



# EXODUS

A STORY OF  
**REDEMPTION  
AND COVENANT**





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# Spiritual Warfare

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- Spiritual warfare is real
- Exodus 7:8–7:13, Deuteronomy 18:9–12 and 32:16–17
- Moses grew up in the palace as Pharaoh's adopted grandson.
- This was 40 years after Moses had fled, and it was a new Pharaoh, but people would have remembered who he was.
- Moses would have had to use his past identity as credentials to even be able to appear before Pharaoh.



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# Spiritual Warfare

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- Yet when he did come before Pharaoh, Moses clearly placed himself on the side of the Hebrews, just as he had done when he killed the Egyptian 40 years earlier, which was why the previous Pharaoh wanted to kill him.
- Moses had made himself an enemy of the Pharaoh and set himself up as a savior of the Hebrews.
- Now, 40 years later, he was coming back with the same goal, but this time with the power and authority of Yahweh behind him.



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# Spiritual Warfare

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- God had assured Moses and Aaron that now they would see His great power.
- And yet, when they came before Pharaoh and showed their miracle, Pharaoh's magicians were able to do the same thing.
- Both Old and New Testaments show us people who had supernatural power by their "gods."
- The Bible is clear that these "gods" are not really gods at all. Any "miracle" of magicians is empowered by Satan (2 Thessalonians 2:9–10).



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# Spiritual Warfare

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- The Bible takes getting involved with witchcraft very seriously.
- The Old Testament law calls it an abomination and commands God's people not to practice divination, sorcery, or witchcraft (Deuteronomy 18:9–13).
- That kind of supernatural power comes from demons.
- We see this clearly in Acts when Paul cast a demon out of a slave girl who was making lots of money for her owner by telling the future (Acts 16:16–18).



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# Spiritual Warfare

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- Notice in the story that Aaron's staff swallowed up the magician's staffs.
- Demons do have some supernatural power, but their power is nothing compared to God's. This is why in the Gospels, the demons were terrified of Jesus (Mark 1:23–26), deferred to His authority (Mark 5:12), and fell before Him and called Him the Son of God (Mark 1:24; 3:11–12).
- A central part of Jesus's ministry was casting out demons.
- We can take comfort in the fact that although demonic forces do have some power, the One who is in us is stronger (1 John 4:4).



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# Our God

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- There is no one like our God
- Exodus 7:14–8:13
- This passage begins the actual story of the plagues and represents an attack on the Egyptian pantheon.
- Each of the plagues specifically attacked one or more of the Egyptian gods, including Pharaoh, who saw himself as divine, culminating in the final plague killing Pharaoh's oldest son and heir.



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# Our God

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- The Nile was the lifeblood of Egypt.
- Every aspect of life in Egypt depended on the 4,132-mile river.
- The Nile provided food, resources, agriculture, travel, trade, and transportation of materials.
- It created a fertile land in the middle of a desert.
- Each year, the Nile overflowed its banks and deposited rich soil, allowing the Egyptians to grow their crops.

