***The Advantage to Being a Jew, No. 1
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Please open your Bibles to Romans 3. Our subject is "The Advantage of Being a Jew."

Thus far in this book, the apostle Paul has shown us that the immoral unbeliever is under the wrath of God. He has also shown us that the moral person who is an unbeliever is under the wrath of God.

Now we are in a section where the apostle Paul is showing us how the religious unbeliever is in the same boat. He is using particularly the unsaved Jew as the example of a person who is religious but who is headed for the lake of fire. Paul has shown that being Jewish and observing even the key ritual of circumcision does not gain personal salvation. Paul's point is that unless Jew is born-again through faith in Jesus Christ, he's not really even a Jew in God's sight. To the people to whom he was writing, many of whom were very proud and arrogant over their Jewish heritage, which indeed had great value, it was quite an insulting thing to say to them: "You're not even a Jew. You call yourself Jewish, but you're not really a Jew." Worse than that, he said, "That's not just my opinion. When God looks at you, He does not see you as one of His chosen people – a true and genuine descendant of Abraham. Natural reaction for the unsaved Jew to that kind of talk was to be resentful, and to challenge that there was any value in being a Jew at all – that there were any spiritual values whatsoever to being a Jew.

So, that's the point, when we begin in Romans 3:1, with the question that this unbelieving Jew puts to the apostle Paul: "What advantage then has the Jew?" Paul is asking it as a rhetorical question because he knows that this is exactly what is in the mind of the unbelieving Jew when he is told that he's not, in God's eyes, even a Jew at all; and, that it takes more than being a descendant of Abraham to have spiritual advantages.

The word "What" is the Greek word "ti." This introduces a rhetorical question – one that Paul is presenting as the question that the unsaved Jew might ask. The question is really an attempt on the part of the unbelieving Jew to discredit Paul's argument concerning the uselessness of ritual and of his religious practices. The Jew thought that his rituals; his religious practices; his heritage; and, the fact he was born a Jew all had great value. Paul said, "It amounts to exactly zero. It doesn't have any value at all."

**Advantage**

So, the man turns around and says, "OK, well, what advantage is there to being a Jew?" Paul does recognize that there is great advantage in being a Jew. So, the unbeliever is trying to discredit this line of argument against himself. He says, "What advantage?" The word "advantage" is the Greek word, "perissos." "Perissos" means "over and above.' It connotes the idea of superiority. Here it refers to the value of having been born into the nation of Israel. What value is it to have been born a Jew over having been born a gentile? The question here is: "What is the preeminence?" And that's the idea behind this word, "perissos" – what is the preeminence of having been born a Jew?

**The Jew**

Then is says, "Then" – the Greek word "oun:" "What advantage then?" We might say "therefore" or "consequently:" What advantage, consequently, has the Jew?" The word "has" is not in the Greek. "The Jew" here is "ioudaios" in the Greek, and it refers, of course, to the descendant of Abraham, but specifically the descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Remember that you cannot call yourself a Jew unless your background includes descent from not only Abraham, but also through Isaac, and Jacob – through the three primary patriarchs. For example, the Arabs are not Jews. They are Semitic, but they are not Jews, and they are descended from Abraham.

So, you must make that distinction. The challenge is: how can Paul suggest that there's any value in the world to be born a Jew in view of what he is saying? Well, that's a pretty good question. It's one that we might ask ourselves. For in modern times, many a Jew who thought that having been born into what is recognized everywhere as God's chosen people, has had to raise his eyes to heaven and scream out, "God, where are you?" He has had to ask in his own soul: what advantage was there to me to have been born to the nation of Israel?

