



Pastor Peter Colón's  
Presentation Study Notes

on

# purimfest 1946





I want to thank this court and all in attendance for this opportunity. It's an honor.

I would like to begin by quoting what our President recently stated:

**“The laws of God and of man have been violated, and the guilty must not go unpunished” – Harry S. Truman**

Permit me to reiterate the findings of this court, the evidence showed that 11 million innocent civilians were murdered.

However, six million of them, were specifically targeted for extermination – all because they were Jewish.

# Facts Concerning the Jewish People

The Jewish People can be described as being at the center of a triangle, consisting of one God, a Land, and the Bible.

## ***1. Regarding the One God***

The Bible makes it clear, God revealed Himself only to Israel. For this purpose, the Jewish people were created and chosen to be His witnesses. (Deuteronomy 4:35; Isaiah 43:10; Jeremiah 10:10)

## ***2. Regarding a Land***

They were the only people whose faith and worship was connected to a specific land location in the Middle East. (Genesis 15:18-21; Joshua 1:4)

## ***3. Regarding the Bible***

They were the recipients and preservers of the Bible, the most influential book in human history (Romans 9:4,5). Also, the Bible tells of a Savior, named Jesus, who came, died and rose again for our salvation, believed and worshiped by millions, world-wide. (Hebrews 7:14)

## Exhibit 1 - Nazi Buckle - Gott Mit Uns



The German inscription "Gott Mit Uns" on top of the buckles of many Nazi units, translates, "God with us." *It was an expression of German religious, political and ethnic single-mindedness.*

## What God did the Nazis Serve?

### Nazism was a Political Religion in which Hitler offered Himself as a Savior

**Hitler** - wrote in *Mein Kampf*: "I believe that I am acting in accordance with the will of the Almighty Creator: by defending myself against the Jew, I am fighting for the work of the Lord..." and "...the personification of the devil as the symbol of all evil assumes the living shape of the Jew."

**Goebbels** - He broadcasted in 1936: "Germany has been transformed into a great house of the Lord where the Fuhrer as our mediator stands before the throne of God." (Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's chief propagandist, said it a broadcast in 1936)

## Kristallnacht

The German word “Kristallnacht” means “Night of Broken Glass.” On November 9-10, 1938, over 1,000 synagogues and 7,000 Jewish-owned businesses in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia were destroyed or damaged. The name *Kristallnacht* comes from the shards of broken window glass that littered the streets. About 91 people were murdered and about 30,000 were rounded up and sent to concentration camps. It was the first major attack on Jewish people by the Nazi regime, a violent preview of the mass killings to come.

**In 1933** - The Reich began burning books.

**In 1938** – During Kristallnacht, Torah scrolls and Bibles were now burnt.

**In 1939 to 1945** - Beginning with the invasion of Poland, Jewish people were exterminated and at various death camps, their bodies were burnt.

## What scared Hitler most about the Jewish People?

### The Bible

The Jews and the Bible were viewed as, “*the key to world history.*” For **Hitler** and the **Nazis**, the Bible had to be destroyed.



Testimony: “In my hometown the synagogue was set on fire, we Jews were arrested and forced to watch the synagogue burn, while becoming spectators to SS men playing soccer with a Bible. Then came an SS man to us and said, ‘We are after all stronger than your God.’”



## Exhibit 2 – Megillah Esther Booklet



This rare reprint of the Book of Esther, was produced by an organization called “Vaad Hatzalah” (the Rescue Committee). Their purpose was to rescue Jewish people from the Holocaust. This reprint was handed out to the Jewish survivors after the war in DP camps for encouragement.

The book of Esther tells the story of a young Jewish woman named Esther, who became queen of Persia. She stopped an evil plot to destroy all the Jews in Persia. The plot backfired and the instigator, named Haman, was killed along with his followers. The observance of Purim, which means “lots” commemorates the Jewish deliverance.

