

# The Chosen People

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*"He looked really Jewish."*

*"He's got money, he must be Jewish."*

*"And boy, he really jewed you down."*

**Even Your Jewish Friends  
Won't Tell You About  
TODAY'S ANTI-SEMITISM**



## The Chosen People

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**Hatred, bigotry, prejudice.** These words conjure up stereotypes in our minds. We think of Hitler, the Nazis, racial violence, man's inhumanity to man, and his unwillingness to accept his fellow man as a brother. We live in a world torn by hatred and strife, and, strangely, at the core—at the heart—of all man's hatred is the hatred of the Jew. Anti-Semitism is an ever-increasing problem. Through the years there has been a subtle shift from personal anti-Semitism to political anti-Semitism. In this issue of *The Chosen People*, we examine its growth, its depth, and its distortion of the truth.

Why, one might ask, should one group of people be so isolated and hated above all others? The answer can only be found in the unique relationship between the Jew and his God.

God chose the Jewish people to be His revelation. They are the chosen people (cf. Dt. 7:7-10). A Jewish person can never become "unchosen." He remains one of the chosen people either in obedience or disobedience. His chosenness is based upon the promise of God. To "unchoose" the Jew, God would have to destroy His Word (cf. Jer. 31). However, being the chosen people does not automatically provide salvation. This is an individual act of faith (cf. Eph. 2:8, 9; Heb. 11).

We believe God has raised up ABMJ/Chosen People Ministries to bring the Good News of salvation to these chosen ones. Our missionaries are faithfully bringing the Word of God to them, for a Jewish person needs to receive the Lord Jesus in order to have salvation. In this there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek (cf. Rom. 10:11-13).

As you read through this issue of *The Chosen People*, I'm sure you'll be excited by the special missionary reports that describe God's unique dealings with His chosen people.

We are living in a world where Satan is attempting to blind men's hearts to the truth. Some church leaders are saying that Jewish evangelism is no longer important. I trust that as you read through this issue of *The Chosen People*, you will be impressed with the urgency of the need to present the Gospel to the Jewish people. I trust that you will join with us in praying for the salvation of the nation of Israel.

Thank you for your faithfulness in praying for us and in supporting our ministries. Your generous support is enabling us to bring the Gospel to all Jews everywhere.

In Messiah,

HAROLD A. SEVENER

# The Ethiopian Jews and Political Anti-Semitism

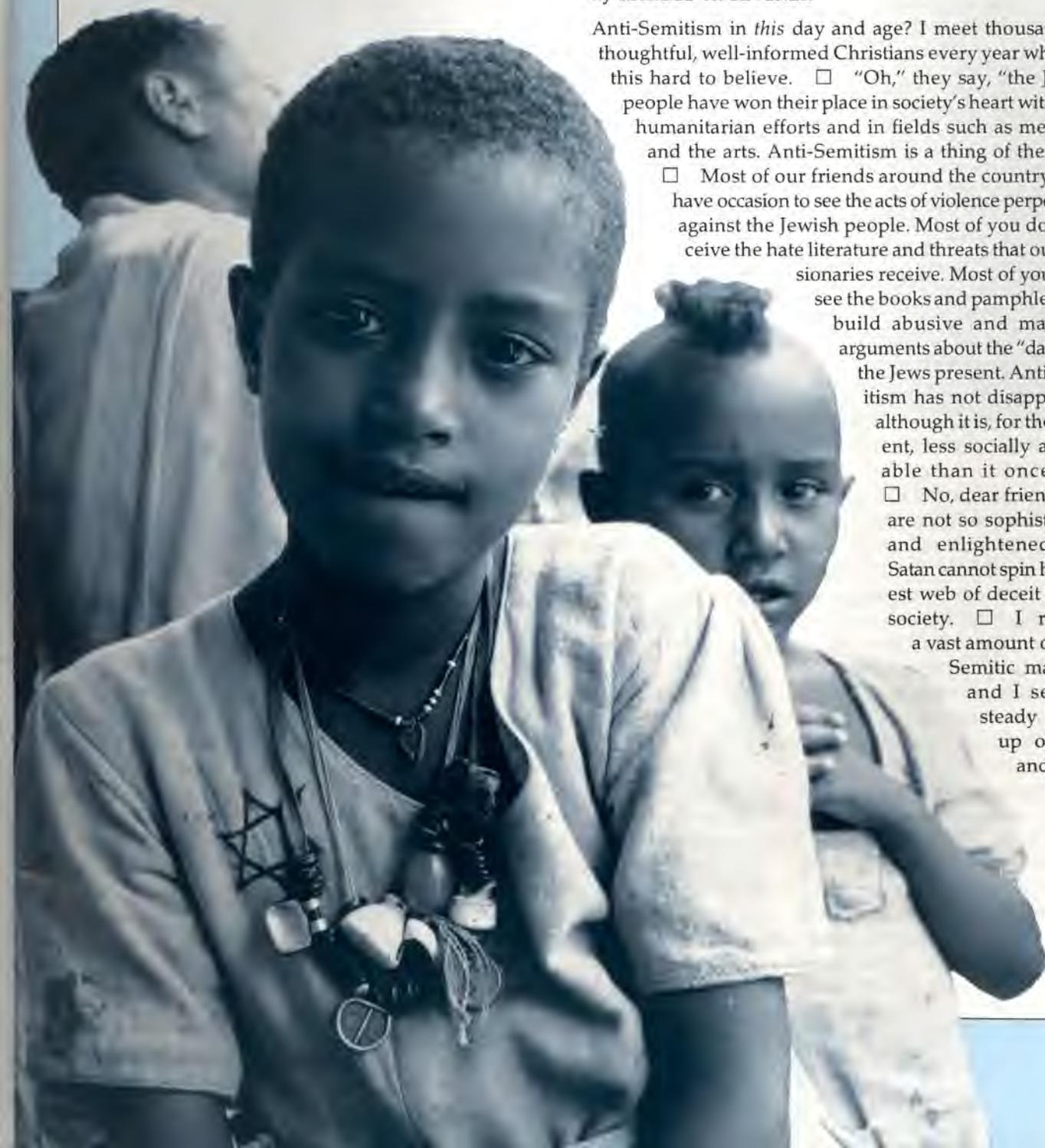
By HAROLD A. SEVENER

Anti-Semitism in *this* day and age? I meet thousands of thoughtful, well-informed Christians every year who find this hard to believe. □ "Oh," they say, "the Jewish people have won their place in society's heart with their humanitarian efforts and in fields such as medicine and the arts. Anti-Semitism is a thing of the past."

□ Most of our friends around the country don't have occasion to see the acts of violence perpetrated against the Jewish people. Most of you don't receive the hate literature and threats that our missionaries receive. Most of you don't see the books and pamphlets that build abusive and maniacal arguments about the "dangers" the Jews present. Anti-Semitism has not disappeared, although it is, for the present, less socially acceptable than it once was.

□ No, dear friends, we are not so sophisticated and enlightened that Satan cannot spin his oldest web of deceit in our society. □ I receive a vast amount of anti-Semitic material, and I see the steady build-up of hate and fear

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p8*





*"Let my people go," God cried on behalf of the Ethiopian Jews. Everything went smoothly until the Arabs responded like Pharaoh of old.*

that today's anti-Semites use to create a blind distrust of the Jewish people. I shudder when I see the reports in newspapers and on the television describing Israel as a vicious aggressor. Such tactics, disguised as factual, investigative reporting, are nothing short of political anti-Semitism.

If it sounds as though I'm overreacting, you need look no further than the front-page headlines of our newspapers as recently as January 1985. For instance, Israel was involved in a daring, dramatic rescue of starving Ethiopian Jews. The plan was called Operation Moses. Ethiopian Jewish families had walked hundreds of miles through the most dense sections of Ethiopia to Sudan, where the Israeli government airlifted them to a new life in Israel.

Yet, when news of the airlift became public, the Ethiopian Marxist government accused the Jews of being "traitors, guilty of treason." Libya urged a summit meeting of all the Arab nations to impose a punishment on Sudan for allowing the airlift to go on. Belgian Trans European Airways, the charter company that airlifted the refugees, had their Sudan charter revoked.

