

## OUR FAR FLUNG BATTLE LINE

(1 COR. 14:8)

THEIR LINE IS GONE OUT  
THROUGH ALL THE EARTH,  
AND THEIR WORDS TO  
THE END OF THE WORLD  
Psalm 19:4

Leopold Cohn  
Memorial Building



236 West 72d Street  
New York City, U.S.A.

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 DES MOINES

 LONDON

 PARIS

 BUENOS AIRES

 DENVER

 HAVANA

 JERUSALEM

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS, Inc.

# Fifty-third Year

VOL. LII

MAY, 1947

No. 8

## THE CHOSEN PEOPLE

"He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep."  
Psalm 121:4.



JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, Editor

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medium of information concerning Israel, and the Work of the

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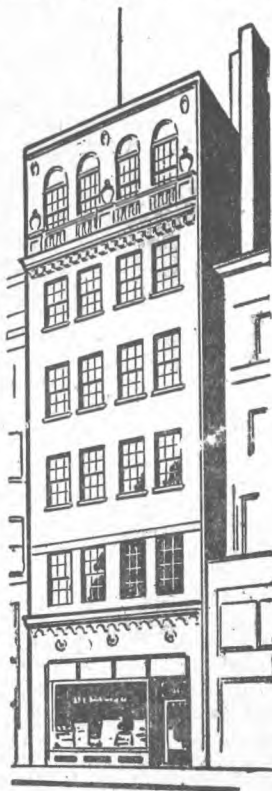
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JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN  
Editor

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Vol. LII

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## Salutation

"We go down to salute the children of the king"—II Kings 10:13

*Dearly beloved friends:—*

When this Salutation reaches you, I will be, God willing, either on the high seas, or already landed in London, or having made further progress, my work in London finished, by having gone on to our Paris Headquarters. From Paris it is my expectation to trek my way to Palestine, if at that time Palestine is not under too great a reign of terror, and I can secure the necessary permission. "Ten thousand people will be praying for you all the time that you are away," wrote a dear brother just a few days ago. I wrote to this friend that if it were not for the knowledge that many more than ten thousand are praying, and will continue to pray, for the Lord's blessing and protection, I would not take the first step to go across.

This Salutation is being written just a few weeks before I embark on this visit of mercy and relief, but more especially for the purpose of distributing the Gospel message to souls now in such darkness as Israel has never before known in all her history. Letters from our workers abroad tell us they have been longing for this visit for eight years. Letters from desolated Jewish homes in different parts of Europe likewise tell us how their hearts have been yearning for the time when we could go across to see for ourselves their desperate need and to bring what relief we can.

Last month we went into some detail to give you the picture of what we are going to have to face when we get to the other side, that you might have a better understanding of what we will have to do, and that you might pray more intelligently that the Lord shall give us patience and wisdom to make the most effective use of time, strength and money, for His own honor and glory.

"I SINK IN DEEP MIRE"

It was unusually striking the other day to run across a full page advertisement in the New York newspapers, put out by The United Jewish Appeal. One cannot help but admire the vision and the courage of the American Jews that they have shouldered the task of trying to reach the staggering total of \$170,000,000, for the United Jewish Relief funds. When it is remembered that there are only 4,000,000 Jews in the United States, of which 2,000,000 are in New York, and that the majority of these New York Jews are themselves in poverty, or at least in the middle class or lower, this undertaking assumes stupendous proportions. I sometimes



wonder how the Christian churches would measure up to a test like this. These Jews are going to give till it hurts; and they are going to give not only out of income, but also out of savings. It will be cutting into capital funds to the very bone.

But the striking thing about the full-page advertisement referred to is that for the first time in our memory our Jewish leaders are actually falling back upon the Word of God, for they quote from Psalm 69 as follows:—

Save me, O God:  
for the waters are come in unto my soul.  
I sink in deep mire,  
where there is no standing:  
I am come into deep waters,  
where the floods overflow me.  
I am weary with my crying:  
my throat is dried:  
Mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.

So far, this is a good sign; and we must continue in labor and in prayer that the time will come when the people of Israel will not only fall back upon one of their Psalms in the hour of their desperate distress, but will also go much further and pray from the depths of their hearts the confession of Isaiah 53; and then cry to God in penitence and agony of soul, "We have sinned, we have sinned!"

#### A NATION UPROOTED

The advertisement goes on to give some heartaching facts. For instance, there are 1,500,000 Jews left in Central Europe. UNRRA is being liquidated and these helpless Jews will be left stranded without anyone to care for their souls and bodies. Further, the Jewish population of the Displaced Persons Camps has leaped from 85,000 in the beginning of 1946, to 250,000 at the present time. This does not take into account the deplorable conditions in Hungary, Roumania, Poland, and other countries. Again, there are 170,000 Jewish children that have survived the Nazi cruelties, 26,000 of whom are in Displaced Persons Camps. Certainly of all pathetic conditions which must excite the deepest sympathy of the human heart, is the condition of helpless children.

For these thousands of Jews there is no future in Europe. They are even now tortured, persecuted, hated. Moreover the Palestine situation is heartbreaking. Well may it be that the only relief from the horrors of Europe for these poor Jews is a return to Palestine. But the conflict of world interests, the determined hostility of the Arabs, the intrigue on the part of certain nations, who would destroy Great Britain if they could, all militate against the immigration of Jews in large numbers into Palestine. America's shores are practically closed, for the powers that be in our own Government have seen fit not to suspend the severe restrictions of the immigration laws so as to make room for these derelicts. If ever it was true in all the history of the world that the Jew has no place to go, it certainly is true today.

There you have the picture. I shall be counting heavily upon the earnest prayers of every one of our dear believing friends. As I told you last month, the work of the Mission here at Headquarters and throughout America will be left in the hands of our Lord, Who has watched over us

through the years; it has been His power and His hand that has kept us through the testings and persecutions, and helped us to carry the heavy burdens. So we know He will continue to lead us on. You have been ever generous in your response to our financial needs, and I go away with full trust that you will continue to replenish our treasury abundantly that we may go on unhindered to do the work to which the Lord has called us. We cannot beg for money, we cannot send out frantic appeals; all that, to our mind, would bring dishonor to the Word of God and to His Name. We can only look to Him, and we can also trust our dear friends to have good consecrated common sense and realize that such a work as this, with its world-wide commitments, does need large providing, if we are to carry out the program that God Himself has laid out for us.

#### JERUSALEM COMPASSED WITH ARMIES

As we promised you last month, we will now change the picture and turn for a moment to examine the current scene. How swiftly we are rushing into the holocaust of the Armageddon, only God knows. But we can, as His enlightened children, take an objective view, counting ourselves for the moment outside of the world, and looking upon the world from some such vantage point as the planet Mars; or if we were standing alongside of God Himself, to look down upon the universe, and upon this old sin-soaked world. What a remarkable change would take place in our thinking if we could imagine ourselves separated from the earth in this way.

Examining the earth by affairs from this angle, let us take the pieces apart, as one takes apart the pieces of a watch, and endeavor to see just what it is that has brought the world to its present political, economic and religious chaos.

