

Israel Today:
Understanding critical issues
Conference
September 10, 2016

Dean Bible Ministries
www.deanbibleministries.org
Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



Zionism:

*Christian and Jewish-
Interdependent,
Interconnected, and
Intertwined*

Questions:

Is the rise of the modern Jewish State of Israel just a chance happening in history, or is there evidence that this is part of the outworking of God's plan?

Isn't this just an example of Christians working to manipulate history so Jesus will return?

Isn't this just an example of self-fulfilling prophecy?

To understand how the miracle of modern Israel was accomplished, we must go back over 300 years to see how God worked behind the scenes to accomplish this miracle, that a nation was born in a day.

This study is designed to show that the rise of Zionism, the impact of Zionism, and the reestablishment of the Jewish State could not possibly be an accident of history.

For centuries, since the Bar Kochba revolt of AD 135, there have been numerous attempts by one group or another to accomplish this dream. But in the God's perfect timing, He used a host of people in different nations—Christians, Jews, and pagan politicians—and brought about a new Jewish State in 1948.

1. God worked through various kings, political leaders, nations, and empires to bring about the return of the Jewish people to Israel.
2. God worked through a variety of Christian leaders in various denominations, nations, and through several centuries to bring about the return of the Jewish people to their historic homeland.
3. God worked through a variety of Jewish leaders, rabbis, visionaries, and politicians to bring about the return of the Jewish people to their historic homeland.

So that in 1948 the restored state of Israel was born.

Replacement Theology and Christian Anti-Semitism

1517

Early and Medieval Church

Modern Church

AD 33 600

Protestant
Reformation

2016

Roman
Catholic

Many other
denominations

Replacement Theology and Christian Anti-Semitism

1517

Early Church	Medieval Church	Protestant
AD 33 150 400	600 Roman Catholic	1640
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mostly literal interpretation:• Israel = ethnic Israel• Church = Church• Future return to Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allegorical interpretation:• Israel = Church in OT• Church = Spiritual Israel• Israel PERMANENTLY REPLACED by the Church• Rise of Christian anti-Semitism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return to literal interpretation:• Israel = ethnic Israel• Church = Church• Future return to Israel• British Restorationism

What is Zionism?

The belief that the Jewish people have a right to their own nation in the land God gave to Abraham.

“Much of Zionism has its roots in Christian rather than Jewish doctrine.”

~Richard Popkin, historian of ideas

Early England Was Pro-Jewish (1066–1144)

- William the Conqueror encouraged Jewish merchants and artisans in N. France to move to England. Jews came from there and Germany, Italy and Spain to escape the anti-Semitism there.
- Jewish communities were established in London, York, Bristol, Canterbury and other key cities. They lived in segregated areas.
- Jews were the bankers and money lenders since usury was prohibited by the Roman Catholic church. However, the king taxed Jewish bankers heavily.

England Became Anti-Semitic (1290–1650s)

- Some persecution existed. The first blood libel charge was brought against Jews in Norwich, 1144, which inspired several anti-Jewish riots.
- The Third Crusade brought increased anti-Semitism in England.
- Following the death of Henry II, who protected the Jews, a riot in York led to the massacre of the Jews there. Richard I found out about this a day later and ordered the Jews protected. Then when he left for the Crusades, the riots broke out again.
- Anti-Semitism increased in England until finally on the 9th of Av (anniversary of the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70) in 1290, Edward I, expelled the Jews; 16,000 left.

The Rise of British Restorationism

**“Starting with the Puritan ascendancy
the movement among the English for the
return of the Jews to Palestine began.”**

~Barbara Tuchman, *The Bible and the Sword*

- ✡ **Reformation: Emphasis on the Bible, *sola Scriptura*.**
- ✡ **Resurrection of the study of the Hebrew language by Protestant Christians.**
- ✡ **Translation of the Bible into English.**
- ✡ **Identification with OT heroes, struggles, and stories.**
- ✡ **Hermeneutics:** A return to a literal hermeneutic meant a literal Kingdom, a literal future for a restored Jewish nation.
- ✡ **English Puritans:** saw the Biblical prophecy of a return of the Jews to their homeland.

CHRISTIAN

“The Reformation in England first turned Jewish eyes towards the land from which they had been so long excluded.”

~Lucien Wolfe, *Manasseh ben Israel*, xv



Sir Henry Finch (1558–1625)

A key proponent for Israel's future restoration, Finch wrote a seminal work on the subject in 1621, called *The World's Resurrection or The Calling of the Jewes. A Present to Judah & the Children of Israel that loyned with Him, & to Joseph (that valiant tribe of Ephraim) & all the House of Israel that loyned with Him.* Finch, at the time of the publication of his book was a member of Parliament & the most highly respected legal scholar in England at the time.



Sir Henry Finch (1558-1625)

“passages which speak of a return of these people to their own land, their conquest of enemies and their rule of the nations are to be taken literally, not allegorically as of the Church.”



Sir Henry Finch (1558-1625)

Where Israel, Iudah,
Tscon, Ierusalem, etc.
are named in this
argument, the Holy
Ghost meaneth not the
spiritual Israel, or
Church of God
collected of the
Gentiles, no, nor of the
Iewes and Gentiles
both (for each of these
have their promises
severally and apart),
but Israel properly
descended
out of Iacobs loynes.