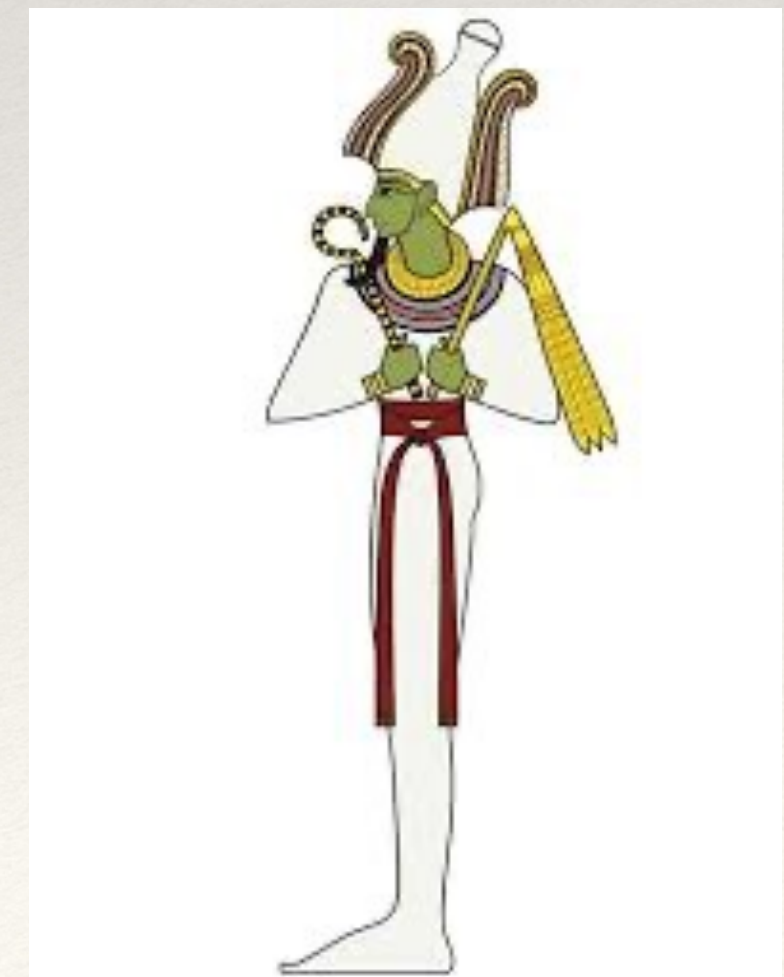


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# Our God

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- They called it *kemet* or “black land” to distinguish it from the rich, fertile soil of the *deshret* or “red land” of the hot, dry desert.
- Three gods were connected to the Nile.
  - Hapi was the god of the annual flooding of the Nile, symbolizing fertility of the harvest.
  - Khnum was the guardian of the river’s source.
  - Osiris had the Nile as his bloodstream.





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# Our God

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- God attacked the Nile first to make a major point and prove His power.
- He was declaring to Egypt that He wasn't just the God of Israel.
- He was the God in control of all things, every aspect of their existence.
- Turning the Nile to blood not only left them with the natural consequences of dead fish and undrinkable water, but it also represented God's superiority over Osiris, whose bloodstream was the Nile, the god of life and death, resurrection and the afterlife.



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# Our God

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- In Scripture, blood makes atonement for sin because “the life of the flesh is in the blood” (Leviticus 17:11).
- God could have turned the Nile to algae or some kind of poison, but He turned it into blood, signifying His power over life and death and pointing ahead to the blood of the lamb that would be used to save the people from the angel of death in the last plague, the Passover.
- And the Passover points ahead to the blood of Jesus, the new covenant Passover Lamb, whose blood saves us from eternal death.



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# Our God

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- Attacking the Nile affected everything in the Egyptians's lives.
- You would think this first plague alone would have pushed Pharaoh to relent, but Pharaoh's heart was unyielding.
- His magicians were able to do the same thing, so he would not listen.
- He still thought of himself as equal (or greater) in power than Israel's God.
- Although Pharaoh's magicians could change water into blood, they couldn't change the blood back into water.



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# Our God

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- God waited seven days between these two plagues, symbolizing the seven days of creation, including the day of rest. This was the Almighty God, Creator of all things.
- The Egyptian goddess Heqet was envisioned as a frog and assisted with childbirth. She was associated with the flooding of the Nile. As she was the one who breathed life into the new body in the myth of Osiris's resurrection, she also became associated with resurrection.
- These first two plagues also reflect the original curses against Adam and Eve – childbirth and fertility of the land.

