



Zionism:

***The Beginnings:
British Restorationism***

Question:

Is the rise of the modern Jewish State of Israel just a chance happening in history, or is there evidence that this is part of the outworking of God's plan?

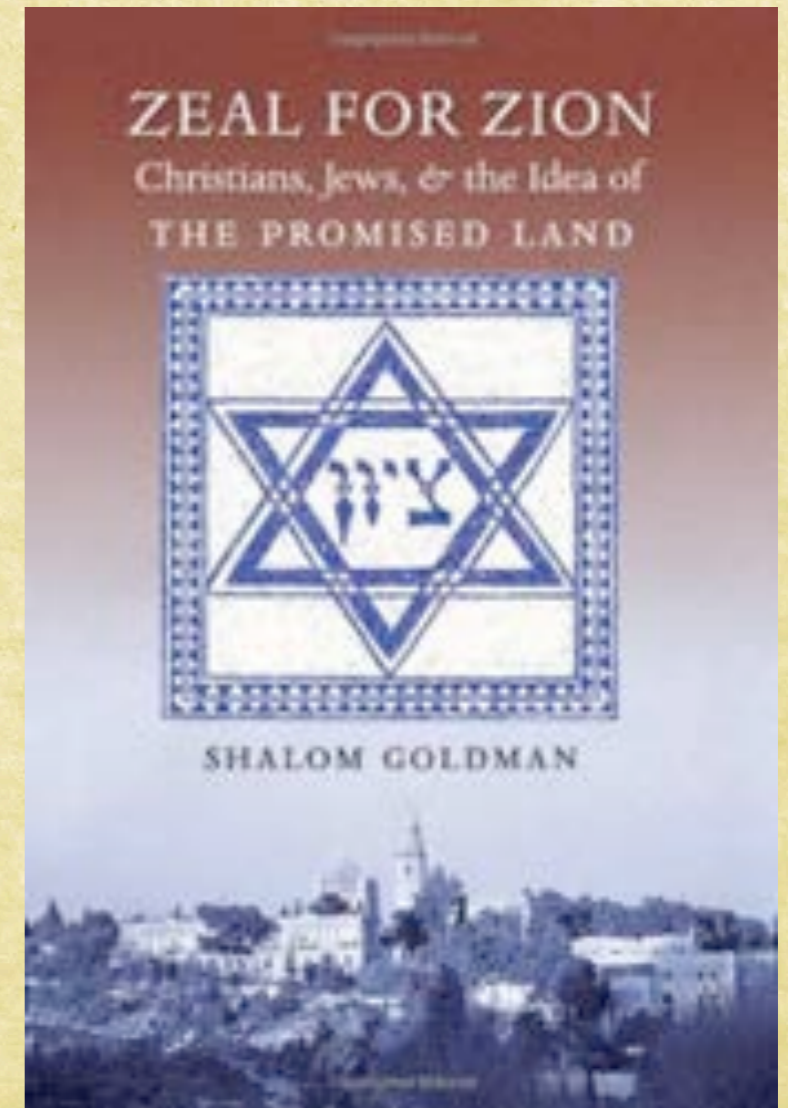
Isn't this just an example of Christians working to manipulate history so Jesus will return?

Isn't this just an example of self-fulfilling prophecy?

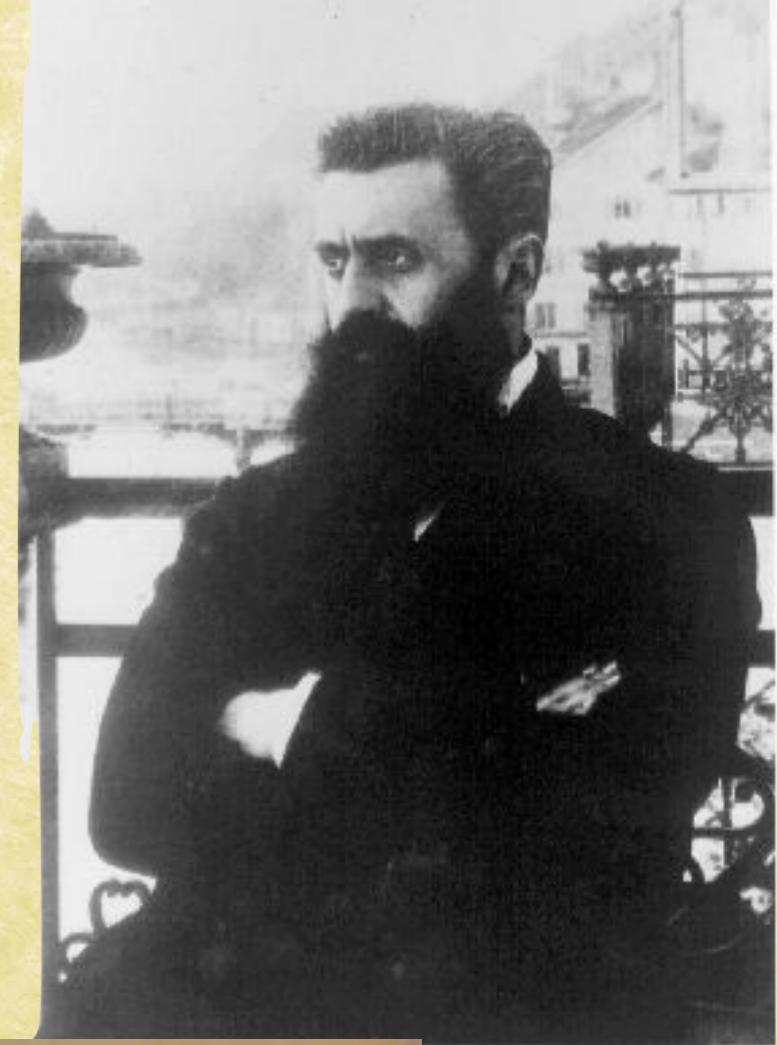
To understand how the miracle of modern Israel was accomplished, we must go back over 300 years to see how God worked behind the scenes to accomplish this miracle, that a nation was born in a day.

