

Ex. vi. 4 8; Num. xxxiv. 1-12, Deut. xxxiv. 4; Acts vii. 5, etc., etc.) Israel's "w'ic deed" is recorded, not in the Turkish Serai at Jerusalem, but in every Bible that there is in this day in all the languages of the nations of the earth.

Third, God cares for it. "A land which the Lord thy God careth for. The eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year. (Deut. xi. 12)

Why did God select it? We believe it is not presumption to answer:

First, because of its location. It is the natural centre of the earth, a choice situation for the capital of a world-wide empire.

Second, because of the variety of its climate and scenery, which constitute a miniature world. It was just the place for the giving of the supernatural Book that was to have world-wide circulation.

Third, because of its productiveness. Every Sabbath year it produced enough to support the population two years, and every jubilee year enough to support them three years.

It is called in Scripture "the pleasant land" (Dan. vii. 9), "the glorious land" (Dan. xi. 16). Twenty one times it is called "a good land," and once (Num. xiv. 7) "an exceeding good land." There is no other such land, for it is "the glory of all lands." (Ex. xl. 6.)

Likewise the people, Israel, are called "the chosen ones" (1 Chron. xvi. 13), "a holy people unto the Lord . . .," "a peculiar people . . .," "above all the nations upon the earth" (Deut. xiv. 2); "The people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations" (Num. xxxiii. 9)

"Israel has been a superior nation in material development. In riches she has proportionately surpassed all others, especially under David and Solomon, who made silver to be as stones in Jerusalem. (1 Kings x. 27, 1 Chron. xxii. 14-16). Her palaces and notably her tabernacle and temple have been the marvel of the world."

Her political economy, providing an inalienable inheritance for every family, is to-day the very best basis of true and substantial government. The theocracy furnished a perfectly infallible executive.

But it is in her religion that Israel stands pre-eminently among the nations. Her divine oracle, with its revelation of truth, its forecast of the future, its ceremonies, types and moral teaching, is without a peer. "What advantage, then, hath the Jew? Much in every way, chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God." (Rom. iii. 1, 2.)

THE PEOPLE.

We despise the Jew, and call him "old rags and iron," forgetting that through him, and him alone, we have received the Word of God. All our consolation and hope for happiness beyond the grave comes through God's revelation made to the Jews. Out of them, according to the flesh, Jesus Christ our Saviour came (Rom. ix. 5), and He said, "Salvation is of the Jews." (John iv. 22.)

No nation has suffered like Israel. Proud and haughty in their prosperity, they were constantly falling into the most grievous sins of idolatry and unbelief, for which war, pestilence and famine came frequently upon them. Jerusalem, their capital, has more than once been swept clean with the besom of destruction amid woe and carnage, the record of which makes the ear tingle. Twice they have been emptied out of their land, millions slaughtered, and the remnant scattered to the four winds of the earth. And

now, after eighteen centuries of this latter dispersion, behold an astonishing anomaly in the earth—a land without a people, and a people without a land.

With occasional respites, their history, since 135 A. D., when they made a desperate effort to regain their land, has been one long era of persecution. Heathen, Mohammedans and Christians have all joined in their persecution. At the coronation of Richard I. the populace fell upon them with slaughter, plunder and fire.

Perhaps the greatest horror was their expulsion from Spain by Ferdinand and Isabella in the very same year that Columbus discovered America. The shameful edict ran as follows: "Seeing that the Jews persuade many Christians, especially the nobles of Andalusia, to accept their religion, for this they are banished under the severest penalty." Eight hundred thousand of them went out, not knowing where they went. They fell into worse hands in Portugal, and sank "like lead in the sea" on the way to Africa, they were met at Genoa by priests, bread in one hand and a crucifix in the other. The ban of Europe was upon them, while the Turks—"the unspeakable Turk"—received them kindly, and allowed them an asylum, which they have now enjoyed for over four hundred years.

God has said of Israel. "Ye are my witnesses." In all of this sorrow they are the living evidence of the truth of God's Word. History confirms the faithful portrayal of it given by the prophets.

Prominence and prosperity among the Gentile nations have caused an increasing number of the Jews to give up many of their ancestral hopes, such as the coming of a Messiah, and a restoration to Palestine. The persecutions and expulsions in Russia and Eastern Europe have driven a great number of Jews to America. There are probably over six hundred thousand in the United States. Many missions have been established for Israel in the United States, especially in New York, which is perhaps the city having the largest Jewish population in the world.

So great is the stir among the "dry bones" of Israel now, and so earnest is the spirit of enquiry that many Jews can be reached by going to them in love, and kindly presenting to them the New Testament and other literature, to show that Jesus is indeed their Messiah.—*Condensed from Student Missionary Appeal.*

Africa.

AFRICA is the second largest continent in the world, with a surface of 11,500,000 square miles.

"Its river systems are unsurpassed when taken as a whole. The ancient river Nile flows through a greater extent of country (from south to north) than any other river in the world, not even excluding the Mississippi. The Congo basin is second only to that of the Amazon, among the great fluvial systems of the world. It is estimated that there are ten thousand miles of navigable waterways in Central Africa alone.

"Again, consider Africa's inland seas, those newly-discovered wonders. Do they not compare favorably with those of the north American continent? The greatest of them, the Victoria Nyanza, is almost as large as Scotland. It is dotted with islands equal to the area of Wales. Two other lakes exceed three hundred and fifty miles in length, and one of them, Lake Tanganyika, has a coast line of one thousand miles.

"As to mountains—the fabled mountains of the moon