

# *Is Nothing Sacred? Jehovah's Witnesses and the Significance of Bible Lands*

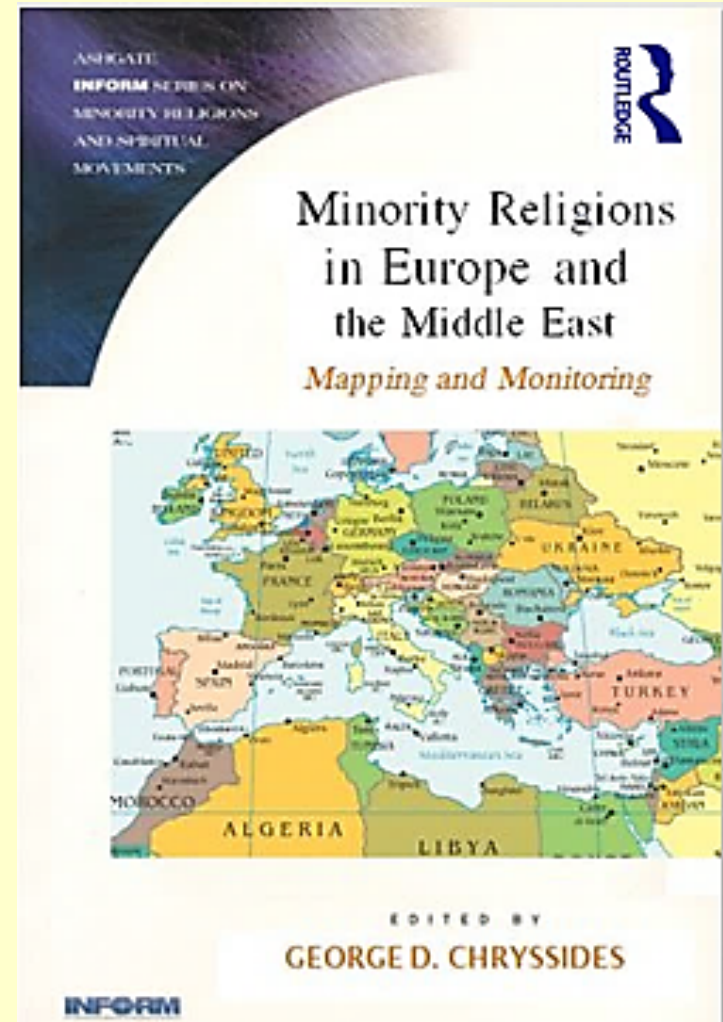
George D. Chryssides



Chryssides, George D.  
(ed.) (2017).

*Minority Religions in  
Europe and the Middle East*

London: Routledge



## Pilgrimage –

- expresses one's own faith
- merit
- sacred space
- requires effort
- intention – self-improvement
- special religious acts / expectations





- space is uniform



- buildings are functional





"The Great Day of  
Jehovah is Near."  
-Zephaniah 1:14

The image shows a light-colored wooden sign with a double-beveled border, mounted on a larger wooden structure. The structure consists of several vertical wooden posts connected by horizontal bars, creating a grid-like pattern. The background is a dark blue or black fabric with a repeating geometric pattern of gold-colored lines and dots. The sign is positioned at an angle, and the text is printed in a black serif font.



## B3 The Exodus From Egypt

Israelites leave Egypt  
Mosaic Law covenant 1513 B.C.E.

Joshua commissioned to succeed Moses 1473 B.C.E.

4000 B.C.E. 2000 B.C.E. B.C.E./C.E. 2000 C.E.



## B6 Settlement of the Promised Land

Tribe received land after conquest 1470 B.C.E.

Settled in the land 1470 B.C.E.