If it sounds like something is missing in this story, that the facts don't seem to make sense, you have just discovered the meaning of political anti-Semitism. It is an all-out attempt by Communist and Arab nations to turn the world further against the Jewish people.

Political anti-Semitism paints the nation of Israel and the Jewish people

as treasonous, subverters of Western democracy, enemies of the Free World, and responsible for the economic woes of the world.

The attack on Operation Moses is merely the latest attempt of the Arab nations, influenced by Soviet propaganda, enhanced by terrorist activities, to discredit the nation of Israel. It is an attempt to undermine the financial support that Israel is receiving from the United States. And, like all anti-Semitism, it is sheer hatred that builds on fear, greed, envy, and pride, Satan's oldest vice.

Political anti-Semitism became a modern reality after the June War in 1967. The Arab nations, realizing that they could not defeat Israel on the battlefield, began a four-fold attack through a media campaign to dis-

credit the nation. Its purpose is to change the image of Israel from one of "good country and faithful ally" to that of "bad country with which the United States and other Western countries should have no dealings."

The first avenue of attack used by Israel's enemies is that "Israel is not David, but Goliath. It is the aggressor, not the defender; the executioner, not the victim; the superpower, not the underdog. An important part of this theme is to depict the Arab-Israel conflict as one between a mighty Israel and the weak Palestinian Arabs, and to downplay the role of the Arab states supported by the Communist bloc and the Islamic world.

"Second, Israel is not an admirable country, but an oppressive one. The idea here is to focus attention relentlessly on any event or policy which puts Israel in a negative human rights light, and to divert attention from any embarrassing comparison between Israel and the Arab states on such issues as freedom of the press, meaningful elections, protection of civil liberties, the rights of women, and religious tolerance.

"Third, Israel is neither an ally nor an asset to the United States, but a problem and a burden. The method here is to magnify the costs of the relationship and disparage the benefits. Finally, support for Israel is not 'normal,' but alien.

"Pro-Israel sentiment is depicted as something outside American values, motivated by the interests of a foreign country, and Americans who value the relationship between the two countries are portrayed as a 'fifth column.'"

*The Campaign to Discredit Israel*, editors Amy Kaufman Goot, Steven J. Rosen, p. 14.

Sadly, this campaign has been more

effective than armed conflict. It was especially evident in the recent war in Lebanon. Western media presented Israel as the aggressor.

They blew the Israeli involvement in the prisoner-of-war camps so far out of proportion that General Ariel Sharon brought a libel suit against *Time* magazine. Also, when I was in the United Kingdom, I was invited to

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**Satan knows that to destroy the Jews is to destroy the promises of God. To do this he uses the subtlety of politics. Christians must realize that the conspiracy we face is not headed by "the Jews" but by Satan.**

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do an interview on BBC, but because of their pro-Arab position, the interview was severely edited. No positive statements regarding the nation of Israel could be made.

Amazingly, much of the funding for the anti-Israel campaign and political anti-Semitism comes from mobilizing large U.S. and Western European corporations. These funds are being used for direct lobbying activities, the support of anti-Israel organizations, and the financing of political campaigns. In December 1980, *Al-Fajir*, a major Arab newspaper, warned that "the billion dollar development contracts that American companies acquire

could be given to other countries whose foreign policies openly call for . . . a Palestinian state (and) . . . recognition of the PLO." Many major corporations and financial institutions that have dealings with Arab countries still practice a behind-the-scenes boycott of the nation of Israel.

This is political anti-Semitism. It is more than an effort to discredit Israel. It is an all-out attempt to destroy a nation and to annihilate a people.

Stan Rittenhouse, in his vicious anti-Semitic book *For Fear of the Jews*, espouses this campaign to discredit Israel. He states, "The blessings of God upon America have not come because we blessed the Jews but because we honored Christ. Christ, the Judge of this world, cannot serve two masters so there is no way God can bless those who continually give foreign aid from God's blessings to those who hate and reject Him. God had blessed America not because of the Jews but because of the Christians. . . . Think of that the next time America gives another billion dollars to a Christ-denying nation and then see if you can pray for God's blessings upon America."

*For Fear of the Jews*, Stan Rittenhouse, p. 26.

He further states, "To give tax dollars to Israel is to deny a taxpayer—especially a Christian taxpayer—his freedom of religion because it forces him to contribute to a religion ('Judaism' and/or Zionism and/or Talmudism) that is anti-Messiah; i.e., anti-Christ."

*Ibid.*, p. 119.

He continues, "The Zionists that rule Israel today are as anti-Christ, anti-Christian and anti-Christianity as were the Jews who hated Christ while He was here on this earth. This can be

*cont'd. on following pg.*

*Political anti-Semites stand opposed to the Jewish people. They think Jewish people can do no good, that Israel is an enemy that needs to be defeated. As the world readies itself for the final confrontation between God and Satan, it will be harder for Christians to stand firm for the Word of God and to love the Jewish people. But this is what we must do.*

seen by the policy, the deeds and the laws that the Zionists practice."

*Ibid.*, p. 106.

Stan Rittenhouse, like many other anti-Semitic writers before him, see the Israeli (the Jew and the Zionist) as a part of a plot to control the world. He states, "Consequently, as a result of doing business with each other, three international, One-World conspiracies have come upon the scene: (1) the Bolshevik/Communist Conspiracy, (2) the Israeli-Zionist Conspiracy, (3) the International Socialist Conspiracy. As the world becomes more and more centralized in its power, the desire for world control will become more and more intense. Possibly, the War of Armageddon will start out as a conflict among these rival forces."

*Ibid.*, p. 24.

What Rittenhouse and other anti-Semites fail to realize in their blind hatred of the Jew is the fact that there is a conspiracy to take over the world, but the conspiracy is directed by Satan, who is the god of this age (cf. 2 Cor. 4:4). Satan's conspiracy has always been directed against the Jew. He attempted to destroy Israel in Egypt; he attempted to destroy Israel in the wilderness and then in the land given to them by God. He attempted to destroy Israel by Babylon, by Persia, by Greece, and finally by Rome. He attempted to destroy Israel and the Jewish people by the Crusades, by the pogroms, and through the Holocaust.



The Bible tells us that in the future, in the Tribulation period, Satan will once again make an all-out effort to destroy the nation of Israel (cf. Rev. 12).

Why should such hatred be directed toward Israel and the Jewish people? It's very simple. Destroy the Jew, and you destroy the promises God has made to the Jewish people. Destroy the Jew, and destroy the veracity of God's Word. Ultimately, Satan's campaign against the Jew is really directed at God Himself.

Political anti-Semites are deceived by Satan into believing that the nation of Israel and the Jewish people can do no good. They are deceived into believing that Israel and the Jewish people are enemies who need to be defeated. Such is not the case. Israel is not the enemy. The enemy is in the hearts of men who set themselves against God.

