

THE REDEMPTION OF ISRAEL

By Jim Sayles

The Redemption of Israel
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First Printing, 2014
Printed in the United States of America

ISBN: 978-0-578-03972-5

Bible texts used:

The King James Bible (KJV)

English Standard Version (ESV)

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The Amplified Bible

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1 - Covenant

As we examine end time prophecy we must be aware of the fact that Satan's anti-Christ goal is to both oppose and imitate Christ, and he will accomplish both of these goals through DECEPTION.

For that reason, if there is any doctrine that takes precedence over everything else, it would be the revelatory understanding of God's redemptive covenant relationship with an elect remnant of fallen mankind by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, the mediator and High Priest of this covenant.

This is THE MOST IMPORTANT doctrine we need to have as Spirit-revealed, Spirit-confirmed truth.

With this truth Satan's deceptions are easily identified. Without it, we are vulnerable, like those who are "... *ever learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*" (2 Timothy 3:7 KJV)

Thus the Lord's primary warning for end time Believers: "***DO NOT BE DECEIVED.***" Because it is DECEPTION, not persecution and trouble, that is the primary danger for end time Believers.

Understanding our covenant relationship with the Father in Christ begins with the knowledge that God's relationship with His created spirit-being, man, is now, always has been, and always will be through COVENANT, and the New Covenant, written in the blood of Jesus Christ, is the central theme of scripture from Genesis through Revelation.

The Bible, then, is our written abstract of God's covenant relationship with mankind, but those who attempt to interpret this abstract apart from revelatory guidance by the Spirit of Truth who wrote it, do seriously err, causing division in the spiritual body of Christ, obscuring prophecies, and corrupting the doctrine of soteriology (salvation/redemption).

Most Believers think that the subject of covenant requires a seminary level of study. But the core truth of God's covenant relationship with mankind is relatively simple, and all other scriptural truth is connected to, and defined by, this truth.

The only reason covenant seems complex and difficult to understand is that there are numerous falsehoods, erroneous presumptions, and deceptions concerning God's covenant relationship with mankind that have been forced into place by the presumptive use of complex interpretive formulas and emotive "proof texts" out of context.

The traditional, unified, apostolic understanding, consistent throughout the body of Christ until the mid-nineteenth century, was that the Father's pre-ordained form in which His eternal redemptive covenant with fallen mankind would be fulfilled is the New Covenant in Jesus Christ. And it is this covenant in which the entirety of mankind from Adam forward, whether Jew or Gentile, would be included.

This is currently identified in theological circles as "Covenant Theology."

The concept of dual or multiple redemptive covenants was introduced and popularized by Dispensational theologians, teaching that God has dispensed, and will dispense salvation to

fallen mankind through various covenants, ranging from four to seven “dispensations” (of salvation), depending on which continually morphing variation one chooses to believe.

But the primary, intensely emotive view present in the various schools of thought within dual or multiple covenant theologies is that God will yet restore His covenant promises to Abraham to the end time national, ethnic Jews, the “Chosen People,” “God’s people in waiting.”

In this view the church is a parenthesis in which Gentiles and certain “elect” Jews are included in the church until the “time of the Gentiles” (interpreted by them as the “dispensation” of the church age) is complete.

At that time the FAILED church will be raptured into the heavenly presence of the Lord on the basis of His promise to the Philadelphian church (Revelation 3:10), a promise based on this church’s perseverance and faithfulness DURING end time persecution, which is totally unlike the Laodicean church of today imagining and expecting to be raptured away before trouble comes.

Then the Father will subject national, ethnic Israel and the unbelieving world to seven years of judgment, called “tribulation,” and at the end of that time He will return to the Mount of Olives in Israel, and “all Israel” will be saved as He fulfills God’s covenant promises to the remnant of national, ethnic Israel who have not taken the mark of the beast.

After that, at the start of the Millennial Davidic Kingdom age, the church will be grafted into this eternal covenant and share in the covenant blessings that were always intended for God’s “Chosen People,” the natural, ethnic seeds of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

In other words, national, ethnic Israel will replace the church in the Father’s eternal covenant, and the church, the pre-Israelite saints, and the millennial saints will all be grafted into THIS covenant.

There are, of course, many variations of this continually morphing doctrine, which is, itself, the hallmark of deception and error, but there are likely to be many Believers reading this book

who were totally unaware that the popular theory of pre-tribulation “rapture” of church only saints is a prophetic distinctive that is ONLY possible if the entirety of this dispensational model of God’s covenant relationship with mankind is correct.

2 – For Whom is the Promise Intended?

Many years ago I was invited by a Charismatic friend to a presentation put on by a Messianic Jewish ministry called Prophecy Round-Up in which the leader of the Israel Faithful and Temple Mount Movement, Mr. Gershon Salomon, described this group's plans for rebuilding the temple, restoring the Levitical priesthood, and beginning temple worship and sacrifices again.

I understood Christian interest on the basis of this being a sign of end time prophetic fulfillment, but when the leader of the Prophecy Round-Up group made an appeal for donations to the Temple Mount group to support their rebuilding of the temple I was shocked by the fact that Christians all over the room, including some in my own fellowship, pulled out their checkbooks.

