

THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL

Subscription Price
50 Cents a Year.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, Editor

VOL. 32 No. 10
JUNE, 1950

"These Sweepstakes Tickets Are My God!"

Many of our people are like this aged Jew, who, discouraged and disillusioned, was willing to disown the God of his fathers and put his hope in a piece of paper.

By H. KOSER

LAST WEEK I entered a store where sat an aged Jewish man. We chatted for a while, and then I noticed he had some sweepstakes tickets in his hand which he seemed to prize highly. I smiled and asked what these tickets meant to him. To my astonishment, a change at once came over him. As one possessed, he jumped up and shouted: "These tickets are my god! If God could permit 6½ millions of my people to be slaughtered, I disown Him, and these tickets are now my god!"

I was amazed, for he appeared to be an intelligent and religious man. He was even wearing a skull cap. I told him I could never place my faith in a piece of paper; my faith was in the Eternal God Who never changes. I then asked him, "Tell me, are you going to observe Passover?" "Why, of course!" he replied. I said, "How can you do this, when you just said that the sweepstakes tickets are your god? Did they deliver our people from the bondage of the Egyptians, or bring them into the Promised Land?" I reminded him of Aaron who made the golden calf and caused Israel to sin by saying, "These are your gods which brought you up out of Egypt!"

DID GOD KILL SIX MILLION JEWS?

He broke down, and said, "My faith is shaken! How could God slaughter so many of my people!" I explained to him that God hadn't slain them, for He still loves Israel with an everlasting love. But man's depraved and degenerate nature had brought about this disaster. I reminded him that God's promise, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay," still was true today, even as it was in the days of Haman who was hung on the gallows he had erected to destroy Mordecai, the Jew. So it was also in the days of Pharaoh; was

he not drowned in the sea as he pursued Israel to destroy her? It yet remains to be seen how the Lord will avenge those who dared to raise their arms against His chosen people. His promise, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee," still holds true today.

"YOUR BIBLE IS DIFFERENT!"

We talked for some time, and finally he said, "I've never heard anyone speak as you do." I told him that I was a Jewish believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and asked him if he would let me give him the reasons why I accepted Him. I opened my Bible and pointed out the different prophecies in the Old Testament which proved that Jesus Christ, the rejected One, was really the One foretold by the Prophets. At first he was skeptical, and said, "Your Bible is different from mine!" I asked him to get his own Hebrew Bible which he kept in the back of the store, and when he brought it, I showed him the same prophecies recorded there. He listened attentively, and was astounded to find how each promise in his Bible was fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ, our Messiah, Who came into this world as a Lamb without spot or blemish, to die as a sacrifice (corban) for our sins.

WHY DO THE RABBIS HATE US?

He asked many questions and then said, "Yes, He seems to fulfill every prediction; but why don't our Rabbis and our nation accept Him? And why do they make outcasts of those Jews who do believe in Him?" These questions I told him were age-old. Many Jews, both past and present, have uttered them time and time again. The Bible holds the only explanation:

The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib; but Israel doth not know, my

people doth not consider . . . they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Isaiah 1:3,4.

Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not; for they are a rebellious house. Ezekiel 12:2.

Men today, as in days of old, only see what they want to see; and only hear what they want to hear. People can make themselves blind, by shutting their eyes to the truth. In the history of our nation we find that our people time and again mistreated those who were God's messengers. The majority of our people always rebelled against God and caused the minority who did believe in Him to suffer. Let us look at some of our great leaders and prophets and see how they were treated and rejected by the nation of Israel

1. MOSES

He who today is considered by our people to be their greatest prophet, how was he received by his brethren? Recently I read an article wherein the writer states that Moses was to him like his god. But, hear what Moses went through for his faith in God:

And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me. Exodus 17:4.

2. ELIJAH

This is the same Elijah who has such a prominent place in our Passover Seder; this is the one for whom we leave a chair and for whom a cup of wine is named. This is the Elijah for whom the whole family arises, during the solemn Passover supper, and for whom they cry, "Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord." How eagerly the family looks to the opened door at that time! And yet, this is the Elijah who suffered so shamefully at the hands of our people. For we hear him as he cries,

I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. I Kings 19:10.

3. ZECHARIAH

Zechariah was God's messenger during the reign of Joash, Israel's King; and he

What Is a Christian?

Ask the average Jew, "What is a Christian?" and his answer may surprise you. He thinks that everyone who is not born a Jew is a Christian! What inexcusable ignorance! Would you care to know the real facts? Ask for our special folder, "What Is a Christian?" Send us 5¢ to cover postage and printing.