“The author is aware of the historical interest in certain non-Jewish quarters, especially in nineteenth-century England, toward the restoration of the Jews to the Holy Land. An examination—admittedly not systematic enough—regarding the relationship between these ideas and the emergence of Zionism suggests only a very marginal and indirect influence.”

~Evyatar Friesel, “Zionism and Jewish Nationalism”



March 10, 1896



DER
JUDENSTAAT.

VERSUCH

EINES

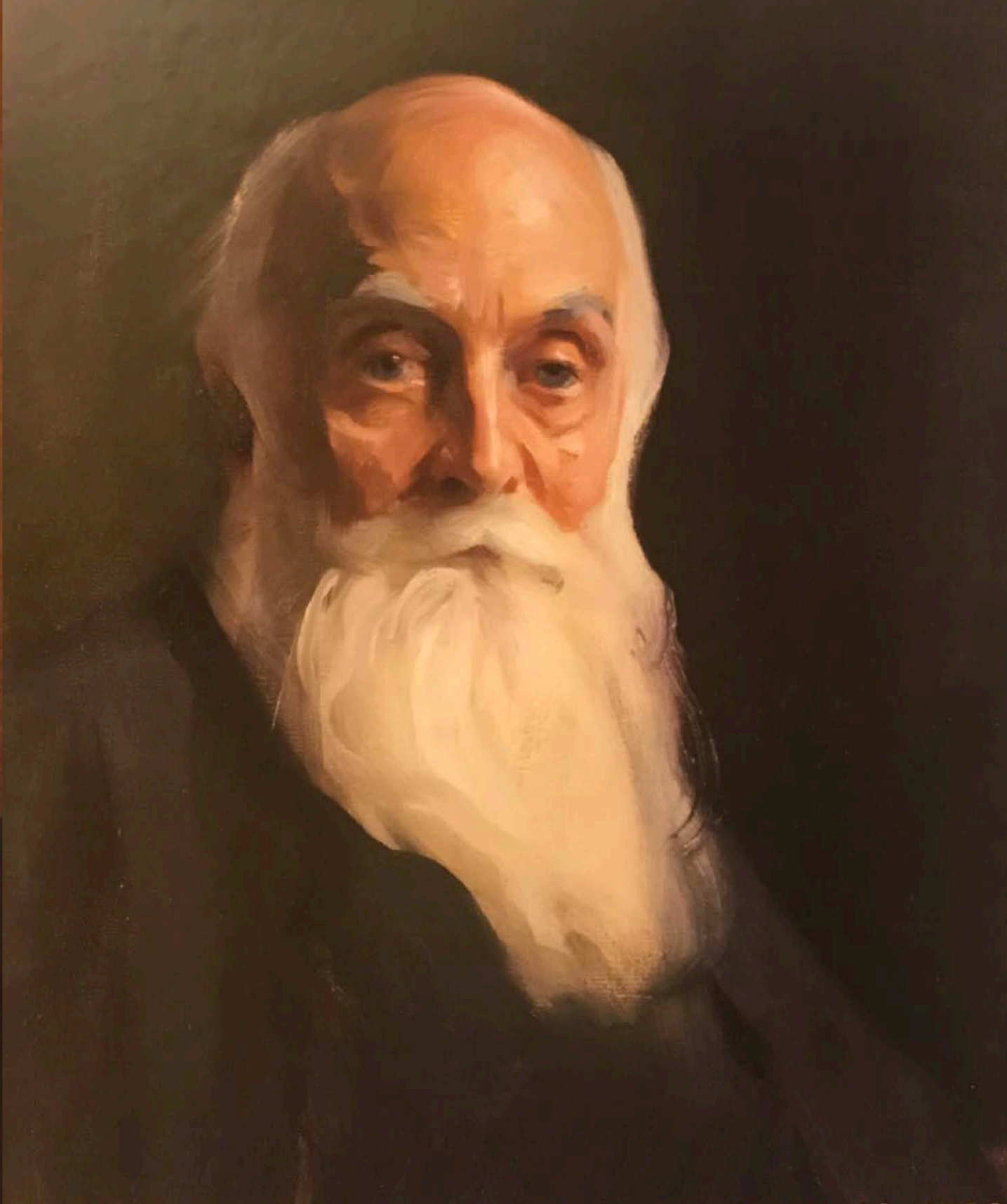
MODERNEN LÖSUNG DER JUDENFRAGE

VON

THEODOR HERZL

DOCTOR IN JURISPRUDENZ





William Hechler

This study is designed to show that the rise of Zionism, the impact of Zionism, and the reestablishment of the Jewish State could not possibly be an accident of history.

