

The Doctrine of Antisemitism

Lane Casteix

August 2026

Introduction

We begin here with a study of antisemitism, which seems to be a topic much in the news these days. Antisemitism is clearly on the rise both internationally and, surprisingly, here in America. The reason may not be obvious to many, but we will eventually develop that in some detail during this study.

For now, we will define antisemitism as hostility, prejudice, or discrimination directed against Jewish people. It can target Jewish individuals, groups, or community institutions, and it manifests through hateful speech, stereotypes, vandalism, and physical violence, even murder.

That definition is mostly from the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. We will consider the definition in more detail later, but as we develop the background for this subject, you will see that the definition is accurate.

Why this subject?

Why? Simply because we are seeing a rise in antisemitism worldwide, and that is a forboding sign. The Jews have always been the subject of hatred and even outright attacks, both verbal and physical. If you have been paying attention to the news, surely you have noticed the increase in expressed hatred for the Jews. For example:

- The J7 Large Communities' Task Force Against Antisemitism released a new report that found that 2025 was the deadliest year for antisemitic attacks worldwide since 1994.
- According to the report, more than 23,000 antisemitic incidents were recorded across J7 countries in 2025, marking a 97% increase in violent incidents and a 136% increase in overall incidents compared with 2022.

- Australia has seen antisemitic incidents rise 270% since 2021 and was the site of the Bondi Beach terror attack in December 2025, which killed 15 people.
- Germany recorded a 215% increase in antisemitic incidents since 2021 and had the highest per-capita rate among J7 nations.
- In Canada, antisemitic incidents have increased 60% since 2021.
- The United States experienced a 131% increase in antisemitic incidents since 2021.
- France recorded a 124% increase in antisemitic incidents compared with 2021.
- In the United Kingdom, antisemitic incidents have risen 64% since 2021.
- Argentina, despite having a government that is supportive of Israel, "has generated conspiratorial antisemitic backlash from the left and from fringe nationalist movements," the report says. Antisemitic incidents there have increased 46% since 2021.

*Source: LiveNowFox News
and The J7 Large Communities'
Task Force Against Antisemitism*

Understand that this captures only violent events that made the news and does not include those that were not reported.

And it hits closer to home ... A good friend recently shared a story with me about this subject. Below is his reply to my previous email comment to him that "If I were a Jew today, I would be very concerned."

My friend replied, "Your comment reminds me of a conversation my wife and I had with a neighbor of ours a couple of months back. The couple are in their 70s and came to our home at our invitation for coffee/cake, as we see them regularly as we walk our dog, and they do the same. After a long conversation over the coffee, I invited them to our church, asking if they had not found a church. A long pause followed, and finally the wife said to her husband, 'Should we tell them?' He nodded approval. And to my utter surprise, she said, 'We don't go to church; we are Jews!' I almost fell off my chair! I told them I was pleasantly surprised to hear that, and that we are supporters of Israel and such. She said that with all the anti-semitic things occurring, they have become afraid of letting people know they are Jewish."

Let that sink in. With all the anti-semitic things occurring, they have become afraid of letting people know they are Jewish. This is in the Bible Belt American South!

That is my introduction, but before we get into the main topic, we must first establish some background. And since he is such a major player in antisemitism, we will begin with a study of the person of Satan, formerly called Lucifer.

Satan

Satan was the highest-ranking of all angels and ruler of all fallen angels. He is the most perfect and beautiful creature to come from the hand of God.

Ezekiel 28:12 “Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.’ “

The passage goes on to say that he has a voice like a pipe organ. He is superior in genius, beauty, personality, and persuasiveness, and he is invisible. He was the chief of angels, and his name was Lucifer, the Bright Morning Star. Satan is his name as the enemy of God. According to Psalm 8:5, angels are superior to mankind and have rank and organization. Cherubs, or covering angels, guard God's holiness. Seraphim, or the burning ones, lead in worship (Isaiah 6:2-3). The archangel is the commanding general of angelic armies.

Satan's sin of arrogance was evident when he said, "I will be like the Most High God" (Isaiah 14:13-14). He revolted against God, taking one-third of the angels with him (Ezekiel 28:12-19). Though he currently has access to Heaven and the Throne of God (Job 1:6), he will be cast out of Heaven in the middle of the Tribulation (Revelation 12:9). Satan then focuses his attacks on Israel (the woman) in an attempt to destroy the nation, especially those who are believers (Revelation 12:17).

