

THE ISRAEL DECEPTION - WHO IS TRUE ISRAEL TODAY?

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Matthew 3:9 ...'And think not to say within yourselves, we have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.'



Who is **true** Israel today? If you do a search for the end times, you will find that the majority of websites you come across will be focused on the literal nation of Israel in the Middle East. Why? Because many professed Christians believe that the nation of Israel is still God's chosen nation, and that Christ will establish His kingdom in Israel when He returns. They believe end time prophecy is all about Israel of the flesh. Don't get us wrong, there are some events to be fulfilled in Israel like [the king of the north prophecy in Daniel 11:45](#) and [the Battle of Armageddon](#). But they are **judgments** ["desolations"] still to come **against** the nation of Israel for rejecting God's Son. The problem is, many Christians today miss the spiritual application of Israel, and instead of seeing the fulfillment in Christ, they are, just like the Pharisees of old, still focused on the literal nation of Israel.

Yet, what did Jesus say Himself when Pilot asked ... "*Art thou the King of the Jews?*"? Jesus said ... "*My kingdom is NOT of this world.*" (John 18:33,36)

It is amazing to think that many professed Christians believe that if you support the nation of Israel, then you will be blessed. And yet the nation of Israel **STILL** rejects the Son of God! So let's get this right - even though the nation of Israel rejects Jesus Christ and continues to fight against and kill people on a daily basis, God will bless us if we support them?! Really? This is all based on a **faulty** understanding of who **TRUE** Israel are and who God's promises of 'restoration' pointed to. These professed Christians completely ignore the scriptures that tell us probation has **ended** for the nation of Israel. And their faulty teaching has led to other false teachings like a 'future antichrist', the false '1000 year millennial reign on earth in Israel and will end up in causing countless Christians to accept a false christ.'

By saying that God is yet to pardon the nation of Israel and give them yet another chance and restore them, is an incredible insult to our heavenly Father! **They are basically saying that God didn't do enough in sending His own Son to save them!** What else could God do for Israel than He has **ALREADY** done in Christ? No. We will show you from scripture that probation has closed on the literal nation of Israel. And don't be fooled by the '1948 Israel

restored as a nation.' This was a movement by man, not God. Look at the following quote from 1897:

*"We do not deny that a great many Jews, and other people, too, may yet return to Palestine, expecting that a new nation of Israel is to be formed under the dominion of Christ on David's throne. A world-wide sentiment is developing in that direction, and a corresponding movement will doubtless soon begin ; but let it be distinctly understood that **the Lord is not leading in such an enterprise**; it is not in accordance with his plans, and it will end in disaster to all who are deceived by it."* (H.E.Robinson, The Eastern Question, 1897, p.39)

This was in 1897, and even then our Advent pioneers could see the false movement of restoring the nation of Israel, and yet there are millions today who have been deceived by the 1948 event of Israel being 'restored as a nation.' But we will show you from the Bible why this was NOT ordained of God.

Please remember as you study this subject of Israel in the end times, that God's promises to the nation of Israel were **conditional** upon them following and keeping His commandments and accepting Christ Jesus as their Saviour. Take a look at the following Bible verses:

Exodus 19:5-6 ...'Now therefore, IF ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, THEN ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.'

1 Kings 6:12-13 ...'Concerning this house which thou art in building, IF thou wilt walk in my statutes, and execute my judgments, and keep all my commandments to walk in them, THEN I will perform my word with thee, which I spake unto David thy father.'

1 Kings 9:6-7 ...'BUT IF ye shall at all turn from following me, ye or your children, and will not keep my commandments and my statutes which I have set before you, but go and serve other gods, and worship them: THEN will I cut off Israel out of the land which I have given them; and this house, which I have hallowed for my name, will I cast out of my sight; and Israel shall be a proverb and a byword among all people.'

Jeremiah 18:7-10 ...'At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; if that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; if it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.'

