

# THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL

Subscription Price  
50 Cents a Year

JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, *Editor*

VOL. 32, No. 4  
DECEMBER, 1949

## What's Wrong With the World?

(A Gentile Christian who dearly loves the Jews, because he owes his salvation to the Jewish Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, here unburdens his heart to every Jew who will read and think.)

By Rev. John R. Rozendal

**W**HEN you are sick, you go to a physician; you expect that he will give you first a careful examination in order to learn the cause of your trouble. Only then can he prescribe a remedy. This a physician can do with respect to physical ailments. But when your ailments are not physical, but spiritual, should you not proceed in the same manner?

### PHILOSOPHY DUMB, BUT GOD SPEAKS

All must agree that there is something wrong with man besides his being subject to bodily ailments. There is something wrong with his soul and his mind, something wrong with his will and his emotions, and with his ambitions. Present-day world conditions make that clear to us. From whence come hatred, envy, bloodshed, dishonesty and distrust?

From whence comes the lack of respect for, and lack of faith in, God and His Word? Have you ever stopped to ask yourself what the reason for all this might be? And why we live in a world where there is so much that is wrong, a world where people are born to die? Philosophers of all ages have tried to give the answer, but have failed. These matters present a big problem, a problem which no human reasoning can solve.

### GOD HAS THE ANSWER

Is the situation then hopeless? No, it is not, for God has given us the Bible which tells us plainly where the root of all perversion and misery lies and where the remedy may be found; and it tells us this in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament.

The Bible tells us that Sin lies at the

root of all the perversion and misery in the world, and that this is inherent in the heart and life of man. Since only the Bible reveals the cause of these ailments and only the Bible prescribes the remedy, will you not go with us to the Bible to see what is God's diagnosis, and what is God's remedy?

### THE SAD STORY OF SATAN

The third chapter of Genesis tells us that it is Satan who brought Sin into the world. Satan was once an angel, but he revolted against God; and, being banished from heaven, he went about trying to establish a kingdom of evil in opposition to the Kingdom of God. Therefore, when God created Adam and Eve in His own image and likeness as His representatives upon earth, Satan at once set about the task of getting man away from God. Remember, Satan never created or produced anything! You will notice in the third chapter of Genesis that Satan misrepresented the truth; he twisted God's command to Adam and Eve. Furthermore, Satan imitated God by promising man a higher position; for he tells Adam and Eve that they will be like God. This promise, if true, would make man his own master. Let us remember these things as we try to understand the nature and character of sin, which, basically, is pride, and pride brings revolt against God and His Law.

### DON'T LET SATAN FOOL YOU

Man became sinful by yielding to the advice of Satan and going contrary to the command of God. This command, not to eat of the fruit of the tree which stood in the midst of the garden, was entirely fair. Adam and Eve had no need for its

fruit, since there was ample fruit for them on the other trees. God's purpose in giving this command was noble. God desired that man be obedient so that he might be happy in fellowship with God and might delight himself in God, Who made all things good and for a good purpose, namely, to glorify Himself.

Not even Satan could find fault with God's plan. It is God's plan for the world which brings man joy and happiness, both in this life and in the life to come. Do not let Satan fool you into believing that he has something better. Time and experience have proved that those who follow Satan plunge themselves and others into misery, despair and death. Read the curse which God pronounced upon Satan, upon Eve, and upon Adam in the third chapter of Genesis. This is God's curse upon their sin. In the midst of these curses, however, God proclaims victory for His plan; the seed of the woman shall crush the head of the serpent, that is, the head of Satan. God shall destroy Satan and his empire.

### GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

That promise has its fulfillment in the suffering and death of the Messiah, Jesus. He paid the price of our redemption. He became the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. By His death, and resurrection, He gave the guarantee of the coming of that future day when He will indeed have crushed the head of the serpent for all time, and He shall reign forever. The sacrificial lamb of the Passover was a perfect picture of the purpose of Jesus' suffering and death.

