

**STORY OF THE JEW
WONDER OF HISTORY**

His Preservation One of the Most Remarkable Phenomena of the Centuries.

A PATRIOT IN EVERY LAND

Despite Age-Long Persecution, He is Indestructible—Eminent in Peace and War. Says Dr. Purvis, A Presbyterian Minister.

(The Rev. Dr. Samuel W. Purvis, in The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin) Text: And I will bless them that bless thee and curse them that curse thee; and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. Gen. 12:3. What advantage then hath the Jew? Much every way, Rom. 3:12.

Our Jewish friends are now observing their New Year—the 5681st. The period includes the fast of Gualdalah and culminates in Yom Kippur, the most solemn Day of Atonement, next Wednesday.

As a man of affairs, I want to stop and take notice of one of the most remarkable phenomena of the centuries—the preservation and indestructibility of the Jewish race. Here is a marvelous thing—a bush is burning and is not consumed! "Show me a miracle," said Frederick the Great to his chaplain. "Sire, it is the Jews," answered the man of God. As an ambassador of God, I, too, in a labor of love, would stoop and pay a tribute of appreciative recognition to this wonderful people to whom you and I are indebted for so many things, not the least of which is the fundamentals of our own Christian religion.

At the world's a stage whereon not only individuals but nations and races are players. Every nation has played some part, great or small. Each one has had its message for the centuries in which it lived. Rome gave government; Greece, culture; Phoenicia, commerce; the Jew has carried monotheism, the worship of a single God, through the ages. He has played his part and played it well. Where he has faltered or blundered he always paid a fearful penalty. I know of no other that has suffered so much and survived.

When the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed the Jew became a wanderer, a man without a country. There isn't a continent there isn't a nation upon the face of the earth of which he is not an inhabitant. Innumerable forces of history through many ages have helped to form his destiny. His story is at once the miracle and the romance of human history. None can blot him out, Babylonian captivity, Roman domination, Grecian absorption, mediaeval persecution, modern massacre, have been in vain. Talk about the splendid line of Roman pontiffs—the Jew has outlived Egypt, Chaldea, Assyria, Persia and the dynasties of the past. While our fathers were savages living on roots in the forest or gnawing a bone in a cave his were Princes in the house of King David. He of today is nothing more or less than a child of his great yesterday. Though removed from his Asiatic origin well-nigh 2,000 years, there's a queer dualism which makes him a creature old and new. He has one foot on the soil of antiquity, the other rests on the foreground of today. His profile is that of Ur of Chaldea, but in Russia his features are Russian, in Italy Italian, in Spain Spanish. There are 50,000 black Jews in Abyssinia, negro Hebrews, while there are even Chinese Jews who observe all the Jewish religious rites and all their dietary laws—yet they have the almond eyes, the flat noses and the yellow skin of Mongolians.

In the fiery furnace. The three Hebrew children in the fiery furnace were forerunners. In the sixteenth century in Venice was begun the concentration camp known as the Ghetto. Back of the old ghetto, or iron foundry, the Jew had to live in a restricted district. The name was gradually applied to the Jewish quarter of every city. In each city. In each ghetto he developed a life of his own—religion, custom, literature, tradition, song pleasure—all his own.

During those Middle Ages he was persecuted relentlessly, bitterly. It wouldn't surprise me if that mediaeval life had not left an indelible impress on him. That past, indeed his any past, is not a mere memory to be cherished and revered, but a hideous, living, ever-present experience, burned on his consciousness. Is he "peculiar"? If he is, circumstances have made him so. Suppose we had taken a few hundred thousand people of any nation 2,000 years ago, set them apart to live in restricted districts, forced them to wear a distinctive garb, forbidden them to engage in agriculture, limited their usefulness to particular trades, only in rarest cases allowed to own property, many other things prohibited under pain of death—wouldn't any people become "peculiar"? Would it be wondered at if long-continued persecution would leave them suspicious? The constant menace of the proselyter would make them no less fearsome than the torture chamber itself—they would soon fear the Greek when bearing gifts. Each period of oppression would send him back de-

Indigestion

Many persons, otherwise vigorous and healthy, are bothered occasionally with indigestion. The effects of a disordered stomach on the system are dangerous, and prompt treatment of indigestion is important. "The only medicine I have needed has been something to aid digestion and clean the liver," writes Mr. Fred Ashby, a McKinney, Texas, farmer. "My medicine is