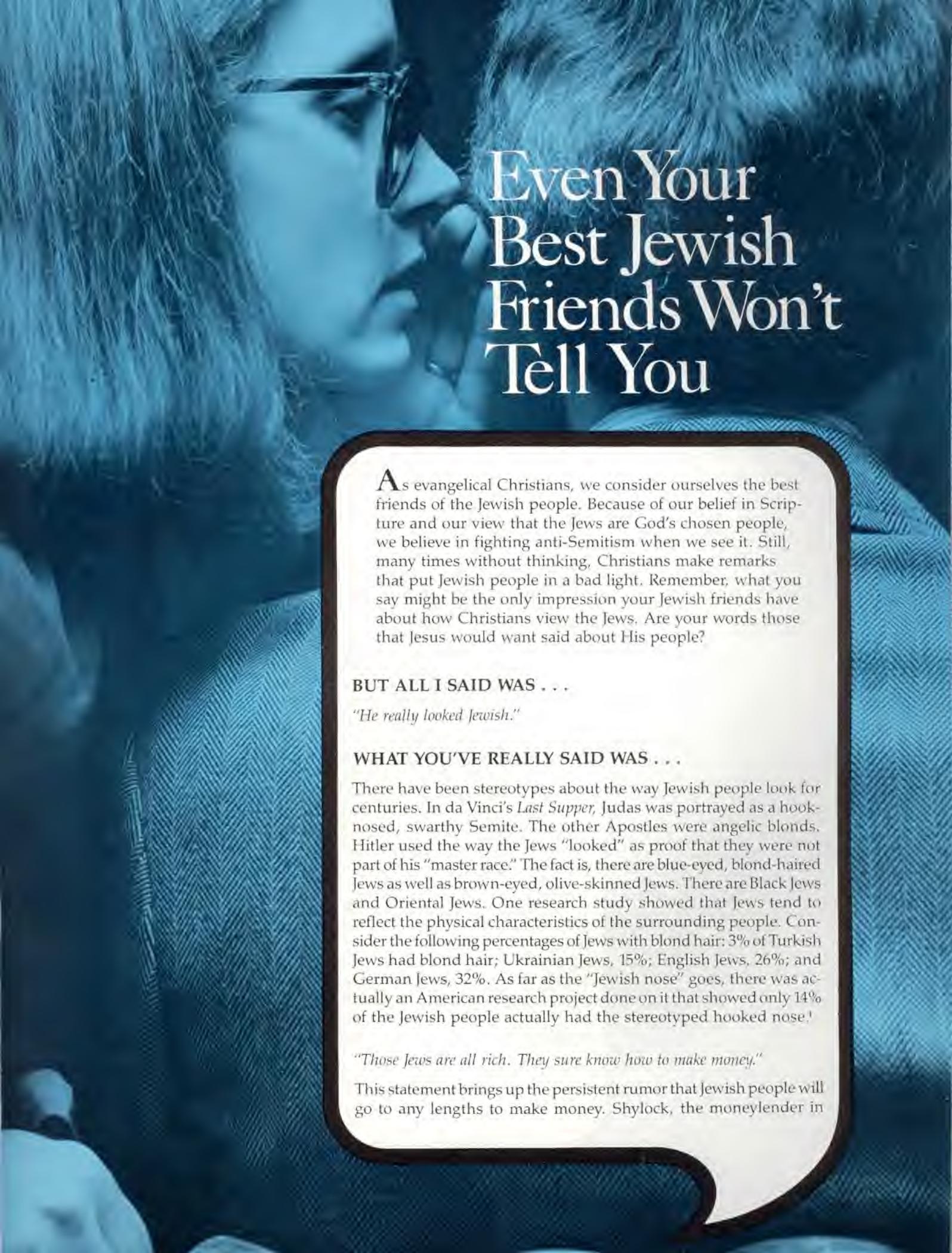
We have watched as the morality of our nation has eroded. Homosexuality, condemned as a sin in the Bible, is now condoned as an alternate life style. Abortion, the taking of human life, murder, is now seen as a viable option in the freedom of choice. Promiscuity, pornography, and open marriage are seen as healthy outlets for our own humanness. Satan has lulled the world into complacency, into self-pleasure.

And just as he drives people further into sin and further away from God, he has been able to lull the nations into political anti-Semitism. An airlift to save lives is seen as a political injustice. A nation defending its national existence is seen as an aggressor and a threat to world peace.

We need to heed the Word of God, which says, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee" (Gen. 12:3). "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee" (Ps. 122:6).

It would appear that the forces of evil are gaining strength. I believe God is preparing the world and setting the stage for the return of our Savior, our Messiah, the Lord Jesus.

Time is short. We need to lovingly present the Gospel to the Jewish people. We need to assure them that despite political anti-Semitism, they are still the chosen people of God. We need to believe the Word of God and not the words of men. □



# Even Your Best Jewish Friends Won't Tell You

**A**s evangelical Christians, we consider ourselves the best friends of the Jewish people. Because of our belief in Scripture and our view that the Jews are God's chosen people, we believe in fighting anti-Semitism when we see it. Still, many times without thinking, Christians make remarks that put Jewish people in a bad light. Remember, what you say might be the only impression your Jewish friends have about how Christians view the Jews. Are your words those that Jesus would want said about His people?

## **BUT ALL I SAID WAS . . .**

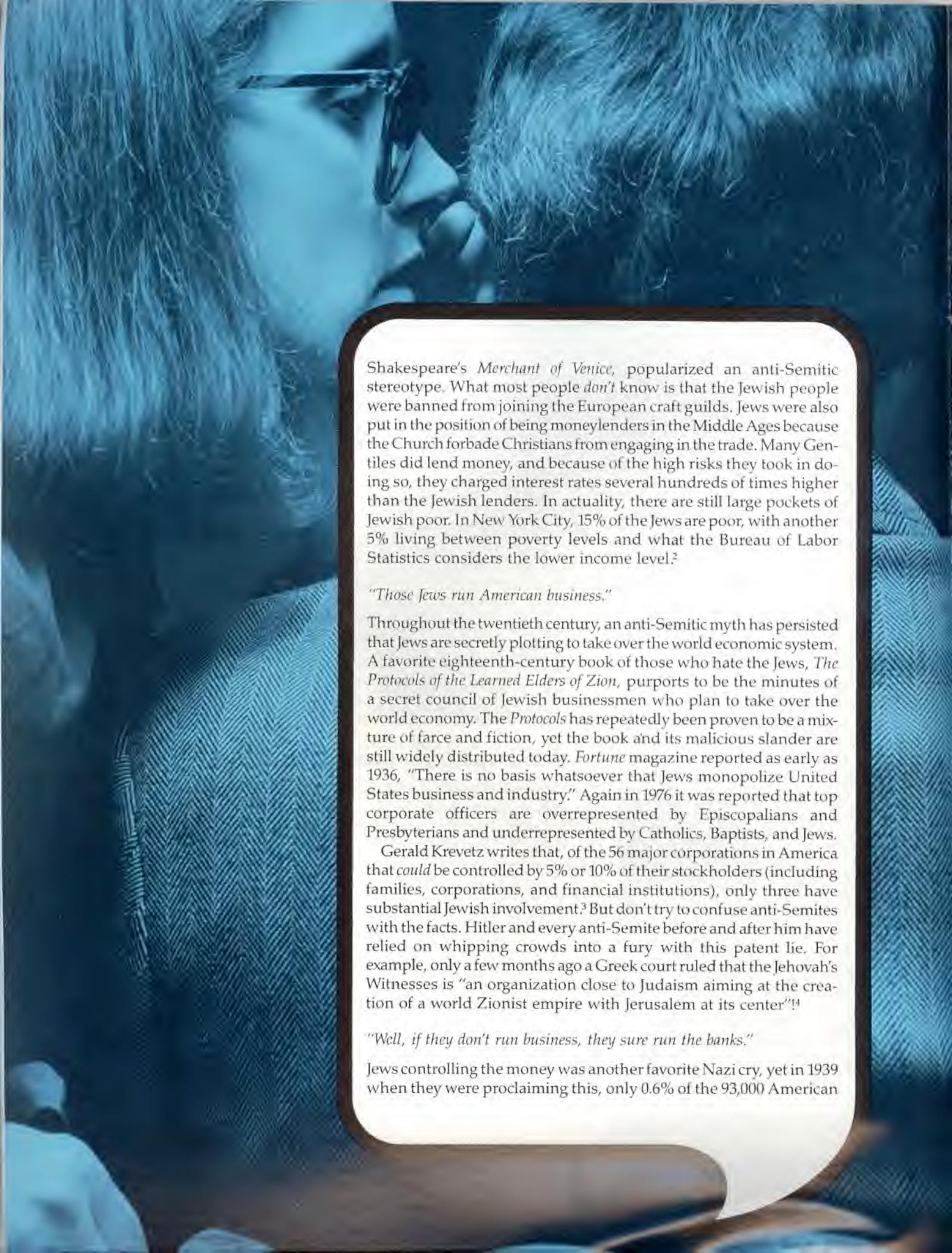
*"He really looked Jewish."*

## **WHAT YOU'VE REALLY SAID WAS . . .**

There have been stereotypes about the way Jewish people look for centuries. In da Vinci's *Last Supper*, Judas was portrayed as a hook-nosed, swarthy Semite. The other Apostles were angelic blonds. Hitler used the way the Jews "looked" as proof that they were not part of his "master race." The fact is, there are blue-eyed, blond-haired Jews as well as brown-eyed, olive-skinned Jews. There are Black Jews and Oriental Jews. One research study showed that Jews tend to reflect the physical characteristics of the surrounding people. Consider the following percentages of Jews with blond hair: 3% of Turkish Jews had blond hair; Ukrainian Jews, 15%; English Jews, 26%; and German Jews, 32%. As far as the "Jewish nose" goes, there was actually an American research project done on it that showed only 14% of the Jewish people actually had the stereotyped hooked nose.<sup>1</sup>