#### THE BATTLE TO THE STRONG

On March 7, 1947, Sir Halford J. MacKinder passed away at his home near London, England, at the age of eighty-six. Of itself, this item of news means nothing to any of us, beyond the fact that one more soul has gone across the river whence no man returneth. Perhaps you are wondering, "What is all this to me? The answer is that Sir Halford achieved fame as a British geographer who expounded, and became the master of, the theory of geopolitics. This too may mean little or nothing to the friends who are reading these lines. But now we go one step further and we discover that this is the scholar who nearly fifty years ago described in his writings the great Russian-Siberian land mass as the "heartland" of the earth; and it was this Sir Halford who persistently warned the world, and certainly in ample time, that the nation which would control the Russian-Siberian area and its peripheral coasts, could ultimately extend its power to rule the world.

Strangely enough, no one paid any attention to Sir Halford's warnings, except one General Karl Haushofer, the Nazi strategist who in recent years rose to the position of the world's foremost geopolitician. Through the irony of fate, it was the Nazis who grasped the far-reaching significance of Sir Halford's prognostications. The Nazis picked up the ball, as it were, from the hands of both the British and the Russians, and made a dash for the goal post, which, as you remember, was none other than Stalingrad. There is a hymn we sometimes sing which has for its opening line, "This

is my Father's world." And because it is our Father's world, the hordes of the Nazi armies met their Waterloo just as they were at the point of planting the Swastika on the greedily desired soil of Russia. It never had been in God's predictive program for the Nazis to overwhelm the Beast of the North. The Nazi armies were hurled back upon themselves, fighting a rear-guard action and racing for dear life back to the Vaterland.

Even as late as 1919, at the time of the Versailles Peace Conference, Sir Halford wrote a book in which he sounded the alarm to Great Britain that the making of an easy peace for Germany would permit that country to regain her strength in alarming proportions, to such an extent that she might possibly be able in time to wrest geopolitical supremacy from the Russian Bear and Great Britain, and to become not merely a world power, but a world dictator. Sir Halford pleaded with Great Britain to take steps to prevent such a world catastrophe, while Germany was still powerless, *hors de combat*, with wings clipped, with teeth drawn.

#### THE KAISER'S AMBITION

But history now tells us what happened. The Kaiser and his Prussian overlords grasped more quickly than anyone else the necessity for complete domination of Europe so as to get domination over the world. The Kaiser dreamed of a railroad from Berlin to Bagdad. Long before this, in the days of Benjamin Disraeli and Queen Victoria, Russia, under the Czars, made desperate lunges to get into the Mediterranean. It was Disraeli, the mastermind of the Victorian era, who was able by supreme strategy to defeat the entrance of Russia into the Mediterranean. Thus Great Britain could maintain her life-line through the Mediterranean, through the Suez Canal, and into her Empire of India.

Then along came the Kaiser with his Junkers and their overpowering passion for a Mediterranean outlet, and all the horrors of World War I. The disastrous results found their crystalization in the Versailles Treaty. This was followed by a quarter century of surface quiet, but under-surface plot and counterplot, when suddenly World War II burst upon the world and the fires of human passion were once more kindled. During the tragic years of World War II, Russia came to the front as the world's super-power, second only to our own country. The irony of this was that we, the United States of America, fed the fuel and fanned the flames of Russia's conceit and greed for power. It was our money, our brains, our machinery, that made possible Russia's victory over the Nazis.

Came what we all had hoped was the blessed hour of peace. But slowly we are being disillusioned. The indomitable determination of Russia, now functioning under the guise of a Communist Front, is still a passage to the Mediterranean. "Ost, ost, ost!" was the death-dealing cry of the Nazi armies; "Ost, ost, ost!" was the motivating drive behind the eruption of the German nation under the Kaiser. Always it is "Ost!" The way to the East must be ever the battle cry of those who would dominate the world. "Give me a place to stand" challenged once a Greek philosopher, "And I will move the world."

#### THE VALLEY OF DECISION

As the kaleidoscope of these most recent world events begins to take form, we see the re-assembling of the old nations that once formed the

Roman Empire, we see the breakup of old world alignments; and new alarms are sounding for us from new directions. It is Russia that now cries "Ost!" It is Russia that says, "We must have an outlet to the Mediterranean, we must have a warm-water port!" With Greece and Turkey now in the boiling pot of world turmoil, the life-line of Britain is being threatened, endangering our own America, and the next world war already looms on the horizon, with world armies once more on the march, once more shedding the blood of innocents into unmeasured and uncontrolled rivers. If this is to be the Armageddon, may the Lord have pity on this old earth, and may He come soon to take us out from the hour of our despair. "Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision," cries out Joel of old. And Joel goes on to tell us, "For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." Joel 3:14.

What will be the reason for this gathering of world nations into the valley of decision? Read again Joel 3:2:

"I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land."

So while the world goes madly along, thinking and shouting that everything will be all right, that all things will continue to be as they were, that there will never be a day of reckoning, God is moving in solemn and majestic tread to carry out His predictive program, to bring about the judgment of the world nations, to restore once more His people, Israel, and to establish forever the Throne of David on Mount Zion.

"I am against thee!" is the invective hurled from everlasting by God Himself, to Gog-Magog. He is speaking to the Russia of the "North parts," a Russia that is destined and doomed to be the demonized aggressor in the bloody struggle that will wind up the great War of Armageddon. God shall be vindicated, and His promise to the people of Israel shall find fulfillment to the very letter. All of this means that Israel is the pivotal center around which God's eternal purposes revolve. It must be so, otherwise the whole fabric of God's revealed Word becomes void and a mockery to all of us who have put our trust in Him. Here is God's redemptive purpose declared, through a reborn Israel, a reborn millennial kingdom upon this earth:—

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. Isaiah 11:11, 12.

And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord. Isaiah 2:2-5.



Is it not tragic that both the world and the Church are either blindly or deliberately indifferent to what God is doing in the present crisis hour of world history? The Church goes blithely on with the fatuous hallucination that everything is all right, that all our Church leaders need to do is to "reconstruct" the world order. Money is being drained from the trustful masses of Christendom, millions upon millions of dollars are being squeezed out for what they call "reconstruction of the social order." We are told over and over again, until we are nauseated with their platitudes, that the Church is going to make the world a better place in which to live; but nothing is said about a world of human beings hurtling to destruction because of their rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. We find precious little said about the necessity for the new birth, nothing said about the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to take hold of the reins of world government. Indeed, the Lord Jesus Christ is ruled out of all of their plans, *they* are going to do the job, *they* are going to build a better world!

#### AND WHERE IS THE JEW?

To cap the climax, nothing is said about the necessity of bringing Jews to Christ; nothing about the only hope that Israel has, the coming of the Messiah to fulfill the sublime prophecies of the Bible; nothing about the Church having an obligation to bring to the Jews the Gospel message. All that is considered "old fashioned"; and we find to our amazement that so called Christendom is ready to compromise with the tawdry interpretations of certain blinded Jewish leaders, who tell these equally blinded "Christian" leaders, that after all the matter of Christ really does not matter, that what matters is they should all get together to fight the "common enemies of society," such as vice, liquor, gambling, and kindred evils.

#### "YE HAVE NOT SO LEARNED!"

But how we thank God every day that to our precious Mission family who give of their strength and their faithful prayers, and their money, a different revelation has come; and you see eye to eye with us as to what is going on in the present hectic age.

