

# THE SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL

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## HOW TO GET RID OF THE MISSIONARIES

By Irving Kugler

Our religious leaders find it quite a problem to keep the people away from the missionaries. We wish, therefore, to offer these men a consistent plan whereby the Jewish communities can be rid of every single missionary in their midst.

First, what is a missionary? The word comes from the Latin "mitto — missus" meaning "to send". A missionary is one sent, a 'sheliach', an ambassador. The missionaries are the ambassadors of God upon earth, and their one mission is to teach the way of God to sinful men; that is, to teach the Bible, which is God's Word.

### DESTROY ABRAHAM'S FAITH

Now then, the very first step towards destroying the missionaries is to destroy the faith of Abraham as the Bible gives it, because Abraham was a missionary. In the Sedre "Lech Lechu" we read:

"Jehovah said unto Abram, get thee out from thy country...and be thou a blessing...and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed." (Gen. 12:1-3 R.V.)

In order to be a blessing he could not sit down passively and wait; thus we read that he did something very significant, "Abram WENT as Jehovah hath spoken" and he came to a place called "Eyloin Moireh" which translated means the "Oak of the Teacher". That place got its name, no doubt, from the fact that it had become a crossroad gathering center where the various teachers of the day were dispensing their philosophies and sophistries. It was a sort of people's university. What did Abram want in that place? From the command he had received of God we can safely deduce that he began his career right there as God's Sheliach, or messenger. He was a missionary of the first order and grasped the first opportunity to witness for God. And what did Abram teach? The Law of Moses? No, indeed. He lived hundreds of years before Moses was born. He simply taught men to leave their foolish philosophies and idolatries and to place their faith in the living God who had revealed Himself to him back in his father's idolatrous house. He taught men that faith in God is the only way whereby men can be made righteous even as it is written of him:

"And he (Abraham) believed in Jehovah and he (God) reckoned it to him for righteousness." (Gen. 15:6 R.V.)

Those people, no doubt, thought he was queer. Their teachers had told them that they had to work hard for righteousness, that they had to do many good works (mitzvas) and win the favor of God by a bribe, as it were, even as our rabbis have taught us these many centuries. This is essentially a pagan philosophy and has subtly crept into Judaism.

"For being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God." (Rom. 10:3 R.V.)

This faith of Abraham is the very foundation of the faith of the missionaries, and so in order to get rid of them we must first destroy Abraham's faith.

### DESTROY MOSES

Then, if we would destroy the missionaries, we must do away with Moses, for he also was a missionary. God sent him with a message of love to his people and with a message of redemption from bondage. That is precisely the message of the missionaries today. They say that God loves His people Israel and wants to redeem them from bondage spiritually even as He will redeem them materially in the future. God also said to Moses:

"Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel... ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation." (Ex.19:3,6, R.V.)

Today we are neither a kingdom of priests nor a holy nation. Priests — "Cohanim" — minister to others the things of God, as Aaron did. Our rabbis on the other hand have told us to "make a fence around the Bible (Torah)", and for thousands of years it has been fenced around so that neither we ourselves could have access to it without rabbinical interpretations, nor did the world around us hear it from our lips. God meant us to be a nation of missionaries, but alas! we became a nation of slaves to other people's opinions, customs, and beliefs, and as Isaiah our prophet had said, the very fear of God is become to us traditions of men well drilled in. Instead of teaching God's Word to the world about us, we have absorbed the pagan philosophies of the world, and have even incorporated some pagan superstitions into what is called the Jewish religion. The missionaries are trying to be "Cohanim" in Israel, ministering the pure Word of God, and so we must first destroy Moses if we will get rid of them.

### DESTROY THE PROPHETS

Thirdly, if we will be rid of missionaries, we must also destroy all the prophets; for they were all missionaries sent by God to turn the hearts of the

people from empty ritual back to the faith of God. One example of that is shown in Isaiah:

"Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; new moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth; they are trouble unto me; I am weary of bearing them...Wash ye, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings before mine eyes; cease to do evil...Come now, and let us reason together, saith Jehovah; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." (Isaiah 1:13-18 R.V.)

Recently a Jewish young man gave his testimony in the synagogue how God had brought him through a severe sickness. That was indeed glorifying to God, but he ended by saying that he had determined to pay God back by becoming a sabbath keeper. What a pity that he wished to buy off God that way! He should have read the above passage and he would have seen that God would be far more pleased with his heart than with his sabbath-keeping. This is precisely the message the missionaries bring, even the very words of the prophets themselves; for they have no other message. And so we must get rid of the prophets as well as Moses in order to be rid of the missionaries.

### DESTROY ALL OUR HERITAGE

Destroy the faith of Abraham! Destroy Moses and the Prophets! Yea, destroy the whole Bible and do away with the God of the Bible! Then there will not be a single missionary in our midst, for they will have no Bible to teach and no God to obey. Do we not see our folly in resisting the power of God! The missionary cries, "Be ye reconciled to God!" He is offering Israel back his God, the God of our forefathers Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Elijah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jeremiah! The missionary is offering Israel back his own Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, to Whom all our prophets give witness and Whom all our godly ancestors worshipped and hoped for even before He came into the world. The missionary offers Israel peace with God through Him Who is the "Prince of Peace," and forgiveness of sin through Him Who suffered and died for our sins. And we fight against the message which is the secret of our salvation!