*"Those Jews are all rich. They sure know how to make money."*

This statement brings up the persistent rumor that Jewish people will go to any lengths to make money. Shylock, the moneylender in



Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, popularized an anti-Semitic stereotype. What most people *don't* know is that the Jewish people were banned from joining the European craft guilds. Jews were also put in the position of being moneylenders in the Middle Ages because the Church forbade Christians from engaging in the trade. Many Gentiles did lend money, and because of the high risks they took in doing so, they charged interest rates several hundreds of times higher than the Jewish lenders. In actuality, there are still large pockets of Jewish poor. In New York City, 15% of the Jews are poor, with another 5% living between poverty levels and what the Bureau of Labor Statistics considers the lower income level.<sup>2</sup>

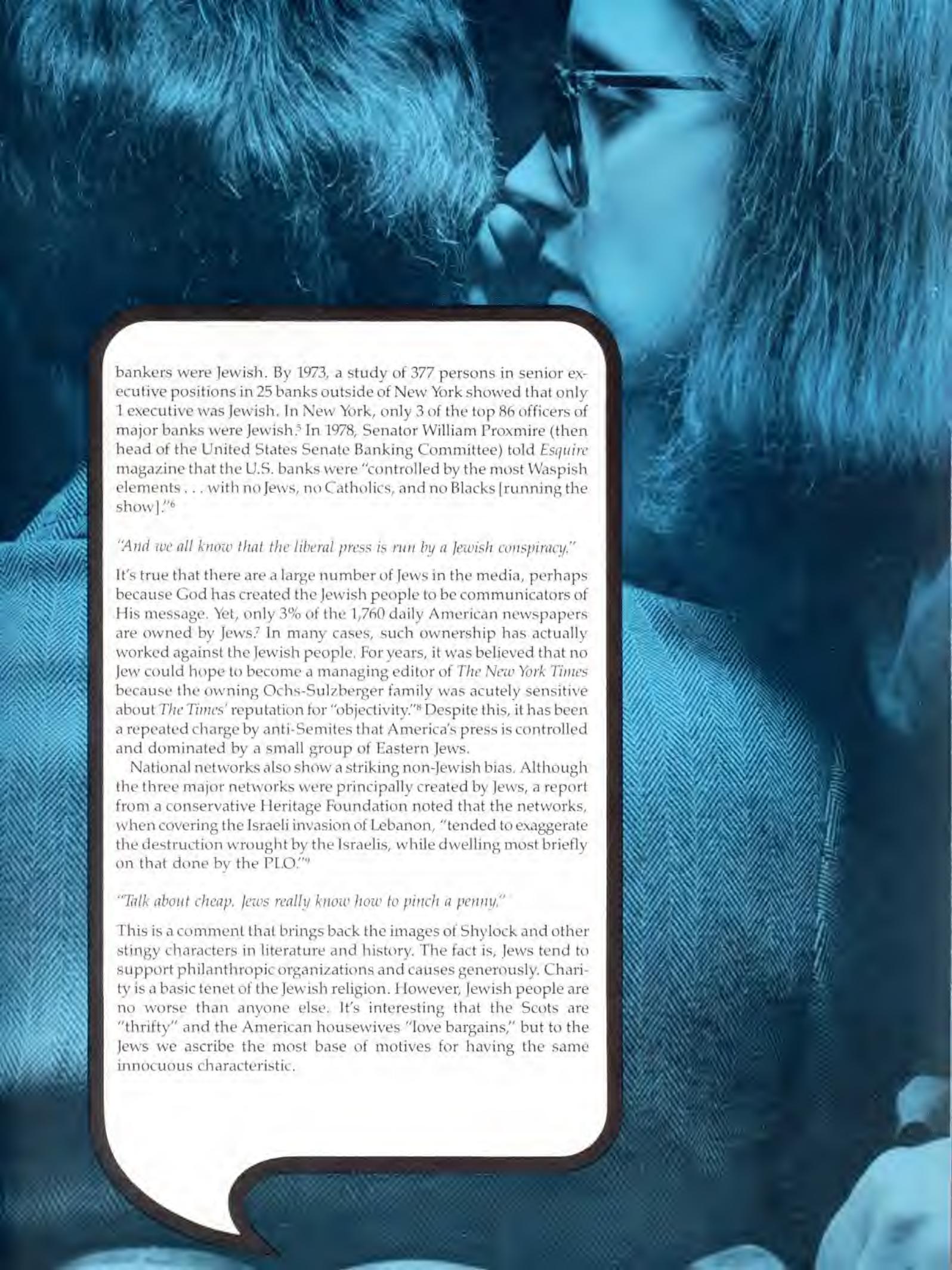
*"Those Jews run American business."*

Throughout the twentieth century, an anti-Semitic myth has persisted that Jews are secretly plotting to take over the world economic system. A favorite eighteenth-century book of those who hate the Jews, *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, purports to be the minutes of a secret council of Jewish businessmen who plan to take over the world economy. The *Protocols* has repeatedly been proven to be a mixture of farce and fiction, yet the book and its malicious slander are still widely distributed today. *Fortune* magazine reported as early as 1936, "There is no basis whatsoever that Jews monopolize United States business and industry." Again in 1976 it was reported that top corporate officers are overrepresented by Episcopalians and Presbyterians and underrepresented by Catholics, Baptists, and Jews.

Gerald Krevetz writes that, of the 56 major corporations in America that *could* be controlled by 5% or 10% of their stockholders (including families, corporations, and financial institutions), only three have substantial Jewish involvement.<sup>3</sup> But don't try to confuse anti-Semites with the facts. Hitler and every anti-Semite before and after him have relied on whipping crowds into a fury with this patent lie. For example, only a few months ago a Greek court ruled that the Jehovah's Witnesses is "an organization close to Judaism aiming at the creation of a world Zionist empire with Jerusalem at its center"<sup>4</sup>

*"Well, if they don't run business, they sure run the banks."*

Jews controlling the money was another favorite Nazi cry, yet in 1939 when they were proclaiming this, only 0.6% of the 93,000 American



bankers were Jewish. By 1973, a study of 377 persons in senior executive positions in 25 banks outside of New York showed that only 1 executive was Jewish. In New York, only 3 of the top 86 officers of major banks were Jewish.<sup>5</sup> In 1978, Senator William Proxmire (then head of the United States Senate Banking Committee) told *Esquire* magazine that the U.S. banks were “controlled by the most Waspish elements . . . with no Jews, no Catholics, and no Blacks [running the show].”<sup>6</sup>

