DSBC Date: 1/17/12 PT: Ron Adema Text: Acts 7:1-5

Series: A Nation in Peril File: D120117

A Nation in Peril (#8) [The Priest Nation of Israel]

The messianic seed of the old Gentile Semitic race (Luke 3:34-38) was transferred to the new Jewish race when given to Abraham. (Gen.11:10-32; 12:1-3; Matt.1:1-4).

Abraham was called while in Ur of Chaldea located in southern Mesopotamia (Gen. 15:7; Neh. 9:7; Acts 7:1-5). He lived there during the time of the Sumero-Akkadia and the Emperor Ur-Nammu of the third Dynasty. His brother, Haran, lived in the northern Mesopotamia. Isaac and Jacob both married wives from his descendants of northern Mesopotamia.

The "Chaldeans were ancient Semitic people that became prominent in Babylonia." (English Dictionary) They were part of the Shem genealogy (Gen.10:21-24) [Arpachshad / Chaldeans].

Isn't it interesting that we refer to the curse section of Abrahamic Covenant as anti-Semitism

(Gen.12:3a) "And I will bless those who bless you and the one who curses you I will curse."

This lesson will study four aspects of the Priest-nation of Israel and what we can learn about a Gentile nation in peril.

1. While the Promise of a great nation was given to Abraham in the 21st Century BC, it wasn't fulfilled until the 15th century BC by Moses (Gen.12:3)

(Gen.18:18) "Since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed."

(Gen.22:18) "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." [Offering of Isaac]

(Gal.3:16) "Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as referring to many, but rather to one, 'And to your seed,' that is, Christ."

Did Abraham understand and believe this prophetic gospel in order to be saved? Yes!

(Gal.3:8) "The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saving, 'All the nations will be blessed in you,'"

2. Under Moses and Joshua the Exodus Generation became the Priest-nation under a theocracy government in 15th century BC.

They were placed under the theocracy constitution and messianic shadow Christology at Mt Sinai (Deuteronomy; Ch.4:5-9)

(Ex.19:3) "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the people, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel." (Ex.5-6)

God identified four key characteristics of the divine agency that is the custodian of the word of God and evangelism of gospel of Christ. (They are underlined. Look them up in 1Pet.2:9.)

3. God set the Priest-nation above all nations because they were the divine agency.

(Deut.26:18-19) "And the Lord has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; and that **He shall set you high above all nations which He has made,** for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the Lord your God as He spoken." (Deut.28:1, 13-14) [Chapter 28 describes the five cycles of divine discipline]

They were to be the light of Christ to Gentile nations (Isa.42:6; 49:6; Luke 2:32; Acts 13:45-50; 26:21-23).

As the divine agency, they were custodians of redemptive history.

This was the point that:

- Peter made in (Acts 3:22-26)
- Stephen made in (Acts 7:1-5, 51-53)
- Paul made in (Rom.11:14-15, 25, 28; 9:8, 32; 10:1-4)

All were made to the Jews.

4. The Priest-nation of Israel was placed under the 5th cycle of divine discipline three times in biblical history.

- 722 BC to Assyria
- 586 BC to Babylon
- 70 AD to Rome

20:9-18)

The curse of Coniah was attached to the 5th cycles of 586 BC and 70 AD to Israel.

(Deut.28:64) "Moreover, the Lord will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other end of the earth; and there you shall serve other gods, wood and stone, which you or your fathers have not known."

Because of the curse of Coniah (Jer.22:30), no Davidic king would reign until the Second Coming of Jesus (Luke 1:32-33; 2 Sam.7:12-16; **Isa.9:1-7**; Luke 1:79; Matt.4:12-17).

From the Babylonian Captivity to the Second coming of Christ, Jews are under the "Times of Gentiles."

(Luke 21:24) "And they will <u>fall by the edge of the sword</u>, and will be <u>led captive into all the nations</u>; and <u>Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."</u>

In (2 Cor.11:22-23), Paul described Jews by four national titles,	,	, and
 ;		
God's Divine Discipleship came upon them because they rejected which one of these	titles?	
(Luke 17:25; John 1:11-13; Acts 28:25-29; Luke 9:22; 11:29	-32; 17;25; 19:40-44	4;

Today we live in the biblical time of the CROSS - Not the biblical time of the CROWN. All of the Zionist activities can be big distractions for Christians when we not doctrinally oriented to our dispensation.

The Church preaches the same gospel of grace salvation to both the Jew and the Gentile. They are both sinners that become Christians once saved (Rom.3:9-10, 20 -24; Gal.3:26-29) (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 10:28-30).