

Nazis The Chosen People of Satan

Hitler and The Pergamon Altar in Berlin

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PREFACE

This book is based on the word of the Bible, which is God's revelation to mankind. The Bible talks about God's plan for the world He created. This book also explains Satan's influence on world history and the course of events. His attempt to prevent the fulfillment of God's plan.

According to the Bible, Israel and the Jews are God's chosen people. Israel is an important part of God's plan. So, it can't be just bad luck that the Jews have been subjected to so much persecution. Into whatever land they have wandered, persecution soon began. There must be a supernatural and planned influence behind the events.

Satan often imitates God in his actions. This is how Satan has also chosen a people for himself, at least temporarily. In the 1930s and -40s, the German Nazis were clearly on Satan's side when they tried to destroy the Jewish people.

Sometimes the events of history can also be directly connected to the story of the Bible. For example, the apostle John, while imprisoned on the island of Patmos, was given a revelation from Jesus concerning the seven early churches. In the Revelation, it was said, among other things, that in the city of Pergamon is the throne of Satan. The altar built for Satan was discovered in the 19th century by a German archaeologist in the same decade as Hitler was born. The altar was moved to Berlin and opened to the public in 1930, i.e. the same year that Hitler also moved to Berlin as a budding politician. After this, the Nazi Party experienced supernatural success in the modern state and among the people with a high level of education. This was the beginning of the worst persecution of the Jews. And when Hitler died, the altar was also taken away from

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Berlin. It was taken as a spoil of war by Soviet soldiers.

One of the reasons for anti-Semitic persecution has been the message of the Bible rejected by Christendom. It has not been understood or wanted to understand what is said in the Bible. If the word of the Bible is not considered to be the word of God, neither Judaism nor Israel means anything. Then the persecution can easily be seen as some kind of bad quality associated with the Jewish race. So, the persecution would be their fault.

But also, the fact that the Jews have survived all the worst persecutions and attempts at extermination speaks of supernatural guidance.

Today, after almost 1,900 years of wandering, Israel has its state in the Holy Land, the Hebrew language has come back to life and Israel has defeated its superior enemies in its many wars.

It can be well stated that the existence of the state of Israel is the surest proof of the reliability of the Bible's word.

INTRODUCTION

The Bible tells God's plan from the world's creation until the end of this period. Jesus was in the world about two thousand years ago and will come again to save humanity in His second coming. We Christians are waiting for His second coming, and the Jews are waiting for this same coming, which they consider to be the first. Jesus does not appear now as a poor carpenter's son but as a powerful king and Messiah. This is why the Jews then did not accept Jesus as the Messiah they were waiting for. According to them, the Messiah cannot be a humble carpenter's son, but He must be a powerful king. When the Followers of Jesus asked Jesus about the timeline of future events and the end times, Jesus said that He doesn't know either, only the Father in Heaven knows. Many believers use different calculation formulas to solve the timeline of these events and moments. So far, all attempts have been wrong. There are prophetic announcements of when Jesus' return would take place.

Believers often focus on God's actions, but what happens in the world is also affected by Satan's goals to try to counter God's plan. God has had a certain plan for this world and creation from the beginning, and the Bible talks about it. But the Bible also talks about Satan's activities and goals. So, what is Satan's plan and role in this? He tries with all his might

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to prevent the realization of God's plan.

But why does Satan act the way he does? He knows that he will lose the competition with Jesus and will be condemned to perdition. He knows that, but he also doesn't know the time he has left. He tries to delay the fulfillment of God's plan for his benefit and to give himself more time.

In the Bible, Jesus tells the events of the end times in chapter 24 of the Gospel of Matthew. The Followers of Jesus asked Jesus to tell them: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world And Jesus answered and said unto them, "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nations will rise against nations, and kingdoms against kingdoms. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains."

"Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come".

So, Jesus tells us exactly what events will happen before His second coming, but not the year or any other precise timeline. The timeline of the world is dependent on the course of events, not the passage of time. It can be compared to two sporting events, football (soccer), which is called the king of games, and tennis, which is called the game of kings. If you go to watch a football match, you can accurately judge the end of the match, the match lasts 90 minutes. The referee gives a few more minutes to play after evaluating the delays that occurred in the game when the game was not played so that the actual playing time would be 90 minutes.

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But if you go to a tennis match, you have no way of knowing whether the match will last for half an hour or even more than five hours. In football, you can't know if there will be a winner or a draw in the match, but in tennis, you know that the match will continue until the winner is determined. The match ends with the last match ball. World events are like a tennis match: we don't know how long it will take, but we know that the winner will be found out and He is Jesus. So, Jesus gave a clear description of the events of the end times just like the description of the last match ball: "The gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world, as a witness unto all nations, and then the end will come".

Satan began thwarting God's plan shortly after creation. The first attempt to undo God's plan took place already in Paradise, where Satan tempted Eve to taste the forbidden fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We must remember that Adam and Eve were the most perfect man and woman who ever lived on earth. Eve was just created by God, and she had all the qualities that God wanted a woman to have. Curiosity, desire to make some changes to the prevailing state of being, or even an interest in supernatural things. The case is already told on the second page of the Bible. The reader may be surprised by Eve's quick fall and forgetting God's command. However, years or decades had probably already passed since God had forbidden touching the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eve must have thought in her mind that the ban is still in effect. The fruit of the tree seemed attractive, and she often went to admire the tree and its fruit. Why would it be somehow dangerous? Perhaps the prohibition only applied to the time when God told the prohibition. After all, the situation changed completely different from then. Even God has not spoken on the subject anymore. Satan supported Eve's doubts by saying that God surely would not have meant such a thing literally and "Did God say that". What bad could come from one fruit of the tree?

And so, Satan succeeded in misleading Eve because God wanted to allow mankind the free will to choose whether they follow God's will or their own. It must also be noted that Satan did not force Eve to taste the

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forbidden fruit but enticed her with his unvarnished promises of a better supernatural understanding. And especially that tasting would not result in death, which God had warned about. Satan knew the right route to this deception, he must have followed Eve's actions and noticed Eve often observing the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and its fruits. First, you had to tempt Eve and then Eve would tempt Adam. Satan did not need then and will never need to use coercive means, he knows people's weaknesses, and by appealing to them he makes people act according to his own will. And to do very cruel and unfair things to each other.

The temptations set by Satan are many and constantly available. Some can be offered wealth, some power, some a good position in society or some organization, some fame, honor, or admiration. One big temptation is when people are told that they are somehow better than other people, and other people are correspondingly worse, or even that those others do not meet the value of humanity at all. Such can simply be removed from among the better ones, for example. Only people who believe in propaganda, work systematically, are efficient, and blindly follow the regulations are needed for complete elimination.

One essential thing in God's plan is the people of Israel, who have been given the promise of their land and an important mission until the end of this world. Another essential thing in God's plan is the church, which has also been given an important mission until the end of this age.

That's why one of Satan's important tasks is to destroy the people of Israel and prevent them from returning to their land. Another important goal of Satan is to spoil the teaching of the Christian churches and to stay in the truth. Satan continues to pose the question to the church: "Did God say that". God's plan described in the Bible needs the existing nation of Israel to be fulfilled as such. Without Israel's return to the entire Holy Land promised to them, God's plan described in the Bible would not be fulfilled. Without a church filled with believers and the Holy Spirit, God's plan described in the Bible will not be fulfilled either.

Satan can entice a nation or a group of nations to destroy the Jewish

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nation or demand the dismemberment of the state of Israel and divide Jerusalem into the capital of several states, but he cannot destroy the Christian nation, because there is no such thing. There are only Christian individuals who believe that the Bible is the word of God, and it is true, and it is meant to be a guide for mankind. They are found in all ethnic groups, nations, and Christian churches. Of course, there are nominally Christian states and there are nominally Christian churches, but do they act according to the truth of the Bible, and do they believe that the word of the Bible is God's word to mankind? And do they believe that the word of the Bible is true even today?

Although this book focuses on the persecution of Jews, the situation of the congregation also has a strong influence on the matter. When the church does not respect or does not consider the word of the Bible as truth, it also enables discrimination and persecution against Jews. Or if the message of the Bible is not understood correctly, even in such a way that Israel's position as the chosen people is no longer considered correct, but Christendom has been put in place of the chosen people. Christians would have all the blessings promised by the Bible. Instead, all punishments would still belong to the Jews. For example, the events that led to the Holocaust were often accepted by the major churches, or at least they were not widely opposed. For example, the Vatican knew about the fate of the Holocaust victims, but diplomatic relations with Germany were considered more important and the matter was kept silent. Many churches also opposed the oppression of Jews or the Holocaust, but it was about individual priests who put their position or advancement as priests at stake. Many of them also lost their lives in concentration camps.

Today, churches and congregations want to be organizations that even understand the phenomena condemned by the Bible and seek the world's approval. The most important task of the churches would seem to be the acceptance of different minorities. Other religions are also treated with equal acceptance. Many churches think that it is no longer worth it or it is no longer even right to try to evangelize otherwise believers. Let's think that everyone will be blessed by their faith. Instead, the sermons talk

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about good deeds and nature conservation. They are both important things, but the most important task of churches and congregations is to tell about the gospel and show sin as sin.

In many churches, for example, they consider whether same-sex couples should be married or blessed. Why does the clergy have to think about this when the Bible clearly states that gay relationships are actions against the word of God? This does not mean that homosexuals cannot form relationships that are accepted by society, but the church, which operates according to the Bible, cannot bless them. In the past, couples who had divorced from their previous marriage were no longer remarried in the church to a new marriage. Now even priests can be married many times.

The Bible says that the shepherd of the church must be a man who has one wife. Even a small child can say if a bachelor, a man who has had several wives, or a woman can be the pastor of the church. But if you have studied theology for many years at university, you no longer know how to answer that. The Catholic Church is a completely bachelor-led organization, and after many years of secrecy, the grim result of such an activity has been revealed. In the Lutheran Church, most priests are starting to be female. With this kind of action, in the name of equality, you will get points from the people. But according to the word of the Bible, it is not. And it's not a question of equality, it's a question of organization. There are many tasks in the congregation, but the shepherd's task is reserved for men.

In churches, they shy away from their own Christian and biblical truth and religious content and prefer to keep silent about them and prefer to talk about some things that the public likes. One can even resent people for whom the message of Christianity is important and for whom the Bible is God's revelation to humanity. Many churches do not welcome a speaker who condemns gay marriage or female priesthood at all. If the apostle Paul suddenly appeared in our country, he would not be allowed to speak in many churches. What about Jesus? When the word of the Bible loses its significance and credibility in the churches, the

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understanding of the meaning and position of Israel and Jews in this world also disappears.

In theological circles, people do wonder if the Bible is the word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit for our salvation, or if it is just texts written by people who lived in different times, which can and even should be read critically. Sermons are spoken to appease the churchgoers as if the word of the Bible is still taken as true, but often it is just liturgical theater. There are indeed many believers in the word of the Bible in theological circles and priests, but will they be given any more space in the pulpits? Or do those who doubt the word of the Bible take the church in the direction the public wants?

If the Bible is not true and a revelation from God, then what is the position of the church? The church exists precisely because of or thanks to the message of the Bible. If the message of the Bible was only intended for former times, then the church also belongs to those same times. You would think the church would be the last organization that wants to diminish the authority of the Bible and dilute its truth.

The world is horrified by the treatment received by Jews throughout history, and especially in Nazi Germany. And it was terrible. But what about Christian churches that have lost their truth? What will be their fate?

In chapter 5 of the Gospel of Matthew Jesus says:

“Therefore, anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven”.

PART I

Anti-Semitism before the Holocaust
What does the Bible say about Satan?
How is Pergamon connected to the Nazis?
Adolf Hitler
The German people chosen for the Holocaust
Hitler's Nazi Germany
The Holocaust and the Final Solution

ANTI-SEMITISM BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST

Anti-Semitism is not a new phenomenon in the world. And by no means a German invention. It has been common in the world for millennia, but especially in Europe. The Jews and the state of Israel have always been some kind of scapegoats that have been attacked by the aggression hidden in the hearts of nations. When a larger nation experiences internal malaise, it looks for someone to blame. Even if the feeling bad is caused by one's own mistakes, with the help of a suitable culprit, embarrassing introspection is avoided. Throughout history, the Jewish people had to act in such roles. The extreme right and the red-green left succeeded in directing their anger and accusations precisely at the Jews and the state of Israel. Leon Uris, in his book *Exodus* says the following: "Anti-Semitism is an incurable disease". Can it be said more aptly or truthfully?

Many historians, social scientists, and psychologists have wondered why Israel, and the Jews have been blamed for centuries or persecuted and treated unfairly based on conspiracies. It may be difficult to explain scientifically, but it is easy for those who believe in the word of the Bible and the prophecies. Satan wants to destroy Israel and the Jews and always gets some people involved in his plans. The German Jewish poet Heinrich Heine said: "Judaism is neither a nationality nor a religion, it is a tragedy."

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In history, explanatory models have been found for hatred of Jews, both from the characteristics of Judaism as the causes of hostility and from the hater himself. In every country where they have wandered, the Jews have maintained the status of an isolated minority, which arouses suspicion at the very least. The unknown is hated, and it is easy to find and believe various conspiracy theories about it. In various problematic situations, you need an object that can be blamed. Sometimes the reason can be the success achieved by the Jews through hard work, and the resulting envy towards the Jews. Sometimes the reason may be the tendency of the Jews for theoretical thinking and laziness. The reason could have been the difference between the Jews in, for example, dressing and thus being an easily noticeable target. One big reason may be the Jews' perception of themselves as "God's chosen people". This has caused envy in both secular and religious circles.

In addition, anti-Semitic conspiracy theories and myths can be found. The myth of the killer of God, poisoning of wells, demonization, accusations of ritual murder, blood sacrifices, and the pursuit of world domination.

Pharaoh's Egypt

In Egypt, where the tribe of Jacob or Israel fled from famine, and even though they were welcomed, the Israelites were finally persecuted because of their ethnic difference and their strong increase. Persecution in Egypt was based entirely on ethnicity. It was neither religious nor economic. After all, they were useful for Egypt's economy and the construction of cities. Really cruel methods were used to persecute and to weaken the strength of the Israelite nation: killing baby boys by throwing them into the river of Nile, and straining work conditions with ever-increasing performance requirements. The position of the Israelites eventually resembled complete slavery. Although Egypt feared the strengthening of the Israelis as an internal threat, it nevertheless needed the Israelis as cheap labor. Pharaoh did not want to let the Israelites leave his land, even if some of them had the desire to leave. The situation ended after four hundred years in Egypt with the first exodus of Israel when Moses was commissioned by God to act as the leader of the deliverance. Moses led the people to the promised land in the land of Canaan, i.e.

today's Palestine.

Haman and Persia

At first, life in the new promised land went on following God's commands and remembering God's miracles for Israel. But over time, the state of the Israelites drifted into mutual disputes and split into two states, the state called Israel in the north and the state called Judah in the south. Soon the Israelites forgot God's commandments and began to worship other gods as well. God first allowed northern Israel to be taken into exile and there is no more information about them after that. They merged with other people. Southern Judah was later forced into exile in Persia. In Persia, King Xerxes was advised by Haman, who wanted personal respect for himself. When Haman noticed that Mordecai the Jew would not bow down or fall before him, he became furious. He did not want to be satisfied with killing only Mordecai, but after learning that Mordecai was a Jew, he wanted to kill all his people, all the Jews living in the kingdom of Xerxes.

Haman said to King Xerxes: "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom who keep themselves separate. Their customs are different from those of all other people, and they do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them. If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king's administrators for the royal treasury". (Esther. 3)

The king took the signet ring from his finger and gave it to Haman, the persecutor of the Jews, saying: "do with the people as you please ". Haman got down to business and went about his business, but he didn't know that the king was in love with the Jewish woman Esther, who would soon become queen. Her intervention turned the fate of both the Jewish people and Haman around.

The matter was resolved when Queen Esther revealed Haman's inhuman plan to the king. Haman himself was hanged on the gallows he had erected for Mordecai, and the Jews were spared destruction. In Israel, the incident is still celebrated today on Purim, when many girls dress up as princesses.

Now the reason for the persecution was at least partly religious, although Haman's pursuit of glory also contributed to the matter.

Alexandria

In Roman-ruled Alexandria, Egypt, persecution of the Jews took place in 38 A.D, when Apion, the director of the city's main library, falsely claimed that the Jews were sacrificing people in their synagogues and using their blood in their pastries. A typical conspiracy theory that was not based on any kind of truth. On the contrary, Jews do not use blood for food under any circumstances. This conspiracy theory has miraculously survived millennia. Back in the 1940s, after the Holocaust, a similar incident occurred in Poland, where Jews were accused of kidnapping a young Polish boy and using his blood as sacrificial blood.

Early Church

Many pastors of the early church said they hated the Jews. Early Christian writings included criticism of the Jews, accusations of killing Jesus and even naming the Jews as descendants of the devil. This gave the mandate for future Christian anti-Semitism. The church was responsible for early religious anti-Semitism. The church father Justin Martyr already declared in the second century that Christians are God's new true chosen people. Even then, the Jews had already been evicted from Palestine to wander around the world. The beginning of concept of replacement theology was formed, in which it was considered that Christians had displaced the Jews from the position of the chosen people. In the fourth century, the situation began to escalate between Christians and Jews. Famous church fathers such as Augustine, Chrysostom, and many others like them attacked Judaism. The Old Testament was no longer valued, and it was seen as inferior compared to the New Testament, and in the opinion of some even completely unnecessary. The Law of Moses and adherence to it was seen as heresy and a rejection of the grace of Jesus. Observing the Sabbath instead of the Sunday holiday was strongly condemned. However, the Bible says:

“Observe the Sabbath, because it is holy to you. Anyone who desecrates it is to be put to death”. (Exodus 31)

For the Jews, the Law of Moses and the Sabbath were important. After all, observing the Sabbath was one of God's first commandments to

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mankind. However, Christians believed that they had the right to change the commands given by God. For the Jews, giving up the observance of the Sabbath was a completely impossible idea.

The destruction of Jerusalem in 70 had already weakened the share of Jews in the congregation. The sharp increase in the relative number of Gentile Christians tipped the scales more and more in favor of the Gentile Christians and their influence.

The result was that Gentile Christians rejected the Jews and their teachings. The result was the development of religious Christian antisemitism, which eventually led to the persecution of the Jews. Synagogues were converted into churches, or they were destroyed, and churches were built in their place. The faith that began in the synagogue had now completely abandoned its origins.

Somehow the discrimination against Jews also had to be explained theologically. To justify the persecution, the church had to build a new kind of theology. Replacement theology. It had already been supported before, but now it has finally got through. The Bible began to be interpreted in a new way. According to the new doctrine, God had rejected the Jewish "killers of Jesus". Former Israel was replaced by the "new spiritual Israel".

Gentile Christians considered that the promises God made to the Jews in the Old Testament now belonged to them. They were now considered to apply to "spiritual Israel", i.e. the Christian congregation. However, there were differences of opinion regarding the warnings and judgments found in the Old Testament. They were still considered to belong to the Jews.

If the Jews lived scattered and discriminated all over the world for almost a couple of millennia, it was easy to treat the promises and prophecies given to Israel exclusively metaphorically.

Catholic Church

The Catholic Church had a long history of anti-Jewish attitudes, which included accusations of ritual murder, accusations of desecration of communion bread, and poisoning of wells. The Jews were a people from

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whom the Christians had to be protected. In the newspapers of the Catholic world at the end of the 19th century, all the same claims about Jews were made as in the propaganda of non-religious anti-Semites. The racial aspect has not been talked about yet. At the beginning of the 20th century, a Catholic manual dealt with the distinction between the concepts of good and bad anti-Semitism. Good anti-Semitism was supposed to protect Christians from the bad influence of Jews, while bad anti-Semitism was supposed to physically harm Jews.

The Crusades

During the Crusades in the early 11th century, Jews were persecuted for religious reasons because they were considered the killers of Jesus. Pope Urban II demanded the start of the Crusades. In his opinion, military actions aimed at conquering Jerusalem and Palestine would serve many purposes. They would strengthen the sense of togetherness of Western Christendom and strengthen the leading position of the Church of Rome. The Crusades were very brutal and even led to mass slaughter. Anti-Semitism spread in Western Europe especially during the First Crusade (1096-1099), when the Crusaders killed Jews, especially in France and the Rhineland, on their way to the Holy Land. The reason was, among other things, that the Crusaders first wanted to kill the murderers of Jesus in their own country and then set out to liberate the Holy Land.

In connection with the Crusades, Jewish "murderers of Jesus" were killed by village councils in several European countries and the Holy Land. A good example of 12th-century thinking is the story of Robin Hood, who fought against a dishonest and tax-collecting sheriff. The honorable king of the story, Richard the Lionheart, was at the same time on a crusade in Palestine, killing Jews by families and mercilessly. In addition to Jews, Muslims who controlled the area of Jesus' tomb were also victims. The Crusades lasted almost 300 years.

Black Death

Another strong wave of anti-Semitism swept through Western Europe during the plague epidemic of 1347-1350. The Black Death, or plague epidemic, started one of the bloodiest persecutions of Jews throughout

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history. The disease was very serious and scary. It was contagious and deadly, killing a third of the European population in Europe. It had probably spread to Europe via rats from Asia. And since this disease had to be God's punishment for something evil, as was thought in the Middle Ages, the Jews had to be that evil. In medieval Christian thought, diseases were always seen as punishments from God. For this reason, allowing the Jewish killers of Jesus to live among Christians could be considered a reason for God's wrath.

But there were also rumors that the Jews had poisoned the wells and thus caused the plague epidemic. The rumor started in the French village of Chambery. Members of the Jewish community were blamed for the plague epidemic. They allegedly made a secret plan to destroy the Christians. With the help of torture, a confession was obtained from the Jewish doctor, Balagvinus, according to which he had poisoned the springs of Thonon by pouring red and black flour into them. The warning spread from town to town that the Jews were planning to poison the water intakes and thus plan to kill all the Christians. Their goal would be to have the whole world for themselves. The cruel persecution of the Jews started immediately. For example, in Strasbourg, the city management decided on February 13, 1349, to burn all the Jews at the stake. The blood work was carried out the very next day. A large crowd had gathered to witness the execution of members of the Jewish community.

The Pope appealed for an end to the persecution. He referred to the fact that the disease was raging even in those regions where Jews did not live. The Pope's appeal did not stop the persecution. Confessions had been obtained from the Jews by torture. A Jew who had returned from Jerusalem and brought a special poison that would kill only Christians but was harmless to Jews was declared guilty. One reason for suspicion was that the Jews did indeed survive the plague quite a bit, but that was due to their purity laws and perhaps the fact that they were very much on their own. The killings continued despite the appeals of the Pope. 600 Jews were killed in Worms in March 1349. Members of the Jewish community in Mainz were burned at the stake in the summer of 1349. By the end of the Middle Ages, almost all Jews had fled persecution from Western Europe to the East, most to Poland.

Western Europe

In Western Europe, the persecution of Jews was often both ethnic and religious. Jews were subjected to various restrictions on the right to own property and various professions were prohibited. The Catholic Church was harsh in its treatment of unbelievers. In the 15th century, the Catholic Church demanded that the Jews of Spain and Portugal either convert to Catholicism or leave the country. In 1492, a law was drawn up that required Jews to convert to Christianity within four months. Death at the stake awaited those who refused. In total, about 300,000 Jews went into exile. Some ended up in North Africa, some in present-day Greece and Turkey, and some in other European countries. Previously, Jews had been expelled from England in 1290 and from France in 1394 for the same reason.

The Spanish nation-state was built on the unified foundation of Christianity and 'purity of blood'. The expulsion of the Spanish Jews in 1492 differed from previous ones in that, for the first time, Christian anti-Semitism was combined with the demand for "purity of blood".

In the Catholic areas of Spain, Jews were forced to choose between conversion to Christianity or exile. Thus, the Jewish "new Christians" or conversos were freed from the restrictions imposed on Jews. It enabled them to advance quickly in society up to the upper circles of the nobility. But of course, that was not the original intention. Thus, the effects of forced baptism were the opposite of what was desired.

Inquisition

The original Christians began to accuse the conversos of pseudo-conversion, and the Inquisition, which was born during the time of Pope Gregory IX (1227-1241), was tasked with taking care of the purity of the Catholic faith. The Inquisition has often been described as some kind of method for exposing witches, and it probably was, but in many cases specifically related to the conversion of Jews to Christianity. It was suspected that they only pretended to be Christians to gain a better position in society, but they still practiced Jewish customs, Jewish holy days, the Sabbath, and religious spending.

But in addition to the Inquisition, the Purity of Blood Act of Toledo was enacted in 1449 to protect the interests of the Christian nobility and

bourgeoisie. According to the law, all those who had at least one Jewish ancestor in three generations were dismissed from public office. The demand for a regulation on the purity of blood had been presented to its members by the Order of Calatrava already in the 12th century. The regulation was also supported by the lower layers of the city, who were Christians. The demand for pure blood united the nation effectively because it made even its lowest representative superior to the noble neo-Christian. Race and the inherent requirement of pure blood gradually became a decisive criterion in Spanish society.

The demand for pure blood was not based on biological arguments, but Spanish theologians had developed a religious justification for it. According to them, all baptized Christians were equal in the afterlife. But with the Jews, baptism lost its earthly and spiritual effect, for their false religion had permanently poisoned their blood. New Christians formed the subordinate class of society, which according to pure-blooded true Christians was a fully justified punishment for falling into sin.

The demand for purity of blood negated the cleansing effect of baptism and freedom from persecution and discrimination. The demand brought the concepts of half-, one-quarter, and one-eighth Jew into practice for the first time. Joining the majority was formally accepted only after the third generation. [1]

Protestant churches

Martin Luther was the most fatal theologian in terms of anti-Semitism, who had indeed cleansed Catholic Christianity of many false things that are not mentioned in the Bible. At first, however, he had a positive attitude towards the Jews, assuming that the Jews would be more receptive to the new and purified Christian doctrine. When the Jews did not bend and stuck to their own religion and traditional customs, Luther became angry, and his attitude changed drastically. He advised the princes to actively oppose the Jews and even expel them from the country. Their synagogues and books should be burned and this poisonous Jewish doctrine among Christians should be curbed. They had to be forced to give up their businesses and leave the cities or be isolated in separate residential areas.

Enlightenment time

The Enlightenment was a European movement of thought that emphasized, among other things, the importance of reason and knowledge. The Enlightenment began in France at the end of the 17th century, reached its peak in the 1760s and early 1770s, and then began to decline. Enlightenment sought reason, relying on thorough reforms in the fields of culture and social life. Enlightenment thinkers emphasized reason over supernatural mysticism, science and reforms over beliefs and conservatism, and human rights over state arbitrariness. It was a good time for the Jews. Although anti-Semitic attitudes persisted in the minds of citizens, society was not officially anti-Semitic. However, the rise of the Jews socially and economically caused opposition in other citizen groups. Social anti-Semitism arose, one of the reasons for which was the envy of the success of Jews in society.[2]

Russia and the Soviet Union

Pogrom is a word that became internationally known for the large-scale violent anti-Jewish persecutions that took place in southern Russia in the early 1880s. Their reason was the murder of Emperor Alexander II in 1881. Jews were unjustly accused of participating in the murder. The pogroms gave impetus to the great emigration of Jews from Russia. The enlightening musical "Fiddler on the Roof" has also been published about the cases. The main character of the musical says to God when difficulties pile up on him: "I know that we are your chosen people, but couldn't you sometimes choose another nation".

Jews were persecuted in Russia at the end of the 19th century for political reasons, accused of promoting communism, and later in the Soviet Union, of opposing communism. In the 19th century, the persecutions took on violent features. Theories about Jewish political conspiracies have been supported since the late 1860s. Theories began to be widely spread elsewhere after the First World War, which was greatly influenced by the spread of the French forgery "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion". In it, the Jews were again accused of seeking world domination. It served above all as anti-Semitic agitation material for the Russian far-right in the first Duma elections.

The persecutions were mob attacks on Jews and were fully approved

by the authorities. As a result of the pogroms, the Jews had no choice but to move out of the country again. Many migrated west to Poland, Germany, and even the United States. Extensive and systematic persecutions occurred in Russia. After Russia conquered Poland at the end of the 18th century, a large part of Polish Jews became subjects of Russia. Anti-Semitism now served as a tool of tsarist, or tsarist politics. In the 19th century, part of the Russianized Jewish civil society actively participated in the anti-tsarist movement. As a result, in Russia, tsarist supporters who opposed the forces of change and anti-Semitic pogroms were tightly mixed. After the assassination of Alexander II in 1881, the persecution of Jews was a central element in the struggle against the forces of revolution and progress. "Drown the revolution in Jewish blood" was the general demand. Repression increased and increased the share of Jews in the radical revolutionary movement. At the same time, as a Jewish response to the failed integration into society, the migration to Palestine began in 1882-1897. This is how a Russian Jewish settlement was born in Palestine early on.

Pogroms happened in Russia later as well. The massacre of Jews in Chisinau, the capital of present-day Moldova, on Easter 1903 drew international attention to the status of Russian Jews. After the pogrom, Theodor Herzl proposed mass migration of Russian Jews to Uganda, which would have been a kind of emergency alternative for Palestine. During the Russian Civil War of 1917–1920, tens of thousands of Jews were murdered in pogroms that took place on the territory of Ukraine. The accusations against the Jews were often completely arbitrary, they were either revolutionaries or counterrevolutionaries, religious fanatics or godless atheists, and so on.

After the October Revolution, Bolshevism was an integral part of anti-Semitism in right-wing propaganda. Especially during the civil war between 1918 and 1922, the White generals mobilized illiterate rural residents against the Jews with the help of anti-Semitism. They developed the idea of "Jewish Bolshevism", which later became a central theme of anti-Semitism in Hitler's Germany.

However, the revolution ultimately changed the position of the Jews fundamentally. Jewish youth entered schools and universities. Marriages were also concluded with Russians and other nationalities. In 1918, a Jewish section was established in the Bolshevik Party. However, Lenin's attempt to eradicate the centuries-old legacy of anti-Semitism remained

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only an interim phase lasting a few years.

The strengthening of Stalin's position at the head of the Soviet Union meant the end of the emancipation of the Jews that began with the October Revolution, and at the same time the activation of anti-Semitism as a political weapon against opponents. In the years 1929-32, the Jewish religious and Zionist communities were persecuted. Stalin took advantage of Russia's anti-Semitic tradition in connection with the Moscow show trials in the late 1930s. It was also appropriate in the sense that one of Stalin's main opponents, Lev Trotsky, was of Jewish descent. Stalin later assassinated Trotsky, who had fled abroad. Even the fact that Jews were accused of spying for fascist Germany, whose official ideology was extreme anti-Semitism, did not prevent the use of anti-Semitism.

Muslim countries

When the Arab kingdom of the Middle East was born in the 6th century, a significant Christian and Jewish population remained under it. Islam gradually took over the Middle East and became the dominant religion of the region. Classical Arab anti-Semitism included demeaning the Jews because of false beliefs. Orthodox Muslims remind themselves of this every day when they read the opening surah of the Koran. On the other hand, ethnic separation between Jews and their own identity was not done in the European way, because in the opinion of Muslims, Arabs and Jews were both related peoples as descendants of Abraham. Arabs were descendants of Abraham's eldest son Ishmael, and Jews were descendants of Isaac. However, the Arabs considered Ishmael's descendants to be Abraham's first-born descendants, after all, Ishmael was Abraham's first-born son. In medieval Muslim states, the position of Jews was according to the so-called dhimmi system, where the presence of Jews was tolerated as discriminated second-class citizens.

Dhimmis were allowed to practice their religion in their circumstances but had to pay additional taxes and suffered from many kinds of restrictions, humiliations, and inequality before the law.

Several passages in the Koran call upon Muslims to kill Jews wherever they are seen. Prophet Muhammad himself had killed many Jews with his own hands.

Even though Muslim scriptures use harsh language about Jews, they were allowed to live in the Islamic world of the Middle Ages in generally

better security than Jews in Christian Europe. However, their treatment varied in different countries. The Jews were not hated, but they were despised for rejecting Muhammad. Outright persecutions and massacres were still rare. [3]

United States

In the United States, at the beginning of the 20th century, anti-Semitism was present in the same way as in Europe. The Jews were not persecuted, but there were plenty of negative attitudes and restrictions. As a result of pogroms in Eastern Europe, many Jews from the region immigrated to the United States. When the anti-Jewish policy of the Nazi Party started working in Germany, the United States was no longer so open to accepting Jews.

Many well-known politicians and public figures spoke strongly against Jewish immigration. Many of them had clear Nazi sympathies. Among other things, car manufacturer Henry Ford's anti-Semitism has never been a secret. He openly praised Hitler's Germany and was ready to support the German army with truck deliveries. However, the positive technical, economic, and social effects of the industrial magnate are better remembered.

Another well-known influencer of opinion was Charles Lindbergh. He became a huge hero in the United States after being the first to fly solo across the Atlantic. Before the United States entered World War II, Lindbergh's attitude and statements about Jews gave the impression that he was a Nazi. Although Lindbergh never publicly expressed his support for the Nazis, he visited Germany before the war and praised the country's orderliness and progress. He was also awarded with a high-ranking German medal.

On the other hand, the United States accepted more Jews than any other country. However, many more willing people would have wanted to move to the United States to escape persecution, but they were no longer accepted.

The era of racial anti-Semitism in Europe

At the end of the 18th century, the myth of the superior Aryan race

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was born in Europe. The idea of an inferior Jewish race as the main enemy of Aryan society became the object of research and interest of race theorists at the end of the 19th century. In Germany and Austria, anti-Semitism entered politics in the 19th century, and widespread anti-Semitism in Europe contributed to the rise to power of Adolf Hitler and the National Socialists in the 1930s. The Nazis immediately began implementing restrictive rules and persecutions against the Jews. In 1942, the Nazis and their allies began the systematic and industrial-scale murder of European Jews, the Holocaust.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT SATAN?

Satan's name comes from the Hebrew language and means enemy and adversary. Satan can also be called Lucifer. According to the Bible, Satan is an angel created by God who fell away from God's will and rebelled against God's will. The Bible says that in addition to Satan, there are also many other fallen angels working under him.

Satan does not appear in the pages of the Bible very often. And the Bible does not describe Satan's appearance very accurately. The most famous scenes are the temptation of Eve to taste the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil and the temptation of Jesus to bow down to Satan. But there are plenty of situations where Satan influences the course of events in the background.

Ezekiel in chapter 28 describes Satan: " You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: carnelian, chrysolite and emerald, topaz, onyx and jasper, lapis lazuli, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you".

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The typical image of Satan is usually completely different for many people. He was an anointed angel and belonged to the highest order of angels. He was a divine being in heaven and had a high position. Although he was perfect in his beauty, he was nevertheless created by God, just like man.

But Satan fell and turned his eyes away from his Creator and began to admire himself: "Your heart was proud of your beauty, because of your loveliness you lost your wisdom." (Ezek. 28). He became proud and exalted himself and a lust for power was ignited in him. He wanted more and wanted to stand next to God. He enticed with his lies so that he got a third of the heavenly host, or angels, on his side.

"How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High". (Isa. 14)

Many people think that Satan is not a person, but rather some abstract evil, a characteristic of evil that exists in everyone. Maybe some kind of unfortunate event, bad luck, or adversity. In modern speech and images, Satan has the reputation of an evil being, an opponent of God, and an enemy of people. The current image of Satan is based on the texts of the New Testament, especially the Book of Revelation.

But according to the Bible, Satan and his forces are much more. It is a spiritual power that fights against God's good intentions and plans. Such a thought certainly seems foreign to modern people, despite all the horrors of the world we encounter in the news. The idea of an evil that has a plan that attracts and initiates, somehow sounds old-fashioned. Such an idea does not fit the modern world of many people today.

However, the teaching of the Bible about the devil should not be ignored unnecessarily. Jesus speaks as self-evident about both God and Satan. He names Satan the murderer, the father of lies, and the prince of this world. Satan controls his power circle and his kingdom.

This is worth noting because people tend to blame God when something bad happens. We ask how there can be so much evil in the world when the Bible says that God is love.

Satan in Judaism

In the Old Testament, the word Satan means adversary or accuser. It can sometimes be used for people too.

In Judaism, the word Satan is used to mean an angel who accuses people. A supernatural observer who searches people for sin and tests them.

However, in the Jewish scriptures, Satan does not have the authority to harm people however he wants, but needs permission from God, and cannot exceed the limits set by him.

Satan in Christianity

Satan is a much more central figure in the New Testament than in the Old Testament. According to the Christian understanding, Satan focuses his attention on people whom he has caused to fall into sin, and he opposes Christ and the Christian church above all. According to the New Testament, Satan also tried to influence Jesus by tempting Jesus to give up His mission by promising Jesus power in the world and with various worldly temptations.

According to the New Testament, Satan is the ruler of this world who will do anything to lead people astray from God. Satan also has the power to rule this world, and thus the world conforms to its ruler.

Satan was originally an angel and spirit being created for good, who, however, out of pride or envy misused his freedom, did not remain in the truth, fell, and thus became thoroughly evil, God's sworn enemy and opponent.

In Christian theology, evil and anti-God exist not only in the visible world but also in the invisible world created by God. When creating the visible and invisible worlds, God also gave the possibility of being against His will in both.

"And the dragon and his angels fought back. 8But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him". (Rev. 12).