At the second advent, he will be cast into the Abyss where he will remain during the Millennium and be released briefly at the end (Revelation 20:1-3). When Satan is released, he will lead another rebellion that will be put down by God (Revelation 20:7-9). He will be cast into the Lake of Fire (Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28; Revelation 20:10) as his final and eternal destination.

Satan is the central antagonist of the angelic conflict (Genesis 6). There are four major demon attacks on the human race.

1. The genetic attack on the antediluvian civilization (Genesis 6:1-13).
2. The attack of demon possession throughout history.
3. The attack of demon influence throughout history.
4. The attack of demon armies in the Tribulation (Revelation 9).

He is the origin of murder and violence in the human race (Genesis 6:4-11; John 8:44). He is the enemy of Christ (Revelation 12:4).

He is called the Anointed Cherub. As such, he held the highest position of all angelic creatures. He is now lower than the Seraphim, who are in command of the elect angels.

He is the greatest deceiver of history. To be such a deceiver, the devil must be the greatest and most effective liar in history.

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

The permissive will of God is always related to the testing of believers. A perfect example of this principle is the story of Job. All that he went through was executed by Satan with the permission of God, except that Satan was not allowed to kill Job. He cannot use his power without God's permission, especially in matters of death. God never lets it go beyond the boundaries of the punishment He has already ordained.

There is constant satanic attack against believers in the form of condemnation as a part of Satan's appeal trial. He picks on carnal believers for punishment and mature believers for testing. Believers must understand that the appeal trial of Satan is a constant and ongoing function both in heaven and on earth.

God is never unfair. All of us will experience the possibility of punishment for perpetual carnality through the permissive will of God. God permits certain evil forces to attack us as a means of discipline for perpetual carnality. God must have all your attention at all times. If we do not give

God our attention, God will take steps to get our attention. God's grace extends even to severity, bringing us back in line and teaching us lessons the hard way.

Hebrews 12:6 It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Where believers are concerned, it is impossible for God to do anything apart from grace, which means apart from love. The punishment is designed under the love of God. God often uses wicked people or even Satan himself as a means of correction. This means that Satan enters into the permissive will of God and punishes us in hatred. God disciplines us in love.

True love for God is built on the foundation of humility and respect. Humility is recognition of and obedience to God's authority. This humility forms respect, which is true love for God. Love for God is the motivation to advance to the high ground of spiritual maturity and meet all the testing that would come your way.

The Fall of Satan.

Each of Satan's five boastful presumptions against the will of God is an expression of a negative mental attitude and reveals Satan as the author of negative volition. Volition always implies the existence of free will.

There are five "I wills" in Isaiah 14:12-14 in which Satan made a decision.

1. "I will ascend to heaven;" Satan wanted to displace God as the ruler of the third heaven.
2. "I will raise my throne above the stars of God." The stars of God refer to angels (Job 38:7; Revelation 12:3-4). He wants to take over all the angels, not just one third of them.
3. "And I will sit on the mount of the assembly in the recesses of the north." This is the place where Satan's trial took place. He believes he will change God's mind.
4. "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds." He believes that once he breaks down God's judgment to the Lake of Fire, then he will be able to take over from God. This indicates Satan's obsession

with supplanting God and controlling all of God's creation, which would save him from being cast into the Lake of Fire.

5. "I will make myself like the Most High." Satan thought he would take God's authority away from Him.

Sin first enters the person through the realm of the mind as a mental attitude. You think it before you do it. It is a free-will decision, whether conscious or unconscious.

When did this fall take place? Scripture isn't explicit on this point. We have to draw conclusions from the study of related passages.

It is generally taught in Christian churches that the universe is about 6,000 years old. A lot of "evidence" suggests that this may not be a complete answer. The study of these "evidence" passages suggests Adam and Eve were indeed created some 6,000 years ago, but the earth and the universe are much older. How much older? Don't know. Furthermore, angels were created even before that unknown date.

This is known as the "Gap Theory," with the "gap" referring to an assumed time gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. In other words, God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1). Then some unknown period of time passed before Genesis 1:2 where it says, "The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

I have taught this before, so this will be a review.

