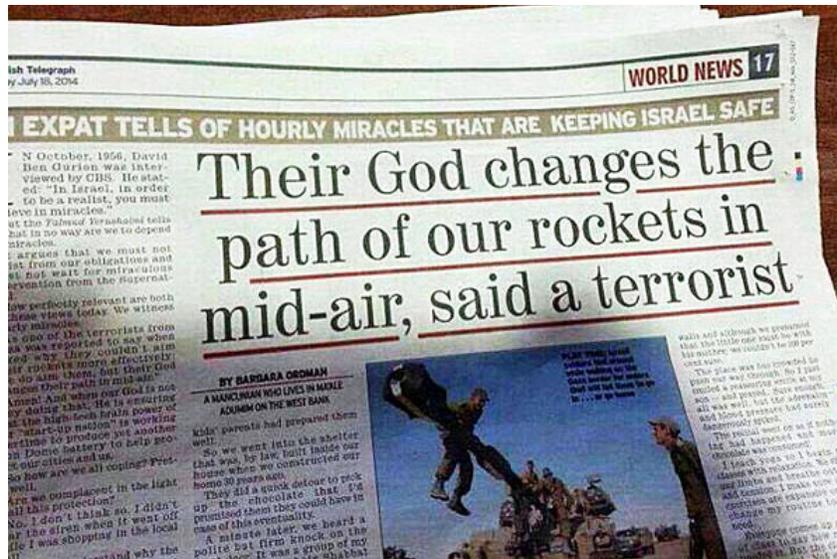
In addition, if you want to see some more "anti-Jewish" attitudes with replacement theology roots, look at the second paragraph, where the Patriarch of the Jordanian Orthodox Church of Jerusalem now has a disputed status because he sold land to Jews.

And lastly, I do have a little bit of personal interaction with a woman that called herself a "Palestinian Christian." I worked with her back in the 1990's. Because of my curiosity, I wanted to know more about what she thought and what her sect of Christianity was all about. She told

me that she was Orthodox, and said that I could compare it to a kind of Catholicism. I told her that it must be exciting to come from the land where Jesus walked. I then explained to her about my Messianic faith and told her that I was excited because Jesus is a Jew. Her reply shocked me. She told me, “*well, that is what they want you to think.*” I felt an anger welling up in me and didn’t pursue it any further. After she found out that I was Jewish she would always evade me and wouldn’t even look at me. Others recognized that this happened, so I know that it wasn’t my imagination.

Now some might argue that the Palestinian Christians are in a tough place. They are surrounded by Muslims that are all like powder-kegs that could go off at any time. They might be afraid to express their real feelings because of what might happen to them. Well, my friend was here in America when she made her comments. She could have very well expressed her heart’s truth if she wanted to and it was different from what she told me. The thing is that replacement theology is rampant in the Catholic and Orthodox communities. It is part of their doctrine, their dogma and their natural hatred toward Jews and Israel. And where persecution is concerned, there are Christians right now in Iraq that are being exterminated for expressing their Christianity, as well as in many other parts of the world. They’re not afraid to stand up for what they believe in, they’re not afraid to tell the truth. That is because they know truth. They’re too busy fighting the good fight than they are to learn and practice hatred and bigotry.

You know, I hear a lot of hubbub from Christians that take up for the Palestinian cause. The media, the UN and just about every Arab nation has a wonderful way of taking an attack against Israel and turning it against Israel. I know a couple in Israel. They are wonderful people and we visited with them when we were in Israel last year. They have five young children. Just three or four weeks after the first Blood Moon, the Palestinians decided to start launching missiles toward Israel. Over four thousand missiles were launched into Israel. We saw miracles too. One missile that was making its way toward Tel Aviv was blown into the sea by a brief gust of wind that came from the east. It even freaked Israeli’s out. One Palestinian source told a newspaper that they were getting frustrated because “their God changed the direction of our missiles...”



Let me tell you a little story. A few years ago, the Palestinian People voted Hamas into power. The result was that Hamas took over and made Abbas into their mouthpiece; reducing him to being just a figurehead. After the election, Hamas took total control. They have pilfered the resources of the Palestinian people, reduced them to an even worse state than they were in before. Concrete that was meant for building hospitals and homes was used to make tunnels to infiltrate into Israel. Money given to the Palestinian people was used to buy guns, bombs and missiles. Other resources sent to the Palestinians were traded for other implements of terror. So when liberal Americans cry foul and say that the Palestinians have been given the short end of the stick, well I just tell another story.

Back in 2007 there was a candidate that ran for office here in the US. He made great promises of change, that he was here to make things right for everyone and that he was going to “fundamentally change,” America. He implemented a healthcare system that is a failure in every sense of the word. Don’t believe me, ask someone who fell for it and got his insurance. He has destroyed this nation economically, militarily and socially, and morally. He has brought our enemies into our country and has divided people in this nation like never before. Isn’t it ironic, that the same people who put the American atrocity into office are the same ones who are crying foul for the cause of the Palestinian People? It’s not a coincidence that as we as a nation have turned against Israel, and sought the help of a false messiah, the same thing happened to the Palestinian People who would love to destroy Israel and kill every Jew alive; they got Hamas. Yahweh is great at playing tit for tat, and trust me, men who oppose Him never win.

But then we have the third group; liberal Christians. These are people who want to mold Yahweh into something that they have imagined. They want Yahweh to be their figurehead, but they want to have control of His kingdom. They take Yahweh's Word; His Holy Scriptures and they take them out of context and twist them like a pretzel. If you come against them, they do just what Yeshua said they would do, they kick you out of the Synagogue (Churches), they ruin your character and they have you classified as a heretic, or even worse, they'll judge you as not being saved. They take Krino and masquerade it as *diakrino* while they're slicing the jugular with their box cutters. These are the kinds to watch out for, the NAR people, the Dominion Theology people and all forms of people who replace a people that Yahweh has called unto himself and place themselves in their stead. These are the spiritual vampires that suck the church of its life's blood and weaken it with their poison of false doctrine.

I am afraid for people who cling to the idea of replacement theology. Someday soon, Yeshua, the King of The Jews will return to gather unto himself all of Israel, the true stock and the true vines that are grafted in and He will welcome all of those into his Glorious Kingdom. However, those who have denied His natural heritage will be told to stand on His left side, and they will be dispersed into places that they will have wished they never heard of or saw. I can only imagine that under their breath, as they are led away, they accuse Yeshua of being a Judaizer and twisting His own Scripture.