To you has been given to see that the task of the moment is an intensive and unrelenting ministry to the people of Israel, that will prepare them for the coming world conflagration, and gather out from among them that remnant which is to be added to and complete the Church, the Body of Christ; and that also from among these people there shall be prepared those who will carry the message of God's revelation to a world of mad confusion, a world that will be catapulted into everlasting separation from God once the Church has been taken out to be with her Lord. Then indeed will there be "upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows," Satan ruling supreme, the Antichrist marshalling his forces, the harlot of Rome fiendishly challenging the power of the Antichrist. That will be the last black hour of the world's Saturday night.

My space is gone and I must stop. But at least you have the pattern before you of what to expect in the days to come, and how to understand the things that will come. Do not be dismayed; the darker the night, the more demoniacal the world's iniquities, the nearer we are to that blessed day when our redemption shall be made manifest, and we shall be caught up to be with Him in the heavenlies, there to reign forever and ever.

#### WITH TENDER AFFECTION

You must forgive me if this Salutation has become a bit hectic and perhaps disconnected, but you will understand that I am on the verge of leaving our shores, and soon after this has been written I shall be, the Lord willing, on board ship. I may not even have the opportunity to see the proofs of this issue before the magazine goes to the printer with final corrections. But you will be patient and you will forgive any slip here and there. I shall hope to write you the Midsummer Letter either from the heart of Europe, or perhaps (would that it were so!) from a quiet spot by the shores of the beautiful Sea of Galilee. May I close with the words of the familiar hymn, "God be with you till we meet again." I shall hope to get word from our Headquarters' Office from time to time that everything goes well, and that you are standing by with royal liberality of heart and prayer and purse. May God be with you, keep you ever faithful to Him, and preserve you blameless until that blessed day shall dawn that we shall be transported from a world of chaos and cataclysm, to those eternal shores where peace and blessing shall be our portion forever and ever.

Ever faithfully yours,

*Isaiah Cohen*

P.S. Just to remind you: The next regular issue of THE CHOSEN PEOPLE will be as of October 1947. Our friends know that we have never published our little paper during the summer months. In recent years, however, we have tried to make up in part for this omission, by writing a special Midsummer Letter, and as I have already intimated, I am hoping, in the Lord's good mercy, to do this again this summer, perhaps from Paris or, more wishfully, from Galilee's shores.

## Incidents In The Work

### "AND WHEN THE PIE WAS OPENED"

(The scene is a Jewish Christian home in London. Seven children. Knowing the family was in the tradition of great-grandfather Jacob, we had sent two food packages instead of one. Big sister Elfriede became scribe for all the little brothers and sisters, and here is the result.)

THANK you very much for the two welcome parcels, which, though delayed, came nevertheless just at the right time, one via Denmark, the second direct from New York. The first arrived on a Monday when with long faces we had found our larder bare of any fat: there was neither butter nor jam in the house. When the postman knocked and handed us the parcel, there was a general rush to see what was in it, and no one was disappointed.

Mother straight away made us all some sandwiches, spread with delicious Danish butter, jam and ham. (*Editor's note:* I knew nothing about the ham!) As it was a very cold day, we also had some hot drinks, mixed from the much-beloved Malt Extract. The world seemed brighter after such a feast.

The second parcel arrived here two weeks later, and it was what the children called, "A smasher!" It seemed once again to be Christmas. The two fruit cakes were such as we had only dreamed about, and it was a real pleasure to see those figs. The toffees left us nearly speechless, for only in the shops had we seen so many, and never such good ones, and when we had tasted them, we all wanted some more (including my father!).

He who loved the little children, must have looked down approvingly on the scene, when the happy seven were thus enjoying themselves, and we blessed Him, and you, our dear friend, for all your kindness to us.

With many warm greetings to our dear friend, Mr. Cohn, and to all the other kind people in the Mission, for the happy seven, we are, yours affectionally,

ELFRIEDE

### UPHEAVAL CRISIS IN PALESTINE

ON the eve of our departure for Europe and Palestine, the news reports fairly bristle with exciting news of pending calamity in the Holy Land. Those poor blinded Terrorist Jews, in their wild frenzy, born of their bitter disillusionments and disappointments as to political and national possession of Palestine, are batting their heads against a stone wall, as it were, and seeking to rend the very heavens, in their desperate determination to accomplish the things which they had dreamed of for these many years. It may well be that, like Samson of old, they will lose complete control of their senses, and will crash the very pillars of the temple about their own heads. Thus, while seeking to destroy those who seemingly cannot let them have their own way, they will destroy themselves. What tomorrow holds in store, no one knows, but we shudder to think of the possibilities. We do not think that the present disturbances and uprisings and terrorisms are the immediate precursors of the Armageddon and the end-time attack against Jerusalem. As we understand the Prophetic Word, Israel will be carrying on in Palestine, with a fairly

stable, even though temporary, economy of prosperity. We mean by the word, Israel, of course, whatever sufficient number of Jews the Lord may consider as satisfying the prediction to Gog (Russia) in Ezekiel 38:14, "In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?" But in the meantime, of course, our hearts are possessed with fear and terror, and certainly this is a call for prayer to all of God's people who understand the meaning of what is going on in the world today. While I write these lines, an SOS airmail letter comes from our good Brother Plotke in Haifa, Palestine, from which we take a few paragraphs that you too may see something from the inside.

Since Mr. Plotke wrote this letter, we have already received the British visa for entry into Palestine, something very difficult to get. I reported this fact in my Salutation Letter in the April issue of THE CHOSEN PEOPLE. The Lord was evidently working in our behalf, and the British Consulate here in New York has been more than generous in their co-operation with my plans.

I greatly appreciate your detailed information concerning your itinerary in Europe and shall make every effort to be available in Paris the last week in May or the first week in June, but this depends upon conditions over here. I do pray that I may be able to leave Palestine in due time to meet you and to attend the international Hebrew-Christian Alliance Conference in Ramsgate from June 10 to 13, when I could eventually meet you afterwards before your sailing for U.S.A. on June 25. Should I, owing to local circumstances, be prevented from leaving for Europe, and should you fail to get a visa for Palestine, I would propose to meet you either in Beyrouth or Cyprus, as I would more easily get a visa for going there than for Egypt. I have a Palestinian Passport and the Egyptian Consulate issues only transit-visas through Egypt for Palestinians of Jewish or Christian faith. Should you get a visa for Palestine, which is doubtful under the present circumstances,

it will be easy to get you hotel accommodation in Haifa, but I cannot promise this for Jerusalem for the time being. I am unable to enlarge today upon my news of March 5, concerning conditions over here. Sunday evening a schooner with 650 illegal immigrants was brought into Haifa. The unfortunate folks aboard were forcibly trans-shipped for Cyprus—tear gas was used, and a passenger was wounded by a bullet—another refugee died of head injuries. There was a strike declared and the Jewish Hada Hacarmel quarter and Mt. Carmel were cordoned off by the military.

