

The Return

Eschatology

A study of the end of times

Return Church

Wednesday evening

Bible study

April 29, 2026

Lesson #10

Israel and the Church

Part 1

The Return

1. The Coming Kingdom
2. The Millennium Reign of Jesus Christ
3. The Mysteries of the Kingdom
4. The Rapture of the Church
5. The 2nd coming of Jesus Christ
6. Signs of the times
7. The Anti-Christ
8. The Tribulation Period
9. The End of time, into Eternity
- 10. Israel and the Church (Part 1)**
11. Israel and the Church (Part 2)
12. Israel and the Church (Part 3)

Israel

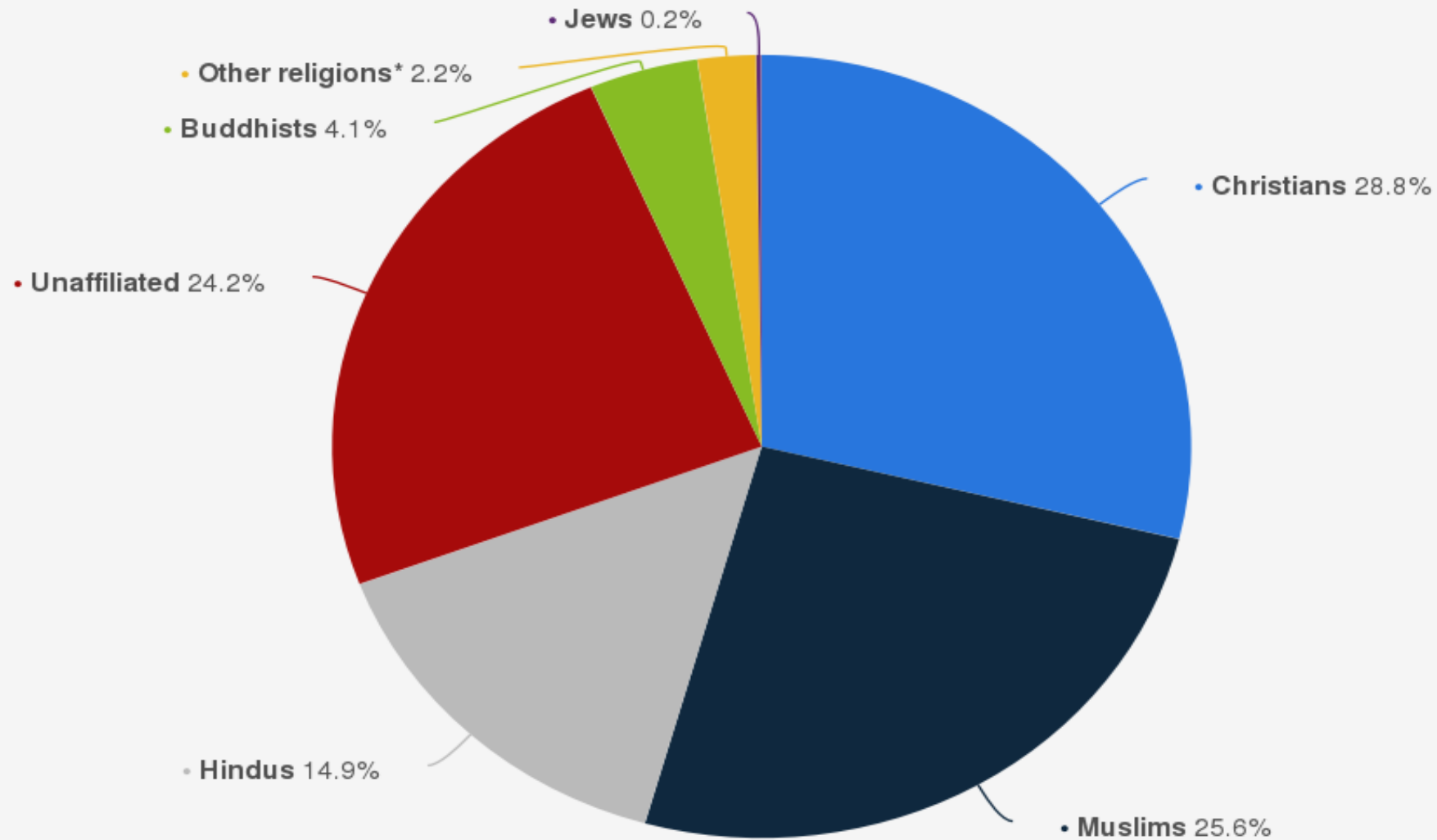
**Why has Israel been hated around the world
for the past 2,000 years?**

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Major religions of the world

- **Christianity** – 2.5 Billion
 - Roman Catholic – 1.3 Billion
 - Protestant Christianity: -1.2 Billion
- **Islam:** -1.9 Billion
- **Religiously Unaffiliated:** -1.5 Billion
- **Hinduism:** - 1.1 Billion
- **Buddhism:** - 500 Million
- **Other Religions** - 400 Million
- **Judaism:** ~15 Million

Share of global population affiliated with major religious groups in 2020, by religion



Sources

Pew Research Center; CIA; World Bank; Statista; Statista Survey
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Additional Information:

Worldwide; Pew Research Center; CIA; World Bank; Statista; Statista Survey; Pew Research Center estimates based on surveys.

Israel

- Why does this small little country in the Middle East get so much attention, and persecution.
- It is about the size of New Jersey.
- It is not even a major world religion with only 15 million Jews.
- Yet it is always at the center of attention.
- It is always in the news.
- The world either hates them or loves them.
- Our US media seems to be obsessed with them.
- The Christian Bible is 80% about them and to them.

Israel and the Church

- When you are reading your Bible, you must always understand the difference between Israel and the Church.
- The great majority of the Bible (80%) is written to and about Israel, and only a minority of the Bible (20%) is written to and about the church.
- We as Christians owe a debt of gratitude to Israel. Our Bible was built upon the Hebrew language.
- Our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ was a Jew.
- His disciples were Jewish.
- All of the authors of the Bible were Jewish except for Luke.
- All of the covenants and promises that God made to Israel will come to pass. God cannot lie.
- The church has not replaced Israel.
- The church has been grafted into the promises of God.











Replacement Theology

- Replacement theology is the belief that the church has replaced Israel in God's master plan.
- They believe that God is forever finished with Israel as a nation.
- Therefore, God's promise to Abram, in the Abrahamic Covenant, to give the physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the land of Canaan as an eternal inheritance is no longer in effect with national Israel.
- They believe that because Israel rejected Jesus Christ as their Messiah that God has forever rejected Israel as a nation.
- They believe that God repealed or terminated the Abrahamic covenant and that Israel has forfeited ownership of the land.
- They believe God has rejected Israel as His people and replaced Israel with the church. The technical name for this is supersessionism.
- They believe the church has superseded the nation of Israel in God's plan.
- They believe the church is the new or true Israel.
- Some like to call replacement theology, fulfillment theology.