Do you see? IF you obey me, THEN I will keep my covenant with you. But if you do not obey Me, then I will REPENT of the good I promised. **Conditional.** And what did the Jewish nation do? REJECT the Son of God! God knew this would happen, so pay careful attention to a prophecy He gave to them in Jeremiah 19:

Jeremiah 19:8-11 ...'And I will make this city desolate, and an hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished and hiss because of all the plagues thereof. And I will cause them to eat the flesh of their sons and the flesh of their daughters, and they shall eat every one the flesh of his friend in the siege and straitness, wherewith their enemies, and they that seek

*their lives, shall straiten them. Then shalt thou break the bottle in the sight of the men that go with thee, and shalt say unto them, thus saith the Lord of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as one breaketh a potter's vessel, **that cannot be made whole again**: and they shall bury them in Tophet, till there be no place to bury.'*

Can a smashed pot be made whole again? No, it's not possible, and God even confirms above that the pot (the nation of Israel) **cannot be made whole again**. Jeremiah 19 was a prophecy pointing to the destruction of Jerusalem in AD70 by the Romans. This is '*the siege*' mentioned above. And this was God's judgment against the nation of Israel for rejecting His Son, closing their probation as a people. Yes, as individuals Jews can still be saved if they turn to Christ, but as a whole nation, they are now rejected of God and he is NOT going to restore them as a nation. **So what happened in 1948 was the movement of MAN, not God, to deceive the world.**

Jesus even confirmed Himself, saying to the Jewish nation ... "*Behold, your house is left unto you **desolate**."* (Matthew 23:38)

Now before someone says ... "*Oh! your teaching "replacement theology!"*" ... Let me confirm something from the New Testament, which gives us the clear truth regarding this. No, we are not teaching any kind of 'replacement theology', we are merely teaching the Bible truth. The Israel of God has always and will always exist, just not in a literal sense of the flesh. Do you believe in Jesus Christ and follow Him? Well, do you know what that makes you? An Israelite!

*Romans 2:28-29 ... '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 9:6-8 ... 'Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, **they which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God**: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.'*

The nation of Israel is not the 'vine', JESUS CHRIST is the 'vine' (John 15:5). The nation of Israel is not the 'seed', JESUS CHRIST is the 'seed' (Galatians 3:16). It is Jesus we are to look to, not the nation of Israel.

Who is the 'seed'? Paul told us in Galatians 3:16 that Jesus Christ is the seed. He is that 'promise' IN WHOM we become the children of God and a TRUE Israelite (Galatians 3:28). There is no distinction between any race now IN CHRIST. As we are 'all one' in Him. Praise God!

So what happened to the literal Jews? Have a good read of the parable of the vineyard in Luke 20:9-16. Here you will see Jesus giving a story about a vineyard owner (God) going away and leaving his vineyard (God's kingdom on earth) to 'husbandmen' (the Jews) to take care of it and 'bare fruit' (expand God's kingdom). And while the owner was away, he sends 'servants' (prophets) to see how things are and collect the 'fruit'. But the husbandmen beat the servants and sent them away empty handed (The Jews by and large rejected the prophets). Then the owner (God) sends his son (Jesus Christ). And the husbandmen KILL the son (Jews

have Jesus killed). And what did Jesus say would happen to the husbandmen (the Jews) after doing all these things? They would be destroyed (destruction of Jerusalem in AD70) and the vineyard (kingdom of God) would be **GIVEN TO OTHERS** (the Gentiles, or anyone who accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour).

Now look at how the Jews reacted to this parable: Acts 20:16 ...'And when they heard it, they said, God forbid.' ... Meaning they KNEW that Jesus was saying THEY would be destroyed and the kingdom would be **TAKEN OFF THEM AND GIVEN TO ANOTHER PEOPLE**. And this is EXACTLY what happened! **And how was the kingdom taken from them? They were simply 'broken off' the 'tree' and were no longer part of the kingdom.** And how were we (Gentiles) 'given' the kingdom? We were 'grafted into the tree' (Romans 11:17-21). Remember, Israel is NOT the tree, Jesus Christ is the tree (vine). The Jews and the Gentiles are simply the branches who are either broken off or grafted into the tree. If you are grafted into the tree, through faith in Christ, whether Jew or Gentile, you are a TRUE Israelite. And if you are broken off, through disobedience, whether Jew or Gentile, then you are NOT a true Israelite and are just 'of the flesh'.

Jesus said to the Jews ... "*Behold, your house is left unto you **desolate.***" (Matthew 23:38)

Jesus also said ... "*Therefore I say unto you, **the kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.***" (Matthew 21:43)

The Jews had Jesus crucified and even said themselves ... "*His blood be on us and on our children.*" (Matthew 27:25) ... And not only did they reject Christ and crucify Him, they also rejected God's extended mercy to them when they rejected the gospel message given through the apostles. Then Paul says to them ... "*It was necessary that the Word of God should first have been spoken to you; but seeing **as ye put it from you** and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, **we turn to the gentiles.***" (Acts 13:46)

After Jesus was crucified, the gospel message had to go to the Jews first to fulfill the 70 weeks of Daniel. In His mercy, God gave the Jews a last chance to turn to Him and accept the gospel message, but they rejected it, and therefore the "*kingdom was taken from them*" [they were 'broken off the tree'] and the apostles turned their attention from the Jews to the Gentiles.