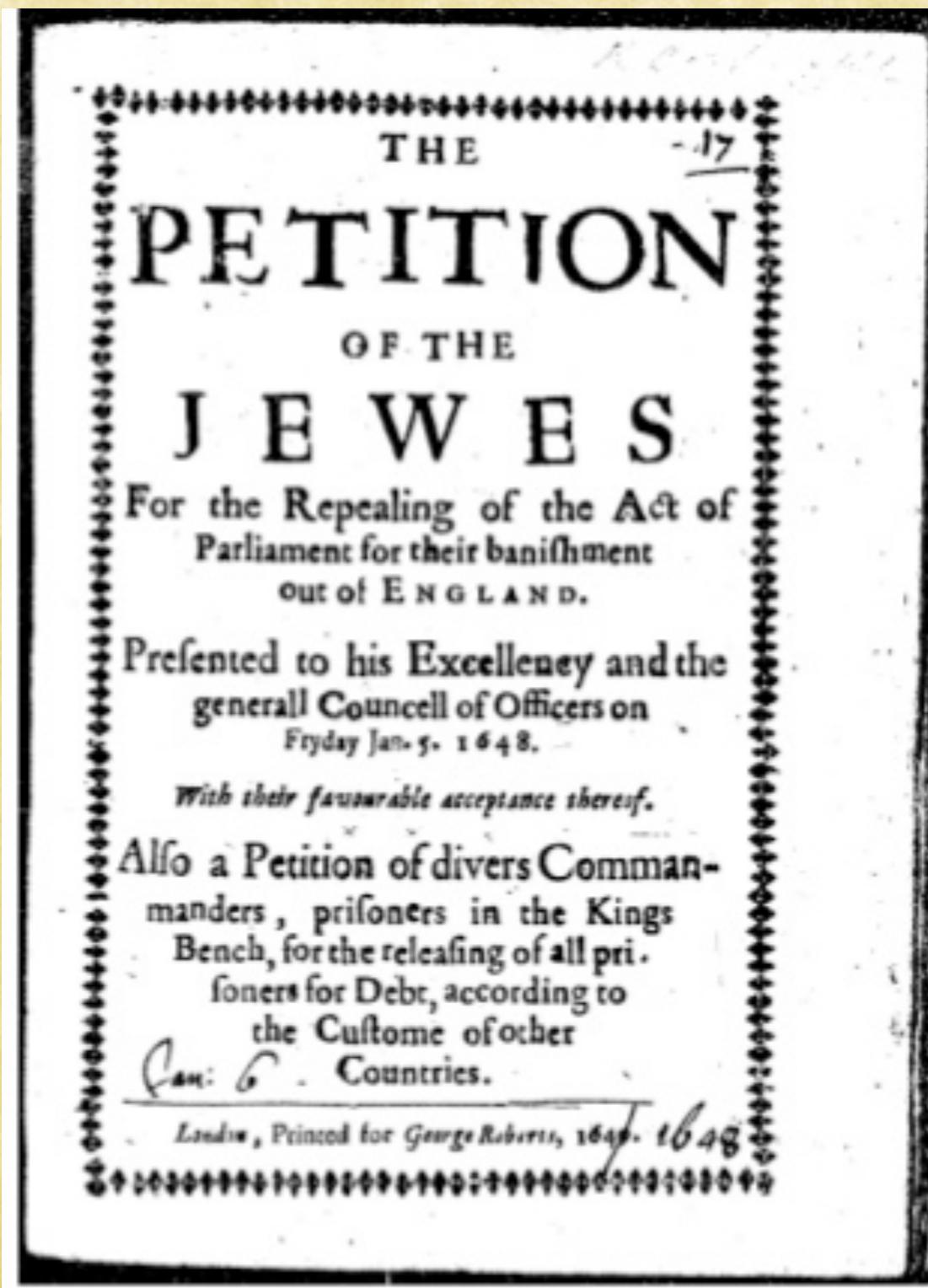
CHRISTIAN: THE BIRTH OF PHILOSEMITISM

“But it was the increasing Hebraism of English thought, as represented by the Puritan movement, which chiefly attracted the Jews ... When the Commonwealth, with its pronounced Judaical tendencies emerged from this movement, the Jews could not fail to be impressed.”

~Wolfe, *Manasseh ben Israel*, xv

Background to the Jewish Situation in England

- 1. 1492–Spain expels Jews**
- 2. Conflicts over religious liberty**
- 3. Increasing publication of restorationist ideas along with calls to readmit Jews to England.**
- 4. Jan. 5, 1649—Johanna and Ebenezer Cartwright petition Parliament to readmit the Jews.**
- 5. Jan. 6, authorization of a High Court of Justice to try Charles I on treason. Petition shelved.**



“The Petition of the Jews for the Repealing of the Act of Parliament for Their Banishment out of England”

... by discourse with them, and serious perusal of the Prophets, both they and we find, that the time herall draweth night; whereby they together with us, shall come to know the Emanuell, the Lord of life, light, and glory; even as we are now known of him, and that this Nation of England, with the inhabitants of the Nertherlands, shall be the first and readiest to transport Izrells Sons & Daughters in their Ships to the Land promised to their fore-Fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, for an everlasting inheritance. [emphasis added]