The Gap Theory

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

The word translated as "created" is the Hebrew word *bara'*, meaning to create something out of nothing. Other words could have been used, such as *yatsar* – to make something from already existing material. God created Adam, *bara*, but He formed his body from the dust, *yatsar*. Or the Hebrew *asah* could have been used, which means to make or form something after a pattern. God said, "Let us make man in our own image according to our likeness," *asah*. Or the Hebrew *banah* could have been used, which means to build something and depicts the divine construction of the female body. The Lord fashioned, *banah*, the rib which He had taken from the man into

a woman... In this case of building from something else, biological life is part of the building elements.

But God used *barah* to create the heavens and the earth out of nothing. God is perfect. Genesis clearly says this perfect God created the heavens and the earth from nothing. Is there any reason to believe that a perfect God, with no restrictions on His materials (created from nothing), would create anything less than perfect? Of course not! Then we have a problem in verse 2.

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

The earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the deep. Traditionally, this is believed to mean that God created the earth in a semi-finished form and needed to finish the job, as we see in the following verses called the “six days of creation.” But if we do a word study of three key Hebrew words used here, we get an entirely different picture.

“Without form” is the Hebrew *tohuw*, meaning chaos, confusion, desolation, i.e., a desert wasteland. “Void” is the Hebrew word *bohuw*, meaning to be empty, an indistinguishable ruin, void. We add the conjunctive *wa*, and we have “*tohuw wa bohuw*,” translated in the KJV as “formless and void.” This is a fairly good literal translation, but when we apply our understanding of the Hebrew words without the preconceived notion that this is a picture of a “partially” formed earth, we get a translation that sounds more like this: “The earth was a chaotic, desolate wasteland and in ruin.”

This doesn’t sound very perfect, does it?

There is more. “But the earth was” is problematic. The verse begins with the distinctive conjunction “but,” followed by the Hebrew verb *hayah*, which should be translated as “became.” When translated correctly, the verse reads “but the earth became formless and void” or, more appropriately, “the earth became a chaotic, desolate wasteland and in ruin.”

And there is more still. The word translated “darkness” is *choshek*, meaning the dark; hence (literally) darkness, night, or obscurity. But figuratively, the word means misery, destruction, death, ignorance, sorrow, or wickedness. There are several other words that could be translated as “darkness” and used here but were not, and that is significant.

The Hebrew word *eyphah* could have been used, meaning “darkness” or “obscurity” (as if covered). This would be darkness, as if a heavy blanket were thrown over your head. The Hebrew word *ophel* could have been used, meaning darkness associated with a setting sun. But these were not used. Instead, the Hebrew word *choshek* appears in Genesis 1:2. Though it literally means “darkness,” it is often used elsewhere in the OT to denote spiritual darkness rather than physical darkness.

Let’s examine how this word *choshek*, translated as “darkness,” is used elsewhere in the OT.

In Job 5:13-14, we see that the wicked are brought to destruction, and “darkness comes upon them in the daytime; at noon they grope as in the night.” This is not literal darkness but spiritual darkness.

In Job 19:1-8, we see Job in despair over his condition. In verse 8, his paths are “shrouded” in “darkness.” Job’s life is full of misery and despair, not physical darkness.

In Job 29:1-3, in his discourse, Job says that when God’s light shines on him (blessings), he is able to meet and deal with adversity: “by his light I walked through darkness.” This is not a divine flashlight, literal light shining into literal darkness. Job is talking about spiritual darkness.

In 2 Samuel 22:29, God is depicted as a lamp that turns “darkness into light.” God is a shining light that enables Samuel to confront the darkness of death, ignorance, and adversity—spiritual darkness..

Choshek does not denote literal darkness, as in the absence of light. Its uses in the OT suggest it is more of a figurative darkness that represents misery, destruction, death, ignorance, sorrow, and wickedness; in other words, a spiritual darkness.

What we have here is an earth described in terms that portray it in a far worse condition than a merely incomplete state. These terms are commonly associated with sin and judgment. Furthermore, the verse implies the earth did not start out this way but rather *became* such.

Now we have an expanded translation that reads something like this, “But the earth became a chaotic, desolate wasteland in ruin and spiritual darkness....”

If we assume that God created a perfect earth in Genesis 1:1, but the earth in verse 2 is severely “damaged,” having become that way, can we support that from Scripture elsewhere? There is a passage in Job that seems to allude to this damaged earth.

Job 38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:
² “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
³ Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me. ⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷ **when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?** (Emphasis added)

God is dressing down Job for challenging Him, but note that the angels were present at creation (v. 7). The creation of the heavens and the earth must have occurred **after** the creation of angelic beings (the morning stars and the sons of God) but before Lucifer’s fall because they were present at creation (v. 7). If Job is so smart, where was he when God created the heavens and the earth and “laid the earth’s foundations” (vs. 4)? Now it gets interesting....

