

The Methods and Agents
of the
Anti-Christ
in the
Light of the Bible

BY
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FOREWORD

Because of certain indictments being made against my ministry in this city, I feel that it is my duty as a watchman to sound a warning to the people who love the Lord lest they be caught in the snares of the Devil and find themselves strengthening the arm of the wicked and playing into the hands of the Anti-Christ.

Therefore I issue this personal letter to my fellow Christians.

In His Name,

Nashville, Tennessee.
August 30, 1921.

M. F. Ham.

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In the very beginning of the history of the human family *Satan* entered the Garden of Eden in the guise of an angel of light and deceived Eve with his cunningly worded arguments and skillful imposition on her human frailties. Today he is exploiting the vast progeny of Eve, either as individuals, races or nations by the same artful methods which he employed in bringing about the fall of our first parents.

Satan, however, can only work to advantage in the *darkness* and it is only where ignorance of God's Word and Satan's cunning methods with man prevails that Satan is able to accomplish his demonical purpose. Therefore, I desire to throw the *light* of God's Word on some of his present day activities and methods with the hope that it will reveal to the Christian people of this generation the machinations of his Satanic Majesty and will cause them to arouse from their present duped and lethargic condition and exert every effort to thwart the enemies of our Lord and Master.

Under the artful and deceitful excuse that he was a menace to the public welfare, the prophet *Jeremiah* was branded as a "calamity howler" and was imprisoned and persecuted when he dared to predict God's coming judgments upon a wicked nation. And now again in our day, the prophets of God who dare to warn the people of a generation which is being exploited by Satan and his world rulers are looked upon with disfavor and are, in many instances, branded as "public nuisances." Thus history is repeating itself and the Word of God is being fulfilled before our very eyes.

God's prophets and ministers in all ages and even the Master himself encountered the bitterest opposition from Satan and

his earthly tools. Satan has always been, and is today, the uncompromising enemy of Christ and the arch-conspirator against Christian advancement. Is it not probable then, that a careful study of his methods and agents in opposing the prophets of God in Bible times will throw some light on his tactics today?

With this purpose in view, I ask that you follow carefully in a general survey of the opposition to God's messengers and to Christ himself and note that one or more of the following facts are characteristic of each instance of opposition:

Three Characteristics of Opposition.

FIRST, the opposition was paraded under the pretext of public welfare.

SECOND, the prophets of Christianity were branded as public menaces who were endangering the peace of the community or state by stirring up the people and creating sectarian strife and racial animosity.

THIRD, this opposition was always inspired by a JEW or JEWS or provoked by a prejudice which JEWS had previously instilled into the minds of the people; and further, in almost every instance, it was the JEW who inspired and directed the anti-Christian movements while the GENTILE was his tool and actually committed the deed of opposition.

Opposition to Christ.

Let us review first the ministry of Christ himself, noting especially the facts concerning His trial and execution.

At the meeting of the Sanhedrin which took place immediately following the *raising of Lazarus*, an account of which is given in the 11th chapter of the gospel of John, the Chief Priest and the Pharisees gathered to counsel as to what should be done with Jesus. His alarming popularity had reached a climax at the time of the performance of this notable miracle and the Jewish leaders were accordingly seized with consternation for they saw that He was turning the populace from their control. Christ had already exposed the hypocrisy and sham of these leaders and shown that the Kingdom was to be taken from them and given over to the Gentiles. The Sanhedrin therefore deliberately decided that Jesus must be put to

death, in order, as they said, to prevent the Roman Empire from destroying the whole nation of the Jews, but in reality to dispose of this man who was threatening their own position. Here we have an excellent example of the parading of private passion against Christ under the pretext of interest in the public welfare. Even Pilate, when Christ was arraigned before him, recognized the hypocrisy of their charge and was well aware that it was merely a manifestation of their personal animosity against Jesus.

When Christ was brought *before Pilate* he was accused of "stirring up the people in Gallilee and throughout all Judea and Jerusalem" and the accusers asked that He be put to death as an enemy of the Roman Empire and of the community. Now the facts were that the rulers of the Jews themselves hated and despised Caesar and the Roman Empire and were never loyal to the Roman government except when they wanted the Roman authorities to murder Jesus Christ, whom they had always regarded as their own arch-enemy.

Questionable Patriotism.