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This is how Satan was cast out of heaven to earth. That is why Satan gained dominion in this world, and his goal is to establish himself as the god of this world. Jesus calls Satan "the prince of this world" (John 12). The apostle Paul calls him "the god of this world." (2 Cor. 4)

According to Christianity, Satan produces evil and incites people to rebel against God. Satan continues the rebellion he started in heaven. According to the Bible, there is no hope for rebellion, but especially according to the Book of Revelation, Satan will lose, and he will be condemned together with the angels who became his allies and the lost people to eternal damnation.

Satan rules the world

Most of the world and the people of the world are not aware that they are under the power of evil. Satan uses the pride that resides in people to gain his power over them. This has affected all levels of humanity. His goal is for people to be so confident in their science, technology, and abilities that they exclude God from everything. He is interested in bringing everyone under his dominion. He still whispers his lies to everyone just like he did when he was in heaven.

However, God prevents Satan from carrying out his plans completely. He sent Jesus to open a new opportunity for humanity. All over the world, some people believe in the salvation offered by Jesus and thus form God's church. This crowd is a stimulus to Satan. He wants to create doubts, pride, distraction, or whatever he can to turn people's hearts away from God.

"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy, the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour". (1 Peter 5). He is constantly searching, and he wants to gain full control of this world, and he attacks wherever he can to carry out his plans.

Satan's Altar

But does Satan live in a certain place on earth? For example, ancient Pergamon was said to be the city where Satan's throne is (Revelation 2). However, that expression suggested that the city was a center of satanic

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worship. Satan does not live in any literal place on earth. The Bible says instead that "all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth" are his (Luke 4). But just as Jerusalem is God's holy city and there was God's holy temple, so in Pergamon there was an altar consecrated to Satan. The altar is now located in Berlin. But why was the altar in Pergamon, what was special there or what was the advantage for Satan to choose Pergamon as his city? Pergamon was in a central location along trade routes and many people passed through it. At the beginning of the 20th century, Berlin was one of the world's largest cities and a popular tourist destination. Satan's choice seems to be where there are a lot of people and a lot of human traffic. Where there is a lot of human traffic today. At least the internet comes to mind. Of course, this does not mean that the internet itself is somehow bad. Just as there was a Christian congregation of believers in Pergamon, and likewise there were believing Christians in Berlin, so there is also Christian material on the internet.

The Pergamon Altar was and is a handsome and awe-inspiring sight and a truly beautiful structure. The same was in 20th-century Berlin. The gatherings of the Nazis with their Nazi flags and organization were spectacular and made many Germans and foreigners who were not particularly enamored with the Nazi ideology think that it was a noble-looking activity. The altar of Pergamon also well reflects Satan's self-love and vanity.

Satan's work

Can Satan manipulate people or even harm them? Satan has succeeded in misleading most of mankind and its leaders. The world has thus come under his rule. This partly explains why the world has not changed for the better over the years, even with the increase in understanding and civilization.

Eve's case: According to the Bible, Satan's first influence on man happened already in Paradise, where Satan tempted Eve to taste the forbidden fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of good and evil. Satan used Eve's curiosity, the desire to make some changes to the prevailing situation, or even the interest in expanding consciousness to supernatural things as a lure. Eve was the most perfect woman who ever lived on earth.

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Eve was just created by God, and she had all the qualities that God wanted a woman to have.

Why couldn't they eat from that tree? With the fruit of the tree came awareness of things that God did not want people to know yet. Even today, many people strive for a similar expansion of consciousness. We want to get in touch with the spirit world or angels and thereby gain an expansion of consciousness. Today, something similar occurs in new spirituality, one wants to find divine powers within oneself. Another attraction of drug use is the expansion of consciousness. Satan increased Eve's willingness to try by questioning God's word saying, "Did God say that" "You will not die if you eat it" and "You will have the same understanding as God has." So, Eve then took the fruit and ate it. Satan wanted to question God's prohibition. The ban would no longer be valid, or it would not be absolute.

The Case of Cain and Abel: The two sons of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, were different from the beginning. According to the biblical account, Cain was a farmer, and his brother Abel was a shepherd.

Cain cultivated the land, which yielded vegetables. Abel looked after sheep and his harvest was mutton. When both came before God to sacrifice, Cain's sacrifice was not acceptable to God, but Abel's was. So, Cain saw that Abel's sacrifice pleased God and his sacrifice did not. Satan caused Cain to envy, hate, and harbor evil.

Cain became angry with his brother and killed him because God preferred Abel's sacrifice. After the killing, God asked Cain where his brother was. Cain answered, "Am I my brother's keeper?". Cain was cursed by God, and the mark of Cain was placed on him. The Bible does not say what that sign was, but it was meant to be a sign that no one who met him would kill him. Satan made Cain believe that God was partial and unfair. He could not understand that Abel's sacrifice was symbolic of Jesus' sacrifice when Jesus sacrificed himself at Easter symbolically as a paschal lamb. Although he couldn't understand the connection, he shouldn't have been so angry with his brother. Satan made his anger grow stronger to the point of murder.

Tower of Babel: When people settled in Mesopotamia, they started building a tower that reached up to the heavens. According to the Bible, mankind was monolingual and unanimous, and they wanted to build a tower as a landmark and to reach heaven. The builders of the tower were

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motivated by their pride and desire for power. They wanted to get on the same level with God. People wanted to be like God. Awareness, understanding, expansion of consciousness, and power.

However, God did not want such skills for mankind yet. God said, "And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined doing". He changed their language so that they could not understand each other. Therefore, the people scattered around the world and stopped building the tower because they no longer had a common understanding and a common plan of what to do.

Why did God want to slow down the development of mankind? The reason may be that God saw where the development of mankind would lead. Technological development would be used to develop weapons that destroy people. And thus, humanity would destroy itself before it had even begun to reproduce properly. After all, God's goal was the growth of humanity: "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth". (Genesis 1).

The prophet Jeremiah has good instruction for people, don't build anything too great but:

"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper". (Jeremiah 29)

Joseph and the brothers: Joseph was another of his father's favorite children because his mother was Jacob's great love, Rachel. When Jacob turned 17, Jacob made a beautiful and expensive garment for his son, which Joseph wore when he took food to his brothers who were shepherds. The dress and Joseph's position aroused envy in the older brothers. The brothers would have wanted to kill him, but since the eldest of them, Reuben, did not accept it, they decided to sell Joseph as a slave to the Midianite merchants who happened to be there. However, Father Jacob was told that Joseph had been mauled by a wild beast and that they found only the clothes Joseph had received from his father in the field.

Satan's hook for Joseph's brothers was envy. Joseph was his father's

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favorite, but also very wise. Joseph had also had dreams in which the brothers had been forced to bow down to him and told his brothers about these dreams. All this caused resentment and a sense of injustice among the brothers.

Solomon: King Solomon ruled wisely for a long time, Israel prospered, and the people were happy. Solomon had many wives of foreign nations whom he loved. In addition to Pharaoh's daughter, he had Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonite, and Hittite wives. They came from a pair of nations about which God had said to the Israelites: "Stay away from them and let them stay away from you. Otherwise, they will steal your hearts to their gods". Solomon loved these women and became attached to their gods. In the days of Solomon's old age, his wives turned his heart to other gods, and he was no longer wholeheartedly loyal to his God, as his father David had been.

He built on the mountain east of Jerusalem an altar to Chemosh, the abomination of the Moabites, and to Milcom, the abomination of the Ammonites. He also made altars for his other wives so that they could burn incense and sacrifice to their gods. Although Solomon had received so much from God, his love for his wives made him forget God. While in other cases it was often a question of jealousy or anger, this was not so in Solomon's case. Solomon had nothing to envy. He had riches, wisdom, many beautiful wives, and was the sole ruler of his country. But sometimes love for the wrong object also leads to sin.

The Holocaust was a huge display of Satan's bad power. Satan gained control of an entire civilized nation and a modern state that was well-developed and had the world's leading universities and scientists. The entire nation of Nazi Germany was fully convinced of the justice of killing the Jews.

Atheism: The belief that there is no God has quite widely taken over the entire Western culture. Since the Age of Enlightenment, in the 18th century, it has led Western thought quite centrally. Today it is self-evident that no scientist or prominent thinker can be a professing Christian. Atheism is, as it were, a matter of course for all current scientific thinking.

Political conspiracy theories are Satan's specialty

Many conspiracy theories stem from anti-Semitism. The terminology associated with them is often hundreds of years old and is used by both activists and politicians.

The rich Jewish elite rule the world from the shadows. This idea has been spread for a long time, and it always comes up again, especially in connection with various crises. Claims about the Zionist elite have spread from fringe movements to the language used by politicians.

Globalism: One of the terms that often appears in connection with conspiracy theories is globalism. Historically, the anti-Semitic background of the word globalist goes back to the "Protocols of the Wise Men of Zion" published in Russia at the beginning of the 20th century. The term globalist implies that Jews cannot be loyal to their country, but instead bring their country under international control. In the same way, extreme right-wing nationalists use the term to imply that Jews are not in the business of their own country.

Blood: Already in the Middle Ages, Christians blamed the Jews for the deaths of their children, as they were believed to use children's blood in their rituals.

New World Order: A later term, especially popular with firm believers in conspiracy theories, is the New World Order, or NWO. The NWO serves as an umbrella concept that unites a huge number of different conspiracy theories. In these theories, a totalitarian shadow government aims to rule the world through a single economic system and government and persecutes its opponents.

Mossad: Especially the American CIA and the Israeli Mossad are repeatedly the targets of various claims. Mossad is still accused of carrying out the 911 terrorist attacks, for example. The theory is that Jewish workers did not go to work at the World Trade Center that day because they would have been aware of the impending destruction.

Financial crisis: Jewish billionaire and Hungarian-born George Soros has been accused of organizing the financial crisis. In turn, Viktor

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Orbán, who became prime minister in Hungary in 2010, has strengthened his power with anti-Semitic claims about George Soros' efforts to destroy Western civilization.

Hungary's state propaganda began in connection with the Syrian refugee crisis in 2015, claiming that the Hungarian Jewish billionaire George Soros is trying to replace Europe's white Christian population with Muslim refugees.

Corona crisis: The latest conspiracy theory is related to corona vaccines. The theory is that Jews either helped spread the coronavirus or developed a vaccine that was developed in secret Israeli labs and would kill as many non-Jews as possible. This is a modification of the old well-poisoning accusation. Or Jews have spread the coronavirus to make money with corona vaccines.

Most people understand that such claims are nothing more than a figment of a twisted anti-Semitic imagination, but there are always the gullible and ignorant who fall for them.

Antichrist

According to Christianity, the Antichrist is an opponent of Christ sent by Satan, who before Christ's return must raise all the forces opposing God into battle, but whom Christ must defeat. The designation itself appears in the Bible only in the letters of John. Often the Antichrist is also associated with the beast mentioned in the Book of Revelation.

In Christian eschatology, the Antichrist is described as completely evil and an opponent of the truth, although when he appears in the world, he appears deceptively good and a bringer of the truth. Satan's tactic is to confuse good and misleading messages. People think they are doing the right thing by following Satan's teachings. Satan imitates the Trinity of God and will bring forth his power in the end times in the three persons mentioned in the Book of Revelation: The Dragon or Satan himself, the Beast or Antichrist and the False Prophet or the Unholy Spirit. The Beast is also associated with the "Mark of the Beast" and the number "666" in the name of the Beast, which is "the number of a man". The book of Revelation says that whoever does not receive the mark of the beast either on his right hand or on his forehead cannot sell or buy. But also, whoever

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takes the mark of the beast is under the sentence of destruction.

In history, among others, the emperor Nero has been considered the Antichrist. Martin Luther considered the Pope to be the Antichrist, and the concept remained with minor changes in Protestant churches until the beginning of the 20th century. In the 20th century, the interpretation that the Antichrist is a dictator ruling Europe and the Middle East or even the whole world at the end of time became common. During the 20th century, many dictators who ruled at the time were considered Antichrists, especially Adolf Hitler or Joseph Stalin. Maybe they were some kind of samples of what was to come.

Many interpreters of the Bible are specifically interested in the Antichrist as a political leader, a world-ruling dictator, under whose authority the whole of humanity will be subjugated. Many believers oppose the EU precisely because of the fear that this EU will become the actual instrument of the Antichrist's rule.

Some preachers forbid believers to take bank cards or intimidate them by using social security numbers. Bar codes have also seen occurrences of the number 666. These would enable the Antichrist to record and control every human being. Number 666 has been applied to any person at any time. Until now, all have been either false or temporary, partial Antichrists, but not actual fulfillment. The Bible says that knowledge will increase in the end times in this matter. There will come a time when this riddle will be solved as well.

Satan's battle against Christ's kingdom will culminate just before the visible and public return of Jesus. In that battle, the protagonist of the evil side will be the Antichrist and his appearance at the end of time. "In defiance, he speaks against the Most High, destroys the saints of the Most High, and seeks to change the feasts and the law. The saints of the Most High are given over to his mercies for a time, two times and half a time" (Dan. 7).

The Antichrist will demand people's worship, which will be a time of great tribulation for those who believe in Jesus (Matthew 24).

But the power and authority of the end-time Antichrist cannot be in atheism? Denying God is very few people's desired solution to the basic questions of life. But man can develop his god or belief in a higher power instead of the Bible's God. Atheism cannot mislead believing Christians

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either. To get lost, a new religion that unites the old religions is needed and replaces Christianity.

There will be a religious deception in which the name of Christ will be used by such human powers that are alien, or downright hostile to Christ and his spirit. Its background can be a mixture of atheism, natural mysticism, Hinduism, or Islam.

Revelation chapter 13 tells how the beast was mortally wounded and then healed. This leads many to believe in the good super naturalism and goodness of the Antichrist. Many will come to believe that the Antichrist will save humanity and show the way out of the confusion of religions and bring a new era of happiness.

The Antichrist will be a public speaker. He can strongly influence people's minds with his words. People fall in love with the speaker and the message. The speech intoxicates its listeners. When he tells his message, people accept the message, even if they are a little unsure about it at first.

People are won through emotions. People feel that something big is happening now. Through music and singing, a certain captivating atmosphere is created.

HOW IS PERGAMON CONNECTED TO THE NAZIS?

Apostle John was the only one of the apostles who did not face a violent death and lived the longest of them. However, he did not survive easily, he also had difficulties. Bravely proclaiming the gospel, he angered those in power, and in his old age was imprisoned on the island of Patmos in the Greek archipelago for his faith.

On the prison island of Patmos, he experienced a revelation and saw an angel who called him to convey the testimony of Jesus Christ, that is, to write letters to the seven early Christian churches. The letters were like school certificates given by the teacher, some subjects passed well and then there was something weaker. The letters were addressed to the churches in the western part of present-day Turkey, which were Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamon, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.

The messages of the letters to the congregations were warnings and encouragements. Each congregation received recognition, but also a call to improve their walking. There were even warnings about the removal of the whole congregation from the congregations if the congregation did not improve its activities. John was commissioned to write to the church in Pergamon:

(Revelation 1) "And to the angel of the church of Pergamon write: 'Thus says He who has the two-edged, sharp sword:

I know where you live: where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast my name and have not denied my faith even in the days when Antipas, my witness, my faithful one, was slain among you, where Satan dwells.'"

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Jesus praises the faith of the believers in Pergamon that even though they live where Satan's throne is, they still hold on to the name of Jesus and have not denied faith in Jesus. Satan's Throne refers to the Pergamon Altar because it resembles a gigantic throne and was dedicated to Zeus. But what does the Pergamon altar have to do with Nazi Germany or anti-Semitism? The fact that history of the Pergamon Altar, Nazi Germany, and Hitler are tightly intertwined in terms of time and geography.

The Altar

The size of the altar building was huge, about 36×34 meters, and the height was about 16 meters. The altar in the middle of the building under the open sky was a typical burnt altar offering. Human sacrifices were also offered as burnt offerings on the Pergamon altar.

Pyromakhos has been suggested as the designer of the altar. There are signs of signatures in the sculptural decorations of the altar. Based on them, several sculptors were involved in making the sculptures, including many well-known Pergamon and Athenian names of the time.

The altar was elaborately decorated with sculptures. The sculptural decorations represent Hellenistic period sculpture and especially the Pergamon school at its best, and they were meant to evoke strong emotions, typical of the period. [4]

The religion of Pergamon

Pergamon believed in polytheism, typical of the time, as was the custom for pagan religions. It is known that the Chaldean astrologers fled from Babylon to Pergamon and established their temples there. You also had to sacrifice to the gods. The more valuable you sacrificed on the altar of burnt offering, the more pleased their God was. Servants were probably sacrificed, but what could be more valuable than one's child?

The city of Pergamon

The oldest part of the city was a natural fortress with a steep slope. The old part housed, among other things, the city's most important

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temples, the altar of Zeus and Athena, the library and theater, as well as the royal palace, garrison, and armories. The city was architecturally high class and artistically beautifully and decoratively built. [5]

Pergamon declined in the Byzantine Middle Ages. The Arabs conquered and destroyed it in 716. After that, the area was deserted for a long time, but it was repopulated by the turn of the 12th century. Not much was cared about the archaeological history of Pergamon, and parts of the altar structure could even be used as parts of houses and other structures. Europeans' interest in archeology grew stronger in the 19th century. The English had made impressive discoveries in different parts of the world and collected objects from different cultures for their museums. But Germany had no similar results to show for it. However, German culture included a strong interest in the stories of the past and the mythological secrets and powers associated with them. Historical structures and objects were also the subject of great interest. In Germany, especially during the Nazi regime, they wanted to find an equivalent to Christianity. They believed in the supernatural, but not according to the Bible. For example, they did not believe in the genetic Jewishness of Jesus, even though He had received a Jewish upbringing.

Even before the actual archaeological excavations, several European travelers and art collectors visited Pergamon. However, the actual excavations were started by the German Carl Humann.

Carl Humann

Humann was born in Steele, which is part of present-day Essen in Germany. A trained railway engineer and keen architecture student, he initially worked in Germany building railway tracks. After contracting tuberculosis, he sought a warmer climate, moved to the Ottoman Empire, and settled in Istanbul. Germany and the Ottoman Empire had good relations. He participated in the excavations on the island of Samos and in 1864 traveled through Palestine, making accurate maps of the area. His work as a surveyor for the railway and road construction department helped him get to know the ruins of the classical era and develop a wide network of contacts and acquaintances.

He had never studied archeology or completed any advanced degree. He was a typical example of a self-taught archaeologist of the 19th century and represented a generation of brave and curious pioneers. On

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the other hand, Humann created extensive connections throughout the Ottoman Empire with the help of local officials and workers. He was nicknamed the "Viceroy of Asia Minor" and received the very important recognition of the head of Turkish museums.

Carl Humann was assigned to lead the construction of roads in Anatolia. As part of his preparations, he visited the site of ancient Pergamon in the winter of 1864-65. At this historic site, he used his influence to stop the destruction of the partially exposed marble ruins. Although he already showed great interest in starting excavations in this area, he still needed official support from Berlin.

In 1878, he received support from the director of the Berlin Sculpture Museum and official permits from the Ottoman government to begin excavations in September of the same year. During the initial work, a large part of the altar's artistically very valuable frieze and numerous sculptures were found. After this success, the second and third excavation missions were carried out, in 1880-1881 and 1883-1886. The finds, which with the help of the Ottoman government became the property of German archaeologists, were transported in wagons to the coast and then loaded onto ships of the German navy and taken to Berlin.

In the German Empire, the discovery of a large altar, recognized as one of the finest examples of Hellenistic sculpture, attracted significant attention and made Humann immediately famous. Later, against a nationalistic background, the findings evoked a strong sense of pride, especially against the British Museum in London. Nazi Germany was very interested in all things mystical, supernatural, and occult archaeology. A good example from the movie world is Indiana Jones, who searched for and found many familiar objects from the Bible, and whose competition was often with archaeologists confirmed by the Nazi German army.

Since 1900, the excavations have been in the possession of the German Archaeological Institute.

The findings were put on display in a museum in Berlin. In 1910, the construction of a new building began by order of the German Emperor Wilhelm II. The Pergamon Museum was opened in 1930. The architectural and archaeological wonders of the Ishtar Gate and the Pergamon Altar, reconstructed from excavations and modern materials, were the main attractions of the exhibition.

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The discovery, construction, and display of the Pergamon Altar coincided perfectly with the Nazi Party and Hitler's rise to power. When the Museum opened in Berlin in 1930, Hitler also moved from Munich to Berlin.

At the end of World War II, Hitler's reign ended, and the museum was also badly damaged in air raids. Most of the main exhibits were protected by fences, but smaller items were destroyed or stolen. In particular, the Red Army collected a lot of objects when Berlin burned to the ground and transported them as spoils of war to the Soviet Union.

By 1958, the Soviet Union had returned most of the objects to the friendly East German-controlled area of Berlin, but a few notable objects from Pergamon's original collection survive in Russia's Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow and the Hermitage in St. Petersburg. Due to its return laws, Russia has no intention of returning goods to Germany or elsewhere.

Today, the Pergamon Museum is one of Berlin's most significant attractions, with almost a million visitors every year.

ADOLF HITLER

At the same time, when the excavations of Pergamon got properly underway and the found objects began to be moved to Berlin, a boy was born in a small town called Braunau am Inn on the border of Austria-Hungary with Germany, who was to have a great importance and a great mission in Satan's plan to ruin God's plan and destroy God's chosen people.

The Hitler family

Adolf Hitler's father, Alois Hitler, was an Austrian customs official on the border with Germany. Alois Hitler married three times, first to Anna Glasl-Hörer. The marriage remained childless and after divorcing Anna, Alois married his cook's daughter, Franziska Matzelsberger. Franziska gave birth to Alois junior and a daughter Angela. After Franziska died of tuberculosis in 1883, Alois married his cousin Klara Pölzl, with the bishop's special permission, with whom he had had an affair while his second wife was still alive. [6]

Alois Hitler was an embittered man who believed in strict discipline and order and was often violent. Over time, Alois, an alcoholic, would often beat his wife and family for the smallest of reasons. Alois and Klara had a total of six children, the first three of whom died under the age of

two. Only the fourth, Adolf, lived longer. Alois was 52 years old when Adolf was born. Klara Pölzl, 23 years younger than her husband, on the other hand, was a neat, serious, and hardworking woman who took care of her finances as best she could to please her spouse. Deeply religious, Klara was unhappy as the spouse of the irritable and violent Alois and was sad because of her first three children who died in infancy. After Adolf, the family also had Edmund, who died of measles at the age of six, and Paula, who lived the longest of the siblings, until 1960.

Adolf Hitler's childhood

Adolf Hitler was born on April 20, 1889. Adolf was a normal and innocent-looking little boy. His childhood home was on the second floor of a house on Salzburger Vorstadt street. He was baptized a member of the Catholic Church and was given the name Adolfus. The couple feared that none of their four children, like their siblings, would survive to a very old age. However, when Adolf survived and grew up, Klara gave her son tender love as much as she could.

In his childhood games, Adolf wanted to be the leader. He led his friends, among other things, to the battles of the Wild West, for which he got the model from the popular German Western writer Karl May. Similarly, the battles of the Boer War inspired Adolf's games. Likewise, "follow the leader" was his favorite pastime, if he could lead. Although Adolf had friends as a child, the family moved often, and Adolf was repeatedly separated from his old circle of friends. That's why he sometimes spent lonely periods and sometimes also got into fights with new acquaintances. [7]

At the age of five, Adolf went to public school. There he learned to read and count and became interested in history at the beginning of his school years. In 1897, when Adolf was eight years old, Klara sent him to a convent school, hoping that Adolf could become a monk. However, he was expelled from school because he had been caught smoking on the grounds of the monastery. The learning in the abbot's school was not completely wasted, as there was a coat of arms with a swastika along the main passageway of the church. The brand would become important in European history.

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The family soon moved to Linz, where Adolf had a good time. He continued at public school, doing satisfactorily. Different teachers have described him in different ways, which is because young Adolf did well in his favorite subjects, drawing, history, and physical education, while he got bad grades in the subjects he disliked. As a rule, according to the teachers, Adolf was stubborn and defiant, but on the other hand, he was also shy and dreamy. In 1900, when Adolf was eleven years old, Alois put his reluctant son in a boarding school, hoping that he would become a government official like himself.

Adolf hated his school and especially his father's idea of his future as a civil servant. The least of all, Adolf wanted to become like his father, a boring civil servant bored with life, whose only entertainment would be a round of beer halls after work. Adolf, who received praise for his drawing talents from his mother, friends, and teachers, was convinced of his future as an artist. He later described his first school years as important for realizing his national identity. In Austria at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, run wild by different nationalities, it was Germans that was most admired on the border against Germany. "German boy, don't forget that you are German" and "Girl, remember that you have to become a German mother" were popular slogans of the time, which were cultivated by, among other things, the most enthusiastic teachers. With special warmth, Adolf remembers his school history teacher, Dr. Leopold Pötsch, whose lessons on German history were memorable for him.

Adolf's father died suddenly in a brewery located near the home at the beginning of 1903, which freed the then 14-year-old Adolf from his dream career as an artist. However, due to his mother's wish, he continued at the vocational school in Steyr, where he did reasonably well at first. However, his average began to fall and in 1905 it were clearly below average. In Steyr, he also got himself drunk for the first and last time in his life. According to his teachers, he was talented and intelligent, but reluctant and lazy. Adolf fell ill with lung disease and on the doctor's advice, he had to interrupt his studies for at least a year.

Klara Hitler took her teenage son to Spital in the countryside to her relatives to recuperate. During that time, Adolf enjoyed walking around the beautiful surroundings, drawing, and painting. To avoid fieldwork, he

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appealed to his weak condition. At the same time, Klara moved with Adolf's sister Paula to Linz, where Adolf also returned from the country. At the opera, he met August Kubizek, a young musician who kept listening to Adolf and thus turned out to be a perfect friend for him. The young people wandered around the city discussing architecture and art while dreaming of a great future in culture. Adolf also outlined his first political opinions to Kubizek, who was occasionally startled by his furious pathos when he got up to speed.

Convinced of his success as an artist and fed up with his teachers, Adolf did not continue his studies but left school before matriculating.

Adolf Hitler's artistic career

Adolf Hitler described the carefree time in Linz as the happiest of his life. The only depressing thing about the joy of life was his mother's illness. Klara was diagnosed with breast cancer and was operated on in January 1907. After Klara was released from the hospital, Hitler took care of his mother and sister. When his mother seemed to be doing better by the end of the summer, Hitler left his mother in the care of his sister Paula and traveled to Vienna for the entrance exams at the Academy of Fine Arts.

Hitler was optimistic and self-confident but had to be badly disappointed because he already failed the second stage of the entrance exam. Of the 113 applicants, Hitler was among the 85 who did not get inside. Hitler's ability to visualize and reproduce buildings was noticed and he was encouraged to apply to the Academy's architecture department. But to be accepted for the entrance exams of the architecture department, Hitler would have needed the school leaving certificate he finished two years earlier.

The year brought more sorrows. Hitler traveled back to Linz to take care of his mother, whose health had begun to deteriorate again. Eduard Bloch, the Jewish family doctor of the Hitlers, described Adolf's care later: "He was most tenderly attached to his mother and watched her every move to be able to help her in even the smallest matters." Hitler's mother died a few days before Christmas Eve. Dr. Bloch only took a small fee for the usually expensive treatment. Hitler was eternally grateful

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to Bloch for this and protected him as an exception during the subsequent persecution of Jews.

At the end of the summer of 1908, Hitler applied to the art academy again but was unsuccessful this time as well. If Hitler's dream of a career as an artist had gone ahead, he would have wanted to open an art gallery in Vienna, where he would have sold his paintings to wealthy Viennese. And lived a stylish Viennese life. Today, in an art book about Austrian artists, we could also read about an artist named Adolf Hitler, who specialized especially in depicting buildings and urban landscapes. But fate decided otherwise.

Having lost his dream and both parents, Hitler became homeless. He had to sleep in the city on park benches and eat in the queues of charity kitchens. In the winter, he was able to live in the dormitories of the poor. This was the bottom line of Hitler's life and career. Hitler started to rise from the bottom after he got from the city's night house to a higher quality men's dormitory. The dormitory had been financed by the charity of the Jewish Rothschild and other families like them. Hitler made a living by making watercolor and oil paintings of the sights of Vienna, which he sold on the street, especially to tourists.

Hitler saw Habsburg-ruled Austria as a weak state where he had experienced nothing but disappointment and misery. He felt no loyalty to Austria whatsoever. He should have gone to the mandatory conscription and knew that the authorities were trying to find him. So, after turning 24 and receiving his share of his father's inheritance, he packed up his possessions and left in May 1913 to join his “true people, the Germans in Munich, Germany. He was more interested in the simple German beer hall and lifestyle than the sophisticated Viennese café culture with customers enjoying Sacher torte. [8]

Hitler in Arms

In Munich, Hitler felt at home and free. He managed financially better than in expensive Vienna. Hitler led a kind of hermit life in his simple apartment. In the evenings, he had long discussions about his thoughts with his landlord, who followed Hitler's long and passionate soliloquies with admiration.

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Lutheranism's founder Martin Luther's views on Jews were best displayed in Munich. Various political movements, groups, and secret societies operated there, many of which were very anti-Semitic. Hitler's anti-Semitism and hatred of Marxism had indeed been born in Vienna, but here they gained more strength and support.

Soon the news came that the heir to the Austrian crown, Franz Ferdinand, had been murdered in Sarajevo. A war ensued, which later came to be called the World War, and even later the First World War. Hitler was excited about the outbreak of war and wanted to join the German army, not Austria. Hitler signed up at the nearest recruitment center, where his citizenship was not asked, and he was accepted into the army.

After barely three months of training in Munich, Hitler arrived at the front in October 1914 in the first company of the Bavarian 16th Infantry Regiment. Hitler was involved in a battle that same month near Lille in northern France. Hitler was brave as a soldier and wanted to fulfill his duty conscientiously. More than a month later, he was awarded the Iron Cross, second class, for his bravery as a messenger. According to Hitler's own words, it was the happiest day of his life.

The war was brutal, and the death toll was huge. Among other things, combat gases were used as weapons on both sides. Even in difficult and dangerous situations, Hitler served conscientiously and received thanks from his commanders during and after the war. In the memories of the officers and other front-line men, the Hitler of the trenches was comradely, thoughtful, brave, and a willing volunteer. Unlike at school, in the army, he didn't fuss or question orders. However, the promotion to corporal that Hitler achieved in the first year remained the only one.

During the war, Hitler participated in about 40 battles at the front. After almost four years of war, Hitler was rewarded for first-class service with the Iron Cross First Class, rarely awarded to enlisted men. He was wounded twice, the first time in the leg in October 1916. Two years later, the British fired gas grenades during the night on the German side. Hitler survived the night with the help of his gas mask, but finally suffered gas poisoning in the morning, which left him blind. Transported to a military hospital, Hitler feared he would lose his sight permanently and was at times completely hysterical.

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It was good news for Hitler when his eyesight was restored. The momentary joy was spoiled by the crushing news of the end of the war with the defeat of Germany. After the war, an embittered Hitler, who did not show anti-Semitism during his service, began to believe in the so-called backstabbing theory. According to the theory, Jews and Communists worked together on the home front to defeat Germany to take over, as had happened in the Russian Revolution. The fear was indeed completely consistent, because the communists had a strong support in Germany after the war, and the idea of a revolution was probably admired among them. There were some Jews in the Communists, but the great majority were Germans. Although Hitler knew that many of those in his unit were Jews, he accepted the theory as it was and later used it in his propaganda.

In the Versailles peace negotiations that took place after the end of the war, Germany had to hand over large areas of land to its neighbors and pay large war reparations. Politically, Germany was in a rather unbalanced state. The left planned a revolution, the right strongly opposed the left's plans, and anti-Semitism reared its head. The situation was confusing in every way, waiting and ready for something new.

Political career

When Hitler returned to Munich, Bavaria was ruled by a revolutionary government formed by the Social Democrats and led by the radical Jew Kurt Eisner. Revolutionary military councils held power in military barracks. Hitler was now 30 years old and had no clear plans. He decided to remain in military service for the time being. Because he was a distinguished veteran, he was allowed to remain in the army, which was reduced to 100,000 men under the requirements of the Treaty of Versailles.

The radical left tried to push the revolution forward, and in the spring of 1919, the communists founded the Bavarian Soviet Republic. Counter-revolutionary Freikorps troops in May defeated it after a few weeks. After the war, Hitler was initially a guard at the Traunstein POW camp for a couple of months, and from January to February 1919 he was on guard

duty in the city of Munich.

Munich was now under military rule and the army organized anti-communist speaking courses for soldiers. They were supposed to eradicate revolutionary thoughts from the crew. In June, Captain Karl Mayr assigned Hitler, known as a counter-revolutionary, to the first of these courses. During the course, Hitler heard, among other things, Gottfried Feder's inspiring lecture on breaking "interest slavery" and realized for the first time that he was able to influence others with his speaking skills. During the course, the idea of a political career arose for Hitler. Mayr was convinced of Hitler's abilities and appointed him as a political education officer. Hitler's speeches and presentations are said to have easily caught the attention of the soldiers. In his speeches, he liked to attack Jews in particular, and Mayr began to regard him as some sort of expert on the subject. Hitler became Mayr's right-hand man for a while.

On September 12, 1919, Hitler curiously attended the DAP (Deutsche Arbeiterpartei) meeting at the Sterneckerbräu restaurant. Almost the entire membership of the party was there, 23 people. In the beginning, money collecting was organized, which was used to increase the party's coffers, which previously only had a few tens of marks. Hitler decided to join the party, although he was still not very sure about the party's program.

The name of the party was changed in 1920 to the National Socialist Workers' Party of Germany. Hitler, being artistically gifted, designed the props that would later become famous for, i.e. swastika symbols and flags and greeting styles. The party founded its magazine, *Völkischer Beobachter*, whose editor-in-chief was Hitler's friend Eckart. In the beginning, the growth in the number of members was of course slow, but Hitler did not give up. He continued to develop his speaking skills and took advantage of every opportunity to gain attention. Hitler drew up a 25-point National Socialist Party program. In particular, the dissolution of the "truce of shame" at Versailles was popular with the public.

Little by little, the flamboyant and energetic Hitler became the leader of the party. Hitler's powerful appearance also brought other future celebrities, such as Hermann Göring, Joseph Goebbels, Ernst Röhm, and Rudolf Hess, into the Nazi ideology. With the help of the publisher Ernst Hanfstaengl, Hitler got to know the wealthy part of the population, from

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whom the party received financial support.

Fascist leader Benito Mussolini, admired by Hitler, seized power in Italy in 1922. The following year, the state administration of Bavaria quarreled with Berlin and, with Hitler's help, began to plan a similar coup in Germany as well. The so-called Beer Hall Putsch, which took place on November 9, 1923, in Munich, failed miserably and the party leadership partly fled, some were killed and some, like Hitler, were arrested.

The trial dragged on for a long time, but the Nazis received only minor sentences compared to the gravity of the crime from the judge who sympathized with them. In April 1924, he was sentenced to five years in Landsberg prison, but he could apply for parole after six months. The Iron Cross earned in the war was also an advantage. Although Hitler was not a German citizen, he was not exiled because he had served bravely in the country's army at the front.

In prison, Hitler wrote his famous book *Mein Kampf*, or *My Fight*. Hitler's book eventually became the bible of the National Socialists. During the Nazi regime, it was a standard wedding and christening gift. By 1939, the work had been published in 11 languages and had sold 5.2 million copies. The proceeds from the sale made Hitler a rich man.

The Altar of Pergamon and the rise of the Nazis

When the remains of Pergamon were moved to Berlin and the Pergamon Museum was built, Adolf Hitler also started building his political career based on Nazism.

When the Pergamon Museum's altar, or Satan's throne, in Berlin, was opened in 1930, Hitler had also moved to Berlin. In the same year's elections, the Nazis won a surprise victory, 18 percent of all votes and 107 seats, becoming the second largest party in the German Bundestag. In 1932, the result was already 37% and the Nazis became the largest political party. In politics, however, sufficient mutual trust was not achieved between the Nazis and the Social Democrats to create a functioning government.

Reich President Hindenburg was tired of constant political problems and, fearing their consequences finally decided to name Hitler on January

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30, 1933, as Chancellor. The nomination also received support from other parties, because it was believed that Hitler's strong activity would calm down when he got the power to decide. There was a mistake because Hitler's goals were much bigger. So, Hitler became Chancellor of Germany, but he wanted to be more. He wanted to be a dictator who would work for the German state and people and give them what was rightfully theirs. The German Aryan people needed space and unity. Germans living in different countries had to be brought into the same German empire, where there would be no inferior citizens spoiling development.

The advance of the Nazis in German politics was surprisingly strong, and nothing seemed impossible to them anymore. Hitler immediately began his work to supplant democracy. As a result of ruthless manipulation, the parliament passed a law that guaranteed Hitler the powers of a dictator. On July 14, all other parties were banned, and Germany became a one-party dictatorship.

The night of long knives

In the summer of 1933, the Sturmabteilung, or SA, had achieved a significant position within the Nazi Party. They were the so-called brown shirts, who had strongly influenced public opinion in the early stages of the Nazi movement, for example by attacking trade unionists. It involved 2.5 million men. Many members of the SA took the words socialism and national socialism in the party's name seriously and opposed Adolf Hitler and other party leaders for their different ideas. SA began to break away from the party leadership. It wanted changes in the party with the goal of significant social and economic changes.