It simply is not true

- The church has not replaced Israel in God's master plan.
- God will fulfill all of His covenants and promises He made to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their descendants.
- This scripture is the first promise God made to Abram.

Now the Lord had said to Abram: get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

Genesis 12:1-3 NKJV

We should love Israel

- God will save and restore Israel in the last days.
- Jesus will establish His Kingdom in Israel, in Jerusalem, where He will rule and reign the entire earth for 1,000 years.
- We should love Israel, just because God loves them.
- You can talk to your best friend like this, when he has another friend.
- “Any friend of yours is a friend of mine.”
- Or you can be jealous that your friend has another friend.
- We should respect God so much that we say, I will love Israel, just because they are a friend to God.
- “Any friend of God’s is a friend of mine.”
- We shouldn’t be jealous of Israel, just because she is special to God.

Amillennialism and anti-Semitism

- People that believe in Replacement Theology tend to be amillennial. (They don't believe in the Millennial Reign.)
- Because they do not believe that Israel as a nation will be saved and restored. Therefore, they think all of the old testament prophetic scriptures about Israel are now no longer in effect, or Israel has been replaced by the church.
- Since they believe Israel has been rejected by God, they cannot accept that she will be restored as a nation, so they tend to be amillennial.
- They also tend to be anti-Semitic, because the Jews rejected and crucified Jesus, they think that God has rejected the Jews, so they should reject them also.
- I believe there are spirits of anti-Semitism all over the world. I have seen these spirits get on people.
- In this study we will attempt to try to identify where this anti-Semitism is coming from today and where it began.
- Let's look first at the current landscape here in the USA.



Ivy League Universities

- Where is the main source of antisemitism coming from.
- Harvard, Columbia, University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, Princeton, and Brown University are just some of our Ivy League schools that have been very vocal about their antisemitism in recent years.
- These left-wing universities are breeding grounds for hatred for Jewish people.
- Many of their professors are anti-Semitic and even their presidents.
- We have come to expect it from the left.

STOP THE GENOCIDE
IN GAZA

APARTHEID

HARVARD OUT
OF OCCUPIED
PALESTINE

ANTIZIONISM
IS NOT
ANTI SEMITISM







GAZA SOLIDARITY
CAMP

WHILE YOU READ
GAZA BLEEDS

ADMITTED STUDENTS -
ENROLL IN
RESISTANCE



HARVARD OUT OF OCCUPIED

GENOCIDE

WHEN PEOPLE ARE OCCUPIED
RESISTANCE IS JUSTIFIED

EXISTENCE IS RESISTANCE!

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Conservatives are anti-Semitic also

The more troubling thing from my point of view is how many from the right-wing conservative Republicans are now becoming very vocal about their anti-Semitism.

Candice Owens

Candace Owens (born 1989) is an American conservative political commentator, author, and activist known for her provocative views on race. and politics.

YouTube – **5.95 million** subscribers

X (Twitter) – **7.6 million** followers

Instagram – **6.5 million** followers



Candace Owens

- She served as Communications Director of Turning Point USA from 2017 to 2019.
- She joined the Daily Wire in 2021 to host the talk show Candace but was dismissed in March 2024 following a public fallout with co-founder Ben Shapiro over comments widely characterized as anti-Semitic.
- Organizations like the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee have condemned her for promoting anti-Semitic tropes, Holocaust denial, and conspiracy theories about Jewish control.

Candace Owens

- She has suggested that U.S. foreign policy is dictated by Israel and referred to the US as a colony of Israel.
- She has referred to the Holocaust as an ethnic cleansing that almost took place.
- She has called Israel a cult nation and a demonic enterprise.
- In early 2026, she began promoting claims that Israel was behind the 9/11 attacks.

Nick Fuentes

Nick Fuentes is a far-right extremist and white nationalist whose rhetoric and online organizing have made him one of the most visible figures on the far-right. He is a white supremacist, Holocaust denier who hates Jews. Fuentes prefers to be called a Christian conservative rather than a white supremacist. In a debate on Alex Jones' InfoWars in May 2021, he said that Jews have no place in Western civilization because they are not Christian.



Nick Fuentes

- He has explicitly referred to the Holocaust as fake Jewish suffering and propaganda.
- Fuentes has repeatedly praised Hitler, describing him as awesome, cool, and a great statesman. He has stated, I love Hitler.
- He has openly called for a holy war against Jewish people and has stated they must be absolutely annihilated.

Tucker Carlson

Carlson has been accused of amplifying antisemitic views by holding a friendly interview with white nationalist Nick Fuentes. This interview had over 20 million views.

The watchdog group Stop Antisemitism named Carlson the Antisemite of the Year.

Florida Republican Rep. Randy Fine referred to Carlson as the most dangerous antisemite in America, accusing him of using his platform to mainstream extremist views.



Stew Peters

Peters has explicitly called for a "final solution" regarding Jewish people in America, using language that invokes the Holocaust.