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

SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL

was slain for his faith in the living God; for we read,

And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them: Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the Lord, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the Lord, He hath also forsaken you. And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the Lord. 2 Chronicles 24:20,21.

4. JEREMIAH

The Weeping Prophet warned our people to return unto the Lord before destruction came upon them, and their land. He too suffered, for we read,

Then spake Jeremiah unto all the princes and to all the people, saying, The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and against this city all the words which ye have heard... But know ye for certain, that if ye put me to death, ye shall surely bring innocent blood upon yourselves, and upon this city; for of a truth the Lord hath sent me unto you to speak all these words in your ears. Jeremiah 26:12,15.

The majority of our people, and our rulers, have always rebelled against God's messengers. Is it any wonder that when Jesus, the Messiah for whom they had long waited, came, they did not recognize Him, but rejected and spurned Him, and even handed Him over to be crucified?

As I finished explaining the reason for my belief in the Lord Jesus Christ, the man shook his head sadly, and said, "It

sounds true, and it must be true, but I'm afraid to believe. The cost is too great!" My heart ached for him. Is it too great a cost for a mother to descend into the valley of the shadow of death to bring forth a child? If you asked her, she would say, "No!" Was it too great a cost during the Revolutionary War for men to fight and give their lives for freedom? If you asked our fellow-Americans, they would reply with a hearty, "No!"

God offers you a bargain: something for nothing! The price is all paid. Jesus, the Messiah, paid the full penalty for your redemption and mine, when He cried out on Calvary, "It is finished!"

O friends, as you think on the goodness and mercy of God, how can you continue to harden your hearts, as your fathers did of old! The Lord is calling you:

Incline your ear, and come unto Me; hear, and your soul shall live. Isaiah 55:3.

Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed . . . for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye. Ezekiel 18:31,32.

The Lord offers to you Life or Death, and says "Choose ye. . ."

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31.

Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13.

In a Tallith to the Chedar

But when Nathaniel Kameron reached the age of wisdom, he saw that he needed more than a Tallith to assure him of Olem Habu . . . He needed our Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.

NATHANIEL KAMERON was born in Russia. His parents were pious Jews who brought him, at the age of five, wrapped in a Tallith (prayer shawl) to the Chedar, to receive the necessary instructions. Every other occupation, every other recreation, form of play, or game, of childhood—all that makes the heart light and the body strong—was banished from his life. All his longings and wishes died within him; the master behind him drove him on with a Chomesh (Pentateuch) in one hand and a rod in the other, until he came to look upon the Chedar as a prison, and the teacher as a jailor.

IN THE YESHIVA—WHERE IS MESSIAH?

Later he was sent to a Yeshiva, where he studied with about a hundred other boys. Nathaniel attached himself to an elderly, lonely man, named Rabbi Todresch. They lived together, and he watched the Rabbi very closely. At midnight, when all around was quiet, and the old man thought himself unobserved, he would take off his shoes, and seat himself on the floor, imploring the Lord in heartfelt sincerity, in His mercy, to return to

Jerusalem and reign there as He had prophesied! Nathaniel soon found himself beginning to pray eagerly and perseveringly that the Messiah might soon come and release His people from captivity. There were questions that often worried him. He would ask, "Why does not God answer such real and fervent prayers?" "Why does not the Messiah come to release His people, as He promised?"

Once in speaking to a visiting Talmudist, Nathaniel told him what was troubling him; and to his astonishment, the learned one said, "Prayers such as those will not and can never be answered; for the Messiah has already come!" In vain Nathaniel tried to understand the meaning of this startling statement; but the Talmudist avoided all the questioning, telling him only that he possessed a Book which explained the entire mystery. When Nathaniel asked for it, he told him he was afraid to give it to him; for he feared the consequences. But, he added, "if you want to know the full truth, you must go abroad. Only there is it possible for one to search for the truth freely and independently." Tortured by restlessness, despair and longing, Nathaniel decided to

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS, Inc.

Established by Leopold Cohn in 1894



HEADQUARTERS

LEOPOLD COHN
MEMORIAL BLDG.

236 WEST 72nd STREET
NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

COME TO OUR MEETINGS

AT 27 THROOP AVENUE, BROOKLYN

Tuesday 7:45 P.M.—Adult Bible Class
Friday 7:45 P.M.—Gospel Meeting

AT 236 WEST 72nd ST., NEW YORK

Sunday 4:00 P.M.—Gospel Meeting
Monday 8:00 P.M.—Bible Study for
German-speaking Jews

follow his advice, and soon thereafter left Russia.