In 1934, Hitler already had all the power in his hands in Germany, but he was afraid of a coup and losing his position. The fear was not unwarranted. SA leader Röhm had called Hitler a "traitor" who should be sent on a "long vacation". In addition, Röhm caused problems for Hitler because the industrial leaders did not want to cooperate with Hitler's government if Röhm talked about a socialist revolution and the SA troops were causing unrest in the streets. Nazism was fine, but communism was not.

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Hitler decided to solve the problem in an event called the Night of the Long Knives. He ordered all SA leaders to attend a meeting in Bad Wiessee, outside Munich, at a boarding house called the Hanselbauer. SA leaders thought that there would be an agreement on changes to the party's program. But they didn't know Hitler well enough. Hitler was ready for anything to gain power. Over the next few hours, SA leaders were arrested and many of them were immediately shot. This is how Hitler eliminated the threat of a socialist revolution that the industrial leaders feared.

Dictatorship

Reich President Hindenburg died on August 2, 1934, at nine o'clock in the morning. Previously, the government had already enacted a law that would come into force immediately after his death. New presidential elections would not be held, but Hitler ordered the offices of Chancellor and Reich President to be combined and transferred to "Führer und Reichskanzler Adolf Hitler", as required by law. The change was approved in a referendum, where Hitler received 88% of the votes cast. Henceforth, Hitler used the title Führer, which simply means leader. Hitler soon ordered every member of the armed forces to swear a personal oath of loyalty to him. The oath read as follows:

"I swear before God absolute loyalty to the leader of the German Empire and people and the commander-in-chief of the Wehrmacht, Adolf Hitler, and as a brave soldier I declare that I will always abide by this oath, even under the threat of death."

Hitler gained the people's trust with his oratorical skills and with the help of Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. The state-controlled press led the people to believe that Hitler was the Savior from the Depression, Communism, the Treaty of Versailles, and the harmful influence of the Jews on the state.

Especially the territorial alliances that Hitler achieved before the Second World War, which were the Rhineland, the Archipelago, Austria, and the German-speaking areas of Czechoslovakia without firing a shot, gave Hitler some kind of reputation as a foreign policy genius.

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An unemployed and homeless artist became the leader of a great European nation, making almost all its citizens cheer in ecstasy at his ideas, even though they were utterly disgustingly brutal and unjust. Especially towards Jews. Human evil alone is not enough to explain all the unspeakable evil and complete cruelty that the Jews had to experience. There had to be a much darker and darker hatred and will to destroy God's chosen people.

Hitler's victory parade had supernatural power and irresistible success. As if a supernatural force had driven Hitler and the Nazi Party forward. At the same time, making one of the world's leading nations in science, arts, and research completely crazy with Hitler's speeches and thoughts.

Hitler's Love Life

Not much is known about Hitler's relationships with the opposite sex. Or there isn't much to tell. Hitler had once said that it was his duty to be married to the German state. And it is probably true that, especially during the war, a normal married life would not have been successful in any way.

At a young age, however, he fell in love with a young woman named Stephanie Jansten, to whom he anonymously wrote several love poems, but with whom he never even spoke. Hitler explained that the couple communicated with just their eyes, but Stephanie married the young cavalry officer without knowing anything about Hitler's feelings. Depressed by what happened, Hitler even planned suicide at the time.

At the beginning of his political career, Hitler met Eva Braun, who worked in a photography shop. Eva was a beautiful young woman. She had blue eyes, a beautiful face, blonde hair, and an athletic body. A true Aryan racial woman. The first meeting was in October 1929, when Eva was only 17 years old. Hitler was 23 years older. Hitler had heaped compliments and appeared lovable. Eva fell in love with Hitler and wanted them to get married. Eva's family also considered it shameful to date for a long time without any serious intention to get married. For Hitler, a political career was more important than marriage. Frustrated, Eva even tried suicide. Later, Hitler gave Eva more attention and Eva got used to that kind of relationship. They finally got married the day before he committed suicide.

Hitler's closest associates

Adolf Hitler was surrounded by servants, adjutants, secretaries, and friends. Hitler was polite and kind to members of his inner circle. From this group, the close and committed ones stayed by Hitler's side until his death. Some even tried to escape at the very end and save their skin.

Hermann Göring was a distinguished fighter pilot in the First World War. At the end of the war, he had 22 downed enemy planes and was awarded the high Prussian decoration Pour le Mérite.

After the end of the First World War, Göring worked as a commercial pilot in Denmark and Sweden and at the aircraft manufacturer Fokker. While in Sweden, he met his first wife, Baroness Carin von Kantzow.

Göring was one of the first to join the National Socialist German Workers' Party and was the second or third-highest leader of Nazi Germany.

Göring became known for his extravagant desire for comfort and expensive taste. Among the usually ascetic Nazi leaders, he was a lover of good food, expensive wines, and beautiful women. He was thus Hitler's link between the National Socialists and the old German military elite. In the final phase of the war, Göring's public reputation suffered not only because of the bombings that devastated German cities but also because, despite the deprivation suffered by the German people, he still amassed new riches for himself.

In the Nuremberg trials held after the war, Göring was the highest-ranking National Socialist to be sentenced. He was sentenced to death by hanging. The night before the execution of the sentence, he committed suicide with cyanide and thus avoided hanging. He was 53 years old when he died.

Joseph Goebbels was one of the most influential politicians in National Socialist Germany. Along with numerous high-party positions, he served as the Minister of Public Education and Propaganda in Hitler's government. Goebbels was known for his brilliant speaking skills.

Goebbels would have liked to join the German army and serve in the First World War when he was young, but because of his club foot, he was deemed unfit for service. Goebbels, who had studied at a Jesuit school,

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initially wanted to become a Catholic priest. However, he started studying literature and philosophy in Bonn.

Germany's surrender at the end of the First World War was difficult for Goebbels to accept. In addition to this national tragedy and shame, personal adversity also befell him. Goebbels' writings were not agreed to be published in newspapers and publishing houses. He became acquainted with several political extremist movements, both on the right and on the left. Goebbels eventually joined the National Socialist Party in 1922 after hearing Hitler's speech. Hitler, on the other hand, was convinced of Goebbels' erudition and oratorical gifts.

Goebbels became Nazi Germany's Minister of Propaganda, where he was effective in bringing the right message to the people. For the propaganda to reach its destination, the party also needed a sufficiently cheap radio receiver on the market. The production of People's Radio started in 1933. The radio was available at a cheap price, so it was practically within the reach of every household. You could only listen to government-approved programs with it.

Cinematography also became an important propaganda tool under Goebbels' leadership. Many of the films were harmless comedies and entertainment films, but Goebbels' ministry also produced clear propaganda films, such as *Lust for Power*, which denigrated the Jews.

When the war began to turn badly for Germany and the Battle of Stalingrad was lost, Goebbels gave his most famous speech. He asked the audience, "Do you want a total war, more total and radical than any previous war?" The audience responded with rapturous applause and shouts of "jaa". Likewise, the mass of the people expressed their desire to work, "if the Leader wills," twelve, fourteen, or sixteen hours a day if this is necessary to achieve final victory.

Goebbels stayed with his wife and children in an underground bunker with Hitler until the very end of the war. In the end, after Berlin was occupied and at the end of the war, Goebbels and his wife committed suicide after they had killed their six children before that.

Heinrich Himmler was one of the most influential figures in Nazi Germany. Heading the SS and the Gestapo guaranteed him a very central position in the leadership of the state. Himmler was responsible for organizing the German concentration and extermination camp system

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and was thus one of the main perpetrators of the Holocaust.

During the war, Himmler liked the idea of becoming a military leader, so he aspired to the position of commander of major military operations towards the end of the war. However, Himmler was too inexperienced and incompetent for the task of military leader, which hurt Germany's already poor military success on the Western Front after the Allied landings.

Himmler lost his faith in the German situation in the spring of 1945 and realized the inevitable collapse of the empire. However, he imagined that the US and British governments would forgive Nazi war crimes because they needed Germany as a continental European ally to counter Bolshevism and the Soviet Union. At the very end of the war, Himmler claimed the leadership of Germany for himself and negotiated an armistice with the Allies. When Hitler heard the news of Himmler's negotiations, he considered Himmler the worst traitor.

In the end, Himmler escaped with only two Gestapo security men who were still loyal to their former leader. Himmler adopted a German military police uniform and forged documents, shaved his mustache, put an eyepatch over his left eye, and went by the pseudonym "Heinrich Hitzinger". However, the soldiers of the British Army who participated in the occupation of Germany noticed that the contents of the documents of the man, who appeared to be an ordinary military policeman, were falsified and decided to take him in for questioning. Himmler revealed his identity to the British, even though he understood that he had been taken prisoner of war and sentenced for his crimes. On May 23, Himmler killed himself by biting open a lethal poison cyanide capsule he had hidden in his mouth.

After the autopsy, Himmler was buried in the forest near Lüneburg. The location of the grave was kept a secret because they did not want the grave site to become a pilgrimage site for neo-Nazis. [9]

Rudolf Hess was the deputy leader of the National Socialist Party of Germany. He was an absolute admirer of Hitler and until 1941 was the second or third most important person in the party and Nazi Germany, after Adolf Hitler and perhaps Hermann Göring. Hitler nominated Hess as his successor in 1939, but Hess lost all his titles in May 1941 after being captured by the Allies. He had flown alone to Scotland to negotiate peace between Britain and Germany.

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Hess proposed that Germany could protect the British Empire if it did not stand in Germany's way in continental Europe.

The British soon learned from Hess's strange behavior and impossible suggestions that he was on his own and did not officially represent Germany. Hitler spread the word around Germany that Hess had gone mad and was acting privately.

After the war, Hess was also accused in the Nuremberg war crimes trial. He was acquitted of crimes against humanity and war crimes but was still found guilty of planning a war of aggression and crimes against peace.

Hess begged for amnesty many times, but the requests were always met with opposition from the Soviet Union. Hess eventually committed suicide at the age of 93.

THE GERMAN PEOPLE CHOSEN FOR THE HOLOCAUST

Germany's political beginnings are the Holy Roman Empire, founded in the 9th century. The German Empire was formed in 1871 from the mosaic of several free cities and small principalities, the core of which was the Kingdom of Prussia. Germany and the German-speaking world were culturally one of the world's leading countries. Similarly, in the fields of universities and scientific research, German Central Europe was the world's leader. Technical and industrial operations were also at the top of the world in terms of efficiency. However, Germany had not been able to utilize the colonial policy in the way that, for example, Portugal, Spain, France, and especially Great Britain, which conquered the world earlier. Germany's ambitions for greatness were directed more towards Europe and its neighboring countries. In a certain way, Germany had underperformed compared to its neighboring countries, despite scientific and technical progress.

Despite the suspicions against Jews, anti-Semitism in Germany at the beginning of the 20th century was no more serious than in other European countries. Hundreds of thousands of Jews had been killed in pogroms in Eastern Europe, but in Germany, there was hardly any serious violence against Jews before Hitler's rise to power in 1933.

Germany was a kind of safe place for European Jews, which is why they had gathered in Germany and Poland in those days.

Jews were also not discriminated against before the law. However,

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anti-Semitic prejudice and dislike of Jews existed, and many ordinary Germans did not consider them to be true Germans. Anti-Semitism was common in universities, and many non-governmental organizations also denied membership to Jews. However, due to the situation in Germany, the country's elite began to gradually turn more anti-Jewish after the First World War. This was influenced by Germany's heavy and humiliating defeat in the war and the rise of the socialist party to become the largest in the country. The Russian Revolution of 1917 also strengthened anti-Semitism in Germany, as the unpleasant communism was associated with Jews. The First World War also accelerated Germany's social and political contradictions, and the country's new democracy had not yet taken root in the citizens' thinking. Since the 1860s, anti-Semitism had been used in the German political debate to incite people. The First World War also produced many men who were afraid of violence and ready to kill, who later became the executors of the Holocaust.

From the murderous imaginations of a few individuals grew a plan to destroy the lives, culture, and even memory of millions of people. And it was also executed with frightening and amazing efficiency.

How were the resources of a modern industrial superpower mobilized for genocide? How did the conservative elite of the old cultural country get behind the radical and unprecedented plan?

In the 1930s, large masses of people in Germany lived in a society based on the belief in ethnic inequality. They sought redress for every real or imagined wrong done to them in the preceding 200 years. They wanted to create a world according to their vision. The central belief was closely connected to the racial worldview adopted by many, which defined Germans as representatives of a superior race, the northern Aryans, and Jews as a sub-race contaminated with harmful physical characteristics. The utopia to which these Germans aspired would remain unattainable if the Jews existed.

An important factor that made the Holocaust possible was the popularity of racial eugenics in the scientific world, which was a very popular discipline in many developed nations at the time. According to this doctrine, for example, the classification of Jews as a biologically separate group from the rest of humanity was possible. According to Hitler, the Jews were not even an inferior race, but a kind of non-race. According to the doctrine, Jews were genetically inclined to destructive

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behavior.

The interpretation of social Darwinism, which became popular, considered the inequality of people to be completely natural and legitimate thing. Just as animal species compete for existence, nations must also compete against each other. It was also used as a justification for war, where, according to the doctrine, superior and stronger nations could conquer, exploit, subjugate, and exterminate weaker and inferior nations if it was useful or necessary. In Nazi Germany, racial hygiene initially justified forced sterilizations of the unfit, such as the mentally ill, and later mass murders.

At first, Hitler's plan was the same as in other European countries, i.e. to drive the Jews out of their own country by weakening their life chances. However, the number of Jews was quite large, and later on, many more Jews came from the conquered areas, which did not make the situation any easier. One option was the forced relocation of the Jews to some distant place. In the end, Hitler saw no other option but to start exterminating the Jews.

Ultimately, Hitler considered the extermination of the Jews to be such an important goal that even in the military crunch of the latter stages of the war, Nazi Germany's fuel, transportation, ammunition, military, and industrial resources were spent on death camps rather than on hostilities.

What kind of person can do what was done in the Nazi concentration camps? What kind of person could lead thousands of people regardless of age or gender to the gas chambers to certain death without any legal reason? What kind of person can starve thousands of people? To punish completely arbitrarily for minor offenses with death. Such a person must be absolutely committed to following orders and completely without thinking about whether the actions are humanly right. To act systematically, efficiently and purposefully.

However, it was not only about a few specific individuals, what happened in Germany had the strong support and support of the people. Jews had been persecuted in almost all countries, but nowhere the persecution led to the level carried out by the Nazis. A nation that can function as it did in Germany must also be very systematic, coherent, determined, good at organizing things, and at a technologically sufficient level. The people must be loyal to their leadership and act according to the regulations.

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But are such qualities enough for the shocking acts committed? Is hatred towards a certain minority possibly necessary? Hate and contempt must have been needed, but was it natural? The entire rise to power of the Nazis went as if some supernatural force had guided and ensured their victory. At the same time, the people were told that they were somehow much better than other nations. They had the right to subjugate, enslave, and kill inferior people.

Since Satan had already removed the ten tribes of Israel from history, the goal was now to remove the Jewish people from the face of the earth. There could be no better choice for the ultimate extermination of the Jews than 20th-century Nazi Germany. Nazi Germany was Satan's chosen tool to achieve his goals. Germany had experienced a bad and partly unfair punishment in the negotiations leading to the peace of the First World War. The country had lost large areas to its neighboring countries. This was followed by severe economic depression and unemployment. And then a phenomenally skilled speaker emerges who captures the minds of his listeners. Hitler was a skilled propagandist and took advantage of the dissatisfaction among Germans with the outcome of the First World War and the economic difficulties of the late 1920s. The message was quite simple, Germany had suffered unfairly from territorial losses, economic depression, and unemployment. And now the main culprit was found, i.e. the Jews. Hitler promulgated blatant anti-Jewish propaganda, which sank in the listeners effectively.

None of those explanations alone are likely sufficient. No amount of human evil alone is sufficient to explain all the blatant evil, insensitivity, and reckless cruelty that the Jews had to experience. It was about something even darker and darker than the sinful man. It was about Satan, who knows his time is running out.

By no other nation could the holocaust have been carried out as effectively, as perfectly, as mercilessly loyally carried forward, and as obediently without questioning the justification of the actions.

People changed as if possessed. Their character changed, and their personality split, as it were. Who can explain why honorable people and good family men have for days and years tortured innocent people most mercilessly, and murdered thousands of men, women, and children? After finishing their day's work as a concentration camp guard, they go home to enjoy the evening's peace and dinner with their family and give

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their children a tender goodnight kiss.

HITLER'S NAZI GERMANY

The name "Third Reich" emphasized the National Socialists' way of thinking in their propaganda about the continuation of the "First Reich" that had its government, i.e. the Holy Roman Empire, and the "Second Reich", i.e. the German Empire formed in 1871 from numerous German states. The intervening Weimar Republic was not considered an empire at all. The name "thousand-year empire" referred to the Holy German Roman Empire (843–1806), which lasted almost a thousand years, and to the Christian eschatology of the Bible, i.e. the doctrine of the last events of the world, and thus also presented the National Socialist regime as lasting a thousand years.

Nazi propaganda also emphasized the legacy of the empire by mixing nationalist, traditional, and new National Socialist symbols.

Germany in the 1920s

Germany quickly recovered from the aftermath of the First World War. After all, the war was mostly fought outside German territories. Germany was not bombed in the same way as in World War II. Although the peace terms of the war were harsh with war reparations and lost territories, life in Germany was satisfactory. German universities were top-class in the world. A large part of the Nobel science prizes went to German scientists. German scientists received three times the number of

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awards compared to US scientists. German film production was also at the top of the world. German films were watched all over the world. Fun life offered many different options and Germany and especially Berlin was considered an interesting travel destination. Germany did not have the same bad reputation after World War I as it did after World War II. Germany had fought a fair and traditional war. Lost it and that was it. Wars between nations were quite common in Europe. The royals had waged war against nations ruled by their relatives.

But at the end of the 1920s, an international depression hit, which also changed German life and especially the economic life for the worse. Unemployment increased enormously and the value of money fell drastically. For example, billions of marks were needed to buy bread.

This situation needed a solution. They needed a solution, reasons for the situation, and, of course, culprits. The solution was brought by a smooth-talking man who promised the people a job and would make Germany great again. The man was, of course, Adolf Hitler, who would later become Fuhrer. One big reason was, of course, Germany's unfair treatment in the First World War peace treaty. Another reason was the attempts of the communists to put a stop to the economy. And the culprit was easily found, as had always been found before in European countries. Jewry. Hitler captivated his audience. The people were ready to follow their new leader until his death. And that's what happened in the end.

The birth of National Socialist Germany

The rise to power of the National Socialists and the failure of the Weimar Republic have been explained primarily by the consequences of the First World War, such as the "peace of shame" and difficult economic problems.

The National Socialist German Workers' Party (NSDAP) was founded as early as 1919, but for a long time it was a very small opposition party. From the beginning, however, it sought to usurp power and overthrow the republic. In 1923, its supporters attempted a coup, but it failed. In that case, Adolf Hitler and three other members of the party leadership were sentenced to five years in prison for treason. Hitler was sentenced to prison in Landsberg. Hitler was released after only a few months because the Bavarian government no longer considered the far right a

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threat. Hitler presented his program in his book *Mein Kampf*, or *My Fight*, published in 1925.

From 1930, during a period of economic hardship, the NSDAP's support grew considerably, and in the general election of July 1932, it emerged as the largest party, receiving more than a third of the vote. In the next elections already held in November, the party did lose some support, but it remained the largest party. However, the combined number of seats of the Social Democrats and the Communists was greater than that of the NSDAP. The party's rise to power was made possible on January 30, 1933, when President Paul von Hindenburg appointed Adolf Hitler as the leader of the new government, i.e. Chancellor. At that time there were still other parties in the government, and officially it was just a normal change of government, but very soon Hitler got all the power for himself.

Towards full monopoly

On the same day that the new government was appointed, it ordered the parliament to be dissolved and new elections to be held. Even before these elections, left-wing parties were banned. The pretext was the fire in the German Reichstag, which was blamed on the communist Marinus van der Lubbe.

The constitution of the Weimar Republic contained provisions according to which, during a state of emergency, the government could be granted exceptionally broad powers for a limited period. The parliament elected in March 1933 soon enacted the law of power, which granted Hitler such strong powers. At first, only for four years. According to this, he had the right to enact laws even without the parliament confirming them. After that, the parliament met only a few times to give official confirmation to some of the most important decisions.

The constitution of the Weimar Republic was still valid, but because of Hitler's exceptional powers, it had little practical meaning. When President Hindenburg died in August 1934, the constitution was suddenly changed so that the offices of chancellor and president were combined and given to Hitler. After this, Hitler's title was *Führer und Reichskansler*, simply *Führer*, and he was appointed to this position for life.

Jewry

The Nuremberg racial laws came into force in 1935. The laws had two main points. The Law to Protect German Blood and Honor prohibited Marriages between Jews and German and sexual intercourse between a Jew and a German. Since marriages between Jews and non-Jews were forbidden, sexual intercourse was condemned by law. This was called racial vilification in National Socialist terminology and was considered a very serious crime.

The Citizenship Act, on the other hand, stipulated that only those of German descent had the right to German citizenship. Jews and others of non-German descent lost their citizenship rights. Losing full civil rights meant, among other things, losing the right to vote. Since only German citizens could serve as officials, the citizenship law meant the removal from office of those of Jewish birth who would otherwise have been allowed to hold their office. Taking away civil rights helped bring later, always tougher anti-Jewish laws into force.

There were precise instructions for verifying Jewishness. How many generations back was Jewish blood found? A person was, of course, defined as fully Jewish if he belonged to a Jewish congregation. Even conversion to Christianity did not save the Jews. Checking the Jewishness of the church books caused a lot of work for the priests, but it reflects the spirit of the times that the priests could complain about the extra work, but not so much about what the results of the work caused to those who turned out to be Jews.

The German churches never came out to defend the Jews, not even the so-called Confessing Church. At most, they defended Christians who had converted from Judaism, who in the eyes of the churches were a completely different thing from unconverted Jews.

The worst persecution ever against the Jews was born. The persecution was completely aimed at ethnic origin, although it was also justified on religious grounds. In Germany, anti-Semitism was also increased by the success of Jews in society, especially as publishers of newspapers and books. Because of this, some began to talk about the excessive Jewish influence on society.

Four hundred years later, the Nazis in Germany did that and of course much more than what Martin Luther had taught. Luther's teachings

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provided Hitler with ideological support and most of the German churches with theological grounds not to condemn the ongoing genocide. Without Luther's teaching, Christians would not have been able to accept the Jewish persecutors so easily.

Nazi German legislation

The laws were strict even for non-Jews. Working life was regulated by strict legislation. Strikes were not accepted, and trade unions were forbidden. Changing jobs was restricted. The first concentration camp was specifically intended for the political opposition, labor union activists, and communists. If you didn't agree with the Nazis about politics, it was best not to show your opinion in any way. From September 1939, listening to foreign radio broadcasts was also defined as a crime.

Any form of protecting Jews was also punishable. If, for example, you tried to hide a Jewish family in a secret room, when the matter was revealed, both the Jewish family and the hiding family were sent to a concentration camp. There was a high risk of being caught, as neighbors watched each other, and whistleblowers were often rewarded for reporting.

Protestant Church

When the Nazi Party came to power, many Protestant Christians were not very enthusiastic about the Nazis' anti-Jewish policies. Many of them were staunch ecclesiastics and had nothing particularly against the Jews. At the same time, in the Soviet Union, Josef Stalin had established his position as the absolute dictator of the state. Stalin's goal was to completely remove religions from the Soviet Union, even using harsh measures. There was also a strong communist party in Germany, which, as the ideological successor of Stalin, had similar doctrines. Although Protestant Christians were not enthusiastic about the Nazi policies towards the Jews, they strongly opposed the rise of Communism. And since Hitler was also against communism, the Nazi party didn't seem like such a bad option anymore. However, there were different Protestant churches concerning the Nazis. Some accepted the Nazi doctrines and the symbols of the Nazi Party in their churches, some resisted even at the

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risk of their lives.

In the Protestant churches, the so-called German Christians movement, which gathered around 600,000 supporters at its largest, gained a dominant position. The movement fully followed the Nazi ideology, and its roots are in the Nazi party program. They also rejected the Old Testament as useless and saw Jesus as an Aryan. In Nazi teaching, Jesus was even seen as the original anti-Semite. After all, Jesus had strongly criticized, among other things, the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. The perception of Jesus as an Aryan and anti-Semite was justified by the fact that it was proven that Jesus belonged to the Aryans who lived in the Galilee region.

However, the above-mentioned ideas were not invented by the Nazis, as estimates of Jesus' Aryan descent had already been made before the Nazis came to power. It was not at all uncommon for researchers in the 19th and early 20th centuries to consider the population structure of the Galilee region at the beginning of the chronology. Some of the researchers began to present theories that there would have been an Aryan and Assyrian population living in Galilee, to which Jesus would have belonged. Race thus rose to an emphasized position in the declaration of the German Christians.

Pro-Nazi Christians were feverishly trying to solve the question of how to remove the Jewish heritage from Christianity. For this, they drew up arguments on how to be a good Christian and at the same time a good Nazi. In 1939, they also founded the "Institute of Anti-Semitism" in Wartburg Castle with great festivities. The main purpose of the institute was to produce publications dealing with the removal of Judaism from church life.

The institute in question not only remained a national agency but also operated internationally in many countries. The Institute's publications included, for example, the "New German Bible", from which the Old Testament and material referring to Judaism from the New Testament had been removed. The work was distributed to German soldiers and sold all over Germany.

The institute functioned until the end of the war, even though at the end of the war a large part of the institute's management was ordered to help the war effort. The institute was also not talked about very loudly after the war, but the importance of the institute as a shaper of opinion

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was only understood at the time of German reunification.

Bookworms

Book riots raged in the spring of 1933 in more than 40 German cities. The National Socialists began to burn printed materials belonging to world literature to combat "un-Germanness". This was just two months after Adolf Hitler had become the Reich leader.

The largest worm was lit in Berlin's Opera Square on May 10, 1933. Propaganda Minister Josef Goebbels, who presided over the event, announced that he would free the Germans from "exaggerated, Jewish intelligence".

The pro-Nazi students had looted more than 30,000 books and magazines from the libraries for bonfires. Many German and foreign writers, poets, philosophers, and scientists were on the Nazi blacklist. Among others, the works of Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Thomas and Heinrich Mann, Bertolt Brecht, and Kurt Tucholsky were thrown into the fire. According to the Nazis, they weakened morale and alienated from reality. Heinrich Heine already wrote in the 1850s: "Where books are burned, eventually people are also burned."

The Hitler Youth

The Hitler Youth (HJ) was a youth organization founded by the National Socialist Party of Germany, whose mission was to educate German boys to fit the National Socialist ideology. The organization emphasized soldiering, healthy lifestyles, and obedience.

The HJ was a paramilitary organization. It was designed to train boys to become future fighters and soldiers for the Nazi cause. As an official organization of the Nazi state, the HJ had a military structure at local, regional and national levels.

The boys practiced military exercises and learned how to handle weapons. They also worked on farms in the summer and participated in competitive sports, especially boxing. Some boys enjoy the physical challenge, competition and camaraderie. For others, however, the constant focus on preparing for war and sacrificing oneself for the

motherland was alien.

German Girls' Association

The Bund Deutscher Mädel (BDM) was a Nazi girls' organization. It was founded in 1930, even before the National Socialist Party's rise to power, and was part of the Hitler Youth organization.

With Hitler's rise to power in 1933, the BDM rose to a more prominent position through Nazi control policies, while other girls' organizations were disbanded. This ensured that every German citizen belonged to a movement controlled by the Nazis and ensured the effective dissemination of the propaganda of the party in power.

In the BDM, individuality was sought to disappear, what was taught could not be questioned and the Nazi values and norms had to be believed. Matrimonial motherhood was the primary goal and duty of women. The girls will grow up to be strong mothers. In addition to that, they had to be healthy, clean, physically fit, and familiar with folklore.

Women in working life

According to Nazi ideology, the roles of men and women were completely different. Men's task was working life outside the home, and women's task was home. Inequality, anti-feminism, and the effort to remove women from working life to become housewives were firmly part of the Nazi ideology from the very beginning. A decision made in the early days of the founding of the party in 1921 also prohibited women from entering leadership positions in the Nazi Party. The party's women's organizations were also led by men, and their principle was not to promote the status of women within the party or society but to teach and spread the Nazi ideology among women. In those days, the share of women in working life was low in all countries. In that sense, Germany did not differ much from other countries. During the Weimar Republic, which preceded the Nazi regime, Germany experienced a period of rising gender equality, when women's access to working life or education was not restricted. Because of this, even in 1939, there was on average a higher number of German women in working life than, for example, in Britain

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or the United States.

However, there had been an active effort to reduce the number of women in the labor market right after the Nazis came to power in 1933. In propaganda and speeches by leading figures, women were defined as intellectually and physically weaker beings than men who needed the guidance and protection of a male society. A woman's central life task became to give birth to new Germans. They had to raise men for working life and to become soldiers, and women to become new family mothers and birth mothers. The social importance of mothers was emphasized, and high-ranking honors such as "golden crosses of motherhood" were awarded to mothers of large families. Housewives were frowned upon for participating in working life. Childless women, on the other hand, were encouraged to get married by, among other things, guaranteeing low-cost loans for families, paying child allowances, and easing the taxation of large families. Instead, an effort was made to create an image of the women involved in working life as morally lax, selfish, and swaggering beings who took jobs away from men who could do the same job better. Women's pay was lower, although the pay differences did not deviate greatly from the internationally prevailing situation in the 1930s.

Efforts were made to eliminate women's professional or academic education, access to management positions, and opportunities for social influence. According to Hitler, "the aim of the education offered to women was invariably to be future motherhood" and regulations made it difficult for women to study or become teachers. Women's organizations had to submit to the leadership of the Nazi Party and independent women's organizations were abolished. The highest-ranking woman in Nazi Germany was Gertrud Scholtz-Klink, president of the National Socialist Women's Union NS-Frauenschaft, but she had no official authority over any German man. Despite her position, Scholtz-Klink strongly opposed women's participation in politics. During the war, women's organizations participated in volunteer activities, such as firefighting during bombings and guarding and supervising forced labor brought from occupied areas.

The introduction of an order removing women from working life was often considered, but it was not introduced before the start of the Second World War. By 1943, the fortunes of the war had turned, and the armies' losses had begun to become heavy, so efforts were made to

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programmatically recruit women into working life and industrial service. Due to previous limitations and a negative attitude, the mission was not completely successful. Due to the contradiction, the number of women in German working life remained the same throughout the war.

Female auxiliary forces under the Wehrmacht were formed mainly from childless women. About 500,000 female assistants served. Half of them were volunteers and half were conscripted. Although at the beginning of the war, the Nazi party strongly opposed women's armed service, because ideologically protecting a woman was exclusively the sacred duty of a German man, in the last months of the war, when the fighting became desperate, women and minor girls were forced to be transferred to combat missions and armed anti-aircraft. The SS also employed women, about 3,500 of whom worked as concentration camp guards.

German bridal school

Reichsbräuteschule, or The German Bride School, was a German institution founded in Nazi Germany in the late 1930s.

Bridal schools were created to train young women to become proper Nazi wives. Nazi ideology and good housekeeping were taught in schools. Education was considered a prerequisite for a marriage license for those women who wanted to marry SS soldiers. They were taught how to cook, take care of children, take care of clothes, and polish a man's military equipment, but also the politically correct manner of conversation and how to raise children to be National Socialists.

Lebensborn or Source of Life

Lebensborn or Source of Life was a program developed by Reichsführer-SS Heinrich Himmler, the purpose of which was to create an ideal race in Germany according to National Socialism. Himmler founded Lebensborn on December 12, 1935. Formally, it was an independent registered association that managed the organization's children's homes. In practice, however, the SS was responsible for the association.

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Lebensborn offered racially suitable unmarried mothers and wives of SS men financial support and the opportunity to go through pregnancy and childbirth in a special maternity center. The purpose of the Lebensborn program was officially to reduce abortions. Pure-breed children were allowed to be born in decent conditions. However, this happened not so much for humanitarian or moral reasons, but because abortions of pure-bred children were considered to weaken the German people.

Women can apply for admission to the Lebensborn maternity home if they are considered racially and genetically flawless. Women had to meet the same high racial criteria as members of the SS, i.e. even higher than those required of members of the National Socialist German Workers' Party. The women had to prove their racial purity with an Aryan certificate that showed they had no non-Aryan ancestors after 1800. In addition, they had to prove that they did not suffer from hereditary diseases. They had to write their biography and attach photos to it. The racial and hereditary eligibility of the father of the unborn children was also checked. If the father was unknown, the woman's assurance that it had been a healthy Aryan was sufficient.

During the Second World War, the admission criteria were relaxed in practice, and about 75 percent of applications were accepted. In addition to German children, Lebensborn orphanages also began to accept orphans from occupied territories, who were considered Aryan based on their physical characteristics.

The Olympics in 1936

The games were awarded to Berlin in 1931, i.e. even before Hitler came to power in Germany in January 1933. At first, the role of the Olympic host did not seem important to Hitler. In his opinion, the games and their ideals of a community of nations and a noble race were pointless, and there was no way they could be organized in a empire ruled by the National Socialists. Sport was of course important to the Nazis, but it was considered important only militarily.

The Berlin Olympics were overshadowed by the threat of a boycott. The Nuremberg Laws, which deprived Jews of their civil rights, were thus

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promulgated in 1935. Understandably, such discriminatory laws led to fierce protests also in the decision-making bodies of sports, especially in the United States, as the country was home to many influential Jews. However, the United States Olympic Committee and future IOC President Avery Brundage lobbied strongly for the United States to participate in the Berlin Olympics. According to him, sports and politics were two separate things, which is why athletes should not be mixed up in the dispute between Jews and Nazis. In the end, all the major sporting countries of the time participated in the Berlin Olympics.

Although the Nuremberg Laws were racist and anti-Semitic, the Nazis did everything they could to make sports leaders forget about the persecution. Among other things, the Nazis promised to nominate athletes of Jewish background to their competition team. But the promise was not kept. Sports decision-makers considered holding the games more important than human rights. The competitions in themselves were a success, after all, the Germans are perhaps the best in the world at organizing events. Germany also excelled in sports, getting by far the most medals.

The Berlin Olympics strengthened Nazi dominance and acceptability abroad. The most effective part of Nazi propaganda at the Olympics was its comprehensiveness and detailed planning. Monumental competition venues and other symbolism, tidying of event spaces, active participation of people, and the use of different technologies serve as ways to produce good experiences. The German Ministry of Propaganda closely monitored, how German journalists reported on the games.

One sports hero of the Olympics was the African American Jesse Owens, who after the Olympics said that he had not met any rude Nazis, only friendly Germans. And added that he didn't have to get on the bus from the back door like in his home country, but from the front door like other people.

The government's goals

The primary goal, along with the unification of the country and the harmonization of culture, was also to strive for German speakers to be able to live in one state. This was reflected in the slogan *Ein Reich, Ein*

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Volk, Ein Führer (One State, One People, One Leader). The annexation of Austria and the annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland to Germany were based on this goal, as well as the attempt to annex the Free City of Danzig to Germany, which served as the justification for the start of World War II.

Economics

When the Nazis came to power, the biggest problem was 30 percent unemployment. By abandoning the gold standard, it was possible to keep the interest rate low and the budget deficit high with large public construction works. As a result of this, unemployment fell at a peak rate. The re-armament increased the demand. However, the economy and the employment situation had shown signs of improvement even before the National Socialists came to power. After coming to power, Hitler made up for the achievements of the previous administration.

By 1935, this policy escalated into a major food shortage, as German agricultural production alone was not enough to produce food for the entire nation. The mechanization and modernization of agriculture had lagged because of equipment. The average wage of the working population had fallen to the poverty line, and although the selling prices of food were kept low under the threat of punishment, prices nevertheless rose in practice. Often, farmers and other food producers did not sell directly to vendors but instead preferred black market traders to get a higher selling price for their produce. The food shortage meant economic growth for the agricultural population but depressed the mood of the working class, whose uplift partly motivated Hitler to occupy the Rhineland earlier than planned.

Thanks to strict state control and war armaments, Nazi Germany achieved almost full employment. However, the statistics of the time did not include childless women who were not allowed to work and mothers who were generally forbidden to work outside the home. Also, the millions of people arrested and deprived of their civil rights were not counted in the employment figures. The benefits and rights of the workers were poor. Wages fell sharply between 1933 and 1938. Labor unions were also denied the right to strike. The employee also did not have the right to refuse assigned work, and the employer's consent was

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required to change jobs. According to the 1935 law, young adult men between the ages of 18 and 25 had to complete an unpaid six-month work service period after their studies. Work service was followed by two years of military service.

Although the loss of workers' rights and a decrease in wages was in the interest of employers and entrepreneurs, they had no reason to be completely satisfied with the new system either. Instead of seeking profit, the investments had to be directed by the state and within its interests. High-income taxes limited companies' financing. However, the largest companies were usually exempt from income tax.

During the war, the able-bodied male population of Nazi Germany was increasingly transferred to the fronts. From 1942 onwards, efforts were made to exterminate the Jewish population in the concentration camps, and they were no longer used for forced labor as previously. At the same time, Germany's war fortunes turned to decline.

Efforts were made to make up for the labor shortage mainly with slave labor imported from conquered countries. About 12 million slaves from 20 countries worked for Nazi Germany. About 75 percent of them came from Eastern Europe.

Technical development

Germany's technical development was at the top of the world. In Germany, new solutions were developed both for civilian life and for the military industry.

