Doctrine of Antisemitism, Part 5

Five Cycles of Discipline

Background and Introduction.

The five cycles of discipline are part of a system of discipline relating mainly to client nations. They are grounded in the principle that Jesus Christ controls history directly, indirectly, and permissively.

- He controls history directly through the function of His own divine essence.
- He controls history indirectly through the laws of divine establishment.
- He controls history permissively by allowing nations to destroy themselves of their own volition. For no nation is ever destroyed by an outside power before it is first destroyed from within by its own individual and collective bad decisions — negative volition.

Psalm 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.
9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

The dispensation of Israel, also called the "Age of the Law," began with the Exodus and ended with the Cross. Thus, most of the Old Testament Canon is devoted to studying the Jewish client nations. Five Jewish client nations existed during the Age of Israel (or Age of the Law).

1. The Theocratic Kingdom from the Exodus to the time of Samuel, 1441 - 1020 BC.
2. The United Kingdom from Saul to Rehoboam, 1020 - 926 BC.
3. The Northern Kingdom from Jeroboam to Hoshea, 926 - 721 BC. The fifth cycle of discipline was imposed on the Northern Kingdom by Assyria under Sargon II.
4. The Southern Kingdom from Rehoboam to Zedekiah, 926 - 586 BC. The fifth cycle of discipline was administered to the Southern Kingdom in 586 by the Chaldeans under Nebuchadnezzar. Seventy years of captivity or slavery extended from 586 - 516 BC.
5. The restored nation of Judea from Zerubbabel in 516 BC - AD 70. The fifth cycle of discipline was administered to Judea by the Romans, first under Vespasian and then by his son, Titus.

With the fall of Jerusalem in August AD 70, no more Jewish client nations existed until the Kingdom/Millennium following the Second Advent.

The Church Age (Age of Grace) is the “Times of the Gentiles,” the period in history when only Gentile nations can be client nations to God. We live in the Times of the Gentiles.

At present, we, the people of the United States, are a Gentile client nation to God and are liable to the Supreme Court of Heaven for the fifth cycle of discipline. The client nation's deliverance from discipline depends on a pivot of mature believers.

The principles of hope for the client nation:

1. You cannot buy hope; it is not for sale. You cannot legislate hope. Therefore, the government cannot give you hope.
2. The client nation's only hope lies in the unique spiritual life of the Church Age and the pivot of mature believers.
3. Only those believers who live out the unique spiritual life of the Church Age and become spiritually mature, Christ-occupied believers can deliver this nation from the fifth cycle of discipline.
4. The only hope for the client nation USA is for believers to demonstrate positive volition toward the Word and advance to the high ground of spiritual maturity for God's maximum glory.

Positive vs Negative Volition

A client nation's failure or success depends on the volition of the believers resident in that nation. Thus, we say, “As goes the believer, so goes the client nation.”

I have mentioned “positive volition” before, and perhaps I ought to define it for you. The following is from a work-in-progress study by Pastor Dave McPherson. I think he captures the idea well.

> Positive volition is the disposition of the human heart to be receptive or responsive to divine revelation either in pre- or post-conversion. This results from the Holy Spirit's ongoing ministry (John 16:7-11). This is seen in I Thessalonians 2:13 and Proverbs 10:8. Romans 3:11 describes depraved humanity as having no desire for God. The exception is when

> God is working in the human heart to create desire. That desire may be called “positive volition,” but it may not be immediately evident to other believers.