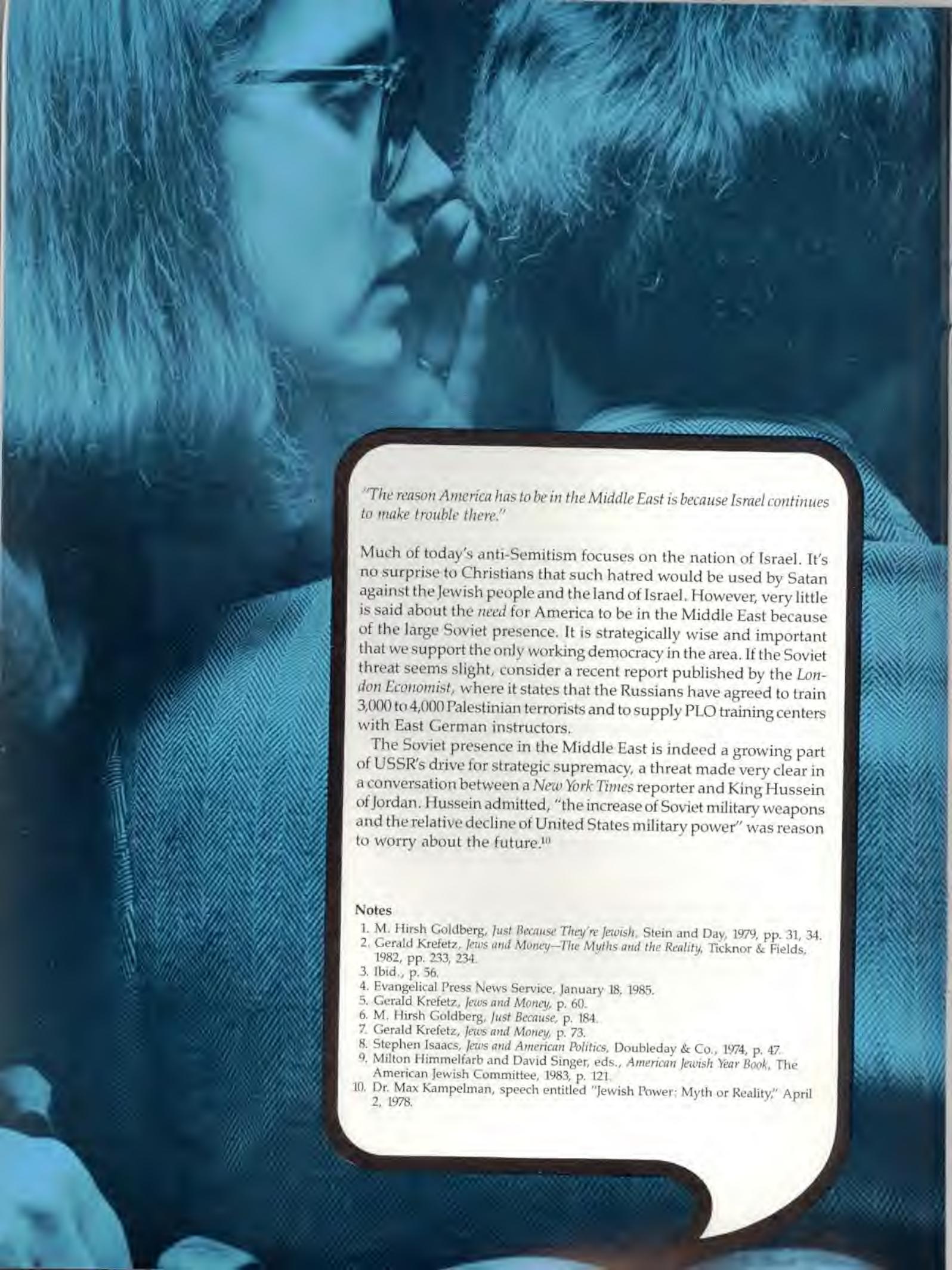
*“And we all know that the liberal press is run by a Jewish conspiracy.”*

It’s true that there are a large number of Jews in the media, perhaps because God has created the Jewish people to be communicators of His message. Yet, only 3% of the 1,760 daily American newspapers are owned by Jews.<sup>7</sup> In many cases, such ownership has actually worked against the Jewish people. For years, it was believed that no Jew could hope to become a managing editor of *The New York Times* because the owning Ochs-Sulzberger family was acutely sensitive about *The Times’* reputation for “objectivity.”<sup>8</sup> Despite this, it has been a repeated charge by anti-Semites that America’s press is controlled and dominated by a small group of Eastern Jews.

National networks also show a striking non-Jewish bias. Although the three major networks were principally created by Jews, a report from a conservative Heritage Foundation noted that the networks, when covering the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, “tended to exaggerate the destruction wrought by the Israelis, while dwelling most briefly on that done by the PLO.”<sup>9</sup>

*“Talk about cheap, Jews really know how to pinch a penny.”*

This is a comment that brings back the images of Shylock and other stingy characters in literature and history. The fact is, Jews tend to support philanthropic organizations and causes generously. Charity is a basic tenet of the Jewish religion. However, Jewish people are no worse than anyone else. It’s interesting that the Scots are “thrifty” and the American housewives “love bargains,” but to the Jews we ascribe the most base of motives for having the same innocuous characteristic.



*"The reason America has to be in the Middle East is because Israel continues to make trouble there."*

Much of today's anti-Semitism focuses on the nation of Israel. It's no surprise to Christians that such hatred would be used by Satan against the Jewish people and the land of Israel. However, very little is said about the *need* for America to be in the Middle East because of the large Soviet presence. It is strategically wise and important that we support the only working democracy in the area. If the Soviet threat seems slight, consider a recent report published by the *London Economist*, where it states that the Russians have agreed to train 3,000 to 4,000 Palestinian terrorists and to supply PLO training centers with East German instructors.

The Soviet presence in the Middle East is indeed a growing part of USSR's drive for strategic supremacy, a threat made very clear in a conversation between a *New York Times* reporter and King Hussein of Jordan. Hussein admitted, "the increase of Soviet military weapons and the relative decline of United States military power" was reason to worry about the future.<sup>10</sup>

#### Notes

1. M. Hirsh Goldberg, *Just Because They're Jewish*, Stein and Day, 1979, pp. 31, 34.
2. Gerald Krefetz, *Jews and Money—The Myths and the Reality*, Ticknor & Fields, 1982, pp. 233, 234.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 56.
4. Evangelical Press News Service, January 18, 1985.
5. Gerald Krefetz, *Jews and Money*, p. 60.
6. M. Hirsh Goldberg, *Just Because*, p. 184.
7. Gerald Krefetz, *Jews and Money*, p. 73.
8. Stephen Isaacs, *Jews and American Politics*, Doubleday & Co., 1974, p. 47.
9. Milton Himmelfarb and David Singer, eds., *American Jewish Year Book*, The American Jewish Committee, 1983, p. 121.
10. Dr. Max Kampelman, speech entitled "Jewish Power: Myth or Reality," April 2, 1978.

# Before You Plant the Seed

By BARRY RUBIN  
Missionary, Virginia

"Do you see *this*? Do you see these numbers, do you *know* what they stand for?" The man in front of me was a distortion of the kindly Jewish butcher I knew so well.

Only minutes before I had been witnessing to him, telling him about the Messiah who came and died for our sins. Without warning, he had flown into a rage, veins seeming to pop out from his neck and temples as he yelled at me.

He pulled up the sleeve of his shirt and pushed his arm in front of me. There, tattooed in ordered precision, were the numbers that had been used to identify him as an occupant of Hitler's concentration camps.

All my words of reassuring love and explanation would not penetrate his memories of the people who had imprisoned him. People who had gone to church on Sunday mornings and walked out filled with rage at those they considered Christ killers.

It is no great wonder that when my friend sees a cross, it does not picture salvation. It pictures swastikas. Yet I was never able to understand it fully until I saw the American Nazi Party for myself.

I remember the first time I saw a group of them marching through Skokie, Illinois, with their banners proclaiming white supremacy. As I listened to their rhetoric of the "Aryan

race" and the "Jewish problem," I saw a blind hatred for God's chosen people.

Growing up in post-World War II, middle-class America, I had never had my life threatened because I was Jewish. I had been called a Christ killer and had felt the pain of anti-Semitism, but still, I could only imagine the actual horror of the Holocaust. But seeing the Nazis gave me a first-hand understanding that anti-Semitism is real and it is totally irrational. The Nazis' speeches struck a chord that was as old as Haman and the Pharaohs. I understood there would always be a fury inside some people to lash out against the Jewish people.

I don't know that there is ever a rational way to share God's love with people who have been victims of such hate, or, for that matter, a rational way to break through such hatred with the message of peace. I know that through prayer God can work miracles and reach into places where no one else could venture.