Autobahns: Adolf Hitler, who was opposed to autobahns in the past, saw the construction of a large road network as a solution to the massive unemployment plaguing the country. The construction of the Autobahn network was also related to another of Hitler's plans, the provision of a public car to every working-class family through gradual savings. The construction of autobahns had reached a good pace before the Second World War, but the work was stopped in 1943 when Germany concentrated its resources on military equipment. Numerous road sections were left unfinished and after the war, they had suffered considerable damage. The importance of autobahns in warfare turned out to be less than expected, as tracked vehicles would have quickly ruined them, and the constant shortage of fuel and trucks shifted transportation

to the railways.

Porsche: In 1934, Hitler wanted all Germans to be able to afford an affordable and functional car. Germany organized a competition to develop an affordable and practical every man's car. At the same time, Ferdinand Porsche designed cars for various car factories and won a competition set by the German government. At the same time, he took German citizenship. The name of the factory became Volkswagen, i.e. people's car. In 1937, the first model series of the Volkswagen Beetle, VW 30, was completed. Being air-cooled, the Volkswagen was usable all over the world, both in the freezing temperatures of Lapland and the hot deserts of the Sahara. In the same year, Porsche joined the Nazi Party and in 1942 was also appointed as an officer of the party's SS fighting organization with the title of Oberführer.

During the Second World War, Porsche worked on several tank design projects, e.g. sending their prototypes to the competition announced by the German General Staff for the Tiger I and Tiger II tanks. Porsche lost the tender for the wagons to Henschel. Porsche also designed the world's largest tank, the Maus or Mouse. During the war, Porsche used concentration camp prisoner labor in its production facilities on a large scale, the factories were also served by its own Arbeitsdorf concentration camp.

In 1938, Adolf Hitler awarded Porsche with the State Prize for Arts and Sciences of Nazi Germany. In 1939, Porsche received the title of director of the war economy. The Stuttgart Institute of Technology awarded Porsche the title of honorary professor in 1940. For his services to the war industry, Porsche was awarded the War Merit Cross 1st Class in 1942 and the SS Ring of Honor in 1944.

After the war, Ferdinand Porsche was sentenced to prison for participating in war crimes and his son Ferry Porsche continued to run the company.

Heavy water and the nuclear program: Nazi Germany's nuclear program was a project carried out by Germany during World War II to produce a nuclear weapon. The project started as uranium isotope separation, heavy water research, and preparation. The program was launched in April 1939. The program was interrupted after the start of World War II in September 1939. The program restarted in January 1942. The German National Socialist regime pushed for the politicization of

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education after 1933. Many Jewish physicists, engineers, and mathematicians had to go abroad. This weakened German nuclear physics research.

The production of nuclear weapons requires so-called heavy water, which is used in nuclear reactors as a neutron moderator. In German-occupied Norway, Norsk Hydro's hydroelectric plant in Rjukan produced heavy water. For Germany to have been able to advance their nuclear program, it would have had to obtain heavy water in large quantities. The Allies knew about Germany's plans and wanted to prevent the production and delivery of heavy water to Germany.

The purpose of the Allied Operation Gunnerside was to sabotage the power plant and thus destroy the Nazi project. Six paratroopers made a daring sabotage attack on the factory and blew it up. Thus, the progress of Germany's nuclear program came to a halt.

Stealth fighter: The war did not go well for the Germans. The defeat at Stalingrad in February 1943 was a turning point. After that, the German advance on the Eastern Front turned into a continuous retreat.

A miracle was needed. Or a wonder weapon. Luftwaffe commander Herman Göring promised one. He presented the idea of a bomber that would fly a thousand kilometers per hour, carry a bomb load of one thousand kilograms, and have a range of one thousand kilometers.

Horten's brothers Reimar and Walter, who mostly developed gliders, said that they could make such a plane.

The Horten brothers had already started designing radically shaped "flying wings" in the 1920s. A flying wing doesn't have an actual body, it's just a large wing with a cockpit, landing gear, fuel, and everything else crammed inside.

The flying wing was revolutionary in its shape and aerodynamics. The special design reduces air resistance and thus fuel consumption. However, the flying wing was more difficult to control and steer because the plane did not have a tail.

The Hortens made a preliminary plan that met Göring's 3x1000 requirement. According to their calculations, the flying wing would be able to carry a bomb load of 1,000 kilograms and enough fuel for the required 1,000-kilometer operating radius.

Speed was a more problematic requirement. For example, the top speed of the propeller-driven Messerschmitt Bf 109 fighter was only about 600 kilometers per hour.

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The Hortens understood that a jet engine was needed for a speed of one thousand kilometers per hour, which at that point was still in the early stages of development. The brothers envisioned the Junkers Jumo 004 jet engine as the engine, the production model of which had started in 1944.

However, the prototype had reached almost the required speed of one thousand kilometers per hour, the range and payload also met Göring's requirements.

An added advantage of the flying wing was that it was the first stealth fighter of its time. Although the British radars were already quite advanced at this point, the Horten Ho 229 was poorly visible because of its shape.

However, production of the Horten Ho 229 never got started. The fuselage of the third Horten Ho 229 was almost complete when it was discovered by US forces on April 14, 1945. The Ho 229 was so advanced that it could have changed the course of the war. However, it did not have time to do that.

The plane was transported to the United States after the war and now the only remaining Horten Ho 229 is on display at the Smithsonian Institution Aviation Museum near Washington.

V2: In the Peenemünde conspiracy, the Nazis, led by Wernher von Braun, developed a revolutionary war weapon whose rocket engine was fueled by a mixture of liquid oxygen and ethyl alcohol. After numerous failures, the first successful launch of the V2 missile took place in October 1942.

At first, Hitler was skeptical about the expensive rocket project. The Allied bombing of Hamburg in 1943 made the Führer change his position. Hitler demanded revenge for more than 40,000 dead civilians. Mass production of the Vergeltungswaffe, or Weapon of Revenge, began in the forests of the Harz Mountains in Central Germany with the help of thousands of prisoners of war.

Despite the top-secret location, information about Germany's new terrifying wonder weapon gradually leaked to the Allies. In Peenemünde, it was most obviously believed that something secretive was being prepared. The area was bombed by 600 bombers. The test station was partially destroyed. The attack only delayed the completion of the V2 missiles by two months.

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By the end of the war, the Germans sent more than 3,000 rockets, most of which were directed towards Antwerp and London. The destructive effects of the V2 missiles were small compared to the costs. However, the psychological deterrent effect was great, as the faster-than-sound missile hit the target stealthily.

At the end of the war, the Red Army was 160 kilometers from Peenemünde. The base's engineers, led by Wernher von Braun, decided to surrender to the Americans. A group of 500 specialists advanced through broken Germany towards the American lines. The American commander, to whom von Braun and his troops surrendered, immediately realized what kind of gold nugget it was. The Yankees quickly seized the remaining V2 missiles and shipped them to the United States. Some of Peenemünde's personnel and V2 missiles ended up on the Russian side.

Operation Paperclip was the code name for the operation that used to secretly transport German scientists to the United States. At the same time, they avoided trial and prosecution for the rocket attacks on England.

After the war, the United States utilized the know-how of German rocket experts. Based on the V2 missile, the Redstone rocket was developed, which in 1958 enabled the Americans to launch the first satellite into orbit around the Earth.

Former member of the National Socialist NSDAP party and SS Major Wernher von Braun joined NASA in 1960. He played a significant role in the realization of the Apollo program. In 1977, von Braun died at the age of 65.

SS uniforms: The uniforms of the German army were elegant, neat, and respected. In Hitler's opinion, the army had to look respectable so that the youth would gladly join the army. Hitler chose Hugo Boss as the designer of the SS uniform.

Hugo Boss was originally a tailor who owned a small shop in Metzingen selling men's suits and overcoats. In 1931, Boss joined the National Socialist Party. Before and during the Second World War, his factory produced, among other things, uniforms for SS officers, brown collared shirts of the SA and patrol uniforms of the Hitler Youth.

Boss used forced labor from Poland and France, and after the war, he was sentenced to a fine of 80,000 marks for supporting the Third Reich.

The success of Nazi German companies

Today, many industrial families that were successful during the Nazi regime represent global brands such as Continental, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Dr. Oetker and many others.

German industrial dynasties amassed unimaginable fortunes by aiding and abetting the atrocities of Nazi Germany. They hijacked Jewish businesses, used slave labor, and millions of slaves, and equipped Hitler's army while the war raged around them.

Culture

In the culture of Nazi Germany, the Aryan race, Germans, and the leader were idealized. Hitler's cult was a significant part of German culture. Propaganda played a big part in people's lives. The streets, radio broadcasts, films, and newspapers were filled with Nazi propaganda, in which Hitler was presented as a great savior, the Aryan race as superior, and Jews and other subhumans in a bad light. The central message of the personality cult built around Hitler was that he had a special relationship with the German people. Hitler himself described this at the Nuremberg Diet in 1934: "Our leadership does not consider the people only as an object of leadership, but lives in the people, feels with the people and fights for the people." The Führer was the personification of the nation, leading it to its historical destiny. In addition to photographs and portraits, efforts were made to disseminate the director's writings widely. By the time the Third Reich fell, 8-9 million copies of *Mein Kampf* had been sold as a cheap bound edition. From 1936 on, magistrates' offices distributed a free copy of the book to all couples getting married.

The ideology of absolute leadership and subordination was also ritualized with the Heil Hitler greeting, which became mandatory for all government employees in 1933. It was also mandatory during the national anthem and the Nazi Party's official party anthem, the Horst-Wessel-Lied. All public correspondence had to end with the Heil Hitler greeting,

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which also became popular as an answer to the phone. The country's official national anthem was the Deutschlandlied. In Germany, however, usually only the first stanza of the national anthem was sung, followed by the party anthem.

Instead of traditional religion, the Nazis' ritualism, based on early myths and the pagan traditions of the North, was offered. Heinrich Himmler studied prehistoric religions and folk beliefs, trying to introduce rites related to the supposed ancient Germanic faith within the SS circle. As a sign of new thinking, no crosses were erected on the field cemeteries of SS soldiers, but arrows pointing upwards, usually made of birch.

German military brothels

The army's military brothels served soldiers and officers on leave from the front. According to the data, at least 50,000 young European women or girls, usually between the ages of 15 and 25, were forced into prostitution during the occupation. Especially from Poland and other parts of Eastern Europe, as well as from Western Europe, girls were randomly picked up from the streets put into trucks, and forcibly taken to brothels. Jewish young women were not taken to brothels, because sex between a Jew and an Aryan was strictly forbidden.

Sex in brothels was often rough and women sometimes only lasted half a year.

The girls and women who ended up in German military brothels were never compensated for their suffering after World War II. On the contrary, some of them were even accused of helping the German army, had their hair cut, and were otherwise publicly shamed.

SS and Gestapo

The SS or Schutzstaffel (Protection Force) was a military organization of the National Socialist Party of Nazi Germany. The SS was originally founded as Adolf Hitler's bodyguard, but it later expanded considerably.

The SS played a key role in the genocide known as the Holocaust. SS leader Heinrich Himmler was the main architect of the final solution, and SS troops acted as executors of the genocide in various capacities.

The SS troops also served at the front and were a certain kind of elite

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force. They got access to the best and latest weapons and other equipment.

The Gestapo or Geheime Staatspolizei (Secret State Police) was the political security police organization of Nazi Germany. The Gestapo was part of the structure of the SS.

The task of the Gestapo was to act as a political security police and to investigate activities and expressions of opinion harmful to the state and to fight against them. The Gestapo's job description included investigating cases of espionage, treason, and sabotage. The most common procedure was to detain a suspect in protective custody, which meant detention without charge or trial, and usually meant confinement in a concentration camp. Common tools of the Gestapo also included the ruthless torture of prisoners.

Opponents of Nazi Germany

Of course, not all Germans were admirers or supporters of the Nazi regime. Although there weren't many direct opponents, there were some. Part of the reason for the lack of resistance was, of course, the Nazi deterrence. You could end up in a concentration camp for even the smallest suspicions. The most famous opponents and revolutionary attempts were Operation Valkyria and the Kreisau district.

Operation Valkyrie, also known as the 20th of July Plot, was an attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler and overthrow the regime of Nazi Germany on 20 July 1944.

The roots of the conspiracy go back to 1938, when the then Chief of the German General Staff, Colonel General Ludwig Beck, had resigned from his post in protest of Hitler's policies. In the investigations carried out by the Gestapo after the assassination, it was revealed that there was already in 1938, a faction in the highest leadership of the German army that opposed Hitler's war policy, criticized the persecution of Jews and other ethnic groups, actions against the German Church and other illegalities of the Nazi regime.

Planning the assassination: Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg began planning the assassination of Hitler in September 1943. Along with Stauffenberg, Henning von Tresckow and Friedrich Olbricht participated in the planning of the assassination. The original goal was to assassinate

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Hitler, Hermann Göring, and Heinrich Himmler at the same time.

Stauffenberg arranged a meeting with Hitler on July 11, 1944, in Kehlsteinhaus (Eagle's Nest) at Hitler's villa. Stauffenberg had packed the explosives but eventually had to cancel his plans because Göring and Himmler had not arrived. The next opportunity to carry out the assassination came on July 15, 1944, in Eagle's Nest, but also then the plan was canceled because Himmler was not there. Stauffenberg believed that the change of power would only be successful if Himmler was also present, and he could assassinate Hitler and Himmler at the same time.

The final day of the assassination attempt finally came to be July 20, 1944. Although Himmler and Göring did not attend the meeting at the Wolf's Den, Stauffenberg no longer wanted to cancel the plan. Hitler had to be killed at any cost.

The July 20 plot was the most serious coup attempt in National Socialist Germany and was behind several high-ranking officers and civil servants.

The conspiracy culminated in an assassination attempt, where Stauffenberg's task was to carry two one-kilogram explosives in his bag to a meeting held by Hitler in the Wolf's Den in East Prussia. The meeting was supposed to start at 13:00, but it was moved to start half an hour earlier, i.e. at 12:30.

Stauffenberg didn't hear that the time had changed until 12:20, so he was in a hurry to get the bomb ready. Stauffenberg went to the Wolf's Den together with Lieutenant Werner von Haeften and asked to go somewhere to freshen up before the meeting began. Stauffenberg and von Haeften started setting off two explosives weighing a total of two kilograms, but there was a knock at the door and Stauffenberg was asked to come already because the meeting had already started. Stauffenberg had time to complete only one bomb. The bomb was placed in a bag that Stauffenberg placed under an oak table in the conference room, less than a meter away from Hitler.

The bomb had a warning time, which was about 10–30 minutes. In hot weather, however, the bomb could also explode before its time. Stauffenberg whispered to the officer next to him that he had to make a call to headquarters in Berlin. After Stauffenberg left the scene, Colonel Heinz Brandt accidentally kicked the bag over. Brandt picked up the bag but moved it from Hitler's feet to behind the thick support leg of the oak table.

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Stauffenberg left Wolf's Den at 12:40, taking a car ride together with Lieutenant von Haeften. At 12:42 the bomb exploded just as Stauffenberg and von Haeften were getting into the car. Stauffenberg told the driver to drive to the airport, which was about eight kilometers away. Stauffenberg and Haeften flew straight to Berlin and assumed Hitler was dead.

In Berlin, Stauffenberg heard that Hitler was still alive. He didn't believe it at all. Stauffenberg thought it impossible that anyone could survive the explosion. Stauffenberg ordered that the radio stations and the administration block be taken over immediately. The Gestapo, the Waffen-SS, and Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels also had to be arrested.

Stauffenberg ordered the guard brigade under the command of Major Otto Ernst Remer to carry out the tasks in question. Remer went to Goebbels' villa to arrest him, while telling him that Hitler was dead. Goebbels made a call to the Wolf's Den and asked to get Hitler on the phone. Hitler answered and said he was fine. At the same time, Hitler asked Remer on the phone and gave him instructions to immediately arrest those involved in the conspiracy and to take over the administration block. Remer did as he was told, and that same evening stormed the administration building in the Bendlerblock, where Stauffenberg was staying with other conspiratorial officers. The entire group involved in the conspiracy was arrested and taken to the Bendlerblock yard to be executed. Having done his job well, Remer was promoted directly from major to colonel the same evening. [9]

The Kreisau District (Kreisauer Kreis) was one of the German resistance movements that opposed the Nazi regime. Members of the district were involved in the July 20 conspiracy that attempted the assassination of Adolf Hitler.

The district met at Helmuth von Moltke's family farm in Kreisau, Silesia. Helmuth von Moltke was one of the founders of the district. Other prominent members were Adam von Trott zu Solz and Peter Yorck von Wartenburg, who liaised with other anti-Nazi resistance movements. The members of the Kreisau district considered the Nazi regime a disgrace to their country.

The coup was thwarted when Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg's bomb attempt failed. Several members of the Kreisau district involved in the

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conspiracy were captured and executed.

Helmuth von Moltke was not involved in the conspiracy, yet he was arrested by the Gestapo in January 1944 because he had told a colleague that the police were looking for him. Moltke had been against killing Hitler anyway, as he believed that the Nazi leader's death would make him a strong martyr. Nevertheless, during the interrogation of the imprisoned conspirators, his name came up and he was sentenced to death in the Nazi People's Court. Moltke was executed in Plötzense prison in January 1945. [9]

THE HOLOCAUST AND THE FINAL SOLUTION

The main responsibility for the murder of six million Jews was the German National Socialist government, which under the leadership of Adolf Hitler managed, regulated, and directed the progress of the mass extermination, but many of Germany's allies and the cooperating population of the German-occupied territories also took an active part in it.

The racial doctrine was part of the Nazi ideology. It means that people are divided into races with different characteristics. In Hitler's opinion, the Germans, or Aryans, were the most superior race and it was their right to rule the world. Dark-skinned people and Jews were inferior races. They were not subject to the same human rights, and they were not allowed to have children with Aryans so that the Aryan race would not weaken. In Hitler's opinion, racial mixing had been the reason for Germany's weakness and defeat in the First World War.

Between 1933 and 1945, Hitler developed a vision of a new world order. Taking over the Lebensraum or living space was just the beginning. When the war was over, it would be time to reform the entire world's order.

Germany and Japan would share Russia and Asia between them. Berlin would be rebuilt in a glorious neoclassical style and turned into the capital of the world, Germania.

In a world ruled by Germany, strict racial segregation would prevail. The lower races would be banished or subjugated to the use of their

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superiors as free labor. In Russia on the European side, German soldiers would run farms operated by slave labor.

The Nazis started repressive measures immediately after coming to power. As early as March 1933, they organized anti-Jewish riots and a shopping boycott of shops owned by Jews. In June of the same year, the first concentration camps were established: Dachau, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and Ravensbrück. First, political opponents, such as communists, social democrats, and labor union activists, were taken to them.

Discrimination against Jews increased and became more serious. Jews were forbidden to own land, work as newspaper editors, and were excluded from health insurance. In 1935, the so-called Nuremberg laws denied Jews the right to vote and marriages between Jews and Aryans were prohibited.

Kristallnacht

Kristallnacht began when Herschel Grynszpan, a Jew who had fled persecution from Germany to Paris, killed the German embassy official Ernst vom Rath in Paris on November 7, 1938. Vom Rath's murder triggered a wave of violence against Jews in Germany. The attack was intended to appear spontaneous, but the German government controlled it in the background. In addition to official channels, the government operated through the National Socialist Party.

The leadership of the National Socialist Party was currently celebrating the anniversary of the 1923 beer mugging in Munich, when Joseph Goebbels began giving instructions to the party and the police force about what they should do. At 23:55, the head of the Gestapo at the time, Heinrich Müller, telegraphed instructions to the police stations, according to which attacks against Jews were not to be prevented, instead preparations were to be made for the arrest of thousands of Jews in the territory of the Reich. Later in the night of November 9, the head of the security police, Reinhard Heydrich, sent the police more detailed instructions on measures against the Jews.

In the persecution, 267 synagogues were destroyed, in addition, 1400 synagogues or Jewish prayer rooms were damaged, as well as many Jewish cemeteries, and almost 7,000 businesses and homes. More than 30,000 Jews were taken to concentration camps. The estimate of the number of

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people beaten to death varies from a few dozen to almost a hundred. Different sources give very different figures for the destruction. The events of Kristallnacht created an international reaction around the world. Many proponents of pro-Nazi opinions were convicted in Europe and North America. [10]

In Germany, the Nazis tried to make the victims look guilty for the events. Thus, on November 12, a decree was issued, according to which Jewish homeowners and shopkeepers had to immediately compensate for the damage. The window glass used in Germany was imported from Belgium, and the amount of broken glass corresponded to half of the entire annual production of the Belgian glass industry, which is why all the broken windows could not be repaired even with the money confiscated from the Jews.

The events have generally been regarded as the beginning of a project aimed at exterminating the Jews of Nazi Germany, although the final decision on the large-scale killing of Jews had not yet been made at that time.

Restriction of Jewish life

The lives of the Jews were restricted in many ways, even though the actual persecution had not yet begun. Jewish children could no longer attend German schools. Many professions were forbidden to Jews, for example, the work of a journalist. They wanted to prevent their ability to influence public opinion.

Jews began to be isolated in their residential areas, ghettos. In 1939, Jews were forced to wear a yellow Star of David on their clothing so that the Germans could identify them. If you left the star unsewn in a visible place on your clothes, you were punished by being transferred to a concentration camp.

Jews were mocked and violently attacked. The police did not intervene in the acts of violence against the Jews in any way.

It was wanted that Germany and the territories it occupied would be areas free of Jews. As one alternative solution to the Jewish question, the relocation of the Jews to some distant place was proposed. The Madagascar plan was seriously developed during 1940. The purpose was to establish a large ghetto on the island, the poor living conditions of which would not allow the Jews to survive for long.

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Many Jews left as refugees in the late 1930s. However, not everyone had the opportunity to escape from Germany. Poor people did not have enough money for the trip. Another problem was that several states did not want to accept too many Jewish asylum seekers.

In many countries, citizens were also against accepting new foreigners into their country. Of course, anti-Semitism also played a role in the background. It was common in many European countries and the United States at that time.

World War II

The position of the Jews became more and more serious when Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. More than three million Jews lived in Poland. This also meant that the Germans' goal of a Jewish-free Greater Germany became even more challenging. The Germans began to gather the Jews of the territories they conquered into ghettos in the cities along the railway lines as transit points for population transfers.

In 1940, Germany conquered Denmark, Norway, part of France, the Benelux countries, and Romania. The following year, Germany conquered Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. After Poland, Germany attacked the Soviet Union. Most of continental Europe was now under German rule. And the Jews of Europe were also now under German rule.

The order issued by Hitler in June 1941, which ordered, among other things, the murder of Jewish men in the service of the Soviet state, the Red Army, or the Communist Party, was probably the first direct order of Nazi Germany authorizing the systematic extermination of Jews. From the beginning of the attack, the Einsatz (Mission) units of the security police, or Einsatzgruppen, and the army began to exterminate all people they considered political or racial enemies. At their stops in the Soviet Union, the Einsatz teams regularly rounded up and shot all the Jews they found. The Einsatz units were assisted in the extermination operations by many anti-Semitic groups recruited from the local population.

Although the execution of the extermination order was unsystematic and varied from region to region, it is estimated that more than a million Jews were killed in the occupied territories in the persecutions carried out at the beginning of the war.

Preparing for genocide

More effective action was needed to exterminate the Jews. The actual mass killing of Jews on an industrial scale began after the Nazis invaded the Soviet Union, which also had a large Jewish population.

From July 1942, the inhabitants of the ghettos began to be transferred to extermination camps, but at the beginning of the war, the ghettos were only an intermediate stage of complete genocide.

Over time, Nazi policy matured due to the large number of Jews to the introduction of the so-called "Final Solution". The Jewish problem had to be solved by the literal and final extermination of the Jews. In January 1942, at a meeting held in the Wannsee district of Berlin, several Nazi leaders discussed the implementation and details of the Final Solution. At first, the Jews had been executed by shooting. However, mass executions were impractical, burdensome for the perpetrators, and difficult to keep secret. Therefore, the Germans started to experiment with alternative killing methods such as poison gas. The Soviet Union was no longer planned as a central place of murder, but the focus of extermination of the Jews was shifted to Poland. Jews began to be systematically transported from the ghettos to extermination camps built in Poland. The first victims of the destruction were the disabled. Able-bodied Jews were assigned to harsh forced labor, where many died of disease and malnutrition. After various experiments, the most effective form of killing was determined to be gas chambers, where those designated to be killed were immediately gassed to death.

At the same time, it was decided to keep the matter secret. For reasons of secrecy, the Nazis used disguises for their actions, which was a kind of secret language in which e.g. "transportation to the east" meant deportation to camps and "special treatment" meant killing. The Germans also used the words "settlement", "clearance" and "evacuation". As the Germans' plans became more radicalized, the words gradually became synonymous with mass murder. The message told to the Jews was also covered up. There was talk of better conditions in the East and the possibility of living by working for Germany. The conditions in the ghettos were miserable, and many left willingly, thinking that conditions couldn't get any worse.

In January 1942, the gas chamber killings in the Auschwitz-Birkenau

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camp began with Zyklon B gas. Located in southern Poland, Auschwitz was both a labor and extermination camp. Camps purely intended for extermination were now also introduced, such as Belzec in March, Sobibor in April, and Treblinka in June. Huge numbers of Jews were killed in these. Only a few dozen of the deportees survived from these camps.

In the spring of 1944, Germany occupied Hungary, which had a large Jewish population. Despite the rescue attempt of the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg and others, more than 400,000 of them were deported to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, where up to 9,000 people were gassed a day. Actions were accelerating even though Germany experienced military defeats on all fronts. The extermination of the Jews seemed to be the most important thing for the German political leadership. More important than military success on various fronts.

The success of the war made the Holocaust possible

The Holocaust became possible also because Germany was very successful in the early years of the Second World War from 1939 to 1941 and managed to occupy the Western Soviet Union and a large part of Europe. Hitler's repeated foreign and domestic political victories raised him in the eyes of the people to an outright god figure, who was followed in any kind of actions. Hitler usually did not get involved in everyday political issues himself, but even on the Jewish question, different parties and agencies worked independently. Of course, according to Hitler's supposed will. There were many staunch anti-Semites in the Nazi administration who acted according to their ideas, competing in the execution of the Holocaust.

About half of the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust died in extermination camps run by the SS. Jews also died in large numbers in labor camps operated under the SS. German factories used millions of people as slave labor during World War II, and especially Jews from the lower social classes died in large numbers while working under them.

Broad and very different strata of the people accepted the basic principle that Jews are an extra burden and must be removed from

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society. Although the method by which this would be implemented was not known to everyone, humanitarian issues did not come up in general discussion.

The origin of the idea of killing all Jews is not clear, although there are passages in Hitler's book *Mein Kampf* that suggest that such an express order may have been given. Most likely, the order must have come from Hitler himself, but its implementation was the work of several tens of thousands of people, with the approval of millions of people.

Ghettos

The first step in the Holocaust was cramming Jews into ghettos. The purpose of the ghettos was to concentrate Jews in a limited area so that possible slave labor was easily available and future transports to concentration camps would take place easily and centrally. Later it was also discovered that there was no need to transport all the Jews anywhere because many of them died of hunger and disease in the ghetto.

During the Holocaust, ghettos were small and mostly poor neighborhoods into which Jews were isolated and to which others were usually forbidden to enter. Ghettos were surrounded by a wall or fence so that Jews could be more effectively isolated from their neighbors and the rest of the world.

The Jews in the ghettos lived in terrible conditions. The Nazis confiscated almost all their property and denied them the ability to meet most of the needs of daily life. Overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, extreme malnutrition, and lack of basic medicines led to widespread epidemics in several ghettos. The harsh conditions and long working hours in forced labor also weakened the Jews. In Warsaw, the largest ghetto, an estimated 85,000 Jews died as victims of the conditions even before the Nazis began deporting them to the death camps. In other ghettos, the mortality rate was apparently of the same order.

In trying to survive in difficult conditions, the Jews resorted to a variety of means. The Jewish councils organized accommodation, distributed food, and offered social care, childcare, and other services, thus stretching their rather limited possibilities and resources to the limit.

Warsaw had the largest ghetto during the war. 480,000 Jews lived

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there, and it was destroyed in May 1943. The destruction was preceded by massive deportations to Treblinka in the summer of 1942. In Warsaw, Jews also attempted an uprising in 1943. It was the largest and symbolically most significant Jewish uprising in German-occupied Europe. The battle in the ghetto lasted from April 19th until May 16th, when the SS forces defeated the resistance once and for all. The ghetto was razed to the ground and the survivors were taken to concentration or extermination camps. About 7,000 Jews died in the fighting, in addition, there were about 6,000 people who were suffocated by gases and died in fires.

The Lodz. There were at most 160,000 Jews in the Lodz ghetto in Poland. The ghetto was originally supposed to be a temporary assembly point, but it was turned into a major industrial center that provided labor for Nazi Germany. Because of its good productivity, the ghetto survived until August 1944, when the remaining Jews were transported to Auschwitz. The Lodz ghetto was the last of the Polish ghettos to be emptied.

The Lviv ghetto in Ukraine was established in November 1941. There were almost 150,000 Jews there. Before the Germans established the ghetto, there had been bloody pogroms organized by Ukrainians, in which thousands of Jews died. The last few thousand inhabitants of the ghetto were removed in June 1943, and they had been sent to die in Belzec and Janowska.

In the Minsk ghetto, there were 100,000 Jews gathered from Minsk and its nearby towns and villages. The Minsk ghetto is known for its large-scale resistance activities that closely cooperated with Soviet partisans. About 10,000 Jews were able to escape from the ghetto and join partisan groups in the nearby forests. A film called “Defiance” has also been released about the incident. The Minsk ghetto was destroyed on October 21, 1943, after most of the Jews had been shot or sent to die in Sobibor.

In Vilnius, most of the 57,000 Jews who originally lived in the ghetto were shot in the nearby Ponari mines. As a result of the failed Vilnius Ghetto Uprising, the last few thousand Jews were sent to camps in Estonia on September 23, 1943.

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The Bialystok ghetto, which originally housed 50,000 Jews, was destroyed on August 16, 1943, after the Jewish resistance movement held its own for five days. Most of the Jews in the Bialystok ghetto worked in forced labor projects, mainly in large textile factories located within the ghetto's borders.

Einsatz groups

Forces called "mission forces" operated in the occupied areas, whose main task was to kill Jews. The SS formed these units to infiltrate Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the Soviet Union. The mission of the Einsatz groups in Poland was to terrorize the local population and murder all those who were undesirable from the point of view of the SS. The most notorious Einsatz groups were formed before the invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941. The Einsatz groups advanced into the Soviet Union together with the German army. At their stopping places, the groups rounded up and shot all the Jews they found without hesitation. The groups wrote detailed daily reports on their activities, which have been preserved to this day. According to their reports, the groups killed at least 900,000 Jews and, with the help of other units, murdered hundreds of thousands more. Those selected for the group had to be especially loyal to their mission and carry out their mission without questioning the justification for their actions.

Gas wagons

Gas wagons were trucks used to suffocate Jews and others to be killed. The carbon dioxide produced by the fuel used by the truck engines was led into separate closed chambers, which could also be on the truck bed. When the Chelmno death camp was established in December 1941, gas trucks were also used there. About 700,000 people were killed in this way across Nazi-controlled Europe. The downside of using gas wagons was that it had to use fuel, which would still be in short supply in the war. So, it was necessary to develop a more effective, faster, and economically cheaper means of mass destruction.

Concentration camps

There were two types of camps in Nazi Germany. There were concentration camps and extermination camps. The concentration camps, which primarily contained non-Jewish prisoners, were mostly located on German territory, while the extermination camps operated mostly on the territory of occupied Poland. The most famous extermination camp was Auschwitz-Birkenau, but large numbers of Jews were also murdered in Treblinka, Sobibor, Majdanek, Belzec, and Chelmno extermination camps. In addition to Jews, there also were murdered Poles and Russian prisoners of war. In Auschwitz, 90% of the Jews were murdered in gas chambers immediately after arrival.

The first concentration camp was established in Dachau on March 23, 1933, just two months after Hitler became Chancellor. Its purpose was to spread fear among the population, and it became an effective tool in suppressing and subduing anti-Nazi opposition. Dachau became a training and learning camp for the SS. Its first commander was Theodor Eicke, whose many atrocities served as examples throughout the expanding camp apparatus.

The first camp specifically intended as a death camp was established in Chelmno, Poland. It started its operation on December 8, 1941, when Jews were transported there from the surrounding areas. At first, gas wagons were used for killing. About 320,000 people were killed there, most of whom were Jews.

In September 1941, months before the extermination operation began at Chelmno, 600 Soviet prisoners of war and 250 other prisoners were killed in the experimental use of Zyklon B gas at Auschwitz. However, Auschwitz only became a real death camp in the spring of 1942, when larger gas chambers were built in the nearby Birkenau.

Auschwitz was a labor and extermination camp near the southern Polish town of Oswiecim (Auschwitz). It was established in June 1940 mainly for Polish political prisoners. Auschwitz later became the largest camp where Jews from most German-occupied countries were deported. More than a million people died in Auschwitz, most of them Jews. Auschwitz consisted of three different camps: Auschwitz I (Stammlager), Auschwitz II (Birkenau), and Auschwitz III (Monowitz). The gas

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chambers were in the Birkenau camp. For this reason, the entire camp is often referred to as Auschwitz-Birkenau. The camp worked like an efficient production factory; the product was death. Many trains arrived in a day, so the arrivals had to be processed quickly before the next cargo. The destruction processes had been carefully thought out to work as efficiently as possible. Some of the prisoners were allowed to stay as workers. They were needed to sort the prisoners' clothes and valuables, empty the gas chambers and burn the bodies, empty the ovens and bury the ashes. Feeding the worker prisoners was not important, because new potential labor was constantly coming to the camp.

Auschwitz also housed one of the most famous Nazis, Dr. Josef Mengele, who performed inhumane so-called medical experiments on the prisoners. The special target of his research was twin children who had to experience a cruel "scientific" experiment. He was also involved in deciding which of those transported to the area were immediately sent to the gas chambers and which were needed for medical experiments. After the war ended, Mengele fled to Brazil, where he spent the rest of his comfortable life.

The Red Army liberated Auschwitz on January 27, 1945. Just before that, a large part of the prisoners had been forced on the so-called "death marches" towards the West.

After the Soviet army came dangerously close to the Germans, the prisoners were forced to move. German guards killed large numbers of prisoners even before leaving for the march. The sick and others unable to march could be shot immediately. Prisoners who were on the verge of starvation were marching for miles in the snow to train stations. Once there, they were loaded onto a train, where there was often no food or shelter. After train, the march to the new camp began. Exhausted prisoners who could not keep up with the others were shot.

Belzec was an extermination camp located in southern Poland. It was only in operation from March to December 1942. However, there were around 600,000 casualties in total. The first mass gassings took place in this camp on March 17, 1942.

It was the third deadliest extermination camp, surpassed only by Treblinka and Auschwitz. Only seven Jews who did slave labor in the camp survived the Second World War. The paucity of witnesses who could have testified about the camp's activities is the primary reason why Belzec is so little known despite the number of victims. [11]

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Bergen-Belsen was a concentration camp near Hanover in Germany, which was established in July 1943. At first, Jews were gathered here, whom Germany wanted to exchange for Germans who had been captured by the Allies. The British army liberated Bergen-Belsen on April 15, 1945. The surviving prisoners were then in such bad condition that even immediately after the liberation, about 500 of them died in a day. There were around 50,000 casualties in Bergen-Belsen.

The most famous prisoner who died in Bergen-Belsen is Anne Frank, a young Jew who became famous with her diary. Anne was born in Frankfurt am Main, Weimar Germany, but lived most of her life in or near Amsterdam. Because of her diary, she became one of the most famous victims of the Holocaust. Her diary is an authentic contemporary description of the persecution of Jews during the Second World War. The family of four hid in a secret and cramped room for more than two years, but the Nazis finally found them, apparently with the help of a tip from an informant. The family members were taken to different concentration camps and only the father of the family survived.

Buchenwald was a concentration camp located in Germany. It was established in 1937 for criminal and political prisoners. Later, Buchenwald served as a labor camp for the needs of the military industry. In 1944-45, thousands of prisoners arrived at the camp from the emptied camps in the east. Buchenwald was liberated by US forces on April 11, 1945. There was a total of around 57,000 casualties.

Dachau was Germany's first concentration camp, already established on March 20, 1933, near Munich. In Dachau, the first medical experiments were conducted on prisoners. Since 1941, Dachau also served as an extermination camp, and around 30,000 prisoners are known to have been murdered there. Dachau was liberated by US forces on April 29, 1945.

Drancy was the most important concentration camp in France, established at the end of 1940 near Paris. Tens of thousands of Jewish refugees living mainly in France were gathered here to await deportation to extermination camps in Poland. In total, more than 60,000 people were transported to the east via Drancy.

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Jasenovac was the most important concentration camp in Croatia. Nazi Germany's ally, the fascist Ustasja government of Croatia, murdered Serbs and Jews in this camp. Jasenovac was liberated by Yugoslav partisans and the Red Army on April 20, 1945. There were around 100,000 victims in total, most of them Serbs.

Majdanek was a concentration and extermination camp near Lublin in Poland, which was established in October 1941. The Red Army liberated Majdanek on July 23, 1944. There was a total of around 360,000 victims.

