

God's Grand Family Plan and Divine Checkmate

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Over the last year Satan has sought to hijack the primary conversation in the body of Christ to steer it away from engaging with the beauty of Jesus and the divine narrative for the Church.
- B. Satan wants us to talk boldly about things that we do not know much about and then to get caught up in spirit of pride and accusation. That is part of his demonic plan for this hour of history when the Lord is seeking to rescue the Church from the Laodicean spirit of compromise to prepare us for a 3rd great awakening in the USA and revival in the nations.
- C. Last year it was politics. Believers were caught up in expressing strong opinions about what they thought God wanted for America politically—even fighting each other with accusations, etc.
- D. Today, the conversation has shifted to issues related to the conflict with Israel and the Palestinians. Most have a short-term and distorted view of justice—yet are zealous to prove which nation has “more guilt” in causing oppression. This is not the main conversation that believers are to focus on.
- E. Paul did not want the Gentile believers in Rome to be ignorant of God’s mystery that was unfolding throughout salvation history (11:25). A *mystery* in Scripture speaks of a plan hidden in God’s heart that He did not tell anyone until Jesus paid the price for sin and rose from the dead. Paul urged them not to be arrogant in their opinions since they did not understand God’s mystery (11:18, 20, 25).

¹⁸...do not boast against the branches...²⁰Do not be haughty, but fear...²⁵I do not desire... that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion... (Rom. 11:18-20, 25)

- 1. I am zealous to see our spiritual family engage with the Spirit’s conversation and not be captured by the wrong conversation. We must understand that the Lord’s plan is far bigger than what we understand. Thus, Paul called us not to be haughty but to fear the Lord (11:20).
 - 2. The negative global conversation related to Israel is quickly escalating. It is important that we say what the Spirit is saying. However, many are zealous to showcase their insights and to present themselves as “justice warriors” who want to be known for their deep empathy.
 - 3. The enemy seeks to hook us by our arrogance and bitterness in order to engage us in the wrong conversation and to divert us from the beauty of Jesus and His wise leadership.
- F. In Romans 11:30-34, Paul gave us several truths that are to inform our family conversation.

³⁰For as you [Gentile believers] were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy...

³¹even so these [the Jews] also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you

they also may obtain mercy. ³²For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all. ³³Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! ³⁴For who has known the mind [mysterious plans] of the LORD? (Rom. 11:30-34)

G. ***Gentiles who were once disobedient obtained mercy (11:30)***: Paul reminds Gentile believers that once they were disobedient to God, but they obtained mercy. God gave them mercy by sending anointed messengers even after they were guilty of persistent disobedience. For 2,000 years, the Lord has sent many seasons of revival among the Gentiles resulting in hundreds of millions of Gentiles coming to Christ and faithfully serving the Lord. Paul wants them to know that they did not deserve such mercy. Thus, we are to walk with gratitude expressing humility and kindness towards others—even as God-ordained vessels to express God's love and mercy to Israel (9:23-24).

²³...that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory ²⁴...not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? (Rom. 9:23-24)

H. ***Israel will obtain mercy through the mercy shown to Gentile believers (11:31)***: God's plan is that Israel will obtain mercy through the mercy that God shows to Gentile believers. This is a very surprising and even shocking plan. Do not miss the grandeur of this verse.

1. The Lord had determined to reveal Himself to Israel through Gentiles who are filled with gratitude and humility because of having received God's extravagant mercy. In other words, Israel will be provoked to spiritual jealousy by Gentile believers (Rom. 10:19; 11:11, 14).

¹¹...to provoke them [Israel] to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. (Rom. 11:11)

2. Jesus will reveal His love for Israel directly and also through Gentile believers who embrace His great plan to display mercy to Israel, resulting in Israel's national salvation and global leadership that expresses their deep love, gratitude, and humility to the Lord and to Gentile believers. Israel being provoked to spiritual jealousy by the Gentiles is one of the most surprising aspects of God's end-time plan. To be *provoked to spiritual jealousy* means that Israel will deeply desire what Gentile believers have in spiritual relationship with the Lord.

