

IS GOD A RACIST? : PART ONE

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Or...Do Jews Have An Advantage Over Christians?

In a recent communication with a friend of mine, he mentioned the atrocities committed against the Jews during World War II by Adolf Hitler, what is commonly referred to as The Holocaust. Whether or not six million victims is an accurate figure has been a subject of debate for many years; but regardless, this was indeed a tragic event; a blemish on the conscience of humankind, and the wholesale slaughter of innocent men, women and children should not be condoned by anyone for any reason; whether it was fifty years ago, or today.

However, what caught my attention was my friend's usage of the term 'God's Jewish children,' and his later comment that he hoped that God would be merciful in His impending judgments against America due to her long close friendship with and support of the state of Israel.

The above comments reminded me of a popular belief which is apparently embraced by quite a number of American Christians, and that is, that in spite of their rejection of Jesus Christ, the Son Of God, Israel still holds some special place in God's heart; and the Jews are still His chosen people. While the rest of the Gentile world is lost in sin and in need of a Saviour, this belief seems to say that the Jewish nation, in spite of the fact that they are the ones who killed their very Saviour, have been exonerated of all guilt because of their special status with the Lord. In short, it sounds as if God is a racist and is partial in His judgments of the world. So, what is the truth to this matter?

As I have stated before, whenever we are faced with a question to which we do not know the answer, instead of trying to figure it out in our own minds with our own carnal wisdom, we need to go directly to the Word of God, and not just rely upon hearsay or the opinions of others. Even with my writings, I encourage my readers to scrutinize them and compare what I say with the Scriptures. Of course, knowing that some of you do not have the motivation to pull out your Bibles and check for yourselves, I try to include as much scriptural support for my views as I can.

In answering the above question, the first thing I would like to point out is that if one reads the Old Testament closely, he or she will indeed see that God did in fact choose the Jewish nation to fulfill His purposes; the ultimate of which was to bring the Saviour into the world. Putting it plain and simple, Jesus was born of Jewish stock. As Jesus Himself said to the Samaritan woman at the well:

"Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews." (John 4:22)

This could be understood in two ways. First, is the fact that Jesus was Jewish after the flesh, and salvation would proceed from His death on the cross. Second, it was through the first chosen Disciples, who were Jews, that the Gospel of Salvation would eventually be spread to the known world of that day and slowly trickle down to us two thousand years later. So in essence, Salvation is of, or has proceeded from, the Jews.

But getting back to the main point here, one detail which some people tend to overlook is that the Lord's relationship with the Hebrews/Jews in the Old Testament was CONDITIONAL. From the time He chose Abraham, to the time He freed the Hebrew children from Egyptian bondage, clear up to the end of the Old Testament, dozens of times the Lord would say such things as the following:

"But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you." (Jeremiah 7:23)

The Lord made it very clear to the patriarchal Jews what was required of them if they expected to be called the people of God and partake of the Lord's blessings and protection. As I make it very clear in my article 'The Children of God And Politics', time after time after time, the Old Testament Jews, because of their own hard-heartedness and stubborn ways, rebelled against the Lord. While some modern-day Christians point to the Jews as historically being God's chosen people, they fail dismally when it comes to looking at the whole picture. The Old Testament is a continuous history of invasion and chastisement with small periods of obedience to the Lord sandwiched in between. As the prophet Jonah said in his moment of desperation:

"They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy." (Jonah 2:8)

The Lord wanted to bless and prosper the Old Testament Jews, but through their own insistence in wanting to do things their own way, following after strange gods, setting up their own earthly ruler instead of following the Lord as their sovereign King, etc., they forsook the mercy of the Lord and opened themselves up to attack from their enemies. Even at the time of Christ's birth they were again under foreign occupation and domination because of their sins. When a person or nation rejects God's mercy through obedience to His Word, they become targets for Satan's wrath; and many times this wrath is expressed through the earthly rulers and powers which he controls.

The Lord sent prophet after prophet to warn the Jews of their wicked ways all the way up to the 'period of silence' some three to four hundred years before the birth of Christ. As I point out in 'Revelation's Babylon The Great', most of these prophets were ridiculed, persecuted and slain by those they were sent to warn...their very own people, the Jews;

and in particular, the Jewish spiritual hierarchy.

