

# *Perspective*

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## **Will Joseph Be Betrayed Again?**

Anciently, a young Joseph, who was the favorite son of his father, Jacob, and the son of his favoured wife Rachel, was envied by his eleven brothers. They grew to hate him. As the youngest and most cherished son, he was given a coat of many colors, which was a vivid symbol of his father's love and favoritism. This act of favoritism sowed the seeds of jealousy and resentment among his brothers, causing a division within the family that would eventually lead to his betrayal. At first his brothers thought to kill him, but according to the account in Genesis 37:25-27, Joseph's brothers saw a traveling band of Ishmaelites from Gilead and decided to sell Joseph into slavery. This led to the most incredible story in the Bible! The descendants of the sons of Jacob exist today and have grown into the nations of modern Israel. Interestingly, of the twelve founding nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the majority of the nations are of modern Israel. At the end of this age will the modern descendants of Joseph be betrayed again by his eleven brothers?

### **History has a way of repeating itself**

In the aftermath of World War II, Europe was completely devastated as a result of the continuous bombing missions and battles. Whole industries were knocked out of commission and people were unemployed. With such widespread destruction, nearly fifty million people were killed; this dramatically altered the demographics of some nations. The war also led to the partition of Europe into east and west.

In an address at Harvard University on June 5, 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall, presented the idea of helping aid the European nations to rebuild and the need for it to be financed by the United States. He believed economic stability in Europe was crucial to maintain political stability and to steer clear of totalitarianism. The United States feared the poverty, unemployment, and dislocation of the post-World War II period would reinforce the appeal of communist parties in western Europe.

The U.S. Congress authorized the establishment of the European Recovery Program. It was signed into law by U.S. President Harry S. Truman on April 3, 1948. Aid was originally offered to almost all the European countries, including those under military occupation by the Soviet Union. The Soviets withdrew from the plan, and other eastern European nations fell under U.S.S.R. influence.

In regard to the "Marshall Plan" Wikipedia states: "The \$17 billion was in the context of a US GDP of \$258 billion in 1948, and on top of \$17 billion in American aid to Europe between the end of the war and the start of the plan that is counted separately from the Marshall Plan. The Marshall Plan was replaced by the Mutual Security Plan at the end of 1951; that new plan gave away about \$7.5 billion annually until 1961 when it was replaced by another program."

The idea of the "Iron Curtain" came about because of Stalin's iron-handed rule. On the east side of the Iron Curtain were the countries that were connected to or influenced by the Soviet Union, while on the west side were the countries that were NATO members, and were connected with the United States. Later in 1961 the famed Berlin Wall was built by East Germany to prevent East Germans from fleeing to the West.

Providing financial aid for reconstruction after World War II was important for renewing the transportation infrastructure, rebuilding the industrial and agricultural base, and raising production for the continent so Europe could have economic and political independence. The U.S. invested billions of dollars to help western Europe recover from WWII, giving \$17 billion to participating nations on top of \$17 billion in needed aid.

### **Why was NATO created after the war?**

After WWII, the Soviets stationed its armies in central and eastern Europe. NATO was formed to counter their armies and the expansion of communism and to prevent any rise in militaristic nationalism

like Hitler and the Nazi Party. It was also intended to bring Europe together and unite them politically. NATO has been a protective institution of Europe since its formation after WWII.

Newsweek.com's article on April 4, 2024, "How Much Has NATO Cost the US Over the Past 75 Years?" states: "Over the past 75 years, the U.S. contributed \$21.9 trillion to NATO's defense budget, according to its yearly Defense Expenditure of NATO Countries report, significantly more than its 31 peers. Last year, the U.S. contributed 68 percent, which worked out to be 3.49 percent of America's total GDP for \$860 billion of the \$1.26 trillion NATO spent. Canada contributed 1.38 percent of its GDP at \$28.95 billion (2.29 percent of total contributions), while the collective European allies accounted for \$375.1 billion (29.68 percent) of the total budget."

We believe many of the peoples of the nations under the protective umbrella of NATO are the modern-day descendants of Jacob. Many of the peoples of the British Empire and North America are the descendants of Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. Just as Egypt was blessed by God because of Joseph, many nations have been blessed through his modern descendants who have been the recipients of the great birthright promises given by God. His promises passed from Abraham to Isaac and to Jacob (Genesis 12:2-3; 48:16-20). But just as Egypt tried to destroy Israel, the Bible says nations will turn against the modern descendants of Israel, and one third of the people will die by pestilence and famine, one third by the sword, and one third would be scattered by a captivity. Ezekiel 6:6-9 states that all your dwelling in your cities would be destroyed and laid waste, but God would allow some to survive as captives.

God will allow it because of the vile sins His people have committed---people who were given the most bountiful blessings of any people on earth. Jeremiah 30:7 calls it the time of "Jacob's trouble"! Ezekiel 7:9 warns: "*My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity; I will repay you according to your ways, and your abominations will be in your midst. Then you shall know that I am the Lord who strikes.*"

U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance took American European allies to the "wood shed" at the Munich Security Conference on Friday for "allowing mass migration, eroding free speech, ignoring religious freedom, and overturning elections in the name of "defending democracy" during a speech..."

Vance further stated in his speech, "The relevant question for structuring American foreign relations is thus this: How can we best empower and embolden proficient, generally self-sufficient allies to patrol and safeguard their own regions of the world in a way that redounds to the mutual tangible interests of both our regional allies and the United States itself?"

Was he alluding to the possibility of American disengagement from NATO, allowing Europe to fund and defend itself. His words so shocked them it caused French President Emmanuel Macron to call for an emergency summit of European leaders.

U.S. President Trump has stated he wishes to negotiate an end to the Ukraine and Russia war and meet with President Putin. The head of NATO, European Union chiefs, and leaders of Europe's most influential military nations soon gathered in an emergency meeting together. They want a place at the table to negotiate any peace talk plans with Russian President Putin to discuss the future of Ukraine. Ukraine is a European nation, and the future of it will impact the whole continent. The fear is, if President Putin is overly aggressive in the peace talks, it could bring into question the sovereignty of the Baltic states which border Russia, as well as, some other nations.

If the U.S. did break away from NATO, the question is, would it survive or possibly bring about the ten-nation union prophesied in Revelation 17:12-13? Germany would no doubt take the lead. Who would inherit the war weaponry of NATO? How loyal would Europe ultimately be to a disengaged U.S. and Britain?

Will the eleven brothers take the side of the Beast and again betray modern Joseph? If so, would that lead to the fall and captivity of Britain and America?

This is my Perspective!