3. The Lord will use Gentiles to prove to Israel how much He loves them. The Lord asks the body of Christ, "Would you partner with Me in revealing My love and mercy to Israel?"

4. The Lord planned from ages past to reveal the God of Israel to unbelieving Israel through Gentiles who will be willing even to risk their lives to bring the love of Jesus to them in the face of great persecution in the end times. This will shock unbelieving Jews and make them spiritually jealous to know God like they see born-again Gentiles do.

- I. ***God has committed all to disobedience that He might show mercy to all (11:32)***: This is a weighty statement summarizing God’s view of the entire course of human history. He has worked in such a way to prove that every Gentile and Jew, along with every nation, is sinful to such a measure that no one deserves His mercy. Scripture declares that all are guilty (Rom. 3:9-20).
 1. ***Committed all to disobedience***: God has concluded and delivered all nations over to their sinful ways. His plan is to put great power into the hands of wicked leaders to expose and bring out into open view the fullness of individual and national sin. God has permitted each in turn to develop its own rebellion against Him (“shutting them up into it,” as into a cage) in order to show His mercy. He “shut up” all claims of being innocent and deserving salvation.
 2. ***That He might show mercy***: The Lord’s end game is to put His mercy on display worldwide. It could not have been shown to them unless it was first proved that all were guilty. For this purpose, proof can be seen in every nation’s history that all are guilty. It is clear that if favor is to be shown, it must be on the same ground—undeserved mercy since all are guilty.
 3. No other king in history has conquered using mercy to inspire their subjects to love him and his other subjects voluntarily. Other kings used violence to force their subjects to serve them.

II. PAUL WAS AWESTRUCK BY GOD’S MASTERFUL PLAN (ROM. 11:33-34)

- A. Paul was awestruck by God’s masterful plan to lead multitudes to see their need for His mercy and thus to cause His entire family to walk together with love energized by gratitude and humility. Paul cried out, “Oh, the depths of the wisdom and knowledge of God!” His judgments, ways, or plans for history are unsearchable and are past finding—thus they cannot be understood merely by human logic but only as He gives His people insights by the Word and the Spirit. His plans and ways are multi-dimensional. I like to say that the Lord plays “10-dimensional chess.”

³³Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! ³⁴For who has known the mind of the LORD? (Rom. 11:33-34)
- B. ***Oh, the depths (11:33)***: If we are not awestruck with God’s plan for Israel and the nations as set forth in Romans 9-11, then we do not yet understand it properly.
- C. ***His ways are unsearchable and past finding out (11:33)***: The Lord’s plans, judgments, and ways are far too complex to grasp by human logic alone. We only see a small part of God’s ways. God’s ways cannot be found out by human logic alone because He hides them.
- D. ***Who has known the mind of the LORD? (11:34)***: Paul’s point in 11:34 is that no one adequately understands the multi-level plans that God is unfolding among Israelis and the Palestinians. Nobody understands it clearly enough to proclaim how justice should be administered or to adjudicate it (that is to make a formal judgment or decision about the problems that they are disputing).