When I protested that giving donations to the Temple Mount group was a denial of the finished work of Jesus Christ and a stumbling block to Mr. Salomon and the Jews in general, my protest was met by angry denials from the leader of the Prophecy Round-Up ministry.

That was my introduction to the dual or multiple covenant theologies that support a secret pre-tribulation "rapture" of church only saints, and I am now aware that this was a divine appointment for my instruction.

Hence the most important truth we need to recognize about our covenant relationship with the Father is that it was His intention (will) from before the foundation of the world, before the creation event itself, that a remnant elect of fallen mankind, from Adam forward, identified as spiritual Israel, the “Israel of God” in Christ, made up of both Jews and Gentiles as “one new man” in Christ, would have an eternal covenant relationship with Him through His only begotten Son, the Son of God, Son of Man, Jesus of Nazareth.

This covenant that we have identified as the “New Covenant,” was not an afterthought introduced like a chess move after Adam failed to uphold the original covenant.

The Father planned it from before the creation.

...he chose us in him before the foundation of the world...In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through ...(covenant incorporation in)...Jesus Christ...(by faith)..., according to the purpose of his will. Eph. 1:3-5 ESV
(inserts and emphasis are the author’s)

What Paul is clearly revealing in this passage is that it was God’s plan from BEFORE the fall of Adam to include the entire remnant elect of mankind in the New Covenant.

Everything we believe by faith, having “heard” the truth with spiritual ears and “seen” truth through the eyes of our hearts, hinges on our understanding that it is now, and always has been, God’s plan to include the entire remnant elect of mankind in this ONE redemptive covenant between God and man, the eternal covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ, the mediator and High Priest of this covenant.

This simple but profound truth is revealed progressively through scripture, but this unleavened bread is only revealed completely to those who have eyes to “see” and ears to “hear” what the Spirit is saying.

The question that arises from this truth, the question we need to ask at this time is: “Was God’s promise to Abraham a promise for national, ethnic Israel, or was it always, from before

the creation itself, intended by God as a promise to THE ‘seed’ of Abraham, Jesus Christ, and the entirety of mankind from Adam forward, Jew and Gentile alike, who would be spiritually incorporated in Him by grace through faith?”

Now the... (covenant)... promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many... (i.e. national, ethnic Israel)..., but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ. Galatians 3:16 ESV (inserts are the author’s)

For all the... (covenant)... promises of God find their Yes in him... (Jesus Christ). That is why it is through him... (by faith)... that we utter our Amen... (our covenant response)... to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV (inserts and emphasis are the author’s)

This question, answered by these two passages of scripture, is revealed in fullness from Genesis through Revelation. And our thorough understanding is important in order that we not be confused about any issue related to our covenant relationship with the Father in Christ.

3 – Tracing the Promise

Although Abraham was the first to receive the title-deed to the promised redemptive covenant in Christ, Adam, the origin of fallen mankind, was the first man to whom God revealed the promised future redemptive covenant in which Adam would ultimately be included.

Adam could have secured eternal covenant communion and blessing with God had he chosen to eat of the Tree of Life prior to his fall, but in His omniscience God knew that Adam would not. Therefore, the original covenant with Adam served to condemn all mankind born of the seed of Adam (i.e. “in” Adam) so that a free-willed remnant elect of mankind could be saved by grace through faith and included in the corporate body of Christ (i.e. “in” Christ). And, in His mercy, God included Adam and Eve in this promised covenant as will be demonstrated.

Therefore, the elect remnant of mankind would also be included in this covenant by grace through faith and not by fallen mankind’s own ability to conform to the righteous requirements of this one and only redemptive covenant.

We first see God's plan to include the remnant elect of mankind in a single redemptive covenant in Genesis when God Himself provided a sacrifice of innocent animals, a "blood" sacrifice, to "cover" the nakedness of Adam and Eve, which is the exposed sin nature of fallen mankind. (Genesis 3:21).

But how do we know that this act revealed God's eternal plan to redeem an elect remnant of mankind in Christ?

First, we have God's prophetic curse of the serpent, Satan, saying, "***I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring...(Jesus Christ)...he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.***" Genesis 3:15 ESV (insert is the author's)

When Jesus referred to the Pharisees as being of their father, the father of lies, Satan, He was literally referencing this specific passage, because the "offspring" of Satan are those children of darkness empowered by Satan to oppose the absolute, immutable truth of God through deception.

Note another important distinction. It is the offspring of the woman, not the offspring of Adam, who was prophesied to crush Satan's head.

The curse of the broken covenant is passed down through the seed of the man, Adam, because God's covenant was originally with Adam. Eve was "in Adam" physically in that she was created from Adam's own flesh and "in Adam" spiritually as far as the covenant was concerned.

The "sin" bloodline, then, is passed down through the man. Every woman born of a human father inherits the fallen nature from her father, but she does not pass it on through her egg.

We see this confirmed in the separate genealogies for Jesus. Mary's genealogy, providing a bloodline inheritance, but not the bloodline curse of the broken covenant, begins with Abraham, then David, and ends with her father, Joseph. Her husband's genealogy, providing a legal inheritance, but, as the step-father of Jesus, not the cursed genetic bloodline inheritance of Adam.

Therefore, the bloodline inheritance of Jesus is through Mary who does not carry the curse of fallen mankind in Adam.