Yet, we have a job to do. Just as we plant a garden by clearing and preparing the ground for the seed that only God can bring forth, we also have the important job of clump clearing in witnessing to Jewish people. It wasn't the Gospel that my friend the butcher was rejecting; he never even heard the Gospel! He was rejecting the atrocious behavior of some people who called themselves Christians and perverted the truth of Jesus. □



*Barry and Steffi Rubin have been Jewish believers since the early 1970s. They have two children—Rebecca Elizabeth, 4, and Shira Esther, almost 2.*

Christians have great opportunities to prepare the ground and overcome the damage that was done by Adolph Hitler and his hordes of inhuman followers. Perhaps some Gentile believers don't know how to teach prophecy from the Bible or how to argue the case for Christianity. But one thing that Gentile Christians can, and should, do is try to polish the tarnished image Jesus got during the Holocaust. This can be done by living a life of love and sharing it with your Jewish neighbor. It is sure to break up the clumps of soil and smooth the way for planting the Gospel seed. □



# “Hey Jew, You and Your Family Killed Jesus.”

**At the military academy, being Jewish seemed almost sinful. One day a group of bullies said, “You’re a Christ killer. Better watch out.” From then on I thought being Jewish was an ugly brand that separated me from Christians.**

By **ROY SCHWARCZ**  
Missionary, Chicago

“Hey Jew,” someone shouted. “Did you know you and your family killed Jesus?”

I had never heard anything like that at home in Long Island, where being Jewish was nothing unusual. But my parents wanted me to have discipline, so at the age of fifteen I moved to Carolina Military Academy, which was to be my home and school for two years. The head of the school had told my family that it was one big, happy family, and it seemed like a good place to go.

What the headmaster had failed to tell us was that there were no other Jewish students in this happy family, and I was considered a “New York Jew,” which wasn’t exactly flattering. The other boys resented the fact that I was Jewish, and it didn’t help matters when they heard that I was allowed to sleep in while they were required to attend church on Sunday mornings.

One Sunday I had just gotten up and was walking down the hallway, when a group of older boys arrived back from services.

That’s when I heard it for the first time. “Hey Jew,” one of them yelled,

stopping squarely in my path. “Did you know you and your family killed Jesus?”

“I didn’t kill anybody,” I explained. But their manner was threatening, and I sensed that I had been part of some horrible crime.

“Well, you’re a Christ killer, and you’d better watch out. We’re watching you.” As they turned away, one of them spat out the word “Jew” like it was an ugly brand that would permanently identify me.

I decided the only way to get along was to be the class clown. Inoffensive, nonthreatening, certainly not someone the others would fear as being a Christ killer. I got used to living with an uneasy peace, always feeling a little different.

When I finally returned to New York to attend college, it’s no wonder that I was cynical and on-guard. I didn’t like the status quo of the world, and I saw a lot of injustice around me. I couldn’t understand a world where there was hatred and distrust, a world where people seemed to enjoy a society full of wrongs.

It was the era of college unrest, and my roommate was an outspoken radical. Our late night discussions prompted me to think about the state

of the world. He advocated violence, but I couldn’t see how that would create anything but more problems. Instead, I wanted to see the world changed from within the system. I was convinced that the American legal system provided the answers to mankind’s great problems.

It was inevitable that I would be disillusioned. As long as there are problems in the hearts of men, there will be problems in the legal system. I discovered that money means power and power means everything. I began to wonder if there was any real truth at all.

Through drugs and Eastern philosophies, I looked within myself, or at least that’s what I thought I was doing. I studied the occult and a wide range of mystical teachings. I began to see that the spiritual realm was real, but I could tell that I wasn’t seeing the truth in these ventures. As a matter of fact, I sensed evil.

I felt like my search was doomed. Perhaps the world could only offer me choices, relative decisions. I longed for something absolute, something of real substance.

I decided to get a taste of the “real life” and wandered across the coun-

*cont’d. on pg. 14*

# The Rabbi Who Questioned...

## A Gospel of Hate

REV. BURT YELLIN  
Volunteer Missionary, CO

On January 7, 1984, LaPort, Colorado, was given a glimpse of a movement that is as old as the people against whom it is directed when Pastor Pete Peters and the LaPort Church of Christ sponsored Gordon "Jack" Mohr to come and speak. The broadcast of his sermon and a follow-up newspaper interview gave the entire Jewish community in Colorado much to fear.

Mohr, a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and a self-acclaimed evangelist, stated that he is not an anti-Semite nor does he propound white supremacy. He is merely an American patriot and in active service with the Christian Patriot Defense League.

"I'm just trying to help my country," Mohr said. "I don't like to talk about the bad things Jews are doing, but I've been forced to. I have no quarrel with Jews per se. I don't mind rubbing shoulders with a Jew in the delicatessen or in the clothing store, but I am tremendously fearful and distrustful of the international Jewish community. I would be saying the same thing about the Baptists or the Methodists or anyone who was trying to destroy my country."

In the newspaper interview, Mohr stated that his extensive study of Communism and Judaism led him to the conclusion that the two ideologies are compatible. He accused the Jews of financing the 1917 Bolshevik Revolt. He stated that Yuri Andropov and the leaders of the Communist-bloc nations are all Jews, and together with Zionist businessmen they are trying to overcome white Christians. The article concludes, "He hit on all the fears and pressure points: gun control, abortion, drugs, pornography. He said that Jews are behind all these evils."





*Bert and Sylvia Yellin are Jewish believers originally from Brooklyn, NY. Both the Yellins are active co-workers with ABMJ's Denver missionary Eliezer Urbach.*

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**When the rabbi heard a certain preacher's message about Jewish Zionists trying to overcome white Christians, he thought that hatred was a hidden part of the Gospel. But by God's grace, even hatred can produce a questioning heart.**

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Pete Peters heartily applauded these views. "We're not anti-Jewish, we're pro-truth," he said. He agreed with Mohr that Americans, Anglo-Saxons, Scandinavians, and people of Germanic descent, not Jews, are the chosen people described in the Bible.

About a week after these statements were made, a rabbi I know came by our literature table at Denver's Stapleton Airport. He was understandably upset, and, because we were Christians also, he connected us with the same type of anti-Semitic prejudices. However, since we had been friends in the past, he invited me to come by and discuss the matter further.

After much prayer and fasting by our congregation, I arranged a time to meet with him. When I arrived I explained my own position by saying, "It is unfortunate when people use the Gospel of peace to propagate hate. It is not proper, though, to suppose that all people proclaiming belief in Yeshua are doing the will of God. The work that is done in His name is not always what He would want. Don't we see the same thing happening with the Jews? Even in the Book of Kings we see many instances where the children of Israel were involved in practices alien to God. Is that the way God would have wanted them to behave?"

He replied that it was not, but asked why we felt a need to proselytize Jewish people, an act that was, in his mind, anti-Semitic. I said that apart from the fact that Yeshua commands us to preach His Gospel, proselytiza-

tion is a Jewish idea and has been performed throughout our history. The *Midrash Genesis Rabbah* (stories about biblical tales and events) tells us that Abraham was the first proselyte, going all over the land preaching the one true God and converting many. Also, the Maccabees, after their successful revolt against Syria, proselytized. In fact, they went to the Idumeans and forced them under threat of death or exile to convert to Judaism. During the first century, Jewish people were active throughout the world trying to win converts. It was only after Rome became a Christian state that these efforts were stopped.

"Where, then, are the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust and those who died in the Inquisition?" he asked.

"Our job is to preach the Good News in love to all men," I explained. "In the thirteen years I have been a Christian, God has never checked with me, nor do I suspect He ever will,

whether or not someone is saved. Isaiah tells us that God does not judge according to outward appearances but discerns the intent of the heart of a man. I believe if a person rejects Messiah, he is rejecting the One who sent Messiah, God. However, I do not believe those who are presented with the Gospel at the point of a sword or gun are truly rejecting Him. They were rejecting the way He was being portrayed. We do not possess the wisdom to judge our fellow men, nor can we judge God by the actions of men."

At this point, as in many conversations I have had with Jewish people, the rabbi asked whether or not Hitler would have been saved had he repented before he died and accepted Jesus as Messiah.