**For centuries, since the Bar Kochba Revolt of AD 135, there have been numerous attempts by one group or another to accomplish this dream. But in God's perfect timing, He used a host of people in different nations—
Christians, Jews, and pagan politicians—and
brought about a new Jewish State in 1948.**

“The growing importance of the English Bible was a concomitant of the spreading Reformation, and it is true to say that the Reformation would never have taken hold had the Bible not replaced the Pope as the ultimate spiritual authority. With the Bible as its tool, the Reformation returned to the geographic origins of Christianity in Palestine. It thereby gradually diminished the authority of Rome.”

~Israeli author, Michael Pragai

- 1. God worked through various kings, political leaders, nations, and empires to bring about the return of the Jewish people to Israel.**
- 2. God worked through a variety of Christian leaders in various denominations, nations, and through several centuries to bring about the return of the Jewish people to their historic homeland.**
- 3. God worked through a variety of Jewish leaders, rabbis, visionaries, and politicians to bring about the return of the Jewish people to their historic homeland.**

So that in 1948 the restored state of Israel was born.

Replacement Theology and Christian Anti-Semitism

1517

Early and Medieval Church

Modern Church

33

600

Protestant
Reformation

2016

Roman
Catholic

Many other
denominations

Replacement Theology and Christian Anti-Semitism

1517

Early Church

33 150 400

- Mostly literal interpretation:
- Israel = ethnic Israel
- Church = Church
- Future return to Israel

Medieval Church

600 Roman Catholic

- Allegorical interpretation:
- Israel = Church in OT
- Church = Spiritual Israel
- Israel PERMANENTLY REPLACED by the Church
- Rise of Christian anti-Semitism

Protestant

1640

- Return to literal interpretation:
- Israel = ethnic Israel
- Church = Church
- Future return to Israel
- British Restorationism

What is Zionism?

The belief that the Jewish people have a right to their own nation in the land God gave to Abraham.

“Much of Zionism has its roots in Christian rather than Jewish doctrine.”

~Richard Popkin, historian of ideas

Early England was Pro-Jewish (1066–1144)

- William the Conqueror encouraged Jewish merchants and artisans in N. France to move to England. Jews came from there and Germany, Italy, and Spain to escape the anti-Semitism there.
- Jewish communities were established in London, York, Bristol, Canterbury and other key cities. They lived in segregated areas.
- Jews were the bankers and money lenders since usury was prohibited by the Roman Catholic Church. However, the king taxed Jewish bankers heavily.

England Became Anti-Semitic (1290–1650s)

- **Some persecution existed. The first blood libel charge was brought against Jews in Norwich in 1144, which inspired several anti-Jewish riots.**
- **The Third Crusade brought increased anti-Semitism in England.**
- **Following the death of Henry II, who protected the Jews, a riot in York led to the massacre of the Jews there. Richard I found out about this a day later and ordered the Jews protected. Then when he left for the Crusades, the riots broke out again.**
- **Anti-Semitism increased in England until finally on the 9th of Av (anniversary of the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70) in 1290, Edward I, expelled the Jews; 16,000 left.**

The Rise of British Restorationism

**“Starting with the Puritan ascendancy
the movement among the English for the
return of the Jews to Palestine began.”**

~Barbara Tuchman, *The Bible and the Sword*

- ✧ **Reformation: Emphasis on the Bible, *sola Scriptura***
- ✧ **Resurrection of the study of the Hebrew language by Protestant Christians**
- ✧ **Translation of the Bible into English**
- ✧ **Identification with OT heroes, struggles, and stories.**
- ✧ **Hermeneutics: a return to a literal hermeneutic meant a literal Kingdom, a literal future for a restored Jewish nation.**
- ✧ **English Puritans: saw the Biblical prophecy of a return of the Jews to their homeland.**

CHRISTIAN

“The Reformation in England first turned Jewish eyes towards the land from which they had been so long excluded.”

~Lucien Wolfe, *Menasseh ben Israel*, xv



Sir Henry Finch (1558-1625)

A key proponent for Israel's future restoration, Finch wrote a seminal work on the subject in 1621, called *The World's Resurrection or The Calling of the Jewes. A Present to Judah & the Children of Israel that loyned with Him, & to Ioseph (that valiant tribe of Ephraim) & all the House of Israel that loyned with Him.* Finch, at the time of the publication of his book was a member of Parliament & the most highly respected legal scholar in England at the time.



“passages which speak of a return of these people to their own land, their conquest of enemies and their rule of the nations are to be taken literally, not allegorically as of the Church.”

Sir Henry Finch (1558-1625)



Where Israel, Iudah, Tscon, Ierusalem, etc. are named in this argument, the Holy Ghost meaneth not the spiritual Israel, or Church of God collected of the Gentiles, no, nor of the Iewes and Gentiles both (for each of these have their promises severally and apart), but Israel properly descended out of Iacobs loynes.