It is likewise a fact that in many instances today anti-Christians become most loyal patriots when they wish to further their own personal interests or when, under the protection of their seeming patriotism, they may strike an underhand blow at Christianity. In support of this statement I cite you to an article which appeared in the *Literary Digest* of August 6, 1921, under the title "Millions Starving in Lenin's Paradise of Atheism" and also to an article which appeared in the *Hebrew Standard* of August 5, 1921 and which closes with the following statement:

"Plainly the impending downfall of the Soviet points to a renewal of the anti-Jewish excesses . . . Under such conditions the best results would seem to flow from a persistence of the Soviet."

The Jew's support of the Soviet government in Russia, then, according to his own statement, is accounted for by the fact that "the best results," for the Jew of course, "would seem to flow from the persistence of the Soviet." The fact is the Jew is favorable to the Bolshevik or Soviet regime in Russia primarily because the voice of Christianity has been silenced under the Soviet rule. //

Anti-Semitism and Intolerance.

That Christianity is the real "anti-Semitism" which the Jew fears is clearly shown by the following quotation from the *American Israelite* which appeared in the *Hebrew Standard* of August 5, 1921:

"Anti-Semitism, hatred of the Jews, will never die out so long as there is preached from the Christian pulpits the accepted story of the crucifixion of Jesus to harrow the souls of the listeners. Greatest is the harm done in the Sabbath schools where there is instilled into the receptive minds of the children an insidious poison which becomes very virulent with their growth and which, in the fewest instances, they succeed in entirely eliminating from their hearts and souls."

Does not this evidence that the Jew is pre-eminently and essentially an anti-Christian and that, as in the days of Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, any kind of government pleases him provided it will not tolerate Christianity? In the very face of this fact, however, it is invariably the Jew who is most vociferous in the cry of "religious intolerance" when the Christian insists on being true to Christ. The Jew will not allow one to believe in and teach Christ and Him crucified without classifying and branding him as a Jew-hater and an anti-Semite. Is there any such intolerance known among any other people in the world today? Does Mohammedism go beyond this in intolerance?

The Jew in Russia.

In this connection let us consider a practical example which clearly sets forth the brand of "religious intolerance" actually practiced by the Jew when he is at the helm of the ship of state. In Russia today, under the Bolshevik regime, the government is almost wholly in the hands of the Jews. Statistics show that 447 out of the 545 members of Russian officialdom are Jews and it is more than probable that this percentage has increased at this writing. It is a significant fact that in Russia, where this staunch advocate of "religious tolerance" holds sway, Jewish synagogues are allowed not only freedom but protection, while Christian Churches are insultingly turned into stables and Christian ministers are put on the rock pile, imprisoned or killed. Although there are but 5,000,000 Jews in Russia against 12,000,000 Protestants and 103,000,000 Catholics of both varieties, no one preaches

Jesus Christ and Him crucified in Russia today except at the peril of his life. That minority of 5,000,000 Jews are ruling that nation of 135,000,000 souls with all the force and terror of the Anti-Christ himself. In the light of these facts, are we justified in concluding that, should this country adopt the plan of the Soviet, we would be shown the same consideration as Christians that we now extend to the Jews? The inconsistency of such a conclusion is too patent to need further discussion. On the other hand, we have every reason to believe that, should the Jew obtain control of our government, the preaching of Jesus Christ would soon be absolutely prohibited.

But to return to the trial of Jesus. Every charge preferred against Him during his arraignment before Pilate set forth that He was a public enemy because of His teachings and the uproar which He caused everywhere He went. Christ's answer to these criticisms may be found in His words which are recorded in Matthew 10: 34-36:

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth . . . I came to set man at variance with his father and the daughter against the mother and the daughter-in-law against the mother-in-law. A man's foes shall be they of his own household.”

Jesus well knew that when this world of man-kind, then at peace under the Devil, came under the power of the gospel, those who were converted and enlisted under His banner would become mortal foes to Satan and that wherever some in a household were converted their very loyalty to His cause would make peace in that household impossible. These words of caution, which apply today just as forcibly as they did in the days of Christ and the prophets, were addressed to the disciples when they were commissioned and sent out to preach in order that they, being “fore-warned might be fore-armed.”

No one will stumble today because of strife and division caused by the preaching of God's Word, except those who are ignorant of the repeated warnings given in the Bible on this very point.

Pilate, despite his confession that “I find no fault in this good man,” and despite his feeling of assurance that Jesus was not an enemy of the Roman Empire nor guilty of any of the false charges preferred against Him, yielded to the pressure brought to bear on him by the JEWS and delivered

Christ to be crucified and the blackest, most diabolical and heinous crime that ever stained the history of a nation was consummated.