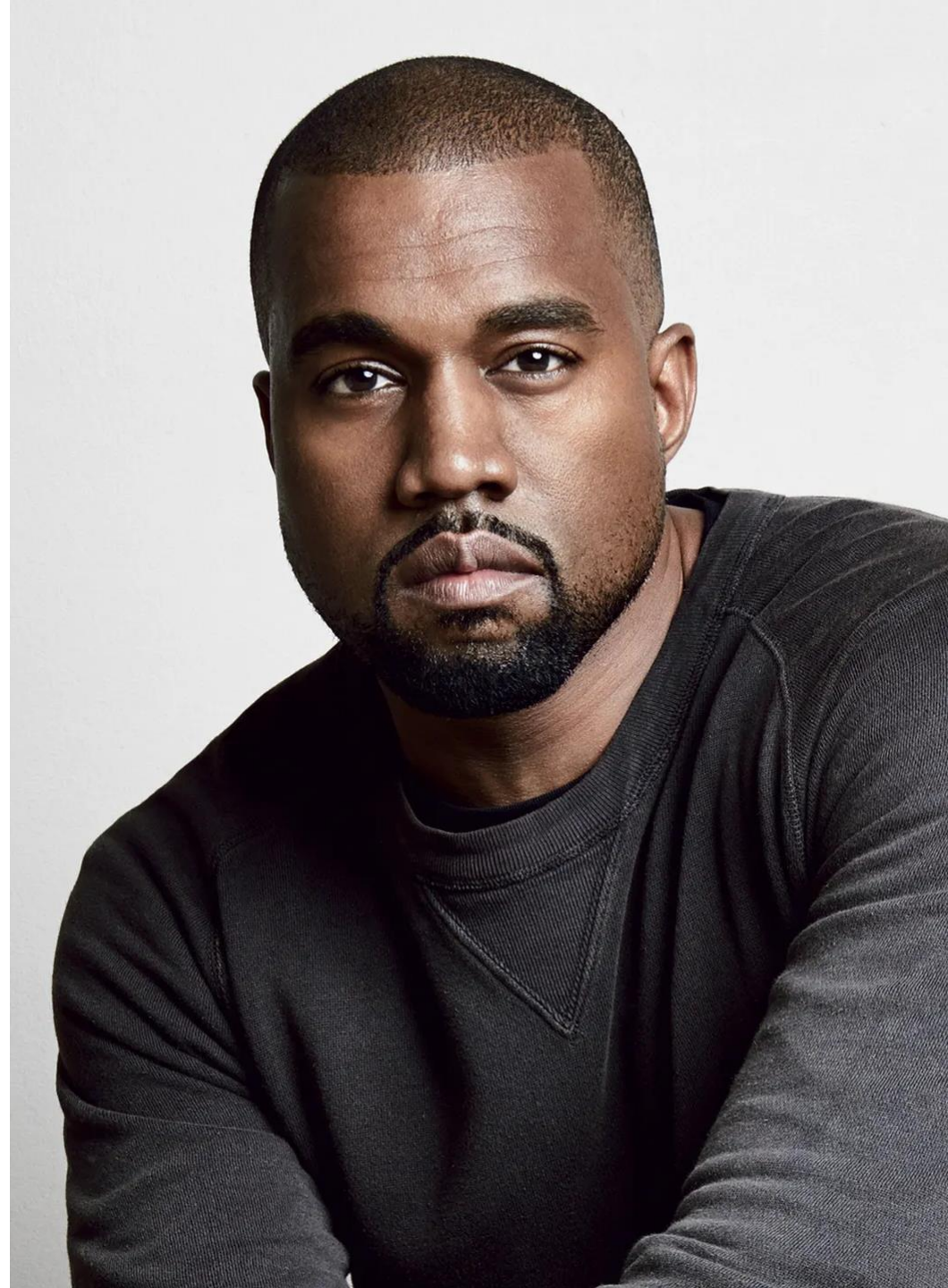
He has referred to Jewish people as liars and parasites. Peters has promoted neo-Nazi propaganda, including *The Last Battle*, which denies the Holocaust.

He has also stated that "reasonable people" would have done what the Nazis did.



Kayne West

Kanye West, flooded the social network X with antisemitic comments. In dozens of tweets to his 32 million followers, he praised Hitler, called himself a Nazi. “ANY JEWISH PERSON THAT DOES BUSINESS WITH ME NEEDS TO KNOW I DONT LIKE OR TRUST ANY JEWISH PERSON.” I’m going to normalize talking about Hitler.



Where did this hatred for Jews originate?

- You could say it goes back to the conflict between Abrams 2 sons, Isaac and Ishmael.
- The problem between the Jews and the Arabs goes all the way back to when Abram made the choice to lay with Hagar to give him a son, instead of waiting on the miraculous son Isaac that would come from Sarah.
- After that Isaac's wife Rebecca had two sons; Essau and Jacob.
- While they were in Rebecca's womb they struggling against one another.
- Jacob would go on to be the Father of 12 sons, that could become the 12 tribes of Israel.

Two nations

But the children struggled together within her; and she said, If *all is well, why am I like this?* So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her: **Two nations are in your womb, two peoples shall be separated from your body; one people shall be stronger than the other, and the older shall serve the younger.** *Genesis 25:22-23 NKJV*

- Two peoples.
- Essau never served Jacob, this was speaking of two groups of people.

The Lord will have indignation forever

I have loved you, says the Lord. Yet you say, In what way have You loved us? *Was not Esau Jacob's brother?* Says the Lord. **Yet Jacob I have loved; but Esau I have hated**,..... They shall be called the Territory of Wickedness, and the people against whom the Lord will have indignation forever. *Malachi 1:2-4 NKJV*

- Esau sold his birthright to his brother Jacob; he saw no value in his spiritual inheritance.
- The Jews and the Arab's have been at conflict or war since the days of Isaac and Ishmael, and Jacob and Esau.
- There is a lot of hatred of the Jews stemming from this conflict.

Jesus was strong against the Pharisees

- But then Jesus comes into this world and during his 3 ½ year ministry, he had conflict with the Jewish religious leaders. They were called the Pharisees.
- Jesus condemned them and they hated Jesus.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men's* bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.... Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? **Matthew 23:27-28,33 NKJV**

Israel rejected Jesus as their King

He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ***John 1:11 KJV***

But when the Pharisees heard about the miracle, they said, No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons. ***Matthew 12:24 NLT***

And he said to the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with *Him*, away with *Him*! Crucify Him! Pilate said to them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar! ***John 19:14-15 NKJV***

His blood be on us and on our children

But they cried out all the more, saying, **Let Him be crucified!** When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather *that* a tumult was rising, he took water and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see *to it*. And all the people answered and said, **His blood be on us and on our children**. Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered *Him* to be crucified. ***Matthew 27:23-26***
NKJV