Mauthausen was a concentration camp in Austria near Linz. Founded in April 1938. At first, the camp housed mainly political prisoners and opponents of fascism from several different countries. In 1941, 10,000 Spanish republican activists were brought to Mauthausen, of which only 1,500 were alive a year later. When the American troops liberated Mauthausen in 1945, there were about 110,000 prisoners in the camp, of which 28,000 were Jews. Of these, more than 3,000 died after liberation.

Plaszów or Krakova-Plaszów was a Nazi concentration camp run by the SS in Plaszów, in German-occupied Poland. Most of the prisoners were Polish Jews. There were no gas chambers in the camp. The camp was originally intended as a labor camp, but later it was wanted to be turned into an extermination camp. Many prisoners died from executions by shooting, forced labor, and the poor conditions of the camp. Prisoners were also transported from the camp to be killed in Auschwitz whenever new transports arrived so that there would be enough space for new prisoners in the camp.

Although the daily life of the prisoners was dominated by fear and hunger, there were some chances of survival. There was Oskar Schindler, a member of the Nazi party, who saved 1,200 so-called Schindler Jews. The prisoners were always afraid of being transported to Auschwitz, but there was always hope for transportation to the Brännlitz labor camp in Czechoslovakia. Oskar Schindler's enamel factory was located there. Schindler, who was known for his sympathy towards the Jews, "hired" Jews to work in his factory and thus saved them from death. The camp itself was run by Amon Göth, an SS commander who was born in Vienna. He was sadistic in his treatment and killing of prisoners. Some witnesses

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said that he would never start his breakfast without shooting at least one person. After the war, Göth was extradited to Poland, where he was sentenced to death for crimes against humanity. Göth was hanged on September 13, 1946, near the Plaszów camp he knew. The events of the camp have also been made into a movie called "Schindler's List".

The camp was evacuated in January 1945, before the Red Army overran the area on 20 January. The last remaining prisoners and camp staff left the camp on the death march to Auschwitz. Many of those who survived the march were killed upon arrival at Auschwitz.

Ravensbrück was Germany's only women's camp near Berlin, Germany, built in 1938. The top leaders were men, but otherwise, the staff consisted of women. The Red Army liberated Ravensbrück on April 30, 1945, when 3,500 female prisoners were found in the camp. After the war, the most famous prisoner was Corrie Ten Boom, who was the daughter of a Dutch family that hid Jews. The family with four children was discovered in a Gestapo raid and imprisoned. Corrie was the only one in the family to survive. A book and a movie "The Hiding Place" have been published about it.

Sachsenhausen was a concentration camp near Berlin in Germany. It was established as early as 1936 mainly for political prisoners. There were around 100,000 victims in total. Prisoners who could counterfeit money were brought to Sachsenhausen. The prisoners produced almost perfectly counterfeit 5, 10, 20, and 50-pound notes, about nine million pieces. The total value of the money printed at the camp was over 134 million pounds. The purpose was to use the money for expenses, but also to destabilize the British economy.

Sobibor was an extermination camp located in eastern Poland, which was in operation for one and a half years in 1942-43. In October 1943, one of the largest camp uprisings of the Holocaust took place. Ten guards were killed in a revolt by Jews and Soviet prisoners of war, during which 400 Jews escaped. 100 of them were caught. Many of those who escaped joined the partisans. There were around 250,000 victims in Sobibor.

Stutthof was a concentration camp established in September 1939, which was in the Danzig (Gdansk) area of Germany. When Soviet troops

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approached the camp in April 1945, the prisoners were evacuated by ship to Germany.

Theresienstadt was a concentration camp located in Czechoslovakia, founded in 1941. Theresienstadt served as a kind of model camp that was shown to representatives of the International Red Cross in the hope that the outside world's image of the camps would not be so negative. Despite this, 34,000 Jews perished in the camp. The camp was liberated on May 9, 1945.

Treblinka was an extermination camp located in eastern Poland. When the Warsaw ghetto was emptied in 1942, its inhabitants were taken to Treblinka to be exterminated. The camp was in operation for more than a year in 1942-43 and there was a total of around 900,000 victims.

Westerbork was a concentration camp located in Holland, which was founded in 1939. Dutch Jews were gathered there to be transported to extermination camps in Poland. In total, more than 100,000 people were transported through Westerbork to the camps in the east.

Industrial camps. There were thousands of industrial concentration camps all over Germany and conquered countries. Many industrial companies had their camps to obtain free slave labor. The development of the industry and economy of Nazi Germany was influenced by the technological and scientific progress of the Germans and free and sufficient slave labor. [12]

So, who survived?

Usually, the more independent the state was, the more likely the Jews were to survive. Similarly, those Jews who lived directly or almost directly in countries under German control, such as the occupied part of the Soviet Union, Poland, Serbia, and the Netherlands, had the least chance of surviving.

When Italy was a full ally of Germany, until September 1943, the Jews were not only left alone there but they were even protected.

The Romanian troops killed Jews on the borders of their territories but refused to hand over the Jews of their core areas to the Germans.

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The situation was similar in Bulgaria.

The Hungarian government did not give in to Nazi pressure to deport its Jews until Germany occupied Hungary in March 1944. During the occupation, Hungarian troops again played an important role in the deportations.

The satellite states either exterminated their own Jews, like Croatia or handed them over to the Germans, like Slovakia. Semi-independent Vichy France helped expel non-French Jews but protected those who were French citizens.

Danish Jews were safe if Danish self-government outwardly remained. It wasn't until the Germans began to limit Denmark's independence that Jews began to be smuggled to safety in Sweden.

Active participants included German-led Ukrainian, Lithuanian, and Latvian forces who killed tens of thousands of Jews. Individual partisan units in Poland and elsewhere murdered Jews even while fighting against the Nazis. The local population often handed Jews who were trying to escape or hide in the hands of the Nazis, thus expressing their hostility towards the Jews, waiting for some kind of approval from the Nazis, or demanding their property.

PART II

What is Israel?
What is Judaism?
Church history
Israel in God's plan
German history

WHAT IS ISRAEL?

Israel is a theme that runs through the entire Bible. God chose the nation of Israel born through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as His nation, to whom He made promises and covenants, and through whom He has expressed Himself and given us His Word, the Bible, and His Son Messiah Jesus. God chose to speak to humanity through the nation of Israel. God has an unchanging plan throughout the Bible.

The Birth of Israel

Abram, who lived in the city of Ur in present-day Iraq, and whom God later named Abraham, can be considered the leader of the nation of Israel. At the time of Abram, nothing was known about Israel. Jacob, whom God named Israel, would be the son of Abram's son. Abram, however, received a promise from God of many descendants and lands that would belong to a future nation of possessions. Sometimes you hear even well-known Bible teachers talk only about Jews. For example, it is said that Abraham was a Jew, Moses was a Jew, and so on. The Jews were the descendants of Jacob's son Judah. So, Abraham was the grandfather of the Jewish grandfather, and according to the Bible, Moses was a Levite.

But Abram was originally from Ur in Chaldea, on the banks of the Euphrates River near the Persian Gulf. He was born around 2200 BC. Ur was one of the largest and most prosperous cities of its time and one of the centers of ancient Sumerian culture.

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Several gods were worshiped in Ur. People had an awareness of the existence of the deity, which was passed down from one generation to the next. Terah, Abram's father, also worshiped his materialized idols. Terah was a descendant of Noah in the tenth generation. Abram experienced a religious awakening that was completely different from the practice of his father Terah's religion. Abram understood that God was not in some objects to be worshipped but was something much more and greater.

Together with his father's family, Abram lived a wealthy urban life in the city of Ur. Three sons were born to Terah, Abram, Nahor, and Haran. However, Haran died before his father and his son Lot was close to his uncle Abram. Terah left with his son Abram and his grandson Lot to go to the land of Canaan in what is now Palestine, and they settled in Harran. Terah died in Harran at the age of 205, and now Abram and Lot had to decide the direction of their own lives.

God said to Abram: "Get out of your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, and you will be a blessing. And I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you, and in you, all the families of the earth will be blessed." So, Abram set out for a land unknown to him. Lot faithfully followed Abram. Quite a life change for both to leave urban conditions to live a nomadic life and live in tents. However, both became prosperous and had many servants, cattle, and property. This caused friction between their people and fights also arose among the servants. So, Abram saw that both had become such a large group that it had become difficult to travel together. Abram spoke to Lot and told Lot to separate from him. Abram let Lot choose the direction and area where Lot and his troops would like to go, and then he went in the opposite direction. Lot chose the prosperous expanse of Jordan, where Sodom was also located.

God blessed Abram, promising to make his descendants a chosen people. The blessings also included the fact that the Messiah would come from Abram's family, that certain lands would be inheritance lands, and that the peoples and families of the earth would be blessed through his seed.

God made a covenant with Abram and said you shall no longer be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I will make you the father of many nations. The name Abraham means father of many.

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With the promise to Abraham and his descendants, God showed the Israelites a permanent inheritance of the land of Canaan, i.e. today's Palestine, whose borders He also defined. Living in this country came with a condition of obedience. The land will remain with Abraham's descendants if the given commandments are kept but breaking them would lead to expulsion from the promised land and forced exile. However, repentance and conversion would give the people the opportunity to return to the promised land again.

Abraham was promised that he would become a great nation, but Abraham had no offspring, and age was already weighing on him, like his wife Sarah. God had blessed Abraham in many ways, but no offspring had been born. They began to doubt God's promise and began to plan their solution to the situation. So, Sarah gave her slave girl Hagar to Abraham so that Abraham would have offspring through her. Hagar did give birth to a son, Ishmael, but Ishmael would not become the father of the chosen people chosen by God.

Finally, Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to a son, Isaac. And he became God's approved successor to the covenant given to Abraham. Because Hagar had given birth to Abraham's firstborn son Ishmael, her heart was proud before Sarah. Similarly, Ishmael also felt his position was strong when he was Abraham's firstborn before Isaac. This annoyed Sarah and she wanted Hagar and her son to be driven away from the family connection. There must have been many discussions between Abraham and Sarah about it. This was a sad situation for Abraham, after all, Ismail was his firstborn son. Abraham turned to God for advice on how to act. So, God instructed Abraham to do according to Sarah's will, and so Hagar and Ishmael were evicted from Abraham's fellowship.

However, God also took care of Hagar and Ishmael. Ishmael also became a great nation. However, Ishmael was not the father of God's chosen people of possessions, and his descendants did not become God's chosen people.

When Isaac reached a suitable age, Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac from among his tribe. He swore to the servant to bring a wife from among his relatives. At first, they were talking in a general way about the young girls of their tribe, but apparently, the conversation led to a specific person, because the servant asked, "What if the girl doesn't agree to go". Then Abraham replied that the servant would be free from

his oath and could take a wife for Isaac from any tribe. So, the servant set off with plenty of gifts and met Laban and his daughter Rebekah, who was willing to go with the servant and marry Isaac. Laban accepted the matter, which was probably also influenced by the generous gifts that the servant brought as dowries.

According to Jewish tradition, Rebekah had supernatural tendencies, and she received information from God that she would give birth to twin boys, the younger of whom would be pleasing to God. So, Isaac and Rebekah had twin sons, the firstborn son Esau and the younger Jacob. Esau was a strong and hairy hunter and his father's favorite and had birthright. Jacob was hairless and his mother Rebekah's favorite. Once Esau came home hungry from his hunting trip Jacob took the opportunity to persuade Esau to give up his birthright in exchange for bean soup. Esau did not value the birthright very highly at that moment and agreed to the barter.

Later, when Isaac grew old, he wanted to give his blessing to his firstborn son Esau. Getting a blessing was a very important thing, usually given to the eldest son, which showed the status of the head of the family. Esau went to the forest to catch a tasty roast for his father for the blessing ceremony. That's when Rebekah intervened and planned a plot to get Isaac's blessing for Jacob. Since Isaac's eyesight was already impaired, Rebekah decided to cover Jacob's arms with sheep skin, so that when Isaac felt Jacob's arms, they would feel like Esau's arms. Jacob then went before his father pretending to be Esau. Isaac felt his son, who felt like Esau but sounded like Jacob. So, when Isaac asked if this was Esau, Jacob lied that he was and thus received his father's blessing.

Then when Esau came from the forest and had prepared a delicious meal, he went to his father to receive a blessing. Isaac now had to say that he had already given his blessing to Jacob. Esau asked if he could receive the blessing, too. Isaac said he had only one blessing, which had now been given by deceit to Jacob. Of course, Esau got angry about this and wanted to find his brother who participated in the betrayal.

However, Jacob had run away from his brother towards the residence of his mother's brother, that is, his uncle Laban. On the way, God gave Jacob a new name, Israel. The new name Israel given to Jacob later became the name of the entire nation, i.e. the twelve tribes, and the name of the current Jewish state born in 1948.

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When Jacob went to his uncle Laban, he met his great love Rachel, whom he also wanted as his wife. Laban promised Rachel as Jacob's wife, but Jacob would first have to serve Laban for seven years, and then the wedding could take place. Because Jacob loved Rachel so much, he agreed to the deal. When seven years had passed, Jacob's long-awaited wedding took place. Laban also had an older daughter, Lea, who, however, did not arouse the same interest in Jacob.

The wedding was indeed held, but the morning after the wedding night it was revealed to Jacob that Laban had cheated on him. After all, Laban was Jacob's mother Rebekah's brother, so both were cunning to get their way. The bride was not Rachel, but her older sister Lea. Angered by this, Jacob demanded that Laban explain what kind of trick this was. Laban said that they didn't usually marry the younger daughter before the older one, so it had to be done this way as well. Later, another wedding was arranged, when Jacob also got Rachel as his wife, but the condition was that Jacob had to serve Laban for another seven years. Thus, Jacob got two wives, Leah and Rachel, and their servants Bilhah and Silpa, with all of whom Jacob had offspring.

In the end, Jacob decided to leave Laban and start a life among his tribe in the land of Canaan.

The tribes of Israel

Jacob, or Israel, eventually had twelve sons born to Leah, Rachel, and the two servants Zilpah and Bilhah. Lea was fertile and gave birth to sons for Jacob, who was important in the world of that time, also in an economic sense. However, Rachel did not give birth for a long time and therefore she gave her servant Bilhah to Jacob so that he would have children through her. Bilhah gave birth to sons and then Leah also gave her servant Zilpah to Jacob to have more offspring. Finally, Rachel became pregnant and gave birth to Joseph and later Benjamin. So, there were twelve sons in total: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph, and Benjamin, which also formed the twelve tribes, and which formed the original nation of Israel and later the state. The two youngest, Joseph and Benjamin, were the dearest to Jacob.

The twelve sons thus became the twelve tribes of Israel, which formed

the nation of Israel. But the time was not yet ready to establish a state and settle in the promised land. The entire nation of Israel lived a nomadic life. Joseph's popularity in his father's eyes caused jealousy among his brothers, which was also increased by Joseph's dreams. Joseph saw in a dream that his brothers had to bow down to him. Joseph had also received a nice cloak from his father as a gift. Finer than the other brothers. So, the envious brothers were embittered. As Joseph brought food and drink to his brothers in the field, they dropped him into a dry well and eventually sold Joseph to passing slave traders who took him to Egypt for a slave market. The boys lied to Jacob that the beast had hunted and killed Joseph. As proof, they presented Joseph's cloak stained with sheep's blood.

Joseph in Egypt

Joseph was taken to the Egyptian slave market and sold to Potiphar, Pharaoh's head of the bodyguard. Potiphar noticed Joseph as an intelligent young man and gave him great responsibility in his house. God was with Joseph, so that he prospered in all things, and he dwelt in his master's house. However, Potiphar's wife fell in love with Joseph, but when Joseph did not want to betray his master and have sex with his wife, the wife got angry and claimed that Joseph tried to rape her. Angered by his wife's claims, Potiphar ordered Joseph to prison.

Even in prison, Joseph's talent was noticed, and he received special tasks and treatment. In prison, he got to know the pharaoh's former imprisoned servants, whose dreams he was able to interpret. He interpreted their dreams to mean that the former cupbearer would be promoted to his former position, but the former baker would be sentenced to death. This is what happened.

Later, Pharaoh also had dreams that troubled him greatly. He wanted to find out what dreams meant. Pharaoh called the wise men and magicians of the whole land to him, but none could interpret Pharaoh's dreams. Then Pharaoh's cupbearer remembered that Joseph was able to correctly explain his dream. He told Pharaoh about it, who now asked Joseph to come to him. Joseph was not told what dreams Pharaoh had seen, but he was still able to tell them and explain their meaning.

Pharaoh had a dream of seven fat cows followed by seven very thin and starving cows. The wise magicians of Egypt could not explain the

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meaning of Pharaoh's dreams, but Joseph could. There were going to be seven good years with great harvests followed by seven bad years. Based on Pharaoh's dreams, Joseph advised to put some of the abundant grain harvest into large grain silos. Grain could then be sold from the silos to the public in lean years. Even today, grain is stored in high-grain silos.

Pharaoh saw Joseph as a wise man and wanted to give Joseph great power in Egypt. Despite his difficulties, Joseph had risen to the important position of prime minister of the Egyptian state with his wisdom and ability to correctly interpret people's and even Pharaoh's dreams.

When the bad years came, the tribes of Israel also suffered from a bad famine. Joseph's older brothers went to Egypt to buy grain, because they had heard that there was grain stored there. Benjamin stayed home with his father. In Egypt, they encountered Joseph whom they did not recognize and had to bow down to Joseph to receive the purchased grain. This is how Joseph's dream came true. Joseph asked them a lot if their father was still alive and if they had other brothers. The brothers told everything as it was. They could buy grain in sacks, but Joseph's subjects had hidden a precious object in one of the sacks. When the inspection found a hidden object, the Egyptians accused them of being thieves and spies on Joseph's orders. Joseph insisted that one of them should remain as a hostage and, if they were telling the truth, they should bring their youngest brother with them next time. This was sad news for Jacob because he was afraid that he would lose Benjamin as he had lost Joseph. Finally, when the grain was running low again, he agreed to let Benjamin go.

This time, when they came again to Egypt, Joseph revealed himself to his brothers. He also invited the entire tribe of Israel to come to him and eventually, they all, led by Jacob, moved to Egypt to live. Pharaoh allowed them to settle in the region of Goshen, which was the fertile region of Egypt. Egypt became their refuge.

Jacob's prophecy about his sons

When Jacob grew old, he called his sons to him to tell them what kind of fate awaited them. Genesis 49:

“Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's

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bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

Simeon and Levi are brothers; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations. O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger, they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall. Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens: And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear and became a servant unto tribute.

Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. I have waited for Thy salvation, O LORD.

Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.

Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall: The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him: But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb: The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of

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Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.”

After this, Jacob died and his sons buried him in the same grave where Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac were also buried.

Egyptian slavery, Moses and the Exodus

At first, their time in Egypt was easy, but as time progressed, they were perceived as a threat and began to be treated violently. In the end, they were in the position of slaves. Pharaoh had set the order that all the Israeli baby boys had to be killed, so that the Israelites would not become too strong a nation and an internal political threat. A Levite mother came up with a way to try to save her son's life. She had hidden her son and put him in a basket and let the basket float down the Nile. An Egyptian princess was spending time on the banks of the Nile and heard a baby crying from the river and asked her servant to fetch the basket. She fell in love with the baby in the basket and wanted to take the child as his own, even though she knew the boy was Israeli. She named the baby Moses, which meant "raised from the water". This is how Moses received a noble upbringing in the Pharaoh's court.

After Moses had already grown into an adult, he once went to visit his people and saw how they were working. After seeing the Egyptian foreman beat the Israelite man, Moses became enraged and killed the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. Of course, the matter did not remain a secret but reached even the Pharaoh's ears. After hearing about what happened, the pharaoh planned to execute Moses, but he fled the pharaoh's revenge far into the desert and ended up under the protection of the Midianite priest, Jethro. Moses spent several years in exile and married a priest's daughter, Zipporah, and shepherded his father-in-law's sheep. After four hundred years of Israel's slavery, God called Moses from the burning bush and told him to go back to Egypt and ask Pharaoh to release the Israelites. Reluctant Moses would not have wanted to undertake such a dangerous task, but God persuaded him after promising to help and support him. Moses' brother Aaron would also help Moses. So, Moses agreed to return to Egypt and become the leader of the people

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of Israel and lead the people out of slavery in Egypt.

Pharaoh refused to release the enslaved Israelites, because of which God inflicted ten plagues on Egypt through Moses. Moses often went after various plagues to ask Pharaoh if Pharaoh was ready to let the Israelites go. The last plague was the death of the firstborn sons. The Israelites had to smear the blood of the lamb on their doorposts, and death surrounded all the houses that had blood smeared on them. The firstborn sons of the Egyptians faced death. Pharaoh's son also died. This was too much for Pharaoh. He commanded the Israelites to go on the first exodus of the nation of Israel.

After the Israelites were finally freed, Moses' task was now to lead them from Egypt to the promised land. With the help of many miracles, they soon reached the border of the land of Canaan on their journey but did not yet dare to conquer the land. Moses had sent a man from every tribe to spy out the promised land. The men saw the country as beautiful, but also strong and well-equipped. Only Caleb and Joshua said that God would help them conquer the land. The people wanted to choose a new leader to replace Moses and return to Egypt, which made God angry. So, God let them wander in the wilderness for another forty years.

During the journey, the Israelites also received tablets of the law on which the Ten Commandments were written. The Ten Commandments became the body of Israel's legislation. They were also the basis for legislation throughout the Western world.

After forty years of wandering, the Israelites were ready to fight for the Promised Land to claim it for themselves. Moses never made it to the promised land, but he could see it from a high mountain. Of those who left Egypt as adults, only Caleb and Joshua were allowed to enter the promised land. Moses died and God buried his body. Although attempts were made to search for Moses' grave, it was never found. Before he died, Moses handed over his staff to Joshua, as a sign of shepherding the people.

Joshua

Joshua sent two men on a spying trip to the land of Canaan and said: "Go and explore that land and the city of Jericho." They went to Jericho and went to the house of a porter named Rahab to stay there for the

night. But the king of Jericho found out that evening that Israeli men had arrived in Jericho to spy on the country, and he ordered his men to say to Rahab: "Bring here the men you have in your house. They have come to spy on this country". But Rahab had hidden the men and answered: "Those men did come to me, but I don't know where they came from. They set out at nightfall, just as the city gates were being closed. I don't know where they went, but if you immediately go after them, you can still catch them." After the pursuers left, Rahab came to the men and said to them: "I know that the Lord has decided to give you this land. Fear has seized us, and the whole earth trembles with terror because of you. I didn't betray you; I saved your life. Now swear to me in the name of the Lord that you will save my father's family. Leave me a sure sign of that." The men said to him: "When the Lord gives us this land, we will spare your lives." You can count on that. When we arrive in this country, tie this red ribbon to your window. Then gather your father, your mother and your brothers and all your father's family to you in this house".

Then she said, "The living God is among you. This you know because He will destroy the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Hivites, the Perizzites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, and the Jebusites from your path." All the Amorite kings who lived west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the seashore learned that the Lord had dried up the waters of the Jordan from the path of the Israelites and thus brought them across the river.

Under the leadership of Joshua, the nation of Israel crossed the Jordan River after God had dried up the water of the Jordan River. God told Joshua to destroy the entire population of the land and everything that was in it.

Then the courage of the kings failed, and none of them dared to stand against the Israelites. The Israelites destroyed everything in the city and killed men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, goats, and donkeys. But they spared Rahab and her family.

Before his death, Joshua swore to the people to follow God's laws, not to worship foreign gods, and to avoid intermarrying with the Canaanite nations. But the people fell into everything that Joshua had warned them about.

Israel took most of the promised land for themselves, but not all of it because of their fall. The beginning of Israel was a constant struggle against the people who already lived in the land. This is how the first state of Israel was born.

The first state of Israel

When the people of Israel quickly forgot their promise to Joshua, God appointed judges for Israel to rule and lead the people in the right direction. While the judge was alive and led, the people's walk was righteous, but as soon as the judge died, they again began to do what was bad in God's eyes. When the new judge took over the task, they again improved their manners.

However, the people wanted a king for themselves, just like other people had. God appointed Saul as their first king. However, Saul was not a good ruler and often acted against God's will. The most successful kings were David and Solomon. Israel walked the path of blessings under the leadership of David and Solomon. In the south of the state of Israel was the territory of Judah and the other ten tribes were in the north. The Levites were not assigned their residential area, but their task was to perform the duties of the priesthood.

During the time of King David, Israel was still a united and strong state. David had his weaknesses. Among other things, he fell in love with the neighbor's lady, Bathsheba, after seeing her bathing on the roof terrace. David got Bathsheba pregnant while Bathsheba's husband was fighting at war. David told the commander to put Bathsheba's husband in such a dangerous place that he would surely die. After the man was dead, David took Bathsheba as his wife. Although the act was a serious sin, God did not reject David, because David had never served foreign gods. David and Bathsheba later had Solomon. Israel became a wealthy nation during Solomon's reign. Solomon also built the first temple in Jerusalem. Since the temple was in Judah in Jerusalem, most of the Levites also lived in Judah.

Then, in the final years of Solomon's reign, there was an apostasy that led to the division of the nation of Israel after him. Solomon had numerous wives from different religions, and he wanted to please his wives by building altars of different religions in the territory of Israel to their liking.

State disintegration and forced migrations

This did not please God, and so the United Kingdom of Israel soon after King Solomon's death split into two parts, Judah in the south and Israel in the north.

Rather quickly, northern Israel became spiritually and worldly degenerate. They deviated from God's commandments and began to worship other gods. So, God allowed the Assyrians to take the tribes of the northern kingdom into exile in 722 BC. Despite numerous warnings from the prophets, the people of Israel did not stop rebelling against God.

"Oh Assyria, my anger whips! The rod of my wrath is in its hand. It is I who will send against this unworthy nation, against this nation that has aroused my anger, to plunder and plunder, to trample it down like the mud of the alleys. But Assyria itself believes otherwise, it itself does not understand its mission. It has only destruction in mind and the desire to destroy nation after nation." (Isaiah 10)

The ten tribes of Israel never returned as a united nation to the promised land. The Assyrian empire was also conquered and the Assyrians and the forcibly relocated Israelites had to leave the area. This is how ten northern tribes disappeared among other peoples in connection with the forced migration. Most of them and the Assyrians directed their migration towards Europe.

The Jews and the Levites who lived with them remained in the Promised Land. But the people of the state of Judah were also later forced into exile. In 587 BC, Jerusalem was destroyed, and the Babylonians took the people of Judah to Babylonia. Persia conquered Babylonia while the Jews were there as exiles. In Persia, the Jews encountered the first plan for destruction.

Mordecai, a Jew, lived together with his cousin Esther. Esther was very beautiful, and the king wanted her as his wife. Haman, the king's minister, was angry with Mordecai because Mordecai refused to bow down to him. Haman knew that Mordecai was a Jew. So, Haman wanted all the Jews to be killed. The plan would have been successful if Queen Esther, who was also a Jew, although the king did not know it, had not gone before the king and revealed Haman's misguided plan. Haman himself was sentenced to death and the Jews were saved from complete destruction. Finally, after many years of exile, they were allowed to return to their

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promised land. The Jews returned to their homeland in 539 BC and represented the nation of Israel from then on.

The Temple in Jerusalem was rebuilt and even though the state was not completely independent, the nation was able to implement its Jewish culture and religion. The Promised Land came under the Roman Empire. The Roman conquerors of the land found Judah difficult to control. Problems were caused by constant rebellions and the reluctance of the Jews to support or accept the cultures of the conquerors. At the beginning of our era, Jesus was also active in Judea, He was considered by the Jews as a religious rebel and by the Romans as a political rebel. Jesus did not have many advocates, but His teaching and crucifixion gave birth to a worldwide faith, which at first was only a small sect of Judaism. The Jews were waiting for a Messiah who would free them from their political, economic, and cultural predicament. Would liberate from the power of occupying armies. They did not know how to accept the message of spiritual freedom in the kingdom of God offered by Jesus.

Diaspora

Eventually, the rebellions expanded and targeted Roman rule and tax collection. Due to the different viewpoints of different Jewish groups, the turmoil began to take on the characteristics of a civil war. The rebellion led to the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple in 70 A.D. The Romans drove the Jews into exile to wander among all nations and named the area as Palestine after the Philistines. As a result of the destruction of Jerusalem, a long period of Jewish history began the diaspora or dispersion. During the dispersion, the Jews faced constant and everywhere manifesting some degree of restriction of rights, expulsion from the country, and other separate laws due to ethnic background or religion.

After the Romans, Palestine was ruled by the Ottoman Empire for hundreds of years. In 1918, Britain occupied the territory and pledged to support the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine. European travelers who visited Palestine described the area as abandoned backwoods. Members of the British upper class began to see Palestine as a "land without people" that could be inhabited by "people without a land", i.e. Jews. In 1852, the British founded an association to promote

the return of Jews. [13]

Holocaust

After wandering for almost two thousand years and facing many different and different levels of persecution, the worst trial of all time began for the Jewish people. The doctrines and goals of the Nazi ideology, which was born in Germany in the 1930s, included getting rid of the Jews completely. The final solution, which the Nazis used to call the systematic killing of Jews, had never been implemented before in any country. The final solution required a nation that worked systematically, was technologically advanced, believed in its superiority, had to experience what seemed like unfair and humiliating treatment by its neighbors, was waiting to get out of its difficult economic situation, and was ready to worship a leader who promised that things would get better.

The systematic genocide of the Jews by Nazi Germany during World War II, in which six million Jews died, was later called the Holocaust.

The new state of Israel

In 1947, the United Nations decided that the territory of Palestine should be divided into Israel and the Palestinian Arab state. On November 29, 1947, the United Nations passed a resolution ending the League of Nations Mandate for Palestine and replacing British rule with the partition of the country into two states: a Jewish state and an Arab state.

Jews around the world were jubilant, even though the territory offered to them was only a fraction of what they had been promised in Britain's Balfour Declaration in 1917. The Arabs, on the other hand, were outraged because they wanted the entire land of Palestine for themselves. They immediately started a civil war that continued until the day the Jews declared their independence on May 14, 1948.

The surrounding Arab states repeatedly warned that they would attack massively if the Jews declared independence. For example, Arab League Secretary General Azzam Pasha declared: "It will be a war of extermination. It will be a significant massacre in history, which will be talked about like the massacres of the Mongols or the Crusades".

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The Jews were very worried that such a boast could become a reality. Thus, on the eve of war, Israel's Chief of Staff, Yigael Yadin, told Jewish leader David Ben-Gurion: "The best we can say is that we have a 50-50 chance."

The fears were realized within hours of the declaration of independence, when five Arab armies, Egypt, Transjordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq, attacked the new state. At that time, Israel had only 30,000 fighters who were poorly trained and poorly equipped. The reason why the Arabs did not accept the two-state arrangement was that they were certain of the victory of the Arab states in the coming war.

The Arab forces, especially the Jordanians, were well-trained and equipped with aircraft, tanks, and modern artillery. The Transjordan army was even partly led by British officers.

US President Harry Truman officially recognized the new state of Israel immediately, but his administration refused to give aid to Israel, childishly if doing so would reduce bloodshed. Britain openly supplied weapons to the Arabs, while Israel had to smuggle additional weapons from Eastern Europe, for example, Czechoslovakia.

But despite being greatly outnumbered, the small Jewish state won, albeit at a huge cost. Thousands of Israelis were killed. In the end, the Israelis controlled not only the territory assigned to them by the UN but also 60 percent of the territory that had been proposed as an Arab state. The only central area that the Israelites were not able to conquer yet was the old city of Jerusalem, which therefore contains the area of the former temple.

All in all, the war was a miraculous victory for Israel. Since then, Israel has been in a constant state of unrest, as peace agreements with all neighboring countries were never concluded. Arabs living in Israel have also caused aggression comparable to war. There have been Arab uprisings or intifadas.

In all the battles with neighboring states, Israel's territory has always expanded. In 1967, Egypt, Jordan, and Syria were against Israel in the Six-Day War. Egypt blockaded Israeli shipping in the Red Sea, removed UN peacekeepers from the area, and moved tanks and hundreds of soldiers to Sinai, announcing its readiness for war. The Six-Day War began with an Israeli attack, with which it managed to disable the Egyptian air force

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in a few hours. Jordan, on the other hand, attacked the Israeli cities of West Jerusalem and Netanya. Israel achieved a quick victory in the war. At the end of it, Gaza, the Sinai Peninsula, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, and the Old City of Jerusalem remained under Israel's control.

Syria and Egypt attacked Israel in 1973 and surprised Israel, which was celebrating its most important holiday, the Great Day of Atonement. At first, Israel suffered considerable losses, especially in the Golan Heights, but after a few days, when the reserve forces arrived at the front, the war situation began to change. After another week of fighting, Egypt and Syria had lost most of the positions they had captured.

From the Lebanese side to the northern parts of the country, continuous terrorist attacks were carried out on Israel in the 1980s. Israel invaded civil war-torn Lebanon in 1982 to counter these attacks. After forming a 40-kilometer-wide safe zone, the Israeli army continued its attack into the interior and captured the country's capital, Beirut. The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which had been headquartered in the city, fled to Tunis, the capital of Tunisia. Israel largely withdrew its forces from the country in 1986 but continued to occupy the South Lebanon Security Zone with the paramilitary South Lebanon Army it supports. Israel withdrew from the area in 2000, after which it was taken over by the terrorist organization Hezbollah and UN peacekeeping forces.

The first intifada, or Palestinian uprising against Israel, began in December 1987 and continued until 1993. A total of about 1,400 Palestinians, about 270 Israeli civilians, and 150 Israeli soldiers died in the clashes. After the Labor Party won in 1992, Yitzhak Rabin began negotiations with the PLO to bring about peace, and in 1993 the parties signed the Oslo Accords. Also known as Oslo I, Israel and the PLO recognized each other.

The second intifada, the Al-Aqsa intifada, began in September 2000. As a result of the intifada, Israel began to build a security fence in the West Bank, the purpose of which is to make it difficult for terrorists to enter Israeli cities. The UN General Assembly and the European Union have criticized the fence because it divides Palestinian territories and annexes 6 percent of the disputed territories to Israel for an indefinite period. In 2004, the International Court of Justice in The Hague issued a decision according to which the fence is against international law and should be dismantled immediately. According to the decision, Israel

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would also be obliged to compensate the damage caused to the Palestinian population by the fence.

In December 2008, the cease-fire between Israel and Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, ended. At the turn of the year, Israel began aerial bombardment of the Gaza Strip, and a ground attack, Operation Cast Lead. Israel withdrew for the most part in January 2009. The high number of civilian casualties and damage to fifty UN buildings caused the UN to strongly criticize the attack.

Jerusalem was recognized as the capital of Israel

In December 2017, US President Donald Trump announced that the US would recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The decision had already been made in the 1990s, but all previous US presidents had postponed the implementation of the decision. So far, in addition to the United States, only Guatemala has moved its embassy to Jerusalem. Israel is the only country in the world that cannot decide its capital city.

But the state of Israel has nevertheless developed continuously, prospered, and is the only democratic state in the Middle East region. Israel has a strong and modern army. Jews immigrate to Israel constantly from all countries of the world.

Israel has given up some of the territories it conquered, for example, Sinai was given back to Egypt as a sign of peace. Likewise, the occupation of Gaza was abandoned to bring peace to the region. The Israelis who settled in Gaza had to leave their homes and businesses in the hands of the Gazans. The army forcibly removed them from the area. However, the incident did not help to bring about peace. Soon the Palestinians began to use Gaza for a military attack against Israel.

Israel's foreign policy

Israel's most important ally is the United States, whose most important ally in the Middle East is Israel. The United States was the first nation to recognize the state of Israel in 1948. The Jewish People Policy Institute JPPI has stated that the American Jewish community is one of Israel's most important strategic assets in the long term.

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In 2022, there were 28 countries in the world that had never recognized the state of Israel, or that once had relations with Israel, but have since severed relations. North Korea, Cuba, and Venezuela are the only non-Muslim majority countries that did not have diplomatic relations with Israel in 2020. Among the Arab countries, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco normalized their relations with Israel in 2020. So did Buddhist-majority Bhutan.

Israel's relations with Russia are good even though Israel is the main ally of the United States in the Middle East and Russia has close relations with Israel's enemies Iran and Syria. There are one million residents of Russian background living in Israel, and Israel is the only country outside of the former Soviet Union where May 9, or the victory day of the Red Army, is an official holiday.

Many of Israel's neighboring countries seek a Palestine pure of Jews, i.e. a state without any Jews. For example, the president of Iran has threatened to push all Jews into the Mediterranean. Western countries talk about dividing Israel into two, Jewish and Palestinian states. However, in addition to the Jews, Israel has a large Arab minority with full civil rights. They have also been in parliament and have also been ministers. The majority of Israeli Arabs would not want their state, but a better option for them is to live in a prosperous and democratic Israel.

WHAT IS JUDAISM?

Judaism is the ethnic religion of the Jewish people. The origin of the Jewish people and Judaism is in the ancient Israelites and their culture. Historically, Jewish ethnicity and religion have been intertwined. One is born Jewish, traditionally according to Jewish law, through the mother's side of the family, but in more liberal tendencies, Judaism is inherited from the father's side as well. A Jew also means a person who does not believe in God or practice the Jewish religion but is ethnically Jewish.

So, a person can be ethnically Jewish who does not believe in Judaism as a religion, but can be Christian, Muslim, atheist, or whatever. Or a person may believe in Judaism as a religion but not be ethnically Jewish. And of course, he can be ethnically Jewish, who also believes in the Jewish faith at least on a cultural level, which is the most normal option.