## Hitler hated the Book of Esther

Hitler knew the significance of Purim in Jewish history

Hitler and the Nazis understood that the book of Esther potentially prophesied their demise!

In 1938 (the day after Kristallnacht), Hitler banned the observance of Purim throughout Germany.

In 1941, Hitler banned the Jewish community in Poland from the observance of Purim. They were forbidden to read the Scroll of Esther and the synagogues were closed on that day. Many attacks were planned to coincide with Purim.

In 1944, on the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nazi party coming to power, Hitler predicted that if the Russians (Bolsheviks) defeated Germany, then the Jews could celebrate the destruction of Europe by a second victorious Purim festival.

# Three facts from the Book of Esther in connection with the Holocaust



**Fact #1 – Persecution**

**Fact #2 - Prophecy**

**Fact #3 – Preservation**

# Persecution

(Esther 3:8,9)

“There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore, it is not for the king's profit to suffer them. If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed.”



# Three General Periods of Anti-Semitism in History

## 1. **Forced Conversions**

In effect to the Jews it was said: *'You may not live among us as Jews.'* This was the age of forced conversions by Christendom. The Crusades, the Inquisition, early Christian anti-Judaic theology, which lead into anti-Semitic rhetoric.

## 2. **Ghettos and Expulsion**

In effect to the Jews it was said: *'You may not live among us.'* This was the age of forced ghettoization and various expulsions, ex. Spain in 1492.

## 3. **Annihilation – Final Solution**

In effect concerning the Jews, the **Nazis** finally decreed: *"You may not live."*

“He who plans evil against Israel  
is as if he had planned evil against God”  
(Old Jewish Saying)

## Why is there Anti-Semitism ?



### 1. Satanic Hatred – (Gen 3:15)

“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”

### 2. Sinful Nature of Humanity - (Jer. 17:9)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it ?”

### 3. Salvation This alone was reason enough for the World to hate the Jewish people (John 4:22)

“Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews” (cf. Romans 9:4,5)

# Prophecy

(Esther 9:12-14)

<sup>12</sup> And the king said unto Esther the queen, The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman; what have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? now what is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: or what is thy request further? and it shall be done.

<sup>13</sup> Then said Esther, If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan to do tomorrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.

<sup>14</sup> And the king commanded it so to be done: and the decree was given at Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons.

## Thoughts about this Curious Prophecy

1. It's unusual that after Haman's ten sons had already been killed, that Esther would request they now be hanged.
2. The Sages, commenting on the word "tomorrow" in verse 13 said:

**"There is a tomorrow that is now  
and a tomorrow which is later."**

(TanchumaBo13 and Rashi on Exodus13:14)

3. Esther was asking that the hanging of Haman's ten sons not remain an isolated episode in history, but should recur in the future. Naturally, only God could make such a request happen.





The Jewish Sages taught that whenever you encounter a change in the usual way a Hebrew word or letter is written in the Torah (or Scripture), it is an indication that there is something hidden there!

(Nachmanides (1194-1270), from his Torah commentary)

First, in Esther 9:7-9, the names of Haman's ten sons appear in Hebrew one above the other. This strange formatting is explained in the **Soncino Commentary** on Esther: "The names of the ten sons of Haman are written in a perpendicular column, is based on the tradition that the ten sons were hanged on a tall gallows (impaled on a pole), one above the other."