The Blood Line (from Adam)

The Legal Line (from Abraham)

	Adam
Abraham	Abraham
David	David
Joseph (Mary's father)	
Mary	Joseph (Mary's husband)
Jesus	Jesus

The genetic bloodline inheritance of Jesus through Mary includes Abraham and David, but it does not include the bloodline curse of Adam passed down only through the seed of the man, not the egg of the woman.

Therefore, it was ultimately Mary's uncontaminated egg joined with the seed of the Holy Spirit, creating the Son of Man and Son of God, Jesus of Nazareth, born without original sin, who crushed the head of the serpent, Satan.

Note: The Roman Catholic Church, unable to "see" how God planned for Jesus to be free of original sin, invented a doctrine (with a little "help" from the father of lies) claiming that Mary was excused from original sin when she was blessed by Gabriel (Luke 1). Then the Roman Catholic Church "added to" this false doctrine by claiming that Mary lived a sinless life, and was crowned "Queen of Heaven" by the Father and Son to become co-mediatrix of our covenant.

In this, Mary is demonstrated in the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" to have all the unique qualities of Jesus Christ Himself, including deity, which is a Satanically inspired HERESY of the first order. (See the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" paragraphs 480, 484, 722, 867, 969, among many others)

Although Eve sinned first, it was not until Adam sinned that the covenant was broken, and we see in Genesis 3:22-24 that God's concern is with His covenant man, Adam, not with the woman whose covenant relationship with God was indirect, "in Adam," just as our covenant relationship with God is indirect, "in Christ."

Excerpts from Genesis 3:22-24 ESV:

...the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil.

...the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden...

...He drove out the man...

What we see clearly here is that Adam, God's covenant man, is the one who broke the covenant, though Eve sinned first, and Eve's inclusion in the penalty of the broken covenant is not based on her sin, but on her spiritual inclusion "in Adam."

Secondly, we see that Cain and Abel were aware of the practice of making offerings to the Lord. The obvious implication is that this practice came about through their observations of, and instructions by Adam, and/or direct instructions from the Lord.

In this we learn that Cain, the firstborn son and a tiller of the soil, did not please God with his offering of the fruits of the soil, and Abel, the second born son and a shepherd, did please God with his offering by faith of the fat portions of the firstborn of his flock, which was a blood sacrifice requiring the death of innocent animals.

We know that Cain and Abel had a relationship with God, because He spoke to them. And we know that Abel's offering was by faith, which pleased God, while Cain's offering was not by faith, which God called "sin" (i.e. living works of faith versus dead works of the flesh).

It is not a stretch to view this event as a metaphorical foreshadowing of the event in which national, ethnic Israel, the firstborn "son," attempted, and is still attempting, to please the Father with "works," while the church, "the Israel of God," the second born "son," pleases the Father through faith.

In this regard we understand that Adam, Eve, and Abel were not "saved" by complying with the requirements of some new covenant made with Adam after the fall any more than any Israelite was saved by complying with the Law.

For no matter how many covenants can be found in the abstract of scripture, there are NO redemptive covenants provided for the remnant elect of mankind other than the New Covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ, the Mediator and High Priest of that covenant, which God foreordained prior to the creation.

Yet, as will be demonstrated, in this instance God sovereignly reckoned Adam, Eve, and Abel as “righteous” on the basis of their obedient faith responses to Him after the fall.

Therefore, it was Adam who first received the prophetic revelation of a future redemption, not Abraham.

4 – The Sovereign Covenant

In Genesis 14:18-24, prior to the establishment of the Law and the levitical priesthood, Abraham tithed to the king of Salem (Jerusalem) and high priest, Melchizedek. Melchizedek was a man, but he was also a type or forerunner of Jesus Christ, and this event is evidence that God ordained a priesthood unto ALL mankind long before He established a priesthood in Israel specifically for the Jews.

Jesus, then, is our “High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek,” and not after the order of Levi or Aaron. And Abraham, the father of the Jews, was subservient to the pre-existing priesthood over all mankind.

Yet, Dispensationalists and Jewish supremacists, believing that God favors ethnic Jews over all other races of mankind, have reversed this order with the claim that it is God’s relationship with ethnic Israel that is the primary redemptive covenant for mankind.

Abel’s blood sacrifice is also our first example of a man pleasing God by his faith, but it is not until we read about

Abraham pleasing God through his faith that we are given the understanding that God sovereignly “reckoned” or imputed righteousness (right standing with Him) to men on the basis of their obedient faith responses to Him.

For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted...(reckoned or imputed)...to him as righteousness.” Romans 4:3 ESV (inserts are the author’s)

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6 ESV (emphasis is the author’s)

Abraham’s faith response caused God to “reckon” him as “righteous” (having a right standing with God) though he would not literally be in right covenant standing with God until Jesus was resurrected.

But what is the basis for this imputing of righteousness to men by God?

Because the covenant with Adam, which all mankind from Adam forward have been subjected to, is a “sovereign” covenant imposed by God on mankind, and mankind is still subject to that covenant if they have not been redeemed out of that covenant, God has also retained His sovereign right to reckon or impute “righteousness” (right standing with Him) to anyone on whatever basis He chooses, even after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

“I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious. And I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” Exodus 33:19 ESV

Therefore, Adam, Eve, and Abel, as well as all the elect up to and including the thief on the cross, were “reckoned” to be “righteous” (in right standing with God) on the basis of their individual faith responses to the revelation of God’s will, just as Abraham was “reckoned” to be righteous on the basis of his obedient faith response to the revelation of God’s will.