Job 38:8 “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹ when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰ and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹ and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?”

The sea is “shut up behind doors”? The word here is *cakak*, meaning to hedge in or cover, as in enclosing something behind a wall or fence. In verse 9, God says he wrapped the earth in clouds, “in a thick darkness.” In verse 10, God set limits on it. The KJV uses a different translation: “And brake up for it my decreed *place*, and set bars and doors.” “Break up” is *shabar*, meaning to crush or destroy. “Decreed” is *choq*, indicating this was intentional. “Set” is *suwm*, meaning to put something, in this case behind “bars and doors,” which implies restricted access. Verse 11 further reinforces this picture of restricted access.

In simpler terms, this resembles the picture of Earth described in Genesis 1:2. It is in a damaged state, wrapped in darkness, with no light reaching its surface. God shut up the waters (an extended ice age?) and placed an “off-limits” sign on Earth, “put it behind bars and doors.” The “sign” said, “This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt” (Job 38:11). The Earth is uninhabitable, and access to it is restricted, all by God’s divine decree. What we see in Job is the same picture of the Earth as the Hebrew words *tohuw wa bohuw* in Genesis 1:2.

There are other passages that support this.

Isaiah 45:18 For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, **he formed it to be inhabited!**): “I am the LORD, and there is no other. (Emphasis added)

God himself created the earth “not empty.” Guess what that word “empty” is in Hebrew? It is the same word found in verse 2 of Genesis 1, *tohuw*, which means chaos, confusion, and desolation, i.e., a desert wasteland. Isaiah 45:18 says God did not create it in the condition described in Genesis 1:2. Of course not; God would have created it perfect. It became *tohuw and bohuw*.

If we see the earth in Genesis 1:2 as having been created perhaps millions of years earlier but now in a damaged state, then what is happening during the “six days of creation” in the following verses of Genesis 1? I believe we have not six days of creation but six literal days of re-creation and restoration, as God restores the earth to its former undamaged state and makes it once again habitable, this time for mankind. Can I support that? I think so.

Refer back to our passage in Isaiah 45:18 and look at the end of that verse. It says, “he formed it to be inhabited.” The word translated “formed” is not *bara’*, which means to create out of nothing and is the word used in Genesis 1:1 for “God created the heavens....” It is *yatsar*, which means to make something from already existing material. He created it to be inhabited. Initially, that was for the angelic beings, but here it is being made ready for mankind.

When you examine the original language, Isaiah 45:18 seems to say that God originally created the earth out of nothing (*bara’*), not “empty” (*tohuw*), and formed (*yatsar*) it from preexisting materials *for habitation*.

Take a look at Exodus 20.

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day...

This, of course, is a reference to Genesis 1:1. “In six days the Lord made....” The word used there is *bara’*, which means to create something out of nothing. God created the heavens and the earth out of nothing. But *bara’* is not the word used in Exodus 20:11. That word is *asa*, which means to make or form something after a pattern. There is no suggestion of creation out of nothing. This would imply that the six days of creation are not six days spent creating something, but six days spent recreating it “after a pattern.” God is using matter that already existed and forming it into the likeness of something that already existed.

So what am I saying here?

- Genesis 1:1 describes the creation of the “heavens and the earth” from nothing by a perfect God, and therefore the earth itself is perfect.
- There is then an undetermined period of time, perhaps millions of human years, before we reach Genesis 1:2.
- Sometime during that period, God decrees that the earth should be *tohuw wa bohuw*, desolate and a wasteland in spiritual darkness. That was not the way He created it.
- The earth is locked down under clouds, in darkness, its seas “shut up,” and is placed off-limits.
- In Genesis 1:2, we see the earth in this *tohuw wa bohuw* state.

- The six days of creation that follow in Genesis are really six days of restoring the earth to its former splendor, preparing it to be inhabited by man.

I will admit this flies in the face of conventional teaching and may be incorrect, but you have seen scriptural evidence that seems to support it. Many learned expositors of the Word agree with this position, and many do not.