By the time of Christ's arrival on Earth, the Jewish spiritual elders had a very smug self-righteous religion based on keeping The Law and oral tradition; but with very little of the true Spirit of God. They had their people in bondage to keeping The Law, what is known as the Torah, and any new Word from the Lord via His prophets had been shunned upon for several hundred years. In fact, it was punishable by excommunication from The Temple.

Based on the above, is it any wonder then that when John the Baptist and Jesus came preaching against their religion of self-righteous works that they were immediately rejected? John was beheaded by Herod at Salome's insistence, and Jesus was ultimately crucified by the Romans at the behest of the Scribes and Pharisees.

At this point, it is important to differentiate between those who were the spiritual rulers of Israel, and the common people, many of which received Jesus's words gladly. As it says in part in the Gospel of Mark:

"...And the common people heard him gladly." (Mark 12:37)

Many people, particularly Christians, are familiar with the following verse from the Gospel of John:

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" (John 1:12)

This verse is of course referring to those who accept Jesus as their only Lord and Saviour. However, they neglect to read the verses which come both before and after this verse. Verse thirteen goes on to say:

"Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

This is the first instance in the Gospel of John where we are told of the necessity of being born again spiritually. Jesus expanded further on this in John chapter three where He said the following to Nicodemus:

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."
(John 3:5-8)

The Apostle Paul also shed some light on this important issue in his epistle to the Romans when he said:

"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of

the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God." (Romans 2:28-29)

The above verses are but a few examples which show that the true Israel of God, the true Jews, are not those who are born Jewish after the flesh, but rather those people who are born of the Spirit through their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. The true Israel of God, His true Church, is a worldwide body of believers who are not bound to the little physical country of Israel, or to the Jewish religion. For a further expansion on this topic, please refer to some of my other articles which deal with the spiritual nature of God's True Church.

And what of the flesh Jews, those who some claim still have a special link and relationship with God? For starters, consider the little-quoted verse which comes right before John 1:12:

"He came unto his own, and his own received him not"
(John 1:11)

The Jewish rulers rejected Jesus, and that is why He took His message of love and salvation to the poor and down-trodden, to those who still had open hearts to hear The Truth when it came to them. Through His death on the Cross, Jesus made Salvation freely available to ALL men of ALL nations. Consider His following words:

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw ALL men unto me." (John 12:32)

As can be seen, Salvation through Jesus Christ is not a white man's thing. It is not a religion created just for the Western world. Through Jesus' death on the Cross, God is extending His love and mercy to ALL men everywhere; but as the prophet Jonah said, we are the ones who must make the conscious choice to accept God's mercy through His Son Jesus.

The Jewish people not only rejected that mercy, but like the Pharaoh of ancient Egypt, they brought the curse of God upon themselves through their own mouths when they said:

"Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children." (Matthew 27:25)

Notice that it doesn't just say the Scribes and Pharisees shouted this, but it says that ALL the people answered this. It appears that those who were proclaiming Him King and Saviour one week, were the next crying out for His blood. Consequently, Jesus had nothing good to say about them. Consider the following verses:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." (John 8:44).

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye

compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves." (Matthew 23:15).

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." (Revelation 2:9)

"Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." (Revelation 3:9)

The above verses are indeed strong, but nevertheless, they speak a truth which must be heard. This strange relationship between American Christians and the Jewish state is a farce. How can anyone who really knows the Scriptures accept this as anything but blasphemy and a mockery of our Lord and Saviour? As the above verses make so clear, those who claim to be true Jews are in fact the very children of hell!

Jesus Himself prophesied that the Kingdom of God would be taken from them and given to the Gentiles as a result of their unbelieving hearts:

"And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 8:11)

"But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 8:12)

How can this possibly be? It is very simple, just as we modern-day Christians look BACK in faith to Jesus's death on the Cross, as the famous chapter of Hebrews eleven says, all of the Old Testament patriarchs looked FORWARD in faith to Jesus' birth, life and death on the Cross for the Atonement of their sins, and their ultimate reward in the Heavenly City. But sadly, beginning in their own lifetimes, their own families and descendants, those who were destined to be 'the children of the Kingdom,' the flesh Jews, began to go astray and follow after other gods...which they continue to do to this very day. (Please refer to some of my other articles for further details on these topics.)