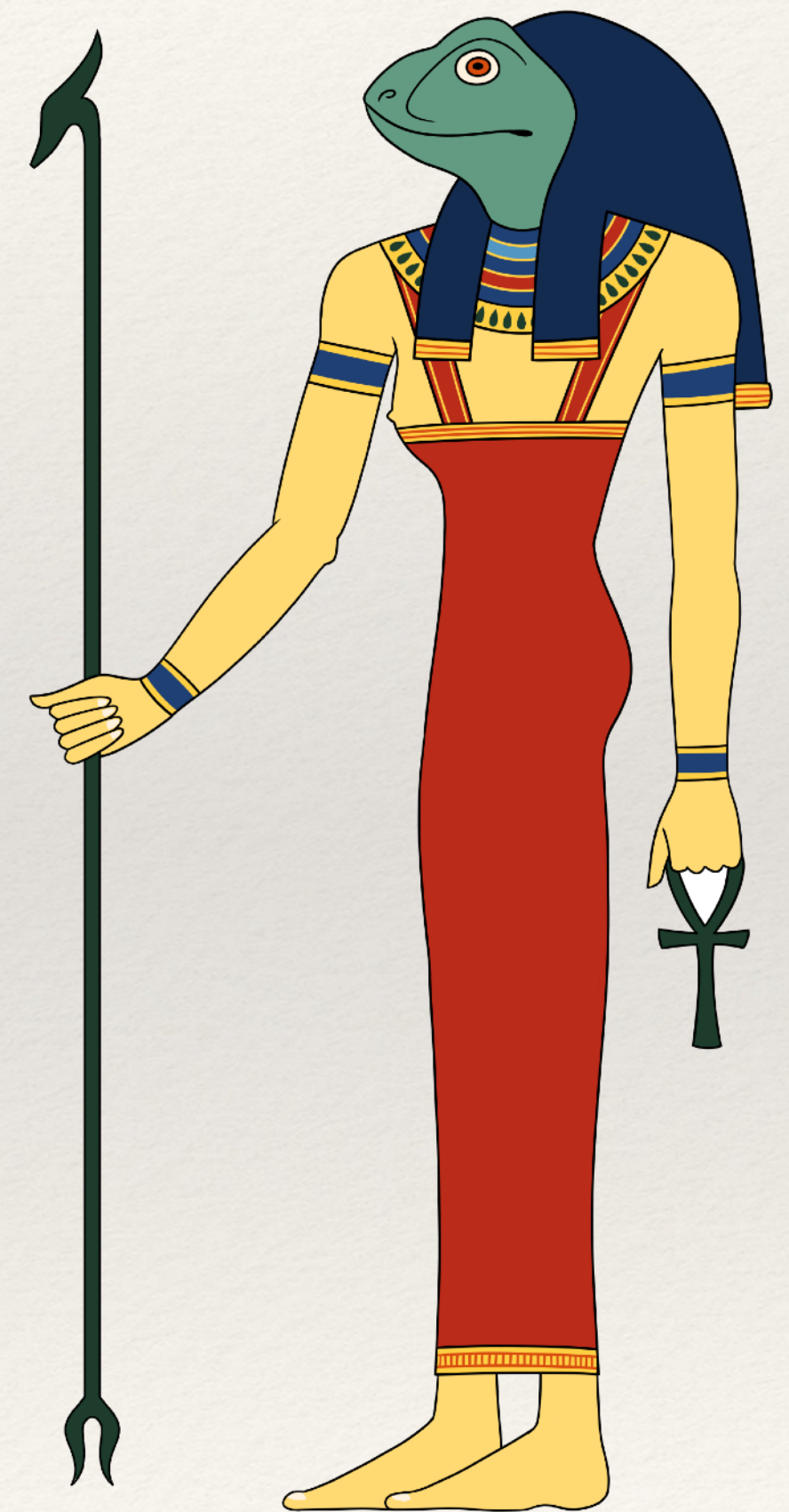


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# Our God

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- In the plague of the frogs, the magicians were able to bring frogs to Egypt, just as Moses and Aaron had done.
- But they weren't able to rid the land of the frogs.
- Only God was able to do that (8:7–8).
- They couldn't rescue the Egyptians from the plague.
- They could only make it worse!