IN CONCLUDING OUR SURVEY OF THIS EVENT, LET US NOTE AGAIN FIRST, THAT THE CHARGES MADE AGAINST JESUS WERE MERELY THE PRIVATE PASSIONS OF THE JEWS CLOAKED UNDER THE PRETEXT OF PATRIOTIC LOYALTY; SECOND, THAT CHRIST WAS BRANDED AS A PUBLIC MENACE; THIRD, THAT THE ACCUSERS AND PROSECUTORS WERE JEWS; AND FOURTH, THAT THE DUPES WHO FINALLY CONSUMMATED THE DEED WERE GENTILES.

Opposition to Apostles.

We now come to a survey of the ministry of the apostles during Pentecost. Here we find *Peter* and *John* were arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin on a three-fold charge; first, that they preached and healed in the name of Jesus; second, that they were filling Jerusalem with the teaching of Christ; and third, that they were bringing the blood of Jesus upon the heads of the Jewish rulers. (Acts 5: 28) The Jewish leaders here were laboring under the impression that it was Peter's deliberate and primary purpose to convict them of the murder of Jesus, while in fact Peter's first thought was to bring to them salvation rather than to brand them as murderers of Christ, except in so far as that fact was incidental and unavoidable. The defense made on this occasion by Gamaliel shows clearly that Peter and John were regarded as seditious enemies to the personal power and influence of the Jewish leaders.

No stronger indictment could have been made against the Jewish race than that made by *Stephen* and recorded in the 7th Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles and nothing is clearer to the mind of the diligent reader of this passage than that the personal grievances of the Jews rather than their intense interest in the public welfare brought about the death of Stephen.

Opposition in Roman Provinces.

Let us now leave the record of the arraignments before the Jewish courts and come to an examination of the incidents where the Apostles were accused before the Gentile tribunals. We note here the following facts which characterized the Jew-

ish persecution of the apostles: first, they followed them from town to town and stirred up the people against them; second, if the charges were preferred before a Jewish court they were always on religious grounds; and third, if the charges were preferred in a Gentile court they were accusations of treason or sedition.

The object of that subtle question "Is it right to pay tribute to Caesar?" was to trap Jesus and get him into trouble with either the Jewish or Gentile element. Had he answered in the affirmative he would have been accused of disloyalty to the Jew; had he given a negative answer he would have been hailed before the court of Caesar and charged with seditious teachings. The facts were that the Jews were concerned neither with the law of Moses nor the Gentile government, which they bitterly hated, except in so far as they furnished a weapon for the persecution of an enemy.

In the 13th chapter of Acts we find that these same anti-Christian persecutors followed *Paul* wherever he went. Here it is set forth that "when the Jews saw the multitudes" which came to hear Paul "they were filled with envy" and contradicted his teachings and blasphemed and "stirred up the devout and honorable women and the chief men of the city" and had Paul and Barnabas cast out of the city.

In the 14th chapter of Acts we find that the "unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and made their minds evil affected toward the brethren" and further stirred up the rulers and induced them to have Paul stoned and otherwise shamefully persecuted. Being warned, however, they escaped.

At *Lystra*, as set forth in the 14th chapter of Acts, the prophets were received as Gods. Paul, however, refused to accept any honor or worship to himself, but was pointing the people to Jesus "when Jews came hither from *Antioch* and *Iconium* who persuaded the people and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city supposing he was dead."

The conference at Jerusalem, reported in the 15th chapter of Acts, was made imperative because certain Jews came down from Jerusalem to the town where Paul was teaching and contradicted and undermined the gospel he taught.

In the 16th chapter of Acts, we find that *Paul and Silas* were accused as being public nuisances to the city and were imprisoned. In reality, they had cast a devil out of an un-

fortunate creature and rendered her of no commercial value to her masters. These masters then avenged their private passion under the guise of interest in the public welfare.

In the 17th chapter of Acts "the Jews, being moved with jealousy" because of the success of Paul's ministry, "took unto themselves certain vile fellows of the rabble" and, gathering a crowd, "set the city on an uproar," and, assaulting the house of Jason, they sought to bring the apostles forth to the people. Failing to find Paul they dragged Jason before the rulers of the city stating "these men that have turned the world upside down have come hither, whom Jason hath received and these all act contrary to the law of Caesar by saying there is another King, one Jesus." Now notice this closely. They pretended loyalty to Caesar whom they, like every Jew, looked upon as an enemy and an oppressor, in order that they might accuse the apostles and Jason of treason, when in reality it was their hatred for Jesus and his messengers manifesting itself under false pretenses. Note the three points here; first, private passion paraded under the pretext of public welfare; second, the accusation that these men were enemies to the public welfare and that "they turned the world upside down;" and third, that those inspiring this attacks were Jews.