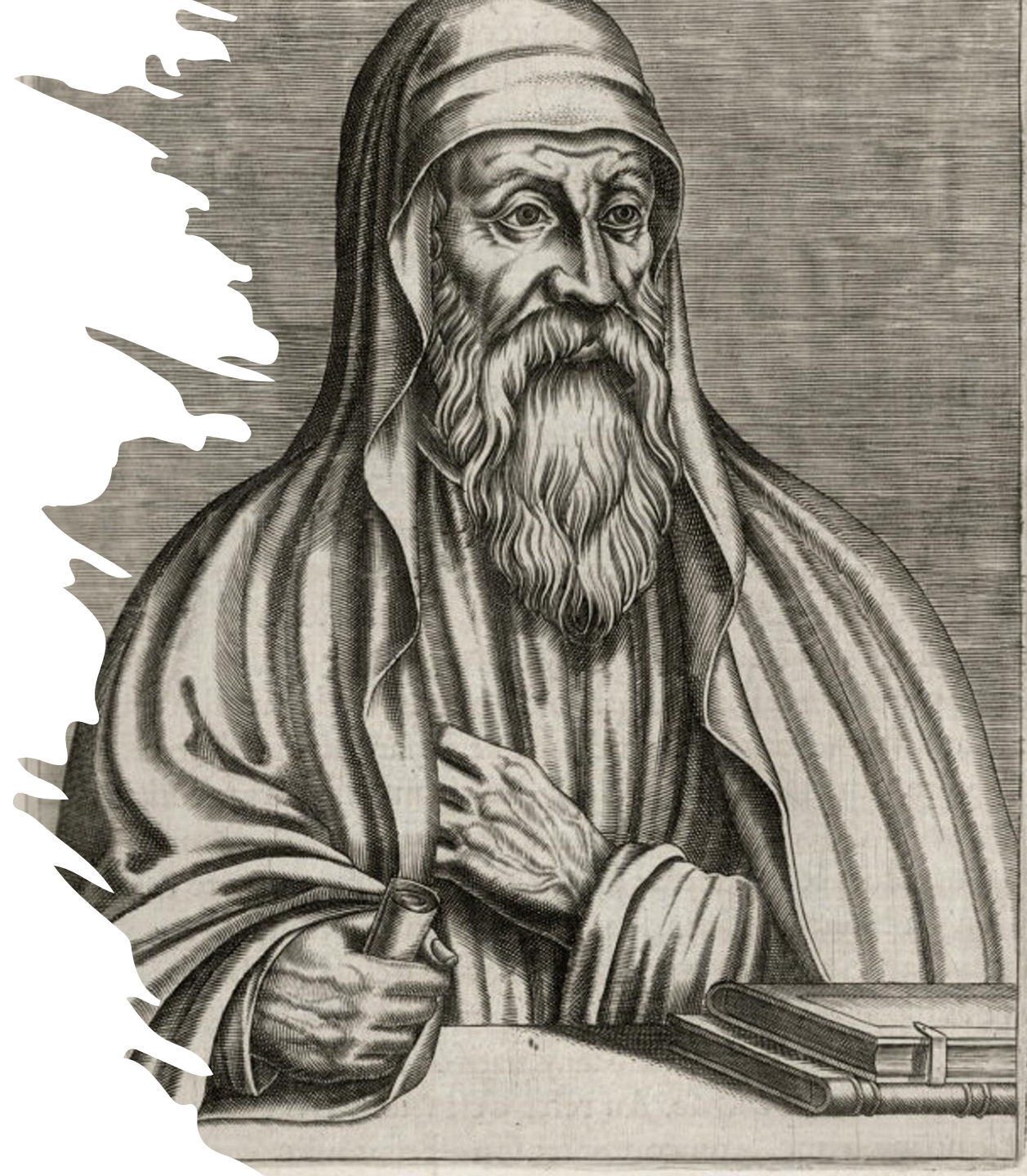
This is where the real problem began.

After 100 years

- 100 years after the Apostles deaths, the church had grown to become predominantly Gentiles.
- The Gentile Christians began to think of themselves as the true spiritual heirs of Israel. They believed that since the Jews rejected Jesus that God rejected the Jews.
- Therefore, the Gentile Church had become the chosen people. Thus, the Christians were now the Israel of God.
- The early church fathers: Justin Martyr (AD 100-165), Tertullian (AD 160-220), Origen (AD 185-254), Dionysius (AD 190-258) and John Chrysostom (AD 347-407), all wrote anti-Semitic works.
- Thus, replacement theology began with the early church fathers.

Origen of Alexandria
(185-254 A.D.)

**The Jews have
rejected Christ;
therefore God has
rejected the Jews
and the Church is
now the 'New Israel.'**



The effects of replacement theology upon Eschatology

- The early church believed in Chiliasm. Chiliasm taught that Jesus Christ will return to the earth at His Second Coming, establish God's theocracy as an earthly Kingdom of God, and rule and reign the earth for 1,000 years. Today this view is called Premillennialism.
- Chiliasm was the predominant view of orthodox Christianity from the 1st to 3rd centuries A.D.
- This view was based upon Old Testament prophecies, was taught by Christ and His apostles.
- However, the replacement theology of some antisemitic Gentile church leaders of the early church, prompted them to reject Chiliasm because they considered it a Jewish view.
- Since Chiliasm gave the Jews hope that one day God would restore Israel, they rejected the entire idea of Chiliasm, what is now called Premillennialism.

Ambrose (A.D. 340-397)

- Ambrose was the spiritual mentor of Augustine. He was the influential bishop of Milan.
- He regarded the Jewish soul to be irrevocably perverse and incapable of any good thought.
- He asserted that burning a Jewish synagogue was not a crime.



AUGUSTINE
OF HIPPO

354–430

Augustine (A.D. 354-430)

- He was a Christian theologian and philosopher from Africa. He was the bishop of Hippo.
- He influenced the future direction of Christianity more than any person since the Apostle Paul.
- His writings *The City of God*, *On Christian Doctrine* and *Confessions* are still widely read and referred to today.
- His Tract against the Jews was so influential a publication that derogatory arguments against Jewish people throughout the Middle Ages were called “Augustinian.”

Augustine

- He rejected Chiliasm and he developed a new eschatological view called amillennialism, which simply means no Millennium. He interpreted Revelation 20 allegorically.
- He then began to interpret all of the Old Testament prophecies about Israel being restored allegorically. He thought they now referred to the church.
- Augustine's allegorical amillennialism became the official doctrine of the church and Chiliasm went underground, and was branded heretical.
- Today there are over 1.3 billion Catholics and hundreds of million of Protestant Christians that are amillennial. (They do not believe in a Millennial reign.)
- All because Augustine hated the Jews and he adopted this view called replacement theology.
- Therefore, he couldn't interpret prophecies literal concerning the nation of Israel being restored. So, he had to view those scriptures symbolically. Therefore, he developed the view or the doctrine of amillennialism.

The Middle Ages

- Throughout the Middle Ages the Roman Catholic Church adopted, maintained and strongly advocated Replacement Theology and Augustine's amillennial view.
- The Roman Catholic church believed themselves to be the Kingdom of God on earth. They believed they had the right to enforce their beliefs on all people. As a result, they developed into a powerful religious-political machine that dominated every aspect of life in Western Europe.
- This power played a key role in the Catholic church's persecution of Jews for centuries to come.
- In the 16th century along came the Protestant reformation where the reformers broke away from the Catholic church in several areas of doctrine.