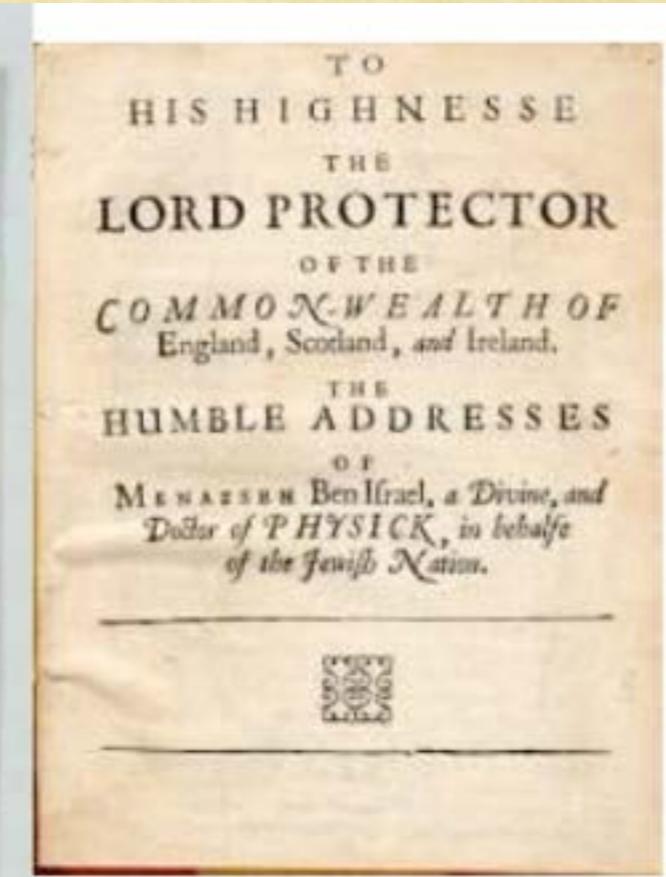
~Cartwright Petition

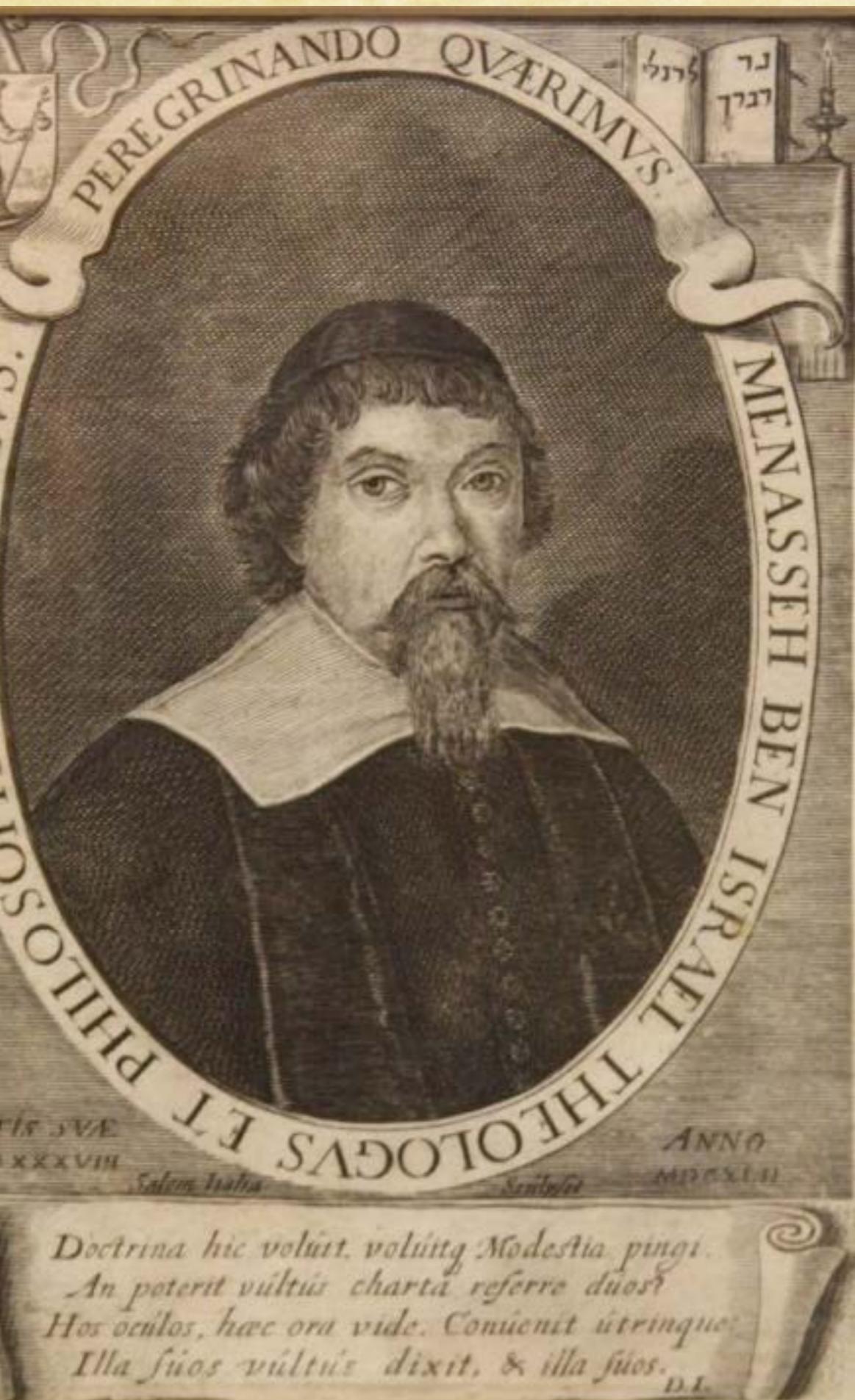
1650 JEWISH

Menasseh Ben Israel in 1650 published *Hope of Israel*, in which he advocated the return of Jews to England as a preliminary to the appearance of the Messiah.

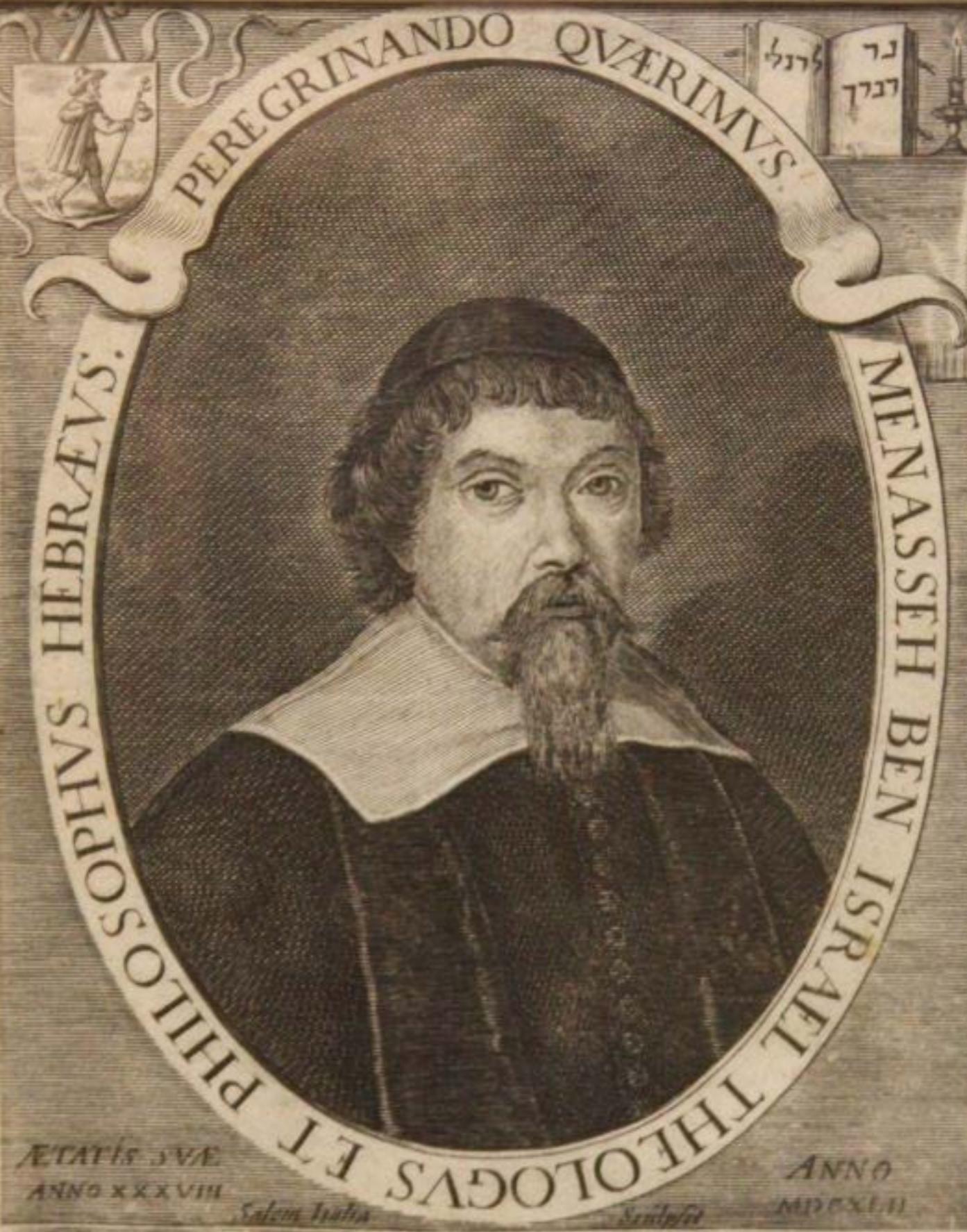


Menasseh ben Israel, Rembrandt





- 1. Ten lost tribes were in America**
- 2. Messiah would not come until the Jews were regathered.**
- 3. Regathering would only come after a complete scattering.**
- 4. England needed to readmit the Jews so the scattering would be complete.**



*Doctrina hic voluit. voluitq; Modestia pingi.
An poterit vultus charta referre duos?
Hos oculos, haec ora vide. Conuenit utrinque:
Illa suos vultus dixit, & illa suos.*

THE HOPE OF ISRAEL

Written
By *MENASSEH BEN ISRAEL*,
An Hebrew Divine, and
Philosopher.

Newly extant, and Printed at *Amsterdam*, and Dedicated by the Author, to
the High Court, the Parliament of *England*,
and to the Councell of State,

The second Edition corrected and amended.

Whereunto are added,
In this second Edition, some Discourses
upon the point of the Conversion of the
JEWES.

By MOSES WALL.

LONDON
Printed by R. I. for *Livewell Chapman* at the
Crowne in *Popes-Head Alley*, 1652.

Menasseh ben Israel (1604–1657)