Since Judaism is an ethnoreligious tradition centered on the idea of a covenant between the Jewish people and God, it does not involve the view that members of other nations need to adopt its beliefs and customs, and Judaism does not engage in missionary work or generally recommend conversion to others. A person who converts to Judaism is also considered to be a part of the Jewish people connected to it, in addition to his religious change, and thus to become part of the alliance between the Jewish people and God. Converting to Judaism is a much bigger process than, for example, converting to Islam or Christianity. A non-Jewish person does not become a Jew by believing and following the teachings of Judaism, nor can conversion be done by self-identifying as a

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Jew. Converting to an ethnic religion requires being accepted by the community. Often the motive for conversion is a marriage with a Jew or a Jewish family background on the father's side, which does not define Judaism in all trends of the Jewish religion and thus requires a conversion process.

Jewish calendar: The Jews have their calendar, which specifies the Jewish holidays and the appropriate Psalms to read. Jewish chronology begins with the supposed creation of the world. Now 2024 is 5784 according to the Jewish calendar.

Since the Jewish calendar is based on the cycle of the moon, the dates of the holy days vary compared to the Western calendar. The day begins at nightfall and ends the following evening.

Sabbath: One of the most important commandments concerns the day of rest, or the Sabbath, which is the seventh day of the week. The week is calculated to start from Sunday, so the seventh day is Saturday, just as it was officially in European countries before the week numbering system was introduced in 1973.

At the turn of the 2nd century, the Christian church wanted to make a clear distinction from Judaism for both theological and political reasons, and the day of rest for Christians became Sunday, the first day of the week, and the day of Christ's resurrection. According to the biblical account of creation, the Sabbath begins on Friday evening when the sun sets. Shabbat celebration begins with the family meal on Friday evening when candles are lit. On Saturday morning, a service is held, and the Sabbath ends with the reading of blessings in the evening.

Circumcision: The first duty of a male Jew is fulfilled on the eighth day after birth, when, according to the commandment of the Torah, Brit Mila, circumcision, is performed.

According to Genesis, God commanded Abraham to circumcise himself, his male descendants, and his servants.

This delivery is one of the most important and its absence is considered a serious breach. A Jew who died uncircumcised can only be buried in a Jewish cemetery in its special section. During the circumcision,

the boy gets his name. The baby girl is given a name during the Sabbath service. The child's father is invited to read the Torah when the child is read a special blessing and given a name.

Bar mitzvah ceremony in the synagogue: The religious majority comes for boys at the age of 13 and girls at the age of 12. Jewish education aims to teach a child to observe mitzvahs so that when they reach adulthood, they can be responsible for their actions. The boy becomes a so-called bar mitzvah ("son of the law") and the girl a bat mitzvah ("daughter of the law"). In the service, the boy is invited to read the Torah for the first time and the event is thoroughly celebrated. In Conservative and Reform Jewish congregations, girls also get to read the Torah.

Marriage: Marriage is the foundation of Jewish life, future generations, and the entire Jewish people. Judaism has a very negative attitude towards mixed marriages. The mother's Jewishness is important because Jewish identity and belonging to the Jewish people are inherited specifically from the mother. A Jewish couple is married under the Chupa, or wedding canopy, as a metaphor for living together. The spouses sign the marriage contract, the ketubah, and drink a glass of wine together, after which the groom breaks the glass in memory of the Temple in Jerusalem. Wedding guests then have the habit of shouting mazel tov! (congratulations!). If the marriage breaks down, it requires a divorce confirmed by the rabbinical court, or bet din, get.

Burial: In case of death, the burial is arranged as soon as possible, usually within two days. A Jew can only be buried in a Jewish cemetery, and the Jewish burial association Hevra Kadisha is responsible for the delivery. A Jew observes a mourning ritual, which includes a week-long shiva period of mourning and a daily Kaddish prayer. Cremation is not part of a Jewish burial. Autopsy is also prohibited unless required by law.

Different Jewish groups follow customs quite individually. Traditional Jews mainly observe the most important mitzvah regulations. For secularized Jews, religion is only vaguely visible in everyday life. Among Orthodox Jews, Haredi Jews follow traditions very strictly. They can be recognized by their traditional clothing, which includes a suit for men and

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a dress for women. Married Haredi women cover their hair. Men wear fringes (tzitzit) and a round kippah headdress. The costume often includes a beard and a black hat.

Repentance: According to the Jewish understanding, sins can be forgiven and atoned for by repentance, prayer, and charity. An essential part of repentance is a sincere change in thinking, confessing your sins to God, and asking for forgiveness from the people you have wronged. If possible, the damage must also be compensated, for example by returning the stolen property. Sin is considered as straying from the right path, and with the help of repentance, a person returns to his original state. Repentance is therefore called teshuva or going back.

Messiah: The Jewish faith includes the doctrine of the Messiah, who is a prophet and king who will lead the Jewish people at the end of time in the so-called Messianic era. According to Judaism, in the messianic period, the prophecies will be fulfilled, the diaspora of the people of Israel will end, the Jerusalem temple will be rebuilt, all nations will convert to faith in God, and eternal world peace and justice will prevail.

Sacred texts: The Jewish holy texts define the principles of the Jewish faith, and they also give Jews instructions for everyday life.

The basic work of Judaism is the Torah or the five books of Moses. The Torah describes, among other things, the creation of the world, God's covenant with Abraham, the Israelites' escape from Egypt, and the Ten Commandments. The Torah is read, for example, in synagogue services on the Sabbath.

In addition to the Torah, the Hebrew Bible, or Tanak, also includes Nevi'im and Ketuvim, which contain historical descriptions of Jewish life in Israel and Babylon, as well as poetry and instructions. Jews read the Bible on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays.

The Talmud is an extensive rabbinic text compiled after the beginning of time, consisting of the oral law Mishna and its commentary Gemara, as well as later commentaries. Talmud is studied especially in Jewish schools, yeshivas, but also, for example, in Israeli universities.

The Torah and other early Jewish texts were written in Hebrew, but

parts of the Tanakh and Talmud were written in Aramaic, which had become the everyday language of the Jews.

Kosher food: Jewish regulations related to food are collectively called kashrut. The Torah precisely defines the animals that can be eaten and the basis for their preparation. A diet according to the rules of the Torah is kosher, i.e. valid. If food is not allowed, it is trefa, i.e. forbidden.

Edible livestock must be ruminants and have cloven hooves. They include cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats, and giraffes, but not, for example, pigs, horses, donkeys, hares and camels. Chicken, duck, turkey, and pigeon are acceptable poultry, but not birds of prey. Of the fish, only those with scales and fins are eligible. Predatory fish and shellfish are not included in the kosher diet.

The use of blood as food is strictly prohibited. Therefore, the animals must be slaughtered by cutting open their carotid artery and draining the blood. This form of slaughter is called šehita. The calf must not be cooked in its mother's milk, which is why meat and dairy products are not mixed, and they are not served at the same meal. The Kosher home's kitchen equipment includes separate cookware and cutlery for meat and dairy foods.

The Jewish food tradition has developed over the centuries into a very rich collection of different recipes, which, when applied according to kosher rules, have influences from almost any culture in the world in which Jews have lived.

CHURCH HISTORY

When talking about anti-Semitism, i.e. the racist attitude and persecution related to Jews and Judaism, one can ask why it is necessary to talk so much about Christianity and churches. Because most of the anti-Semitic acts took place in the Christian world. And often because of a wrong or weak interpretation of the Bible. The Christian world has not understood or even wanted to understand the background of Christianity as an extension of Judaism. A large part of anti-Semitism is religious persecution. And its origin was in the Christian churches. This was only possible because the Christian clergy did not take the entire message of the Bible seriously. However, the worst incidents were caused by ethnic anti-Semitism. It didn't matter what religion a person belonged to. It was enough to kill that there was Jewishness in the ethnic family tree many generations earlier. Even then, there were attempts to tie the measures to religion. The latest form is the double standard attitude towards the state of Israel, where Israel is expected to behave differently than any other state. And in addition, they want to divide the state of Israel into two parts. In this case, too, the Bible's promise to the state of Israel is forgotten.

The Beginning of Christianity

The background of Christianity is in Judaism. Jesus is a Jew. The twelve apostles that Jesus chose were Jews. The New Testament is almost

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entirely written by Jews. The twelve apostles were Simon, alias Peter, Andrew, brother of Peter, son of James Zebedee, John, brother of James, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, son of James Alphaeus, Thaddeus, who was also called Judas (Judas son of James), Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus and was replaced by a new apostle, Matthias. These were the ones called by Jesus during His earthly journey.

After the crucifixion, Jesus appeared to His disciples in Galilee, based on which they knew with certainty about Jesus' resurrection and resurrection. Jesus had talked with them and even let them touch him. The congregation is considered to have begun with the celebration of the giving of the Jewish law 50 days after Passover. The Followers of Jesus had gathered in an upper hall in Jerusalem, timidly fearing possible persecution by the supporters of Judaism. Suddenly, the Holy Spirit came upon them and gave them the courage to publicly proclaim the gospel. Peter went out and preached in many languages to the people about Jesus. Thousands immediately accepted the message. The Holy Spirit gave them the ability and courage to proclaim the gospel, speak in tongues, and heal the sick.

Later, Jesus also called Saul, who at first was a fierce defender of Jewish doctrine and an opponent of Christianity. Saul encountered Jesus on his way to arrest Christians in Damascus. While riding, he fell off his horse and became blind. Jesus asked him "Why are you persecuting me". Saul realized that he had been wrong to oppose the Christians. He was escorted to Damascus, where a believer named Ananias prayed for him and he regained his sight. Later he was named Paul. He became a strong promoter of Christianity. Most of the New Testament was written by him.

Early Church

Christianity began to take shape immediately after Jesus' death and resurrection when His followers followed His teaching and proclaimed His resurrection. The spread of Christianity started.

The Followers of Jesus were committed to the Jewish faith and adhered to Jewish obligations. Christianity can be considered to have initially been a kind of small sect of Judaism. From the beginning, Judaism has included the expectation of the Messiah. The Messiah would come as

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a powerful king and deliver the Jews from foreign conquerors. The most important point of the faith of the followers of Jesus was the Messiahship of Jesus Christ, of which they tried to convince the other Jews in the courtyard of the temple. This caused opposition, which led to the interrogation of Jesus' followers and a ban on preaching. However, the movement aroused interest and expanded, so that it became an actual congregation.

The initial congregation's decisions were initially made together. The members of the congregation stayed together and gathered daily in the temple. The property was common, which blurred the social differences between the members of the congregation. Members sold their houses and belongings, and the money was distributed according to each member's own needs. Handing over the funds to the church was voluntary, but it was worth being honest because a man named Ananias and his wife Sapphira sold a farm, and the man hid part of the price knowing his wife, and he brought some and laid it at the feet of the apostles. But Peter said: "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart so that you tried to betray the Holy Spirit and hid part of the price of the farm? Was it not yours when it was unsold, and was not its price yours after the sale? Why did you decide in your heart to do this? You have not lied to men, but to God." When Ananias heard these words, he fell to the ground and died. And great fear came upon all who heard it. The parish's everyday activities focused on taking care of the poor and widows. Some have said that Christianity and communism or socialism are closely related, referring to the former. However, they are completely opposites of each other. Christianity believes in a saving God, while communism is based on complete and forced atheism. In Christianity, believers voluntarily shared their property for the common good, while in communism, other people's property is forcibly distributed for the benefit of the upper class.

Religious activities included baptism and prayer meetings. After all, Jesus said: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned to destruction". The activity also included shared meals in memory of Jesus' last meal. At first, the so-called communion was real mealtime, when normal food was eaten. The focus was on spiritual matters, which was because the congregation lived in

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intense expectation of the end times. It was believed that Jesus would soon return at any moment.

In the years 43 and 44, the vassal king of the Romans, Herod Agrippa, began to persecute the followers of Jesus, because he considered the movement to cause unrest. Apostle Jacob and his brother John were probably killed in these persecutions. Herod also imprisoned Peter, after which Jesus' brother Jacob became the leader of the congregation.

In 44 A.D, disputes escalated in Jerusalem over whether all converts had to submit to Jewish law, such as circumcision before they could be baptized as Christians. In the beginning, all Christians were Jews, but the number of non-Jewish believers kept increasing. Jerusalem's law-abiding Pharisaic Christians demanded obedience to Jewish law. However, Paul and his colleague Barnabas, who were invited to Jerusalem, managed to convince the Jerusalem Christians of a more liberal interpretation. According to Paul, people did not become righteous before God according to the Jewish law, but by faith in Christ alone.

Jacob led the early church from 44 to 64 until he was stoned. As a result of the Jewish war that started in 66 and the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, the early church fled the Romans in 70 from Jerusalem.

During the Roman Empire, the believers of the apostolic age had to be persecuted. They were tortured and many were martyred. There were even spectacular displays of killing them, where Christians were burned alive, crucified, or fed to lions. In Rome, Christians hid and gathered in underground catacombs. However, sometimes, depending on the ruling emperors, Christians also had a more peaceful time.

The birth of congregations

Christian congregations increased and expanded quickly when the apostles went to the surrounding areas to talk about the gospel. The apostles wanted to establish local churches and train shepherds to guide them in the right direction.

Each parish was completely independent and had no common leadership and organization, let alone some kind of union with the state. They chose the people themselves for different tasks. The congregations

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were bound together only by a common faith.

The coexistence of Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians continued until the fourth century. Although there were zealots on both sides, and especially the spiritual leaders were strongly suspicious of the other side, and there was also persecution, coexistence went quite well among the common people. They celebrated the Sabbath together and gathered in the synagogue.

During the time of the early church and the first Christians, it was not yet possible to speak of a separate Catholic Church. The Christians formed one denomination made up of separate congregations, although within it there were several different and even contradictory doctrines.

The Catholic Church's view of the beginning of the papacy is remarkable. The question of the first pope is so significant that later the Church of Rome began to justify its leader's position of power concerning other bishops with the alleged roots of the papacy in the apostle Peter. The Catholic Church considers the handing over of the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to the apostle Peter as a sign of declaring him the leader of all the other apostles and the first bishop of Rome, or pope. On the inner edge of the dome of St. Peter's Church is written: "Tu es Petrus et super Hanc petram aedificabo ecclesiam meam et Tibi dabo claves regni caelorum" i.e. "You are Peter (=rock), and on this rock, I will build my church. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven" as Jesus is said to have said to Peter according to the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 16).

Church of Rome

A significant milestone in the history of the church was the founding of the Church of Rome. As the congregation developed, lists of its leaders also began to be drawn up. The oldest surviving list of the bishops of Rome dates from 185, and only a few of the bishop's predecessors were known. However, the list was continued to Peter, because inheriting the position from the apostle was a guarantee of correct doctrine for the church.

For two hundred and fifty years the church was a church of martyrs. Christians were persecuted because they refused to worship the emperor and the gods of the Roman Empire as gods. Suspicion was also increased

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by the fact that the communion was not open to outsiders, which gave rise to rumors of human sacrifices and debauchery, arousing fear and contempt for Christianity.

Everything changed in 312 when Emperor Constantine the Great defeated his opponent at the Battle of Mulvius Bridge. According to the story, before the battle Constantine saw a sign in the sky, a red cross, and heard a voice: "In this sign you are victorious". After this, Constantine became the leader of Western Rome and allowed the free practice of Christianity, which had been persecuted. Constantine also became the first emperor to convert to Christianity. However, he only allowed himself to be baptized on his deathbed.

When Christianity became accepted, life became easier for Christians. At the same time, however, the content of Christianity also changed. From the faith of martyrs, it moved to everyday religiosity, where external signs of religiosity were more important than internal faith. Gentile Christians' attitudes towards Jewish Christians also changed. The Jews were no longer respected as the founders of Christianity but rather were seen as the murderers of Jesus. The leaders of Christendom wanted a clear separation from the Jews. It was not considered good to respect the Sabbath, which was established and considered important by God, and instead, the Sunday of sun worship, more familiar from pagan religions, was taken. The timing of Easter was changed so that the Christian Easter would not coincide with the original Jewish Easter. They started celebrating Christmas, which also comes from old pagan traditions. The church fathers chose traditions from pagan religions rather than Jewish traditions according to the Bible.

The biggest thing that affected Christianity doctrinally was the participation of church leaders in politics. Inside the church, it began to be thought that spiritual supremacy could only function properly in a situation where secular power would be under spiritual authority and therefore subordinate to the church in all matters concerning morality or faith. The church fathers wanted political power. In the end, they wanted to decide not only the spiritual affairs of the people but also their earthly affairs. The popes also participated enthusiastically in the politics of the European states and achieved great power in the political life of the continent.

Another bad thing was the lust of money. Of course, the

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construction of new fine churches required capital, but the acquisition of money was in no way following the teaching of the Bible. In Catholic Christianity, giving money to the church was a sign of repentance. With a donation, the penitent could replace the penitential exercises prescribed by the church. The influence of indulgences was believed to extend to purgatory as well. Purgatory is a doctrine of the Catholic Church, where a member of the church must suffer in purgatory before going to heaven, the longer the greater sins he has on his conscience. In the late Middle Ages, annuities became an ever-increasing source of income for the pope. However, the money was not used to help the poor, for example, half of the income belonged to Pope Leo X and half to the alms-collecting authority authorized by him. One target for the funds obtained from the auction was the construction of St. Peter's Church. The construction of the church required a lot of funds, which were collected through the church-blessed charity trade as far as northern Europe. A member of the church could commit a serious crime and then later be cleansed of the sin by buying alms from the priest. The example given by Jesus was modesty, but it didn't work for the church, instead one had to build more magnificent church buildings.

The third bad thing was the doctrine that the Pope was in a special position between ordinary people and God. The doctrine was inherited from Jesus' words to Peter, to whom Jesus promised the keys to the gate of heaven. According to the doctrine of the Catholic Church, the special status has been inherited from Peter to all popes. The consequences of the doctrine are, among other things, that the Pope and the Church have never erred and, according to the testimony of the Bible, they could never err. This doctrine raised the Pope to a special position between ordinary people and God. Likewise, all Catholic priests rose to a special position between the common people and the Pope. However, there are many examples in history of the church making mistakes. One of the clearest cases was the church's dedication to the astronomer Copernicus, who claimed that the earth revolved around the sun and not the other way around.

The fourth bad thing was that the Catholic Church became the state church in 380 when the Roman emperor Theodosius the Great made Christianity the state religion. In 381 he declared the religion of the Church of Rome to be the only and accepted religion. This gave grounds

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for the persecution of Christians again, against those who did not accept the doctrines of the Roman Church. After the death of Emperor Theodosius, the Great in 395, the Roman world power broke up into the Western and Eastern Roman Empires. The baptism of believers was forbidden in 413 under the threat of death.

The birth of the church institution also meant the cessation of biblical congregations. All spiritual activity became a monopoly of the state church, and the church began to persecute believers outside it as heretics. The Bible was in Latin, which the common people did not understand. Mass was given to the people in Latin and doctrines were taught that were against the Bible. The parts of the Bible written in the people's language, if they were found, were burned by the church. The priests were not allowed to reveal the contents of the Bible to the common people under threat of punishment.

The Catholic Church of the Middle Ages was like a state. It lacked none of the qualities of a state. It had laws, legislatures, courts, and lawyers. It used coercion to make people obey its laws. It had prisons. It pronounced death sentences. It was not a voluntary society. People were baptized into it without asking them. If they tried to part with it, they could be burned at the stake. The church was maintained by compulsory taxes.

Infant baptism

The historical development of Christianity has also been greatly influenced by the introduction of infant baptism into the church's activities. Infant baptism superseded the baptism intended for believing people and changed its original purpose and biblical meaning. Infant baptism in the form in which it appears in churches gradually came along with various other heresies and later established its position in the Roman Catholic Church, from where it spread to many other denominations that arose from it as the church split.

Although the Bible does not speak of anything other than the baptism of believers and thus joining the church, it is special that it is precisely this that has been considered unbiblical in the church declaration, and infant baptism, which is not even mentioned in the Bible, has been considered a proper baptism.

Opponents of infant baptism wanted to ensure that those being

baptized were personally in the faith, and therefore delay the baptism of children, meaning children aged 6-12 years, too early.

In terms of the number of church members, infant baptism is the right solution. It was of great importance for the church, people were all made members and administrators of the church with it. The child is joined to the church without asking him or her. Theology should never be based on getting the Church's Membership as large as possible. And the number of members also affects the amount of tax revenue.

Orthodox church

The connection between the eastern and western parts of Christendom was tested for centuries. Already in the 2nd century, Christendom began to divide into the Latin-speaking West and the Greek-speaking East. In the eastern parts of Christendom, Latin was despised and considered the language of barbarians, while Greek was perceived as the language of civilization. This was partly because the original language of the New Testament was Greek, and the Greeks were among the first to convert to Christianity. The division of Rome in 395 into Western Rome and Eastern Rome deepened the gap between East and West. The Germans from Central Europe defeated Western Rome in 476, which is why only Eastern Rome, often called Byzantium today, was left to carry the legacy of the old empire.

In the West, the Pope had begun to claim a special position among the bishops. This was justified by the fact that the church in Rome was an old and respected church in the capital. In addition to this, the position of the Pope was also presented with a biblical justification in the 4th century. The defenders of the papacy explained that Peter's authority rights were inherited from one Roman bishop to another, because according to tradition, Peter became the first bishop of Rome. According to this understanding, the Pope is the leader of all Christians. The Pope's demands were not viewed favorably in Eastern Christianity. The bishops of the eastern regions of Christendom, such as the bishops of Constantinople, Alexandria, and Jerusalem, at first respected the pope, but did not want to recognize the pope's special status above them.

The disagreements led to a church-political authority dispute, because of which the leaders of the churches declared condemnations of each other. The collars sealed the split of the church into the Catholic Church

of the West and the Orthodox Church of the East. Attempts were made to reconcile the differences between the Eastern and Western churches several times in the Middle Ages without success. The curses were valid until 1965, when Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras I, by joint decision, revoked them.

Reformation

The Reformation was a movement that started in the 16th century in Western Europe, the goal of which was to correct the flaws in the church's doctrine. The background of the Reformation was a long-standing corruption within the church. The German Augustinian monk Martin Luther is generally considered to be the initiator of the Reformation, although even before him some other religious reformers, such as John Wycliffe and Jan Hus, had attacked the official doctrine of the church. Luther wrote 95 theses, or claims, which he nailed to the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church on 31 October 1517. This was the beginning of a period that is also called Protestantism. In addition to Luther, several other theologians joined the Reformation, whose views could differ from Luther's. Thus, the division of the Catholic Church did not end only with the birth of Lutheranism but also gave birth to the Anglican and Reformed Churches and many different free directions.

During his monastic life, Luther began to wonder if the Catholic Church and its representatives had the only connection with God. While priests preached modesty and poor peasants were excommunicated if they could not afford to pay the church tax, the head of the Catholic Church, the Pope, lived in abundance.

For example, Pope Leo X was born into a rich Italian Medici family and lived in Rome like a prince. The Pope was also known for his extravagant parties and dinners, where modesty had no part. When Luther arrived in Rome in 1510, sent by a brotherhood of monks, he saw with his own eyes the decay of the clergy. The priests did not seem to take their work seriously, and the high-ranking spirit men kept mistresses to whom they gave gold and jewels.

Protestant churches

In Martin Luther's opinion, the Catholic Church acted wrongly in many respects. In his opinion, the church was unbiblical, meaning the church leaders did not act according to the teachings of the Bible.

Luther's goal at first was not to establish a new church alongside the former Catholic Church but to renew the doctrine of the Catholic Church closer to the doctrine revealed in the Bible. In Luther's opinion, all nations should be allowed to read the Bible in their own language, and churches should preach to ordinary people about the Bible in their language. Even ordinary citizens should be able to see with their own eyes what the Bible says.

Protestant religions gradually took over the northern regions of Europe. Europe was divided into the Protestant area of the North and the Catholic area of the South. The Catholic Church opposed the idea of ordinary citizens reading the Bible. Bibles translated into the vernacular were not allowed to be taken to the Catholic area of Southern Europe for a long time. Only the priests had the right to read the Bible and then selectively tell the people what it said. Smuggling the Bible into Catholic territory was severely punished. Something similar has later been seen, for example, on the border of the Soviet Union and in some Muslim countries and North Korea.

One of Luther's goals was to get the Jewish minority to accept the new, purified Christianity. He also kept in touch with several Jewish rabbis and had discussions with them about the Bible and the content of religion. However, the long discussions made old Luther impatient. He considered that he had shown from the Bible point by point that Jesus Christ is the Messiah and Savior promised by the Old Testament. However, his interlocutors did not accept or warm to this version of Christianity either. Disappointed by this, Luther turned to the generally prevailing notion that there was indeed something bad and wrong with the Jews.

Towards the end of his life, he wrote some pamphlets and the book "Jews and Their Lies", in which the Jews were not spoken of very nicely. According to even a cautious assessment, the perception of Jews presented in the booklet was very negative. The work was written shortly

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before Luther's death and was directed against certain Jewish scholars. In addition to telling "Jewish lies", Luther's book includes calls to the authorities to burn down Jewish synagogues, gather Jews in cities into their own closed quarters, or ghettos, and take lazy Jews to labor camps outside the cities to learn hard work. Depriving Jews of their lives was also included in Luther's book as justified measures on behalf of Christianity. That book was later used as a weapon against the Jews. The work provides tools for anti-Semitism, even though Luther opposes Judaism primarily as a religion.

In Hitler's Germany in the 1930s, Luther was elevated to near-saint status, and many National Socialists invoked his writings in their defense of the Holocaust and its concentration camps.

The attitude of the Nazis towards the church

Churches and Christians had often proved useful to Hitler. The broad ecclesiastical party could be manipulated in the power game with Christian-tinged rhetoric. Not to mention the church leaders who would do anything for their jobs and rewards. However, in Hitler's opinion, Christianity was irrevocably corrupted by Judaism. Heroic faith in God in nature, the nation, and its destiny would be a suitable religion for the Germans. But Christianity with a Jewish background could not be easily connected to it. The person was either German or a traditional Christian. Judaism provided Hitler with an enemy that could accommodate all other enemies, communism, liberalism, the USA, France, and so on. But how to manage Christianity, which was useful, but which was also located inside Judaism?

Hitler's problem was indeed taken very seriously by ecclesiastical authorities. The effort was, among other things, to seek a solution to purifying Christianity from Jewish influences. This could partly explain National Socialism's strong opposition to Judaism. There were many church leaders, church workers and members, theologians, and scholars who did not take this path. Many of these rebellious people had to suffer unpleasant consequences. However, many tried to adapt to the prevailing conditions and values in society. Law-abiding, they accumulated a considerable amount of influence during the Nazi regime. Even adaptation and obedience did not easily solve Hitler's problem. The

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ecclesiastical entities that set out on the path of adaptation therefore had to try to find ways that would help the desired outcome. The central figure of Christianity, Jesus, played a key role in the adaptation.

The Nazis liked the idea that even though Jesus had received a Jewish religious upbringing, he would not have been Jewish by race. Galilee had long been influenced by many nationalities, and these had presumably also included pure Aryans. Over time, these could become Jews by religion, but not by blood. The racial diversity of these Galileans was indicated by their tendency to revolt. They also spoke Greek and not Hebrew due to the shape of their larynges. So, it is very possible that Jesus would have been an Aryan.

Hitler's chief theoretician, Alfred Rosenberg, was ready to accept such ideas, at least to the extent that he did not consider Jesus a Jew. Jesus was a great person, and his teaching about the kingdom of God was non-Jewish. But this great personality was covered in Jewish thought in Christianity. Therefore, the harmful Christianity had to give way to the new Germanic Christianity. We had to get rid of the Jude-Christian corruption and the Old Testament once and for all.

However, this was not enough for Hitler. In addition, literature for ordinary ecclesiastical use had to be produced. Only in this way would the desired doctrine be achieved, and the piety of even ordinary church people would be cleansed of Judaism. Large amounts of Christian material appeared for this purpose, including the following:

- a hymnal from which all references to Judaism had been removed, including all Hebrew words such as Hallelujah, Amen, and Hosanna.

- a revised version of the New Testament, which was based on the Aryan conception of Jesus.

- the new catechism: the following excerpt from the catechism gives a picture of what the Nazis had done with the essence of Jesus:

"Jesus of Nazareth shows a spirit in his message that is in every way opposed to Judaism. The fight between Jesus and the Jews became so bitter that it led to the crucifixion of Jesus. So, Jesus could not have been a Jew. To this day, the Jews persecute Jesus and all who follow Him with implacable hatred. The Aryans, on the other hand, can find answers to their ultimate questions in Him. So, He has become the savior of the Germans".

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Later research has slowly gotten rid of the interpretations of Jesus told in Nazi Germany. The matter has been complicated by the fact that many of the interpretations or their precursors already at that time were inherited from quite long-time earlier research. Anti-Semitism was not a new idea and was a doctrine that had been circulating for a long-time during Hitler's time, and its influence had also become visible in Bible studies.

Replacement theology

Even though the Jews played a big role in the beginning of the church, and a large part of the members of the early church were Jews, the influence of the Jews in the church decreased as the number of pagans increased. The Jews began to be seen as the murderers of Jesus. There was no longer a Jewish state of Israel, they had been driven to wander among other nations. They did not have full civil rights anywhere. It was easy to believe that God had abandoned the Jews. The new Israel would be the Christian church. It was hard to believe that the Jews would still return to their land, even though this was prophesied in the Bible. Until the 19th century, there were very few Bible scholars and teachers who believed that the Jews would still return to Palestine to their state. The matter was rather understood as some kind of spiritual or metaphorical return, and if someone were to return, the returnee could be, for example, the congregation. And the place didn't even have to be Palestine.

When the return of the Jews to Palestine started and finally the state of Israel was founded in 1948, many believing Bible scholars thought that this would be a strong testimony to all doubters of the truth of God's word. Many researchers and readers of the Bible have indeed changed their understanding, and the doctrine of the Jews as God's chosen people has spread more widely, but there are still many Christians in leadership positions in the churches who think that Israel today is not what was promised in the Bible. It is difficult for a person to change his mind about something he has taught and preached about all his life.

Liberalization of Christianity and decline of doctrine

In recent years, there has been a movement in the churches in the

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direction of a more liberal interpretation of the Bible and there has been a transition from preaching work to a social work perspective.

Christianity and the message of the Bible are often seen as a reactionary remnant of the old world. The people of our time do not want to accept authorities greater than themselves. In this atmosphere, the Bible is the first to be in the firing line. It is seen as a product of the worldview of its time, perhaps a good and moral one, but ultimately a human document with a lot to reform. Fewer and fewer recognize it as God's word, which should be considered the truth.

The influx of new spirituality into the traditional Christian world has intensified recently. Many churches have begun to approach things that do not belong to traditional Christianity.

There are angel healers, various card fortune tellers, automatic writing enthusiasts, meditation groups, occultism, witchcraft, shamanism, and so on. Yoga has become very popular in the Western world. Yoga has even been included in the program of some churches. When someone has doubted whether yoga is a suitable program for the Christian church, the name "Christian yoga" has been chosen. So, anything could be practiced in the church, if it is called something Christian. Compared to the population, yoga is practiced the most in Finland in the world. New-age beliefs, yoga, etc. are all based on the spiritual teachings of old pagan religions.

The Swedish Lutheran Church has decided according to which their God is a genderless being and can no longer be called "Lord" or "Father". This decision entered into force in May 2018.

The doctrine of the Church of Sweden is liberal theology at its worst. Until now, their liberal theology has still used traditional Christian terms and names, although their content has been changed from what the Bible has taught. Even this shows that liberal theology is no longer the Christian faith but some kind of unbelief.

The deceptive power of liberal theology has been precisely that it cloaks itself in Christianity but is completely different from the inside.

The church's attitude towards the Holocaust

Although Pius XII acted for peace during the war and tried to help the suffering inhabitants and prisoners of war of different countries, nowadays more attention is paid to his silence about the mass

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extermination of the Jews. The Vatican indeed knew better than other states about the systematic extermination of the Jews. The agreement with Mussolini and the events of the Second World War had lowered the authority of the Pope in the world, which is why the wartime Pope Pius XII was even accused of being a Nazi and suspected of protecting Nazi criminals. In any case, the Pope did not act actively against the Germans, although the Catholic Church did not support National Socialism. However, the Pope probably would not have had the opportunity to prevent or even contain the Holocaust, even if he had condemned it.

Protestant churches now

Church leaders have not defended the Christian faith for a long time but have often either remained silent in the face of political reforms or even actively reduced the authority of the Bible.

This kind of activity is most clearly seen concerning the family, marriage, the doctrine of creation, and the status of Israel and the Jewish people.

In many traditionally Christian countries, those who believe in the Bible and visibly proclaim their beliefs have been attacked by the police and prosecutor's offices.

The priesthood vow of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland reads as follows: "I, N.N. I promise before the all-knowing God that when performing the office of priest, which I am ready to accept, I want to stick to God's holy word and the confession of the Evangelical Lutheran Church based on it. I do not publicly proclaim or spread, and I do not secretly promote or favor doctrines that are at war against it".

Will we act in today's church according to the promise they made? In ordinary organizations, such as companies, there is a lot of talk these days about values, which are also trained for personnel. They want the entire staff to act according to the same values. But what about the church, are there as many concepts of values as there are workers?

The letter of Jude says:

"Dear friends! I have devoutly wanted to write to you about our common salvation, and now I need to exhort you to fight for the faith that was once for all given to saints. After all, people have slipped into your ranks, for whom the sentence has long been written. These wicked people turn the mercy of our God into blasphemy and deny our only

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Ruler and Lord Jesus Christ".

Has this happened to churches now?

It is general opinion that we Christians should no longer claim that our religion is the only true faith and that we should learn to accept and adopt the values and norms of others.

However, many Christians expect their Christian leaders to defend Christianity in the face of societal pressures. It is not the duty of Christians to defend, for example, Sharia law or to accept alternative lifestyles, or promote secular values. The sacred mission of Christians is to teach what Christ taught and to teach what the apostles and holy fathers taught. This is exactly what people expect from churches.

But will it happen that even liberal Christianity will not survive for long? Politically correct Christianity will give way to nothing. In the end, it won't be necessary for anyone. In the end, free-spirited liberal Christianity is of no interest to anyone and is dying because it cannot meet people's longing for connection with God. People have always had a longing for faith.

Will anything be enough for the liberals, or are they going to change the church until it no longer has a Biblical message? There are people and political parties who demand the renewal of the church. Reference is made to Luther's reformation, and it is demanded that the doctrine of the church should be reformed again. But Luther renewed the doctrine of the church closer to the word of the Bible. Now it is demanded that the doctrine be reformed further away from the word of the Bible. To correspond more with the prevailing values in society. Part of the church leadership believes that by making such reforms, the church's popularity could increase. However, diluting the Church's doctrine will lead to the opposite result.

The current state of the Catholic Church

Attitudes within the Catholic Church began to change only after the Second World War. During the war, the pope was Pius XII, who, despite the opportunities, did not take a stand on the Nazi persecution of Jews, not even when the Jews of Rome began to be transported to Auschwitz. In Italy, however, thousands of Jews were saved when they found refuge in Catholic churches, schools, monasteries, and other church-owned buildings. It is known, however, that this happened without the Pope's

express order.

Pius XII's actions during World War II became the subject of controversy in the 1960s, and the controversy has continued to this day. Only the opening of his archive in 2020 has raised hopes that the dispute could finally be resolved.

The Pope changed in 1958, and the new Pope John XXIII soon began to improve the church's relationship with the Jews. He ordered to remove from the liturgy the mention of "faithless Jews" (*perfidis Judæis*). This was a radical change in the church's attitude towards the Jews, and relations with the Jews began to improve.

The new attitude was very visible in the era of John Paul II. The Polish pope had many Jewish friends and was the first modern pope to visit a synagogue. During his time, the Holy See finally established diplomatic relations with Israel.

Pope Francis is also known for his good personal relations with Jewish religious leaders.

Almost all parties in the Catholic Church were not pleased with the change in attitude towards the Jews. The Catholic bishops of the Middle East feared for their lives because of too pro-Jewish thinking. Anti-Semitism is still an integral part of the thinking of some very conservative parties. The same parties have often refused to accept the decisions of the Vatican Council anyway.

Today, the Catholic Church is the largest Christian denomination in the world. It has over a billion members worldwide. The current head of the Catholic Church has been Francis from Argentina since 2013. The contemporary Catholic Church has several challenges, among others its approach to liberation theology, i.e. the doctrine that defends the poor and oppressed, has sparked debate. At the same time, within the church, there has been a desire to re-evaluate the teachings related to sexual morality, and a new approach to, for example, the issue of female priesthood has been hoped for. On the other hand, there have also been concerns about the effects of secularization on the church. Ecumenism has also been a topic of discussion in recent years.

Since the 1990s, stories about the sexual abuse of children by Catholic Church employees in various Church educational institutions have come to light around the world. The scandal has been aggravated by the church leadership's decades-long concealment and tacit approval.

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The Pope has also promoted contact with other religions. They see common values with Islam, Buddhism, and Judaism. Christianity only has a connection with Judaism. Christianity is a direct continuation of Judaism. But what is really behind this? Is the Pope possibly seeking more influence in the world? In a possible compromise, Christianity bends in favor of others. And this is how it has happened before. When the papacy wanted more weight or power in the world, the message of Christianity had to give way.

