

SBC JEWISH MINISTRY
WHAT WE BELIEVE/TEACH
www.chosenpeople.com
www.jewishrootsofchristianity.org

Our approach in studying the Bible:

- Literal interpretation of the Bible
- There are prophecies yet to be fulfilled re: the Rapture of the Church (which we believe is imminent), the Tribulation which is a time of purging for Israel and judgment for the nations, the Second Coming of Jesus, the Millennial Kingdom, and the Eternal State.
- There is a distinction between Israel and the Church – God has a plan for national Israel and He has a plan for the Church.
 - There is ONE WAY of salvation taught throughout the Bible: by grace through faith in God’s revealed message.

WHO IS A JEW?

Descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – Isa. 43:1 – God tells us that He created Jacob – Israel.

Being Jewish is a BLOOD THING – lineage/heritage.

If you’re not Jewish – you’re Gentile

If one is born Jewish – they’ll die Jewish

If one is born not Jewish – or Gentile – they’ll die – Gentile

One who is a Gentile can come to believe in Jesus and be a Christian – a Christ follower

One who is Jewish can come to believe in Jesus (which is the most Jewish thing a Jewish person can do – after all the Jews have been looking for their Messiah) – and be a Christian – a Christ follower – a Jewish believer – a Messianic Jew

There are Gentile believers in Jesus and there are Jewish believers in Jesus.

Re: Israel and the Jewish people:

- God called Israel as an elect nation. He chose Israel (Dt. 4:37; 7:6-8). According to II Sam. 7: 23, Israel is the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people – to make for Himself a name.
 - National election does not guarantee the salvation of every individual within the nation since only individual election can do that.
 - National election guarantees that God’s purpose(s) for choosing the nation will be ACCOMPLISHED.
 - It is the national election of Israel that is the basis of Israel’s status as the Chosen People (Dt. 7:6-8)
 - While circumcision of the flesh is a sign of ones membership in the elect nation of Israel (Gen. 17:10-11), circumcision of the heart is a sign of individual salvation (Dt. 10:12-22; Dt. 30:6).
 - Individual salvation in the OT was always by grace through faith in God’s revealed message.

Israel – “Chosen People”:

- Chosen to be:
 - Isa. 43:10-12 – witnesses to the Gentiles – proclaiming God as the one true God – the only God - and only Savior.
 - Chosen to be the channel through whom the Messiah would come (Gen. 12:3 – all the families of the earth would be blessed through the descendants of Abraham [and God’s covenant with Abraham would be established through Isaac – not Ishmael]).
 - Chosen to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Ex. 19:6). As priests, Israel was to represent the Gentile nations before God.
 - Chosen to be the recipient of God’s word and to record it (Dt. 4:5-8; 6:6-9; Rom. 3:1-2).

The Bible teaches that God made four unconditional covenants with the nation Israel: Abrahamic (Gen. 12:1-3; Gen. 15; Gen. 17. . . .), the Land Covenant (Dt. 6; Dt. 30), the Davidic Covenant (II Sam. 7), and the New Covenant (Jer. 31).

- As unconditional – God swore by Himself (Heb. 6:13). The fulfillment of those covenants is based on GOD alone. The fulfillment of those covenants is NOT based on Israel’s obedience.

The Abrahamic Covenant promises the land, the seed, and the blessing.(Gen. 12:1-3)

- The land belongs to God (Lev. 25:23)
 - He has promised it to the Jewish people (Gen. 15:18-21; Gen. 17:8; Isa. 14; Jer. 7:7, Jer. 25:5. . . .)
 - Only RESTORED Israel/SAVED Israel will be gathered at the end of the Tribulation for Millennial blessings (Matt. 24:31) and will go into the land (Matt. 25:31-46) and inherit all the land God promised them – in the Millennial Kingdom.
 - God made total enjoyment and guaranteed habitation of the land of Israel contingent on Israel’s faithfulness to the Mosaic Covenant. God gave Israel the blessings and the curses under the Mosaic Covenant. If they didn’t obey – the law – they would be scattered from their land (Dt. 28:64) – and they would become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the Lord would drive them (see also Jer. 24:9; Jer. 25:9)
 - Yet – God has engraved Israel on the palms of His hands (Isa. 49:16); He will not forget them (Isa. 49:15); He loves them with an everlasting love (Jer. 31:3); He will contend with those who contend with Israel (Isa. 49:25);
 - “Israel is not forsaken, nor Judah, by his God, the Lord of hosts, though their land was filled with sin against the Holy One of Israel” Jer. 51:5 (context is national Israel – and the destruction of Babylon)
 - AND – we shouldn’t mess with Jerusalem!! (II Chron. 6:6 – “I have chosen Jerusalem that My name may be there. . . .”; Joel 3:1-2 – God will bring back the Jews from exile and He will gather all

the nations and enter into judgment with them on account of His people – Israel – His heritage – whom the nations have scattered and divided Israel’s land; Zech. 12:1-3 – God has made Jerusalem a cup of trembling to all the surrounding peoples. He will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all peoples; all who would take Jerusalem out of its place in God’s plan – will be CUT IN PIECES!!)