Likewise, there is sufficient scriptural evidence that the Father “reckons” as “righteous” all those who are unable to make an obedient faith response to Him on whatever level He sovereignly demands of them, such as the unborn, young children, and the mentally handicapped.

In this regard we must remember that both the original sovereign covenant, the covenant broken by Adam, with its penalties, and the New Covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ, are both still in place. And God has retained His sovereign right to reckon as “righteous,” in right covenant standing with Him, any man or woman on whatever basis He chooses.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ has not changed God’s sovereign right in this regard. But it has dramatically elevated the opportunity of redemption for all mankind, and it is the eternal covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ into which all those who have been “reckoned” as righteous by God are ultimately included.

The obvious truth that follows is that anyone who is confronted with the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ and rejects it, is not likely, then, to be reckoned by God as “righteous” (in right standing with God) apart from their faith in Jesus Christ.

And, unfortunately, this includes a great many national, ethnic Jews.

Paul’s list of the Gentile and Israelite heroes of faith in Hebrews 11 includes an example of the many Old Testament saints who are now included in the eternal covenant through their spiritual incorporation “in Christ” by grace through faith, because they were “reckoned” by God to be “righteous.” Yet, none of these were “saved” by whatever covenant they had with the Father, because NO covenant, other than the New Covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ, provides for the redemption of an elect remnant of mankind.

It is also important to note that some of the Old Testament saints who had a “righteous” standing with God because of their faith and obedience subsequently lost it.

An example is King Saul who began his kingship as a “righteous” man, but he subsequently lost that standing.

When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this. Ezekiel 33:18,19 ESV

It is also important to note that our redemption, as well as the redemption of those Old Testament saints whom God reckoned as “righteous,” will not be complete until the resurrection of both the living and the dead on the last day.

We, therefore, who are living, regenerated Believers in Jesus Christ have experienced the initiation of our redemption, but our redemption is not, yet, complete.

So, how is it that these who lived before Christ are now included “in Christ”?

Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives...(into heaven)..., and he gave gifts to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things. Ephesians 4:8-10 ESV
(insert is the author’s)

In the parable concerning Lazarus and the rich man (Luke 16:19-31) Hades is revealed as the spiritual region of the dead in which the unrighteous are tormented (but not by demons) and the righteous are kept in a place of blessing known as “Abraham’s bosom” or “Paradise.”

When the thief on the cross proclaimed his faith in Jesus, the Lord said, ***“I tell you the truth. This day you will be with me in paradise,”*** indicating that the thief would be with Him in the “paradise” portion of Hades, but not in the heavenly presence of the Father until the thief and all the righteous “captives” would be released from their “captivity” after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Prior to the resurrection of Jesus Christ the “reckoning” of these saints as righteous by God on the basis of their individual faith responses did not entitle them to come into the immediate presence of God in heaven.

Those that we presume came immediately into the heavenly presence of God by His sovereign election, like Enoch and Elijah, did NOT experience the completion of their redemption at that time. That could not and would not take place until they were “in Christ” after His resurrection.

And the many who were held “captive” in the Paradise of God, until Jesus revealed Himself to them there and then ascended to the Father, did not come into the heavenly presence of the Father until that time.

A quote from “Jesus Christ Immutable” by Charles Spurgeon puts this succinctly:

“These who saw Christ's day before it came, had a great difference as to what they knew, and perhaps in the same measure a difference as to what they enjoyed while on earth meditating upon Christ; but they were all washed in the same blood, all redeemed with the same ransom price, and made members of the same body. Israel in the covenant of grace is not natural Israel, but all Believers in all ages.”

But the ultimate completion of their redemption and our redemption will not take place until the one and only resurrection of living and dead on the “last day,” and the primary difference in our earthly experience is that the Old Testament saints did not experience being incorporated into the spiritual body of Christ until after their death, while we experience incorporation into the spiritual body of Christ immediately upon regeneration.

But it is the entirety of the remnant elect of mankind who will be eternally incorporated into the spiritual body of Christ, not just New Testament Believers. Therefore, Old Testament saints, New Testament saints, and Millennial saints will all be included in this ONE covenant through their incorporation into the spiritual body of Christ, the church, spiritual Israel, the “Israel of God,” and the bride of Christ.

For neither circumcision ... (the Law) ... counts for anything, nor circumcision ... (those without the Law) ..., but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God ... (that holy nation of spiritual Israel in Christ comprising of both "circumcised" Jews and "uncircumcised" Gentiles) ... Galatians 6:15,16 ESV (emphasis and inserts are the author's)

5 – The Israel of God

The question we need to ask is, “Who is ‘Israel’ in regard to the eternal covenant in Christ?”

The promise initially given to Abraham, and eventually fulfilled to the “seed” of Abraham, included the promise of becoming the covenant nation of God, covenant blessing, a great name, a source of blessing to all the families of earth, and a curse against those who dishonor or curse the covenant nation of God (Jesus Christ, and those who are spiritually incorporated in Him, as the ultimate “seed” to whom the promise was intended – Genesis 12:3).