The protestant reformation

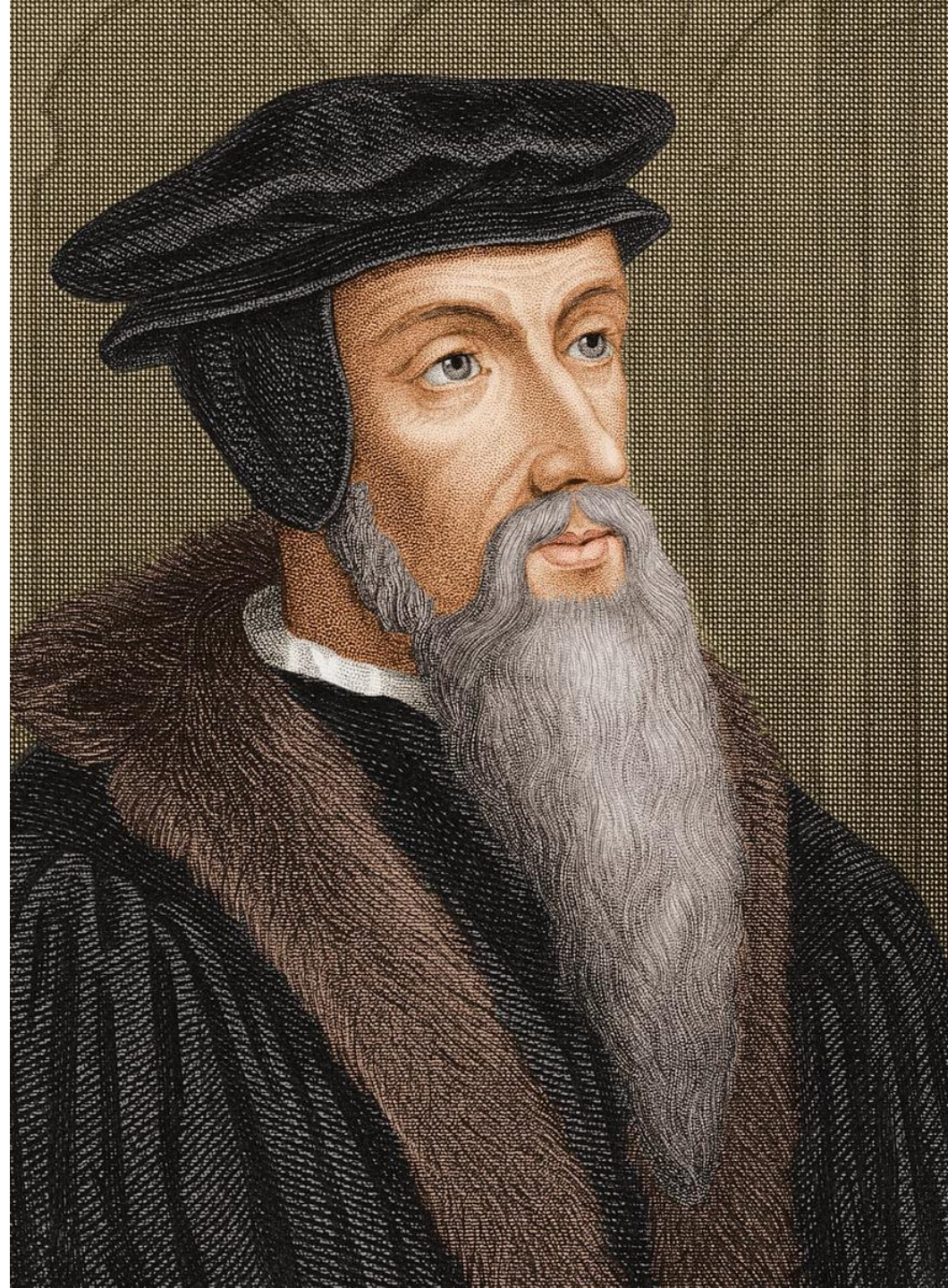
Led by Martin Luther, the protestant reformers emphasized several truths that broke them away from the Catholic church.

1. Justification by faith alone, not faith plus works.
 2. The priesthood of every believer.
 3. The Bible is our authority for our faith, not the church or the Pope.
 4. They stood up to the Catholic church on several more doctrinal issues.
- But in the area of eschatology the reformers rejected the idea of Chiliasm (Premillennialism), as being Jewish opinions.
 - They maintained the amillennial view that the Roman Catholic Church adopted from Augustine.
 - Replacement theology with its anti-Semitic tendencies played a key role in their acceptance of amillennialism.

John Calvin

He held views consistent with a form of replacement theology, which suggests that the Christian Church has replaced Israel as the chosen people of God. Calvin argued that the old covenant was replaced by the new when the Jewish people rejected Jesus, resulting in the transfer of covenantal blessings to the Church.

He believed the Christian Church became the "true Israel" and that God's covenantal focus shifted from national Israel to the elect, both Jew and Gentile. He frequently viewed Old Testament promises to Israel as spiritually fulfilled in the Church rather than literally for the ethnic nation.

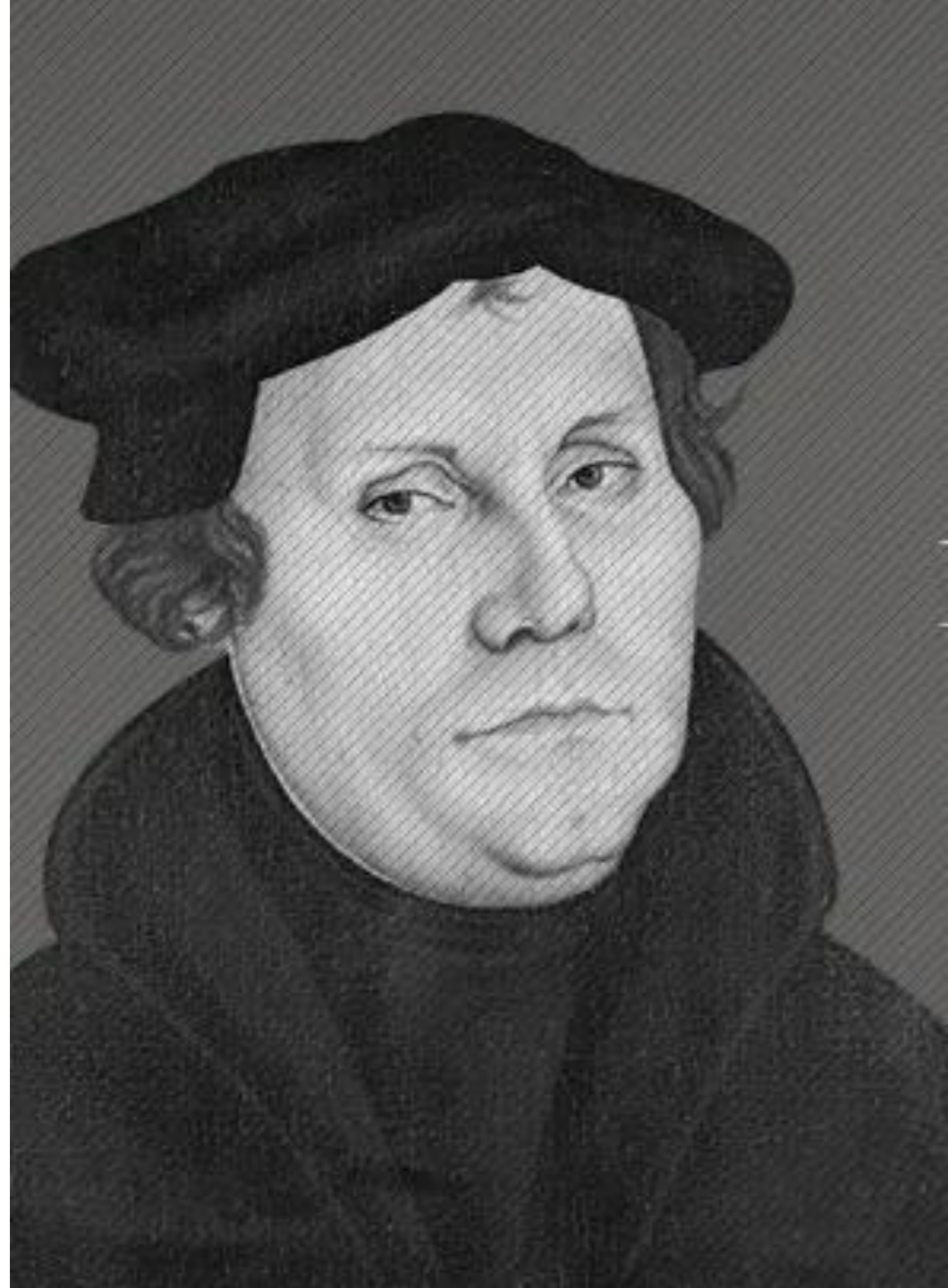


Martin Luther

This great Protestant reformer adopted a strong anti-Semitic disposition toward the Jewish people in his latter years. He said it is useless to try and convert any Jew.