Pastor Dave goes on to say:

> Such positive volition reveals the person's humility by providing a “teachable” spirit to hear and obey God’s word (Psalm 25:9; 34:18).
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> Positive volition may also be expressed as “hungering” and “thirsting” for God and His word (Matthew 5:6; Isaiah 55:1; Psalm 42:1-2; 63:1). Just as there are times when we feel greater physical hunger or thirst, so also there may be occasions when our spiritual appetite is heightened, prompting us to seek Him.
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> Terms that may be viewed as synonymous with “positive volition” include: Fear of the Lord, seeking the Lord, and waiting upon the Lord.
>
> When this positive volition is diminished in a believer, it may result in divine chastisement (Revelation 2:16, 23).
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> While volition is specified, the mind and emotions (soul) play a valued part in this desire to know the Creator. For instance, the intellect helps sort out the various claims to truth, while emotion can fuel motivation.
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> Repentance may be said to be an element in “positive volition,” as it reflects a change from hostility or apathy to the Gospel (Romans 2:4; Rev.3:3).
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> Sustained positive volition leads to a stabilized walk with Christ (Philippians 3:14-16), genuine godliness in life (Colossians 1:22-23), and ultimate reward before the judgment Seat of Christ (I John 2:28; Revelation 2:7, 10, 17, 26).
>
> **Widespread positive volition in a society preserves that society. Widespread negative volition in a society leads to its destruction.**

As goes the believer, so goes the client nation. It is all our fault!

The First Cycle of Discipline

Leviticus 26:14 But if you will not listen to me and will not do all these commandments, **15** if you spurn my statutes, and if your soul abhors my rules, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant, **16** then I will do this to you: I will visit you with panic, with wasting disease and fever that consume the eyes and make the heart ache. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. **17** I will set my face against you, and you shall be struck down before your enemies. Those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when none pursues you.

Obedience in Israel meant:

- The execution of God's plan for that dispensation.
- It meant the execution of the three categories of the Mosaic Law.
- It meant perception of doctrine as it was revealed at that time, first through the Torah and then through the prophets.

The commandments refer to the three parts of the Mosaic Law:

1. The first part of the Mosaic Law is the “Decalogue,” the freedom code consisting of ten commandments. These commandments define freedom in terms of morality, privacy, property, and authority. Freedom without authority is anarchy; authority without freedom is tyranny. The Ten Commandments also define freedom in terms of the relationship with God.
2. The second part is called the “Ordinances.” This is the spiritual code of worship. It graphically presents soteriology and Christology through the Tabernacle and Temple furniture, the Levitical priesthood, the holy days, and the Levitical sacrifices. This spiritual code presents the Gospel and Jesus Christ as the God of Israel.
3. The third part is called the “Judgments.” It is an establishment code that includes explanations on freedom, privacy, marriage, criminal law, taxation (tithing), military policy and freedom through military victory, diet, health, sanitation, quarantine, free enterprise, and profit motivation. It outlaws violence, terrorism, civil disobedience, and revolution.

In verse 16, “panic,” translated elsewhere as “sudden terror,” captures the function of terrorism as it existed in the ancient world. It also refers to violence, unrestrained criminality, and hostility from other nations.

“Wasting disease and fever” refers to epidemics, marking the beginning of the end for great nations.

The final phrase of verse 16, “And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it,” refers to crop failures, economic disaster, and depression.

Verse 17 says, “I will set my face against you, and you shall be struck down before your enemies. Those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when none pursues you.” In the first cycle, this defeat by enemies refers only to preliminary wars. Our loss in warfare began with Korea and Vietnam. The Hebrew word for “hate” here denotes hate rooted in envy. The Jews were recipients of such fantastic blessings from God that they were envied and then hated.

“You will flee when no one is pursuing you" is an idiom that suggests the general population becomes cowardly and afraid of war. They lack motivation from patriotism or spiritual life. The population will do anything to avoid war, even surrendering whatever advantage it has nationally or internationally.

The Second Cycle of Discipline

> **Leviticus 26:18** And if in spite of this you will not listen to me, then I will discipline you again sevenfold for your sins, **19** and I will break the pride of your power, and I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze.

Everything in the first cycle is intensified sevenfold in the second cycle.

> **Leviticus 26:19** I will break the pride of your power, and I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze.

Verse 19 says that once the first cycle of discipline is administered and it does not turn the nation around, arrogance sets in. The “heavens like iron

and the earth like bronze" refers to drought and failed crops, meaning economic disaster and resulting in economic depression.