**The Holocaust**

During World War II, the Jews came under the Holocaust, as you know, of the German Nazi persecution. They were blamed for the nation's depression. They were blamed for the defeat of Germany in World War I. Hitler convinced the German people that their troubles economically and nationally stemmed from the fact that they were under the Versailles Treaty, and he attributed the Versailles Treaty to international Jewish bankers. Therefore, he came to the nation with the proposition: "We get rid of the Versailles Treaty, we make Germany a racially pure nation; and, we do this by eliminating those who are polluting our pure Aryan race. So, the Jew came under the Holocaust of persecution.

Now, Hitler was a demon-possessed man if ever there was a demon-possessed individual on the face of the earth. There is no doubt about it. He had all the characteristics, including all the magnetic hypnotism over crowds. There was a power that seemed to overcome what he himself was doing. Women literally fainted and screamed in his presence. There was a terrific, fanatical devotion to this man.

The dictionary definition for Holocaust (which this demonically possession man brought upon the Jewish people) is "destruction, especially by fire of large numbers of human beings." That destruction by fire became literally true for millions of European Jews under Nazism in the gas chambers and in the crematoriums. This is what was referred to in Germany during the war as the final solution for the Jewish problem.

Earlier, the Germans used inefficient methods. They rounded up the Jews. They would take them off to concentration camps. They would bulldoze a ditch; have these people (men, women, and children) take their clothes off; stand at the edge of the ditch; and, then they would execute them by firing squads. They would topple them over into the ditch and cover them over. Some of them weren't quite dead, but it didn't matter. They covered them over anyhow. But they discovered that this was inefficient.

Therefore, Heinrich Himmler, the Gestapo head of Nazi Germany, came up with a plan that they had used partially in the past. Mind you that they were out to rid Europe of the Jews. As a matter of fact, they not only destroyed six million Jews, but I want to remind you that they also destroyed seven million Christians. They destroyed seven million Eastern European people who were followers by-and-large of Christianity. Hitler was literally clearing the territory in order to bring in Germans (in order to have "living room") for the German Third Reich. Hitler stood up, and he brought a vision to the people – that the Holy Roman Empire had once been German, and had covered and dominated Europe. He declared that the German-descended people before World War I had been the great empire (the Second Reich) dominating Europe.

Now Hitler stood up and he said, "We are going to bring to Germany, and to all of Europe, the Third Reich, and it will last 1,000 years. This demon-possessed man convinced them that that's what they were going to do. However, it only lasted 12 years. But what a nightmare, and what a holocaust those 12 years brought to the Jewish people. How many times indeed they ask this question: what advantage is there to being a Jew?

The clever idea that Heinrich Himmler came up with in order to be more efficient with exterminating the Jews was to simply use a very easily produced chemical called Zyklon B. Zyklon B is a hydrogen cyanide gas. As long as it's in the can, it poses no problem. Once you let Zyklon B hit the air, it turns into a bluish vapor; and, breathing it in very quickly kills people.

Well, in the twentieth century in the land of Germany, the Reformation began and brought us the enlightenment of the Word of God, and opened the door to Bible doctrine to us, even to this day. In that same land, they gave orders to the great industries (certain industries of Germany) to create a plan for concentration camps with massive gas chambers. And they were to use this method and crematoriums. And when it was all worked out, they proceeded to build it, and they kept right on building it even after the allies had gone so far as to hit that wonderful opportunity of catching the Remagen Bridge while it was still standing. And before it collapsed a couple of days later, they got the main elements of the American army across the Rhine. So, Germany was now doomed. And yet war matériel was constantly given priority to the crematoriums. So, obsessed was this demon-possessed Hitler, and those around him, to destroy the Jewish people.

**Crematoriums**

What advantage was there to being a Jew? So, they built the crematoriums, and they built them in the form of shower houses. Railroad tracks were run from all over Germany and Eastern Europe to these concentration camps. Many a Jew, for example, in the Warsaw ghetto in Poland, paid passage to be able to get on the train to take him to what he thought was going to be a resettlement center in Eastern Europe, not knowing that when he paid for that ticket, he was signing his death warrant, and he was paying for his own death ride to the end of that line. When that spur cut off from the main line into that camp, he was never to return from it again.