A JEWISH SHOEMAKER HELPS OUT

He went to Vienna and there made the acquaintance of a Jewish shoemaker who was the first one to give him a New Testament in Hebrew. The very first sentence of the Book was sufficient to draw him to it like a magnet. For there it was written clearly what the Talmudist had told him; namely, that the Messiah who until now had been the object of his prayers, desires and hopes, had actually already come! On being asked more about it, the shoemaker sent him to a Jewish believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, who showed him from the Word of God that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah of Israel.

As Nathaniel read the New Testament and compared it with the Old, he saw himself wounded by sin. Immediately he acknowledged the Lord Jesus Christ as his Messiah and Saviour, who had redeemed him from the bondage of sin, through the shedding of His blood on Calvary's tree. He saw himself now as a pardoned sinner; possessing new hope and new life, because God's love had been so great that he had sent the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die in his stead, and in accepting Him, he now possessed eternal life. He was so overcome with his knowledge that he decided to spend the rest of his life telling his brethren about the "good news"—that their long-sought-for Messiah had already come: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader, how about you? Have you found the Messiah?

א נייער פאפירענער

גאט

רעה ישראל

The Shepherd of Israel

א מאנאטליך בלאט צו ערקלעהרען צו ישראל דעם אמתידיגען משיח

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

JOSEPH HOFFMAN COHN, Editor

VOL. 32 No. 10
JUNE, 1950

אנכי
הוא
הרעה
הטוב
שנת 1917

וחקמתי
עליהם
רעה
אהר
הוא י"ד 23

Subscription Price
50 Cents a Year.

א נייער פאפירענער גאט!

פילע פון אונז זיינען ווי דערדאזיגער איד וועלכער, פארלירענדיג מוטה און האפנונג, איז בארייט אפצולייקענען דעם גאט פון ישראל און זיך אנהענגען צו א שטיקל פייפער.

זעקס מיליאנען אידן אויסגעהרגעט!

מיט א טרויעריגער שטים האט אונזער איד גע- קלאגט: "מין אמונה איז צושטערט, מיינע האפנונג פארלירן, ווי אזוי האט גאט געקאנט צולאזן, אז דער מערדערער היטלער זאל אויסמארדעווען זעקס מיליאנען אידן?"

"נישט גאט האט זיי אויסגעהרגעט", האב איך איהם געענטפערט, "גאט מארדעוועט קיינעם נישט. די זינדיגע און פארדארבענע נאטור פון מענטשן האט פאראורזאכט דאס דאזיגע גרויסע אומגליק, דאך וועט גאט דאס נישט פארשווייגן. געזאגט האט ער, 'די נקמה געהערט צו מיר, איך וויל בא- צאהלן'. אפערעכענען וועט ער זיך מיט די דייטשע רוצחים אזוי ווי ער האט זיך אפגעערעכענט מיט פרעה מלך מצרים, מיט המן הרשע, און מיט אבי דערע, וואס האבן געוואגט אויסצושטרעקן א האנט געגן ישראל, זיין אויסגעוויילט פאלק."

איך האב איהם עראינערט אן די ווערטער, וואס גאט האט געזאגט צו אברהם: "איך וויל בענטשן די יעניגע, וואס בענטשן דיך, און שעלטן די, וואס שעלטן דיך." די קללה פון גאט רהט אויף דעם פאלק, וואס האט באוויזן אזא שנהא צו די קינדער פון אברהם.

קיינמאל נישט געהערט איינעם אזוי רעדן!

צוהערענדיג זיך נאך א לענגערע וויילע, האט מין אלטער אידישער פריינד אזוי באמערקט: "קיינמאל האב איך נישט געהערט איינעם אזוי רעדן ווי דו רעדסט." האב איך איהם דערקלעהרט, אז איך בין א איד, וואס גלויבט אין משיח. און דאן אויפגענדיג מיינע ביבעל, האב איך איהם געוויזן די פארשידענע נבואות אין תנ"ך, וואס באציהען זיך אויפ'ן משיח.

דער איד האט מיך אויסגעהערט מיט אינטערעס.

עצטע וואך בין איך אריינגעטראטן אין א סטאר וואו איז געזעסן אן אלטער איד. צו- שמועסנדיג זיך א ביסל מיט איהם האב איך בא- מערקט א פאר סוויפטטייקס טיקעטס אין זיין האנט האלטענדיג זיי ווי א טייערן אוצר. האב איך געזאגט צו איהם: "דיוע טיקעטס מוזן זיין זעהר טייער צו אייך; ווי הויך שאצט איהר זיי?"