> **Leviticus 26:20** And your strength shall be spent in vain, for your land shall not yield its increase, and the trees of the land shall not yield their fruit.

The second cycle of discipline is marked by crop failures, depression, a lack of national pride, and people working hard for nothing (inflation). All their efforts will be in vain.

The Third Cycle of Discipline

> **Leviticus 26:21** Then if you walk contrary to me and will not listen to me, I will continue striking you, sevenfold for your sins.

In the third cycle, epidemics and illnesses intensify across the land. Today, this may manifest as the recurrence of childhood diseases and epidemics such as COVID, whether real or government-mandated.

> **Leviticus 26:22** And I will let loose the wild beasts against you, which shall bereave you of your children and destroy your livestock and make you few in number, so that your roads shall be deserted.

Verse 22 warns of violence spilling from both animals and people. Crime gets out of control, commerce halts, and natural disasters strike.

When you are in trouble, the principles of security become herd-bound, as in utopian socialism. When herd-bound concepts of security replace freedom, human volition makes self-destructive decisions.

The Fourth Cycle of Discipline

Now God will truly judge the nation. There will be widespread, uncontrollable crime, military defeat, disease, a shortage of food, and even greater natural disasters.

> **Leviticus 26:23** And if by this discipline you are not turned to me but walk contrary to me…

This is negative volition toward God and any divine solutions.

> **Leviticus 26:24** Then I also will walk contrary to you, and I myself will strike you sevenfold for your sins."

Negative volition intensifies the previous cycles, adding something more, as stated in verse 25.

> **Leviticus 26:25** And I will bring a sword upon you, that shall execute vengeance for the covenant. And if you gather within your cities, I will send pestilence among you, and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

One of the great signs of losing freedom is the breakdown of the military establishment. The entire book of Numbers is devoted to setting up a mobilization plan that leads to military disaster. Why did the Jews have to retreat into their cities? Because their cities were fortified and their armies could not win in the field. Once cities become overcrowded, disease becomes rampant.

> **Leviticus 26:26** When I break your supply of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in a single oven and shall dole out your bread again by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied.

When an army begins to lose a war on its own soil, the first thing to go is the food supply. People starve, as the South did in the last year of the War Between the States. One inevitable result of the fourth cycle of discipline is starvation. Ten women baking bread in one oven means there is food rationing — “and you shall eat and not be satisfied.”

The Fifth Cycle of Discipline

Now there is nothing to eat. Enemies have taken over the country, either by invasion or by being voted into office by its citizens. People are enslaved.

> **Leviticus 26:27** But if in spite of this you will not listen to me, but walk contrary to me, **28** Then I will walk contrary to you in fury, and I myself

will discipline you sevenfold for your sins. 29 You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.

Things are so dire that people sink to cannibalism. No longer do you eat bread and rationed food, as in the fourth cycle; now you eat your children! Cannibalism is the total breakdown of all establishment principles. This type of cannibalism actually occurred between 66 and 70 AD among Jews of Jerusalem under siege by the Roman army, as documented by the historian Josephus. Civilization, as we know it, suddenly departs in the fifth cycle of discipline.

Leviticus 26:30 And I will destroy your high places and cut down your incense altars and cast your dead bodies upon the dead bodies of your idols, and my soul will abhor you.

The high places are the meeting places for false cults. Today, this would refer to churches that teach false doctrines.

Leviticus 26:31 I will turn your cities into ruins, and lay waste to your sanctuaries; I will take no delight in the fact that you suddenly start offering sacrifices. 32 And I myself will devastate the land, so that your enemies who settle in it shall be appalled at it. 33 And I will scatter you among the nations, and I will unsheathe the sword after you, and your land shall be a desolation, and your cities shall be a waste.

Being scattered among nations means you go into slavery. This happened to the Jewish people three times.

Leviticus 26:34 Then the land shall enjoy its Sabbaths as long as it lies desolate, while you are in your enemies' land; then the land shall rest, and enjoy its Sabbaths.

The Jews had ignored seventy Sabbatical years, and therefore the Southern Kingdom was sentenced to seventy years of slavery.