The baptism of four adults under my instruction was celebrated at the evening service in the Church of Scotland by courtesy of the minister, who is most understanding, and I was escorted home after the service by military jeep and security convoy. The minister himself lives in a security-compound and is always accompanied by armed guards. A considerable number of people have lost their jobs with the military and semi-governmental institutions. Many have been evicted from their homes which were requisitioned by the military and are unable to find alternate appropriate accommodation. The tension is paralyzing all normal life, and we do not know what the morrow shall bring. Yet in spite of everything I am today somewhat more hopeful. The Lord will overrule all evil and I feel safe in His keeping. Please keep me posted about your movements when in Europe, that I may be able to contact you at any time. The British authorities have not yet inquired from me concerning your application for a visa. I shall of course render every assistance that might be useful when called upon to do so. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem," pray also for me in my service for the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Praise Him for those that are saved even at the present time according to the election of grace. Joyfully anticipating the pleasure of meeting you in person, somehow, somewhere, according to circumstance, I am,

F. J. PLOTKE

"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!" *Isaiah 40:1, 9.*



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ELFRIEDE

### UPHEAVAL CRISIS IN PALESTINE

ON the eve of our departure for Europe and Palestine, the news reports fairly bristle with exciting news of pending calamity in the Holy Land. Those poor blinded Terrorist Jews, in their wild frenzy, born of their bitter disillusionments and disappointments as to political and national possession of Palestine, are batting their heads against a stone wall, as it were, and seeking to rend the very heavens, in their desperate determination to accomplish the things which they had dreamed of for these many years. It may well be that, like Samson of old, they will lose complete control of their senses, and will crash the very pillars of the temple about their own heads. Thus, while seeking to destroy those who seemingly cannot let them have their own way, they will destroy themselves. What tomorrow holds in store, no one knows, but we shudder to think of the possibilities. We do not think that the present disturbances and uprisings and terrorisms are the immediate precursors of the Armageddon and the end-time attack against Jerusalem. As we understand the Prophetic Word, Israel will be carrying on in Palestine, with a fairly

stable, even though temporary, economy of prosperity. We mean by the word, Israel, of course, whatever sufficient number of Jews the Lord may consider as satisfying the prediction to Gog (Russia) in Ezekiel 38:14, "In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it?" But in the meantime, of course, our hearts are possessed with fear and terror, and certainly this is a call for prayer to all of God's people who understand the meaning of what is going on in the world today. While I write these lines, an SOS airmail letter comes from our good Brother Plotke in Haifa, Palestine, from which we take a few paragraphs that you too may see something from the inside.

Since Mr. Plotke wrote this letter, we have already received the British visa for entry into Palestine, something very difficult to get. I reported this fact in my Salutation Letter in the April issue of THE CHOSEN PEOPLE. The Lord was evidently working in our behalf, and the British Consulate here in New York has been more than generous in their co-operation with my plans.

I greatly appreciate your detailed information concerning your itinerary in Europe and shall make every effort to be available in Paris the last week in May or the first week in June, but this depends upon conditions over here. I do pray that I may be able to leave Palestine in due time to meet you and to attend the international, Hebrew-Christian Alliance Conference in Ramsgate from June 10 to 13, when I could eventually meet you afterwards before your sailing for U.S.A. on June 25. Should I, owing to local circumstances, be prevented from leaving for Europe, and should you fail to get a visa for Palestine, I would propose to meet you either in Beyrouth or Cyprus, as I would more easily get a visa for going there than for Egypt. I have a Palestinian Passport and the Egyptian Consulate issues only transit-visas through Egypt for Palestinians of Jewish or Christian faith. Should you get a visa for Palestine, which is doubtful under the present circumstances,

it will be easy to get you hotel accommodation in Haifa, but I cannot promise this for Jerusalem for the time being. I am unable to enlarge today upon my news of March 5, concerning conditions over here. Sunday evening a schooner with 650 illegal immigrants was brought into Haifa. The unfortunate folks aboard were forcibly trans-shipped for Cyprus—tear gas was used, and a passenger was wounded by a bullet—another refugee died of head injuries. There was a strike declared and the Jewish Hada Hacarmel quarter and Mt. Carmel were cordoned off by the military.

The baptism of four adults under my instruction was celebrated at the evening service in the Church of Scotland by courtesy of the minister, who is most understanding, and I was escorted home after the service by military jeep and security convoy. The minister himself lives in a security-compound and is always accompanied by armed guards. A considerable number of people have lost their jobs with the military and semi-governmental institutions. Many have been evicted from their homes which were requisitioned by the military and are unable to find alternate appropriate accommodation. The tension is paralyzing all normal life, and we do not know what the morrow shall bring. Yet in spite of everything I am today somewhat more hopeful. The Lord will overrule all evil and I feel safe in His keeping. Please keep me posted about your movements when in Europe, that I may be able to contact you at any time. The British authorities have not yet inquired from me concerning your application for a visa. I shall of course render every assistance that might be useful when called upon to do so. "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem," pray also for me in my service for the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Praise Him for those that are saved even at the present time according to the election of grace. Joyfully anticipating the pleasure of meeting you in person, somehow, somewhere, according to circumstance, I am,

F. J. PLOTKE

"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!" *Isaiah 40:1, 2.*

## LONDON BY TORCHLIGHT

Our devoted missionary, Miss Anne Rayner, battles through the British blizzards, floods, black-outs, ice, snow; the Gospel must get through.

AS you no doubt know what sort of weather we are having here in London, there is no need for me to give you a detailed description. The fact is, that we, in this country are not used to such extreme cold and we were not prepared for it. The shortage of fuel, plus the shortage of food and warm clothing is hitting the poor people very hard. Visiting is made difficult by the slippery roads and the black-out, for we have no street lights except at main road junctions. By God's help I have managed to get around (with the aid of a torch light) to a number of homes including two new ones. The people were pleased to see me and to receive copies of *The Shepherd of Israel*. As is to be expected, many are in bed with severe colds; no fires, and the gas at very low pressure, is no help to them to recover very quickly. Still we have much to praise God for. Mrs. B., who said last month that she has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her Saviour, is continuing in His love, and praising God for helping her through these difficult days. That ray of spiritual sunshine has been a great encouragement to me. Many listen to the Word and accept tracts and magazines but do not seem to be any nearer to salvation. The Scripture text comes to my mind, "My word will not return unto Me void." What a comfort these words are. I am thankful to say that the builders have finished their work in the flat and I hope to start meetings again next month. I want to have a special Purim meeting and hope to be able to have some refreshments. It is marvelous how the Lord provides, and I feel sure He will provide for the Purim meeting.

## "MUST BE SOMETHING IN IT"

I hope and pray that the new contacts will come and also that my own brother will come with his wife. I have not seen him for years. He was in the army, and his wife was evacuated to Leicestershire. He came to London a fortnight ago and called to see me. I was able to witness to him of the love and keeping power of our Lord Jesus Christ. My brother was astonished and said, "I thought you would have grown tired of that long ago. There must be something in it to keep you so faithful all these years." My heart just sang a song of praise to the Lord. I feel sure the Lord will give me the joy of winning my loved ones for Him. Both my sisters come to most of the Wednesday meetings and hear the Word of God. I thank God for all the praying friends for the work among the Jews in London and ask for their continued prayers.

## "MY WIFE CRIES FOR HUNGER"

(A vivid report from Rev. Herbert Singer of conditions inside Germany. The "help-campaign" which Mr. Singer introduced to our readers has been making splendid progress, as you will rejoice to read in this heart-moving story.)



Once a Police Captain, now a skeleton.