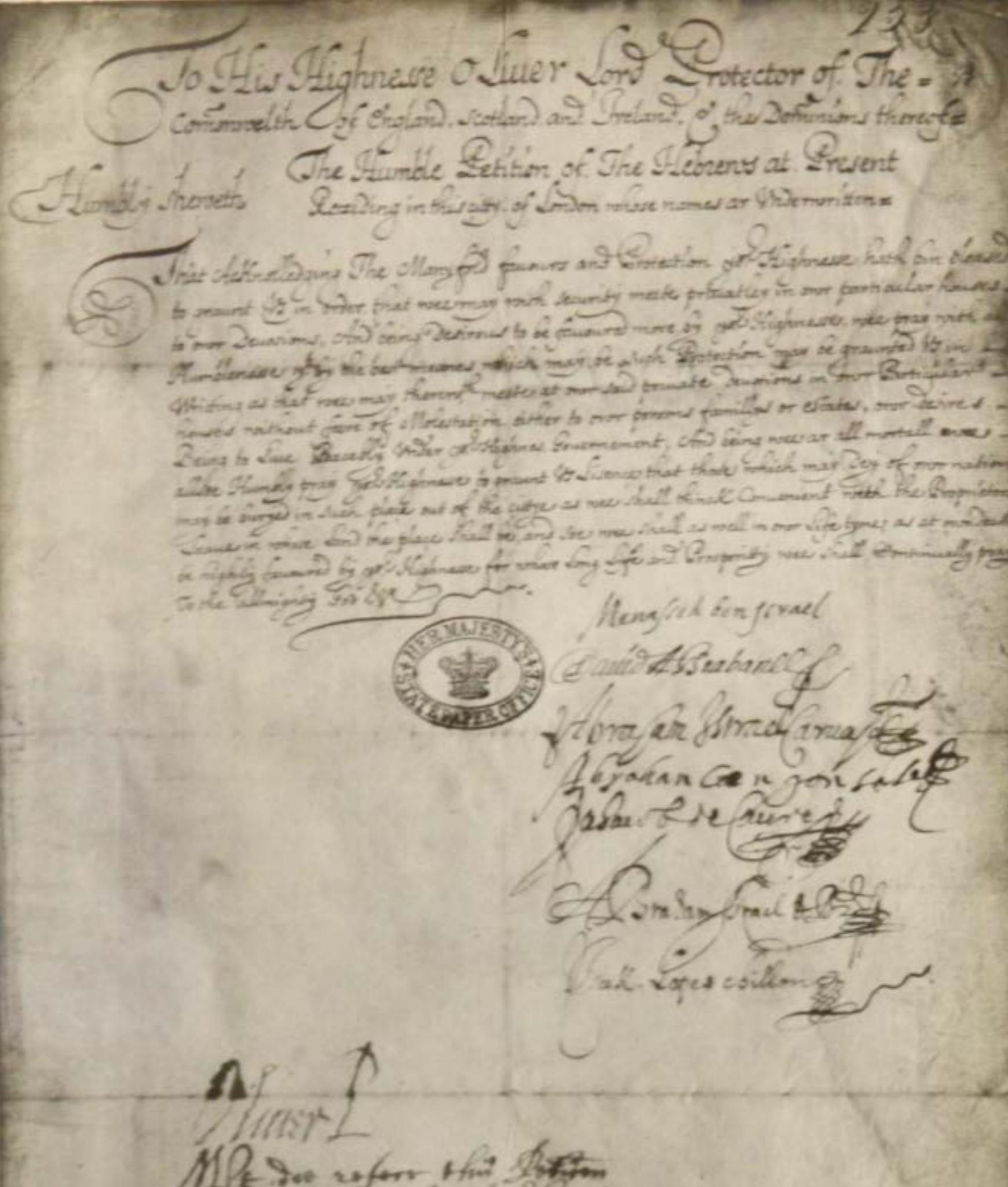
“For, for seven yeares on this behalf, I have endeavoured and solicited it, by letters and other means, without any intervall. For I conceived that our universall dispersion was a necessary circumstance, to be fulfilled before all that shall be accomplished which the Lord hath promised to the people of the Jewes, concerning their restauration,

and their returning again into their own land, according to those words, Dan. 12,7... As also, that this our scattering, by little, and little, should be amongst all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other, as it is written Deut. 28,64: I conceived that by the end of the earth might be understood this Island.”

JEWISH

Petition to Cromwell to Readmit the Jews to England

1655

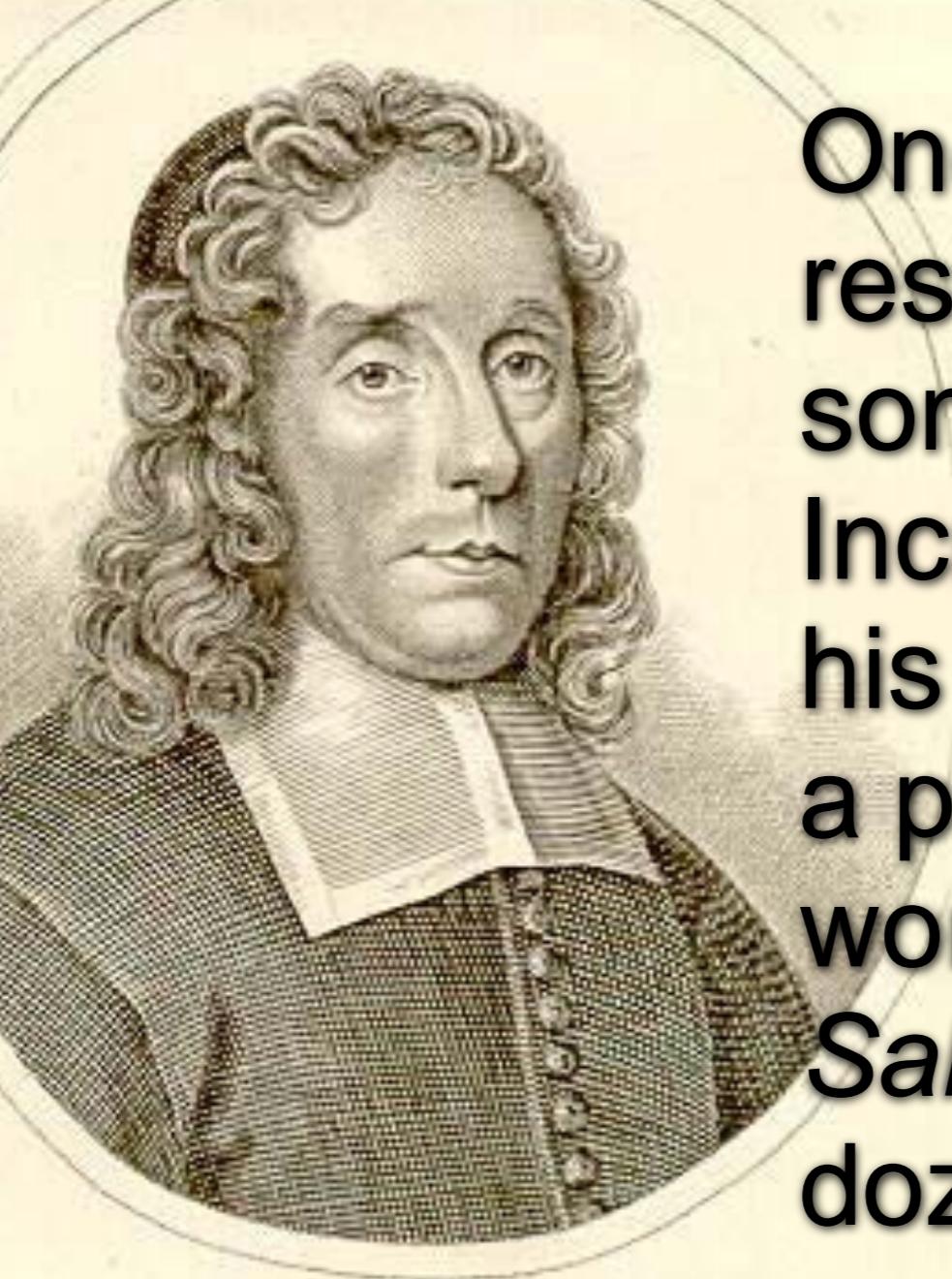


Jewish author of *Menasseh ben Israel*:



“What was it, then, that brought these two different characters so closely together? That the Readmission of the Jews to England was one of Cromwell’s own schemes ... he was the mainspring of the whole movement, and that Menasseh was but a puppet in his hands.”

~Lucien Wolfe



Increase
Mather
(1639–1723)

One of the significant advocates of restoration was **Increase Mather**, son of Richard and father of Cotton. Increase wrote over 125 books in his life that were published and was a president of Harvard. His first work was *The Mystery of Israel's Salvation*, which went through a half dozen revisions during his life. His support of the national restoration of Israel to her land in the future was typical of American Colonial Puritans and was generally widespread.

POLITICAL

1797–1801 Napoleon's Campaigns in the Middle East



Increases French and British presence in the Middle East.