One of the first things everybody noticed when they came into those camps was that there was a kind of a sweet-like odor in the air. As some of the survivors described it, it was like when you take a chicken, and you singe it over a flame to get its feathers off. What they were smelling was the burning of the bodies of thousands upon thousands of Jews who were systematically killed. They were first taken off the trains, and those who had survived the boxcar ride were being told that they would be given a shower before they would be shown to their quarters. So, they were taken to the shower house, and there was a Red Cross ambulance standing. For many of them, this was reassuring: "The Germans have medical help for us if we need it," whatever the journey was like. They didn't know that those Red Cross trucks were filled with Zyklon B chemicals. And after they got into the shower house, the door was closed. And right at the top of the shower house was a hatch that was open, across which was a grill of steel bars. They would dump the cans or Zyklon B into the shower house.

In a few moments, there would be pandemonium and screaming and agony and fear, as the Jews realized what was happening to them – not showers, but being gassed to death. Finally, when everything was quiet in the gas chamber, they would open the doors; put on the ventilators; and, little wisps of blue vapor would come out – the remaining of the hydrogen cyanide gas. And when it was cleared, the workers would go in. The bodies were always in the form of a pyramid, as everyone recognized that there was one place that they might get a breath of fresh air – if they could get to that hatch, and get it open. So, they all went to that, and they kept climbing upon one another. It was always a pyramid until finally the last one who died was the one who had gotten to the top. And the bodies were twisted and tangled, with fingers in other people's eyes, as they were clawing and trying to get up there, and trying to save themselves.

What advantage is there to have been a Jew in the years of World War II? How many Jews wondered, and how many Jews, with all their teaching that they had received – that you are God's special people, raised their eyes heavenward and said, "Where are you, God? What is the advantage to have been a Jew?"

Under Hitler, every Jew had to wear that mark of the yellow Star of David, and he was treated accordingly. Overnight, by decree of the Reichstag, the Congress, it was made a crime to have been born a Jew. It was no advantage. It is hard for us to believe even today that this happened in our lifetime. It was hard for the allies, as the word was coming out, to accept and believe that what was happening to them was not just exaggeration and propaganda. Here and there, in the grace and providence of God, a few people survived – a few who really saw what took place. The more they tell us, and the more the film records are examined, and the more the written records are examined, the more horrifying the picture becomes as to what happened to the Jewish people. It was no advantage to be a Jew in Nazi Germany.

One of the things that was so horrible and pathetic about what the Germans were doing during the war was, I think it was at Auschwitz, that it took 4000 German staff to operate that crematorium and to process the people through as they came (sometimes several train loads a day) in order to pace them through very quickly.

Remember these people were detailed to this service. They were specially trained to do it. They actually went to extermination school. Some of them went to school in order to learn how to open a dead person's mouth and knock the gold out of their teeth. Some of them were sent to barber school to show them how to have the most efficient way of taking women's hair off the corpses, because this was used for mattresses and for making cloth and different things. Some of them worked out efficiency ways of moving dead bodies, so that one person could handle a dead body. Instead of getting a hold of four corners of a body, the Germans had discovered that all they needed was a little stick like a Billy club, which they issued to those who were handling the disposal of bodies. All you had to do was put it under a chin, and very easily you could drag a whole corpse without any strain wherever you wanted to, and do whatever you wanted with it.

After they had done this all week, after they'd been practicing what they'd gone to extermination school to learn, I want you to realize that these people lived on the compound. And they had houses, and they had cottages, and many of them had their wives and their children there. And on Sunday, they went to church. I've often wondered whether there was never any problem of contradiction in their mind to what they were doing all week long in destroying Jews, and then going to church on Sunday to worship Jesus the Jew. That's how religion is insanity in its finest hour. That's religion for you. That's what Satan does to religious unbelievers. These people actually thought that somehow they were doing that which God was honoring.