Verse 2 of Genesis chapter 1 presents the earth as damaged, certainly less than perfect. If we accept the premise that a perfect God created a perfect earth in verse 1, and we see the earth in a severely damaged state in verse 2, then we have to ask two questions:

1. What happened to cause God to do this to Earth?
2. And who was locked out? (Job 38:8-11)

I believe angels had access to Earth between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2, but they lost that access as a result of the angelic rebellion and Satan's fall from grace. Sometime during this period between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, Satan and his fallen angels were "locked out" of where they formerly had access.

We know from Job 38 that the angels were present at the *creation* of the heavens and the earth. While I can't prove it scripturally, I believe the "heavens and the earth" were originally created as an environment for angels. One expositor describes the Earth during this pre-Adamic period as a place of rest and recreation for angels. I am not prepared to stand on that, but I believe I can support the contention that Lucifer had access to a pre-Adamic, pre-*tohuw wa bohuw* Earth, and that either it was the actual scene of Lucifer's rebellion or Earth played a major role in it.

Let's return to Ezekiel 28. In Ezekiel 28:2, we find a prophecy against the "prince of Tyre."

Ezekiel 28:1 The word of the LORD came to me: ² "Son of man, say to the **prince of Tyre**, Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because your heart is proud, and you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of the gods, in the heart of the seas,' yet you are but a man, and no god, though you make your heart like the heart of a god— (Emphasis added)

In verse 2, the term “son of man” refers to the prophet Ezekiel. God says, “Now, Ezekiel, I want you to say this to the prince of Tyre....” This evil ruler is about to face God’s wrath, and God wants Ezekiel to warn him (verses 2-11).

Ezekiel 28:12 “Son of man, raise a lamentation over the **king of Tyre**, and say to him, Thus says the Lord GOD: “You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared. ¹⁴ You were an anointed guardian cherub. I placed you; you were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. ¹⁵ You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you. (Emphasis added)

Ezekiel 28:13 says, “You were in Eden, the garden of God....” Lucifer, the anointed cherub, was in “Eden, the Garden of God.” You say, “Of course he was, as the serpent.” Is this a serpent you see in this glowing description of Lucifer? If this description is of Lucifer, the anointed angel before the fall, then it is after Genesis 1:1, when the “perfect” earth was created, but before the imperfect earth described in Genesis 1:2.

Now notice that in verse 2 the message is addressed to the “prince of Tyre,” but in verse 12 the warning is directed against the “king of Tyre.” What becomes clear in verses 12-15 is that this is directed to the true ruler of Tyre, the one who controls the “prince of Tyre,” namely Satan, and the detailed description in verses 13-15 supports this. This is obviously no ordinary man; the “king of Tyre” is an anointed cherub (v. 13), a specific order of angelic beings, in fact, a very high-ranking order and a high-ranking (anointed) member of that order. Yes, my beloved, this is a description of Lucifer, the anointed cherub, *before* the fall and before his name was changed to Satan. How do we know it is Lucifer before his fall and not after?

Ezekiel 28:13 You **were in Eden, the garden of God**; every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your

settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared.

Notice that the glowing description of the king of Tyre that follows is of him when “You *were* in Eden, the garden of God,” past tense. It goes on to describe him in glowing terms, and “every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, emerald, and carbuncle; and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared.”

This is what he looked like when he was in Eden, the Garden of God, suggesting that Lucifer was in Eden **before his fall** and before the earth was made *tohuw wa bohuw*. He is described as “You *were* the signet...” in the past tense, meaning he isn’t in that state in this Ezekiel passage. The pending chastisement Ezekiel warns about is **after Satan’s fall**, when he is acting as the “king of Tyre.”

Confusing, I know. Try this.

The key point to note is that Satan was “in Eden, the garden of God” when he is described in this superlative way. This suggests that Satan’s fall occurred sometime between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2.

It would appear from this study that

1. The angels were created first. They were present at the creation of the heavens and the earth (Job 38:1-7).
2. Then the heavens and the earth were created (Genesis 1:1).
3. Then Lucifer, the anointed cherub, “was in Eden, the Garden of God” (Ezekiel 28:12-15) when Earth was used by the angels.
4. Satan’s fall occurred sometime after that *but before Genesis 1:2* (and following), when he appears in his fallen state as the serpent to tempt Eve and the prince of Tyre.
5. As a result of Satan’s fall, the earth was placed in this lockdown and became *tohuw wa bohuw* (Gen. 1:2).
6. After an undetermined period of time, we have the *recreation* of the damaged earth in preparation for mankind's occupation (Genesis 1:3 and following).