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grades, grieved and bewildered. In spite of all this he has developed a marvelous love for his stepmotherlands. The Jew has always been a patriot of the land which gave him birth. He quickly adapts himself to the country that gives him food and shelter. He soon finds himself. Given the opportunity, he perfects himself in science, music, painting, sculpture, literature, philosophy, sociology, philanthropy, medicine, mathematics, history, astronomy. In all he gave his best, frequently in return he was refused civil privilege, political office, military honor. Their hands were tied and they were blamed for not using them! Persecution, fire, sword, rack and dungeon were his reward. Captive children, murdered men, ravished women were considered his birthright. How loyal he is may be seen in the strife of the Great War. In England eight per cent. of the Jews enlisted to six per cent. of non-Jews. America sent between 200,000 and 225,000 into all branches of the service. Their quota, being about 3 per cent. of the population, they exceeded by one-third. Of the 800 citations for valor, 174 won the Croix de Guerre, 130 the Distinguished Service Cross, three the U. S. Congressional Medal of Honor, our highest gift and two the rare French Medaille Militaire. Their casualties were about 18,000. Three thousand five hundred laid down their lives by the side of their non-Jewish comrades under the poppies of Flanders. They, too, had a rendezvous with death. Honor to them! In the great conflict on all sides one twentieth of the Jews of the world fought with nothing to gain but the opportunity of killing their own martyred race!

The Melting Pot.

America spells opportunity for the Jew. Some one has said: "In this melting pot the Jew will be lost—he is losing rapidly through intermarriage, modernism and infidelity." No. He will not be lost. If he will only be true to his ancient landmarks he will find himself. You see, he belongs here as surely as the rest of us. He came with Columbus. There were five Jews in the fleet. Rodrigo Sanchez was the overseer of the crew. Luis de Torres was the interpreter. They were of the first to behold and set foot on the new promised land. Abraham and Columbus were men who pioneered westward, not knowing whither. If as is said, Columbus' mother was Suzanne Fonterosa, a Jewess, then Columbus was a fine successor to Abraham. There is no discovery without faith both were men of faith. Who can tell whether the hand that has guided the Jew westward, from the Euphrates to the Jordan, from the Jordan to the Nile, from the Nile to the Tiber, from the Tiber to the Guadalquivir, did not also lead him across the Atlantic that he might under God's sun, in a land of freedom, live where he chooses; worship as he desires; no ghetto to wall in him, no restriction to fetter his feet, no tribunal to cow his spirit; free to develop his highest faculties, and in return give the best that is in him to make America the hope of a struggling world? I believe. America's noble treatment of the Jew is graven on his heart. He is of a race capable of splendid sentiment and great gratitude. Time will never efface it.

The Jewish Old Testament literature molded Puritan thought. It was the Jew who loaned Washington \$600,000 to finance the Valley Forge campaign. The inscription on the Liberty Bell in our fair city is taken from the Jewish Bible. Lincoln's addresses show his inspiration from Jewish Elijah. What a coincidence that the Lincoln penny, the coin of the little child and the common people, is a product of a Jewish designer—Victor D. Brenner. In America the Jew is a patriot without a hyphen. They have never tried to form a "Jewish vote" at election time. He is the average citizen,

reaching the heights and depths of human possibility. He is as rich as Dives or as poor as Lazarus. He is Kavi capitolist. He is Felix Adler the law-abiding or, "Ikey the Gunman." He is a Shylock or Baron de Hirsch. He is a wanderer, and yet he clings to the pale. He is homeless, yet he owns Broadway. The Jew at the lowest was Judas—at the highest he was Jesus.

An American Jew New York. Not in Judea, but in New York, is the real Jerusalem.

If there are 15,000,000 Jews in the world, America has about 3,000,000, of which about 1,500,000 are in and about Greater New York. In that city every sixth person you meet is a son of Israel, while on Manhattan Island the proportion is one to four. About one-third of the student body of Co-

lumbia University is Jewish, the City College is nearly 97 per cent. New York has the largest high school in the world—the Washington Irving—practically all of its 6,000 pupils are Jewish. The New York telephone director shows sixteen columns of Cohens and but fourteen of Smiths. In Philadelphia there are two and one-half columns of Cohens to eleven of Smiths. There was a time, a generation ago, when New York was Roman Catholic—today it is Jewish! There is not a Christian church on the east side but there are 360 synagogues!

Will the Jew go back to Jerusalem? Never, except as a tourist. America is the Jew's Palestine, and Washington, D. C., his Zion. I suspect that if you plant the blue and white flag of Zion-

(Continued on page five)

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