This promise has been promoted erroneously in the church as still applying to the geo-political nation of Israel and to ethnic Jews wherever they exist today, and this error has been deliberately introduced and promoted in the church to set up the great Luciferian scheme in which Satan, operating through the Antichrist, will declare himself to be both “God” and “Messiah” in the temple rebuilt by the Israel Faithful and Temple Mount Movement or some similar body of religious Jews.

In Genesis 15 we see that the confirmation and additional details of the promised eternal covenant in Christ was given to Abraham in a vision and a dream in which Abraham was instructed to bring the Lord a three year old heifer, a three year old female goat, a three year old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.

Abraham then cut the heifer, the female goat, and the ram each into two pieces, and God caused a smoking pot and a flaming torch to pass through these pieces.

The blood covenant practice between two parties in those days was to cut the sacrificial animals in half separated by the spilled blood of the sacrifice. Then the two parties passed through the two pieces as they literally walked through the sacrificial blood.

The symbolism of this practice indicated that whoever violated the covenant would be cursed by having his blood spilled in like manner.

But the sacrifice shown to Abraham in a dream was NOT the literal confirmation of the promised covenant. It was symbolic of a future literal confirmation. Likewise, it was not Abraham who would pass through the pieces, but God, the Father, and Jesus of Nazareth, as the Son of Man, who would pass through the pieces to confirm the covenant in His blood. (Genesis 15)

Therefore, Abraham received the promise or title-deed to the fulfillment of a redemptive covenant, but not the literal fulfillment of it. And, as we will see, the promised redemptive covenant was never intended for the ethnic, geo-political nation of Israel, but was, from before the creation itself, intended for the spiritual Israel of God in Christ, an eternal covenant between the Father and the Son, which includes all who are now, or will be, “in Christ.”

This covenant, literally fulfilled by the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, joined Jew and Gentile, from Adam to the last millennial saint, into a single corporate body “in” Christ, which is “the Israel of God.”

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision ... (being a Jew) ... availeth anything, nor uncircumcision ... (being a Gentile) ..., but a new creature. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. Galatians 6:15,16 KJV (inserts and emphasis are the author's)

Paul indicates in Galatians 6:15 that “circumcision,” being born a Jew and attempting to keep the Law, is not “anything,” in regard to national, ethnic Jews being included in the eternal covenant.

The covenant of Law did not, and will not, redeem one single person out of national, ethnic Israel. That does not mean that none were “saved,” but they were not saved on the basis of their obedience to the strict requirements of the Law.

And, though the Law and the rituals of the temple provided a means for making obedient faith responses to God, they did not in any way provide for the redemption of those who practiced them.

For since the law has but a shadow ... (type) ... of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, ... (NEVER) ... by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Hebrews 10:1 ESV (insert and emphasis is the author's)

All of the sacrifices from Abraham forward until the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, were merely symbolic of the ultimate sacrifice Abraham saw being prophetically fulfilled in a dream.

As a “shadow,” or representative type of the ultimate reality, all of the elaborate rituals, the appointed times, the feasts, and Sabbaths, the details of the temple, the Law, and literally everything written in the Old Testament were for the purpose of pointing to their fulfillment by Jesus Christ and for the instruction of the church, the “Israel of God,” in Christ. They were never, at any time, for national, ethnic Israel apart from those national, ethnic Jews who are, or will be, included in the “Israel of God” in Christ.

Redemption for Israelites prior to the resurrection of Jesus Christ was still only available through the sovereign election of God on whatever basis of faith He sovereignly required of them.

From Adam until Abraham there was no future redemptive covenant initiated by God. He revealed the future redemptive covenant to Adam, but He did not initiate it. God's covenant with Noah, as an example, was an addendum to the old covenant, but it did not provide redemption for Noah and his family.

Because of his obedience Noah and his family were sovereignly "reckoned" as righteous by God (Genesis 6:8), but the covenant promises made to Noah, as the representative for mankind after the flood, only ameliorated the curse of the broken original covenant in regard to the destruction of all life by flood. (Genesis 8:21, 22)

The New Covenant was initiated in the covenant promises given to Abraham as the initial recipient of the title-deed to the redemptive covenant, but the New Covenant would not be fulfilled until the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the "seed" of Abraham for whom it was intended, so that an elect remnant of mankind would ultimately be redeemed out of the original covenant by their spiritual incorporation into Jesus Christ as the "Israel of God."

6 – Old Covenant – New Covenant

We call the promise given to Abraham and all the subsequent additions to that promise through the giving of the Law to Moses the “Old Covenant,” but in reality that which we call the Old Covenant demonstrated the obedience required to obtain the PROMISED COVENANT that would ultimately be fulfilled by the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, the last Adam, and our High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Therefore, the Law, and everything that followed the Law, became the prerequisite for receiving the promises of God first given to Abraham, and those promises were ultimately fulfilled to the only “seed” of Abraham and Son of David to fulfill the righteous requirements of the Law, just as the Father intended from before the foundations of the world.

Therefore, the promises included in the Old Covenant were literally intended for spiritual Israel, but national, ethnic Israel, as the temporary holders of the title deed participated in the

promises prior to the birth, life, death, and resurrection of THE “seed,” Jesus of Nazareth, the promised Messiah of the remnant.