Napoleon reconvened Sanhedrin, 1807.



Speculation about end times increased.



Brits believed they would be used by God to restore the Jews to the land.

JEWISH

Beginnings of Jewish Interest in Restoration

- ★ Until this time, the restoration had to be associated with the coming of Messiah
- ★ David Levi—three-volume *Dissertations on the Prophecies of the Old Testament*
- ★ 1809, Solomon Bennett, *Constancy of Israel*, Messiah not so important for Jews.
- ★ Mordecai Manual Noah, *Discourse at the Congregation Shearith*, April 17, 1818

CHRISTIAN



John Adams

“I really wish the Jews again in Judea, an independent nation, for, as I believe, the most enlightened men of it have participated in the amelioration of the philosophy of the age.”

CHRISTIAN

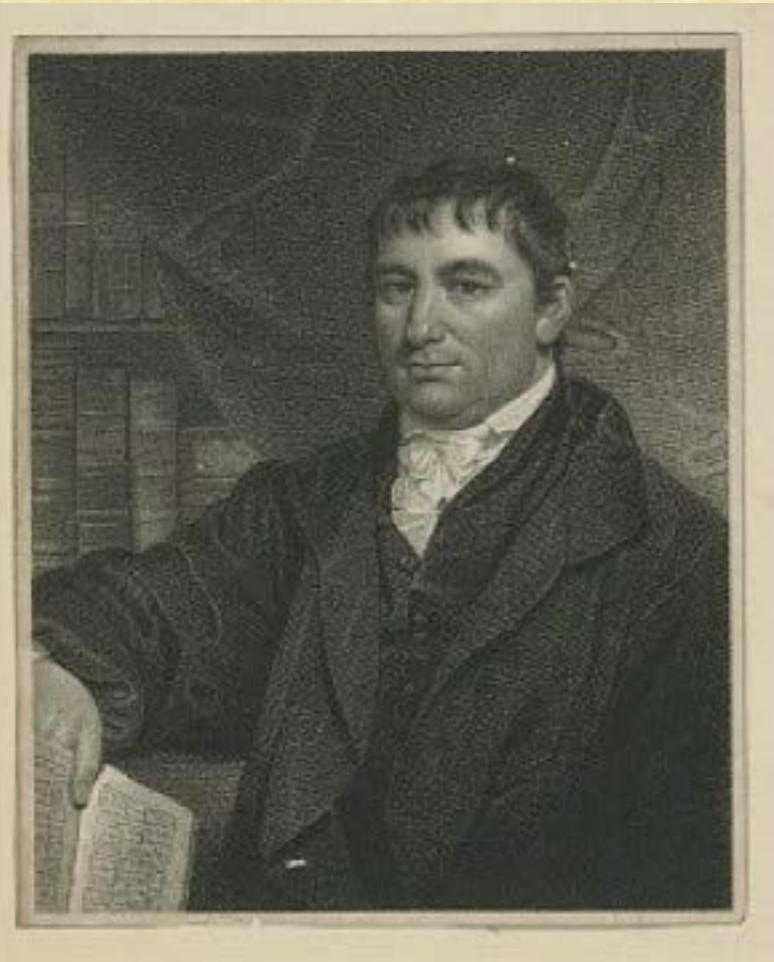
**Rev. James Bicheno
1751–1831**
**Anabaptist pastor of
Newbury published**
***The Signs of the
Times***

“a valuable contribution to Christian pro-Zionist literature. The author is a great believer in the future of Israel and of Palestine, but he looks upon the problem mainly from a religious point of view, though he does not demand any conversion of Jews prior to their Restoration.”

~Nahum Sokolow

CHRISTIAN

British Restoration Movement Ramps Up



Joseph Frey
1771–1850

- ★ 1809 The Society for the Promoting Christianity Among the Jews.
- ★ 1815 Lewis Way travels Europe building support for a Jewish homeland.
- ★ 1822 Joseph Wolff converted in 1812, moves to Jerusalem.
- ★ This leads to the idea of establishing a mission in Jerusalem.

POLITICAL

**1819: Increased persecution in Germany.
Mordecai Noah call for Jews to emigrate to
Palestine**

**1820s: Increased anti-Semitism under
Alexander I, then Nicholas I in Russia
continues policies enforcing a military draft
of young Jewish boys forcing conversions.
This continues until his death in 1855.**

POLITICAL



Ottoman Empire stung by
the Mohammed Ali bee!

1831: rebels against Ottoman Empire

1832: takes Jerusalem, Acre, Damascus, and Aleppo.

1833: permits European missionaries into Holy Land

1839: British consulate opens in Jerusalem; Egypt defeats Ottoman navy.



OTTOMAN EM IN ASIA SINCE 1

English Miles

100 50 0 100

The coloured area represents Ottoman territory

CHRISTIAN/ POLITICAL



**HENRY JOHN TEMPLE, 3RD
VISCOUNT PALMERSTON**

**ANTONY ASHLEY COOPER
7TH EARL OF SHAFTESBURY**



CHRISTIAN

1839



**London Jewish Society (LJS)
Missionary John Nicolayson purchases 2 plots of land which will eventually become location of Christ Church**

JEWISH

Sir Moses Montefiore



“By degrees I hope to induce the return of thousands of our brethren to the Land of Israel.”

May 24th, 1839, Diary entry from Safed.



JEWISH



Judah Alkali

1839 *Darhei No'am* (Pleasant Paths),
he “called upon his fellow Jews to
prepare for the redemption by
prayer and spiritual devotion to
Zion.”

Interprets *teshuvah* “repentance,”
as return to the land.

Jews did not have to wait for
Messiah to return to the land.

1840

- Political:** Feb–Damascus Blood Libel.
- Christian:** Feb–First construction begins at future Christ Church site.
- Jewish:** March–Rabbis ask LJS missionary, Nicolayson, to help with Damascus libel.
- Jewish:** Montefiore goes to Damascus.
- Political:** Druse and Christians revolt against Mehemet.
- Christian:** King William IV Prussia seeks joint protestant bishopric in Jerusalem with England.

1840

Political: England, Russia, Austria, and Prussia issue an ultimatum to Mehemet to withdraw from Syria-Palestine.

Political: British capture Acre and Jaffe. Leads to a British fortification at Acre in support of Ottomans.

“The possession of Acre would open a road for the return of Biblical truth to the land from which that truth had spread to the human race; and Englishmen would feel guilty of sin if they failed to impress upon their Government the need of seizing this glorious and blessed opportunity.”

1840



Sir Henry Churchill

**British Consul in Damascus,
1840**

**Defended Jews against the
blood-libel charge.**

**Proposed a strategy for creating
a Jewish state 50 years before
Herzl.**

**“I cannot conceal from you my
most anxious desire to see your
countrymen endeavour once
more to resume their existence
as a people.”**

CHRISTIAN

1841



**Michael Solomon
Alexander**

A joint venture between the King of Prussia and the Anglican church leads to the anointing of the first Jewish Christian Protestant Bishop of Jerusalem, Michael Solomon Alexander.

POLITICAL



- ✡ Reversed anti-Semitic policies of his father
- ✡ This ushered in the *Haskalah*, period of Jewish enlightenment
- ✡ Ideal of assimilated and secular Jew in Russia
- ✡ Jewish population increased from 2.3 mill in 1850 to 5 mill; 4% of Russian population

Czar Alexander II
1818–1881

- ✡ Assassination in 1881 blamed on Jews; ushered in new era of pogroms

POLITICAL



Czar Alexander III
1845–1894

- ✡ Virulent anti-Semite
- ✡ 1882 anti-Jewish decrees,
“May laws”
- ✡ Closed rural areas to Jewish
settlement forcing them into
urban ghettos
- ✡ Removed Jews from the
professions
- ✡ The government hope was to
cause a third of the Jewish
population to die off

POLITICAL



Czar Alexander III
1845–1894

✡ This disillusioned most of the *Haskelah* leaders, who abandoned hope in assimilation and encouraged *aliyah*.