The lamb, whose blood on the doorposts served to secure Israel's first born against God's judgment of death, was an exact symbol of Jesus, the Lamb of God, Whose blood serves to secure us against God's judgment upon sin.

If you would have the answer to the great problems which confront us in this sinful world and life, go to the Bible. Ask God to give you the Holy Spirit, for it is He who will open your eyes and your heart to see the origin and character of sin; and seeing this, you too will seek forgiveness and cleansing by the power and Spirit of God.

## Don't Go to Jerusalem!

Jerusalem — the one hallowed spot dear to every Jewish heart! Why should we Jews not go there? Because the doing so at this time is fraught with dangers unparalleled in all of Judah's sad history. The Word of God is filled with predictive warning concerning a return to the Jewish "Home Land" in these days. Would you care to know what God's Word says? Send us 5¢ in stamps and ask for our leaflet, "Don't Go to Jerusalem."

THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL, 236 West 72d Street, New York 23, N. Y.

# Who is This Bethlehemite?

Our Hebrew Prayer Book contains mention of "The Son of Jesse, the Bethlehemite", but our Rabbis seem unable to explain Who this Person is. Or are they afraid to try?

By Herman Newmark

WHEN you recite your prayers in the synagogue or in your home, do you know what you are talking about? Or, do you just rush into the synagogue at the last minute, and repeat, parrot-like, words that are utterly meaningless to you?

How comes it that in the Friday evening prayers for the Inauguration of the Sabbath, all Jews everywhere say:

Shake thyself from the dust. Arise, put on the garments of thy glory, O My people! Through the son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, draw Thou nigh to my soul, redeem it. (Star Hebrew Book Co., 1929, Siddur-Daily Prayers.)

WHO IS THIS BETHLEHEMITE?  
DO YOU KNOW?

I do wish that the rabbis would explain to their people who this son of Jesse the Bethlehemite is, and also how it is that through Him we can be redeemed! This is no ordinary prayer, for it implies that there is no redemption apart from this Unique Person. Who, then, is He? Why do they not even name Him? It certainly looks as though this prayer had been compiled many centuries ago, and only after conference with Jews who must have known this Bethlehemite! But the synagogue does not dare to name Him!

So let us see what the Scripture says on this matter; for the T'nach must be our final court of appeal, if we are to act as true Jews:

And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious. (Isaiah 11:1,10.)

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. (Micah 5:2.)

The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. (Psalm 110:1.)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young

child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:1-11.)

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. (1 Peter 1:18-25.)

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (Matthew 20:28.)

Have we not now discovered the meaning of this strange synagogue prayer? Can you not see with us that it has already been answered?

1. The prayer infers that Messiah, the Son of David (whose father was Jesse), is the Redeemer of the soul.
2. He cannot redeem us if He is a sinner like ourselves.
3. He is David's Lord, as well as his son.
4. Though He is to be born in Bethlehem, yet He is from everlasting.
5. He was miraculously born as the New Testament records, in order that He might redeem us; for He Himself said that He came into the world To Give His Life a Ransom.

## A SUPERFLUOUS PRAYER

So the synagogue's prayer has already been answered, and He Who was rejected on earth is at God's right hand until His enemies become His footstool. Then He is to come back to reign on David's throne over Israel and the whole earth.

He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. (John 1:11,12.)

You see that when Jesus Christ was on earth there **were** Jews who received Him, and there are still many thousands in Israel who do so now.

Will you not join us and receive Him as your Redeemer and King?

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## Something to Worry About

THE only hope for Israel's salvation is the Messiah. On this point every true Jew agrees. The Talmud, the Jewish sages of the centuries, the prophets of the ages, God Himself—all, all, sing the praises and paint the glories of the coming of Him Who is the Desire of the Nations.