**Heinrich Himmler**

Heinrich Himmler would get up and visit these camps. Himmler had never seen a dead body. Himmler had never seen anybody die. He went to one of these camps when they were still using the inefficient method of shooting people. He stood right over the edge of one of the pits, watching as they were shooting the people down in the pit. One shot hit somebody in the brain, and the brains came and splattered up on his face and on his uniform. And Himmler turned green, and one of his aides had to reach over and catch him. He was about ready to fall into the pit. Unfortunately, the aide caught him. When he finished with that event, he got up in his staff car, and he stood up and gathered the officers and the men around him. He made a great speech to them on how this was very disagreeable duty. He was sorry that he could not release them from this. But he said that they must remember that: "They were fulfilling the will of God" (in so many words). They were fulfilling the will of God in preserving the purity of the great Teutonic nation, and of the German people, and that the great contribution that they would have to make to the new world, and to the new order which they would lead.

What advantage was there to being a Jew in Nazi Germany? These Germans were murderers all week, and in church on Sunday.

**Russia**

However, we're not through with that today. You've heard about Russia and the Jews and the desperate attempt of many of them to get out of Russia. Not many Americans have been informed by our Secretary of State, Mr. Kissinger, that in Russia there are two kinds of passports. And everybody has to have an identification card. You can't go from one town to the next unless you have your identification card. If you go to a town, and if you're going to be there over three days, you must immediately report into the local police, and you must have your identification card. You have to use this in everything you do: in all of your business; and, all of your buying. You have your identification card (your passport).

In Russia, there are two kinds of identification cards. All the Jews in Russia have a certain clearly marked identifiable passport of one kind (for Jews). Everybody else has a different kind. Isn't that interesting? That nation (the one nation – the first nation in the history of the world) is based upon national atheism. Never before has there been a nation in the history of the world which declared itself to be atheistic as national policy. All of them had some kind of God except for Russia. And here again, this nation very clearly identifies who is Jewish and who is not. Can you doubt who it is behind the thinking of Russian leaders that causes them to do that? It is the same influence that led Hitler on his mad brutality, and the Holocaust that he brought upon the Jews. The Russians are waiting their day to do the same.

**The Arab Nations**

I need not remind you that the Arab nations lose no love for the Jew. They are as determined today as ever to destroy the Jewish state, and to push the Jews literally into the sea. The acts of terrorism that are constantly being exercised toward the Jews in Israel today obviously indicate that it’s no advantage to be a Jew.

**Antisemitism**

Since the days of Abraham, antisemitism has been the lot of the Jewish people. And Satan is the source of that anti-Semitism. Why? Because of the angelic conflict; because of Satan and his demons in conflict with God and the elected angels; and, because he seeks to frustrate God's plan. That's the point of the angelic warfare. The Jewish nation is a key feature in that plan. It's a key feature in the plan of salvation that has been executed. Satan did any number of things in order to try to frustrate that plan. God intervened every time to protect the Jewish people, and to preserve that line.

Satan is the author of anti-Semitism. After the Flood, the descendants of Shem were designated as the line to fulfill the promise of Genesis 3:15 concerning a Savior. Abraham was selected from this line of Shem, and the Jewish race began. When God announced to Abraham what he would do for him, He also made an announcement to all the world. In case you have become careless about this announcement, I'm going to read it to you out of the Word of God, because it applies today as it did several thousands of years ago.

It's found in Genesis 12:3, where God announced to all the world this divine Bible doctrine principle. To Abraham and his descendants, the Jewish people, God said, "And I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you, and in these shall all the families of the earth be blessed." Have you got that? "You as individuals and you as nations that bless the Jew, I will bless. I, the living God, will bless you. And you as individuals and as nations who curse the Jews; who persecute him; and, who do them ill, I, the living God, will bring curse upon you." That has never been changed. That's why anti-Semitism is sheer madness.