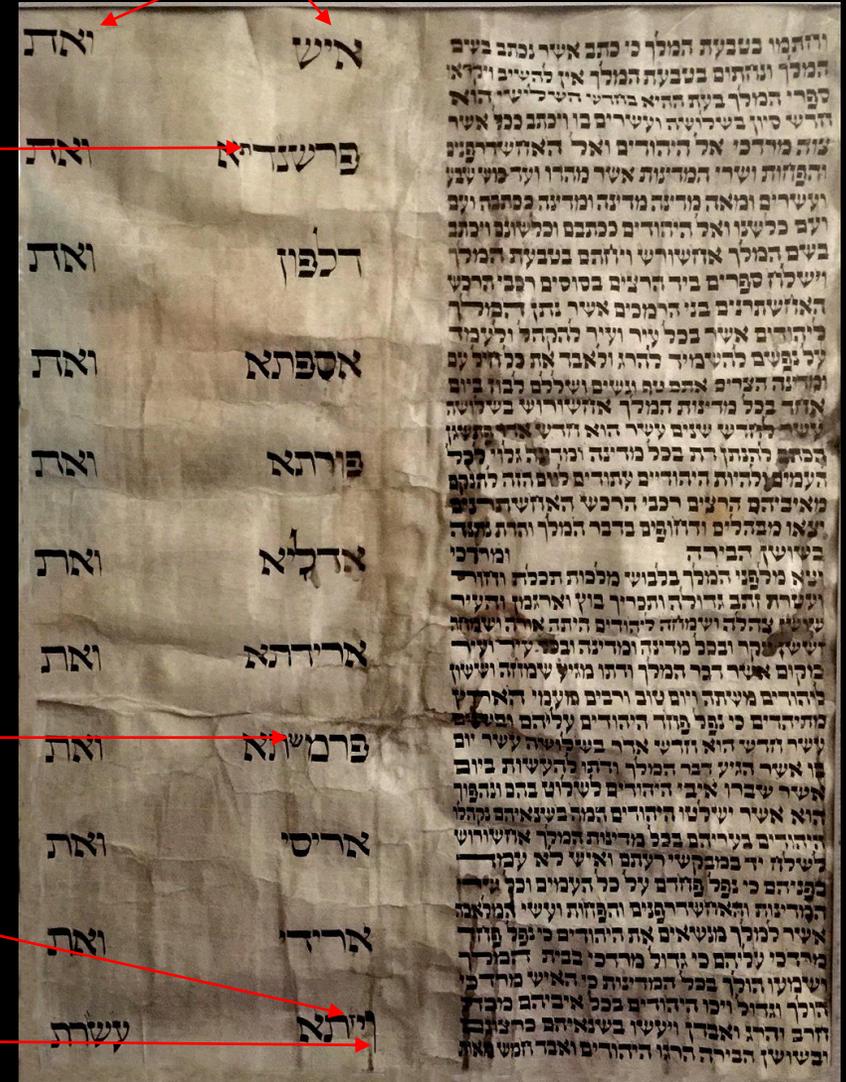
Second, the first, seventh and tenth names contain Hebrew letters that are smaller than the others. The tenth name also contains a letter which is larger.

Third, all Hebrew letters have numeric equivalents. The values of these three small Hebrew letters is 707. The tenth large Hebrew letter has a numeric value of 6. The Sages viewed this unusual letter to signify the 6th millennium. Therefore, 707 of the 6th millennium would be 5707 in the Hebrew calendar.

Fourth, the prophecy is that in the Hebrew year 5707, which corresponds to 1946 in modern dating, something was to occur that relates to the hanging of the ten sons of Haman. **So, what has history revealed?**

### Exhibit 3 – Ancient leaf of Esther 9:7-9 on Parchment

Translates "and men"



Tav (400)

Shin (300)

Zayin (7)

Large Vav (6)

**Exhibit 4 - ARTIFACT: 1946 Newspaper**



On October 1, 1946, 12 high-ranking Nazis were sentenced to death by the International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg.

Nazi Party leader **Martin Bormann** was condemned to death in absentia. It was later revealed that he died in Berlin at the end of the war. **Hermann Goering**, who at sentencing was called the “leading war aggressor and creator of the oppressive program against the Jews,” committed suicide in his cell just hours before the executions by taking cyanide poison. So on October 16, 1946, only 10 of the 12 were hanged one by one.

For many, the hanging of the 10 leading Nazis was the fulfillment of Esther’s prophecy (Esther 9:13)

Note: There is no Hebrew word for coincidence. What is believed is called "Hashgacha Pratit," which literally means "Divine Providence."