He repeatedly urged that their synagogues be burned, and is sorry that he can not destroy them with hell-fire.

Luther argued that the sufferings of the Jews are the just punishment for their rejection of Jesus.



Replacement theology

People that believe in Replacement theology believe:

- Because Israel rejected Jesus Christ as its Messiah, God forever rejected the nation of Israel as his people and replaced Israel with the church.
- Thus, the church was now the Israel of God and the inheritor of the blessings He promised to Israel.
- Thus, Israel lost forever their rightful claim of ownership of the land that God gave to it in ancient times.
- If carried to its logical conclusion, it also means that the church, including Gentiles, is the rightful owner of the land.
- Thus, replacement theology affects their view of Israel's ownership of the land and its right to exist as a nation today in the Middle East.
- Now let's look at how this bad theology has affected the Jewish people.

Constantine

272-337 AD

The first Roman emperor to declare himself to be a Christian, became the sole ruler of the entire empire in A.D. 323, he began an increasing hostile policy toward the Jews.

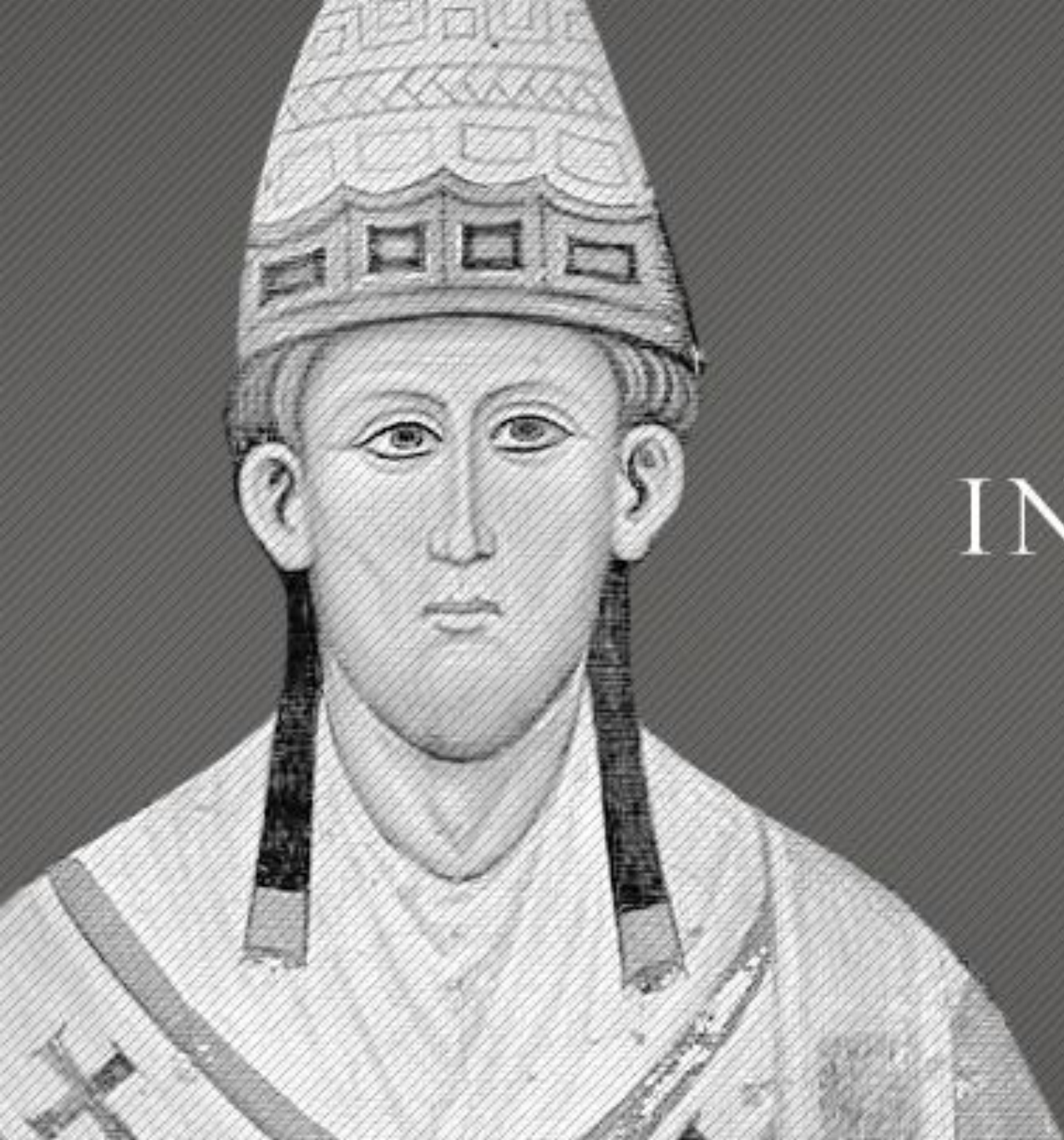
A law was made forbidding marriages between Jews and Christians, and the punishment was death if you broke the law.

Then in AD 329, the death penalty was ordered for those who embraced the Jewish faith.



Replacement theology's effect on the Jewish people

- **Theodosius I**, Roman emperor from AD 379-395, decreed that Christianity was to be the only religion allowed in the empire, and that marriage between Jew and Christian must be legally regarded as adultery.
- **Dagobert**, 629 AD, ruler of Frankish empire decreed that all Jews must embrace Christianity or be treated as enemies and be put to death.



INNOCENT III

1160–1216

Pope Innocent III

- He was the most powerful pope in the history of the Roman Catholic Church, claiming supremacy over all of Europe's kings.
- He was an embittered enemy of the Jews and Judaism.
- He threatened to excommunicate any political ruler who would not oppress the Jewish people.
- He decreed that all Jews 12 and older must wear at all times a distinguishing badge of color that identified them publicly as Jews.

King Edward I

King Edward of England in 1278 imprisoned most Jews, and others he confiscated their property and expelled them from the country.