If you are tempted to have a spirit of antagonism toward the Jewish people, remember this promise of God. Remember this warning. There are a lot of Jews that you won't like. There are a lot of gentiles you won't like. There are probably a few people here today that you don't like, as hard as that may be to believe. I thank God I'm not one of them, like some of the rest of you are, but nevertheless, there may be some of you here that don't care too much for somebody sitting a little close to you, as a matter of fact. But that's beside the point. God said, "Keep your hands off the Jew. Keep your antagonisms to yourself. Do not make him the brunt of your attack."

Throughout history, God has proven his promise to Abraham. If those people had known enough about their Bible (going to church on Sunday), one of them, someplace along the line, would have said, "Wait a minute. What we are doing here all week has upon it the curse of God. How are we going to win this war? How are we, as the German people, going to survive? How is the Third Reich going to last for 1,000 years when what we have done all week long is bring the mighty wrath of God down upon us?" But they didn't think. And, of course, their leaders were demon-oriented and demon-possessed and demon-influenced, and there was no other direction that they could go.

Now, there are times when God disciplines the Jewish people for their negative volition, as he has through history, and for their negative volition, particularly, toward His Son, Jesus Christ. For that reason, He has scattered among the nations today. But God help you if you decide to take it upon yourself to be the angel of God's vengeance. You leave His discipline to Himself. He doesn't need your help.

While we look back, and we recoil with absolute disbelief, on what took place in Nazi Germany, it is even harder for us to accept the fact, in some ways, that the worst antisemitism is yet ahead. The Jew has not seen his worst hour. That is still ahead for him in the tribulation period under the world dictator, the leader of the Western European Alliance. Revelation 12 describes for us the various details of that final expression of antisemitism. Is there going to be any advantage to being a Jew out there in the tribulation? Not very much.

**Christopher Columbus**

So indeed, how is Paul going to answer this question? What advantage is there then to be a Jew? Since the time of the apostle Paul, what Hitler did has been repeated periodically in history. All of you know about Columbus, don't you? All of you know about Ferdinand and Isabella, the king and queen of Spain, who sent Columbus on that journey, and financed him. And he found the new world. When he found the new world, he opened up such wealth to Spain that Spain became the most magnificent and dominant nation on the European continent. Spain was powerful. That was a great investment.

However, unfortunately, about the same time in Spanish history, a Jesuit priest, named Torquemada, convinced Ferdinand and Isabella that Spain should be a pure Roman Catholic country. This was the same thing that Hitler did. Hitler did it from a racial angle – a pure Aryan race. This Jesuit priest said, "Spain should be, from a religious angle, pure Roman Catholic." Ferdinand and Isabella went for the idea, and they even got an order from the Pope. To the Pope's credit, he had a reticence about the order. And after the Spanish Inquisition began, he had horror over what was the result of the authorization he had given, because what he authorized them to do was to exterminate the Jews. He authorized them to take what were called the murderers of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. And the Spanish Inquisition began, which was an inquiry as to whether they accept the teachings of the true mother church, the Roman Catholic Church, the harlot church of the Revelation, or whether they reject it.

They went through all of the most fantastic tortures. The torture chambers were running day and night under the administration of the Spanish Inquisition. After a while, they had broken the back of the Jews. The Jews were the middle class. The Jews were the stabilizing influence as a middle class always is in a nation. The French had done the same thing with the Huguenots who were their middle class (Protestants). And they went after them. And they broke the back of that middle class.

Well, when they ran out of Jews in Spain, then they branched out to the Protestants. The Spanish Inquisition finally centered on Protestants. But it didn't begin for that reason. It began in order to destroy the Jew.