Again, in the 17th chapter of Acts, when Paul's ministry was being crowned with success in *Beroea* and "when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was proclaimed at Beroea also, they went thither likewise, stirring up and troubling the multitudes." The word "likewise" naturally would lead us to understand that the same methods were employed in Beroea which had been used in the town they had just left. Again we see that it was the Jew that stirred up the people to expel Paul.

Again in the 18th chapter of Acts we find that the Jews rose up with one accord against Paul and brought him before the judgement and accused him of lawless teaching. Private passion is here again paraded under the pretext of public interest while their real hatred of Paul was due to his loyalty to Jesus. Here we see that he was accused of treasonable teachings and that it was the Jew who accused him.

In the 19th chapter of Acts we have another instance of hypocrisy on the part of those who opposed God's messengers.

Paul's preaching had turned men from idols to Jesus Christ and the business of the silver smiths had been seriously affected. They met secretly, discussed the matter and decided that they would stir up the city by accusing Paul of blaspheming their Goddess and of being a public nuisance, when in reality it was their pocket book that was causing their concern and not their public interest.

When Paul was assaulted by the mob in Jerusalem and rescued by the Praetorian guard and spirited away because of a plot on the part of the Jews to kill him, he was carried to Caesarea and arraigned before Felix. The Jews employed an orator, Tertullus, to go to Caesarea and accuse Paul and have him sent back to Jerusalem so that they might do away with him. Read carefully the speech of the orator, which is quoted in Acts 24, and you will find that he began by a hypocritical flattery of Felix' ability as a ruler and commented especially on the peace which was enjoyed under Felix. He then charged that "we have found this man a pestilent fellow, a mover of insurrection among the Jews throughout all the world and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarines" and the Jews all joined in the charge affirming that these things were so. Note the three points here: first, that their hatred for Jesus and the so-called sect of the Nazarines or Christians, was paraded under the pretext of interest in the public peace and good government; second, that Paul was accused of being a "pestilent fellow" and an enemy of everything good; and third, that the JEWS hired the orator and affirmed the accusation.

Now with the knowledge which we have gained from this survey of the Scriptural records of the opposition to Jesus and His apostles, are we not justified in looking with suspicion on any outburst of concern for the public welfare which is used to oppose or discredit a minister of Jesus Christ?

Gentile Stupidity.

The final point that I would emphasize in connection with our Scriptural survey is the fact that the GENTILE STUPIDITY is equally as noticeable and astounding as the JEWISH ANIMOSITY. Because of the passing of the governmental power from the hands of the Jews prior to the coming of God to earth in Christ Jesus, the Jews were unable to put

Christ to death with their own hands. Hence the necessity was upon them to put their wits to work in the art of stirring up the Gentiles to the commission of this Satanically inspired deed. Since the power to put to death is still in the hands of the Gentiles, the Jews, during the two thousand years of this Christian age, have developed an almost super-human shrewdness for inveigling the Gentiles and even many professed Christians into carrying on their war against Jesus Christ.

The stupid, though commonly accepted theory, that the Gentile majority guarantees perfect protection against exploitation by a people in such conspicuous minority, has put the Gentile wits to sleep under a false sense of security until conditions have developed which are beyond human control regardless of majority. In fact, as one studies the anti-Christian movements of this age, it is evident that the Gentile has seldom displayed wisdom above that of the mob, while the shrewd and anti-Christian Jew has stood back and eagerly watched an irresponsible mob of his own creation carry on his work. He has allowed the mobs to continue until there was a possibility of an awakening which would reveal the exploiters, at which time he appears in the guise of a saviour, quells the mob, and carries off the glory of the hour, thus diverting all suspicion from himself as the primary instigator of the whole affair.

The fact that the Jew has remained throughout all the ages a consistent enemy of Christ has enabled Satan to depend on him, whereas the Gentile is too unreliable for Satan to be able to use to great advantage in anti-Christian campaigning. Hence the thoughtless Gentile has only played the role of a tool in most instances.

The Jew is deceived by Satan and his blindness will continue until the close of this age. This statement is true regarding the race as a whole, although it is a fact that many Jews, even as Saul did, are daily awakening to the fact that they are persecuting their own Messiah.

May the Lord hasten His coming so that all Israel may be saved and in the meantime may He open the eyes of the Gentiles who are being used against our Lord and Christ is the prayer of His servant, /2

M. F. HAM.

Evangelist Ham's Sermon
"The Death Grapple of
Christianity and Anti-
Christianity; or why I Be-
lieve the Jewish Question
the Supreme Question of
the Day" will soon be off
the press.

Watch For It