But how is He to come? And how will we be able to know He is the genuine—the real—Messiah? Let us take two problems only, just as examples. There are many, many more, but these two should at least open your eyes and start you on a new track of inquiry:

1. Every Jew knows that the Messiah must stem from David. Is He not called David's Son?

2. Every Jew knows that He must be born in Bethlehem. See Micah 5:2.

But — (1) Suppose someone came along and announced that some other person was our Messiah. How could he prove to us his genealogy from David? Where are the tribal records? Were they not all destroyed in 70 A.D. by Titus? Do you know from which tribe you descend?

(2) And what about Bethlehem? Don't you know that this city of 10,000 population is 100 per cent Arab and that no Jew has lived there for one thousand years?

What is the answer? Only this: If the Lord Jesus Christ, the direct descendant of King David's line, and born in Bethlehem 1900 years ago—if this Christ be not our true Messiah, there can never be another.

Think it over. And ask the Rabbis!

If the Rabbis can't tell you, or if they try to twist and distort the holy Word of God, then it is your duty to bid them good by, and start an independent search of your own. For God will hold you responsible for your refusal to believe His Word. The warning is, "Every soul that sinneth shall die"!

Do what our father Abraham did—leave your home, your kindred, your false teachers, and go after the true God. Only so will God bless you, and give you peace, and joy, and everlasting life.

Again, think it over!



# וואס איז דער מער מיט דער וועלט?

רעה ישראל

The Shepherd of Israel

א מאנאטליך בלאט צו ערקלעהרען צו ישראל דעם אמת'דיגען משיח

PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO GIVE ISRAEL A KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUE SHEPHERD, THE MESSIAH

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Subscription Price 50 Cents a Year

JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, Editor

VOL. 32, No. 4 DECEMBER, 1949

## לאָזט זיך נישט נאָרען פונ'ם שטן

## וואס איז דער מער מיט דער וועלט?

פון רעו. יוחנן ר. ראזענדאל

ס'ליגט דער וואָרעל פון דער גאנצער פארדארבונג און אומגליק אין דער וועלט און איז איינגעבוירען אין דעם הארצען פון דעם מענשען. אזוי ווי די ביבעל איז די איינציגע, וואָס טהוט אנטפלעקען די אורזאך פון דיזע שלאָפֿקייטען, דאָרום איז זי אויך די איינציגע וואָס האָט די רפואה דערצו. וועט איהר זיך נישט ווענדען מיט אונז צו דער ביבעל און זעהן וואָס איז גאָט'ס דיאָנאָן און וואָס איז גאָט'ס רפואה?

### די טרויעריגע געשיכטע פונ'ם שטן

דאָס 3-טע קאפיטעל פון בראשית דערצהלעט אונז, אז דער שטן איז דער יעניגער, וואָס האָט אריינגעבראכט זינד אין דער וועלט. דער שטן איז אמאל געווען א מלאך, אָבער ער האָט רעוואָלטירט געגען גאָט און איז פארטריבען געוואָרען פון הימעל. זייט דאן פרובירט ער איינצושטעלען א קעניגרייך פון פארדארבונג און ביזנאָפֿטיגקייט אין געגענער זאץ צו דעם קעניגרייך פון גאָט. דאָרום, ווען גאָט ב"ה האָט באַשאַפֿען אדמ"ן און חוה'ן אין זיין בילד און אין זיין גלייכניס, אלס זיינע פאָרשטעהער אויף דער ערד, האָט דער שטן תיכף געמאַכט זיין אויפגאבע אָבערדען דעם מענשען פון גאָט. גע-דענקט, דער שטן האָט קיינמאל נישט באַשאַפֿען אָדער פראָדוצירט עטוואָס! איהר וועט באַמערקען אין דעם 3-טען קאפיטעל פון בראשית, אז דער שטן האָט פאָלש פאָרגעשטעלט דעם אמת. ער האָט פארדערהט גאָט'ס באַפעהל צו אדמ"ן און חוה'ן נאָך מעהר, דער שטן האָט גאָנצעטוהן גאָט, פאר-שפּרעכענדיג דעם מענשען א העכערען פלאץ, וואָרים ער זאָגט צו אדמ"ן און חוה'ן, אז זיי וועלען זיין אזוי ווי גאָט. דיזער פארשפּרעכען, ווען אמת, וואָלט געמאַכט דעם מענשען א הערשער פון זיין אייגענעם שיקוואָל. לאָמיר געדענקען דיזע זאכען ווייל מיר פרובירען צו פארשטעהן די נאטור און דעם כאַראַקטער פון זינד, וואָס איז, אין פונדאָר מענט, גאווה און גאווה בריינגט רעוואָלט געגען גאָט און זיין תורה.