Well, Spain, who had been so fortunate under the grace of God, as to be the nation that financed the discovery of the new world, with all the wealth that that brought to them, immediately lost the power and the source of wealth when it lost its middle class. And very rapidly, Spain went downhill. In short order, England defeated the Spanish Armada, and Spain never again became anything but a nobody, backwoods power. Why? She could have gone for centuries with her discoveries in the new world. But the minute she destroyed the stabilizing influence of a middle class, which happened to be the Jews, she came under this judgment of God. What advantage was it to be a Jew under the Spanish Inquisition? It was no advantage.

Yet the worst is still ahead.

**Hebrews**

So, who are these people that we're talking about – the Jewish people? You should get acquainted, first of all, with their names. There are several things we want to learn about them. One of the names is "Hebrew." The word "Hebrew" was first used of Abraham, the father of the Jewish people. The word "Hebrew" means "one who has crossed the river." It refers particularly to the Euphrates River. It is when Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees; crossed the Euphrates; followed God's direction down the Fertile Crescent route; and, followed around and came down to the land of Palestine, the Promised Land, on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea. You may compare this with Joshua 24:2-3, where the word "flood" is used, and that stands for the Euphrates River. But that indicates to us that the word "Hebrew" refers to those who have crossed the river.

**Israel**

They have another name, and that is "Israel." The name "Israel" means "prince of God." It was first use of Jacob, one of the three patriarchs. It applies to all the tribes of the Jewish people. Later, it applied only to the northern kingdom. When the kingdom split, only the northern kingdom was called Israel.

**Jews**

Another name for the descendants of Abraham is the one we've been using so far in this session, and that is "Jew." This was first used after the Babylonian captivity (after the 70 years of captivity in Babylon), and it applied at first only to the tribe of Judah. Today, it is used of all the descendants of Abraham.

**Three Classes of Jews**

1. **A racial Jew**

There are three classes, however, of Jews – three classes in the nation of Israel. First of all, there is racial Israel. This is one of the things that Paul has been pointing out. To be a Jew by race means that a person is a descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You don't have to be racially pure to be a Jew. As you know, there are a couple of gentile women in the line of the descent of Jesus Christ. You have Ruth, the Moabitess (a gentile). And you have Rahab the harlot (a Canaanite woman). Both of them are in the line of the descent (the family line) of Jesus Christ, and neither one of them are Jewesses. But you have to have, on some side of your family, the genes that go back to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. However, it doesn't have to be racially pure.

Today, the state of Israel has finally had to face this question. Some time ago (I think it was 1970), the Congress of Israel finally identified what is a Jew. They identified it by saying that if your mother is Jewish, you're Jewish. However, the Word of God indicates that there is no advantage to being a racial Jew.

1. **A Religious Jew (Judaism)**

There was another kind of Jew today, and that is religious. Some Jews think there is a great advantage to being a Jew religiously. The religion of the Jews is called Judaism, and it's based upon the Law of Moses. Today, there are three types of religious Jews. You hear these terms. Let's get acquainted with them.

* 1. **An Orthodox Jew**

First of all, there is what is called an Orthodox Jew. The Orthodox Jew (or Orthodox Judaism) is very faithful to the Mosaic Law, and to the interpretation of the rabbis. This is the most conservative segment of Judaism today.

* 1. **Conservative Jew**

A second segment is Conservative Judaism. Conservative Judaism also observes the traditions of the Mosaic Law, but it is considerably more liberal in its interpretation of the Torah. It is more liberal than what the Old Testament supposedly is saying.

* 1. **A Reformed Jew**

Then finally, there is a third kind, and that is the Reformed Jew. The Reformed Jew is pure liberal and totally secularized. He treats the Old Testament as a good book without being inspired. And that is the general quality, perhaps, I would say, of the state of Israel today.

There is no advantage to being a religious Jew.

1. **A Regenerated Jew**

Then there is a third classification and that is Regenerated Judaism. This is a racial Jew who trusts in Jesus Christ as Savior, and he's born-again. There are some Jews today who are regenerated Jews. Some are racial Jews. Some are not only racial, but they are also religious Jews (of one of these three categories: orthodox; conservative; or, reformed). But some are neither of these two, while they are racial Jews, but they are regenerated Jews. They have trusted in Christ as Savior.