"WHILE I am writing this letter to you, my wife, who is also suffering from acute tuberculosis, is pacing up and down the room, crying for hunger," wrote Dr. L. to me some time ago. Dr. L., a Jewish Christian brother, was one time the head of the Police Department in a big city in Germany. Today he is

unable to earn his livelihood and he is thankful for the food packages we send to him and his sick wife.

## OUR HELP-CAMPAIGN

Our Help-Campaign for Jewish believers in Europe is making good progress and must go on. Every week we send food packages to our brethren who are suffering from hunger and severe cold, and almost every day I receive letters of praise to the Lord and gratitude for the good things which these packages contain and which the recipients have not seen for years. Here follows a passage from a letter from a Jewish Christian woman whose husband died and whose only son was murdered in a Concentration Camp. She writes: "At last the great day has arrived, the day for which we have waited so impatiently. You can hardly imagine how glad and full of expectation I was when I ran to the post office to receive the parcel from your Mission. My cupboard in my icy room was empty, not a crumb of fat, no flour, no potatoes, no bread, and we are always hungry and freezing. Thanks, a thousand thanks, and the Lord's richest blessings to you, your good Mission, and to all who helped in giving me this great joy. I had already given up all hope, but God has answered my prayers and has made Christians in America willing to help us. How I dislike always to groan and only to take, being unable to give as I used to do formerly. As soon as I came home from the post office with the precious things in my hands, I made a cup of coffee, which did me so much good, and gratefully I remembered the givers and prayed for them. We are having a very hard winter in Germany, as you undoubtedly know from the many letters which you receive. In the last few days forty-eight people in Hamburg alone have frozen to death, and

hundreds of people are lying in the hospitals with frozen limbs. What will be our fate here in Germany? Whatever it will be, we shall take it from God's hands knowing that all things work together for good to them that love God."

## "GOD DOES NOT ABANDON HIS OWN"

Every letter of acknowledgment from our Hebrew Christian brothers and sisters tells the same story, the story of dire need, hunger and freezing, but also the story of answered prayers, praise and gratitude, when help in the form of a food package from America arrives. I could easily fill the whole issue of our beloved paper, *THE CHOSEN PEOPLE*, with letters from our Jewish Christians in Germany; but since I have only a limited space at my disposal, let me bring here a quotation from just one more letter.



A ghost of his former self.

The writer of this letter is Mr. I., a Jewish believer, who has acute tuberculosis. Mr. and Mrs. I. have four children, all needy of food and clothing. Brother I. after describing the terrible need in Germany, writes:

"Since Christmas I am very sick. My wife too is in very bad health. We and our children are undernourished. We were in a desperate situation. There was no ray of hope for us, when we received a note from the post office to come for a parcel from America. When we unpacked those wonderful things which we have not had for



Housewife, 4 children, a struggle to exist.



years, tears of joy came to our eyes. Again we experienced that when the need is greatest, God is nearest. Yes, it is true, Brother Singer, God does not abandon His own. Jesus never fails! Thanks be to Him and to all those who made it possible to send us such wonderful and nourishing things. We pray that the Lord may keep you and all the friends of your Mission and the Christians of America in His mercy and under His care. God bless you all!"

#### A DROP ON A HOT STONE

I wish to express my heartiest thanks to all of the readers of our paper who helped us through their prayers and their gifts to carry on our Help-Campaign and thus to save many lives of our believing brethren in Germany. Our Help-Campaign must continue. What we have done so far is like a drop on a hot stone. The situation in Germany is bad and is getting worse.

If the Lord lays it upon your heart to send gifts for this branch of our work please add to your gifts the words: "For your European Help-Campaign," and may the Lord richly reward you for what you have done and are doing for His Chosen People.

#### WHAT ABOUT CLOTHES PACKAGES?

Last week I had a letter from Brother Silberman in which he joyfully states that he now receives two or three packages with clothing every week. I had some inquiries lately from our friends who wanted to know whether or not Mr. Silberman's address is still correct? The answer is Yes. Send your clothes packages to

Mr. Theodor Silberman  
Hamburg 4

(24a) Rendsburgerstr. 1 II Germany  
British Zone

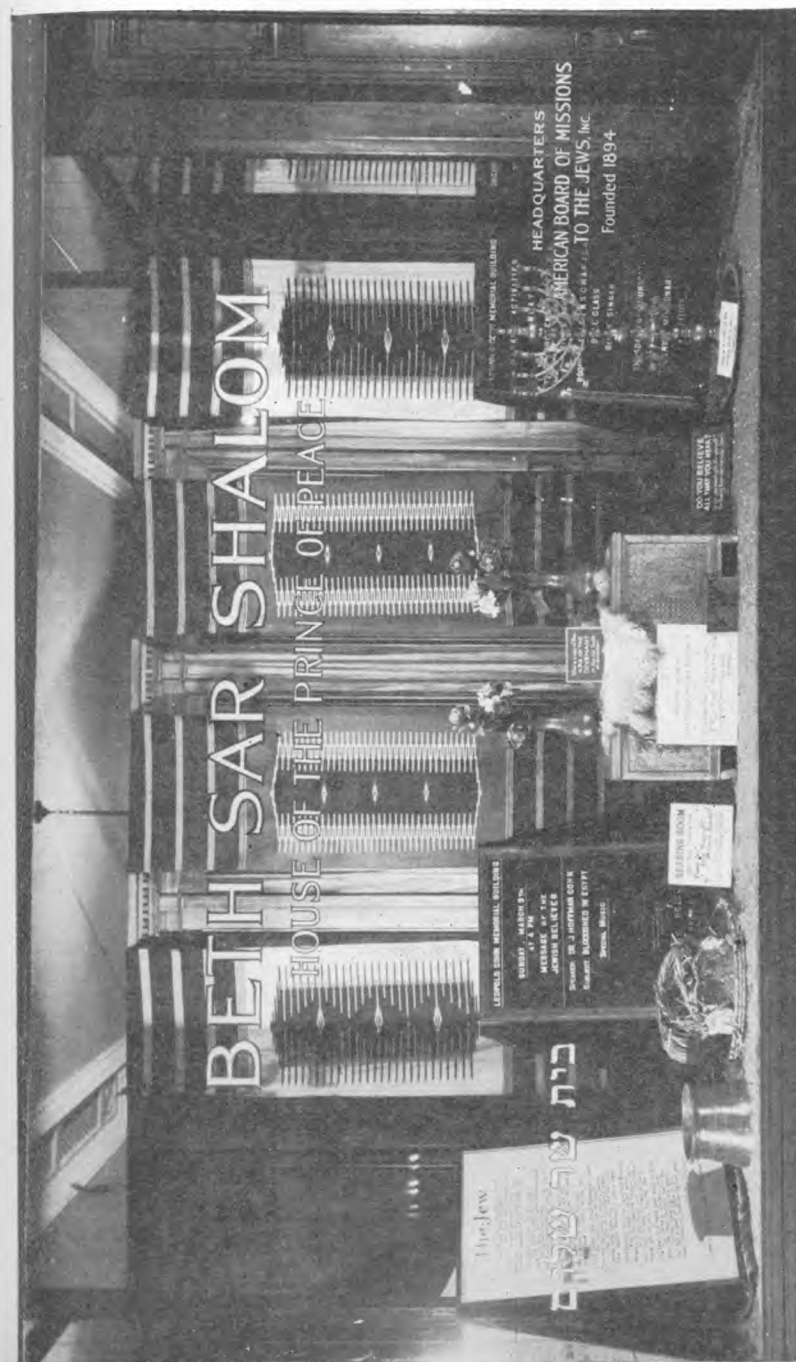
This is his correct address, and please don't forget to write down the zone number (24a); this is important too.