ווען איהר זייט קראַנק געהט איהר צו א דאָקטאָר און איהר ערוואַרטעט, אז קורס-כל זאָל ער אייך געבען א פאָרויכטיגע אונטערזוכונג, כדי פעסטצור-שטעלען די אורזאך פון אייערע ליידען. און נאָך דאן, ווען ער טהוט מאַכען א דיאָנאָז, קען ער אייך צושרייבען די ריכטיגע רפואה. דאָס קען א דאָקטאָר טאָן טהון אין באַצוג צו פיזישער קראַנקהייט. אָבער ווען אייער קראַנקהייט איז נישט א פיזישע נאָך א נייסטליכע, וואָלט איהר דען נישט פארדארפט האַנדלען אויפ'ן זעלבן שטייגער?

### פילאָזאָפיע איז שטום אָבער גאָט רעדט

אלע מווען צוגעבען, אז עפעס איז נישט גלאַט מיט'ן מענשען אויסער דעם, וואָס ער איז אויס-געשטעלט צו קערפערליכע קראַנקהייטען. ס'איז עפעס פעהלערהאַפט מיט זיין נשמה און געדאַנק, עפעס נישט גלאַטיג מיט זיין ווילען, מיט זיינע אויפגענוגען פון געמיטה און געפיהלען, מיט זיינע אַמביציען און שטרעבונגען. דער איצטיגער צו-שטאַנד פון דער וועלט מאַכט דאָס קלאָר צו אונז. פון וואָנען קומט שנאה, קנאה, בלוט-פאָרגיסונג, אונגעהערענהאַפטיגקייט און אונפאַרטרויליכקייט? פון וואָנען קומט דער מאַנעל פון רעספעקט און דער מאַנעל פון אמונה אין גאָט און אין זיין וואָרט? האָט איהר זיך ווען-עס-איז פארטראַכט וועגען דער אורזאך פון דעם אלעמען? און פאָרוואָס לעבען מיר אין א וועלט וואו ס'איז פאָראַן אזוי פיעל פארקוממעס, אין א וועלט וואו מענשען זיינען געבוירען צו שטארבען? די פילאָזאָפיען פון אלע צייטען האָבען פרובירט צו געבען דעם ענטפער, אָבער זיי זיינען דורכגעפאלען. דיזע ענינים שטע-לען מיט זיך פאָר א גרויסע פראָבלעמע, וועלכע דאָס מענשליכע דענקען קען נישט לעזען.

### גאָט האָט דעם ענטפער

איז די לאַגע דאן האָפנונגסלאָז? דער ענטפער איז: "ניין", וואָרים גאָט ב"ה האָט אונז געגעבען די ביבעל, וועלכע מאַכט פאר אונז קלאָר וואו

### גאָט טהוט האַלטען זיין פארשפּרעכען

דיזער פארשפּרעכען איז ערפילט געוואָרען אין דעם ליידען און טויט פון דעם משיח — ישוע. ער האָט באַזאָהלט דעם פרייז פאר אונזער אויסלעזונג. ער איז געוואָרען דאָס לאַם פון גאָט, וואָס געהאט אוועק די זינד פון דער וועלט. דורך זיין טויט