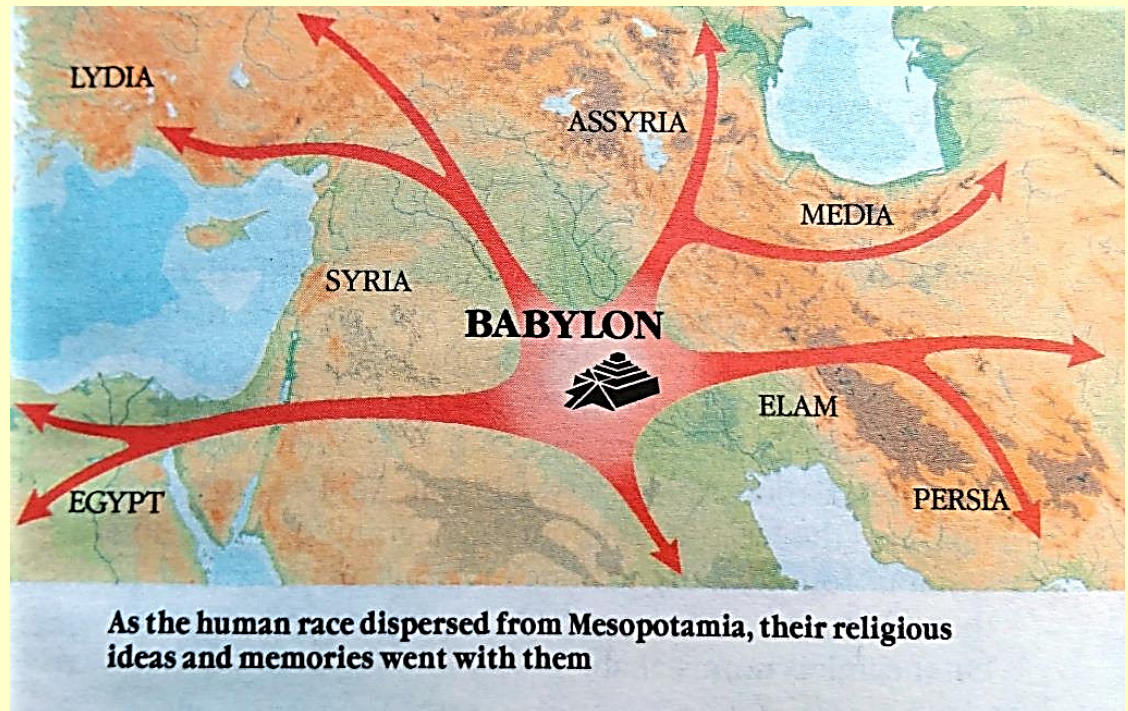
4000 B.C.E. 2000 B.C.E. B.C.E./C.E. 2000 C.E.







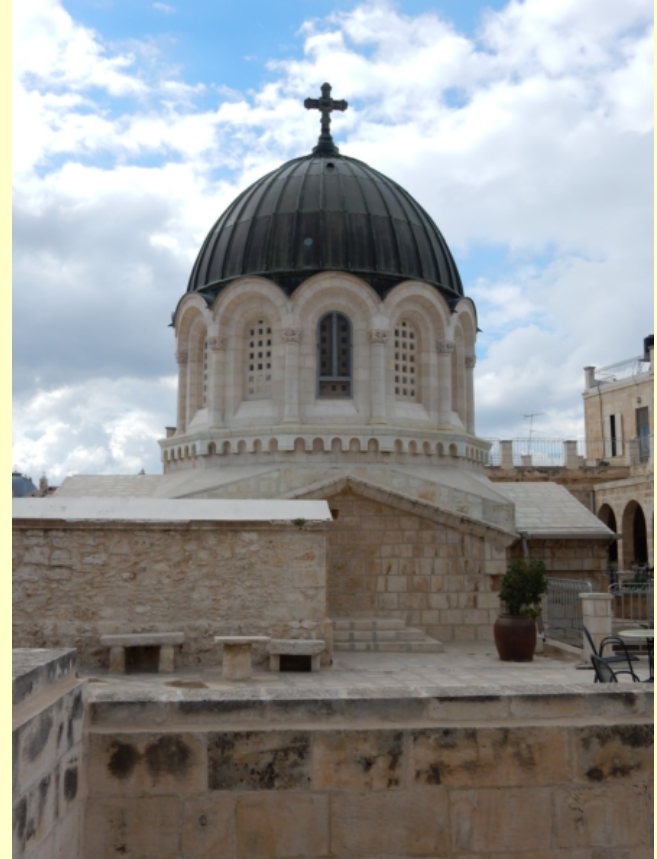
## Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9)