Thus the Israelites held the title-deed to the promise, but not the fulfillment of it. And when Moses presented the Law to the people, they ALL ratified the agreement.

Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the ...(covenant)...rules...(of the Law). And all the people answered with one voice and said, “All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do.” Exodus 24:3 ESV (inserts and emphasis are the author’s)

This has HUGE implications. This was national, ethnic Israel’s ratification of the covenant requirements, and from that exact point in time the title-deed to, and final fulfillment of the promise, could only be received through perfect compliance with the Law by an Israelite.

And it was Jesus of Nazareth, of the tribe of Judah and lineage of David who literally fulfilled the requirements of the old covenant by doing the perfect will of God in thought, word, and deed.

Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. John 8:28 KJV

In other passages He said that He said nothing without hearing the Father say it first, and He did nothing without seeing the Father do it first, which IS perfect compliance with the will of God.

And, as we will see, God’s plan from the beginning for the elect remnant of mankind, whether Jew or Gentile, is that they are, or will be, “a people for his own possession” only through their incorporation in Christ.

We have come to believe that Israel is God’s “chosen nation” and ethnic Jews God’s “Chosen People,” because in Deuteronomy

14:2 we see Moses telling the Israelites that they are "...a people for his treasured possession..."

But, because the entirety of national, ethnic Israel agreed to the covenant restriction of perfect compliance with the Law, the inheritance could only be received by a seed of Abraham who was not born with the curse of the Adamic bloodline who was also able to walk in perfect compliance with the Law (will of God).

Therefore, the covenant itself, and the various titles used by God to identify those who held the title-deed to the covenant promises of God, was only temporarily possessed by national, ethnic Israel until the seed of Abraham, born of the virgin, Mary, would come.

Then, after the resurrection of the Seed, we see the same phrase used to describe the church in 1 Peter 2:9,10: ***"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation..."***(the "Israel of God")***..., a people for his own possession..."***

So the church, spiritually incorporated in Christ as the Israel of God, is chosen out of both the Gentiles and the Jews, to become one new man in Christ and "a people for his own possession."

This "one new man" eliminates, forever, the possibility that God will somehow renew and fulfill His promise given to Abraham to the other "seeds" of national, ethnic Israel.

The Lord even prophesied that these other "seeds" would be deceived into believing otherwise, which is identified in scripture as the "strong delusion."

(2 Thessalonians 2:4)

The simplicity of this covenant truth is easily demonstrated:

God <--- covenant/broken ---> the first Adam (and those who are "in" Adam) condemned

God <--- the promised covenant---> the coming "seed" of Abraham (Jesus Christ)

God <--- new covenant ---> the last Adam, Christ (and those who are "in" Christ) redeemed

Likewise, Zachariah, the father of John the Baptist, and a Levite priest, prophesied that Israel had BEEN redeemed as promised:

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed ... (past tense)... his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began: That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant; ... Luke 1:68-72 ESV (inserts and emphasis are the author's)

The simple truth illustrated in Zachariah's prophetic statement concerning the birth of Jesus of Nazareth is that the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus was a completion of the redemption of Israel and fulfillment of the Father's covenant promise spoken to Abraham and fulfilled to THE "seed."

There will not, therefore, be another event in which national ethnic Israel will receive the promise, because the promised redemption of Israel has already been fulfilled. And a denial of this truth that the Father has sent the Son to redeem Israel as promised has been identified by John as being of the spirit of ANTICHRIST.

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth... (both)... the Father and the Son. I John 2:22 KJV (insert and emphasis are the author's)

Note that John tells us the denial of Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ, the Messiah, is a denial of both the Father and the Son, and that Judaism, the legitimate worship of the Father up until the death and resurrection of the Son, is now devoid of legitimacy and is, instead, an expression of the SPIRIT of ANTICHRIST.

And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist...1 John 4:3 KJV (emphasis is the author's)

Those who are offended by this truth will accuse me of anti-Semitism, but this truth is not related to ethnic Jews, only to those who continue to reject the fact that the Father has already redeemed Israel as promised.

The parable of the vineyard in which the tenants, metaphorically representing national, ethnic Israel, were left in charge (temporarily holding the title-deed) of the owner's vineyard, killing the owner's representatives when they came to get his fruit, was a prophetic word to the Lord's disciples concerning His rejection by national, ethnic Israel.

The vineyard in this parable represented the kingdom of God on earth, not just the physical land of Israel, and when the owner of the vineyard finally sent His Son, the heir, the tenants, who represented national, ethnic Israel, plotted to kill him and steal the inheritance intended **ONLY** for Him. (An act continued by all Jewish supremacists, dispensationalists, and others who believe and teach that national, ethnic Israel is the "heir" of the vineyard).

This murderous intent is now shared vicariously by all who deny that the Father, through the Son, ***"hath visited and redeemed his people."***

I have noted and personally experienced that the lie, that "all Israel" has not, yet, been redeemed, when exposed, makes those who believe, and are heavily invested in, the LIE very, VERY **ANGRY**, which is proof itself of the origin of the lie.

This is **EXACTLY** the same murderous hatred the intellectual giants of Israel, the Pharisees, expressed when their non-revelatory religious **TRADITIONS** were challenged by the very person of Jesus of Nazareth, their long-awaited Messiah.

