



# **THE FUTURE TODAY!**

**Prophecy Meetings**

## **Why does the world hate Israel?**

**Revelation 12:1-17**

**Sermon given on June 11, 2023**



**Sunday Afternoon Service**

**Pastor Rick Lancaster**

# Why does the world hate Israel?

## *Revelation 12:1-17*

### Opening Comments

- Welcome to the **FUTURE TODAY** prophecy meeting.
- As a church, we stand with Israel.
- We believe what God's Word says about them – they are His chosen people.
- He has made eternal promises to them that no one can cancel or override.
- Throughout our history, the US has had varied positions as it relates to Israel.
- We have been allies and friends to them.
- Recently, the US has been less faithful to Israel.
- Some nations, like Iran, are openly hostile toward Israel.
- They openly call for the complete destruction of the Jewish nation and all Jewish people.
- Something we hear about regularly is Iran's development as a nuclear power.
- Israel is convinced that if Iran is allowed to develop nuclear weapons, they will use them against Israel.
- Iran is not alone in its hatred of Israel.
- Many nations are openly hostile toward Israel.
- Why would the world hate Israel the way it does?
- Turn to **Revelation 12**
- Israel is a tiny nation – about the size of New Jersey.
- Since 1948 when they reformed as a nation, God has blessed them abundantly.
- Less than a decade before that the Nazis tried to annihilate them in the Holocaust.
- Hatred of the Jews has a long history, but why? Where does it come from?
- We see the answer to that in a vision the Apostle John gets while in exile on the Isle of Patmos.
- **Revelation 12:1-2**

- Comparing this to a dream Joseph had in Genesis 37 we know that the sun = Jacob, the moon = Rachel, and the 12 stars = Jacob's 12 sons.
- The woman then, is Israel. She is with child.
- **Revelation 12:3-6**
- The great, fiery red dragon is Satan.
- He sought to devour the Child as He was being born.
- Notice, the word Child is capitalized.
- God promised a Savior to the nation of Israel – the Messiah.
- That Savior Messiah was born out of the nation of Israel to the virgin Mary – they called Him Jesus.
- Satan attempted to kill the Child as a newborn babe by moving Herod to kill all the boys in Bethlehem.
- Satan has sought to destroy the work of the Messiah ever since.
- In fact, since the Fall in the Garden he has been seeking to destroy the promised Messiah.
- **Revelation 12:13-17**
- 'the dragon (Satan) was enraged with the woman (Israel).
- The world's hatred of Israel is a manifestation of Satan's hatred of Israel.
- The fact that Israel exists as the Chosen People of God is infuriating to Satan.
- They represent God's unfailing love and unbreakable promises.
- Satan hates God because God gets what Satan desires more than anything else – worship.
- Satan wants to be worshipped like God is worshipped.
- In fact, he wants a throne higher than God's.
- He will never get it and he knows that and it makes Him hate God and His people that much more.
- We should note that Satan hates 'the rest of her offspring' which also includes us.
- As a church, we do stand and will continue to stand with Israel.
- Turn to **2 Corinthians 3**
- That doesn't mean we agree with everything they say or do.
- They are God's chosen people but most of them are spiritually far from God.

- They rejected their long-awaited Messiah – Christ Jesus.
- Because of that rejection they view spiritual things as through a veil
- **2 Corinthians 3:12-17**
- And not just spiritual things.
- Because they are far from God spiritually, they are making decisions that are contrary to God and His will.
- As a nation, they are becoming more liberal, much like our own nation.
- God has a plan to bring them back into right worship at the end of the Tribulation Period.
- Until then God's people must stand with Israel.
- When we say we stand with Israel, we are saying we believe in their right to exist and their absolute right to dwell in the land God promised them.
- As long as Israel exists, Satan is going to hate them.
- His hate will be communicated through other nations, groups, and people who have rejected God and are opposed to His righteous will.
- In addition to the outright hostility, there are other forces at work.
- BDS – Boycott, divestment, and sanctions is an effort to isolate Israel from the rest of the world.
- Until Christ, the Prince of Peace and the King of kings returns and defeats Satan once and for all, the world will continue to hate Israel.
- Pray for them as a people and as a nation.
- Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, Israel's capital.
- Pray that some would respond to the gospel and receive their Messiah Christ Jesus.
- Pray that Israel's government would humble themselves before God and seek His will and righteousness.
- Pray that our government would seek Israel's good and stand with her.
- Israel is the apple of God's eye – He loves her. So should we!
- Pastor Randy will now share!