**Julius Streicher**, the Nazi editor of the anti-Semitic “Der Stürmer” newspaper, appears to have grasped the biblical prophecy of Esther 9:13 and Purim, when just mere seconds before he was hanged, he yelled out, “**Purim Fest 1946!**”

**Hermann Goering**

# Preservation

“And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed” (Esther 9:28)

Purim is a time to remember:

1. The Preservation of the Jewish People
2. The Preservation of God’s Word

## Exhibit 5- ARTIFACT: Warsaw Leaf

### The Preservation of God’s Word



Bible leaf of Esther 1:8-19, survived the fires of the Great Warsaw Synagogue, May 16, 1943.

In November 1940, 450,000 Jews were sealed inside the Warsaw Ghetto. Over 80,000 died as a result of overcrowding and starvation. In July 1942, the deportations to death camps began.



The largest synagogue in the world was in Warsaw.

On May 16, 1943, it was blown up by the SS. Since Torah scrolls and Bibles pointed to Jewish morality and western civilization, they were specially targeted. For Nazism to succeed, the people and their books had to be destroyed. Yet, the Bible states...



“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isaiah 40:8)

## The Preservation of the Jewish People



A Tallit Gadol is a large fringed prayer shawl traditionally worn by religious Jewish men. Woven into the four corners of the tallit are special twined and knotted fringes known as "tzitzit" (Num. 15:38; Deut. 22:12). All the knots, strands and twisted threads of the four tassels add up to 613 – the number of laws found in the five Books of Moses. It's purpose is to be reminded of all the commandments of the LORD (cf. Num.15:39).

## Exhibit 6 - "Tallit Gadol"



The Tallit Gadol was very special to its owner. It may have been a gift by his father to him. It could have been worn to mark special occasions, such as his wedding.



← This old Tallit Gadol was probably taken by a Nazi soldier as a memento to tell his children and grand children, how he helped rid the world of the Jews.



# The Deception



He and many others would have been packed onto a train. All going to the death camps.



Arriving, he is met by the special SS Death Head Units. His personal belongings were taken away.



He is told he would get a meal and work assignment, but first a shower was required.



He would have seen the shower heads in the chamber. Probably felt all was well.



He may have wondered, "why are the doors sealed shut?"



A Nazi soldier pours **Zyklon B** through a vent into the overcrowded chamber.



**Zyklon B** was a powerful hydrogen cyanide, used as an insecticide fumigant.



The poison gas fills the room. He starts to choke. Outside, to cover up the screams and moans of the dying, Nazi soldiers rev up the engines of their vehicles.



After a few minutes... silence. The doors are opened to clear out the gas. His body is dragged out to the crematoria for incineration. His ashes are scuffed out and dumped into a pit.



...and all that now remains is his Tallit Gadol.

**“We must Never Forget that the  
Holocaust was not just six million.  
Rather, it was one irreplaceable  
individual, plus another, plus another,  
etc.”**

(Quote is based on Judith Miller’s book “One, by One, by One: Facing the Holocaust “ )

**All of them created in the image  
and likeness of God.  
(cf. Genesis 1:26,27)**

## God's Eternal Promise to Israel

*"For I am the LORD, I change not;  
therefore ye sons of Jacob are not  
consumed" (Malachi 3:6)*



*After Haman was humiliated by an incident with Mordecai (Esther 6:10,11), his wife and wise men around him counseled him:*

*"...this man who has humiliated you is of Jewish birth, you will never succeed in your plans against him. It will be fatal to continue opposing him" (Esther 6:13, NLT Paraphrase)*

Why?

