

CHRISTIAN CONFESSION

Calling all Jewish people everywhere-
Hear, O Tribes of Jacob, we beseech you;
Receive now, we pray, our humble **confession**
In lowly repentance long overdue,
Sins through all the years we have committed.
Target of our vile and ancient hatred,
In thought and word and deed perpetrated;
Acts of neglect and animosity,
No mere words can expunge our enmity.

Christian church! Cry to the Lord to be forgiven!
O Sovereign Lord, hear in heaven we earnestly pray.
Not many showed kindness to your Chosen People,
Few Christians burdened to help them in any way.
Endless hatred and jealousy have been their lot,
Such unmerited suffering is to our shame,
Such undeserved treatment is without excuse,
In these words of contrition we now take full blame.
Open our hearts, Almighty God, to make amends,
Nation of Israel - forgive your Christian friends!

6

THE TIME HAS COME for an apology to be expressed by the rank and file in the Church for all the wrongs you have suffered during the last two thousand years of your amazing history. These words of heartfelt contrition are written to you for all the evil, cruel hurt, pain and bitter hatred endured for centuries. Your treatment has been vile leading to exile, injury and death, even genocide. Sadly, much of this persecution can be attributed to the Church - but it is not of our sovereign God, according to the Old Testament promises to Israel.

LORD, in Your mercy forgive us, we pray.

People of Israel and all Jewish people everywhere, we are sorry and ask for your forgiveness. We abjectly plead your forgiveness.

At the same time there are many in the Church supremely grateful to the Jewish people. Why this enormous gratitude?

You have given us so much – the Holy Scriptures, the Jewish teaching of the Patriarchs and Prophets, the Law given by God to Moses, the wisdom of the books of Proverbs and the Psalms. Yes, so much and all written by Jews inspired by the Lord God, Who loves all mankind, both Jew and Gentile. Thank you!

3

INDEX

A CHRISTIAN APOLOGY TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE

ACROSTIC POEM - YERUSHALAYIM

INTRODUCTION

THE TIME HAS COME

ACROSTIC POEMS

LAMENT

CHRISTIAN CONFESSION

CHRISTIAN APOLOGY

INDEX

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

Scriptures taken from THE AMPLIFIED BIBLE,
Old Testament copyright, © 1965, 1987
by The Zondervan Corporation.
by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

8

A CHRISTIAN APOLOGY TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE

YERUSHALAYIM

Your beautiful city of Peace, O Sovereign Lord,
Eternal throne of Truth and Righteousness;
Royal city of great King David's promised line,
Unique dwelling place of God's holiness,
Site of sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins;
Holy One, forgive us we humbly pray,
Atonement, peace and blessings You will here provide;
Lead us, Living Lord, in Your perfect way.
All nations will come to seek the Lord in Zion,
Your gracious name forever worshipped and adored;
I will be their God and they will be My people,
My city, My people, My delight--says the LORD.

*Yerushalayim shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise
and a glory before all the nations of the earth that hear
of all the good I do for it.*

Jeremiah 33: 9a

1

Also, it must be added that without you, the Hebrews, there would be no N.T., a written and living word meaning everything to us; our salvation from sin through the blood of – a Jew, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Truly, you are God's representatives, chosen to declare His salvation and His praise to all mankind - a special people and always will be. It is for this very reason you have been so hated, abused and persecuted. All the promises made to Abraham by our faithful God will be fulfilled. Many already have been; and you, the people of Israel, have been restored most significantly to your own land. But what have the nations done to the land of Israel? Yes, divided it - the land God calls, My land! Joel 3: 2

I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on the earth will be blessed through you. Genesis 12: 3

As Jacob bowed to his twin brother, these words express an apology to you, the Jewish people; as if kneeling in prayer and repentance before you, the Chosen people whom God has always loved.

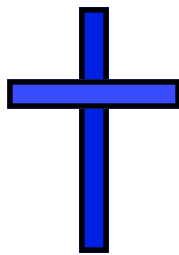
I will be your God and you shall be My people. Leviticus 26: 12

I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God. Exodus 29: 45

4

AN APOLOGY TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

BY YOUR CHRISTIAN FRIENDS



INTRODUCTION

The words of this booklet, written with love, are a long over due Christian apology from the grass roots to the Jewish people. There are many Christians all over the world who will want to stand with you in these difficult times. For too many years there has been a lack of compassion, little support from the Church and a long, long SILENCE. On behalf of other Christians who feel this is the truth, we are profoundly sorry and at the same time deeply grateful for the heritage received from God's Chosen People.

2

This apology, written in acrostic form, is the fruit of God's awakening call - initiating a love and support for the Jewish people that took place over forty years ago. In fact, a shaking call that could never be forgotten! Only in 2003 has that vision been fully understood and in the following acrostic poems finally expressed.

To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose. Ecclesiastes 3: 1

LAMENT

Lack of pity and compassion through the long years,
Anguish of our shame and the shedding of our tears.
Mourning and grieving for the loved ones you have lost,
Endless your suffering amidst all the nations tossed.
No one to care in your pain, despair and affliction-
The Lord God alone, your only hope and salvation.

5

CHRISTIAN APOLOGY

Calling all Jewish people everywhere-
Hear, O Tribes of Jacob, we beseech you;
Recieve now, we pray, our humble **apology**
In lowly repentance long overdue,
Sins through all the years we have committed.
Target of our vile and ancient hatred,
In thought and word and deed perpetrated;
Acts of neglect and animosity,
No mere words can expunge our enmity.

My sacrifice (the sacrifice acceptable) to God is a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart (broken down with sorrow for sin and humbly and thoroughly penitent), such O God, You will not despise.

Psalm 51; 17

All Israel and Jewish people everywhere,
Please accept this heartfelt apology,
O Lord, forgive us for causing their pain and grief,
Let Your people know that we are truly sorry.
O Israel, hear these words of repentant prayer;
God's promises to you will truly be fulfilled,
Your sufferings turned to blessings as He has willed.

7