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# Our God

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- In the plague of the frogs, Moses said he would let Pharaoh choose the timing of the plague's end "so that you may know that there is no one like the Lord our God [Yahweh]" (8:10). Pharaoh's magicians could not stop the frogs, but Yahweh could stop them at the exact moment Pharaoh asked. Pharaoh realized, finally, that there was no one like Yahweh.
- This same Pharaoh who had originally said, "Who is Yahweh that I should listen to Him?" now asked Moses to pray to Yahweh for him! The purpose of the plagues was to show the world who was really sovereign over all the earth, who was really God.



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# Our God

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- And yet, as soon as the frogs went away and he found relief, Pharaoh hardened his heart and wouldn't listen to Moses and Aaron.
- God showed him the grace to answer his prayer and take away the frogs, but Pharaoh didn't appreciate God's grace. Notice that this time Pharaoh hardened his own heart; it wasn't God who did it.
- How often do we do the same thing to God? We ignore Him until we need something, then we pray fervently for Him to help us, and as soon as He does, we forget about Him again.



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# God's Power

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- God's power is unmatched by supernatural power
- Exodus 8:16–8:19, Ephesians 6:10–18
- It's unclear exactly what type of insect the “gnat” was, since this Hebrew word is only used here and in Psalm 105:31.
- It does seem to portray swarming, especially since the imagery is that of dust getting stirred up and becoming gnats. There are many different Hebrew words for insects – grasshoppers, crickets, flies and several kinds of locusts.



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# God's Power

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- The Egyptian god Geb was the god over the dust of the earth.
- These gnats were made from the dust of the earth the same way Adam was formed from the dust of the earth; it's the same Hebrew word (Genesis 2:7).
- Geb was also the father of snakes, which was not only what Moses and Aaron's staffs turned into, but also the creature who tempted Adam and Eve in the garden.
- This plague was a curse on the land like the curse given to Adam. Instead of the land's being fertile, it became gnats and attacked them.



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# God's Power

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- Finally, the Egyptian magicians were not able to recreate what God had done with this plague.
- This third of 10 plagues is where their power hit its limit. And God had seven more plagues to go.
- The magicians recognized that this was well beyond their power and told Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God!”
- They were confessing what God had said in the last plague – there is no one like Him.