So, there are racial, religious, and regenerated. The regenerated Jew category is only true of Jews in this dispensation. It is not a matter of observing rituals or laws or circumcision or anything of that nature to be a regenerated Jew. It is, in this age, trust in Jesus Christ as Savior. But remember that a born-again Jew in the church age is no longer a Jew. So, it's almost a misnomer to call it Regenerated Judaism, because the minute a Jew in this age becomes a believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, he leaves the Jewish category and becomes a Christian. Remember that all the world is divided into gentile – the way we all began. Then God drew a stream off called Jews. Then there is the third category, since the day of Pentecost, called the church. Everybody belongs to one of these three. You cannot belong to two of them. Everybody starts as a Jew or a gentile, and some people, from both these groups, transfer over to being Christians.

So, instead of being a Jew today, if you're a regenerated Jew, you joined what the Bible calls the royal family of God. You are, as believers in Jesus Christ, part of the royal family. We read about this in Galatians 3:28-29; Colossians 3:11; and, 1 Peter 2:9.

**Being Regenerated**

So, the advantage in being a Jew, in part, is to be regenerated. Now that is an advantage. That's one answer to Paul's question. That's the answer he's driving toward when they say, "What is the advantage of being a Jew?" One of the advantages is to be regenerated. For this reason, the apostle Paul, knowing how great this advantage was, very much longed for the Jewish people to come to the Lord Jesus Christ. We'll see that a little later as we go on in this book, in Romans 9:2-6.

**A Supernatural Origin**

The Jew had the advantage of the fact that he, as a nation, had a supernatural origin? He was divinely selected as a branch of the Semitic family. This nation has an eternal covenant with God. It has that advantage – the Abrahamic Covenant. We read a portion of that in the promise of protection in Genesis 12:1-3. It's the only nation in the history of the world that has been promised a special place in God's plan.

**Custodians of the Written Revelation of God**

The Jews were made the custodians of the written revelation of God, and that was a very great advantage. Consequently, they possessed divine viewpoint which no other nations about them did. In the fifth century B.C., we had an explosion, and a different kind of thinking, in the Greek world, which there had never been before. They were thinking logically, in an orderly fashion. They were free of superstitious gobbledygook. Suddenly, their whole way of thinking changed. Why? Because at that time, the gentiles came into contact with the written revelation of the Word of God, and divine viewpoint straightened out their thinking from being superstitious savages to being thinking, rational human beings that produced the magnificent classical culture that our very government and our very lifestyle is based upon to this day, and that we look back to such admiration. The thing that did it was that they got hold of biblical principles, and they got it from the Jews.

**The Mosaic Law**

So, the Jews were a channel of divine viewpoint to other nations. This is the same kind of magnificent difference it makes to you as an individual when you get divine viewpoint. As we pointed out in a previous session, there are crowns that God gives, and are eternal repercussions to you personally. If you do not take doctrine into your soul on a daily basis, there are eternal consequences to that – of loss to you. The Mosaic Law was a unique guideline for all the human race. The rituals had divine significance.

**Possessing a Land Forever**

The Jews had the advantage of possessing a land forever. That's one of the answers to the question: what advantage is there to being a Jew? Well, he has the land of Palestine. Remember that it goes from the Nile River to the Euphrates, and it goes from the Mediterranean to the desert, and it is his forever. Any land that the gentiles possess anywhere in the world today is only on a temporary basis. But the Jew possesses this land permanently. Most of it is now being occupied by Arabs, and the Arabs are demanding rights, but they only have squatter's rights. They do not have divine rights, and their squatter's rights are going to be denied them.