The world is moving more and more strongly in two different directions: believers cling more and more tightly to the word of the Bible and Christ, the wicked distance themselves from the word of the Bible once and for all, and love sin and the corrupt world in the name of freedom.

Evangelicalism

North America and the United States have been the most significant home of evangelicalism in the 20th century. American evangelicalism has included a lot of people, and it has become a politically important factor. Mainline churches in the United States have lost their importance, while evangelicalism has grown into a powerful global influence.

The influence of the evangelization movement is felt both within traditional churches and in separate churches, congregations, and organizations. Its influence has had a particularly strong impact on work with students, missionary and evangelistic work, literary publishing, and Christian radio and TV channels.

The influence of the evangelization movement has been considered particularly strong among Southern Baptists, Adventists, and some Pentecostal groups.

The attitude of the evangelization movement towards Jews differs from that of other Christian faiths. The position of the Jews as God's chosen people is considered a biblical truth. Likewise, the existence of the state of Israel. The actions of the Israeli state are also not criticized, no matter what Israel does.

ISRAEL IN GOD'S PLAN

Genesis 17:7

"I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you".

This is God's promise and blessing to Abraham. The blessing was then inherited by Isaac and Jacob, who later also received the name Israel. Israel had twelve sons who formed the twelve tribes and the nation of Israel. One of the tribes of Israel is therefore the Jews, which is now the only recognizable tribe and the only one that has returned to the land of Canaan after the dispersion. However, Moses led all twelve tribes of Israel to their promised land in the land of Canaan, i.e. today's Palestine.

Exodus 19:5-6

"Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites".

Deuteronomy 7:6-8

"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. The Lord did not set his affection on you and chose you because you were more numerous than other people, for you were the fewest of all people. But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath, he swore to your ancestors that he brought you

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out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt".

Ezek. 21-22

"Thus, speak unto them: Thus, saith the Lord God: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen nations, whithersoever they have wandered, and I will gather them from every quarter, and bring them into their own land. I will make them one nation in that land, on the mountains of Israel, and one king will reign over them all. And they are no longer two nations and no longer divided into two kingdoms."

According to Ezekiel's word, all of Israel will one day return to Palestine. But today only the Jews are recognizable, and the prophecies continue through them for the time being.

"Therefore, behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when it will no longer be said, 'As the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt,' but 'As the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites out of the land of the north and from all other countries, where He had banished them'. For I will restore them to their own land, which I gave to their fathers."

According to the prophet Jeremiah, there will come a time when God leads his people back to their land again. Then there will not be a return from Egypt as in the history known to Jeremiah, but a return of Israel from all over the world, first from the northern land and then from all the other countries of the world. God's promise is reliable. God has also assured time after time that He will not forget his people, even though they have apostatized, fallen into sin, and broken the covenant for their part.

"But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend, I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, 'You are my servant'; I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41)

Israel and the Jewish people have a special meaning in God's plan of salvation for all of humanity. The purpose of choosing Israel was to spread awareness of the one true God. The Jews were called to be servants of God and a light to the nations. The choice of Israel was not based on the nation's spiritual or moral merit but on God's own choice

of grace.

One characteristic of the Jews is their love for the word of the Holy Scriptures. Specifically, to the letter of the word more than the spirit of the word. This is also what Jesus criticized the Pharisees for. The Pharisees did not accept that Jesus healed the paralyzed man on the Sabbath. The Pharisees followed the letter of the Sabbath rule, but Jesus followed its spirit. But apparently, it has been and still is important that there are people that preserve the Holy Scriptures as accurately as possible.

The concept of covenant is at the core of Israel, God called the people to live in a covenant relationship with himself. The teachings of the books of Moses, or the Torah, form a covenant document that conveys to the Israelites the principles of living and worship and a set of prescriptive norms. On the basis defined by them, the people of God's property had to truly live the covenant agreement.

At the center of God's plans is always the Messiah-Savior, who brings salvation to all nations. To carry out this plan, God chose the people and land of Israel. The savior Jesus Christ is a Jew and God's act of salvation took place in Israel, in the city of Jerusalem on the cross of Calvary, and in the rock tomb.

The Messiah is the culmination of the promises and prophecies given to the people of Israel. His divine origin and eternal kingship are revealed through the prophets of Israel. The New Testament describes everything that happened exactly as it was promised in the scriptures. In this reality, we too live, if only we know our Savior personally. Then we have an inner understanding and conviction of all this, in addition to the external written and historical evidence.

In the same way that the promised Messiah was born in Israel, He was crucified in Israel, He will also return to the soil of Israel, to the Mount of Olives in Jewish Jerusalem. The first coming was imperceptible to many, but the second will be visible to all.

It is this second coming that God is preparing through the events of our time. In the same way that in the first coming of the Messiah, there was the state of Israel, in the same way in the second coming of the Lord there is again a real Jewish state of Israel, and its capital is the Jewish Jerusalem.

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Thus, the existence of the state of Israel declares the fulfillment of God's prophecies and the coming of the Messiah-King at the end of time.

God gave the nation of Israel a land that is the geographic center between East, West, South, and North. Important trade routes passed through Israel and many great powers fought for the control of that area.

Israel was God's choice among the nations of the world. The people of Israel had a clear priestly mission. Israel was able to make a covenant with God and provide worship in the Tabernacle and later in the temple, which was the central place of meeting God. Israel was allowed to receive the Lord's word, write the Holy Scriptures, and prepare for the coming of the Messiah and the new covenant.

Unfortunately, when Israel distanced itself from God, it drifted into the notion that the choice would only be for Israel itself and that other nations would be outside the covenant. This concept was very deeply rooted in Judaism. There was also a perception that their salvation was due to their Jewishness, not God's grace.

It was only Jesus' actions and mission command that opened the disciples' eyes to God's original purpose. At the same time, the direction of God's word changed. In the old covenant, the purpose was for the nations to come to Jerusalem to serve God. In the new covenant, Jesus' witnesses take God's word to the whole world. This is a natural solution also in the sense that the human population has grown enormously.

Through the Jews, the world has received both the Word of God, and the Messiah sent by God, Christ Jesus, even though most of the Jews did not accept Him. However, Christianity has its roots in Judaism. According to Paul, Christians who have converted from pagan nations join God's family through faith and are "grafted into the noble olive tree of Israel". For both Jews and non-Jews, faith in Jesus is a necessary condition for belonging to the "true Israel", i.e. God's people. The New Testament promises that "those who belong to other nations have the same right to inheritance as the Jews, they are members of the same body and now the same promise applies to them when the gospel has led them to Christ Jesus". This is how God has made these two groups of people one in Jesus Christ. In the light of the New Testament, God's people are made up of people who believe in the Messiah, first Jews and then Gentiles.

Holy Land

After the independence of the State of Israel in 1948, its population doubled in a few years because of the Law of Return in 1950. After that, Jews immigrated to the country, especially from Europe and the surrounding Arab countries.

According to the Bible, the land of Israel takes place in the events of the end times and serves as an important stage for them. The New Testament refers in several places to the promises of the Old Testament, which have an eschatological and land-related meaning. For example, the Exodus of Jews to Israel that took place during the last decades is seen as a unique testimony of the preservation of their identity and at the same time as a proof of God's faithfulness to his promises. In the second coming of Jesus, Israel as a nation receives Jesus as the Messiah. This is the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham and the prophets.

Before God took the people of Israel to the promised land under the leadership of Joshua, he presented the people with two options: a blessing or a curse. If the people lived according to the Lord's will and kept the covenant, blessings would flow over them. If, on the other hand, the people abandoned the Lord, they would reap a harsh curse.

Blessings: If you obey the Lord your God in everything and carefully follow his commandments that I give you, then the Lord will set you above all the nations of the earth. These blessings will come to you if you obey the Lord your God.

Curses: If you do not obey the Lord your God, and do not strictly follow all his commandments and statutes that I give you, then these curses will come upon you: You are cursed everywhere you are.

It is a unique miracle that the Jews, despite being forced to wander all over the world, have preserved their national identity, culture, and religion for 2000 years and even regained their land.

Thus, the existence of the state of Israel declares the fulfillment of God's prophecies and the coming of the Messiah-King at the end of time.

There are many specific promises to Israel in the Old Testament that have not yet been fulfilled. They promise Israel great temporal blessings, abundance, a central position among the nations, and a long life for all people. Yet people are still sinners and mortal. Honoring the Lord brings rains and blessings to the nations. These promises will be fulfilled at the coming of the Lord in the next millennial kingdom.

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The good news was first preached to the Jews because they knew the scriptures. When Jesus shines for them, they are ready, like the apostle Paul, to start missionary work all over the world. The message of grace is simple, but its full richness and unsurpassed power of proof only unfolds in the light of the entire revelation of the Bible.

GERMAN HISTORY

The great Assyrian Empire fell in 612 BC. The generally accepted theory among historians is that what remained of Assyria was later mixed with the Babylonian and Median empires. Thus, it is assumed that the Assyrians no longer exist as a nation. But is it true? Many historians also consider it possible that a remnant of the Assyrians survived the destruction of their empire wandered towards Europe and eventually settled in the middle of Europe. We perhaps know them today as modern-day Germans.

Ancient Assyria was the main enemy of the state of Israel. The state of Israel was divided in two due to mutual disputes. The northern state called Israel, and the southern state called Judah. Because the state of Israel was sinking into immorality and idolatry, God allowed Assyria to attack it and conquer the land. The Israelites were taken to Assyria as captives.

When Assyria fell, the ten lost tribes of Israel who were taken captive disappeared into the world and the majority probably headed to Europe. There are signs of this in European geography and linguistics. But if the Israelites who were forcibly relocated by the Assyrians left for Europe, then why wouldn't the Assyrians themselves have left as well? As the modern equivalent of Assyria, Germany has been a thorn in the side of Europe and the rest of the world in two world wars. So, could it be that the Assyrians' and Israelites' destitution described in the Bible continued in Europe? The Assyrians were able to break up the state of Israel at one

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time and drive the ten tribes of the Israelites out of the Holy Land. The next step was to focus on the Jews, which happened in the 1930s and 40s, targeting Jews in the middle of Europe.

Many historians have drawn attention to the warlike nature of the Assyrian people. James McCabe, author of *History of the World*, says the Assyrians are “a cruel, treacherous and dangerous race, delighting in dangerous violence and war. The Assyrian forces were among the most fearsome ancient warriors. The ability of the Assyrians to organize, the equipment of their troops and their system of attack and defense, and their ability to breach fortified places made the Assyrians superior to the surrounding nations”.

Some of the early Germanic tribes were in constant conflict with the Roman Empire, which is why the Romans gave them the name Germani, which means "warrior". *Encyclopedia Britannica* states: "There is no evidence that the Germans ever used this name themselves." The Romans called them Germanic because of their cruel, warlike nature.

Germanic tribes inhabited the coast of the Baltic Sea from around 500 BC. By about the 100th century BC, they had spread to present-day southern Germany. During the time of Julius Caesar, around 58 BC, the border of the Roman Empire was settled on the Rhine and the Danube, the western side of them were Roman provinces and the Germanic people lived on the periphery of Rome.

The Germanic Franks were the first barbarian tribe to adopt Catholicism, but they adopted the religion for political gain, not for religious reasons. The Franks were of Germanic origin and used the church to support their expansionist policies.

The Church, on the other hand, wanted the Frankish rulers to protect themselves. This was a pure political union. The Frankish Empire reached its peak during the time of Charlemagne. The European political field was completely divided before Charles became the ruler of Europe. The territory of Germany was still largely dominated by tribes. Eventually, Charles changed everything along with the papal throne, but not without great bloodshed.

In his bloody wars, Charles conquered large areas of Western Europe. The population of the conquered areas was forcibly converted to Christianity through the so-called sending of the sword. Most of the Christians of Western Europe were united in one empire. In 800, Pope Leo III crowned Charles as Roman Emperor. The previous Western Roman emperor, Romulus Augustulus, had abdicated in 476.

Holy Roman Empire (843–1806)

The development of the German state began with the division of Charlemagne's empire in 843 when his grandsons Lothar I and Ludwig the German gained control of a large area stretching from today's northern Germany to central Italy with the Treaty of Verdun. From this, the Holy Roman Empire was formed in 966, which in the 16th century began to be called the Holy German Roman Empire. The empire was not a very uniformly governed state but consisted of numerous small, largely independent principalities and cities. The influence of the Germans already spread in the Middle Ages with the so-called Northern Crusades and the migrations created by trade and the Hanseatic League to the entire Baltic Sea region.

Especially after the thirty-year religious war between Catholics and Protestants and the Peace Treaty of Westphalia (1648) that ended it, Germany was politically fragmented. Officially, the empire still existed, but in practice, the principalities belonging to it were almost completely independent states after that. The emperor had practically no power outside of Austria, of which he was the ruler at the same time. Of the other principalities that belonged to Germany, the border county of Brandenburg soon became the most powerful, which in 1701 was transformed into the Kingdom of Prussia. Prussia received Pomerania from Sweden in the Great Northern War and Silesia in the Seven Years' War. In 1772, Prussia expanded again when it participated in the partition of Poland.

German Confederation (1815–1866)

The Holy Roman Empire, later also called the "First Reich", was finally dissolved under Napoleon in 1806, when its emperor abdicated the position of German Emperor, but remained Emperor of Austria. In 1815, after the Congress of Vienna, the German Confederation was established, which included many principalities led by Austria and Prussia. After the war between Prussia and Austria, the North German Confederation was founded under the leadership of Prussia, and Otto von Bismarck was appointed chancellor in 1867, and the unification of

Germany began. [14]

German Empire (1871–1918)

On January 18, 1871, King William I of Prussia was crowned emperor in Versailles after the defeat of the French Napoleonic Wars and the Second German Empire was established. Von Bismarck was named Chancellor of Germany in the spring of 1871. German colonies in Africa and Oceania were acquired during the reign of Wilhelm II when Germany sought to expand aggressively in competition with Britannia. The empire lasted until the end of the First World War on November 9, 1918, when Wilhelm II abdicated and Germany was declared a republic, i.e. the Weimar Republic. [14]

Germany's territorial losses in the First World War

Germany included the territories left to the Weimar Republic after the Treaty of Versailles. Compared to the German Empire, the Weimar Republic lost its colonies, which were transferred to the League of Nations, which in turn ceded their control to the surrounding powers. In Asia, on the other hand, Germany's concession areas in China were inherited by Japan, which had joined the First World War for this purpose. In the Peace of Versailles, Germany lost Alsace-Lorraine to France. Germany had an obligation to demilitarize the Rhineland. However, the most important area lost was the so-called Polish Corridor, which guaranteed Poland a connection to the sea but isolated East Prussia as a German enclave. In addition to these areas, Germany lost Saarland to the League of Nations, the Memel area to Lithuania, Eupen-Malmedy to Belgium, and areas from South Jutland to Denmark.

Weimar Republic (1919–1933)

The period of the Weimar Republic was marked by the struggle between right-wing and left-wing extremists, as well as communist and national socialist rebellions and coup attempts. Among other things, economic difficulties caused by heavy war reparations and abundant

strikes led to hyperinflation. Political instability led to protests and even a Nazi coup attempt on November 9, 1923. The coup attempt failed, but the Nazis grew in popularity and eventually led to the National Socialists' electoral victory and the suppression of the fledgling democracy.

From the Federal Republic to a National Socialist Unitary State

Imperial Germany was made up of various kingdoms and principalities, headed by the King of the Kingdom of Prussia as German Emperor. During the Weimar Republic, the principalities turned into states, which still had quite extensive autonomy. The era of the Weimar Republic came to an end when the German National Socialist Workers' Party led by Adolf Hitler won the election in 1932. After Hitler came to full power, on January 30, 1934, a law was passed that abolished state representations, transferred their self-government rights to the national level, and subordinated state governments to the government of the Reich.

Nazi Germany (1933–1945)

The German National Socialist Workers' Party came to power the very next year and banned other parties. Germany became a National Socialist state.

In March 1936, Hitler violated the Treaty of Versailles by occupying the demilitarized Rhineland and Saarland. When Britain and France did not react, Hitler pressed on. Germany conquered Austria, whose people welcomed the Germans jubilantly. Hitler declared in his speech in Vienna that now the country of his birth had been annexed to Germany. It was initially formed into a state called Ostmark.

After this, Germany occupied the German-speaking areas of Czechoslovakia under its control.

In 1939, Germany also occupied the Czech parts of the country, which formed the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. Hitler's popularity soared and he was considered a foreign policy genius because he was able to expand Germany's territories without any other country interfering.

In 1939, Germany attacked Poland without a declaration of war and the Second World War began in Europe, because Britain no longer

accepted Germany's actions and declared war on Germany.

World War II

In Operation Barbarossa, Hitler and Soviet leader Stalin agreed to divide Poland and at the same time agreed not to attack each other. The Second World War began on September 1, 1939, when Germany invaded Poland following the agreement. Hitler did not believe that the Western powers would intervene in the crisis. The goal was a short war at the beginning of autumn, although advisers and military leaders warned that Germany was not ready for war. Public opinion in France and Britain was in favor of stopping Germany. However, Hitler believed that their leaders would be weak and would not dare to declare war. However, the countries had promised their support to Poland, so they declared war on Germany in September.

Next, German troops invaded Denmark and Norway. The war on the Western Front began in May 1940, when Germany invaded France, and conquered the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Belgium. France surrendered on June 22, 1940. Despite the great risks, both offensives resulted in great victories. In the summer of 1940, Germany had gained control of Western Europe.

In April, Yugoslavia was conquered, and British troops were driven from Greece. The paratroopers occupied Crete. According to Hitler, the Soviet Union was Britain's only hope. Hitler estimated that if Germany defeated the Soviet Union, Britain would surrender. German troops of three million men attacked the Soviet Union, violating the non-aggression pact that had been signed earlier. The attack that started with Operation Barbarossa advanced deep into the Baltic countries, Ukraine and Russia.

However, the German attack in the Soviet Union stopped in the fall and the Soviet troops started a counterattack near Moscow in December 1941. In June 1944, the Normandy landings and the major offensive on the eastern front began simultaneously in the west. In Germany, realists concluded that defeat was inevitable. Towards the end of the war, Germany's situation weakened on all fronts. Hitler even turned against his own troops, accusing them of cowardice and incompetence, and fired anyone who dared to defy him. Hitler's big mistakes in warfare were the simultaneous battles on too many fronts. There was war in the west,

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north, south, and east. In addition, the internal front against the Jews took a lot of strength. Many Jews had fought for Germany in the First World War and were rewarded for their bravery. Another serious mistake was towards the end of the war, when Hitler took the leadership of the war into his own hands and dismissed from the German leadership anyone who dared to warn of possible defeats. For example, in the Battle of Stalingrad, an early retreat would have saved hundreds of thousands of German soldiers from dying. They would have been needed later to prevent the Soviets from advancing towards Germany.

World War II started by Hitler caused the death of millions of people. The most important front seemed to be the internal front of Germany and the conquered territories. For Hitler and his partners, a Jew-free Germany was not enough, the Jews had to be exterminated from other countries as well. While Hitler wanted more space for the German people, states with very large Jewish populations came under Germany's control. The extermination of the Jews was no longer a very small task. These new areas also had to be cleansed of Jews.

The elite troops of the German army were used to arrest and kill Jews, which would have been useful in actual warfare as well.

The goal was the "final solution", i.e. the elimination of Jews from the world. Jews have been persecuted and their rights have been restricted in almost every country in the world throughout history. Somewhere milder and somewhere stronger. But never has it gone this far in implementation. For the complete elimination of the Jews from the world, the final solution.

Nazi racial doctrine

Hitler's policies were based on the ideology he developed known as National Socialism, which was based on nationalism, racial Darwinism, racist race doctrine, and strong anti-Semitism. According to Darwinism, in nature, the most viable species survive in competition and the weaker ones must give way or even die out completely. In racial Darwinism, the idea is like nations and ethnic groups. A stronger nation has the right to use the Earth's resources and territories more than the weaker ones.

PART III

The final solution did not realize
Anti-Semitism after the Holocaust
Current Germany
Anti-Semitism of the future
Finally

THE FINAL SOLUTION DID NOT REALIZE

Amos 9:14-15

"And I will bring my people Israel back from exile. They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them”.

Hitler's death

The Führerbunker was an underground bunker located in the center of Berlin in connection with the Reich Chancellery, which housed the last of Hitler's World War II headquarters.

When the war was completely lost and the enemy's forces were right on the borders of Berlin, Hitler married his longtime girlfriend Eva Braun at night. A day earlier, at four in the morning, he had still written his will. After the ordination, he also stayed awake almost until morning.

After waking up on the afternoon of the day he died, he met with Nazi Party Chief of Staff Martin Bormann and had spaghetti for lunch. Then he and Eva said goodbye to the bunker staff, Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels who was there with his wife and children, Bormann's secretaries, and several officers who were there. Then the newly married couple retreated to Hitler's workroom.

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Hitler's servant Heinz Linge found their bodies sometime later. Linge later said that when he opened the door, he smelled bitter almonds, the smell of which is a sign of hydrogen cyanide. The Hitlers were both sitting on the couch, Hitler on the right and Eva on the left. Hitler's right temple had a bleeding gunshot wound. Eva showed no signs of injury, so Linge assumed she died of cyanide poisoning.

Their bodies were cremated according to Hitler's exact instructions. The partially destroyed bodies were moved to the pit made by the bomb in the garden. Hitler died on April 30, 1945.

Goebbels also stayed with his wife and children at Hitler's place in an underground bunker until the very end of the war. Finally, right at the end of the war, Goebbels and his wife killed their six children and then committed suicide.

When Hitler died and his mission ended, so did the mission of the Satanic Altar of Pergamon in Berlin. Russian soldiers took the objects of the Pergamon Museum to St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia.

The Nazis tried to cover up their atrocities

The first and simplest method of disguising the extermination of the Jews was the use of certain regular disguises specifically in the documents. For example, "special treatment" was used instead of killing, and "evacuation" was used instead of deportation. The term "Final Solution" became the codename for the entire extermination operation. Thus, based on the documents found after the war, it was not possible to prove the extent of the acts, even though the Germans had kept accurate records of the people they killed. The Nazis destroyed as many documents as possible. Those who participated in the murder operation were also sworn to secrecy. Misleading expressions also helped to make the Holocaust happen. The Jews could be told about things under the same pseudonyms that the Germans themselves used. The Jews were also told various lies when they were told to prepare for deportation. They were usually told that they would be moved to a better place where they would have to work, but where they would still be able to live safely.

In June 1942, a special operation, "Aktion 1005", began, which aimed to destroy the physical evidence of mass destruction. A special unit called Sonderkommando 1005 oversaw the burning of the victims' bodies in the

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death camps. The bodies were exhumed from their graves for cremation. Beginning in June 1943, the unit sought to eradicate signs of mass graves in occupied Soviet territories by burning all evidence and remains in giant pyres. Although it was not possible to eradicate all traces of the murder, the Nazis' efforts to cover up and destroy their traces made it difficult to accurately ascertain the details of the crimes committed and the numbers killed.

After the war, war criminals were sentenced to hanging and imprisonment in Nuremberg, where many of the most prominent politicians of Nazi Germany were sentenced to the death penalty or long-term imprisonment for, among other things, crimes against humanity. At the same time, it was decided that those who participated in its implementation should also be punished. But the Holocaust was hardly talked about, and France, Britain, and post-war Germany did not want any separate investigation into the destruction of the Jews. However, the Americans organized one. A young lawyer named Ben Ferencz was tasked with documenting the charges. However, many of the culprits had already fled the country. The scientists had been received either in the United States or the Soviet Union. The fugitives could only be tried to be tracked down and tried much later. The most famous of those who escaped were Adolf Eichmann, Josef Mengele, and Klaus Barbie. Simon Wiesenthal became famous for finding and bringing to justice many perpetrators. Adolf Eichmann, who was the organizer of the massacre, was arrested in Argentina and the trial was held in Israel. The court session that took place had a worldwide impact on remembering the Holocaust and making it known in the public debate. But the beginning of the Cold War ended the investigation of Nazi crimes, and it was no longer suitable for the new policy of the Allies. Also, in the reconstruction of the ruined Germany, many of those whose wartime activities did not stand the light of day were deemed necessary.

When the Allied forces liberated the concentration camps in 1945, there were still thousands of starving and sick prisoners. There was still anti-Semitism in Europe, and many of the survivors were afraid to return to their homelands. In Poland, the persecution of Jews continued after the war, and in the largest of them, the Kielce pogrom in 1946, 42 Jews were killed. The incident started when the Jews had returned to their hometown of Kielce, but their original apartments were already inhabited

by the local population. The new residents did not want to give up their apartments, so an apartment building was arranged for the Jews, where they could settle down. When a young eight-year-old Polish boy disappeared so surprise, the local population began to suspect Jews who had returned from the concentration camps. It was suspected that the Jews needed fresh blood from the boy because of their weakened health. The incident resulted in violent stoning, deaths, and injuries of Jews.

Tens of thousands of homeless people moved to refugee camps established in Western Europe, managed by the UN and the US, British and French armies. Refugees initially found it difficult to get permission to immigrate to the United States or Palestine, and Britain turned away ships bound for Palestine and detained refugees in camps it established in Cyprus.

The revealed holocaust changed Europe's mental state of will regarding the Jewish state. After World War II, the US pressured Great Britain, which held the Palestinian Territory, to allow greater Jewish immigration. Great Britain resolved the issue by referring it to the United Nations in February 1947.

In August, a UN special commission recommended dividing the region into both Jewish and Arab states, which would be economically united, as well as leaving Jerusalem and its surroundings as international territory. The proposal went through, as both the Soviet Union and the USA voted for it. At the time, the Soviet Union thought that the Zionist movement operating in Palestine would be closer to socialist than capitalist thinking and would fight against Western imperialism.

The new state of Israel

When the State of Israel was founded in May 1948, Jewish refugees began to immigrate to the country, and by 1953, up to 170,000 Jews left homeless in the war had immigrated to the country. Tens of thousands of Jews were also allowed into the United States between 1945 and 1952, and Jewish refugees also moved to other Western countries, Australia and South Africa.

After the birth of the state of Israel, not only was a state born whose people were Jews but also something unique happened. Something that

has never happened before anywhere in the world. The unique Hebrew language, which had not been spoken for hundreds of years, came into being.

How can we explain the supernatural survival of the Jewish people over the last 2,000 years despite all the attempts to destroy them? How can we explain the rebirth of the State of Israel in the 20th century, when it has not existed for nearly 1900 years? And how can we explain the revival of Hebrew as the official language of the State of Israel?

The only possible answer is God's guidance and the fulfillment of the promises He made in the Bible.

"So, prophesy about the land of Israel, say to its mountains and hills, valleys and riverbeds: Thus says the Lord God: I speak full of anger and fury because you have been scorned by other nations. Therefore, says the Lord God: I lift my hand and swear that the nations around you will receive their share of humiliation."

"But you, mountains of Israel, put forth shoots and bear fruit for my people Israel, for my people will soon return. I will come to you and look upon you, and your fields will be plowed and sown. I will bring more and more people to your hills, I will bring the whole nation of Israel, and the cities will be inhabited, and the ruins will be built. I will bring a great nation and an abundance of livestock, and they will be fruitful and multiply. I will increase the number of your inhabitants to the former size and give you more good things than you received in the old days. Then you will know that I am the Lord. I will bring life and people to your slopes; I will bring my people Israel."

"You will become the Israelites' land, their inheritance, and you will no longer have to give them over to destruction." Ezek. 36:6

In all the wars it has waged against its neighboring states, Israel's territory has always expanded and strengthened. Although international organizations of states, such as the UN and the EU, demand that Israel cede its territories for a Palestinian state, it cannot be done at the expense of the state of Israel. The territory of Israel is far too small to be divided. And you also must remember that there was once a Jewish state in Palestine and Jews have also lived in the region for thousands of years. But there has never been a Palestinian state in the region. Part of the territory that Israel has today was originally given to the State of Israel according to the UN decision. Israel's territory has always expanded only because of defensive battles forced by attacks from neighboring

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countries.

ANTI-SEMITISM AFTER THE HOLOCAUST

The atrocities of Hitler's Germany made anti-Semitism politically incorrect in Europe. After the Holocaust, there was a view that anti-Semitism should be eradicated from social and political practice. However, it did not mean that anti-Semitism disappeared from everyday thinking or the activities of various far right or Neo-fascist groups. And of course, not about the attitudes of immigrants from Muslim countries. In the Federal Republic of Germany and Austria, according to studies, about 10 percent of the population is convinced anti-Semites, despite the very small number of Jews. Only a third of the population is completely free of anti-Jewish opinions.

Open or latent anti-Semitism also occurred in the Soviet Union and especially in Poland. A powerful source of post-war anti-Semitism has been in the Islamic world, where often the Israeli state's policy against Arabs is not viewed as a political issue but rather is seen because of Judaism and Jewish character.

However, the form of anti-Semitism has changed over time. When anti-Semitism was initially based on religious grounds by Christian churches. Later on, ethnic grounds, as in Germany from the 1930s onwards. And the latter form is a different attitude towards the state of Israel than towards any other state, especially in the UN. However, all three forms still exist in their various forms.

There are three main directions of hatred towards the Jews today.

On the one hand, it is about far-right anti-Semitism stemming from

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the legacy of Nazism. After the war, attempts were made to programmatically eradicate Nazism from the Germans, but it turned out to be very difficult and the results were uncertain. Anti-Semitic attitudes remained, and new generations of neo-Nazis adopted them in varying forms.

Traditional forms of Christian anti-Semitism, which gain support, especially in conservative religious circles, can also be attributed to far-right anti-Semitism. There are Catholic parties that do not accept any reforms made in the church after the 1950s. Similar entities can also be found in Protestant and Orthodox churches.

On the other hand, Jews have also been the target of left-wing anti-Semitism. This phenomenon originated with the Jewish-born Karl Marx, who in his writings considered Jews to be supporters of capitalism. In the Soviet Union, Lenin opposed Zionism and Stalin suspected Jews of various conspiracies against him. Stalin supported the establishment of the state of Israel for political reasons, but still began to persecute the Jews of his own country. So that the Soviet Union could not be accused of racism, it was not about Jews but about Zionists. A big anti-Zionist campaign started in the Soviet Union after the Six-Day War between Israel and the Arab countries in 1967. The Soviet Union had supported and armed the Arab countries that Israel defeated with its weapons. The loss of prestige was humiliating for the Soviet Union.

The influence of the Soviet Union was that the UN General Assembly condemned Zionism as a form of racism in 1975. Zionism became an objectionable issue even among the left in Western countries. The UN decision was dissolved in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The propaganda against Zionism started in the Soviet Union and the claim about Israel as a racist and colonialist state had a strong impact on the Western left and it has not completely disappeared even now.

Criticism of Israel is today the most typical channel of left-wing anti-Semitism, although the critics themselves always call it anti-Zionism. Of course, not all criticism of Israeli government policies is anti-Semitic. Criticism is practiced the most in Israel, as is possible in a democratic state.

However, the line between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism is blurred. The IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Union) definition of anti-Semitism includes several specific examples, of which there are five

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related to the State of Israel:

- 1) accusing the Jews or the state of Israel of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust,

- 2) denying the right to self-determination to the Jewish state, for example by claiming that the existence of the state of Israel is a racist project,

- 3) applying double standards to Israel by demanding from it behavior that is not expected or required from any other democratic state,

- 4) comparing Israel's current policy to Nazi policy,

- 5) holding all Jews collectively responsible for the actions of the State of Israel.

These arguments often appear in the speeches of those who define themselves as anti-Zionists.

The third and most worrying source of anti-Semitism today is Islamist anti-Semitism, which is currently the most common factor threatening the security of Jews in Europe and the Middle East. In Germany, most anti-Semitic acts against Jews are committed by Muslims. In Germany and Belgium, Jews are careful not to wear symbols of Judaism when out and about, such as a kippah headgear or Star of David jewelry, because they can lead to violence against them. Tens of thousands of French Jews have immigrated to Israel since 2010 out of fear of Islamist terror. The perpetrators have either been Muslims who immigrated to France from North Africa or the Middle East, or their descendants. Muslim anti-Semitism is a politically sensitive topic, and talking about it publicly can lead to legal charges of Islamophobia and hate speech. Conspiracy theories are very popular in Islamic anti-Semitism. Many Muslims in the Middle East believe the claim that all Jews were out of work when the World Trade Center in New York was attacked in 2001. Denying the Holocaust, which is also common in anti-Semitism in Western countries, is commonplace. The American NGO (Non-Governmental Organizations) Anti-Defamation League conducted a study on global anti-Semitism. One of the results was that in the Middle East and North Africa, only 8% had even heard of the Holocaust.

The roots of Muslim anti-Semitism do not only come from the current conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, although that is of course of great importance. Because Nazi anti-Semitic propaganda spread to Arab countries during World War II when the Nazis recruited Muslims to their

side against the Allies and the Jews. And the original reasons maybe even further back, in the Muslim holy texts and especially in their radical later interpretations and applications. An example is the claim favored by some anti-Semitic Islamist preachers that the Koran says that Jews are "descendants of pigs and monkeys". However, this is not exactly what the Koran says. The Qur'an talks about people whom Allah has turned into pigs and monkeys in some passages. They are not named directly as Jews, but it can also be interpreted that way.

Jewish immigration to Palestine

The most significant factor in the rise of anti-Semitism among Muslims was the immigration of Jews to Palestine that began in the 1880s. Anti-Semitism among Arabs began to rise after the First World War. Several reasons have been offered. In World War I, the Ottoman Empire collapsed, and its Middle Eastern territories came under British control. This undermined the identity and self-esteem of the Muslim population. In Europe, anti-Semitism in Muslim countries received new shades, such as the racism represented by the Nazis. An important factor in the good relations between Nazi Germany and the Arab countries was exactly anti-Semitism.

After the establishment of Israel in 1948, hatred erupted in Arab countries towards the countries' large Jewish populations, and almost all Jews fled from Muslim countries in the region to Israel over two decades, sometimes having to leave their possessions behind. Only Morocco and Iran still had Jewish communities, but they have also shrunk considerably.

The anti-Semitism of the Jewish state and Zionism eventually expanded into general anti-Semitism. However, Islamic anti-Semitism was not based on race, because the Arabs were also Semitic people. Anti-Semitism arose out of a sense of humiliation because the despised Jews had been able to defeat the honorable Arab armies and establish a successful Jewish state. After the initial difficulties, the Jewish state began to succeed better than its neighbors technologically, scientifically, and productively. At the same time, anti-Semitism became Islamized in such a way that they started looking for grounds for it by quoting the Koran and Islamic tradition.

Muslim countries

According to many, the ideological basis of Islamic anti-Semitism today lies in the Arab opposition to the state of Israel, not for theological or racial reasons as in Europe. While Christians have seen Jews as "parasites", Arabs see them as invaders. In Arab countries, there is general opposition to the right of Jews as a people to their state, and the Israel-Palestine conflict fuels hatred of Jews. Arab pride based on the victorious military history of the Muslim Ottomans has found it difficult to accept the success of a small Jewish state. Israel's successful resistance against the previously so successful Muslim armies has caused resentment, especially among religious Muslims. Recently, however, anti-Semitism has also acquired religious characteristics in Islamic countries, and many prominent Muslim preachers publicly preach hatred towards Jews based on the Koran.

The Palestinians

In the early 1970s, Palestinian organizations started a large-scale terror campaign against Israelis. Palestinians carried out attacks against Israeli civilian targets and attacked abroad. Palestinian terrorism culminated in the 1972 hijacking of Sabena Flight 572, the Tel Aviv airport attacks, and the Munich massacre, i.e. the hijacking of Israeli Olympic athletes. Israel responded to the Munich massacre by launching Operation God's Revenge, killing Palestinians suspected of being the perpetrators of the Munich attack across Europe, and by launching an attack against the PLO in Lebanon. The Palestinians continued acts of terror, including the hijacking of an Air France plane in 1976 to Uganda, where Israeli special forces went to free the hostages in Operation Entebbe.

Holocaust deniers

The events of the Holocaust are denied, belittled, or the Holocaust and the killing of Jews are defended. Central to the denial has been that, in addition to denying the events themselves, the aim is always to see a Jewish conspiracy in the background, either to advance the economic interests of the state of Israel, or to promote world Zionism.

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At the extreme, the deniers claim that the Holocaust didn't even happen. They have tried to prove that there were not even gas chambers in Auschwitz or other extermination camps, and if gas was used, then only to kill vermin. According to them, all claims about the Holocaust are only an invention of the Jews, with which they have been able to extort billions from the German state for Israel after the war.

In a slightly "milder" denial, it is admitted that Jews were killed after all, but not nearly as much as has been claimed. In this case, however, it is important for the detractors to save the "reputation" of Hitler and the leading Nazis as brave Aryan warriors.

Denial of the Holocaust spread to many European countries after World War II. Most of the Holocaust denialism originates from the extreme right, but it has also appeared, for example, in the extreme left in France. Some of those who are suspicious of the facts of history denies the Holocaust in part or in whole, some admit that it happened, but blame it on the Jews who had declared war on Germany. Denying the Holocaust or declaring the Holocaust justified spread to the Arab media in the 1970s and fueled public anti-Semitism. According to them, it is an invention of the Jews, with which they seek to pursue their own interests.

The occurrence of the Holocaust is a historical fact documented by thorough and reliable historical research. Numerous extermination camp survivors have given their own testimony.

