

the Lord has definite plans for the Jewish people in the future.

God has promised that He will bless those who bless Israel, and will curse those who curse them. (Genesis 12:3; 27:29; Numbers 24:9) This does not mean that God overlooks wickedness on the part of individual Jews. It does mean that punishment of Israel as a nation is strictly in God's hand, and those who try, like Hitler, to destroy them will suffer terrible consequences. On the other hand, the greatest blessing that anyone can bring to a Jew is to lead him, through loving witness, to accept Christ as Saviour.

In every century since the time of Christ there have been individual Jews who have accepted Him as Saviour, and some of them have become great Christian leaders. The same is happening today, even though the mass of the nation continues in unbelief.

The Bible tells us that the time is coming when God will convert them all to Christ, as "a nation born in a day." You asked my opinion about the Talmud. I find that most people have very little idea what the Talmud is. Actually it is a very extensive collection of the opinions and discussions of a large number of rabbis in the early days of the present era. These men, who differed widely from one another as to intelligence and outlook, found pleasure in exhaustively discussing many minute subjects. Sometimes their logic was very excellent and at other times it seems rather twisted.

The Columbia Encyclopaedia rightly designates the Talmud as "a vast compilation." Further on in the same article this Encyclopedia describes one of the main sections of the Talmud in the following way: "The scholars engaged in the work were led away by their zeal and their love of hair-splitting dialectical arguments into so many extraneous channels that the work became an amazing mass of unsystematized information and comment on a variety of subjects such as astronomy, geography, historical gossip, domestic relations and folklore." Since the Talmud is such a miscellaneous collection of material no selection from it can give a true idea of its nature. It is extremely varied in quality and in material. One can select from the Talmud statements that will seem to be as degrading and disagreeable as one would find anywhere, or one can make a still larger collection of statements that are lofty and inspiring. It is a vast, miscellaneous collection of the views of many different