Sir Henry Finch (1558-1625)

CHRISTIAN: THE BIRTH OF PHILOSEMITISM

“But it was the increasing Hebraism of English thought, as represented by the Puritan movement, which chiefly attracted the Jews ... When the Commonwealth, with its pronounced Judaical tendencies emerged from this movement, the Jews could not fail to be impressed.”

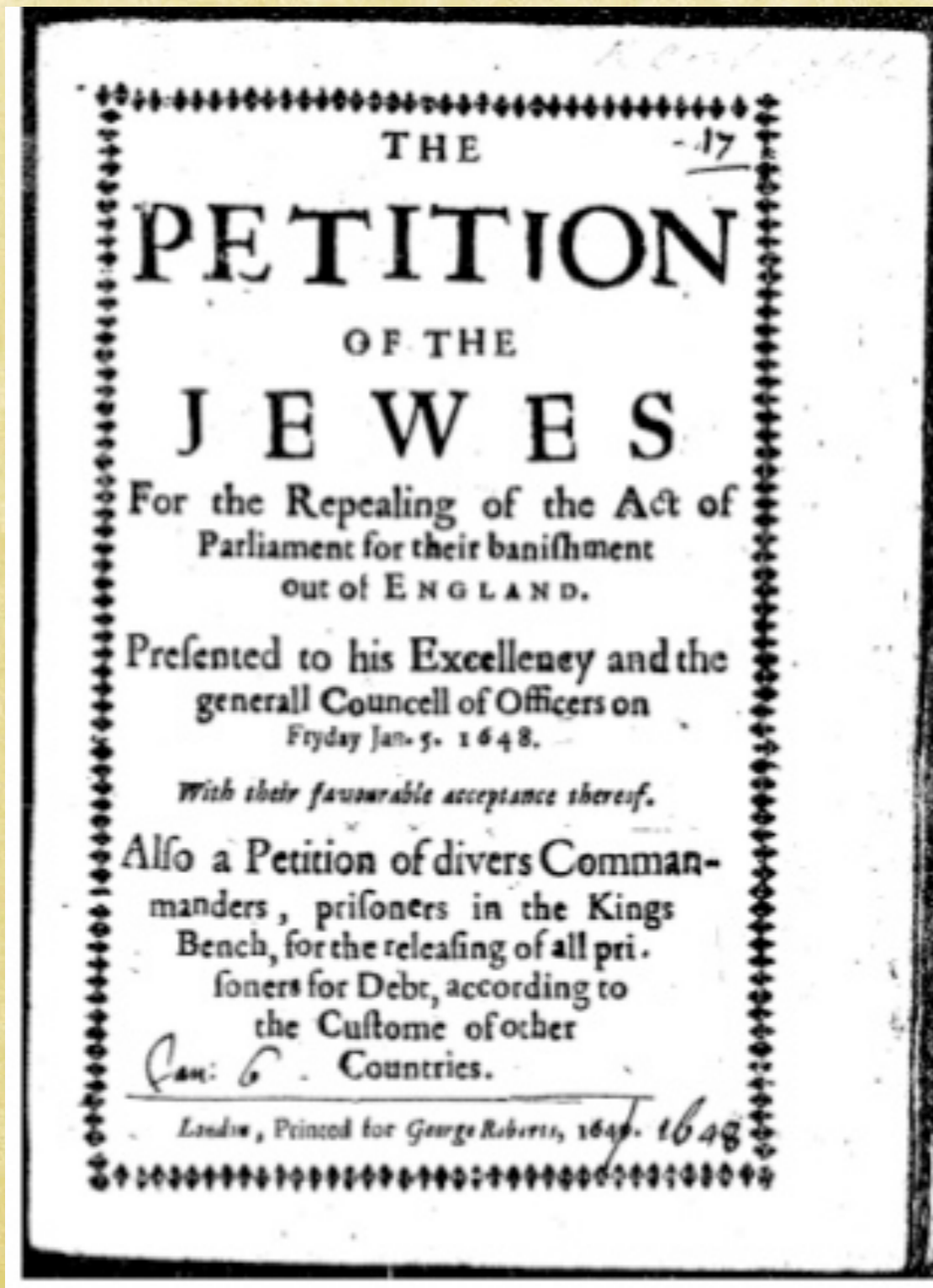
~Wolf, *Menasseh ben Israel*, xv

Background to the Jewish Situation in England

- 1. 1492—Spain expels Jews**
- 2. Conflicts over religious liberty**
- 3. Increasing publication of restorationist ideas along with calls to readmit Jews to England.**
- 4. Jan. 5, 1649—Johanna and Ebenezer Cartwright petition Parliament to readmit the Jews.**
- 5. Jan. 6, authorization of a High Court of Justice to try Charles I on treason. Petition shelved.**

1649 CHRISTIAN

**“The Petition of the
Jews for the
Repealing of the Act
of Parliament for
Their Banishment out
of England”**



“... by discourse with them, and serious perusal of the Prophets, both they and we find, that the time herall draweth night; whereby they together with us, shall come to know the Emanuell, the Lord of life, light, and glory; even as we are now known of him, and that this Nation of England, with the inhabitants of the Nertherlands, shall be the first and readiest to transport Izrells Sons & Daughters in their Ships to the Land promised to their fore-Fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, for an everlasting inheritance.” [emphasis added]