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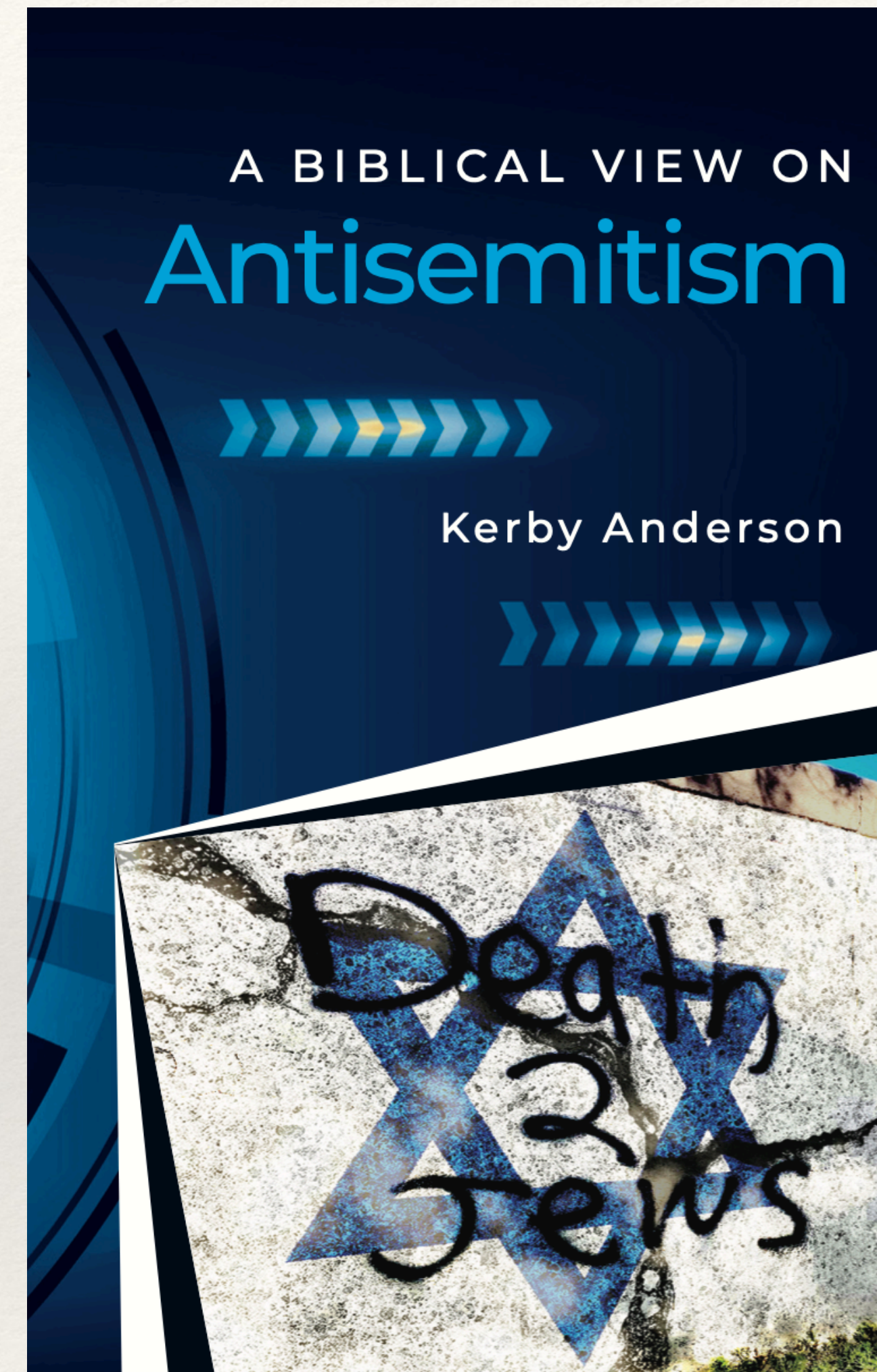
# Conclusion - Application

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- Spiritual warfare is real, and we must put on the full armor of God.
- It's not about our own strength but about standing firm on His strength.
- There is no God like our God.
- When we put on the armor of God, we have all the power we need to stand firm and fight against every scheme of the Devil.



# Antisemitism





# Chaos on Campus



**USC Cancels Graduation Ceremony over Anti-Israel Protests**

## **Police Arrest Protesters at N.Y.U. as Tensions Rise at U.S. Colleges**

Administrators on more campuses moved to shut down pro-Palestinian demonstrations amid growing concerns for the safety of Jewish students.

## **House Speaker Johnson booed at Columbia speech**

House Speaker Mike Johnson called for Columbia University President Minouche Shafik to resign [during his visit to the school](#) Wednesday. In his remarks, Johnson shamed students and faculty involved in the protests, as well as administrators for not doing enough to prevent them.





# University of Texas



**Greg Abbott** ✓  
@GregAbbott\_TX

Arrests being made right now & will continue until the crowd disperses.

These protesters belong in jail.

Antisemitism will not be tolerated in Texas. Period.

Students joining in hate-filled, antisemitic protests at any public college or university in Texas should be expelled.

## UT–Austin Faculty Condemn School President for Arrests of Pro-Palestinian Protesters





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# Antisemitism on the Rise

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- Government and Jewish organization statistics provide documented evidence of many more violent acts directed at Jewish people and synagogues.
- ADL have recorded more antisemitic incidents in the last few months than in the last three years combined.
- Especially troubling have been comments made by members of Congress (e.g., Representatives Rashida Talib and Ilhan Omar).



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# Antisemitism

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- The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance uses a definition that includes eleven key areas.
- This would include “calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of radical ideology.”
- It also includes “making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews.”
- And it includes those who deny the fact and scope of the genocide of the Jewish people during World War II.