1. I believe that there are very few people on the earth who have more than 10% of the necessary info of the whole story to determine what measure of guilt that each nation and government is responsible for. Consider that in the last few decades there are thousands of decisions that have been made that include many lies and deceitful schemes in context to numerous financial and political agreements made by government officials or business leaders on both sides so that no one is able to adjudicate the situation in a way that fully agrees with God.
 2. Yet some in the body of Christ argue about which side has more fault and guilt though few have more that 10% of the necessary information to say what God’s justice requires to set things right.
 3. Why do we imagine that we can clearly understand how God sees the guilt and responsibility of each person and political party that contributed to the conflict in the Middle East? Why are so many so bold in asserting their own arguments when they have so little of the “total information” that God has.
 4. I encourage believers not to engage in arguments based on partial info. I want to say clearly that over the years many in Israel have sinned in their treatment of Palestinians. And, many Palestinians have sinned greatly in their treatment of the Jewish people. America and England have also sinned and contributed in causing pain for both Israelis and Palestinians.
 5. In my opinion, one of the main conversations that the Spirit is emphasizing is the Lord’s zeal: to rescue the body of Christ in America from the spirit of Laodicean compromise to get us ready for a third great awakening.
 6. We must not be so pro-Israel that we dismiss the pain and suffering that many Palestinian families feel. Some think that because they love Jesus’ purposes for Israel then they are mandated to prove that what Israel’s government does is almost always right.
- E. The question we must ask is, “What does *standing for Israel* mean?” We stand for Jesus’ leadership of Israel and the biblical narrative for Israel. I do not believe it is helpful to engage in the social arguments about who is “more at fault”— Israel or Palestine? It is not about insisting on the righteousness of Israel’s government and their policies. All governments are corrupt.
- F. I am guessing that only about 10% of the Palestinians and Israelis approve of doing bad things. I assume that 90% of them do not want trouble. I assume that most Muslims and Jews are like Laodicean church— I imagine that there are “Laodicean Muslims” and “Laodicean Jews.”

III. GOD’S GRAND FAMILY PLAN

- A. God’s grand family plan has always been to lead history so that His people in all nations love each other and walk in deep unity (Jn. 17:21). This unity will be fully manifested in the Millennium.

21...that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us...23 may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me...
(Jn. 17:21-23)

- B. God’s family plan is that all His people relate as an *international family of affection* that is filled with love, empowered by gratitude and humility, as One New Man (Eph. 2:15).

15So as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace... (Eph. 2:15)

- C. God’s long-term goal includes what I call: “His grand family plan.” Before Genesis 1, He determined many details about His plans but kept it “a mystery”—hidden even from the angels (Eph. 3:9-10).

4...[that] you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ, 5which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men...6that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel...8To me...this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles...9to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God...10to the intent that the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities...in the heavenly places.
(Eph. 3:4-10)

- D. He determined to pick a man from the nations—Abraham. Over 4,000 years his offspring grew to include millions. Among his offspring would be long-lasting family conflict between the children of Isaac, Ishmael, Jacob, and Esau. The conflict was inevitable since all humans are sinful (Rom. 3:9).

- E. God’s family plan includes His unique blessing and favor on Abraham and his offspring through Isaac and Jacob—referred to historically as Israel. They stumbled in spiritual pride with a sense of superiority over Gentiles due to misunderstanding their unique national favor with God.

1. Many of their family members through Ishmael and Esau—some Arabs and Egyptian—have struggled with rejection, jealousy, and anger toward Israel.
2. God will heal Abraham’s family on a global stage, resulting in many walking in humility and gratitude. God’s family plan was in place long before He visited Abraham. The Lord picked a man knowing that his offspring would sin with pride in having God’s favor.

- F. In Romans 12:1-2, Paul says “therefore” or “in light of” God’s mercy seen in Romans 11:30-34, let us be transformed by renewing our mind to the divine narrative that Paul set forth in Romans 11.

1I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God [referred to in 11:30-32] that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God...2And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind [God’s narrative about Israel], that you may prove what is that good...and perfect will [plan] of God. (Rom. 12:1-2)

IV. WHY WILL THE LORD GIVE SO MUCH POWER TO EVIL LEADERS?

- A. God will give much power to evil leaders. Why? To create the context to expose deep darkness and the sinfulness of all involved—Jews and Gentiles— individuals and national governments.
- B. The Lord will allow the conflict to come to fullness to create the optimum context for His family love to be displayed on a global level as Jesus prayed in John 17:21-23. The Lord will move in such great power to cause millions of Gentiles living in the Middle East to be so empowered with the love of Jesus that they would even risk their lives to reveal God’s love to unbelieving Israel.
- C. God will allow Satan’s rage (Rev. 12:13-17), the jealousy of angry, racist Gentiles (Ps. 2:1-2, 6), and the pride of Israel to come to fullness. His unsearchable plan and ways include allowing things to come to fullness. He will give power and money to the bad guys. He will give the Antichrist tremendous power and wealth so much so that many nations will unify around his evil plans. The Lord gave oil to Saudi Arabia knowing that the nations would choose money from oil over Israel.
- D. Lord wants unbelieving Israel in such a place of absolute helplessness and weakness so that nobody will be able to deliver Israel except for Him—so Israel and all the nations would know the Lord.

