

THE APOSTLE PAUL AND THE HOLOCAUST

2854 Milam
Fort Worth, Texas 76112
November 24th, 1997

Dear Dr. Katz:

I will express again my appreciation for your message on November 16th at the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Zsuzsanna Ozsvath told her class ahead of time that we would be very rewarded in attending your lecture, and we most certainly were. I wish everybody at the whole University could have heard your talk. I agree with your message 99%. That one percent that I do not agree with is the subject of this letter. As you may remember, it concerns Paul. I asked you after the meeting if you could document your comment regarding Paul, "*Hitler could never have committed the Holocaust without the theology of Paul.*" You told me anyone reading Romans 9, 10 & 11 will see that the theology of Paul was the basis for later anti-Semitism. I told you at that time that you must have misunderstood what Paul actually said. You then advised me to read the section in your book where you explain your position concerning Paul. That I have done. (You have extensive quotations from what the various interpreters say.)

I have no problem whatsoever in realizing that later so-called "Church Fathers" interpreted Paul's writing as being against the Law of Moses, the Jew and the nation of Israel. Likewise, many of these "Church" theologians began to teach that flesh and blood Israel was totally defunct and the only place for her was in the relic heap of the past. Most of these teachers represent Paul as teaching this doctrine called the "Replacement Theory." Sad to say, even today certain commentators merely quote what the past expositors said about Paul rather than reading for themselves exactly what Paul said.

Dr. Katz, because I know you are such a thorough man in your research, and because I know you are conscientious about making characterizations that cannot be substantiated, I am going to quote the statements that Paul makes in the book of Romans about the Hebrew Scriptures, the Law, the Jew and the nation of Israel. Then I hope you will give a reassessment of your statements regarding Paul. I think you will agree with me, after reading all these statements from Paul, ***that had Hitler believed what Paul said about the Jew, there would not have been a Holocaust!***

Paul and the Hebrew Scriptures

In Paul's epistle to the Romans he quotes from the Hebrew Scriptures no less than Sixty (60) times. It is quite evident from these quotations that Paul regarded the Hebrew Scriptures as the Divinely Inspired Word of God. Likewise Paul regarded the Hebrew Scriptures as not being dead, but rather being Alive and of utmost value to the Christian Church. In fact, the high priority that Paul places on the Hebrew Scriptures demonstrates beyond any shadow of a doubt that Paul personally believed every word of them—and took them literally. This would likewise mean that Paul would have to bow before what the Scriptures said!

For statistics' sake here are the references in Romans with the corresponding passages in the Hebrew Scriptures that are quoted:

- | | | | | | |
|------|------------|------------------|------|-----------|------------------|
| 1.) | 1:17-- | Habakkuk 2:4 | 18.) | 7:7-- | Exo. 20:17 |
| 2.) | 2:6-- | Ps. 62:12 | 19.) | 8:36-- | Ps. 44:22 |
| 3.) | 2:24-- | Isa. 52:5 | 20.) | 9:7-- | Gen. 21:12 |
| 4.) | 3:4-- | Ps. 51:4 | 21.) | 9:9-- | Gen. 18:10,14 |
| 5.) | 3:10-- | Ps. 14:3a | 22.) | 9:12-- | Gen. 25:23 |
| 6.) | 3:11-- | Ps. 14:2 | 23.) | 9:13-- | Mal. 1:2,3 |
| 7.) | 3:12-- | Ps. 14:3b | 24.) | 9:15-- | Exo. 33:19 |
| 8.) | 3:13-- | Ps. 5:9 | 25.) | 9:17-- | Exo. 9:16 |
| 9.) | 3:13-- | Ps. 140:3 | 26.) | 9:25-- | Hosea 2:23 |
| 10.) | 3:14-- | Ps. 10:7 | 27.) | 9:26-- | Hosea 1:10 |
| 11.) | 3:15-17-- | Isa. 59:7,8 | 28.) | 9:27,28-- | Isa. 10:22,23 |
| 12.) | 3:18-- | Ps. 36:1 | 29.) | 9:29-- | Isa. 1:9 |
| 13.) | 4:3-- | Gen. 15:6 | 30.) | 9:33-- | Isa. 8:14; 28:16 |
| 14.) | 4:7,8-- | Ps. 32:1,2 | 31.) | 10:5-- | Lev. 18:5 |
| 15.) | 4:17-- | Gen. 17:5 | 32.) | 10:6-- | Deut. 30:12 |
| 16.) | 4:18-- | Gen. 15:5 | 33.) | 10:7-- | Deut. 30:13 |
| 17.) | 4:22-- | Gen. 15:6 | 34.) | 10:8-- | Deut. 30:14 |
| | | | | | |
| 35.) | 10:11-- | Isa. 28:16 | 48.) | 11:34-- | Isa. 40:13 |
| 36.) | 10:13-- | Joel 2:32 | 49.) | 11:35-- | Job 41:11 |
| 37.) | 10:15-- | Isa. 52:7 | 50.) | 12:19-- | Deut. 32:35 |
| 38.) | 10:16-- | Isa. 53:1 | 51.) | 12:20-- | Prov. 25:21,22 |
| 39.) | 10:18-- | Ps. 19:4 | 52.) | 13:9,10-- | Exo. 20:13-15 |
| 40.) | 10:19-- | Deut. 32:21 | 53.) | 13:10-- | Lev. 19:18 |
| 41.) | 10:20-- | Isa. 65:1 | 54.) | 14:11-- | Isa. 45:23 |
| 42.) | 10:21-- | Isa. 65:2 | 55.) | 15:3-- | Ps. 69:9 |
| 43.) | 11:3-- | I Kings 19:10,14 | 56.) | 15:9-- | II Sam. 22:50 |
| 44.) | 11:4-- | I Kings 19:18 | 57.) | 15:10-- | Deut. 32:43 |
| 45.) | 11:8-- | Deut. 29:4 | 58.) | 15:11-- | Ps. 117:1 |
| 46.) | 11:9,10-- | Ps. 69:22,23 | 59.) | 15:12-- | Isa. 11:10 |
| 47.) | 11:26,27-- | Isa. 59:20,21 | 60.) | 15:21-- | Isa. 52:15 |

Paul and the Law, the Jew and the Nation Israel

In the book of Romans there are at least forty (40) references which Paul makes to the Law, the Jew and the nation of Israel. It is very important that we list these in order to get an accurate overall perspective of Paul's appreciation for the Law, the Jew and the nation of Israel. After reading these, would you please tell me, Dr Katz, which one of these is not consistent with the Hebrew Prophets themselves. And above all, would you please be so kind as to tell me which one would be a good foundation for later anti-Semitism???

- 1.) Rom. 1:16 & 2:9,10. "...the gospel of Messiah is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."
 "...tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek."

- "but glory, honor, and peace to every one who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."
- 2.) Rom. 2:13. "For not the hearers of the Law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the Law shall be justified."
- 3.) Rom. 2:14,15. "For when the Gentiles, who do not have the Law, do by nature the things in the Law...show the work of the Law written in their hearts..."
- 4.) Rom. 2:17-24. "Indeed you are a Jew, and rest on the Law, and make your boast in God, and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the Law, and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having a form of truth in the Law...do you teach yourself?...do you steal?...do you commit adultery?...do you rob temples?...do you dishonor God by breaking the Law? For '*The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,*' as it is written (Isa. 52:5; Ezek. 36:22)."
- 5.) Rom. 2:25-27. "For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the Law; but if you are a breaker of the Law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision...and will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the Law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the Law?"
- 6.) Rom. 2:28,29. "For he is not a Jew who is merely outwardly one, nor is the the circumcision merely outward in the flesh. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and circumcision is first what is in the heart, in the spirit, not merely the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God."
- 7.) Rom. 3:1,2. "What advantage then has the Jew, or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God."
- 8.) Rom. 3:21. "But now the righteousness of God apart from the Law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets."
- 9.) Rom. 3:31. "Do we then make void the Law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the Law!"
- 10.) Rom. 4:1-17. "For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something of which to boast, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? '*Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness* (Genesis 15:6).'" (Paul then explains that this took place before Abraham was circumcised.) "For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or his seed through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith...for the Law brings wrath; for where

there is no Law there is no transgression. Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, *'I have made you a father of many nations'* (Gen. 17:5)."

