

# GOD'S FIRSTBORN SON

## PART II "ISRAEL"

SIGNIFICANCE OF ISRAEL BEING GOD'S FIRSTBORN SON

By Arlen L. Chirwood

"And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn" (Ex. 4:22, 23).

"But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine" (Isa. 43:1).

"Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises" (Rom. 9:4).

### Israel's Position Among the Nations

The emanating point for all anti-Semitism is *Satan himself*, and he carries out his numerous anti-Semitic endeavors principally

through the Gentile nations, over which he and his angels rule (also through numerous Christians as well, resulting from Biblical ignorance, allowing for this type deception); and the basic reason for all anti-Semitism is centered in *Israel's identity and position among the nations* — *God's firstborn son, the one existing apart from Satan's present governmental rule, the one not only possessing the right to hold the sceptre, but the one who one day will hold the sceptre.*

Is it any wonder that Israel's presence in the midst of Gentile nations in the Middle East has always caused trouble? Because of existing conditions — conditions which exist among both the Jewish people and those comprising the Gentile nations — Israel could be viewed as a powder keg with a short fuse in the midst of the nations, though the converse of that should be true (and one day will be true).

Then, to further complicate the matter as it exists today, the nations across North Africa, extending into the Middle East, are made up mainly of the descendants of Ishmael, Israel's half brother.

Peace existed in Abraham's tent so long as Ishmael was in the tent alone. But when Isaac was born fourteen years later, trouble began (*cf.* Gen. 16:16-17:1, 18; 21:1ff); both of Abraham's sons simply could not dwell in the tent together.

And this same thing has been tried during ensuing years down through the centuries, resulting in this same trouble — trouble which has not only continued into modern times but trouble which will continue until a certain revealed time yet future.

The trouble exists because of *Israel's identity in relation to the Arabic nations* (*cf.* Gen. 17:18-21; 21:9, 10), and this trouble which

will continue to exist until that time seen in Gen. 25:17 — the time of that foreshadowed by the death of Ishmael — which, contextually, is millennial in its scope of fulfillment. Only in that coming day, following God restoring Israel as His wife (Gen. 25:1ff), will the Ishmaelites cease to exist as they are presently seen in Gen. 16:12 — "a wild ass of a man," whose hand is "against every man" (literal rendering from the Hebrew text). Only in that coming day will there be peace in Abraham's tent, with the Ishmaelites and all the other Gentile nations being blessed *through dwelling in Abraham's tent.*

(To understand the expression, Abraham's tent, as previously used, refer to "the tents of Shem" in the next section of this pamphlet.

Also, for additional information on Anti-Semitism, refer to the author's two pamphlets titled, "Anti-Semitism.")

Note Rom. 9:4 with respect to Israel and the nations:

"Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises."

God's "adoption" of Israel is mentioned first, which necessitated a prior *sonship* standing, for only sons are in a position to be placed as *firstborn sons* through adoption. Then "the glory" is mentioned, along with "the covenants," "the giving of the law," "the service of God," and "the promises." All of these together are *regal* in nature and have to do with *God's firstborn son, a land, and a theocracy.*

In relation to any of the six things mentioned in Rom. 9:4, all of the Gentile nations find themselves in exactly the same *alienated*

*position*. No Gentile nation can qualify to lay claim to anything in this list, for there is *no special creation* among any of the Gentile nations, allowing *sonship* and a *subsequent adoption* to exist. The only way that any Gentile nation can have any type association with the things listed in this verse is seen in Gen. 9:25-27. And this section of Scripture, early in Genesis, *shows the place which God has decreed that the Gentiles occupy in relation to Israel*, once this nation, through Jacob and his progeny, had been called into existence.

### Spiritual Blessings, Israel, the Nations

In Genesis chapter nine, of the three sons of Noah, *Shem* was the only one revealed to have a God (v. 26). And if either of the other two sons (Ham or Japheth), alienated from God in this respect, were to receive spiritual blessings, they would have had to “dwell in the tents of Shem” (v. 27). That is to say, they would have had to come to the one in possession of a God and spiritual blessings. They would have had to come to and ally themselves with Shem.

And that is exactly the position in which *Israel and the Gentile nations* have found themselves throughout millenniums of time, find themselves today, and will always find themselves. Of all the nations on earth, *Israel, the nation descending from Shem through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, is the only nation having a God*; and the God Whom Israel possesses has decreed that *all spiritual blessings are to flow through the nation which He has singled out as His firstborn son*.

Thus, for *the Gentiles* to be blessed — today, or at any time yet future — they would/will have to do the same thing seen among

Noah’s sons in Gen. 9:25-27. They would/will have to come to the one in possession of a God and in possession of spiritual blessings. They would/will have to come to and ally themselves with *Israel*.

(Note that “the God...of the Gentiles” in Rom. 3:29 is a reference to saved Gentiles, not to Gentile nations [*cf.* Rom. 1:16; 2:5-16; Gal. 1:11-16; 2:2-15; II Tim. 1:11]. And saved individuals would have a God through their Jewish Saviour.

The nations possess gods, but, apart from Israel and the Saviour Who came through Israel, the gods of the nations are clearly stated in Scripture to be “idols” [*lit.*, “nothing” compared to the one true and living God (Ps. 96:5; *cf.* Eph. 2:11-13)].)

Relative to spiritual blessings flowing through Israel to the nations, as God intended when He called Israel into existence, exactly the opposite is happening today.

Viewing matters from the vantage point of *Israel’s* present condition — in a state of disobedience and unbelief — the Jewish people fail to understand their God-ordained position among the Gentile nations, that of God’s firstborn son.

And viewing matters from the standpoint of *the Gentile nations* — nations alienated from God and His revelation to man (something which has come through Israel) — the nations have no concept at all of Israel’s present condition; nor do the nations have any concept of Israel’s present position in relation to them, *i.e.*, Israel occupying the position of God’s firstborn son among the nations.

Then, the vast majority of *Christians* in the world today — because of their ignorance of Biblical teachings surrounding Israel and the

nations — find themselves in a position, as it pertains to the true knowledge of God and world affairs, which is little different than that seen among Israel and the nations. The truth of the matter eludes them as well.

God though will shortly bring an end to and rectify the entire matter. The present dispensation has almost run its course. And when the present dispensation ends, God will resume and complete seven unfulfilled years in His dealings with Israel during Man’s Day, bringing an end to Man’s Day and the Times of the Gentiles.

That is to say, God will shortly once again step into the affairs of the human race, remove the Church, and then complete seven unfulfilled years of the prior dispensation. And, having brought matters to completion in this respect, God will have finished His 6,000-year period of redemptive work comprising Man’s Day.

Once Man’s Day has run its course, the Lord’s Day will begin. A Sabbath rest following six days of work will ensue. As each of the six days of redemptive work was 1,000 years long, so will it be with the seventh day of rest.

A converted and restored Israel will hold the sceptre in that millennial day. And the Gentile nations will not only be ruled by but blessed through Israel, exactly as God decreed in the beginning when He called this nation into existence.

Man is exhorted to “pray for the peace of Jerusalem” (Ps. 122:6), which is simply praying that God would hasten that day.