

Title: *“The Apologetics of Israel”*

Sub-Title: *“The Hand of God in the Rise of Israel”*

Introduction: As has been mentioned before Israel, in this teachers' opinion, can be seen as a picture of the Christian's life in the World. Israel has been in a struggle for survival for multi millennia. Israel has been attacked from all sides. Israel from Old Testament history has been the religious nation that has been surrounded by pagan nations. Even today, in a political sense, Israel is the one democracy in the Middle East. Jerusalem during her history had been attacked fifty-two times. Jerusalem has been captured forty-four times, and has been destroyed and plundered twice.

The apostle Paul spoke of his trials when he wrote in:

II Corinthians 11:23-27 “Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 22: - Dr. Andrew Knight

in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.”

Paul welcomed the trials in the Christian life, as he was assured of God's grace to be sufficient to meet these trials as seen in *II Corinthians 13::9-10* “For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, even your perfection. Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification, and not to destruction.”

Paul also had given instructions how to deal with spiritual warfare in *Ephesian 6:10-18* “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 22: - Dr. Andrew Knight

not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

In Isaiah chapter fourteen one sees three major themes. The first of course is the release of the Hebrews and the fall of Babylon. The next theme right in the middle of the chapter fourteen is the account of the fall of Satan and his “five I wills.” The third theme is the rise of Israel.

I. The apologetics of the Rise of Israel. Vs. 1-2

A. For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them, and bring them to their place: and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids: and they shall take them captives, whose captives they were; and they shall rule over their oppressors.”

1. Fulfilled prophecy is a powerful apologetic.
2. The Hebrew people were referred to as the Jews after 586 B.C., and were freed from captivity.
3. The Lord showed mercy to His people Israel.

4. The Lord brought the Jews back to Israel.

5. The Babylonian oppressors of the Hebrews became the servants of the Jews.

a.) The Lord choose Israel again.

1.) **Job 14:7** “For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.”

b.) The unbelievers returned to Egypt.

1.) **Hosea 9:3** “They shall not dwell in the LORD'S land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean things in Assyria.”

c.) Those believed on the coming Messiah went with the Jewish people to Israel.

II. The Apologetics of the fall of Babylon. Vs. 3-4

A. “And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve, That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!”

1. The suffering will be replaced with rest.
2. The Lord made the captivity come to an end.
3. The oppressors were stopped from their persecuting the Lord's people.

- a.) **Exodus 1:14** “And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.”
- b.) **Leviticus 25:39** “And if thy brother that dwelleth by thee be waxen poor, and be sold unto thee; thou shalt not compel him to serve as a bondservant:”

III. The Apologetics of the Fall of Satan. Vs. 12-14

A. “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”

1. Apologetic reason for sin.

- “If God is the Author of sin, the naturalist must accept that God exists.”
- “Since God wants moral goodness, He cannot be the Author of evil.”
- “For good to happen, man must have free will.”
- “Because man has free will, evil will happen.”
- “God allows evil to happen, so that maturity may result.”¹

¹ Andrew T. Knight, *Transformational Truth: A Biblical Apologetic*, Vol. 1 (New Smyrna Beach, FL: Knight Theological Publications, 2018), 32.

2. The apologetic reason for free will.

- “Everyone enjoys free will, therefore God is sovereign.”
- “God then, is the Source of all good.”
- “Evil actions or inaction leads to man’s culpability.”
- “Only a moral, just God can punish evil.”²

² Ibid., Knight, 36.

3. The apologetic reason for ethics.

- “Moral ethics must reside outside of man.”
- “God who is moral is the foundation of all ethics.”
- “Ethics therefore are based in a relationship with God.”
- “Moral ethics are adhered to by a changed heart.”
- The purpose of moral ethics is to become more like Jesus Christ.”³

³ Ibid., Knight, 39

B. The fall of Satan and ethical problems.

1. The fall of Satan has cursed the World.
2. Satan thought that he was the Saviour of the World.
3. Satan fell because of his evil pride.
4. Satan wanted to join the Trinity in their Divinity.
5. Satan mistook God's power for his own.
6. Satan is the counterfeit of God and all that is Holy.

IV. The Apologetics of the Lord's Purposes. Vs. 24-27

A. "The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand: That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders."

B. "This is the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this is the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations. For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?"

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 22: - Dr. Andrew Knight

1. Isaiah prophesied the Lord's purpose for His people.
2. Isaiah prophesied that the Lord would punish the enemies of God's people.
3. Isaiah prophesied that the Lord would relieve the burden of His people.
4. Isaiah prophesied that the Lord had a divine purpose for the whole World, and that the Lord's purpose would not be quenched.

Applications:

1. Call now to begin your personal relationship with Jesus Christ!
2. Download Knight's Notes on: [Excellent Way.tv](http://ExcellentWay.tv).
3. Read Isaiah chapter fifteen before we get together again.
4. Invite me to come and teach on apologetics at your church.
5. Share www.ExcellentWay.tv on you social media.
6. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, Dr. Andrew Knight, and share the videos with everyone.

Where we began:

- We began with the struggle for survival of Israel.
- We discussed the trials that Paul went through for the Gospel.
- We mentioned how Paul dealt with those fiery trials.
- We also looked at the apologetics of the rise of Israel.
- Next we looked at the apologetics of the fall of Babylon.
- We discussed the apologetics of Satan, and the reasons for his fall.
- Last, we talked about the apologetics of the Lord's purposes for the World.

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 22: - Dr. Andrew Knight

Next time:

- We will look at Isaiah chapter fifteen.
- And we will make apologetic applications from Isaiah chapter fifteen.