דער מאן איז פלוצלונג אן אנדערער מענטש געווארן. ווי א מיטגענער איז ער אויפגעשפרונגען און האט א שריי געטהון: "דירדאזיגע טיקעטס זיינען מין גאט!"

איך בין זעהר ערשטוינט געווארן. אויסגעזעהן האט דער מאן גאנץ אנשטענדיג און פרום, מיט א יארמעלקע אויפ'ן קאפ. אזעלכע ווערטער האב איך קיינמאל נישט דערווארטעט פון איהם. האב איך איהם געזאגט: "עס איז נישט שוין, אז א איד ווי איהר זאל אזוי רעדן וועגן א שטיקל פייפער. מיר מוזן גלויבן אין גאט, דעם גאט פון אברהם, יצחק און יעקב!"

דאן האב איך איהם א פרעג געטהון: "פעטער, וועט איהר האלטן פסח?" "נאטירליך!" האט ער שנעל געענטפערט, "ווי אזוי קאן איינער זיין א איד און נישט האלטן פסח?" "אבער, וואסארט פסח קאנט איהר האלטן?" האב איך נאך אמאל איהם געפרעגט, "האט איהר נישט עבען געשריען, אז די סוויפטטייקס טיקעטס זיינען אייער גאט? האבען זיי דערלייזט אונזער פאלק פון דער שקלאד פעריי פון מצרים? האבן זיי אריינגעבראכט די אידן אין ארץ ישראל?" איך האב איהם דער- מאנט וועגן דעם עגל הזהב, וואס אהרון האט גע- מאכט און דאן אויסגעשריען: "הני אלהיכם — אט דאס איז אייער גאט, וואס האט אייך ארויס- געצויגן פון מצרים!"

מעהר און מעהר איז ער ערשטוינט געווארן צו זעהן ווי די נבואות וועגן משיח זיינען אזוי פאלקאם דערפילט געווארן אין יסוע. פילע קשיאות האט ער נאך געפרעגט, און צולעצט האט ער געזאגט: "עס זעהט אויס, אז דאס איז טאקע אמת; יסוע איז גאט'ס פארשפראכענער משיח. אבער פאר- וואס האבן אונזערע רבנים איהם נישט אָנגענומען? פארוואס האסן זיי די אידן, וואס גלויבן אין איהם?"

דארויף האב איך איהם פאלגענדעס געענטפערט: "דאס זיינען אלטע פראגן. מען האט זיי געפרעגט הונדערטע יאָהרן צוריק, און מען פרעגט זיי נאך היינט. דעם ריכטיגן ענטפער דערפאר געפינט מען נאָר אין דער ביבעל. אין דעם ערשטן קאפיטל פון ישעיה הנביא ליינען מיר אזוי:

"הערט איהר הימעלן און פארנעם צו ערד, ווארום גאט האט גערעדט. קינדער האב איך דערצויגן און אויפגעבראכט און זיי האבן געבראָכן אן מיר. און אַקס ווייס זיין באלעבאָס, און אן אויבעל די קארעטע פון זיין האַר; ישראל אָבער ווייס נישט, מין פאלק קוקט זיך נישט אום. וועה, זינדיגע אומה, פאלק מיט פארברעכן באַשווערט, זאָמען פון שלעכטשטווער, קינד- דער פארדארבענע! פארלאָזן האָבן זיי גאט, געלאָס- טערט דעם היליגן פון ישראל, אַהינטער זיך אַפ- געקעהרט."

מענטשן פון היינט, ווי אויך פון אלטע צייטן, זעהען נאָר וואָס זיי ווילן זעהן, הערן נאָר וואָס זיי ווילן הערן. זיי קאָנען זיך מאַכן בלינד ווען זיי שליסן זייערע אויגן און ווילן נישט זעהן דעם אמת.

וואָס אונזערע היסטאָריע לערנט אונז.

מיר ליינען אין אונזער געשיכטע, אז אונזער פאלק האט פילע מאָהל פארפאלגט די שלוחים פון גאט. דאָס רוב פון אונזער פאלק האט זיך תמיד געשטעלט געגן גאט און געגן די, וואָס האָבן איהם טריי געדינט.

באטראַכט, צום ביישפּיל, די ערפאַרונג פון משה רבנו. היינט, נאָכ'ן טויט, איז ביי אונז משה זעהר גרויס. אָבער, ווען ער האָט נאָך געלעבט, זעהט זיי מיר האָבן איהם באַהאַנדעלט: שמות יז: 4

און משה האָט געשריען צו גאט אזוי צו זאָגן: וואָס זאל אים טהון צו דעם דאָזיגן פאלק? נאָר