This is why Jesus said the 'children of the kingdom' would be cast out. Those who claim to be 'the children of the kingdom' and chosen nation of God are in fact no such thing. How can they be when they have rejected the One sent to save them? And it is because they rejected their Saviour, Yeshua, that they continue to wait for another one. Orthodox Jews are convinced that this saviour, when he arrives, will bring them military victories and will be responsible for the final reconstruction of Solomon's Temple which was destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D. Consider the recent news story of a red heifer calf being born in Israel. In the Jewish historical and religious sense, this is seen as a very important development and a sign from God. Within a few short years, we may witness the culmination of some key

Endtime prophetic events!

In Paul's second epistle to the Thessalonians, we read the following sobering verses:

"...because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:"
(2 Thessalonians 2:10b-11)

If you read additional verses in this chapter, you will see that it is dealing with the rise of the Antichrist who will sit in The Temple of God (at Jerusalem), claiming that he is in fact God. Because of their rejection of the true Saviour, the Jewish nation may soon commit its greatest error yet, when it proclaims to the world, the arrival of its saviour, one whom they refer to as 'Moshiach'. For a long time I had thought that the Jewish saviour and the Antichrist were one and the same; however, as explained in my article, 'The Kings Of The North And South Part 2', I am now considering the possibility that this 'Moshiach' might be what the prophet Daniel refers to as 'the prince of the covenant', the one who may possibly be responsible for drawing up the coming peace accord, or who will in some way be involved in its signing with the Antichrist. If my new understanding is correct, the Jews will learn an important lesson about trusting in the Lord, instead of in the arm of the flesh, when their Jewish 'Moshiach' is first betrayed by, and then defeated by the Antichrist. But this will all be to break and humble them, and to destroy their self-confidence, and their confidence in their own religion, and ultimately draw them closer to the Lord.

While this paper may carry a very negative tone for some, it should be recognized that it is scripturally sound. The evidence is there for anyone who really wants to know The Truth. Through their own conscious choice and rejection of the Saviour, the majority of the Jewish people have forfeited their rights as the chosen people of God, and those rights have been transferred to a spiritual church and nation, whose builder and founder is Jesus Christ Himself. Consider what the Apostle Paul says to the Corinthians:

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (2 Corinthians 6:16)

In the book of the prophet Zechariah, speaking of the Endtime, we find the following obscure verse:

"And MANY NATIONS shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto thee." (Zechariah 2:11)

In the above verse, we have not just one nation, (Israel), but many nations which will belong to the Lord. This is a true picture of the righteousness and mercy of God. All men and nations everywhere who accept Jesus will be a part of God's kingdom...and not just the nation of Israel.

But this is not the end of the story, for as the prophet Jeremiah said many times, God is married to His rebellious and backsliding wife, meaning the nation of Israel:

"Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the LORD; and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the LORD, and I will not keep anger for ever."
(Jeremiah 3:12)

"Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:" (Jeremiah 3:14)

"Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the LORD our God." (Jeremiah 3:22)

"Why then is this people of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? they hold fast deceit, they refuse to return." (Jeremiah 8:5)

"I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him." (Hosea 14:4)

In spite of the Lord's many pleadings to Israel through His prophets, one of the final verses in the Old Testament which exemplifies Israel's reaction to the Lord's many pleadings reads:

"But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear."
(Zechariah 7:11)

However, it should be noted that there are indications in both the Old and New Testaments that ultimately, in spite of her current wayward condition, even the nation of Israel will finally be redeemed...but this will not occur until the Lord has utterly broken and humbled her through war and invasion, something we should look forward to, possibly sometime in the near future. For as Jesus Himself prophesied:

"Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Luke 13:35)

It will only be after utter military defeat and severe suffering, that the pride of Israel will finally be broken, and she will be willing to admit the error of her ways and confess that Jesus Christ is truly the Son of God and Saviour of the world...her very own Saviour Whom she has long denied and rejected. In the meantime, we should be thankful that a small portion of Jews, such as the Jews For Jesus, and the Messianic Jews, inspite of harsh criticism from their Jewish brethren, have begun to accept Jesus/Yeshua, as their Lord and Saviour.