“Let us go now to the only land in which we will find relief for our souls that have been harassed by murderers for these thousands of years. Our beginnings will be small, but in the end we will flourish.”

~Moshe Lilienblum, Jewish humanist and leading Haskelah writer

CHRISTIAN



William Hechler
1845–1931

- ✡ Father was a missionary with the LJS
- ✡ Reared in a restorationist home; passion for Israel
- ✡ Lifelong desire to bring the Jewish people to Christ
- ✡ 1873 tutor to Grand Duke Frederick of Baden, son of Frederick I, uncle of Kaiser Wilhelm
- ✡ 1880s first British clergy to visit persecuted Jews in Mogilev, Odessa, Kishenev

CHRISTIAN



William Hechler
1845–1931

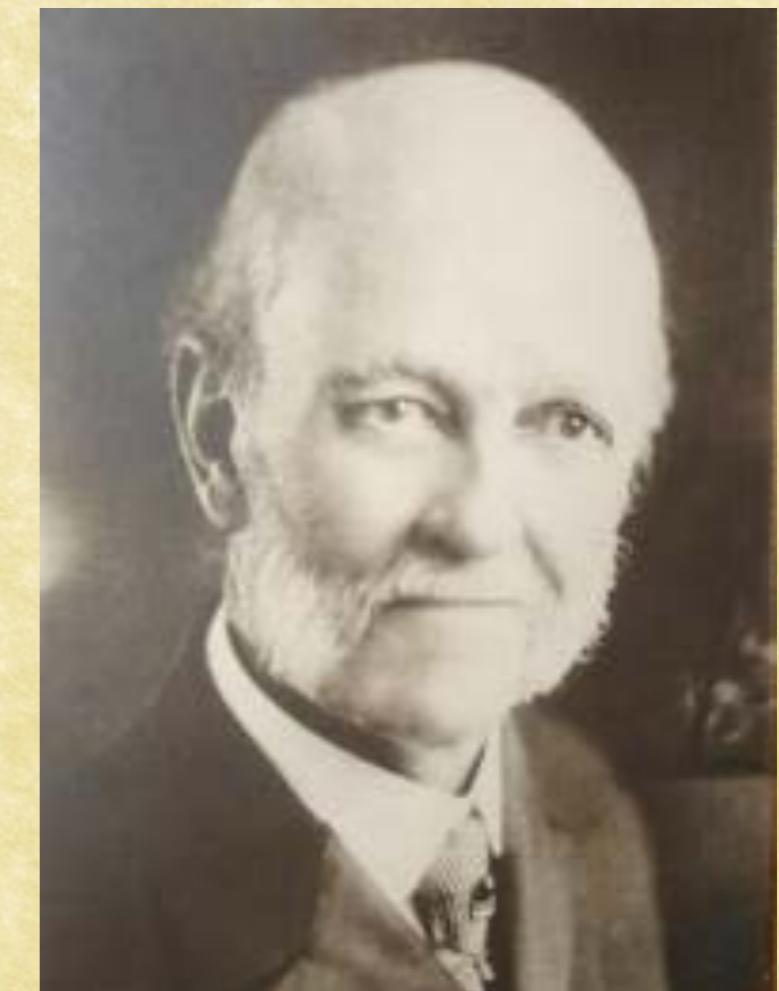
1883 *The Restoration of the Jews According to the Prophets*

“the duty of every Christian is to pray earnestly and to long for the restoration of God’s chosen race, and to love the Jews; for they are still beloved for their father’s sake ...”

1885 Appointed Chaplain of the British Embassy, Vienna

CHRISTIAN

Why shall not the powers which under the treaty of Berlin, in 1878, gave Bulgaria to the Bulgarians and Servia to the Servians now give Palestine back to the Jews?... These provinces, as well as Romania, Montenegro, and Greece, were wrested from the Turks and given to their natural owners. Does not Israel as rightfully belong to the Jews?



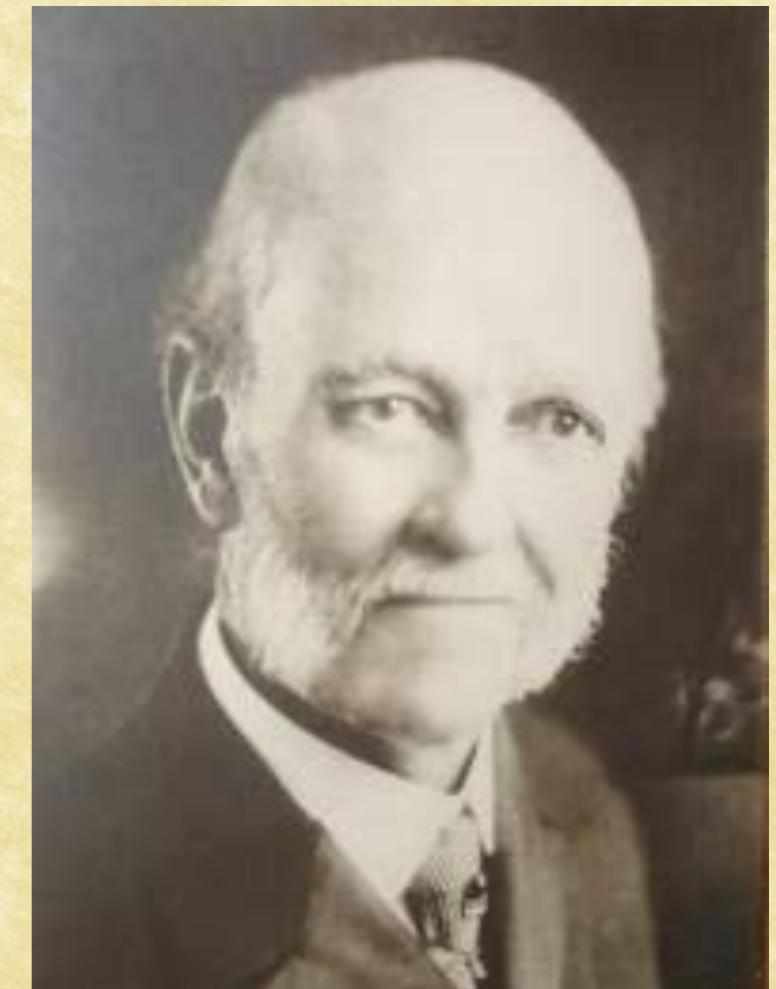
William E.
Blackstone
1841–1935

~Signed by 413 prominent Christians and a few Jewish leaders

CHRISTIAN

Nathan Straus wrote to Reverend Blackstone, May 16, 1916, on behalf of Louis Brandeis:

“Mr. Brandeis ... agrees with me that you are the Father of Zionism, as your work antedates Herzl”