¹¹“...these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!’ ...¹³Then you shall know that I am the LORD...” (Ezek. 37:11-13)

⁷For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob’s trouble. (Jer. 30:7)

⁷He [an angel]...swore...that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time [3½ years]; and when the power of the holy people [Israel] has been completely shattered... (Dan. 12:7)

V. THE ISSUE THAT OFFENDS PEOPLE IS GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY

- A. People are offended by God’s sovereignty. The issue is God’s sovereignty. He picked one man to be the host people, to be stewards over that nation, as the context for Jerusalem. So whatever person God chose, the others would have been against them. He picked Abraham who lived in the land that is modern-day Iraq. The nations would be against any family line that God picked. If the Lord had picked an Asian, or African, or Latino, that nation would have stumbled in pride because of the unusual divine favor on them, and Satan and the nations would hate them like they hate Israel today.
- B. He chose a man and made a covenant with him to give him many offspring who would continue as a nation forever, giving them a land that would include Jerusalem as the eternal headquarters of the earth. God’s favor on Israel includes giving them supernatural power to make wealth (Deut. 8:18).

- C. God will allow sin to escalate globally in the end times and then will deliver His people in a way that Israel and Gentiles will walk in love, energized forever by gratitude and humility. The body of Christ will not get there by accusing and arguing with others about Israel and the Palestinians but only by prayer, kindness, and conversation around the beauty of Jesus.
- D. God owns the whole earth, not just the land of Israel. He can give the land to whomever He wants, and He can drive those same people out of the land because of their sin and arrogance and allow others to live in it. God has the authority to determine to restore Israel to statehood, as in 1948. One reason is for them to be the context for the global conflict that will lead to Israel’s national salvation and to the joining of Jews and Arabs—thus, healing the family of Abraham on a global stage.
- E. The main subject is not Israel nor the body of Christ but that the glory and beauty of God be put on display so that all nations would see God’s love and walk in gratitude and humility, trusting Jesus’ excellent leadership. The enemy doesn’t want that to be the main storyline, but it is.
- F. God chose to display His glory in the earth in the salvation of Israel. He wants Israel to know that it was not for the sake of their national name and reputation that He would restore them (Ezek. 36:22). He was doing it to show His beauty and love to all the nations so they also would have confidence to embrace His leadership and salvation.

21 But I had concern for My holy name...22 “Therefore say to the house of Israel..., ‘I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name’s sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went. 23 And I will sanctify My great name...the nations shall know that I am the LORD...when I am hallowed in you before their eyes.’” (Ezek. 36:21-23)

- G. Then He chose Gentile believers to reveal His love to unbelieving Israel. The end result will be God’s family of several billion people walking in humility and gratitude for many billions of years. His grand family plan will then be vindicated as part of the mystery of God (Eph. 3:5-10).
- H. The main subject related to the biblical narrative of Israel is not Israel but the riches of God’s love, wisdom, and mercy. Some make it about Israel, while others make it about the Church. Paul was not zealous about God’s plan for Israel because he was a Jewish nationalist but because he was consumed with zeal for God’s glory.

VI. FOUR WAYS IN WHICH SIN WILL BE OPENLY EXPRESSED IN FULLNESS (DAN. 8:23)

- A. Paul saw the glory of God in the Lord using sinful, arrogant people (Israel) being attacked by other sinful, arrogant nations (Gentiles)—the conflict will be turned around to display the beauty of Jesus. Who would think of such a plan? Only the God who would send His Son to die for the nations.
- B. The closer we get to the return of the Lord the more these four sinful issues will come to fullness.