You will be interested and glad to hear that Mr. Silberman has established a Committee for distributing the clothes they receive. This committee consists of Mr. and Mrs. Silberman, Miss Else Breslauer, Rev. Mr. Weber, who is the pastor of the Jewish Christian group in Hamburg, and Deaconess Caroline Heissner, a nurse from the Jerusalem-Hospital in Hamburg who is assigned to visit the Jewish believers regularly. This Committee is a guarantee that the clothes you send to Hamburg will be distributed to the most needy after close investigation has been made.

Let us give our brethren and sisters across the ocean a helping hand. Men and women and children are in dire need of clothing, underwear and shoes. They cannot mend or repair their clothes and shoes because there is no material in Germany; and it is impossible to buy new things. If you have anything to spare from your own wardrobe, send it to Brother Silberman, and the receivers of your clothing will gratefully bless you. The packages must not weigh more than eleven pounds each. It is very simple filling out the necessary forms. No trouble, no inconvenience, every post office official will gladly give you the needed assistance.

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

James 2:14, 15, 16, 17.



A Close-up of our Display Window at the Headquarters Building

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Martin Littleton our show window is decorated with the most interesting items from her Palestinian collection. In the center stands a replica of the ARK OF THE COVENANT, made up to look like gold. To the right is a faithful copy of the CANDLES as it appeared in the Old Temple. The tapestries are genuine Arabian workmanship. The tipped-over basket on the left is pouring out genuine soil from Palestine. Day after day crowds of Jews stop and while they look with profound interest on these articles of Palestinian memories, they also get the Gospel message; and many come inside to make inquiries. The traffic count of people who pass in front of our display window sometimes is as high as two hundred Jews a minute. This is surely the finest fishing-ground in all the world for winning Jews to Christ.

## Questions and Answers

Question: *There seems to be a difference in opinion as to the meaning of the word "generation" in Matt. 24:34, some saying it means a generation as we understand the word, denoting a period of perhaps thirty-three years, while others say it means the Jewish people as a race. In Matt. 23:36 the word "generation" appears again and in this case it must mean generation as we understand it today (about thirty-three years), since this prophecy was fulfilled in A. D. 70 by the destruction of Jerusalem. What I would like to know, is the same word used in the original manuscript in each of above verses? It seems to me that this is the case (same word used), and as we know it means a period of approximately thirty-three years in Matt. 23:36, it must mean that in Matt. 24:34.*

Answer: Yes, there has been a good deal of controversy concerning the use of the word generation or *dor* in the Hebrew, throughout the Word of God. But we have to use the good judgment that God has given us and allow for the context and the general meaning of the particular passage that we are to examine.

The Greek word as found in Matt. 23:35 and in Matt. 24:34 is *genea*. Some have connected the passage of Matt. 24:34 with Psalms 24:6, "This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob." In this view it is proposed that there will be a last generation of the present age of Jews that will turn to God, either anticipating the Great Tribulation, or as a result of it. On this basis the contention is that Matt. 24:34, "This generation shall not pass," refers specifically to the generation mentioned in Psalms 24:6.

The interpretation is interesting and even attractive, and we are not prepared to say that is not so. But it presents a number of difficulties. For instance, the word "this" in Matt. 24:34 should have been "that," if a future generation is under contemplation. But instead of the word being "that," which would refer to a distant generation yet to come, the pronoun used is "this" which refers to the immediate generation before us.

We would also hope and expect that the Lord Jesus would have introduced such a passage as this by telling of a future time to come, when a certain generation would arise and would be faithful to God. But now leaving this interpretation, and without prejudice, let us go on to other understandings.

There are those who have been troubled because of the second clause of the Matt. 24:34 passage, "till all these things be fulfilled." The argument in their thinking has run something like this:—"Then this would mean that as soon as all these things are fulfilled God would be through with the Jewish nation and the Jewish nation would pass away." Such a supposition grows out just from the very rigid interpretation of the word "till" and reading into such a phrase what clearly is not there. To show the weakness of such an argument, let us take for instance Psalms 110:1, "The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool." By the same process of reasoning we would have to adduce that the Lord Jesus Christ would sit at the right hand of God the Father only until He had made his enemies His footstool; and after that, what? Similarly we can present other such illustrations of the

use of the word *till* or of the word *until*.

Now the word *generation* in the Hebrew, and likewise in the Greek, is used in both ways. Either to refer to a general race of men, or to a particular time span running about thirty or forty years. We have to use divinely given and Spirit-guided judgment in determining within the scope of each passage just what is meant by that particular use of the word *generation*. Take, for instance, the statements of Matt. 1:1-17, where *generations* refer to definite spans of life, fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen generations from David to Babylon, and so on.

I am not so sure that Matt. 23:36 can be dated as having been fulfilled in A. D. 70 under Titus. It looks to us that the fulfillment has been going on for the last 1900 years, and refers to the whole Jewish nation, linking up possibly with such a chapter as Deut. 28 or Lev. 26. God does not perform the fulfillment of His promises, either of punishment or reward, by one fell swoop of the ax. It is usually on a graduated basis, over a more or less prolonged period of time. The Babylonian captivity is a case in point.

So it has always seemed to us that the reference of Matt. 24:34 has to do with the entire nation of Israel, that they will continue always as God's witness to an unbelieving world. Their very scattered condition, dispersed as they are under every sky, and among all nations, is also a significant fact to show how God is maintaining a testimony to the Gentile nations. It seems to me that this verse of Matt. 24:34 should rather be taken as throwing a great deal of light, and corroborating to the full such a passage as Jeremiah 31:35-37, which shows forth in language that could hardly be stronger, that Israel shall endure through eter-

nity, as the vindication of God's solemnly-given oaths through His covenants, all of which means that God cannot lie.

Question: *Are the gypsies the lost tribe of the Children of Israel? Some time ago Gypsy Smith was in a city near here in a revival. He said that they are the lost tribe.*

Answer: No, the gypsies have no relation whatsoever, not even remotely, with the people of Israel, or the Jews. I have heard Gypsy Smith on several occasions speak about this matter, but I have never heard him claim definitely that the gypsies were a part of the twelve tribes of Israel. What he did say was that in some quarters it had been suggested that the gypsies might be related to the twelve tribes. But there has never been any proof to support such an idea, and the habits and the customs of the gypsies would certainly argue against it. Webster's dictionary defines the gypsy in the following fashion:—

"One of a Caucasian race, whose tribes coming originally from India, entered Europe in the 14th or 15th Century, and are now scattered over Turkey, Russia, Hungary, Spain, England, etc."

Question: *Will you please explain Psalm 49:8. We know that redemption is the "precious blood of the Lamb," but the meaning of "it ceaseth forever," is not clear. — J. B. B.*

Answer: The correct translation is, "Too costly is the redemption of their soul, and he must let it alone forever." Luther puts it this way: "A brother can no man redeem, nor make atonement for anyone to God." The passage is admittedly obscure; but has been generally accepted as showing that so priceless is the soul of a man, that no human consideration exists for it: nothing can save a man from death; no money, no human life, nothing. There is no reference here to Christ's redemptive work.