Any Jews that showed disrespect to a Christian were to be executed.



The Rindfleisch Massacres

- In 1298 a horrendous holocaust against the Jewish people took place in Germany and Austria.
- A mob led by nobleman named Rindfleisch, killed up to 100,000 Jews in less than 6 months.
- He killed all of them except those that would convert to Christianity.

Ferdinand and Isabella

The Inquisition: From 1481-1483 in Spain, thousands of Jews were burned alive, others perished in prisons, fled the country or were made paupers.

In 1492 they issued a royal decree requiring all Jews who had not converted to Christianity to leave Spain. They could not take any money, silver or gold with them. 300,000 Jews were expelled.



Martin Luther

1483-1546 Germany

His writings against the Jews stated:

To set fire to their synagogues or schools ..This is to be done in honor of our Lord and of Christendom, so that God might see that we are Christians.

I advise that their rabbis be forbidden to teach henceforth on pain of loss of life and limb.

I advise that safe-conduct on the highways be abolished completely for the Jews. For they have no business in the countryside.

I advise that usury be prohibited to them, and that all cash and treasure of silver and gold be taken from them.

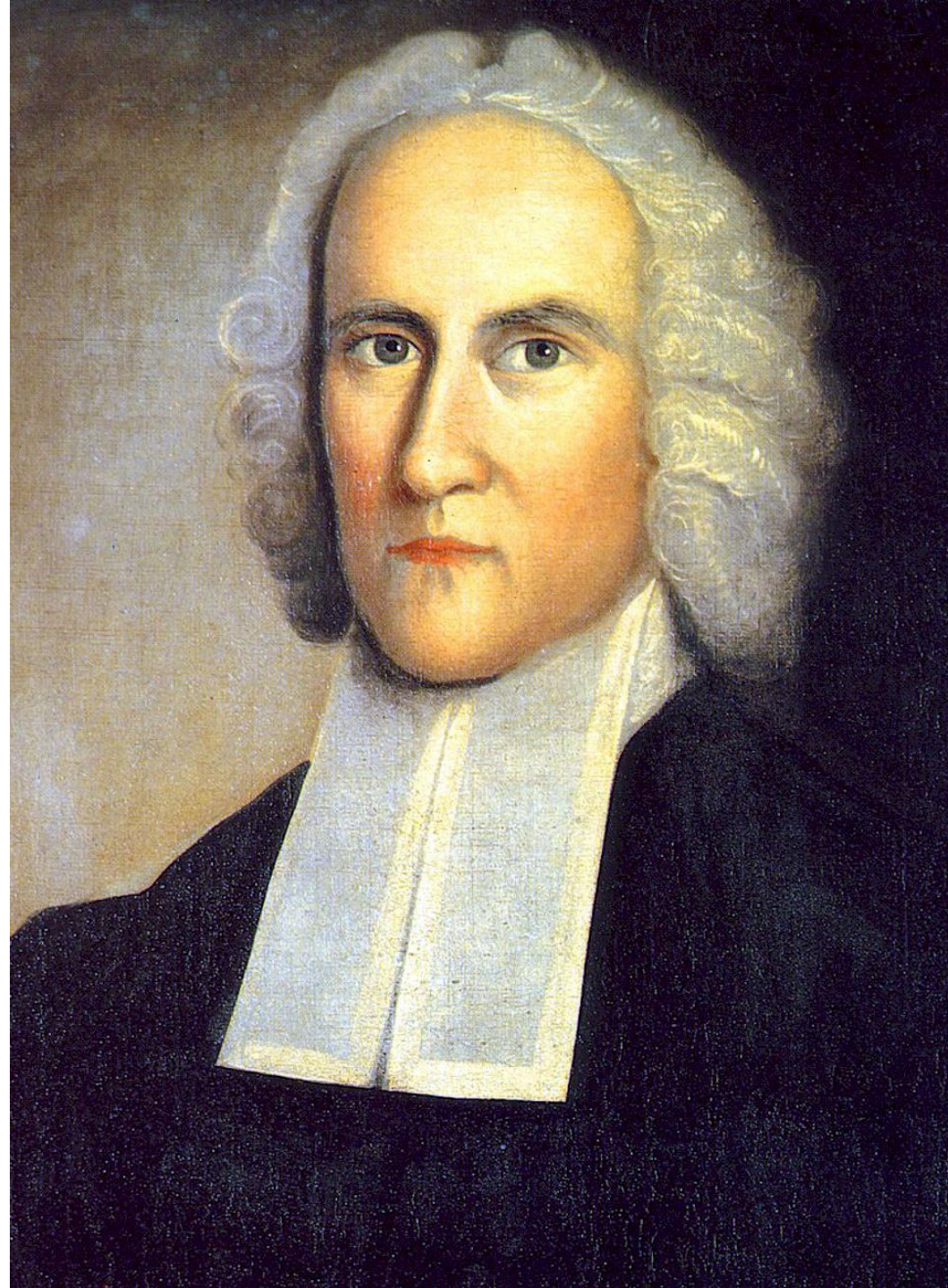
But if we are afraid that they might harm us or our wives, children, servants, cattle, etc...,then eject them forever from the country.



Jonathan Edwards

(1703-1758)

As a towering figure of the First Great Awakening, Edwards held a classic Reformed view where the Church is the spiritual "New Israel".



Charles Hodge

(1779-1878)

A principal of Princeton Theological Seminary, Hodge's Systematic Theology remains a standard for Reformed thought. He staunchly defended the idea that the Church is the "only one Israel of God," essentially rejecting the idea of a separate future for national Israel.



Nicholas I

Czar of Russia from 1825-1855. He hated the Jewish people because of their faith. He persistently tried to convert them to Christianity. He regarded them as fanatical criminal perpetrators of evil deeds. Shortly after his reign, 2.6 million Jews fled Russia, most of them migrated to the United States.



1917 - 1921

Some 60,000 Jews were massacred in Ukraine, Poland, Siberia, and Belorussia.