**They Possess a King who will Rule This World Forever**

Another advantage of being Jews that they possess a king who's going to rule over this world forever. Jesus Christ, through the line of David, is that king. The longest dynasty in the history of the world is the dynasty of King David. It has been interrupted by the discipline of dispersion, but when Jesus Christ returns a second time, He's going to take up the rule under the dynasty of David once more. He will be the final king of the Jews.

The Jews, therefore, are absolutely certain to be regathered into their land. This has been promised them by God. They have been promised a king forever; a land forever; a kingdom forever; and, a throne from which that king would rule forever. For this reason, in order to fulfill that, it is impossible to destroy the Jews.

As we review history, including the history of our own day, we can see that the Jew might indeed ask himself this question: what advantage is there for me to have been born a Jew? To have this heritage from my parents who reared me the way they did, in the Jewish understanding and all the Scriptures – what advantage?

**The Knowledge and Viewpoint of the Word of God**

Well, the advantage is that they have the knowledge and the viewpoint of the Word of God as Paul is going to point out to them. For that reason, all of these promises will be fulfilled to this people, and therefore, you cannot destroy the Jewish race. If the day should come that Hitler's dream is realized in your time that there is no Jew to be seen anywhere on the earth, then you know that God is not true. The day will never come. The severity of the divine discipline at any point on the Jewish people will never destroy the nation, no matter how severe it is. And the worst discipline is coming yet before them in the tribulation.

**The Jew will Survive**

The Jew is going to survive all the anti-Semitism of Satan, and go into the millennium. There is a great advantage indeed to being a Jew, all by the grace of God alone: to know how to be born again; to have doctrinal instruction; to have the advantage of the dispensation of the Jews (the Old Testament canon of Scripture; to have the advantage of the dispensation of the church, for a Jew to become a part of the body of Christ; to have the advantage of the kingdom (the millennium age) when he'll have maximum blessings under the new covenant; to have the advantage of all those visual aids like circumcision, the holy days, the feast days, the rituals (that was a great advantage); to have the advantage of freedom that they had as a nation based on the Ten Commandments, the laws of divine establishment, and the prosperity that that brought them; and, the greatest thing of all was to have the advantage of being a clean nation.

All around Israel in ancient times, there was the filthiest; the vilest; the most perverted, degraded, practices. And I mean that pornography was the order of the day. However, it never in substance (in substantial degree, and on a permanent basis) cross the borders of Israel. Certain segments of Israel fell into it as they associated with the heathen. Under some kings, it became worse than under other kings, and God had to come in with discipline. But by-and-large, in the history of the Jewish people, they were free of the perversions that surrounded all other nations. It was a great advantage to been born a Jew. It was a great advantage to be alive as a Jew in the New Testament, and to have the Savior born.

However, the great disadvantage that came to them was that their forefathers said to Pilate, concerning the murder of Jesus Christ, "His blood be upon us and our children." And that's where the blood of the death of Christ has rested all these centuries.

Today, to be born a Jew has advantage if that Jew receives Christ as Savior. And all of that, as we shall see next time in verse two, is because the Jew had the one thing that no other nation had. It had the oracles. It had the revelation. It had the divine viewpoint of the Word of God.

Respect the Jew. God has a great future for him. I am sorry for every amillennial preacher in the country. He is having a terrible time as Scripture is being fulfilled before his eyes. Most amillennial preachers have to go to bed at night and say to themselves, "Now, God has no future for the Jews. God has no further plans for the Jews. When an amillennial preacher stands up to shave himself in the morning, he looks in the mirror and he says, "God has no plan for the Jews. You believe that, don't you, fella? Yes, I do. There is no future for the Jew. Everything that God promised to the Jews for in the church." And he swallows hard and tries to believe it.

Don't you believe it? God has a future for the Jews. He is not through. There is still an advantage to being born a Jew. And that golden day is going to come for them. Long after Hitler is writhing in hell, the Jew will enjoy the blessing of God's kingdom. Respect him.

Dr. John E. Danish, 1975

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