**William E.
Blackstone
1841–1935**

POLITICAL

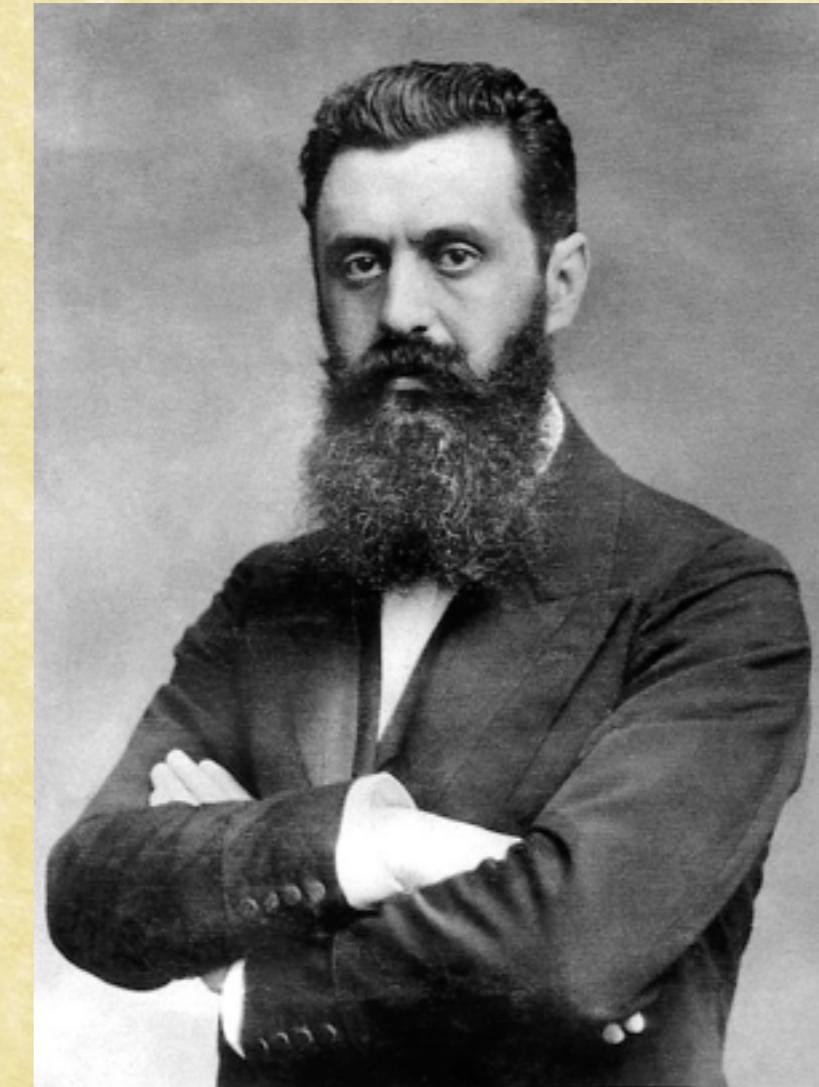


Alfred Dreyfus
1860–1904

- French-Jewish artillery officer
- Assimilated Jew accused of spying for the Russians
- Tried, convicted on treason; eventually exonerated
- The trial exposed the ugly reality of deep-seated anti-Semitism to Theodore Herzl

JEWISH

- Educated in assimilationist, Jewish enlightenment thought
- Editorialist, journalist, playwright
- From 1892 he focused more on the problem of anti-Semitism
- Heard crowds shouting “Death to the Jews”
- Realized Jews could never assimilate

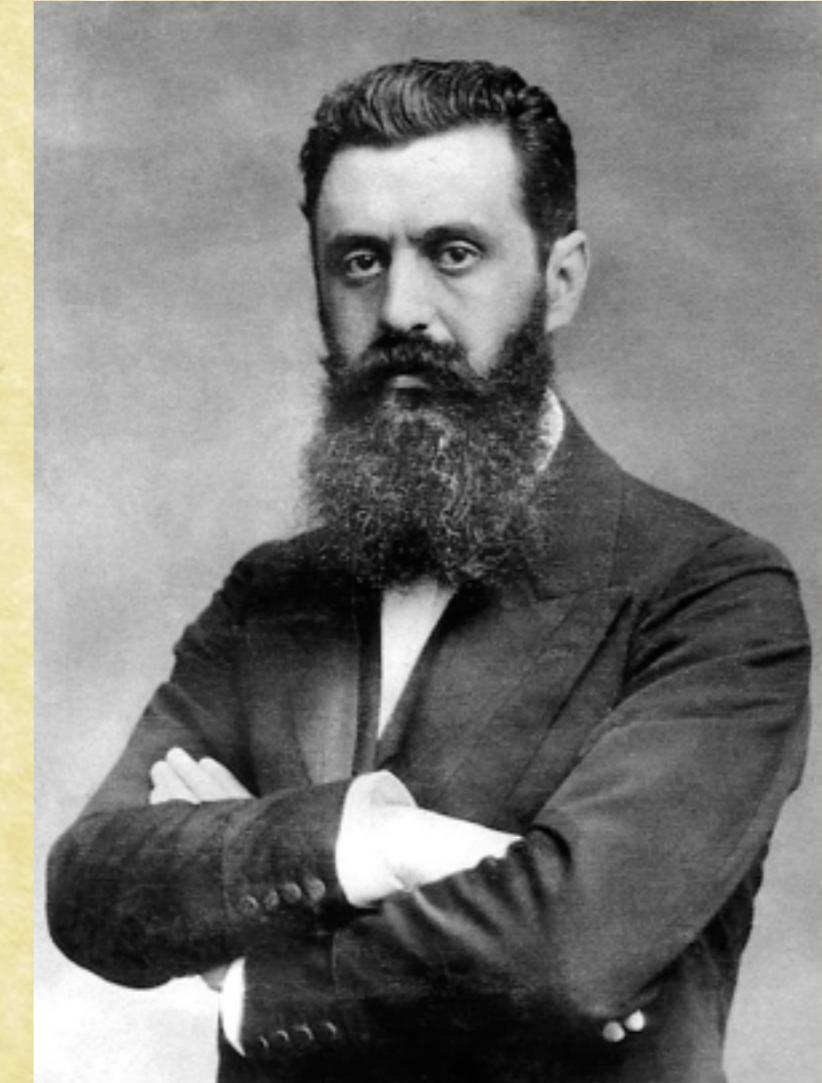


Theodore Herzl
1860–1904

JEWISH

1896 Published *Der Judenstat*

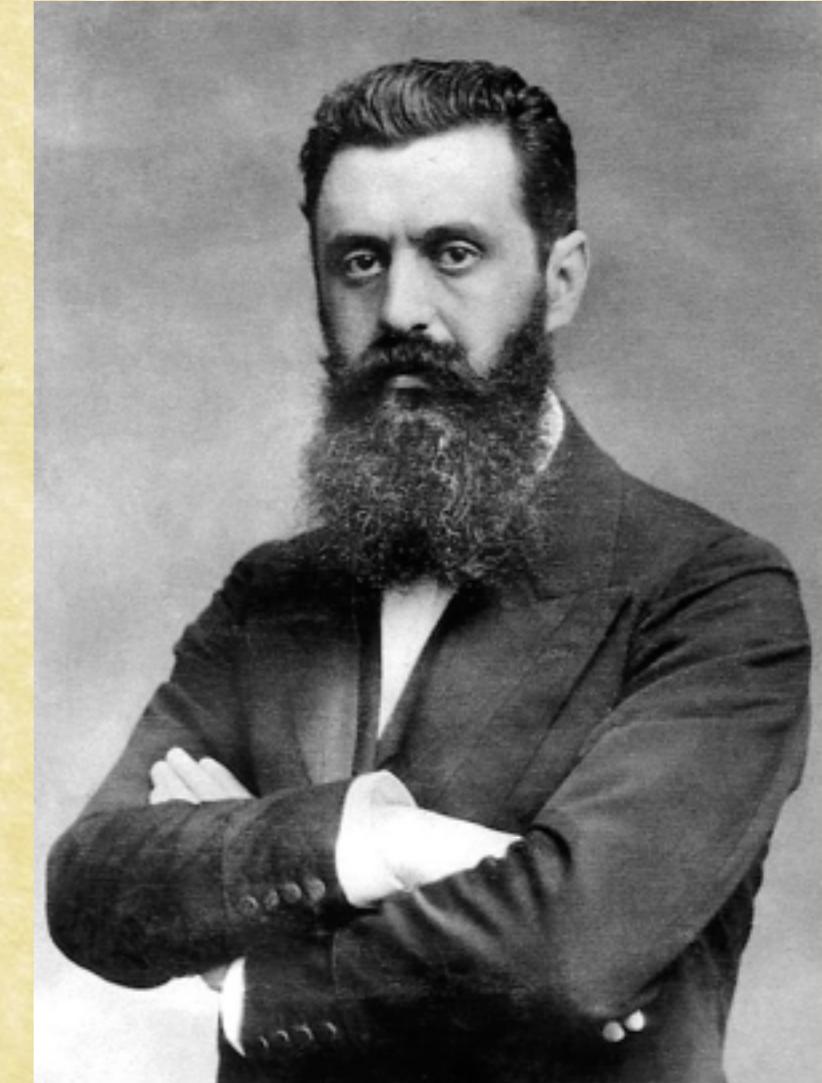
***“we are a people—one people ...
We have sincerely tried
everywhere to merge with the
national communities in which
we live, seeking only to
preserve the faith of our
fathers. It has not been
permitted us.”***