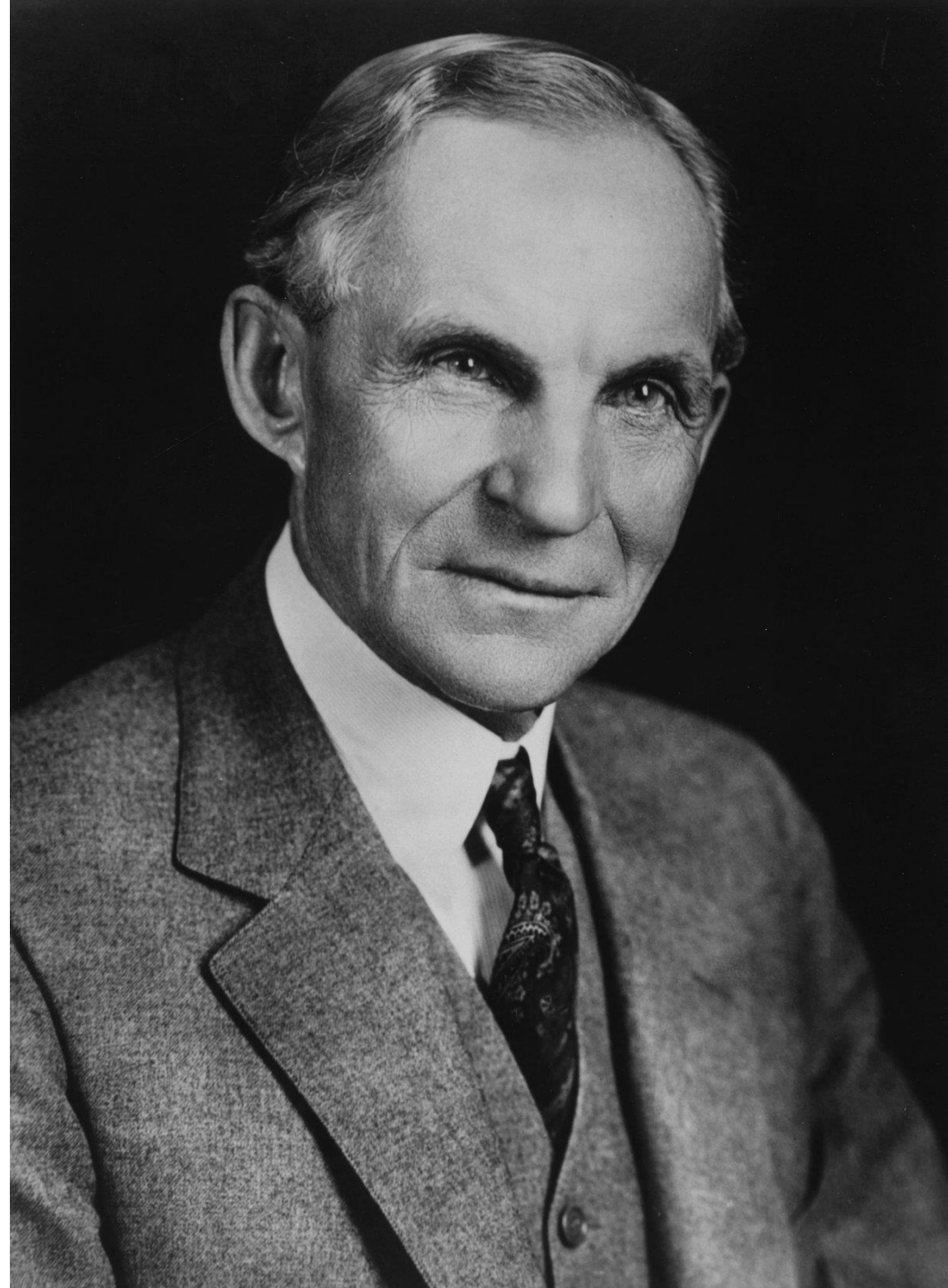
Henry Ford

Henry Ford (1863–1947) was a prominent and well-documented antisemite. As the founder of the Ford Motor Company, he used this stature to distribute antisemitic material in the United States and abroad, directly influencing Nazi ideology.

Adolf Hitler praised Ford in his book *Mein Kampf*, calling him the "single great man" in America who still held independence from Jewish influence. Hitler had a portrait of Ford hanging in his office.

On his 75th birthday in 1938, Ford was awarded the Grand Cross of the German Eagle, the highest honor Nazi Germany could bestow on a foreigner.

High-ranking Nazis, such as Baldur von Schirach, testified during the Nuremberg trials that reading Ford's *The International Jew* was a primary factor in their radicalization.



Charles Coughlin

Charles Coughlin: (1891-1979) Commonly known as Father Coughlin, was a Catholic priest based near Detroit. Dubbed "The Radio Priest" he was one of the first political leaders to use radio to reach a mass audience. During the 1930s, when the U.S. population was about 120 million, an estimated 30 million listeners tuned in to his weekly broadcasts.

After making attacks on Jewish bankers, Coughlin began to use his radio program *The Golden Hour* to broadcast anti-Semitic commentary. He supported many of the policies of Nazi Germany.



Adolf Stoecker

(1835-1909) was a German court chaplain, a politician and a Lutheran theologian who founded the Christian Social Party in Germany.



Adolf Stoecker

- Stoecker had a charismatic personality which made him one of Germany's best loved and most respected Lutheran clergymen.
- As early as 1875, Stoecker began to attack Jews in racial terms in his sermons. As a good Lutheran, Stoecker was impressed with Martin Luther's 1543 book *On the Jews and their Lies*, and throughout his life, Stoecker always held that to be a good Christian meant hating the Jews.

Adolf Hitler

Adolf Hitler (1889-1945). He became the fuehrer of the National Socialist Party in 1920. His book *Mein Kampf* was published in 1925. He rose to power as the leader of the Nazi Party becoming the chancellor and dictator of Germany in 1933. He invaded Poland in 1939 which marked the outbreak of World War II. He was directly responsible for the Holocaust and the genocide of 6 million Jews. Something he called the final solution. He is considered by many to be the most-evil man to have ever lived.

















Adolf Hitler

- He used the vicious anti-Semitic statements of the Protestant reformer Martin Luther to justify his killing of 6 million Jews.
- I do not believe Hitler woke up one day and said, I am going to see if I can become the most-evil man in the world. I will kill all the Jews.
- No, the Holocaust began years prior with men embracing bad theology.
- This wasn't just a few German officers that followed Hitler, but instead it was millions of Germans. The population in Germany was 75 million at the time of World War II, and an over-whelming majority followed Hitler.
- The millions of Germans that followed Hitler, did so because they had 400 years of anti-Semitic theology taught to them in their church's.
- This idea of Replacement theology is the root of all of this hatred of the Jews.
- Lesson learned: Doctrine matters, theology matters, what you believe or do not believe matters.

God has not rejected Israel

I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. ***Romans 11:1-2 NKJV***

Israel will be saved.

And so all Israel will be saved. ***Romans 11:26 NKJV***

We are grafted in

And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree. ***Romans 11:17 NKJV***

For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree. ***Romans 11:24 NKJV***

- **The olive tree:** the covenant promises of God.
- **Wild branches:** Gentiles, brought in through faith.
- **The root:** the patriarchal promises or covenant foundation of God with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Next lesson we look at Israel

- Next week we will see what the Bible has to say about the fact that Israel will get saved and restored as a nation in the end times.
- We will see why God chose the Jews as His chosen people.
- We will look at all of the covenants and promises that God made to Israel.
- All of Gods promises to Israel will come to pass. God cannot lie.
- Israel is God's special treasure, the apple of His eye, God's chosen people; all because of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their amazing relationship with God.