## The Eternal Principle Concerning the Jewish People

**"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed"**

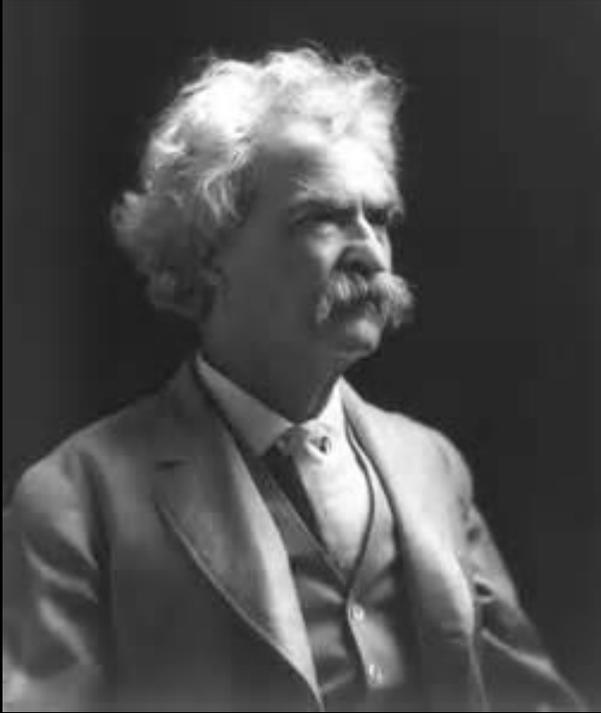
**(Genesis 12:3)**

The extermination of the Jewish people during the war is indescribable and unprecedented. No doubt, in the future there will be some who will deny it ever happen. Therefore, General Eisenhower and other officers, purposely visited the death camps. He made the following statement as to why he went.

“...I made the visit [to the camp] deliberately, in order to be in a position to give first-hand evidence of these things if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to “propaganda.” - **General Eisenhower**

*(Hobbs, Joseph P. “Dear General: Eisenhower’s Wartime Letters to Marshall,” Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999, page 223)*





"The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed, and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other peoples have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished.

The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains.

**What is the secret of his immortality?"**

(Mark Twain, 1899)

**How would you answer  
Mr. Twain?**

I would like to thank this court and everyone present, for this unique opportunity, in allowing me to share God's case against the evil done against the Jewish people, during the war.



# The Gospel in the Book of Esther

1. Esther feared the king, who had the power of life and death (4:10,11)

**“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matthew 10:28)**

2. Esther was under the decree of death (4:13,14)

**“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23)**

3. Esther approached the king and was received (5:2)

**“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out” (John 6:37)**



Historic Photos (permission granted under Educational Fair Use policy)  
Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem, Israel  
<http://www.yadvashem.org/>

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C.  
<http://www.ushmm.org/>

Artifact item photos and General Eisenhower (slide 8) and Mark Twain (slide 9) photos  
All are from the private collection owned by Pastor Peter Colón

## LEARN MORE ABOUT IT

CHRISTIAN Both books available at: <http://www.foi.org/store/>

**Zvi: The Miraculous Story of Triumph Over The Holocaust-** The true story of how a 10-year-old Jewish boy survives the Holocaust, arrives in Israel, finds life-transforming faith in the Messiah

**The Hiding Place** - The true story of Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch lady who helped to hide Jewish people from the Nazis. Corrie gets caught, sent to a concentration camp and survives.

### NAZI TRIALS

**Mission at Nuremberg:** An American Army Chaplain that talked with each Nazi at Nuremberg. Great insights into the morality of the defendants.

**Justice at Dachau:** An American Army Prosecutor and the proceedings at Dachau, where hundreds of Nazi guards, officers, and doctors stood trial for personally taking part in the Holocaust.

### GENERAL

**Diary of Anne Frank** - She and her family hid from the Nazis for two years before they were betrayed and captured. Anne died in a concentration camp, but her diary survived to tell her story.

**Schindler's List** - Movie tells the story of Oskar Schindler, a German businessman who managed to save the lives of over one thousand Jewish people. **Note: this movie is R-rated and not suitable for young children.**