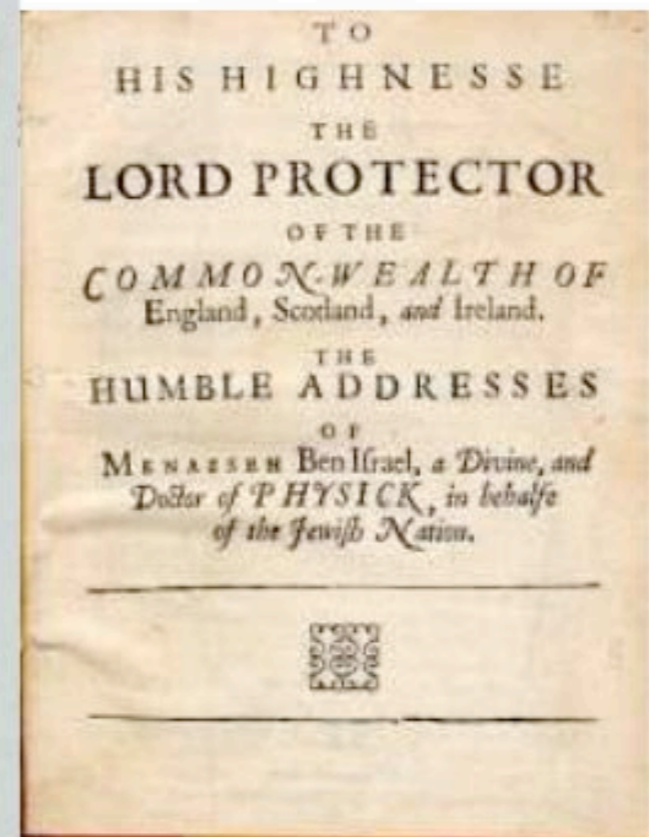
~Cartwright Petition

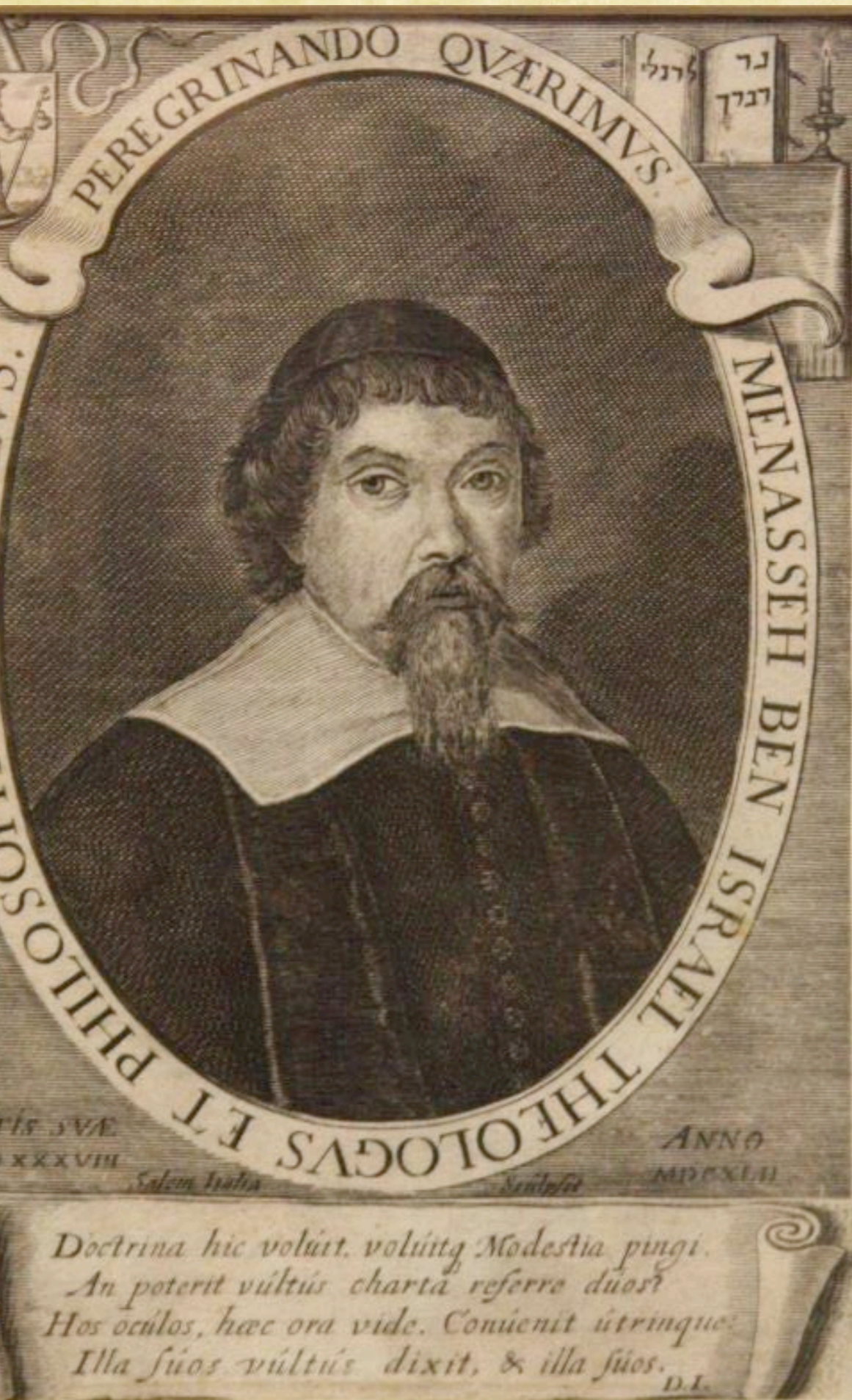
1650 JEWISH

Menasseh Ben Israel in 1650 published *Hope of Israel*, in which he advocated the return of Jews to England as a preliminary to the appearance of the Messiah.