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# Antisemitism

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- Antisemitism is not merely a modern problem.
- In the book of Esther (3:6), we read the story of how Haman “sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.”
- Other pagan groups and false religions persecuted the Jews because of their belief in monotheism and their allegiance to God.



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# Antisemitism

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- After the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the exile of Jews in AD 70, some Christians interpreted the event as a punishment for Jews for the death of Jesus.
- Sadly, this idea provided a justification for a Christian form of antisemitism. All sorts of myths have been spread about Jews and their practices.
- One of the myths is often referred to as “blood libel.” According to this false allegation, Jews murder Christian children to use their blood in the baking of unleavened bread during Passover or that Jews drink blood mixed with the wine during the Passover Seder celebrations.



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# Intersectionality

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- On campus, students are likely to be exposed to an intersectional framework.
- Intersectionality is a concept that discourages looking at unique individuals but instead focuses on groups as stereotypical images with certain traits.
- Modern Jews enjoy financial stability and even political power.
- Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the Palestinian Authority are seen as weak.
- According to this mindset, the powerful should be condemned while the weak should be supported.



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# Columbia University

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- Student protests have been on the Columbia University campus for weeks in REI tents.
- Finally, President Minouche Shafik called the police, and 108 protesters were arrested.
- But other students merely moved to public areas and were joined by the students who were arrested.
- Where did these students get these ideas?





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# Joseph Massad

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# He Endorsed Hamas, Hezbollah, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. Then He Landed a Professorship at Columbia University.

Mohamed Abdou said he was 'with  
 Hamas' just days before joining Ivy  
 League school



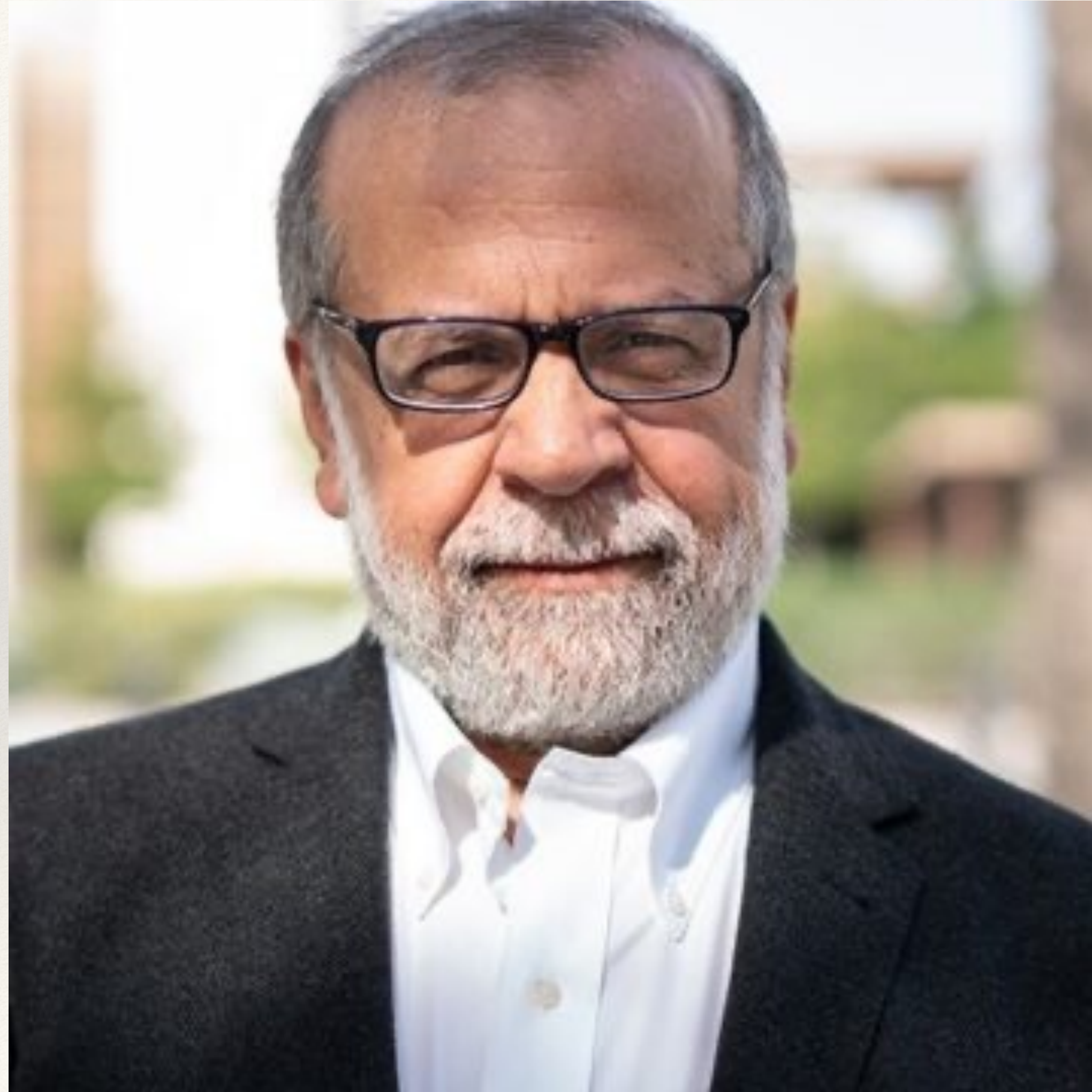
Mohamed Abdou (me@columbia.edu)



