

Israel hated?

Four facts about Israel - in particular, why she is hated around the world

Israel is fiercely hated by her enemies.

It's a hatred that goes back to ancient times. Has she deserved it? Yes, and no.

First, God told Israel in great detail what would happen if she disobeyed him, and she did disobey. Part of his judgment on her included the fact that she would “become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth” Deuteronomy 28.25. That's the deserved hatred.

But, **second**, God also allows hatred of Israel from an undeserved direction. Satan knew that from Israel would come the One sent by God “to rule all nations” Revelation 12.5. So he has been opposing Israel and her Messiah at every opportunity.

Third, the Messiah “was caught up to God and to his throne.” Revelation 12.5. The psalmist foretold that God would then tell the Messiah, “sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool.” Psalm 110.1 - there are those enemies again! - and Satan guarantees the hatred will continue.

Eventually, however, Israel's Messiah will come to rule the world from Jerusalem (Isaiah 2.3) and at that time Israel will be converted.

Fourth, in the meantime, God tells us to “pray for the peace of Jerusalem” Psalm 122.6. It's our best answer to anti-Semitism.

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Don't forget that the One who is at this very moment at God's right hand in heaven is a Jew.

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