To accompany this study, please see [70 weeks of Daniel](#) for a fuller understanding of Israel in the end times.

Remember how the Jews misinterpreted Bible prophecy and thought that Jesus was going to come the first time as this mighty warrior who would setup a "physical" kingdom on earth and rule over the nations? Well, we have it all over again with end time prophecy students and teachers today believing the exact same thing! But this time with the second coming of Christ. They believe that Jesus is going to return, after the so called rapture of the church [[another false teaching](#)] and setup His kingdom in Israel and rule there for the thousand year millennium. The Bible prophecy teachers today are so focused on Israel, that they are missing the great spiritual application of God's kingdom, just as the disciples did during Jesus' first coming.

Luke 17:20-21 'And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh NOT with

*observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of God is within you.***

Do you see what Jesus is saying in the above Bible verse? He's explaining in clear words that the kingdom is a "SPIRITUAL" one right now. Yes, there is a literal heavenly kingdom of God, but on earth, the kingdom is not in any one place, it is IN US, through faith. And yet the disciples were still clinging to the belief that Christ would setup a physical kingdom to rule from on earth, just like the prophecy teachers of today ... *Luke 24:21* '*But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel.*' ... They were still holding on to that notion, and when Jesus died on the cross, their hopes were crushed! They just didn't understand the spiritual application of Israel and the kingdom of God, until the day of Pentecost.

TRUE 'SPIRITUAL' ISRAEL

When we learn the truth of how the name 'Israel' came about, it starts to become clear. As we know, the name Israel was first given to Jacob (Genesis 32:28). Jacob's original name meant 'deceiver.' But His new name 'Israel' means someone who 'prevails' or overcomes. So wait a minute! Jacob goes from 'deceiver' (sinner) to someone who overcomes with God. Does that not sound like EVERYONE who are saved through Christ? So you can see God's plan here for mankind. And this applies to every single person, not just Jews of the flesh.

Now think about this - was Jacob called Israel because He was born of a Hebrew? No. Jacob was not called Israel until later in his life. The name Israel was first given to Jacob when he tussled with the angel of the Lord. When Jacob saw his helpless condition, he clung onto the Lord with all he had and would not let go. Through this Jacob overcame his sin and was given the name Israel.

This means that no person is an Israelite in the true sense of the word just because he is born of Hebrew ancestors. It applies to all who overcome through Christ.

The name Israel did not come from Jacob's ancestors, but from God Himself. Therefore you cannot be a true Israelite just simply through the flesh. The name is given to those by God Himself who become true children of our heavenly Father. Natural birth, physical form and national language have nothing to do with the name Israel and Jew. It is all to do with heart conversion.

Galatians 3:29 '*And if ye be Christ's, **then are ye Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise.*'

Romans 2:29 '*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.*'

Philippians 3:3 '*For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have NO confidence in the flesh.*'

Romans 9:6-8 '*Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, they which are the children of the*

*flesh, **these are NOT the children of God:** but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.'*

So what does the statement - "*they are not all Israel, which are of Israel*" mean? Clearly, there are TWO Israels. The one is by birth, of the flesh, which points to the Jewish nation, and which as we can see above does NOTHING for you. The other is through RE-birth in the Spirit, which points to ANYONE who has been born again in Christ. LOOK:

*Galatians 3:28-29 ... '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**. And if ye be Christ's, THEN are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.'*

*1 Corinthians 12:13 ... 'For by one Spirit are **we all baptized into one body**, whether we be **Jews or Gentiles**, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.'*

So there are two uses for the name Israel. One is to identify the Hebrew nation of the flesh. And the other to identify God's true people by faith in Christ, no matter where they descended from. And the prophecies regarding the demise of Israel, as we read further above, point to the literal nation of Israel. But the prophecies which relate to the 'restoring' of Israel in the end times, point to the TRUE 'spiritual' Israel - ALL who have surrendered their lives to Christ and walk in the Spirit. And Peter spoke of this:

*1 Peter 2:5, 9-10 ... '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 ... 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; Which in time past were not a people, but are **now the people of God**: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.'*

Going back to Jacob, let us consider the following. God also applied the SPIRITUAL name of Israel to Jacob's descendents ... *Exodus 4:22-23 'And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn: And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.'* ... Now who is God asking Pharaoh to let go? Not Jacob himself, because he was dead at this point. God was speaking about all His people. So God is applying the name "Israel" to **ALL HIS PEOPLE**.