Not wanting to launch into an involved theological explanation I answered the Rabbi's question with another question.

"Which is worse in God's eyes, one murder or a million murders?"

"They're both the same," he answered.

Our conversation continued for some time, but shortly, after these many early objections were put aside, we began talking about the Messiah, a conversation that lasted four hours.

It is sad that it took the preaching of hate in order to come to this conversation where the God of love was presented. Yet responding with the truth in a gentle manner to every man, giving a reason of the faith we have, is required of us. We will be known for our fruit, and the preaching of hate does not produce the type of fruit that Jesus wants. Rather, we have been called to dispel darkness, to speak the truth to all men in love. May God give us the grace to accomplish this. □

# Anti-Semitism According to Satan's Effort to Abort the

By DR. DANIEL FUCHS

We will never understand the enormity of modern-day anti-Semitism if we think of it as just a twentieth-century phenomenon. It is part of Satan's age-long onslaught against God's plan of world redemption. It all began with man's first sin, when God gave the first promise of the Messiah, the One who would redeem man from sin.

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel" (Gen. 3:15).

It is noteworthy that the first prophecy concerning the Messiah was addressed to Satan and not to Adam and Eve. The enmity between the serpent and the seed of the woman is not Satan's enmity against mankind. The seed of the woman is not the human race; it is the Messiah. The battle is between Satan and God's promised Deliverer.

It is not surprising that Eve believed that Cain, her firstborn, was the promised seed. When he was born, Eve named him Cain, meaning "gotten." She said, "I have gotten a man—Jehovah." (So reads the literal Hebrew and also translations by Luther, Philippi, and others.) Alfred Edersheim says,

"Apparently she connected the birth of her son with the immediate fulfillment of the promise concerning the Seed, who was to bruise the head of the serpent. This expectation was, if we may be allowed the comparison,

as natural on her part as that of the immediate return of our Lord by some of the early Christians. It also showed how deeply this hope had sunk into her heart, how lively was her faith in the fulfilment of the promise, and how ardent her longing for it. But if such had been her views, they must have been speedily disappointed. Perhaps for this very reason, or else because she had been more fully informed, or on other grounds with which we are not acquainted, the

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## It is noteworthy that the first prophecy concerning the Messiah was addressed to Satan and not to Adam.

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other son of Adam and Eve, mentioned in Scripture, was named *Abel*, that is 'breath,' or 'fading away.'"

Alfred Edersheim, *The World Before the Flood*, p. 24.

In the Garden of Eden, fellowship with God depended upon obedience. But Adam sinned, and man could no longer depend on obedience for salvation. God then gave the first promise of the Messiah, and in this promise there was the kernel of the Gospel. The Deliverer's miraculous birth was alluded to: He was to be "her seed." His sufferings were foretold: "Thou

shalt bruise his heel." And his final and complete victory was prophesied: "It (her seed) shall bruise thy head."

From that moment on, Satan had one purpose—to thwart the seed of the woman. The story of Cain and Abel is a synopsis of history. It is the story of Satan's opposing the Seed of the woman.

Two thousand years later, the promise of the coming Messiah was refined. The Messiah would not only be the Seed of the woman, He would also be the seed of Abraham: "In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3).

Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. For over a decade he walked the life of faith. But it seemed that God's promise was beginning to grow dimmer as the years passed by without the birth of the promised heir, so Abram listened to the voice of Sarai instead of the Word of God. "And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the Lord hath restrained me from bearing; I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai" (Gen. 16:2).

Ishmael was born, and the house of faith became a house of strife. Ishmael was born when Abram was eighty-six years old. When Isaac was finally born fourteen years later, we see the beginning of a struggle between Isaac and Ishmael that has lasted throughout Old Testament history, Intertestament history, and New Testament history, right up until the present day.

# to the Scriptures: Promised Seed

But behind the history of the continuing warfare, we realize this truth. It is not just Isaac against Ishmael, it is the serpent against the Seed of the woman, the promised Seed of Abram. It started as soon as Isaac was weaned. The fourteen-year-old Ishmael vented his wrath on the baby.

"Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after

## The enmity between the serpent and the seed of the woman is not Satan's enmity against mankind.

the Spirit, even so it is now" (Gal. 4:28, 29).

A short time later, God further clarified His promise. The Deliverer would not only be the Seed of the woman and the Seed of Abraham but also "in Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Gen. 21:12). And the sad story was repeated, this time it was Esau against Jacob, but it was really Satan against the Seed of the woman.

When in the fullness of time, God sent His Son, the New Testament tells us that "Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the

king" (Mt. 2:1). Herod was king of the Jews but he was not a Jew. His mother was Cypros, a Nabatean (of Ishmael), and his father was Antipater, an Idumean (of Esau).

In the December 1984 issue of *The Chosen People*, we wrote about Hanukkah and described the exploits of the Maccabees over the armies of Syria. (Again, it was the children of Isaac against the children of Ishmael.) During the century prior to Jesus' coming, the nation of Rome was rising in power. Pompey had conquered the last king of the line of Antiochus and had annexed Syria to the Roman Empire.

At this time, two brothers, descendants of the Maccabees, Hyrcanus and Aristobulus, were fighting for the Jewish throne and both foolishly appealed to Pompey for help. Pompey decided for Hyrcanus, and Aristobulus revolted. He retreated to Jerusalem, where he held the city against a siege of the Roman army.

Finally, Jerusalem fell and Pompey insisted upon defiling the Holy of Holies. From that time on, Pompey's star began to decline before the rising power of his rival, Julius Caesar.

The Romans found it necessary to continue to occupy Israel with its army. They were aided by Antipater, an Edomite, who was at first a minister to Hyrcanus but who gradually usurped his power. The descendants of the Maccabees had now become degenerate weaklings, while Herod, the son

*cont'd. on pg. 15*

Poor Esther. She went from rags to riches, from poverty to royalty. Then anti-Semitism raised its ugly head, and she had to stand firm and risk death. But her duty was clear. "Who knoweth," Mordecai reminded her, "whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Est. 4:14).

On March 7, Jewish people around the world will celebrate the holiday of Purim, which commemorates Esther's stand against Haman. It is a time of great feasting: The book of Esther is read in the synagogue, costly parties with food and merriment are held, and every time the name "Haman" is mentioned, the merry-makers use loud noisemakers to "blot his name out from the earth."

Today, there are still people like Esther who are willing to take a firm stand in God's love for the Jewish people, and to spread the Word of God's salvation to help blot out the Satanic heirs of Haman, who still hate the Jews. You, our ABMJ family, are standing among these modern heroes. You have come with us into the spiritual battleground, fighting the darkness that keeps Jewish people from accepting Christ.

If you are not presently one of our prayer and giving partners, we'd like to invite you to consider such support. Anti-Semitism has many ugly faces, the worst of which seeks to keep Jewish people from hearing the Gospel. Won't you join us in fighting this battle and in bringing the Good News of Jesus the Messiah to the house of Israel?

- Yes, I want to uphold ABMJ, making this ministry part of my prayers each day.
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try. In LaCrosse, Wisconsin, I encountered for the first time a group of real Christians. After some hesitation, I told them I was Jewish. Much to my surprise, one of the fellows shouted, "Praise the Lord! Our Messiah was Jewish, and the Jews are God's chosen people."

I was stunned. *Didn't these people know that Christians were supposed to hate Jews, to kill them, not to love them?*

But they didn't seem to react that way. They told me more about Abraham and Moses and all my ancestors than I myself knew. They also told me that Christ had given His life voluntarily for the sins of *all* people. Most of all, they told me of God who was real, who was the only solution to the state of the world. I was overwhelmed that at last I found an absolute in this world, but I had to reject it—after all, I was Jewish.

They challenged me to ask God for myself, so as I prepared to move on from LaCrosse, I sceptically mumbled a prayer asking God to show me if Jesus was the Messiah.

By the time I returned to school two months later, I had forgotten my prayer. However, I hadn't forgotten the impression these people made on me. When we studied Milton's *Paradise Lost* in English class, I was once again confronted with the existence of an absolute in the world. In this poem I saw the god of this world, a god of absolute evil. But as I saw this, I realized that there must also be a God of the universe, a God of absolute good.