²³“*And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king [the Antichrist] shall arise, having fierce features...*” (Dan. 8:23)

¹⁸Another angel...saying, “*Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes [sinful ways] are fully ripe.*” ¹⁹So the angel thrust his sickle...and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. (Rev. 14:18-19)

- C. **#1 Satan’s rage:** His rage will increase in an unprecedented way and be displayed openly in the nations. One of the reasons that Satan hates Israel is because of God’s sovereign favor on them.

¹²...*Woe to the inhabitants of the earth...for the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.*” ¹³Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, *he persecuted the woman [remnant of Israel] who gave birth to the male Child [Jesus].* (Rev. 12:12-13)

- D. **#2 Israel’s pride and rebellion:** Israel’s sin will come to fullness as will the sin of the Gentiles. Israel’s prideful sense of superiority over Gentile nations is in part related to having received an unusual measure of divine favor as a nation. It is normal for humans to have pride when receiving God’s favor in unique way. Any nation would be the same if God chose them.

1. Paul spoke of having a thorn in the flesh to humble him since he had received favor and abundant revelations from God (2 Cor. 12:7).

⁷*And lest I should be exalted...by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted... (2 Cor. 12:7)*

2. The Lord promised to give Israel the power to make wealth (Deut. 8:18). This is a great promise, but it had a downside: some nations became jealous, leading to intense conflict.

¹⁸*You shall remember the LORD...it is He who gives you power to get wealth... (Deut. 8:18)*

- E. **#3 Gentile jealousy:** Satan has exploited the jealousy of the Gentile nations related to God’s favor on Israel. This is seen even in the descendants of Abraham’s family line through Ishmael and Esau.

- F. **#4 Arrogance in the body of Christ:** I am deeply concerned with what Paul called arrogance among Gentile believers (Rom. 11:18, 20, 25). Some of the zeal behind replacement theology is rooted in an unperceived spiritual pride. One besetting sin of the Church is related to receiving God’s favor—this is parallel to Israel’s arrogance for receiving favor—Jews and Gentiles are similar in this.

¹⁸...*do not boast against the branches...* ²⁰*Do not be haughty, but fear...* ²⁵*I do not desire... that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion...* (Rom. 11:18-20, 25)

- G. **Social pressure related to unusual laws:** The Lord gave Israel laws related to the observances of special days, clothing, diet, etc.—the Lord had many purposes in giving Israel these laws yet some of them seem unusual to Gentiles and result in Israel bearing increased pressure in the nations.
1. These laws helped Israel to stick together in the Diaspora, but they also identified the Jewish people in society and made them easier targets for jealous, angry Gentiles to attack them.
 2. There are social dynamics to some of these laws—such as some Jews relating only to other Jews and not to Gentiles. This has resulted in more attacks coming from jealous Gentiles.
 3. God blessed Israel with economic favor, yet He forbade doing business on the sabbath. This has angered some Gentiles who saw this as hindering their own personal economic interests.

VII. DIVINE CHECKMATE

- A. The Lord purposely put Himself in what I call “divine checkmate.” The Lord promised Abraham that forever He would make his descendants (Israel) the most powerful nation *politically* and the most influential nation *spiritually*, leading the nations to love and obey the Lord (Jesus). Thus, Israel would be the most powerful nation politically and spiritually.
- B. God put Himself in a seemingly impossible situation by promising both that Israel, the nation that would *hate Jesus the most*, would become the nation that loves Jesus the most and will lead all the Gentile nations to love and obey Jesus (during the Millennium) and that Israel as the nation that is *most hated in the earth* and *most threatened with annihilation* would become the nation that is most loved and most powerful and secure on the earth (Isa. 62:7).
1. Jesus prophesied that Israel would hate Him (Jn. 15:25; 16:2-3).
²⁵“***But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their [Israel’s] law, ‘They [Israel] hated Me without a cause.’*” (Jn. 15:25)
²***They [Israel] will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. ³And these things they [Israel] will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.* (Jn. 16:2-3)****
 2. Israel will love Jesus (Deut. 30:6) and will lead the nations to love Him (Isa. 2:3; Zech. 8:23).
³“***God will bring you back from captivity...⁶God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants to love the LORD your God with all your heart...*” (Deut. 30:3, 6)
³***Many people [the nations] shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD [Jerusalem]...He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.* (Isa. 2:3)
²²***Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem...*
²³“***In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a*********