Leviticus 26:35 As long as it lies desolate it shall have rest, the rest that it did not have on your Sabbaths when you were dwelling in it. 36 And as for those of you who are left, I will send faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies. The sound of a driven leaf shall put them to flight,

and they shall flee as one flees from the sword, and they shall fall when none pursues.

Fear and uncertainty pervade the land. People actually die of fright.

Leviticus 26:37 They shall stumble over one another, as if to escape a sword, though none pursues. And you shall have no power to stand before your enemies.

“No power” means no military establishment to defend freedom and no patriotic motivation.

Leviticus 26:38 And you shall perish among the nations, and the land of your enemies shall eat you up.

Enemies of the Jews, such as Assyria, Chaldea, and Rome, “consumed” Israel under the fifth cycle.

Deuteronomy 28:49-67 offers an even more horrifying description, expanding on what Leviticus says.

Deuteronomy 28:66 Your life shall hang in doubt before you. Night and day you shall be in dread and have no assurance of your life.

Isaiah warned the Northern Kingdom, and Jeremiah warned the Southern Kingdom during the first administration of the fifth cycle of discipline for each nation. But the warnings went unheeded.

Historical Examples of the Fifth Cycle of Discipline to Jewish Client Nations.

The fifth cycle of discipline was administered to the Northern Kingdom in 721 BC (Hosea 4:1-6). Elijah, Elisha, and Amos all prophesied the coming of the fifth cycle of discipline. 2 Kings 17 provides the historical account, and Isaiah 28:1-13 provides the prophetic account.

The fifth cycle of discipline was administered to the Southern Kingdom in 586 BC (Jeremiah 50:17; 7:24-29) because they did not listen to the teaching of doctrine (Jeremiah 15:5-6; 13:10-11,17; 17:27; 35:13). The

overt manifestation of Jewish reversionism in the Southern Kingdom was idolatry (Jeremiah 2:27-30; 3:9; 7:17-20; 13:10; 17:1-4). The duration of the first fifth cycle of discipline for the Southern Kingdom was seventy years, corresponding to all the sabbatical years they had skipped (Exodus 23:10-11; Leviticus 25:3-4; 26:33-36; 2 Chronicles 36:20-21; Jeremiah 25:11-12; 29:10; Daniel 9:2; 24-27).

The fifth cycle of discipline was administered to Judea in AD 70. Our Lord prophesied this in Luke 21:20-24. The Jews were dispersed throughout the world as slaves. The gift of tongues was also a warning to Israel that they were about to lose their status as God's priest nation. The dispensation of the Church and the completion of the Jewish Age both occur while Israel is under the fifth cycle of discipline.

The warnings in the first four cycles of discipline should be understood as grace warnings about what may follow if the client nation does not recover. If those warnings are ignored, then in the fifth cycle of discipline, the nation loses all its blessings associated with its client nation status and may even be destroyed. Its citizens are either killed or enslaved.

The fifth cycle of discipline is described in two passages of the Old Testament, so that both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms had adequate warning about it (Leviticus 26:27-46; Deuteronomy 28:49-67).

The overt cause of the fifth cycle of discipline under Assyria and Caldea was apostasy and idolatry (Jeremiah 2:27-30; 3:9; 7:17-20; 13:10; 17:1-4).

The present dispersion is due to apostasy and Israel's rejection and murder of their promised Christ. Client Nation status then shifted to Gentile nations, with the United States serving as the current Client Nation.

Why the cycles of discipline for client nations? Hosea answers that question:

> **Hosea 4:1** Hear the word of the LORD, O children of Israel, for the LORD has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or steadfast love, and no knowledge of God in the land;
> **2** there is swearing, lying, murder, stealing, and committing adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed. **3** Therefore the land mourns, and all who dwell in it languish, and also the beasts of the field

and the birds of the heavens, and even the fish of the sea are taken away. 4 Yet let no one contend, and let none accuse, for with you is my contention, O priest. 5 You shall stumble by day; the prophet also shall stumble with you by night; and I will destroy your mother. 6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

This passage is addressed to believers. Ultimately, they are responsible for a client nation's rise or fall. The Lord has a case [indictment] against the inhabitants of the client nation because no doctrine is taught and no grace is applied; “there is no knowledge of God in the land."