Still, I made no decisions. God was still on my mind when a friend came to visit me in November. He agreed to travel with me back to LaCrosse during my winter vacation. I wanted to be with those people again.

On the way, we stopped at Niagara Falls. Seeing this awesome beauty, I asked my friend, "Do you believe there really was a flood?"

"If there is a God, He can do anything," my friend replied. I thought about this while we went to a different view of the Falls. Suddenly there was a break in the heavy

overcast clouds. The sun came through, bringing with it a magnificent beauty. I couldn't say why, but I was deeply impressed.

At a friend's house later that night, I noticed a book on studying the Bible. While the others talked, I leafed through it and found myself reading how God had given the rainbow as a sign to mankind. At once, everything fell into place. I knew that God was speaking to me. I knew that God was real. The words I had heard from my Christian friends came ringing back to me. I remembered Hebrews 11:8 where Abraham "when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed."

My path, and the necessary step of faith, became real to me as I thought



*An ABMJ missionary, Roy now shows many Jews that Christ, and Christians, love them.*

of Abraham. I saw myself as a pilgrim, like Abraham, who had only the Word of God to trust. Within a few days I had accepted the Lord and committed myself to doing whatever He wanted.

The path on which God has taken me since that day has not always been easy. At times I saw that even some of my brothers within the Church did not understand what it meant to be Jewish. Some treated it like a condition to be corrected. Others treated it like a special status. I attended Moody Bible Institute's Jewish Studies Program so that I could understand what it was that God wanted from me.

Now I'm planting congregations so that other Jewish people can understand the Jewishness of the Gospel. God has given me a beautiful wife, Joanne, and three lovely girls, Susannah, Alizah, and Rachel. How I thank

Him that despite the wrong impressions I had for so many years about Christians, He reached through and showed me the great truth and love of His Son, the Jewish Messiah, Jesus. □

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cont'd. from pg. 13

of Antipater, plotted their overthrow.

Since Herod was not Jewish, he married Mariamne, the daughter of Hyrcanus, and through her, maintained that he represented the Maccabean line! Finally, in 40 B.C., Herod asked the Roman Senate to proclaim him king of Israel. Thus Israel was ruled by a descendant of Ishmael and Esau.

Immediately Herod methodically murdered the remaining descendants of the Maccabees, including Mariamne, his wife. He was a despot who was obsessed with a persecution complex. Josephus called him "a monster untouched by any human emotion or sentiment" (Ant. xvi.5.4).

His own family hated him. In one year he murdered three of his sons. Augustus Caesar once said he would rather be Herod's pig than his son.

He built two cities—Caesarea, in honor of Augustus Caesar, and Sebastia (also named in Latin after Augustus). In both of these cities he erected temples to Augustus. In doing this, he introduced emperor worship into the land of Israel.

This act had dire consequences years later, when the early Christians refused to say "Caesar is lord" and accepted torture and death rather than to deny

**Immediately Herod methodically murdered the remaining descendants of the Maccabees, including his wife. Josephus called him "a monster untouched by any human emotion or sentiment."**

their Lord. It was Caesar or Christ. Again it was Satan against the Seed of the woman.

The viciousness of Herod's character is shown in the Scriptures when "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" (Mt. 2:1-3).

It was characteristic of the paranoid

Herod that "he was troubled." The sad fact is that not only was Herod troubled, but "all Jerusalem with him." They would rather suffer under Herod than accept the Babe of Bethlehem, who alone could redeem them.

They soon learned their lesson. "Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under" (Mt. 2:16).

There was "lamentation, and weeping and great mourning" (Mt. 2:18). Herod was thorough. He must have rested secure in his belief that his Rival, a Baby, was dead. Proud, arrogant, cruel Herod sought "the young child to destroy him" (Mt. 2:13). He failed.

Within one or two years he died and was buried in the Herodium on the outskirts of Bethlehem. Bethlehem is not only the birthplace of our Lord, it is also the burial place of Herod, the one who sought to slay Him.

There is a greater King than Herod! He is the Seed of the woman, the Seed of Abraham, the Seed of David. "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen" (Rom. 16:20). □

**For more information about introducing your Jewish friends to the Messiah, please contact a regional director near you.**



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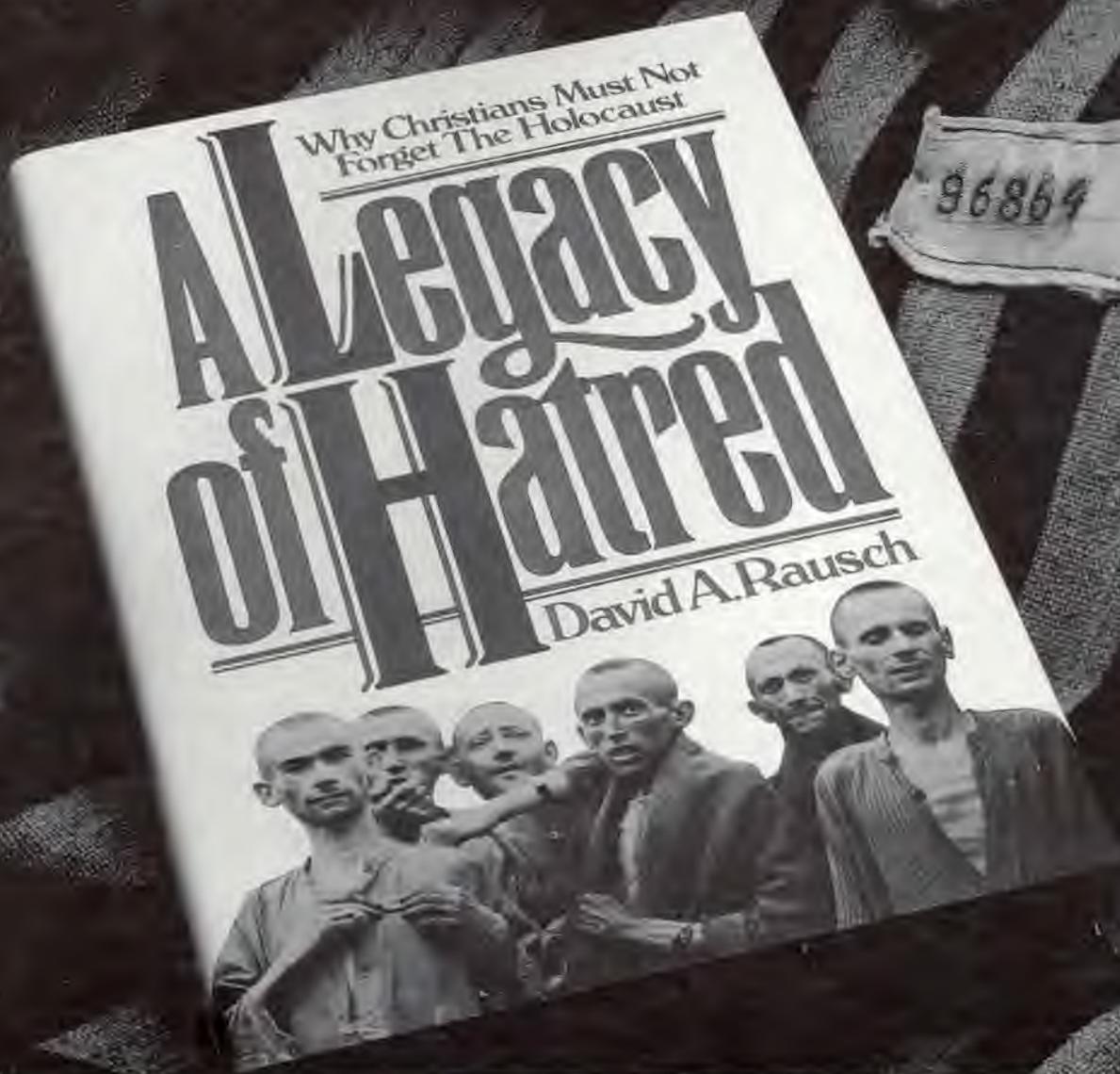
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