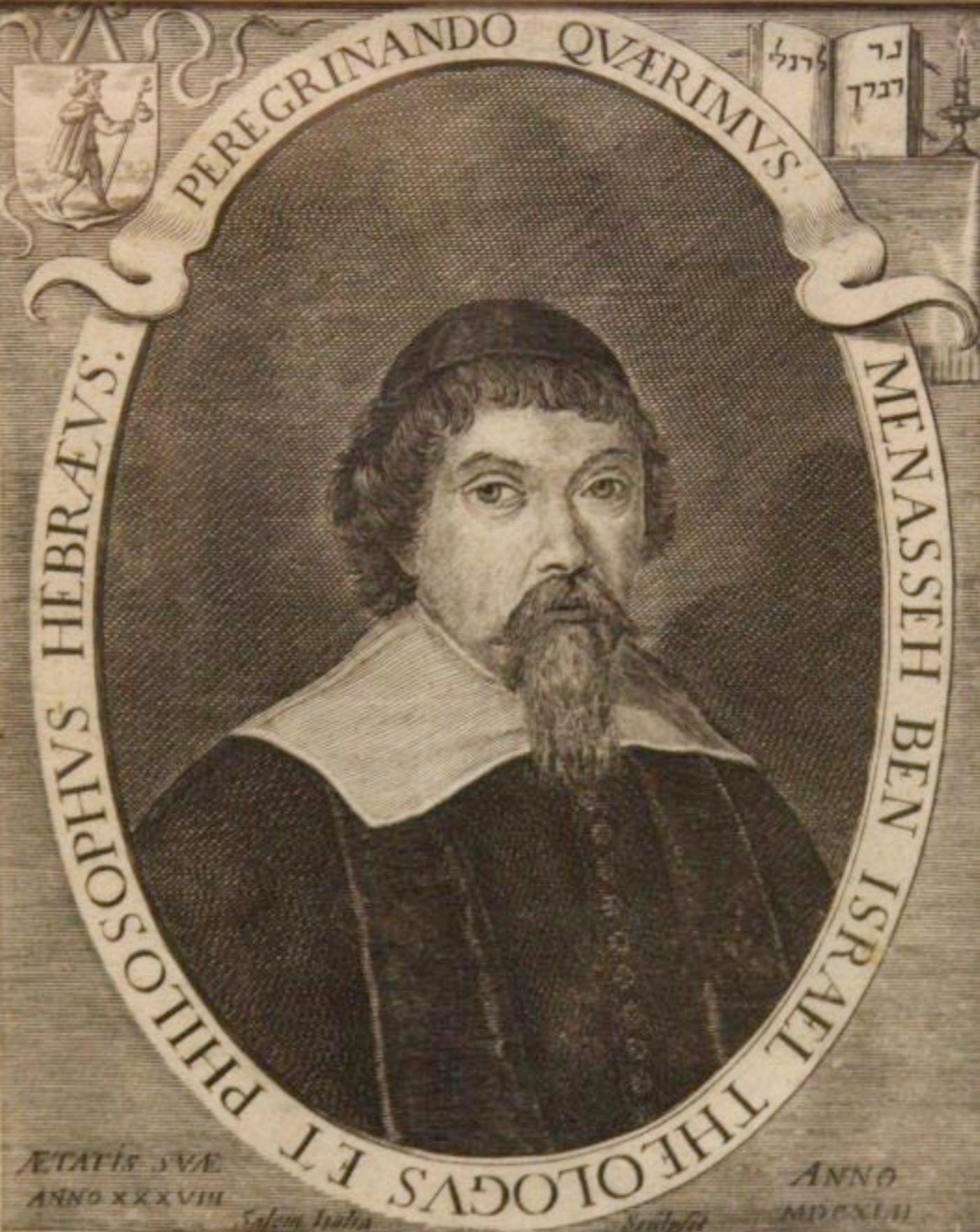


Menasseh ben Israel, Rembrandt





- 1. Ten lost tribes were in America.**
- 2. Messiah would not come until the Jews were regathered.**
- 3. Regathering would only come after a complete scattering.**
- 4. England needed to readmit the Jews so the scattering would be complete.**



THE
HOPE OF ISRAEL

Written
By *MENASSEH BEN ISRAEL*,
An Hebrew Divine, and
Philosopher.

Newly extant, and Printed at *Am-*
sterdam, and Dedicated by the Author, to
the High Court, the Parliament of *England*,
and to the Councill of State,

The second Edition corrected and amended.

Whereunto are added,
In this second Edition, some Discourses
upon the point of the Conversion of the
JEWES.

By MOSES WALL.