Just as God had an indictment against the Jewish client nations, so today He has an indictment against a Gentile client nation, the United States of America. Negative volition and a shrinking pivot bring about these disasters.

"Because nothing of doctrine is taught." Bible teaching is in weak demand in a time of apostasy. As a result, "nothing of grace is being applied.” Instead, works are taught, or the feel-good prosperity gospel, or lordship salvation, or the false doctrine that you can lose your salvation. When both grace and doctrine are gone, you are left with apostasy.

“The land mourns" means the people are miserable under the cycles of discipline. Social, business, and spiritual life are gone; there is nothing but abject misery. "All who dwell in it languish" signifies the loss of national courage, patriotism, vitality, and strength. Animals suffer when people do. People become viciously cruel under the cycles of discipline.

Teachers and prophets “stumble,” teaching false doctrines and leading believers astray, resulting in no spiritual growth and little to no pivot.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

A client nation to God is a priest nation because it represents God in three ways. The freedom developed in the client nation means:

1. Freedom for evangelism in the nation.
2. Freedom to teach doctrine in the nation.
3. Freedom to send missionaries to other countries to communicate the Gospel and to form converts into indigenous local churches.

Today, the United States is a priest nation. At the rate we are going, it may not be a client nation tomorrow. The only hope for this country lies in your soul. If negative volition prevails, we will go down. If positive volition surges, it could form a pivot strong enough to deliver this country from extreme discipline.

The human solution is no solution; the divine solution is the only one. A nation without Bible doctrine is a nation without solutions.

As goes the believer, so goes the client nation to God.

The Solution to the Fifth Cycle of Discipline.

Church Age believers have been born again to serve the Lord. The moment we believed in Christ, we received all the equipment needed to live the spiritual life. God has a specific purpose for each of our lives. He has a job for each of you to do. Each of you has been given at least one spiritual gift. Is it functioning? If not, are you perhaps being prepared for it? Are you growing spiritually?

We serve the Lord in many ways, depending on our spiritual gifts and spiritual maturity. Our spiritual growth depends on our commitment to learn from Scripture what God is calling us *to do and be for Him*. We are designed to serve God in times of crisis by becoming part of the pivot of mature believers. You cannot serve God in your spiritual gift and continue to sin in your area of weakness. You cannot serve the Lord while grieving and quenching the Holy Spirit. You cannot grieve and quench the Holy Spirit and get away with it.

Quenching the Spirit is found in 1 Thessalonians 5:19: “Do not quench the Holy Spirit." Quenching the Spirit is generally associated with sins of cognizance. The verb denotes the deliberate suppression of the ministry of the filling of the Spirit through perpetual carnality and the rejection of the recovery procedure found in 1 John 1:9. Rejection of the recovery procedure (rebound) results in the believer's failure to live out their spiritual life to its fullest.

Ephesians 4:30 speaks of grieving the Holy Spirit. Grieving the Spirit underscores believers' failure, through personal sin, to attain spiritual maturity and God's full glory.

Quenching the Holy Spirit is resisting doctrine that conflicts with preconceived notions about life in general and with false ideas challenged by Bible teaching.

Grieving the Holy Spirit encompasses various categories of sins that result in extended or even perpetual carnality.

> **Ephesians 4:30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Both commands are active imperatives of prohibition with the negative *me*, meaning to stop doing something you are already doing.

Believers who do not repent initiate the fifth cycle of discipline. We cannot serve the Lord unless we are filled with the Spirit. Christian service and sin cannot co-exist in the spiritual life. The recovery procedure in 1 John 1:9 begins the solution to perpetual carnality in the client nation. The advance to the high ground of spiritual maturity is the only solution to the fifth cycle of discipline.

As goes the believer, so goes the client nation.