However, the known facts mean nothing to Holocaust deniers. There is very little coherence or logic to what they say. However, the deniers are not harmless fools like, for example, those who believe in a flat earth, but their intentions are just as violent as those of other anti-Semites.

If the claims of Holocaust deniers were true, one would have to believe that millions of people have decided to lie about the Holocaust happening.

All those who have said that they survived the extermination camps and have a series of numbers tattooed on their forearms would be liars.

The United Nations

The issue of Palestine has been on the agenda of the UN since the beginning of the organization. There are numerous resolutions regarding the conflict, but a solution leading to peace has still not been invented.

When the UN Human Rights Council begins a new session in Geneva,

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there is an item on the agenda that is usually always the same. The section examines the current situation in Palestine. Someone makes a motion about it, then it is discussed, and then a resolution is published condemning Israel.

The situation in Palestine is the only issue that is discussed by the Human Rights Council at each of its sessions. At the same time, many other human rights problems are ignored in the Council's resolutions. For example, the Council can impose a condemnatory resolution on several different countries regarding their human rights situation. Israel's actions are usually always and often many times condemned. Other countries are judged much more cautiously, even if there are serious human rights violations.

While the UN gained new member countries, the influence of Western democracies decreased. Originally, the members were almost all parliamentary democracies, but the situation has changed completely. Today, most UN member states do not meet the requirements of democracy, which has led to the increasing influence of undemocratic forces. Especially during the Cold War, they claimed that Israel was a racist colonial power that had to be resisted. The Soviet Union was at the forefront of the campaign. By accusing the Jewish state of racism and colonialism, it was possible to turn world opinion against Israel in many countries.

However, that changed when the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Union collapsed. Suddenly, the countries that were part of the Warsaw Pact had full freedom to formulate their foreign policy. One of the first steps was to reassess the perception of Israel. Claims about Israel being a racist state turned out to be a lie, which was only meant to divert attention away from the Soviet Union's own human rights crimes. When Amnesty International makes similar accusations today, we should remember where they came from.

However, the opposition to the Jewish state is still strong. Today, it is primarily channeled by Islamist dictatorships that cannot accept the existence of a Jewish state in the Middle East. They have long fought to weaken Israel by seeking to divide the country and create an Islamist Palestinian state. Muslim countries initially talked about an Arab state, but in the mid-1960s the tactic changed to a demand for a Palestinian state. However, the term "Palestinians" is not part of the UN Middle East partition plan. It only talks about Jews and Arabs.

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The UN, which once helped the national rebirth of Israel, has become a center of dishonesty whose central mission has become the destruction of the Jewish state. This message was delivered by Israeli Ambassador Gilad Erdan while speaking at the UN.

Palestinian Riyad Mansour, on the other hand, told the UN meeting that Israel is "colonizing" the West Bank and "dismembering our homeland". He said there has been "more violence by Jews against our nation and its Christian and Islamic holy places." In 2022, Arab terrorism increased drastically in Israel and more than 30 people were murdered. The IDF's (Israeli Defense Forces) anti-terrorist operations in Samara and Judea have prevented hundreds of terrorist attacks in recent years.

The UN meeting unequivocally classified Judea and Samara, including East Jerusalem, as "Palestinian territories" and declared that the establishment of Israeli settlements has "no legal validity and is a flagrant violation under international law."

The UN General Assembly has passed a resolution that indirectly condemns the US decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In the vote, 128 countries supported the resolution, and nine opposed it. 35 countries abstained from voting. The resolution is not binding. The Nordic countries and, for example, Britain, Germany, and France voted in favor of the resolution.

UN UNESCO

The Governing Council of the UN scientific and cultural organization UNESCO has approved the Jerusalem resolution, the draft of which prompted Israel and the United States to announce last week that they will still not pay their membership fees to UNESCO.

In Israel's opinion, the resolution denies the long historical connections of Jews to the holy places of East Jerusalem, which is part of the Palestinian territories. Israel is also angered by the fact that the resolution presented by the Arab countries talks about occupied Palestine. However, Israel has never occupied Palestine, because such a state has never existed.

The biggest controversy is that the resolution uses only the Arabic name AL-Haram AL-Sharif, "the Noble Refuge", for the hill in the Old City of Jerusalem, which is sacred to both Muslims and Jews. For Jews, it

is called the Temple Mount.

The resolution is not new, but UNESCO has previously condemned Israel's restrictions on Arab access to the hill on which Al-Aqsa, one of the holiest mosques of Muslims, is located. In addition, UNESCO has criticized Israel for the harsh measures taken by the police and soldiers.

In practice, the resolution thus erases or minimizes the many thousand years of Jewish history of the Temple Mount. However, the Jewish temples located on the Temple Mount in ancient times are the holiest possible place in the Jewish religion.

However, Jews are the traditional inhabitants of the Palestinian Territory. UNESCO's decision was amazing when it declared that Israel would have no heritage in Jerusalem and the Temple Mount. However, Jerusalem, as the undivided capital of Israel, has millennia of tradition. The inclusion of the divided Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine is just plain political anti-Semitism.

European Union

Desecration of Jewish cemeteries and synagogues still occur from time to time in several Western European countries, especially in France and Germany. Neo-Nazis and Muslim immigrants are often responsible for the persecution of Jews in Europe. Violent attacks on Jewish targets also occur. In recent years, many Jews have been murdered in France because of their Jewishness.

In Malmö, Sweden, Jews have experienced harassment and disruption of the Holocaust school education, which has been intensified by the conflict between Israel and Palestine. The Simon Wiesenthal Center has therefore recommended Jews to avoid the southern parts of Sweden.

In France, the persecution of the country's Jews has led to the isolation of many Jews from the rest of society. The political leadership denied the existence of anti-Semitism in France until 2003 when it was decided that something must be done about anti-Semitism in France. Although the country's press was fervently anti-Jewish in the 1930s, Jewish schoolchildren were not abused in France then and synagogues were not burned down as they are today in the name of defending the Palestinians. In 2018, a manifesto was published in France, in which more than 300 well-known French people condemn the new anti-Semitism, which they describe as silent ethnic cleansing, practiced by Islamist radicals in

immigrant communities.

Visible anti-Semitism has returned to Germany with immigrants. According to German Jews, in 2017, 81 percent of physical attacks were committed by Muslims. According to Berlin teachers, the word "Jew" has become a common barking word even in playgrounds. In 2018, Marina Chernivsky, head of the organization that monitors anti-Semitism, stated that the increase in the number of Muslims in Germany cannot be considered the only reason, but "many of these people come from countries where anti-Jewish and anti-Israeli attitudes prevail".

According to a report by the European Monitoring Center on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), racist attacks against Jews have increased in five European countries: Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Britain and Germany. Greece, Austria, Italy and Spain also reported "particularly hostile" anti-Semitic discourse in everyday life.

Especially in France, cases of anti-Jewish violence increased sixfold in 2002 compared to the previous year. The number of cases in Belgium also doubled compared to before.

To understand Islamic anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, we need to understand that it is not just traditional racism in which foreign peoples or ethnic groups are rejected because of their differences, but their religious orthodoxy based on their scriptures. This is also the reason for the persecution of Christians and especially converts to Christianity in many Islamic countries.

In practice, Islamic anti-Semitism aims for the same outcome as Nazi Germany, i.e. a world where there would be no more Jews. Hitler called this goal *Judenfrei* or free of Jews. The Palestinian Authority, whose president Mahmoud Abbas announced at a press conference held in Egypt in 2013, that "in the final solution, we will not see a single Israeli - civilian or soldier - in our own country".

A new compensation theory

Is Israel still God's people? Does God still watch over Israel despite its mistakes, violence, and sins? Does God continue to bless those who bless Israel, and does He still curse those who curse His people? Or has Israel lost its position as the chosen people by rejecting and killing Jesus?

Among the denominations of the world, replacement theology is still

widely held, according to which the church has taken the place of Israel. Many denominations and faiths even think that they are the only group of true believers who have replaced Israel. According to the heresy of replacement theology, God has abandoned Israel because the Jews rejected Jesus and killed Him on the cross. The basis of replacement theology is anti-Semitism, which spread to the Christian world from the attitudes of the church fathers in the first centuries.

In the case of the Danish Bible Society's translation, however, we are dealing with a completely new type of compensation theology, which differs from the so-called traditional replacement theology. The new translation published in 2020 has removed many passages about Israel. This was intended to separate the original Israel from the current Israel. According to the translators, today's Israel is not the real Israel that would receive God's promised blessings. Although traditional replacement theology separates the nation of Israel from God's plan of salvation, it does not fundamentally deny that the ethnic nation of Israel with its land borders once existed and still exists. Instead, the new theology of compensation, which could also be called the Palestinian compensation theology, basically denies the existence of Israel and the Jews as a nation. According to it, the current Jewish state called Israel is not biblical, but a modern colonialist and racist innovation that would have stolen the land of Palestine from its original inhabitants.

Eastern Europe

After World War II, the status of Jews in the Soviet Union deteriorated again, and the situation in the Middle East fueled the Soviet Union's official anti-Jewish campaigns.

In the early days, the Bolsheviks of the Soviet Union included many Jews, up to about 16%. The share of Jews was significantly higher in the communist movements of the neighboring countries supported by Russia. Because of this, opponents of communism could have a negative attitude towards Jews. In Russia, because of the collapse of the Soviet Union, nationalist Russians blamed the Jews for Bolshevism and the Communists for the collapse of the Soviet Union. The Orthodox Church also fueled Russian anti-Semitism.

In Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia, accusations were also made against the Jews for, among other things, supporting the Stalinist

governments.

United States

Of course, far-right anti-Semitism is not only a German phenomenon but can be found all over the world. In the United States, most violent attacks against Jews have been carried out by far-right extremists. Later, the ideology of white supremacy came into play, where Jews were same way enemies.

In the United States, there is also green-left anti-Semitism, especially within universities. Jews are subjected to violent acts on university campuses because of Israel's policies. Most recently, there have even been violent demonstrations because of the situation in Gaza

Boycotts

One of the newest forms of anti-Semitism is the boycott movement against the state of Israel, known by the acronym BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions). The BDS movement is a Palestinian-led campaign that promotes actions against Israel, i.e. boycott, divestment, and sanctions.

The movement wants to weaken the sales of Israeli products. The BDS movement prevents the export of Israeli products depending on whether the owner of the company is Jewish or Arab. The goal sounds like racism and anti-Semitism.

Although the movement is new in its current form, the original roots of BDS go back to 1929, when the Palestinian leadership wanted the Arabs to remove every Jew from the area through an economic boycott. Similarly, the Arab League started an economic, cultural and diplomatic boycott against the Jewish communities already in 1945.

It is about applying a double standard to Israel by demanding of its behavior that is not expected or required of any other democratic nation. And the EU, the UN and even Christian churches and their organizations have joined this. Not to mention Muslim countries or the organizations formed by them.

During the Second Intifada, the Palestinians began to look for ways to pressure Israel non-violently through international solidarity. In 2002,

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various organizations in Europe, Australia, the United States, and the Palestinian Territories called for a boycott of Israeli institutions, including academic and cultural institutions. In October 2003, Palestinian scholars and intellectuals joined the call for a boycott. In April 2004, a Palestinian campaign for an academic and cultural boycott of Israel was founded.

The European Union has decided that all Israeli products originating from the territories occupied by Israel in 1967 must be labeled with a separate label. However, the same is not done in the case of any other state, not even concerning territories conquered by war of aggression.

CURRENT GERMANY

The Germany of 1944 and 1945 experienced destruction that was the worst any nation has ever experienced. Even Japan, although two nuclear bombs were dropped there, was not bombed with such devastating completeness. By the end of World War II, all German cities with a population of more than 50,000 were bombed into ruins. All over Germany, every fourth house was bombed. Most of the cities were 80 percent destroyed. Cologne and Essen were 90 percent destroyed. All 29 bridges on the Rhine were destroyed. This great nation suffered tremendous destruction. Hundreds of thousands of homeless people wandered wearily along highways blocked by citizens. Thousands languished along the roads and slept in ditches. The Germans had been defeated. This time the war hit their homeland.

In February 1945, Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill signed a document in which American-British policy was revealed: "Our inflexible purpose is to destroy German militarism and Nazism and ensure that Germany can never again disturb world peace. We have decided to disarm and disband all German armed forces, to disband once and for all the German General Staff, which has repeatedly organized the revival of German militarism, to remove or destroy all German war equipment, to remove or control all German industry that might be used for war production".

During the Second World War, the Allies agreed in 1945 at the Potsdam Conference that conquered Nazi Germany would be divided

into occupation zones between the four Allied members, the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and France.

At the same time, the borders of Poland were also moved to the west, while the borders of the Soviet Union on the other side of Poland were moved to the west. This land exchange was done at the expense of the eastern parts of Germany, and the borderline became the Oder–Neisse line. The occupation zone of the Soviet Union was thus located in former Central Germany and Prussia.

The territories occupied by the Western powers united in May 1949 to form the Federal Republic of Germany, which was unofficially called West Germany. On October 7 of the same year, the German Democratic Republic, GDR (DDR), or East Germany, was formed from the Soviet occupation zone.

The GDR adopted Marxist-Leninist ideology as its form of government. It joined the Warsaw Pact in 1955, while its western neighbor joined the Western alliance NATO.

Like the division of Germany, the capital Berlin was also divided between the Allies, although it remained surrounded by the Soviet occupation zone. In 1948-1949, in the dispute over the status of West Berlin, the Soviet Union isolated the city and cut off Western service connections to the city. In response, West Berlin was supported by an airlift during the Berlin Blockade.

The struggle with the West also took place at the level of sports. The East Germans were successful in many Olympic sports thanks to ruthless training methods, systematic talent screening and large-scale doping.

The GDR was economically weak compared to the Federal Republic of Germany. Despite the criticism directed at the planned economy, the GDR was generally considered to be the economically strongest country in the Eastern Bloc, because the level of education of the Germans, the general skill level of the workforce and technology were better than in the rest of Eastern Europe.

The increased prosperity of the Federal Republic of Germany and the increased political oppression of East Germany caused many East Germans to flee to the West. The constant flow of refugees prompted the GDR's political leadership to close the borders with barbed wire fences, minefields, watchtowers, and strengthening border patrols. The most famous of these measures was the Berlin Wall built in 1961, whose

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collapse in 1989 was a powerful symbol of German reunification. The Ministry of Security of the GDR monitored citizens' lives with the help of, among other things, recruited spies. Each apartment building had someone who was assigned the task of filing reports about their neighbors. Sometimes the reports were appropriate, i.e. the person might have criticized the conditions out loud. Sometimes they were just revenge on a neighbor for some personal grudge.

Back to one Germany

In August 1989, Hungary lifted restrictions on entering and leaving the country, allowing many East Germans to escape to the West by crossing the so-called green border into Hungary and from there to the Federal Republic of Germany. Many others demonstrated peacefully against the ruling Socialist Unity Party. These protests eventually led to the resignation of East German President Honecker.

The Berlin Wall came down on November 9, 1989, exactly 51 years after the events of Kristallnacht, when journalist Günter Schabowski announced on television that the border could be freely crossed. The division of Germany into two states began in 1949 and ended in 1989, i.e. forty years later. After that, the entire social system of the GDR also crumbled quickly. Negotiations for reunification were held between Germany and the old victorious states of World War II, and the rules of the game for reunification were agreed upon. On March 25, 1990, multi-party elections were held in the GDR, in which the issue of German reunification became the most important election theme. The elected parliament first approved the inter-German currency union and then the reunification of Germany. It also decided that the legislation of the Federal Republic of Germany came into force in the GDR as well. The agreement on the unification of the countries entered into force on October 3, 1990, when the territory of the GDR became part of the Federal Republic of Germany and at the same time also the European Union.

The difference between East and West Germany

Even after long unification, there have been many differences between

the eastern and western parts. Lifestyle, political orientations, and wealth are still different in different parts of Germany, and in general, there has been talk of Ossies and Wessies. Unemployment, poverty, and other social problems have created the basis for a stronger growth of extremist movements compared to western regions. In addition, German reunification weakened Germany's economic growth because the reconstruction of the former GDR took so much money. The reconstituted Treuhand organization privatized most of the former GDR's industry and production facilities, after which many of them were closed.

Economics

Today Germany is one of the world's leading industrial countries. Germany is the largest national economy in Europe and is often considered the economic engine of the European Union. The total value of exports was the world's largest until 2009 when China overtook Germany. Exports generate a third of Germany's national income. The most important export products are vehicles, machinery, chemical products, electronics, and telecommunications technology.

German army

The Bundeswehr, or the current German defense forces, was founded in 1955. The foundation was preceded by long arguments about the rearmament of Germany. In the same context, additions were made to the constitution and West Germany joined NATO. The new army was equipped mainly with the support of NATO countries, and the general conscription of men came into force the following year.

During the Cold War, the Bundeswehr became the mainstay of NATO's defense in Central Europe. It consisted of 495,000 military and 170,000 civilian personnel. The strength of the ground forces was three army corps with a total of 12 divisions, heavily armed with tanks and personnel carriers. The air force was well equipped and took part in NATO's air defense. The Navy's task was to defend access to the Baltic Sea and to counter the possible threat of the Soviet Baltic Fleet.

The reunification of Germany and the end of the Cold War brought

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with its major structural changes when the Nationale Volksarmee (NVA) of the German Democratic Republic was merged into the Bundeswehr. As a result of the end of the Cold War tensions, the manpower was reduced from 500,000 to half, the Soviet equipment was mainly decommissioned and sold abroad or scrapped. In addition to this, most of the former GDR officers were released from service and the remaining ones were demoted.

Germany's military power was reasonably strong, although the entire army was designed and intended only for defense. Strong at least during the Cold War. After the end of the Cold War, attitudes changed in Europe and many countries cut back on army funding, crew strength, and training. That was in Germany too. Europe lulled itself into the idea that now the military threat in Europe is finally over. In the same way, it was lulled in economic life as well. It was thought that there was no need for a self-sufficient energy economy, but that we could rely on the cheap gas and oil supplied by friendly Russia.

However, Russia has never wanted to be a single European state, but a counter-power to Western Europe. As strong and important as the West. Or stronger than the West, which weakened itself with its liberalism and green-left ideas. The naive attitude of the EU and the goal of having Russia join a common and fair economic family through trade agreements was not Russia's goal. The concept of Holy Russia valid in Russia requires more. Therefore, one can never be completely sure that even a military confrontation between Russia and Western Europe would be completely out of the question.

European countries positioned themselves to secure peace in such a way that if something needed to be secured, the military power of the USA in NATO would guarantee peace to Europe. And that's how things have been for a long time. But the attitude in the US may be changing. Other destinations in the country must be supported. Like for example Israel, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and others. And again, Donald Trump, who is running for the presidency of the USA, has threatened that if he is elected, the USA will leave NATO completely. This would bring a completely new situation to Europe. We would also have to rethink the condition of our armies.

The condition of the German defense forces eventually got so bad that Germany often had to refuse joint military exercises with other

countries, because Germany did not have suitable and operational equipment to send to the exercise.

Everything changed on February 24, 2022, when Russia attacked Ukraine. Peace was not a permanent state of being in Europe. This has happened in Europe before. Some state leaders get it into their head to raise their positions by attacking a neighbor and demanding more land for themselves. In the middle of Europe, there was suddenly a state of complete war.

At the end of 2023, the country's defense minister, Boris Pistorius, made an attention-grabbing statement when he said that Germany must develop its defense forces so that they can go to war if necessary. It's a matter of course. That's what the army is for, but in Germany, it was a completely new vision after World War II and confused. This describes well the state of inferiority that Germany has drifted into.

Although the bureaucracy of the German defense administration was heavy and rigid, quick decisions were made in Germany to increase the country's defense spending and improve the efficiency of the army. It has now been realized in Germany that the country still needs to have a strong army. We will probably see a strong strengthening and reform of the military. A strong army in the right hands brings security to the state. But only as long as those hands are right.

The Future

Germany will be ready for future challenges quite quickly if it wants to. Germans are efficient and systematic. Good at organizing their activities. They have the technologies. If you compare the situation with the rise in industry and military equipment that took place after the First World War, things can develop very quickly.

But has Nazism really been erased from the minds of the people? According to some studies, this has not completely happened. So many citizens belonged to the Nazi Party that there was no way to put them all aside. They were soldiers, policemen, civil servants, teachers, politicians, industrial leaders and so on. Their thoughts did not change when the peace treaty was signed. Maybe they just got stronger. People of that time are no longer active in social activities, but attitudes are easily passed on to the next generations.

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There has indeed been a clear shift in the direction of the extreme right in German politics. The shameful peace treaty of the First World War made the Germans crazy about the Nazi ideology. After the Second World War, the shame caused by the actions of the Nazis caused Germany to change its laws. Germany's immigration law is open to the world, which has resulted in huge numbers of immigrants flooding into the country. Mostly Muslims. At the same time, the number of neo-Nazis and the popularity of the extreme right has grown.

But have we again come to a situation where perceived shame causes a completely opposite reaction. Time will tell.

Germany will be ready when the occasion calls for it. The war in Europe has changed the idea of permanent peace. As a result of the changed situation, Germany is now considering the return of compulsory military service for everyone.

"The Lord is long-suffering and great in mercy, He forgives bad deeds and crimes, but does not leave them unpunished, but avenges the bad deeds of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation." (Numbers 14)

The Bible says that God will not leave unpunished acts of violence against the Israelites. Murdering anyone is a grave sin. The murder of six million Jews, members of God's chosen people, is a very serious sin. But has Germany received its punishment?

ANTI-SEMITISM OF THE FUTURE

Satan has always hated and still hates Israel. Lust for power, selfishness, greed, and many other human traits can be used to explain why the world's states and nations, organizations, churches, and private people over the centuries treated the Jews so badly.

Persecutions and the Holocaust can partly be explained by wrong theology and politics, and by channeling popular discontent to appropriate sections of the population.

Inundation of Muslim population into formerly Christian areas

Anti-Semitic activities are constantly taking place on the property of synagogues, Jewish daycare centers, schools, cemeteries, and the businesses they own. In many countries, the authorities are unable to combat this threat. The situation is not seen as bad enough, or it is seen as too difficult to solve so that the police's limited resources could be used to investigate the matter. For this reason, thousands of Jews prefer to leave their homes. Just the same as 80 years ago. One of the reasons for the cautious behavior of authorities and politicians is the risk of being accused of hate speech or racist activity. In many European countries, even completely factual talk about immigration, for example, is easily interpreted as racist talk. If you refer to, for example, crime statistics regarding certain ethnic groups, you may even be accused of hate speech.

Far-rightism and the resurgence of neo-Nazism

The threat of far-right terrorism has also grown in recent years in Western countries. Attitudes include racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia. Far-right actors highlight as their enemies' entities that they feel threaten the existence of the nation-state, the culture they represent, or the white population. For example, immigrants, ethnic and religious minority groups and politicians appear as enemies.

The most extreme phenomenon of far-right ideology is based on the acceptance of the use of violence and the pursuit of the overthrow of democracy. The idea can be promoted by undemocratic means. Far-right ideas are mainly supported by various extra-parliamentary actors, from individuals to international networks.

The rise of extreme leftism

Interestingly, today anti-Semitism is more an activity of the extreme left than of the extreme right. The reason for this is the so-called intersectionalism, where all the "oppressed" are on the same side, for example, oppressed workers, women, blacks, and Palestinians.

And because the left believes that the Palestinians are being oppressed, it even supports completely reactionary extreme Islamic organizations, such as Hamas and Hezbollah, against democratic Israel. For example, a feminist movement may oppose the actions of egalitarian Israel and support a very patriarchal Palestinian terrorist organization.

Although the activity nominally presents itself as opposition to Israel and Zionism, what makes it anti-Semitic is that it often involves attacking Jewish individuals or Jewish symbols and presenting old anti-Semitic beliefs and conspiracy theories.

Hatred of Israel for defending Arab attacks

Some believe that when Israel does something, all Jews in the world are responsible for it. Every Jew anywhere in Europe or elsewhere. They suddenly become the bearers of responsibility for Israel's actions in the

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world. As if Israel's violent practices were a bad racial trait of the Jews.

What many like to call just "anti-Zionism" often hides good old-fashioned anti-Semitism beneath the surface. This can be seen, for example, in the fact that traditional images, such as caricatures of squinty-eyed, hooked-faced, and money-mouthed Jews, appear in a demonstration, which is said to oppose Israel's settlement policy. We Christians should remember that Jesus is also a Jew. We have never seen similar images of Jesus. Pictures of Jesus always have a European face and often blue eyes. Actor and screenwriter Bradley Cooper has received fierce criticism for the film "Maestro", directed and written by him, in which he plays the main role. The film is about the American West Side Story composer, conductor Leonard Bernstein, whose parents were Ukrainian Jews. The actor's big fake nose has been criticized as reinforcing the stereotype that Jews have big noses.

The ingredients of anti-Semitism are therefore quite ready to emerge whenever the occasion calls for it.

The events in the Middle East often led to growing threats, especially towards the Jewish communities living in Europe.

Anti-Israel actors have also been joined by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in Hague when it announced that it would begin to prosecute Israel for alleged war crimes committed in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem in 2014. Israel has denied both the crimes and the jurisdiction of the ICC, and the USA has also criticized the ICC's decision as completely political.

Gaza

On the morning of October 7, 2023, Hamas gunmen stormed across the Gaza border into Israel, killing more than 1,200 people. Hamas also fired thousands of rockets. Among the dead were children, the elderly and 364 young people at the music festival. Hamas took more than 250 Israelis hostage in Gaza. There is also evidence of rape and sexual violence during Hamas attacks.

Hamas became the sole ruling party in Gaza after violently ousting its political rival Fatah in 2007. It has an armed wing and was believed to have 30,000 fighters before the war began. Hamas wants to create an Islamic state to replace Israel. It rejects Israel's right to exist and is committed to its destruction. Hamas justified its attack as a response to

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Israeli crimes against Palestinians.

Hamas has fired thousands of rockets over the years and carried out other deadly attacks. Israel has repeatedly attacked Hamas with airstrikes and sent troops to Gaza in 2008 and 2014. Among others, Israel, the United States, the EU, and the United Kingdom consider Hamas, or in some cases its armed wing, a terrorist group. Iran, on the other hand, supports Hamas with funding, weapons and training.

Israel immediately launched a massive campaign of airstrikes against targets in Gaza in response to the Hamas attack. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel's goal is the complete destruction of Hamas and the return of the hostages. Israel also launched a ground attack three weeks later. It has also bombarded Gaza from the sea.

According to the Health Ministry led by Hamas, more than 28,000 Palestinians have been killed and tens of thousands injured in Israeli attacks since the start of the war. Israel says at least 230 of its soldiers have died in Gaza. Residential buildings and other buildings in Gaza have suffered extensive damage and destruction.

As a result of the war, hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets all over the world to protest the war in Gaza and demand an end to the Israeli offensive. In the demonstrations, the Israeli state and the Jews have been very strongly targeted. Not just Israelis, but Jews all over the world. Israel has been accused of genocide. Demonstrations have demanded an area free of Jews "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free". That is, the area from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea would be completely free of Jews. It is a demand for a Palestinian state that would stretch from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. This would mean the elimination of the Jewish state. This slogan has been shouted at anti-Israel demonstrations before. There are participants in the demonstrations who are genuinely concerned about the infiltrators in the Gaza Strip. But some participants have always opposed the existence of the state of Israel, anti-Zionists, and anti-Semites. They have now gained more enthusiasm to protest. And more protesters next to him.

But was Hamas's attack on Israel planned just for this kind of manipulation of opinion? Many civilians have indeed died in the war, but does Hamas care about that? By forcing Israel into a defensive war and hiding behind civilians, many civilian casualties are caused. If Israel stops fighting and Hamas survives this, you can be sure that new similar attacks are coming. And even if they don't survive, the anti-Zionist idea will

remain in the region and new fighters are growing.

The demand for the establishment of two states

When taking a stand on the question of Jerusalem, we Christians must be aware that, according to the Bible, Jerusalem will be a test for us. The tribe of Judah living there is under God's special protection, as the chosen people. Not because they are particularly good and kind, but because it is simply God's choice. God has chosen His side and we, Christians and Christian churches, should do it too. In addition, we should remember that Jesus will return to the Mount of Olives, which is in eastern Jerusalem. And according to the book of Zechariah, He will specifically return to Jewish East Jerusalem.

The demand for the division of Jerusalem and Israel's return to the 1967 borders is an impossible demand for Israel. According to it, Israel should withdraw from the borders it captured in the 1967 war. The demand would mean, among other things, dividing Jerusalem in two and Israel returning to borders that it could not possibly defend. Those unnatural borders, a holdover from the Arab war of aggression against Israel in 1948, used to constantly attract Arab countries to repeated attacks against the country.

With what steps will anti-Semitism continue in the coming years. Demanding the division of Israel into two different states will continue. Demands will be presented especially by the UN. In the UN, the majority is on the side of the Palestinians, and Christian countries almost always vote empty.

The second demand concerns Jerusalem and its division as the capital of the planned future state of Israel and Palestine. It is completely irrational to believe that dividing Israel into two states could bring peace to the Middle East. However, there is no evidence of this, on the contrary. Israel's benevolent relinquishment of the Gaza Strip in favor of the Palestinians did not lead to peace, but to the continuous firing of rockets from Gaza to Israel.

The president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, has said that "in the final solution, we will not see a single Israeli, civilian or soldier, in our own country." This is the Palestinian policy of apartheid, which is apparently the good kind of racism because it does not cause any backlash.

Churches active in anti-Semitism

Many large churches and aid organizations are also strongly involved in anti-Israel activities, and their activities are guided by the World Council of Churches (WCC), whose statements and measures on behalf of the anti-Israel boycott movement have received support worldwide.

It is very unusual that WCC demands, for example, the EU to impose economic sanctions against a country. However, WCC has been active in the conflict between Israel and Palestine. Over the years, WCC has taken a strong position on the conflict in question, often criticizing Israel.

Israel must defend the existence of its state in the UN and its sub-organizations as well as in various international courts. Many European countries are often actively involved in these anti-Israel political actions.

It is special that anti-Semitism can combine the goals and activities of churches and Islamic states and organizations.

The BDS movement will expand

The global BDS movement (political activism pushing for boycotts, divestments, and sanctions of Israel, its citizens and companies, and their products) will become stronger. This can be seen both in the EU's positions and in the votes of the UN and its suborganizations.

The demand for commercial boycotts will be increasingly presented by various parties. As explained above, these requirements involve a very wide range of parties. Leftists, extreme rightists, church circles, and representatives of Muslim countries.

Israel's defense against attacks by Hamas, for example, will cause huge protests around the world. It is then easy for an opportunistic politician to demand more drastic countermeasures against Israel. The target will be stricter import bans on Israeli products and services, denial of cultural and scientific cooperation, prohibition of participation in Israeli sports events, and so on.

Jewish refuge

When Israel led by Jacob went to Egypt to escape the famine, Egypt was a refuge for the tribe of Israel. They would not have survived easily by staying in the land of Canaan. But over the centuries, the refuge of Egypt became an enslaving and a deadly place. Pharaoh's order to kill all Israelite male children was an extremely anti-Semitic act. Israel suffered, but still got out of Egypt.

In the Great Dispersion of the Jews, which began in 70 A.D, they wandered into all the countries of the world. Nowhere did they have full civil rights. There were various restrictions on ownership and practicing professions in almost all countries. The persecution of Jews in Western Europe and pogroms in Russia eventually drove the Jews to Poland and Germany in the 19th and early 20th centuries. These countries became some kind of refuges for the Jews. For some Jews, conditions in Germany, for example, were quite good. However, the situation changed rapidly from the 1930s onwards. The refuge became enslaving and murderous again and led to the worst genocide in history. Israel suffered, but some survived even this persecution.

After the events of the Holocaust, according to God's plan, many Jews moved to Palestine to establish their own state, Israel. And this is God's will. But many moved to the United States. The United States is today's refuge for those Jews who did not immigrate to Israel. The United States provides a good economic position for most Jews. Many also excel in the entertainment industry, financial markets, healthcare, legal services, research, and so on. But recently, especially in universities, there has been an increase in anti-Semitism.

The desire of Jews to move to Palestine is not very high. But will the situation continue to be this good in the years to come? If it continues, the United States will be the first place in history so far where anti-Semitism has not started after a strong Jewish migration.

FINALLY

The return of the Jews and other tribes of Israel to their land is a plan established and revealed by God, which culminates in the return of Jesus, the Messiah. The people of Israel can fulfill their vocation announced by the prophecies only in their promised Holy Land, Israel.

Before the birth of the state of Israel, many doubted the Bible's promise of the return of the Jews and the establishment of a state. It was thought that it was about some spiritual event or possibly the Christian church that replaced the Jews. After all, the Jews had spread to all possible countries, and they would hardly even want or be able to return to their promised land. When Jews began to return and the state of Israel was established, many thought that this would be a great sign of the accuracy of God's word. And when the overwhelming and bloodthirsty forces that attacked the newly born state failed in destroying the Jewish state, contrary to all previous expectations, the prophecies gained a whole new foundation. It was thought that this would result in people's desire to study the Bible and possibly even a revival in the churches. That's not how it happened. The same series of miracles has continued in many subsequent wars in which the Arab states have jointly tried to destroy Israel.

But the Bible's promise of the promised land was not limited to the Jews only, but to the twelve tribes of Israel. Who today believes that other tribes could also return to the Promised Land. There is no information about them or their location. How could they come back? Maybe we need

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to use some kind of spiritual pattern again. But, when the Bible says so, it will happen. God does know where the tribes of His chosen people are.

Ezek. 21

"Thus, speak unto them: 'Thus, saith the Lord God: Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen nations, whithersoever they have wandered, and I will gather them from every quarter, and bring them into their own land. I will make them one nation in that land, on the mountains of Israel, and one king will reign over them all. And they are no longer two nations and no longer divided into two kingdoms'".

According to Ezekiel's word, all of Israel will one day return to Palestine.

The Bible also says that Jesus will return to Jerusalem. How many people today believe that this happens and in full physicality? Not just spiritually. What about priests or politicians who lead states, and the organizations formed by them.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus himself tells after what kind of events His coming will take place.

Jerusalem will be a central key issue in the UN's effort to have two states, Jewish and Palestinian, organized in Palestine. And Jerusalem as their common capital. It is not a new thing for those who know the Bible, because the prophet Zechariah (Zech. 12) has announced that.

"On that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone in the way of all nations. They will gather against Jerusalem, but all who touch that stone will hurt themselves".

According to the Bible, the land area of the world belongs to God and He gives areas of it to whoever He wants. Each nation has its own territory reserved, even if not all nations have their own state. God has already said in His word thousands of years ago that the territory of Palestine belongs to Israel and Jerusalem is its capital.

The prophet Zechariah writes:

"On that day I will destroy all the nations that attack Jerusalem. But on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem I will pour out the humble spirit of mercy and prayer. And they lift their eyes to Me, lift their eyes to Him whom they have pierced. They mourn Him as I

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mourn an only son, and mourn Him bitterly, as one mourns the firstborn".

The last book of the Bible, John's Revelation is an apocalyptic book focusing on the end times. It tells about the coming plagues and wars of the end of time, the return of Jesus to earth and the judgment of the world.

Humanity is equipped with shocking weapons. The destruction described in Revelation could happen at any time. Only God's grace still prevents the worst from happening.

Humanity now has weapons to destroy world civilization. They are not used yet, but no one can guarantee that they will not be used. However, no weapon designed by man has been left unused so far. Satan still does not force anyone to act maliciously but tempts. Perhaps Hitler and the Nazis were some kind of sample of what could be coming when the Antichrist comes to power.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said: "And you will be hated by all for my name's sake". Jesus said these words to His followers who were Jews and the first Christians. One of the causes of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust has been blaming the Jews for killing Jesus. Anti-Semitism will continue, but the target of the Antichrist's hatred will also be the Christian church. Probably specifically the congregation of believers.

Israel will be at the center of the final events. It has paid a huge price for its own country. More than six million Jews were murdered by the Nazis and others. Israel has now had to face the deep hatred of the neighboring countries, with which they would like to destroy all of Israel once and for all.

In past wars, the battle between the young David and the giant Goliath was repeated. By the power of God, little Israel again and again defeated a crushingly overwhelming enemy. Incredible victories and prophetic fulfillment.

According to the Bible, the salvation of Israel means the return of Jesus, the resurrection of the righteous and the restoration of the earth. According to God's plan, Jesus will return to the Jewish capital of Israel, Jerusalem. The fulfillment of the promises given to the Jews also means that Satan will be judged.

They say history repeats itself. That is certainly true, but not necessarily

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always exactly according to the same formula. When we consider that, for example, the events of Nazi Germany were inspired by a supernatural rational entity, it is unlikely that everything will happen again in the same way. Now people know how to watch out for certain kinds of extremist movements, and don't get involved in them very widely. The danger of the Nazis did not come from the fact that a few radical young men wanted power, but from the fact that large crowds became charmed by their ideas and joined the movement. Banning some young men from waving swastikas or giving Nazi salutes doesn't help.

Satan's next attack will repeat history, but with a completely different appearance. The world's most violent ideas have always had a good ulterior motive. At least for some people. Satan's next project will probably also be easily received, there is a good idea in it that will make many people go and support the cause.

One thing is certain. No amount of humanism will solve the problems. The refinement of humanity or the development of morality will not happen, even though science will develop. The worst of what is described in this book happened in the last century. In the most advanced century so far, humanity was advanced in science and civilization. That is, on the scale of world history, quite a while ago.

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