## Jewish Notes

**J**EW S marked for extermination at the Oswiecim (Auschwitz) Concentration Camp arrived in such numbers that German guards did not even trouble to count the thousands whom they sorted out on the railroad platforms and marched directly to the gas chambers, the International Military Tribunal was told today.

Mme. Marie Claude Vaillant-Couturier, slender 33-year-old French widow, told the war crimes court in graphic detail of her two and a half years in Nazi concentration camps, an account which held even the defendants spellbound.

"One night," she testified, "we were awakened by horrible cries. The next morning we learned from men working in the gas chamber that they had run out of gas and had hurled children alive into the furnaces."

"When a convoy of Jewish women arrived, older women, mothers and those who were weak or sick were sorted out and taken immediately to be gassed," she testified. "Women 20 to 30 years old were sent to experimental blocks," she continued, explaining that in those buildings Nazi doctors worked on experiments intended to devise a swift, sure means of sterilization.

On some occasions a neatly attired women's orchestra would play gay selections from "The Merry Widow" or "The Barcarole" on the railway platform as the trains arrived, the witness said.

"Out of one group of 1,200 Jewish women who arrived, only 125 were brought into the camp," she went on. "The others were sent to be gassed at once. At the end of a month none of the 125 was still alive. At first the victims were told they were going to take showers and even

given towels before entering the chambers, but that pretense was dropped later when big convoys started coming and there was no time for it."

None of the damning descriptions of Nazi atrocities submitted to the court in the past produced the atmosphere of strained attention pervading the room as the woman, her hands tightly clasped, told her story of Oswiecim, where the daily death rate allegedly averaged from 250 to 350 daily. — *N. Y. Times*.

\* \* \* \*

One of the greatest hindrances to Jews is the behaviour towards them of Christians in Germany today. There are not many who are willing to show any love to them, even to those from the Eastern countries who have come in great numbers recently to the American Zone. One hundred and sixty-one thousand Jews are living here, a great number of them in the Munich district. When I was a second time in Munich and Nuremberg I was able to give a religious address to the Christian community on the importance of the Jewish problem to Christianity. I hope that what I had to say helped to awaken love for and interest in the Jewish people. Indeed, it seems to me important and most necessary to emphasize the responsibility of Christians in relation to the Jews. Anti-semitism is growing. My first task at present seems to be the pleading for love to Israel on the part of the Christian community. Without the support of a living Christianity it is almost impossible to do missionary work amongst Jews. — *Dr. Frohwein, in The Jewish Missionary Herald, of London, England.*

## Studies in Amos

By CHARLES L. FEINBERG, Th. D., Ph. D., Professor of Semitics and Old Testament, Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, Texas

### INSTALMENT 1

#### Chapter I. The Messenger of God



DR. FEINBERG

**A**MOS, whose name occurs nowhere else in the Old Testament outside of his prophecy, was born in the southern kingdom of Judah in Tekoa. He was not the son of a prophet (see 7:14, 15) nor a prophet from his birth (compare Jeremiah 1:5), but was a herdsman, a sheeptender, and a cultivator of sycamore trees. He was not of a family of rank, wealth, or influence, but given to the pastoral life in the rugged regions of Tekoa. His figures and images, beautiful and abundant, are drawn from rustic life. His book is characterized by beauty of expression and loftiness of thought. He was a contemporary of Hosea and, although born in Judah, was sent by God to prophesy to the northern kingdom of Israel at Bethel, its religious center. While Hosea emphasizes the love of God in the midst of His judgments, Amos sets forth the majesty and uncompromising righteousness of God against sinners. His prophetic messages and visions are (with the exception of the last) of a threatening nature. They are directed against the low moral condition of the people and especially against their apostasy from the Lord to the worship of idols.

#### THE TIME OF HIS MINISTRY

The days of Uzziah in Judah and Jeroboam II in Israel were marked by great prosperity, in fact, the most

prosperous for the northern kingdom. Israel was at the height of its power under this king. The period was one of great wealth, luxury, arrogance, carnal security, oppression of the poor, moral decay, and formal worship. The moral declension and spiritual degradation of the people was appalling. Amos foretold chastisement from the Lord, but did not name the foreign invader — Assyria — the scourge of the Lord. Though verse one of this prophecy mentions Uzziah, it is clear that the object of the prophecy is Israel in particular. Tekoa, the home of the prophet, was twelve miles southeast of Jerusalem and six miles south of Bethlehem. The time of the message is dated as two years before the earthquake. Earthquakes are not uncommon in Palestine, but this must have been of unusual severity for it is mentioned more than two centuries after this by Zechariah (14:4, 5). Josephus the historian claims the earthquake took place when Uzziah tried to assume priestly functions (2 Chronicles 26:16-23), but this is without proof and useless for the purpose of dating the event. We have no means of ascertaining the time of this terrifying visitation in nature, a warning in itself of the judgment yet to overtake them.

#### ROARING FROM ZION

Amos relates his message immediately to that of Joel by declaring that the Lord will roar as a lion from Zion (compare Joel 3:16). The roaring of the Lord is here against Israel; in Joel it is for Israel

against her enemies. When the lion roars, he leaps on the prey. Judgment is about to fall upon Israel. The pastures of the shepherds in the south and the top of Carmel in the north are mentioned as comprising the whole land in this stroke of judgment. Carmel is the great promontory on the Mediterranean Sea, rich in pastures, oliveyards, and vineyards. See Isaiah 35:2. If Carmel withers, how great will be the desolation elsewhere? The withering is not of drought alone, but destruction in general is meant.

#### JUDGMENT ON SYRIA

The prophets Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel also have prophecies against foreign nations, but they place such oracles after the indictments against God's own people Israel. Amos reverses the order and we shall see the wisdom of the arrangement in due course. Judgment will fall first upon Damascus, the capital city of Syria. The nations chosen, representative of a larger number as we know from other prophetic passages, are those noted for their oppression of Israel. Those are mentioned last as a sort of climax (Edom, Ammon, Moab) who were related to Israel. The expression, "for three transgressions...yea, for four," which occurs with each announcement of punishment (giving an intended impression of uniformity) does not have in mind a mathematical enumeration. These nations are being visited not for three or even four transgressions, but for an incalculable number. The expression means the measure of iniquity is full and wrath must fall upon the wicked. The punishment cannot be turned away: it is inevitable; it is irrevocable. How had the Syrians filled up the measure of their iniquities against God's people, Israel? They had threshed Gilead with iron threshing instruments. Gi-

lead was the territory east of the Jordan belonging to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh, a region especially open to attack from Syria on the north. The atrocity mentioned here—the tearing and mangling of bodies with iron threshing sledges—was perpetrated by the Syrian king, Hazael of Damascus, in his oppression of Israel under Jehu and Jehoahaz. Note II Kings 10:32, 33; 13:3-7. How ancient are these diabolical deeds and yet how reminiscent of the dastardly acts so recently committed upon God's people Israel. The prophets of Scripture are the inspired commentators on the historical events of the Word of God. In each case the punishment is set forth as fire, that of war and destruction. See Jeremiah 49:27. Hazael and Ben-hadad were two of the most grievous oppressors of Israel. The Ben-hadad referred to may possibly be both Syrians of that name, but probably the son of Hazael (II Kings 13:3) is meant rather than the Ben-hadad who was slain by Hazael (II Kings 8:7, 15). Breaking the bar meant the breaking of the gate of the city and the consequent entrance of the besieging enemy. The Valley of Aven is probably the present day Bekaa, between Lebanon and Antilibanus, of which Heliopolis (Baalbek) was the most important city. Beth Eden is a district near Haran, and Kir is an Assyrian province on the banks of the river of the same name. The judgment predicted here came through the Assyrian Tiglath-pileser who drove the Syrians to Kir. II Kings 16:9. Thus Syria was to be visited for her cruelties to Israel, and especially would the blow fall upon Damascus, that renowned city of which the Arabs have said: "If there is a garden of Eden on earth, it is Damascus; and if in Heaven, Damascus is like it on earth."