- 11.) Rom. 5:20. "Moreover the Law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."
- 12.) Rom. 6:15. "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under Law but under grace? Certainly not!"
- 13.) Rom. 7:1-6. "...For I speak to those who know the Law, that the Law has dominion over a man as long as he lives. For the woman who has a husband is bound by the Law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the Law of her husband...so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the Law through the death of Christ, that you may be married to another, even to Him who has been raised from the dead..."
- 14.) Rom. 7:7-10. "Is the Law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known what sin is had it not been through the Law...but when the commandments came, sin revived and I died...the commandments...brought the death penalty."
- 15.) Rom. 7:12-14. "Therefore, the Law is holy, and the commandments holy and just and good...the Law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin."
- 16.) Rom. 7:16,22. "...the Law is good...For I delight in the Law of God..."
- 17.) Rom. 8:3. "For what the Law could not do because of my weak flesh, God did (through Christ)."
- 18.) Rom. 8:4. "That the righteousness of the Law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."
- 19.) Rom. 9:1-3. "...For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Messiah for my brethren, my kinsman according to the flesh..."
(See also Exodus 32:32).
- 20.) Rom. 9:4,5. "Who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the service of God, and the promises; of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Messiah came..."
- 21.) Rom. 9:6-8. "For they are not all Isra-el (Princes with God) who are of Israel (Jacob), nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called (Gen. 21:12)."

That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

- 22.) Rom. 9:24. "...even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles..."
- 23.) Rom. 9:30-33. "What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness (of the Law), have attained to righteousness...of faith; but Israel, pursuing the Law of righteousness, have not attained...because they did not seek it by faith...for they stumbled at that 'stumbling stone' (Isa. 8:14; 28:16)."
- 24.) Rom. 10:1-3. "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved...they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge...seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God."
- 25.) Rom. 10:19. "But I say, did Israel not know? First Moses said: '*I (God) will provoke you to jealousy by those who are not a nation, I will anger you by a foolish people*' (Deut. 32:21)."
- 26.) Rom. 10:20,21. "But Isaiah is very bold and says: '*I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me* (Isa. 65:1).' But to Israel He says: 'All day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and contrary people' (Isa. 65:2)."
- 27.) Rom. 11:1,2. "I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew."
- 28.) Rom. 11:5. "Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace."
- 29.) Rom. 11:11-15. "But through their fall...salvation has come to the Gentiles. Now if the fall...and failure be riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fulness...what will their acceptance be but life from the dead."
- 30.) Rom. 11:16-24. "...and if the root (Abraham) is holy, so are the branches (Israel). And if some of the branches were broken off, and you (Gentiles), Being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them (Israel), and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches (Israel)...because of unbelief they were broken off, and you (Gentiles) stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear...For He (God) may not spare you (Gentiles) either...otherwise you (Gentiles) also will be cut off. And they also, if they (Israel) do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them (Israel) in again ...how much more will these, who are the natural branches (Israel),

be grafted into their own olive tree?"

(In Romans, Abraham was the stated basis ["root" or stock] for Israel and others as well--4:17.)

- 31.) Rom. 11:25-28. "...hardening in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel shall be saved, as it is written: '*The Deliverer will come to Zion...when I will take away their sins*' (Isa. 59:20,21)...but concerning election they (Israel) are beloved for the sake of the fathers."
- 32.) Rom. 13:8. "...for he who loves another has fulfilled the Law."
- 33.) Rom. 13:10. "...therefore love is the fulfillment of the Law."
- 34.) Rom. 14:6. "He (the Jew) who observes the day, observes it to the Lord..."
- 35.) Rom. 14:6. "He who eats (kosher foods), eats to the Lord..."
- 36.) Rom. 14:14. "...but to him who considers anything unclean, to him it is unclean."
- 37.) Rom. 15:4. "For whatsoever things were written before (the Hebrew Scriptures) were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."
- 38.) Rom. 15:8. "...Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision (the Jew) for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers..."
- 39.) Rom. 15:31. "...that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints..."
- 40.) Rom. 16:25,26. "Now to Him who is able to establish you...by the prophetic Scriptures."

Now Dr. Katz, before us is the evidence from the book of Romans! Any statement from this book must be interpreted in the light of the whole and cannot be jerked out of context! Please document for me justification for your statement:

"Hitler could never have committed the Holocaust without the theology of Paul!" ???

I say again, after my reading of Paul's statements about the Law, the Jew and the nation of Israel, I would have to recognize that *if Adolf Hitler had believed what Paul said, there would never have been a Holocaust!*

Earnestly awaiting your honest response,

Jack W. Langford

Copy to Dr. Zsuzsanna Ozsvath