The Lord Jesus Christ was Himself a Missionary. He was sent by God and His mission was to declare and show man the glory of God, and then to give His life a ransom for us that our souls might be redeemed back to God. It was no accident that the Lord Jesus Christ came

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and died. It was all in God's plan for lost and sinful humanity, even as that great Jew, Simon Peter, declared in a great sermon at Jerusalem:

"Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God unto you by mighty works and wonders and signs which God did by him in the midst of you, even as you yourselves know, Him being delivered BY THE DETERMINATE COUNCIL AND FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GOD ye, by the hand of lawless men, did crucify and slay." (Acts of Apostles 2:22-23 R.V.)

God sent Him into the world! God gave Him up for us! God raised Him up from the dead that we might have a living and faithful High Priest and an influential Mediator in heaven. All our prophets bear witness to this fact. Are we wiser than God? Are we wiser than the Prophets?

### A NATION OF MISSIONARIES

We Jews were chosen of God to declare His name among all the nations. We were to be a nation of missionaries, as we saw above, but we failed in our mission and thus have made void our own Scriptures and declared God a liar by our unbelief. We have banished God from our midst and have shut the door of His "Yeshua" — His "Jesus" (for the words are identical) — into our own faces. We have reared up a strange God whom our fathers of old did not know, a God of rabbinical imaginations, and not the God of revelation. Any God who is not the God of the whole Bible is not God at all, be he raised up by popes or rabbis. The only true and living God is the God of the Bible. We would not know anything of God were it not that the Bible brought us to understand His nature. Our youth today, having been deprived of that true and living God, and having been fed with dry roots from the rabbinical rituals, are well nigh turning atheists. They can find no satisfaction in dead rituals out of which all the vigour of our prophets has been taken. They can not worship a dead God. Our homes are broken up for want of the love of God in our hearts. We do not love God with all our hearts, which is the first commandment, and yet we boast of being commandment keepers. Our Jewish heritage is gone. The world about us is as pagan as when God commanded us to go and to teach them the Way of God. Because of our failure to do this the pagan world is against us; for what can we expect of the ungodly but hatred? We ourselves as a nation have missed the Salvation of God when in ignorance of God's Word we refused the Messiah and still refuse to hear Him. Alas! We have the very remedy for all our ills in our hands but do not use it. We have the Bible. Both Old and New Testaments were given by God through our own prophets. Jesus our Messiah is our very own and "was not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel". Both

He and the Scriptures which testify of Him are in our possession and are ours by right. Why should we not claim our own? Let us obey God.

"Return unto me, and I will return unto you saith Jehovah of hosts." (Malachi 3:7)

### PROUD

IN the FREE SYNAGOGUE ANNOUNCEMENTS of March 20th, 1938 we find a striking paragraph. The head of this Free Synagogue is none other than Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. In the announcement Bulletin he prints an excerpt of his speech before the Zionist Actions Committee, at a special meeting held in London. In that address Rabbi Wise spoke of the problems now facing world Jewry with regard to Palestine. And here is the paragraph which has caught our attention:—

"We have been battered and maimed in a number of Central and East European lands. But Jewry still stands, proud resolved, unsundering. And Jews demand of England only that which England is bound to grant, the possibility of the establishment of a Jewish National Home, etc."

And here poor blinded Stephen Wise has given himself away! Proud! What a pity and what a shame! We wonder if Rabbi Wise knows what God has to say about people who are proud? Listen to what God says in Proverbs 16:5,

"Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord."

An abomination! This is what God says concerning every one, Jew or Gentile, who is proud. God pity our people when our leaders become proud! What else is there ahead for us except destruction? Do you not know the real way to secure from God at this time His help and His deliverance? You will find it in 2nd Chron. 7:14, and it reads as follows:—

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Humble themselves! This is what God wants. Forsake our wicked ways! This also God wants. How long will we Jews batter our heads against the stone walls of the world, "demanding our rights," and receiving only from the world, hatred, scorn, banishment, massacre? Why not turn to God, and meet His conditions? Humble ourselves and forsake our wicked ways. Can you imagine any more wicked than that which we have done for nearly 1900 years, rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ our Messiah, through whom alone we can have everlasting peace and joy and salvation? Can you

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### TUNE IN

Our Jewish friends in the Atlantic City area are invited to tune in on station WPG, 1100 Kc, every Sunday morning, 9:45 a. m. to 10 a. m. A message is given at that hour by Rev. Coulson Shepherd, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Atlantic City, in a regular series of Radio Messages to the Jews. In these messages Mr. Shepherd first broadcasts some of the most important world events in Jewry, news items gathered industriously and patiently by him from every quarter of the globe; after the news items Mr. Shepherd gives a Bible message that is of tremendous help to every earnest and truth-seeking Jew. Tune in, and tell us how you like it.

imagine anything more stupid than running around the world to the courts of the Gentiles, making speeches, making demands, asking about "Jewish rights", dabbling in world politics, organizing boycotts. Have we not learned through all these years that we cannot beat the devil at his own game?

Why not try God's way just once?