#### DOOM OF PHILISTIA

Gaza stands in this chapter as representing all Philistia, as is clear from the mention of Ashdod, Ashkelon, and Ekron in verse 8. Gath is omitted from the mention of the cities of the Philistine Pentapolis probably because it had already been destroyed by King Uzziah (II Chronicles 26:6). The sin of the Philistines was that they took an entire captivity, leaving no one, and delivered them up to Edom, probably Israel's most inveterate enemy. Wholesale expatriation of an entire region, and not the exiling of a few war captives, is meant. Some understand it was for commercial purposes. If we compare this passage with Joel 3:3 ff. we shall see that the matter was accomplished after this manner: the Philistines sold a portion of prisoners to the Edomites and the remainder to the Phoenicians who in turn sold them to the Greeks. Then, as now, it seemed highly profitable to the enemies of Israel to make merchandise of the people of God. What historical events are alluded to here? It has been suggested that these cruelties took place in the reign of King Ahaz when the Philistines invaded the cities of the lowland and the south of Judah. See II Chronicles 28:18. It is more probable that the prophet is referring to the invasion of Judah by the Philistines in the reign of Jehoram. II Chronicles 21:16. Decimation of the population of Philistia will be the answer of God for these misdeeds. Turning His hand against Ekron speaks of His visiting them again with the same judgment.

#### WRATH UPON PHOENICIA

The prophecy against Tyre is meant for all Phoenicia. The crime in this instance is the same as that of the Philistines—the selling of prisoners of war as slaves. The

Phoenicians were known as a great commercial people and must have disposed of the prisoners of war to more than one nation. The prisoners may have been taken in the course of the wars of Israel with Hazael and Ben-hadad of Syria, from whom the Phoenicians could have obtained them. These transactions were all the more grievous when perpetrated by the Tyrians, because there had been a brotherly covenant of long standing between King Hiram of Tyre and David and Solomon. Note carefully II Samuel 5:11; I Kings 5:2-6, 15-18; 9:11-14. Moreover, no king of Israel or Judah ever made war upon Phoenicia. The judgment announced in verse 10 was made good when parts of Tyre were burned with missiles of the Chaldeans under Nebuchadnezzar.

#### PUNISHMENT FOR AMMON

The Ammonites, also related to Israel, had attacked Jabeshgilead under Nahash. Compare I Samuel 11:1. They also joined the Chaldeans in their invasion of Judah for plunder. II Kings 24:2. But the atrocities touched upon in verse 13 are not mentioned in the Old Testament historical accounts. They were carried out for the purpose of expansion. It is the new but ever old cry of extermination for expansion, for "Lebensraum" as the Germans call it. The tables will be turned and Ammon will be the object of the foreign invader. Rabbah (Deuteronomy 3:11), the capital city, called by the Greeks Philadelphia after Ptolemy Philadelphus of Egypt and now known as Amman, will be visited by invasion and captivity. See Jeremiah 49:3. What a refutation is a chapter like this to the contention that Israel's God was considered a tribal or national God. He is Lord of all the earth as the Scriptures maintain throughout.



## HANDS OFF ISRAEL!

This chapter speaks with divine eloquence of the danger involved in touching Israel, the apple of God's eye, for harm. God has not only reproved kings for their sakes (Psalm 105:14) but nations as well, as this portion of His Word so amply attests. Is it not patent that the Word of God contains its own authentication of the promise of God that He would curse him that cursed the seed of Abraham? What a commentary is this chapter, with many others which could be added here, on the faithfulness of God to carry out every word He has ever uttered. Remember also, dear reader, that the other

portion of the promise is still true as well: God blesses those who bless Abraham's seed. Know you of a greater blessing on earth in this day which could be theirs, comparable to having the gospel of their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, preached to them? We have practically reached to the uttermost part of the earth in our missionary endeavors; when, oh when, will we ever get to Israel dying without the Savior, the only Hope of Israel? By God's grace let us bestir ourselves that the gospel may be heard in Jerusalem, among the natural children of Abraham. In this path lies unspeakable blessing, for God has so solemnly promised.

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## General Information

The American Board of Missions to the Jews is a missionary society incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, to promulgate the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ among the Jews. It had its inception in 1894 when Leopold Cohn, then recently converted from rabbinical Judaism, in obedience to the call of God, and in full dependence upon Him for support, established the beginnings of the present work.

**Object**—To reach the entire field of world Jewry. Mission stations are being established in such important Jewish centers as may be in greatest need of a Gospel testimony, consistent with the Lord's will, as evidenced through His provision of workers and funds.

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## Last Call For Summer Conference

Here is the full list for August. Dr. Cohn hopes to be back from Europe in time to participate in these programs:

1. AUGUST 3-6, 1947, Sunday to Wednesday; First Baptist Church, Asbury Park, N.J., Rev. Norman Paullin, D.D., Pastor. Speakers, Joseph Hoffman Cohn, D.D., Rev. Emil D. Gruen, Rev. Herbert Singer, Rev. Bernhard Schatkin, and others. Also, simultaneous conference, First Baptist Church, Avon, N.J., Rev. Paul A. Bramhall, Pastor.
2. AUGUST 6-10, 1947, Wednesday to Sunday; First Presbyterian Church, Atlantic City, N.J., Rev. Harvey Bennett, D.D., Pastor. Speakers, Harry J. Burgen, Joseph Hoffman Cohn, Philip J. Cogan, Miss Hilda Koser. Also, simultaneous conference, Ocean City, N.J., at First Presbyterian Church, Dr. Geo. Fisher, Pastor.
3. AUGUST 10-17, 1947, Sunday to Sunday; Cadle Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana, Dr. B. R. Lakin, Pastor. Speakers, W. H. Rogers, D.D., Rev. Sanford C. Mills, Dr. W. E. Pietsch, Joseph Hoffman Cohn.
4. AUGUST 24-31, 1947, Sunday to Sunday; Summer's End Conference at Leopold Cohn Memorial Building, 236 West 72nd Street, New York City. Speakers, Rev. Charles H. Stevens, D.D., Dr. W. E. Pietsch, Dr. Charles L. Feinberg, Rev. Thomas G. Lawrence, Rev. Emil D. Gruen, Rev. Alexander Marks, Joseph Hoffman Cohn, Rev. Hall Dautel, Rev. Daniel Fuchs, and others.

Write for programs of whatever conferences you may wish to consider.

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(Continued from page 2)

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