- The Seed – the Messiah will reign on King David’s throne during the Millennial Kingdom (II Sam. 7:16; Dan. 2:44; Zech. 9:9; Psa. 2; Psa. 110)
- The blessing is salvation for all people – Jews and Gentiles (Gen. 12:3).

How were Jews saved in the OT?

By grace through faith in God’s revealed message (Isa. 53; Hab. 2:4; Isa. 55; Psa. 51; Isa. 64:6; Isa. 66:2; Lev. 17:11; Gen. 3:15; Gen. 22:8; Gen. 49:10; Ex. 12)

Jews MUST receive Jesus the Messiah to be saved:

- Acts 4:12 – “There is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.
- Matt. 1:21 – He will save HIS PEOPLE from their sins.

The Law:

- One law comprised of 613 commandments. If you break one commandment, you’re guilty of all (Dt. 27:26)
- The Law was given to the Jews (Lev. 26:46; Psa. 78:5; Rom. 9:4); the law was not given to any other nation (Dt. 4:8; Psa. 147:20)
 - Nor has any other nation known God’s covenantal judgments (Psa. 147:20). (See Rom. 2:9)
- The Law is perfect because it reflects Who God is (Psa. 119) and it restores our soul (Psa. 19:7) as it reveals to us our sinfulness (Gal. 3:24).
- The Law cannot save; it condemns (II Cor. 3:7, 9; Gal. 3:21; Rom. 8:3-4; Heb. 10:1).
- Jesus was born under the law (Gal. 4:4) to redeem those who were under the law (Gal. 4:5). Christ is the end of the law for righteousness (justification – being declared righteous) to everyone who believes (Rom. 10:4).
- The law has been rendered inoperative (Eph. 2:15) through Jesus’ death on the cross. Believers are now under the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2; Rom. 8:2) which we live by the Holy Spirit of God.

God is NOT finished with the NATION of Israel. In fact, God has a plan for Israel – past, present, and future.

The Church has NOT replaced Israel.

- Those who believe that the Church has replaced Israel believe that God’s promises are now fulfilled in the Church.

- Romans 10:21 Paul is specifically speaking of national Israel (disobedient, contrary people) – and then says in Romans 11:1 about this same people – “Has God cast away His people? Certainly not/God forbid”
- And, of national Israel, God continues to call out a remnant who are faithful/saved Israel (Rom. 11:5).
- Romans 11:29 – the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable.
 - The promises God made to Israel are not transferable. He has extended blessings to the Gentiles.
 - Gentile believers are grafted into the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant (Romans 11:16ff).
 - If the Abrahamic Covenant is no longer in effect – what of the Gentile believers?

IS GOD STILL “DEALING” WITH ISRAEL TODAY? YES! HE IS DELIVERING ON HIS PROMISE TO PRESERVE THEM (JER. 31:35-37)

IS ISRAEL IN THE LAND IN UNBELIEF? YES!!!!

According to Scripture (Eze. 20:33ff; Eze. 22:17ff; Eze. 37), Israel HAS to be in the land in unbelief.

Israel’s restoration in the future, as seen throughout the Bible, implies Israel’s present alienation from God in unbelief!

IS ISRAEL TODAY THE ISRAEL OF THE BIBLE?

Yes – they are still unrestored as a nation.

They will NOT be restored until the end of the Tribulation (Zech. 12:10) – when GOD pours out His Spirit upon them and they will look on their Messiah Jesus Whom they have pierced (see. Isa. 53:10 & Acts 4:27-28).

DOES GOD HAVE A PLAN FOR ISRAEL TODAY? YES!!!

- Rom. 11:11 – Gentiles have been grafted in to provoke the Jew to jealousy
- Rom. 15:8-9 – when God’s call to Israel ceases, His mercy to the Gentiles ceases!
- Rom. 11:28 - While national Israel is considered enemies toward the Gospel at this time, they are beloved for the sake of the fathers

GOD’S PLAN OF REDEMPTION FOR ALL OF HUMANITY HINGES ON ISRAEL AND HIS PLAN FOR HER ULTIMATE RESTORATION. (Rom. 11:15)

BUT WHAT OF TODAY AND OUR STANCE ON ISRAEL?

- It is pro-God (Eze. 36:16-28)
- We are to support them as a democracy AND Biblically while holding them morally accountable.
- Do we affirm Israel’s right to theologically exist? Do we believe that the Land was given to Israel by God? (Lev. 25:23; Jer. 7:7; Jer. 25:5)
- Do we affirm Israel’s right to exist as a people? (Jer. 31:32-35)