Theodore Herzl
1860–1904

JEWISH

The assimilated and wealthy elite of European Jews rejected Herzl's vision as dangerous to the Jewish community.

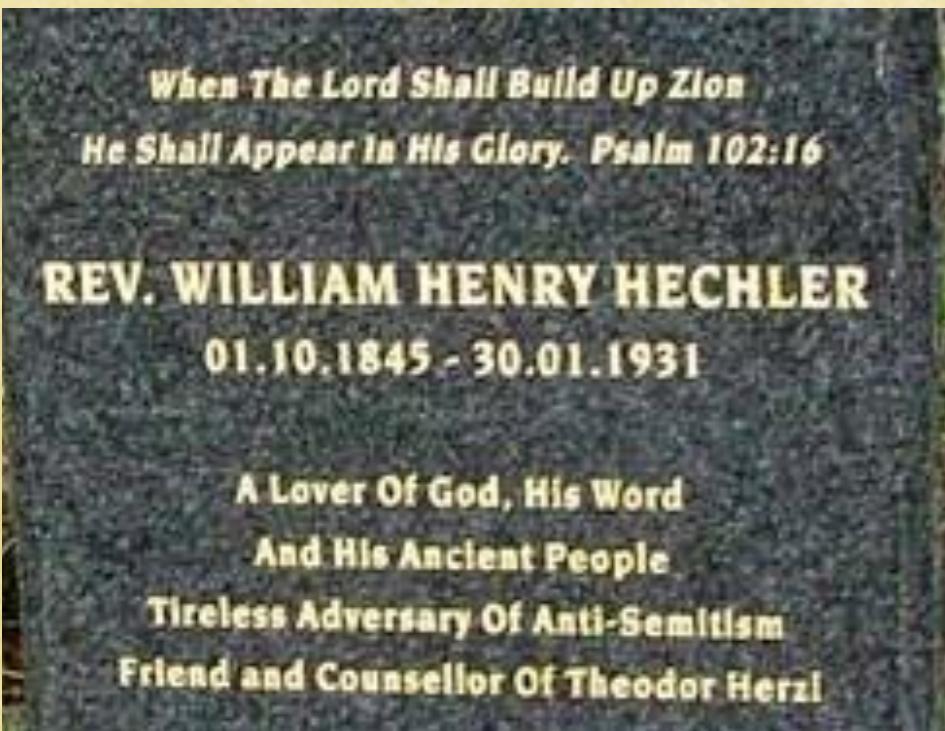


Theodore Herzl
1860–1904

CHRISTIAN

1896 Reads *Der Judenstat*

March: Shows up unannounced
at Herzl's apartment



William Hechler
1845–1931

CHRISTIAN

1896 Reads *Der Judenstat*

March: Shows up unannounced at Herzl's apartment

Arranged meetings with the Kaiser, Sultan in Constantinople

Later he arranged to gain an audience for Herzl with the Kaiser in Istanbul and again in Jerusalem

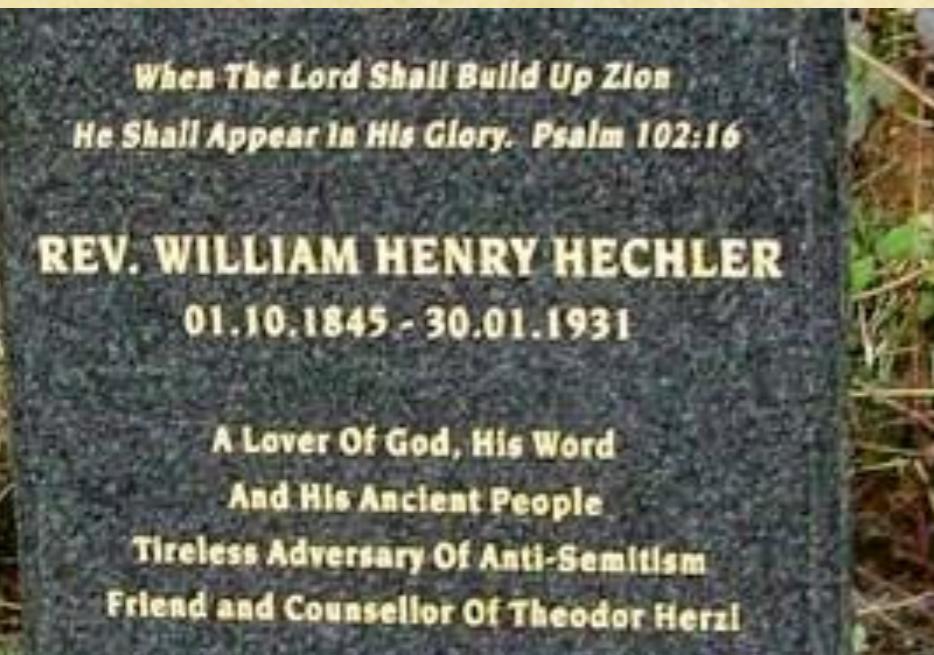
REV. WILLIAM HENRY HECHLER

01.10.1845 - 30.01.1931

A Lover Of God, His Word
And His Ancient People

Tireless Adversary Of Anti-Semitism
Friend and Counsellor Of Theodor Herzl

William Hechler
1845–1931



CHRISTIAN/POLITICAL

The Balfour Declaration

The primary motivation was the religious beliefs of the War Cabinet about the Jewish people.

Though other factors were present, it is clear from the early statements of Balfour and others that neither gratitude to Weizmann, nor a desire for Jewish support for the war effort, imperial expansion, were the determinative factors.



Foreign Office,

November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country".

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

*Y. M.
A. J. Balfour*

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Lloyd George, Welsh, Baptist

Arthur Balfour, Scot, Presbyterian

Arthur Henderson, Scottish Methodist lay preacher

George Barnes, Scot

Andrew Bonar Law, who from the age of 12 had lived in Scotland. Free Church of Scotland

*Edward Montagu, Jewish

Edward Carson, Irish, Irish Presbyterian

Jan Christian Smuts, Cape Colony, Dutch Calvinist

Alfred Milner, German born

*Lord George Curzon, Anglican