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# Hamad Dabashi

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**Danel Ben Namer**

@DanelBenNamer

Follow



“Gifts” for American universities from foreign countries since 2012:

Qatar \$3,281,809,223

China \$1,733,394,910

Saudi Arabia \$1,454,621,857

UAE \$635,818,317

Kuwait \$338,726,100

Russia \$141,080,439

Turkey \$81,509,310

Iraq \$45,531,664

Lebanon \$21,363,783

Pakistan \$6,474,520

Venezuela \$4,012,132

Syria \$1,364,702

Palestinian Authority \$1,050,000

Source: US Department of Education



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# What Are They Protesting?

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- A professor at the University of California, Berkeley hired a survey team to poll 250 students.
- He found that less than half (47%) of the students who chanted the slogan (From the River to the Sea) were able to name the river and the sea. Some of the alternative answers were the Nile and the Euphrates, the Caribbean, the Dead Sea, and the Atlantic.
- None of these students protested when Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad used poison gas against his own people or when Muslims in Sudan kill millions in an endless civil war.



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# How Should Schools Respond?

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- Start arresting agitators on campus who are not students or staff.
- Start deporting student protesters on a student visa.
- Announce that any student calling for genocide or intimidating other students will have their transcripts flagged so prospective employers will know about their character.
- The US Department of Education should fine any university that does not maintain safety for all students on campus (after all, the Biden administration just fined Liberty University for not maintaining campus security).



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# How Should Companies Respond?

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- Google recently fired 28 employees from its New York and Sunnyvale, California, offices.
- They were protesting the company's cloud-computing contract with Israel.
- The reason given by the company's vice president for global security, Chris Rackow, was that the sacked employees "took over office spaces, defaced our property and physically impeded the work of other Googlers," violating company policies.



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# Biblical Response

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- The Jews are God's chosen people, thus Satan opposes what God has chosen.
- If you think about it, antisemitism is irrational. Jews make up a very small percentage of the world's population. It isn't very rational to think that such a small number of people control the world's politics and economics.
- Hatred of Israel by Arab nations isn't rational. Israel is about the size of New Jersey and is surrounded by Arab countries with more than 500 times the land area.
- Yet, Israel is the epicenter of so much of the conflict in the Middle East.



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# Biblical Response

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- Even if someone doesn't believe the Jews are a chosen people, they should still treat the Jews with the same dignity as any other religious or ethnic group.
- All of us are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) and worthy of respect and dignity.
- We should also realize that once one ethnic or religious group is singled out for persecution, it may only be a matter of time before other groups will be marked for similar acts of disrespect, intolerance, and persecution.



# Resources