*Jewish man, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”
(Zech. 8:22-23)*

3. All nations will gather in rage against Jerusalem prior to Jesus’ return (Ps. 2:2, 6; Zech. 14:2).

²I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity... (Zech. 14:2)

4. Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, will become the most loved city in the earth (Isa. 62:7; 66:10).

⁷And give Him no rest till...He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. (Isa. 62:7)

¹⁰“Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all you who love her...¹¹that you may feed and be satisfied...and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.” (Isa. 66:10-11)

C. The Lord’s national promises to Israel concerning her political and spiritual leadership of the nations will seem impossible to accomplish in light of the end-time hostile developments related to Israel. The Lord purposefully allowed seemingly hopeless situations to develop so that He may preserve them and openly display His power so that flesh should glory only in the Lord.

²⁷God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen weak things...to put to shame the mighty...²⁹that no flesh should glory in His presence...

³¹that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the LORD.” (1 Cor. 1:27-31)

D. England committed to seeing the re-establishing of the state of Israel. The Balfour Declaration issued on November 2, 1917 by the British government announced support for the establishment of a “national home for the Jewish people” in Palestine.

E. Twenty years later, in 1938, an American company discovered oil in Saudi Arabia. It was identified as the largest source of **petroleum** in the world. The discovery radically changed the physical, human, and political geography of Saudi Arabia, the Middle East, and the world. Then the UK and other nations choose to stand against Israel and to partner with the Arabs for financial gain related to their oil rather than to stand with Israel. It was not an accident that God put the oil there.

F. The Lord put the oil in Ishmael’s land so that at the end of the age they would have the political and military advantage due to the economics that come as a result of having so much oil.

VIII. THE VALLEY OF DECISION (JOEL 3:14)

- A. Joel prophesied that multitudes across the nations will be in “the valley of decision” (Joel 3:14). “The decision” referred to by Joel includes the body of Christ agreeing to partner with Jesus’ leadership in bringing the truth about the love and salvation of the God of Israel to unbelieving Israel—even at the cost of their lives—in context to international hatred and oppression of Israel.
- ¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. (Joel 3:14)***
- B. The whole earth will face a “valley of decision.” Nobody will escape it. God’s Word insists that the Church stand with God’s purposes for Israel. This is not optional but rather is a *litmus test* of the Church’s obedience to Jesus’ leadership, especially in the end times. We love Jesus; therefore, we want to embrace what He values and love what He loves.
- C. There will be economic laws in all the nations that will be enforced, even in the most remote distant islands. These laws will require verification by “a mark” proving that each person who wants to buy or sell (Rev. 13:17) supports the Antichrist’s global government and policies against Israel.
- ¹⁶He causes all...rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark...¹⁸his number is 666. (Rev. 13:16-18)***
- D. There will be a rage against Israel that will surpass the hatred of the Nazis. God’s grand family plan is to have hundreds of millions in the body of Christ who will stand with Israel. He has called the international body of Christ to partnership with Him in this noble plan. Many believers will lose their life in the process but will be grateful forever for the privilege to participate with Him in this.
- ⁴¹So they departed...rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. (Acts 5:41)***
- ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. (Rom. 8:18)***
- E. The consequences of churches not training their people in God’s end-time purpose for Israel is that their children and grandchildren will have no biblical foundation to stand for Israel. Rather, they will draw back them in that day instead of being part of God’s plan to reveal of His love and mercy to Israel.