I have witnessed this spirit of antichrist anger directed at others who are proclaiming the unpopular revelatory **TRUTH** of God, and I have experienced it myself at the hands of those Pharisees of our faith who are heavily invested in the demonically

inspired and intellectually conceived LIES assaulted against the absolute, immutable *rhema* truth of God.

But the Spirit-driven response to deception and error is not anger, but grief, just as the Holy Spirit is grieved and we grieve with Him. And I, for one, am deeply grieved by the spirit of antichrist teaching that the fulfillment of the Father's redemptive promise to Abraham is a future event intended for national, ethnic Israel.

In the broad application of the parable of the vineyard both to historic Israel at the time of the Lord's first advent and to the children of bondage (darkness) of all ages, the children of bondage in knowing or unknowing service to their "god," Satan, the father of lies, always desire to kill the children of life (light)...even in the professing church of Jesus Christ.

But the specific implication for national, ethnic Israel is that they were ALWAYS, even from the beginning, only "tenants," temporarily in possession of the promise, and once the Heir, THE "seed" of Abraham, came, the tenants lost all legal right to the vineyard, even to temporary possession of it except "in" Him, who is THE "heir," by grace through faith.

Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God ...(the vineyard)...***shall be taken from you...***(the "tenants" or temporary title-deed holders, national, ethnic Israel)...***and given to a nation...***(spiritual Israel, the "Israel of God," which is the corporate body of Christ, a holy nation comprised of both Gentiles and Jews "in Christ")...***bringing forth the fruits...***(of the vineyard)...***thereof.*** Matthew 21:43 KJV (inserts and emphasis are the author's)

Dual or multiple covenant theologians deceptively and emotively identify this "taken from" and "given to" passage as "Replacement Theology." But the church did not "replace" Israel in the covenant. The covenant was fulfilled to the only national, ethnic Jew ("seed" of Abraham) who was born without original sin and fulfilled the Law and the prophets, Jesus of Nazareth, for whom it was always intended.

This fulfillment to Jesus of Nazareth, the only seed of Abraham to fulfill ALL the righteous requirements of the Law, is the promised REDEMPTION of ISRAEL.

A quote from “Jesus Christ Immutable” by Charles Spurgeon puts this succinctly:

*“These who saw Christ's day before it came, had a great difference as to what they knew, and perhaps in the same measure a difference as to what they enjoyed while on earth meditating upon Christ; but they were all washed in the same blood, all redeemed with the same ransom price, and made members of the same body. **Israel in the covenant of grace is not natural Israel, but all Believers in all ages.**”*

7 – Replacement Theology

The New Covenant, written in the blood of the Lamb, is, between God, the Father, and Jesus, the Son of Man, THE seed of Abraham, Son of David, and lion of the tribe of Judah, who is now the mediator of that covenant and our High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Therefore, those who emotively call this “Replacement Theology,” are unknowingly claiming that Jesus replaced Israel, which is an obvious lie, because the promise was always intended for Him and for all those who would be spiritually incorporated into Him by grace through faith, which the Father has identified as the “Israel of God,” in Christ.

The covenant is between God, the Father, and Jesus, the Son. It is not between God, the Father, and the church. Therefore, the church did not “replace” Israel either, because our participation as both Jews and Gentiles in the covenant is indirect, as “joint heirs” (Romans 8:17) through our incorporation into the body of Christ.

It is the “Israel of God” IN Christ, that is the pre-ordained form in which the entire remnant elect of mankind, from Adam forward to the last millennial saint are, or will be, included as

“joint heirs,” whether Jew or Gentile, and this calling and election has not changed from before the foundation of the world.

For God has consigned (penned up) all men...(Jew and Gentile)... ***to disobedience, only that He may have mercy on them all...***(the elect Jews and Gentiles)... [***alike***]. ... (as one new man in Christ). Romans 11:32 Amplified (inserts are the author's

There will be NO separate fulfillment of God's promises to national, ethnic Israel, the former tenants of the vineyard and temporary title-deed holders of the kingdom of God, apart from individual Jews being grafted back into the Olive Tree by grace through faith, and the dispensational, multiple covenant teaching that it is the church that will be grafted into national, ethnic Israel after national, ethnic Israel receives the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham, is exposed as the serpent's primary deception and a MASSIVE stumbling block both to the Jews and to the unwise, emotively confused, "foolish virgins" of this present generation.

It is this LIE, replacing the truth, professed emotively by many Messianic ministries and congregations, as well as all dual or multiple covenant theologians, that will condemn many who have not loved the truth and continue to believe the LIE.

God's covenant with David, as the representative of national, ethnic Israel, though seen to be a separate covenant between God and David, was actually a sovereign addition to the promised redemptive covenant, narrowing the inheritance of the promise to the "seed" of Abraham and to the royal seed of David, king of Israel.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to

establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. Isaiah 9:6,7 ESV

One of the promises God gave David, a promise that has not, yet, been fulfilled was that God's people "Israel" would be planted in their own place, disturbed (or uprooted) no more, and not afflicted by violent men.

