The Time of Jacob's Trouble Jer. 30:7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. About five weeks ago Israel was viciously attacked by Hamas terrorists that brutally killed and savaged over 1,400 innocent Israeli civilians. The response in America has revealed vast divisions between the pro-Israeli and antisemitic factions of our country. How should Christians respond? What does the Bible say about Israel and her suffering?

This afternoon we will consider what the Bible says regarding modern-day Israel and her suffering, in the past, present, and in the future. We will consider a prophetic warning called "The Time of Jacob's Trouble." (Jer. 30:7)

I. THE REALITY OF ISRAEL'S SUFFERING

Jer. 30:7 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

The Jews have suffered in the past.

Job 24:12 Men groan from out of the city, and **the** soul of the wounded crieth out: yet God layeth not folly to them. Mt. 27:24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but *that* rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye *to it*. 25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood *be* on us, and on our children.

Many professing Christ have used <u>Mt. 27:25</u> as a "blood curse" to justify persecution of Jews. A strain of Christian thought has viewed this reply to Pilate as a self-pronounced curse on the Jewish people for the Messiah's death. Martin Luther's 1543 treatise "On the Jews and Their Lies" called for the burning of synagogues and Jewish homes. "We are even at fault for not striking them dead," Luther wrote. Like other Christians of his time, including Catholics, the reformer also endorsed the blood libel—the legend that Jews kill Christian children for ritual purposes. This is what comes of focusing upon one line of Scripture rather than upon the merciful Christ, to whom all scripture testifies and by whom all Scripture is interpreted. www.americamagazine.org/faith/2017/04/05/what-does-blood-curse-matthews-passion-teach-christians

Consider the historical record regarding Jewish persecution:

66 C.E.

1096-99

1290

1298-99

Massacre of the Jews of Alexandria (Egypt) in which 50,000 were killed. First Crusade. Crusaders massacre the Jews of the Rhineland (1096). Expulsion of the Jews from England, the first of the great general expulsions of the Middle Ages.

Massacre of thousands of Jews in 146 localities in southern and central Germany led by the German knight Rindfleisch. 1306

1348-50

1389

1421

Expulsion of Jews from France. Black Death Massacres which spread throughout Spain, France, Germany and Austria, as a result of accusations that the Jews had caused the death of Christians by poisoning the wells and other water sources. Massacre of the Prague (Bohemia) community. Persecutions of Jews in Vienna and its environs, confiscation of their possessions, and conversion of Jewish children, 270 Jews

Gesera(Vienna Edict). Expulsion of Jews from

burnt at stake, known as the Wiener

Austria.

1492	Expulsion from Spain.
1492-93	Expulsion from Sicily.
1495	Expulsion from Lithuania.
1496-97	Expulsion from Portugal: mass forced conversion.
1506	Massacre of Marranos in Lisbon.
1510	Expulsion of Jews from Brandenburg (Germany).
1544	Martin Luther, German religious reformer, attacks the Jews with extreme virulence.
1920	Adolf Hitler becomes <i>Fuehrer</i> , of the National- Sozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (NSDAP), later known as National Socialist.
1920	Henry Ford I begins a series of anti-Semitic articles based on the <i>Protocols of the Elders of Zion</i> , in his <i>Dearbon Independent</i> .

1938

1938

1943

1944

1945

Charles E. Coughlin, Roman Catholic priest, starts anti-Semitic weekly radio broadcasts in U.S. *Kristallnacht*, Nazi anti-Jewish outrage in Germany and Austria (Nov. 9-10, 1938): Jewish businesses attacked, synagogues burnt, Jews sent to concentration camps.

Germany declared *Judenrein*. Transports of Jews from all over Europe to death camps. Final liquidation of the Warsaw ghetto (May 16, 1943). Annihilation of most of the ghettos. Transport of Italian Jews to death camps.

Extermination of Hungarian Jewry. Germany surrenders (May 8, 1945) estimated Jewish victims in the Holocaust 5,820,960.

https://archive.jewishagency.org/jewish-history/content/36936/

The 2nd century Roman historian Cassius Dio wrote that the Jews revolted when Hadrian visited Jerusalem in 130 CE and renamed the city Aelia Capitolina after himself. This led to a Jewish uprising of "no slight importance nor of brief duration." Roman soldiers, with extra legions sent from abroad, spent four years suppressing the revolt. The war was devastating. The legions destroyed 50 fortresses, 985 settlements, and killed 580,000 Jewish fighters and innumerable others who died of starvation and illness. https://www.thetower.org/article/remembering-hadrian-destroyer-of-the-jews/

November 9, 1938, just 85 years ago, Germans enacted the Kristallnacht ("Night of the Broken Glass") destroying Jewish businesses.



https://jewishjournal.com/commentary/opinion/365121/kristallnacht-and-hamas/

The Six Million Jews killed in the Nazi holocaust is relatively recent history.



https://metro.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/gettyimages-629456739.jpg?quality=80&strip=all



https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/pa6058

The Jews are suffering in the present.

Hamas militants ate family's meal after they tortured and mutilated parents and 2 young children, Blinken says



https://www.msn.com/en-us//world/hamas-militants-ate-family-s-meal-after-they-tortured-and-mutilated-parents-and-2-youngnews-children-blinken-says/ar-AA1iBDUZ#image=AA1iXMov 115



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9qQWyd5jAYE

The Jew will suffer worse according to prophecy.

Mt. 24:21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. Mt. 24:8 All these *are* the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. ...

<u>12</u> And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. ...

21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

<u>29</u> Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: <u>30</u> And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

<u>32</u> Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer *is* nigh:

33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.

<u>34</u> Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.

35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

II. THE REASON FOR SUFFERING IS SIN

Rom. 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

- 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

<u>Rom. 5:12</u> Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and **death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned**: Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Isa. 64:6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

III. THE REMEDY FOR SIN IS THE SAVIOR

<u>Jn. 1:29</u> The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which** taketh away the sin of the world. <u>1 Jn. 3:5</u> And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

Jer. 30:3 For, lo, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the LORD: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it. ...

<u>7</u> Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

8 For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: 9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them. 11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished. ... 22 And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Zech. 8:8 . And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

<u>Heb. 8:10</u> For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

<u>Rev. 21:3</u> And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. Summary
The Jews have suffered in the past.
The Jews are suffering in the present.
The Jews will suffer worse in the future according to prophecy.

Conclusion

The escalation of antisemitism should serve as a wake-up call to believer to be about our Father's business.

Jn. 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

Mark 13:29 So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. Luke 21:20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. ...

- 29 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;
- <u>30</u> When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. <u>31</u> So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.

By God's grace, let us remember to witness... ALL THE TIME – EVERYWHERE!