In conclusion, we are all in the same boat regardless of our

national origin. God does not play favorites. In His eyes, we are all sinners in need of a Saviour. In the final analysis, all that really counts to Him is whether or not we have accepted and believe in the sacrifice of His Son on the Cross...for He died for ALL men, including the flesh Jews. As the Apostle Paul said:

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall NO flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." (Romans 3:20)

I hope this article has been a blessing to many. If you would like a further amplification on my views concerning the true nature of the Jews and Israel of God, please refer to the article 'Is God A Racist? Part Two'.

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IS GOD A RACIST? : PART TWO

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A Clarification Of Position, And Straight Answers
Concerning The True Jews And The True Israel Of God

The following article is primarily directed to those who have been offended by some of the comments regarding the Jewish people which are found in The E.D.G.E. Online articles, or on the The E.D.G.E. Online mailing list. This article is an extension and amplification of ideas first presented in the companion article 'Is God A Racist? Part 1'. I suggest that you read that article before continuing with this one. In that article I stated some of my feelings regarding the Jews' current relationship with Jesus Christ. I feel it is important to clarify in this current article that I am not against the Jews, or against the nation of Israel, in the sense that I do not hate them as a people, nor do I wish their country any kind of harm. As a Christian, I endeavor to love all people the same regardless of their national origin and ethnic background. I believe we all have the God-given rights of life, liberty and the unselfish pursuit of happiness. I likewise believe that we all have the right to a safe place to live with sufficient food, shelter and clothing and other basic human necessities. I do not believe that anyone has the right to deny anyone these needs, or to inhibit their effort to lawfully and legally obtain them.

As a sincere Bible-believing Christian, I view the Jewish people the same as I do anyone else I meet in the course of living my daily life. The main question in my mind when I meet a person for the first time is, have they been given a chance to hear the Good News of the Kingdom? Have they accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour? I firmly believe that we are ALL in the same boat with the Lord as far as our salvation is concerned. I believe that we are ALL sinners in the sight of God, and that we are ALL in need of a Saviour as traditional Biblical verses point out:

"They are ALL gone aside, they are ALL together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one."
(Psalms 14:3)

"ALL we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us ALL." (Isaiah 53:6)

"For ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
(Romans 3:23)

I do not believe that God plays favorite, or that any one nation or race of people is exempted from the status of needing to believe in Jesus Christ in order to obtain forgiveness of sins or their salvation; not even the Jews.

These verses make this clear:

"For there is no respect of persons with God."
(Romans 2:11)

"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;" (Romans 3:9)

The Jew, as well as the Gentile, must make the conscious choice to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. God's salvation through His Son is offered to ALL men, and He waits patiently for us ALL to accept it as these verses clearly demonstrate:

"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw ALL men unto me." (John 12:32)

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that ALL should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

If a person, be they Jew or Gentile, rejects God's precious gift of Eternal Life through the sacrifice of His Son, then as the Bible tells us, they are antichrist and should be shunned:

"Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son."
(1 John 2:22)

"For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist." (2 John 1:7)

"Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them." (Romans 16:17)

Those who consciously and knowingly reject Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross, whether they be Jew or Gentile, can only look forward to the judgments of God unless they repent of their unbelief:

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36)

"But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;" (Romans 2:5-9)

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is

eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

"For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." (Hebrews 10:26-27)

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God...For our God is a consuming fire." (Hebrews 10:31, 12:29)

So as can be seen, the Word of God is very clear on these issues of sin and salvation. God does not make any exemptions or distinctions. He has made The Rules very clear to us. As those who know me well are aware, my primary contention with the Jewish people is the charade which they have continued to play for the past two thousand years. Despite their rejection of the Saviour, they continue to pass themselves off as God's chosen people, the true nation of Israel; and some folks, such as well-meaning American Christians are being misled by this idea. Rather than repeat what I have already said in the previously mentioned article, I am going to present my Scriptural case for who I believe the true Jews are, and who the true Israel of God is. I am going to present the whole puzzle a piece at a time with supporting verses. When I am done, I will then present a summary for your consideration. This is all I can do; tell you exactly what the Word of God really says, and let you form your own opinion based on what I have shared. Frankly, I believe The Truth to this matter is quite obvious for those who are willing to receive it. So here it is, point by point. You be the judge:

[] We Christians are God's nation of spiritual Jews who are born into His spiritual Kingdom through spiritual birth:

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:5-8)

"Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:13)

"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God." (Romans 2:28-29)

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an HOLY NATION, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:" (1 Peter 2:9)

[] Our biological heritage, or flesh birth means absolutely nothing to God:

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63)

"For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him." (Romans 10:12)

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28)

"Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all." (Colossians 3:11)

[] Contrary to what is espoused by modern religions, God long ago abandoned physical temple worship:

"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest?" (Isaiah 66:1)

"Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these." (Jeremiah 7:4)

"For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof." (Hosea 8:14)

"And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." (Matthew 24:1-2)

"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet," (Acts 7:48)

"Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." (John 4:21-24)

"I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." (Revelation 2:9)

"Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." (Revelation 3:9)

[] We Christians are each a living stone, a living temple, and collectively we form God's whole spiritual house or temple. We are also God's holy priesthood:

"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." (2 Corinthians 6:16)

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:5)

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

"Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body." (John 2:20-21)

[] Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone of our spiritual temple:

"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;" (Ephesians 2:20)

"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded." (1 Peter 2:6)

[] Being as we are a spiritual nation with a spiritual temple, we of course have a spiritual High Priest:

"Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people." (Hebrews 2:17)

"Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;" (Hebrews 3:1)

"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:14-15)

"Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec." (Hebrews 5:10)

"Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."
(Hebrews 6:20)

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;" (Hebrews 8:1)

[] As the servants and high priests of the Lord, we have been called out of the unbelieving world to perform our service to the Lord, that is, preaching the Gospel of Truth to those who will receive it:

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."
(2 Corinthians 6:17-18)

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." (John 15:19)

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

[] We look for a spiritual city, a spiritual country, a spiritual temple (or tabernacle) which shall descend from Heaven, and Jesus shall be its High Priest, and we His royal priesthood:

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. (John 14:2-3) "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;" (Hebrews 9:11)

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." (Hebrews 11:13-16)

"And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell

with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." (Revelation 21:2-3)

"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;" (Revelation 21:10-11)

SUMMARY OF ABOVE: Collectively, all of the above Scriptures speak a very powerful message which many people simply do not want to hear or understand, including the flesh Jews and many pro-Israel Christians. There is really no need to scratch our heads and wonder what these verses mean. There is no need to try to interpret them. Their meaning is quite clear. Those of us who accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour are the True Jews of the Spirit. We are God's True Nation of Israel. We are also His True Temple. There is no need for a physical Temple with a physical Jewish high priest because we already have a spiritual High Priest Who has passed to the Heavens for a time. But He will return one day soon for us, His Holy Nation, His Royal Priesthood, His Beloved Family, His Elect of God, His Sons and Daughters, Sisters and Brothers by faith! In the meantime, as His chosen priests and priestesses, it is our responsibility to share His Words of Love and Salvation with as many as we can while there is still time. When all is finally said and done, some day in the future, after the Millennium, God's glorious City, His Temple of the Spirit, His Tabernacle, New Jerusalem, will come down to Earth to dwell with man...and we will be a part of it if we are faithful!

Everything I have just said is fully supported by the above Scriptures. Those of you who know me are well aware that when I stand firm on an issue, it is because I have good reason to. I normally do not go flying off the handle saying things unless I have really investigated them and asked the Lord to show me through His Word what the answer is.

At this point some may be wondering, 'Well, where does that leave the flesh Jews who are still making all of their false claims of being God's chosen people and nation?' I have already answered this in part by the opening Scriptures in this article. Like us, they too must accept the conditions for Salvation set by God Himself. After all, He is The One who makes The Rules. I also provided part of the answer to this question in 'Is God A Racist? Part 1'. However, there are still a few issues which need to be addressed. For example, who is the woman who is persecuted by the red dragon in Revelation chapter twelve? Who are the one hundred and forty-four thousand servants of God who are sealed in Revelation chapter seven? What is this talk of a remnant we often hear about? You will find the answers to these, and to many more of your questions, if you continue to delve into the articles found on this website.

I trust that this article has been a blessing to you, and that it has provided some clear scriptural answers to some of your questions. May God grant you the Wisdom and the Faith to accept The Truth which His Word reveals.

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