

Excerpt from *Of Promise and Previews*

Chapter Thirty-six

Such a desperate, thoroughly evil, poisonous, and devilish lot are these Jews, who for these fourteen hundred years have been and still are our plague, our pestilence, and our misfortune.

Martin Luther
*On the Jews and Their Lies,*ⁱ 1543

On Repentance

When we remember God's *omniscience*, we understand that He has always known everything His children would do, including every temptation to which we'd succumb. Therefore, He always knew that some of His children, in their childish conceit, would interpret His messages in ways that proved *them* to be His "favorites." And many, like typical young children, would hear His teachings, but not understand them or quickly forget them. Others would heed His words for a while, until, like typical adolescents, they would decide they knew better and rebel.

All three monotheistic religions tell us God will forgive our errors, if we sincerely repent them. But we cannot regret our mistakes until we recognize them—and that's not easy for us to do. For it is also part of our childish nature to believe almost anything that acquits us of error and assigns it to others.

The Koran tells us, "Satan seeks to stir up enmity and hatred..." (The Table 5:91). For thousands of years, "the evil one" has stirred up "enmity and hatred," by whispering into every receptive ear that *Jews* are the real cause of the world's problems. No believer wants to believe the devil has planted a venomous lie in his mind and heart. So, innumerable Christians and Muslims have been willing to believe that their merciful, compassionate, steadfast God wants them to wreak His endless vengeance on the

disinherited, “thoroughly evil” Jews! Obviously, such beliefs cannot persuade “the fathers” and “the children” to turn their hearts to each other. Nor can they inspire unbelievers to repent their disbelief in such a fickle and merciless God.

Thus, through century after century, Christians and Muslims, spurred by self-righteous indignation, have been willing to blame the Jews for the world’s misfortunes. In like manner, atheists are absolutely certain that lying or delusional Hebrews, who claimed to hear God speak, invented the messages that first pitched the cousins against each other and now threaten to ignite the war that could destroy all life on earth. Hence, “the evil one” has a powerful advantage in his efforts to make us traitors to God and enemies of our fellowmen: For we have to believe Abraham’s God *is real* to believe His promises, but we don’t have to believe in Satan’s reality to believe his lies!

Still, beyond argument, the Jews have greatly contributed to the world’s problems, and they’ve done so far out of proportion to their small number. But, throughout their history, monotheists have greatly influenced world affairs out of proportion to their number.

Consequently, if, today, the Jews wholly renounced the thorn-laden teachings that deny the messages delivered by *all* of God’s Messengers, they would repent their errors and turn their hearts to the children they’ve wronged, which would greatly affect the whole world. And if, today, Christians and Muslims wholly renounced the thistle-laden teachings that deny God’s promises to the Jews, they would repent their errors and turn their hearts to the fathers they’ve wronged, which would greatly affect the whole world. Most people, however, whether they are believers, heathens, or skeptics, don’t want to question—much less change—their chosen beliefs, especially when they already know the beliefs others need to change!

Besides, countless believers and unbelievers hear a whisper in their ear, telling them *they* have nothing to fear at the end of *their* days. Although, at moments, they might wonder if they’re “hearing” the truth, they’d rather hold fast to their own beliefs than rethink the beliefs they’ve scorned. Even the scientists and theologians who, in an

unprecedented display of agreement, now warn that we urgently need to change our thinking and ways, have yet to rethink their own beliefs and unbelief.

End of Excerpt

To order *Of Promises and Previews*, click your "Back" button" to return to the About the Book page and order the book by clicking on the Amazon icon at the bottom of the page.