Now take a look at the following interesting application of the name Israel ... *Hosea 11:1 'When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.'* ... Who was God talking about here? Was it the literal nation of Israel? Well, Israel had by now fallen in and out of apostasy many times, so was God talking about someone else? ... *Matthew 2:13-14 'And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt.'* ... King Herod wanted Jesus killed and so God gave word to Joseph to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt. So was God talking about Jesus (as Israel) in Hosea? Well, look at this next verse ... *Matthew 2:15 'And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, **out of Egypt have I called my son**.'* ... Do you see this

amazing truth? Matthew is quoting directly from Hosea, saying that the "Israel" spoken of in Hosea was Christ Jesus! So do you see the SPIRITUAL application of the name Israel?

*Galatians 3:16 'Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, and to seeds, as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, **which is Christ.**'*

Remember in the Old Testament that the Israelites were called God's "chosen people", "a kingdom of priests, a holy nation"? ... *Exodus 19:6 ... 'And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.'* ... **But this statement is now applied to all Christians** ... *1 Peter 2:9-10 ... '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. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy'* ... If you, like many others think that Peter is talking to the Jews, then take another look. Peter says these people were "**in times past, not a people, but now called out of darkness and into His marvellous light**". There is only one group of people this could be ... THE GENTILE CONVERTS who are now Christians!

Friend, this is the amazing Bible truth about Israel. If you remember in Galatians 3:16, Paul stated that Christ was now the seed of Abraham, and says that ANYONE who is in Christ is also Abraham's seed. In other words, **ANYONE, whether Jew or Gentile will be called Israel!** And as Paul confirms in Romans above, ANYONE can be a Jew (called Israel) if they are circumcised in the heart and are in Christ Jesus.

Think about it. If I am simply called a 'Christian' by name only, does that put me in favor with God? No, of course not, because a simple profession of faith does NOTHING for us if we have not been truly converted in Christ. The same applies to literal Israel. Being a descendant of a Jew in the flesh does NOTHING for you in the eyes of the Lord. It is only by faith in Christ that we truly become the children of our heavenly Father.

So let us now look at the following verse ... *Romans 11:26 'And so **all Israel shall be saved.**'* ... Many people apply this to literal Israel of the flesh, saying that all literal Jews will turn to Christ Jesus in the last days and be saved. But let us read a couple more verses from the same chapter:

Romans 11:13-14 ... 'For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save **some of them.**'

Here are the TWO Israels! This is so clear! The Israel that shall be saved is the true Israel of God, ALL those, whether Jew or Gentile, who give their hearts to the Lord Jesus. And the Israel which Paul hoped to 'save SOME' is the Israel of the flesh. And yes, Jews of the flesh CAN still be saved if they give their lives to the Lord. But as a nation, they are no longer God's 'elect.' What we have shown on this page proves this fact.

*Galatians 3:28 ... '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.'*

John 10:16 ... 'And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be ONE FOLD, and one shepherd.'

Colossians 3:10-11 ...'And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.'

I hope you see this truth, because you will not fully understand end times Bible prophecy unless you see the truth that the name of Israel is now applied to anyone around the world who is in Jesus Christ. Once you understand this, you can move forward in your study of Bible prophecy and your eyes will be opened WIDE!

So what is that 'restored' place to which all the prophets and people of God looked to? Israel in the Middle East? No. **The Heavenly Jerusalem and EARTH MADE NEW.**

*Hebrews 11:4-16 ...'Abel ... Enoch ... Noah ... Abraham ... 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.'***

*Galatians 4:25-26 ...'For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. **But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.'***

*2 Peter 3:13 ...'Nevertheless we, according to his promise, **look for new heavens and a new earth,** wherein dwelleth righteousness.'*

*Isaiah 65:17-19 ...'For, behold, I create **new heavens and a new earth:** and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind. But be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, **I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people:** and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying.'*

*Revelation 21:1-4 ...'**And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:** for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 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. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.'*

Isaiah 35:5-6 ...'Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.'

Isaiah 55:12-13 ...'For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come

up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.'

Isaiah 11:6-9 ...'The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.'