LONDON

Printed by *R. I.* for *Livewell Chapman* at the
Crowne in *Popes-Head Alley*, 1652.

Menasseh ben Israel
(1604–1657)



“For, for seven yeares on this behalf, I have endeavoured and solicited it, by letters and other means, without any intervall. For I conceived that our universall dispersion was a necessary circumstance, to be fulfilled before all that shall be accomplished which the Lord hath promised to the people of the Jewes, concerning their restauration,

and their returning again into their own land, according to those words, Dan. 12,7 ... As also, that this our scattering, by little, and little, should be amongst all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other, as it is written Deut. 28,64: I conceived that by the end of the earth might be understood this Island.”

To His Highness &ouer Lord Protector of The
Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, & the Dominions thereto

Humbly sheweth The Humble Petition of The Hebrews at Present
Residing in this City of London whose names are Underwritten

That Acknowledging The Many good fauours and Protection of His Highness hath bin done
to mount it in order that we may with security make our particular houses
to our deuotions, and being desirous to be fauoured more by your Highness, we pray with
Humbleness of heart the best means which may be such Protection may be granted to us
within as that we may thereunto make at our said private deuotions in our particular
houses without feare of molestation either to our persons, families or Estates, nor desire
being to live peaceably vnder His Highness Government, and being neuer at all mortall enemies
vnto His Highness pray your Highness to permit us licence that those which may be of our nation
may be banished in such place out of the City as we shall thinke convenient with the Discretion
of your Highness, and the place shall be, and we shall as well in our life times as at our death
be highly fauoured by your Highness for whose long life and Prosperity we shall continually pray
to the allmightie God



Menasrah ben Israel

David de Sabanel

Abraham ben Isaac

Abraham ben Isaac

Isaac de la Roche

Abraham ben Isaac

Isaac de la Roche

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JEWISH

Petition to Cromwell to Readmit the Jews to England

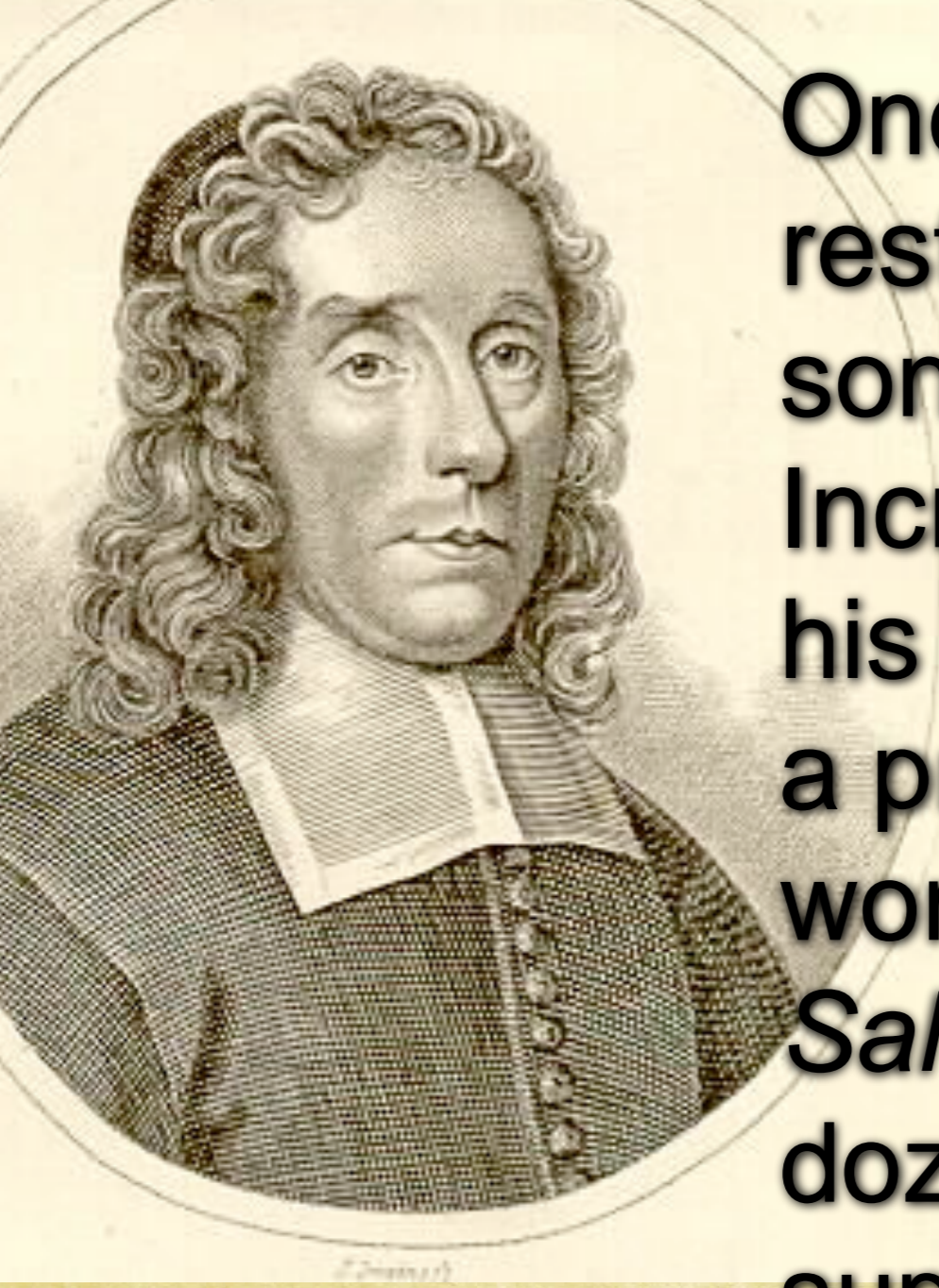
1655

Jewish author of *Menasseh ben Israel*:



“What was it, then, that brought these two different characters so closely together? That the Readmission of the Jews to England was one of Cromwell’s own schemes ... he was the mainspring of the whole movement, and that Menasseh was but a puppet in his hands.”

~Lucien Wolfe



**Increase
Mather**
(1639–1723)

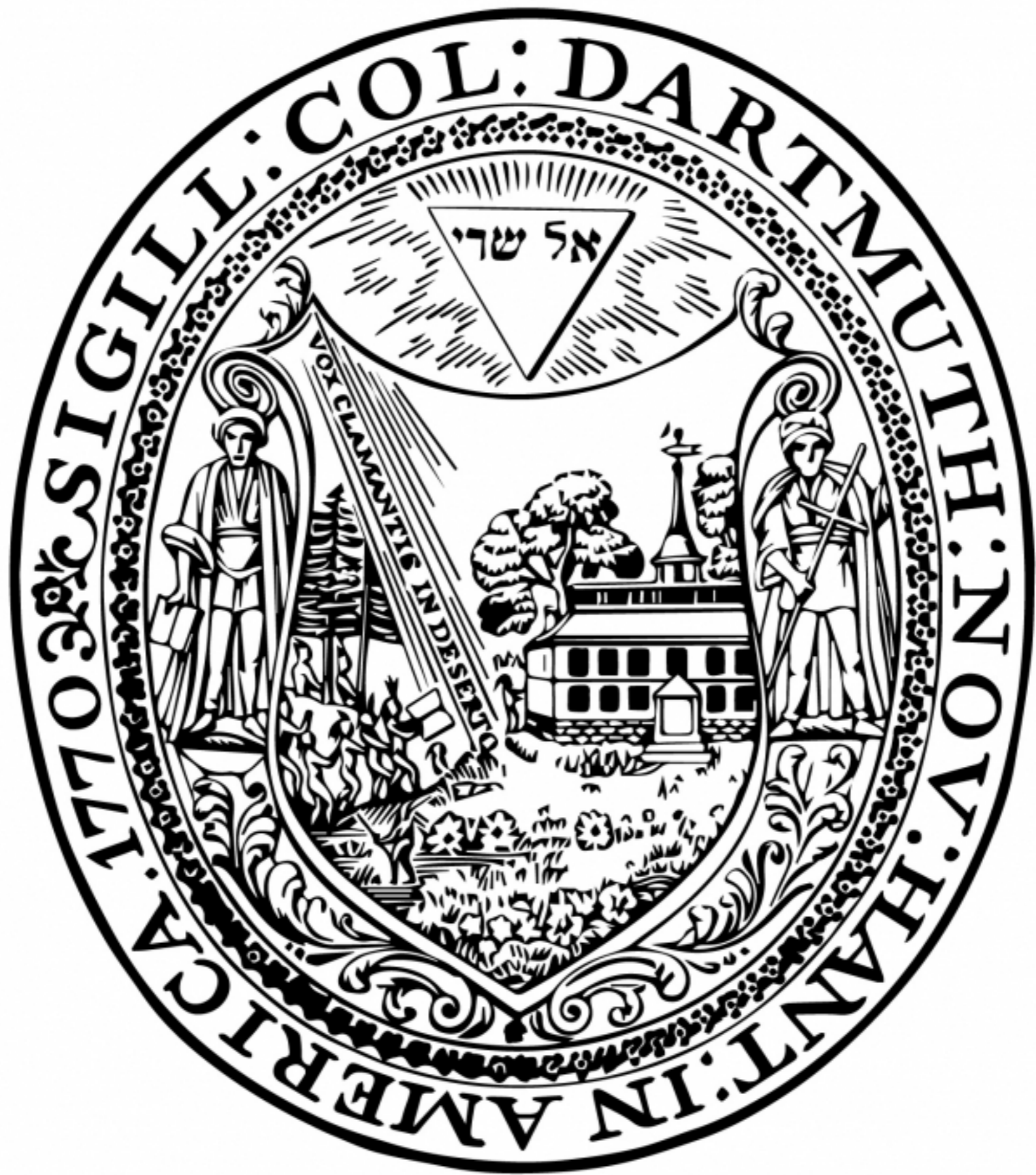
One of the significant advocates of restoration was **Increase Mather**, son of Richard and father of Cotton. Increase wrote over 125 books in his life that were published and was a president of Harvard. His first work was *The Mystery of Israel's Salvation*, which went through a half dozen revisions during his life. His support of the national restoration of Israel to her land in the future was typical of American Colonial Puritans and was generally widespread.



Yale: *Urim and Thumim*



Seal of Columbia



Seal of Dartmouth