## Sacred sites

- many owned by mainstream churches
- dubious authenticity
- associated with pagan festivals
- no special merit or benefits





Milan Cathedral



Old Cathedral, St  
Louis, Missouri





But some were saying:  
“The Christ is not coming  
out of Galilee, is he? Does  
the scripture not say that  
the Christ is coming from  
the offspring of David and  
from Bethlehem, the  
village where David was?”  
So a division over him  
arose among the crowd.  
(John 7:41-43)











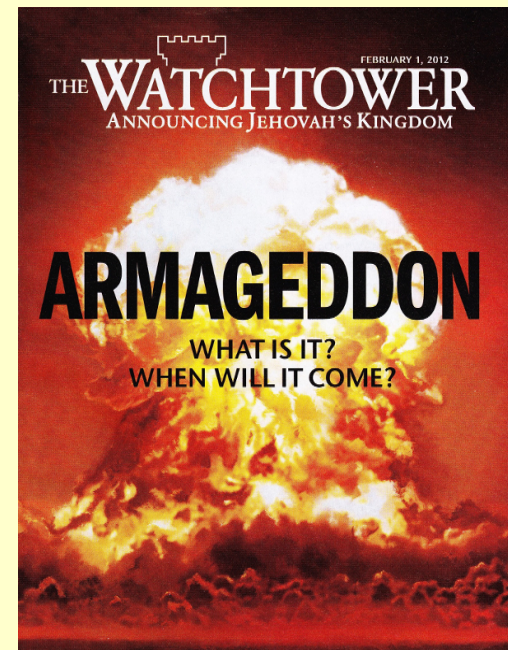


## Megiddo





The name Har–Magedon means “Mountain of Megiddo.” But rather than being a literal place, it represents the world situation into which all nations are gathered in opposition to Jehovah God and where he will finally destroy them. This is global in extent.



“And those slain by Jehovah in that day will be from one end of the earth clear to the other end of the earth.”

(Jeremiah 25:33)

Nathan H. Knorr  
(1905-1977)

President  
1942-1977



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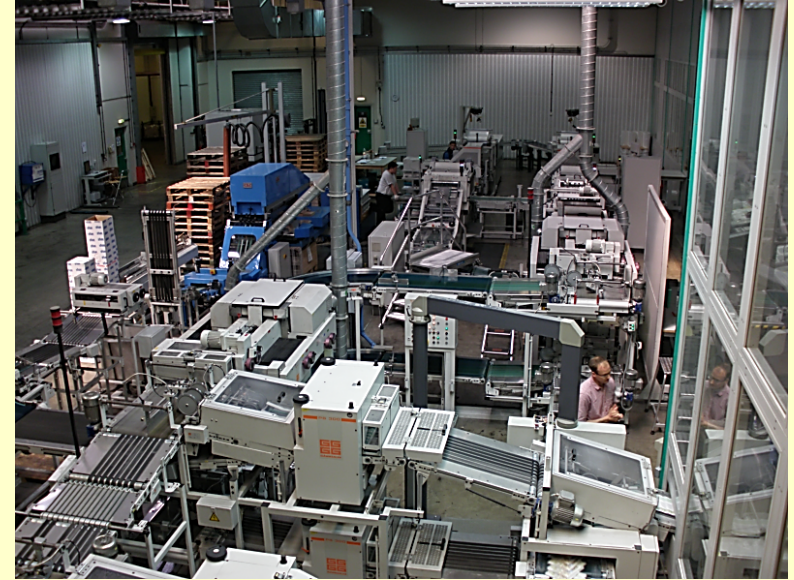
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**Nathan H. Knorr**  
**(1905-1977)**

In the near future the reign of Christ the King will bring the establishment of pure, undefiled worship everywhere on earth, making necessary no pilgrimages here or bloody crusades to wrest one piece of ground from the grasp of its possessors. It was good to know this troubled area was being served by devoted believers in Jehovah's service.

**(Knorr 1952: 330)**

- All earth as sacred space  
 “All earth belongs to Jehovah”  
 (Psalm 24:1)
- Bible as a special book
- special people
- sacred time