This promise is not being fulfilled to national, ethnic Israel today, and national, ethnic Israel will not receive the fulfillment of this promise in the future. This promise, along with the promise of a land extending far beyond the borders of national Israel today, will be fulfilled to spiritual Israel, the Israel of God, "a people for his own possession," after Jesus is anointed as Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. 2 Samuel 7:10,11 ESV

National, ethnic Israel is now being "disturbed" and will be disturbed again all the way up to "the last day" when they will look upon Him whom they pierced and grieve.

8 – The Strong Delusion

National, ethnic Israel will also experience the fulfillment of a HUGE deception, referred to as the “strong delusion,” prior to the return of the Lord when the final beast kingdom, initially manifested as the world government, in its initial form as a revised United Nations, will grant Israel the right to occupy the land from the Nile to the Euphrates after the Gog-Magog war in which the Islamic Jihad is defeated supernaturally by God.

However, the written abstract of God’s Word does not clearly identify the boundaries of this land of promise, though Bible scholars continuously attempt to do so, because the Spirit of Truth deliberately concealed it in order to prevent Satan’s total success in selling the lie to both national, ethnic Israel and to spiritual Israel, the church.

But the religious Jews, believing that God has restored covenant status to them through this grant by the final beast kingdom, will ultimately accept the Antichrist as Messiah when he declares himself to be both “God” and “Messiah” just as the Lord prophesied to the unbelieving Pharisees of His own day.

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name,...(referring to the Antichrist)...him ye will receive. John 5:43 KJV (insert is the author's)

The ritual cleansing of the sins of the people in temple worship and sacrifice did not provide redemption. But it did provide a means of obedience to the will of God, and those of national, ethnic Israel from Abraham forward to the resurrection of Jesus Christ who were “reckoned” by God as righteous, on whatever basis of He sovereignly required, were ultimately included in the corporate body of Christ upon His resurrection. And these, like those who received Christ by grace through faith after His resurrection, will receive the completion of their redemption at the resurrection on the last day.

The people of Israel still possessed temporary title to the promise, but none of them could obtain the inheritance itself. All those Israelites who lived and died before the resurrection of Jesus Christ who would eventually be included as “joint heirs” in the promised covenant would do so only through God’s sovereign election based on His “reckoning” or imputing to them of righteousness as they responded by faith to whatever measure of faith He sovereignly required of them.

But, at the same time, MANY were “cut off” or debauched from the olive tree (Christ) and made strangers to the promised inheritance in Christ.

For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you...(Christians).... Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. Romans 11:21-23 ESV (insert and emphasis is the author's)

Three things are abundantly clear in this passage. First, all national, ethnic Israel will not be saved by some future fulfillment

of God's promise to Abraham apart from their faith in Jesus Christ, and there is no scriptural reference in either the OT or the NT indicating that the church will be grafted into God's covenant with national, ethnic Israel at the beginning of the millennial age as dispensationalists claim.

Secondly, those national, ethnic Jews who come to faith in Christ will, instead, be grafted in to spiritual Israel, the Israel of God in Christ.

And, thirdly, the painful understanding of the possibility of apostasy by regenerated Christian Believers (both Jew and Gentile) is clearly confirmed.

Dual covenant theologians are fond of quoting Romans 11:26a **...and so all Israel will be saved...** as being a proof text for the supposed separate fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham for national, ethnic Israel, but they forget that Romans 11:26 is subject to Romans 11:21-23 quoted above.

The calling and election of those Jews in the Old Testament and in the New Testament who have obtained the promised grace of God by faith is "without repentance" by God, but there is not now, nor has there ever been, a calling and election for "all national, ethnic Israel."

For not all who are descended from Israel belong to ... (spiritual)... Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but "Through Isaac ... (the son of faith)... shall your offspring be named." This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise... (in Christ)... are counted as offspring. Romans 9:6-9 ESV (inserts and emphasis are the author's)

The STRONG DELUSION (2 Thessalonians 2:4) that will condemn the "foolish virgins" and condemn a large number of ethnic Jews, as well as the entire unbelieving world, is the denial that the Father has already redeemed Israel through the Son, Jesus of Nazareth.

And it will be these who did not love the truth, though they will have received it, who will receive the covenant mark of the Luciferian “Messiah.”

The coming [of the lawless one, the antichrist] is through the activity and working of Satan and will be attended by great power and with all sorts of [pretended] miracles and signs and delusive marvels—[all of them] lying wonders—

And by unlimited seduction to evil and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing (going to perdition) because they did not welcome the Truth ... (that the Father has already redeemed Israel through the life, death, and resurrection of the Son) ... but refused to love it that they might be saved.

Therefore God sends upon them a misleading influence, a working of error and a strong delusion to make them believe what is false,

In order that all may be judged and condemned who did not believe in [who refused to adhere to, trust in, and rely on] the Truth, but [instead] took pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 Amplified (emphasis is the author's)

Take note that the condemning sin is believing the LIE and a failure to love the truth. Our presumption has been that this “truth” only applies to the basic gospel message, but what is this end time delusion that will condemn those who do not LOVE the truth?

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 KJV (emphasis is the author's)

We assume that the religious Jews of Israel at the time of the Lord's first advent were not in denial of the Father, “Jehovah,” but

they obviously denied the Son. Why, then, did John say that those who denied the Son also denied the Father?

The key understanding is that their denial of the Son, inspired by the spirit of antichrist, was their refusal to recognize that the promise made by the Father to redeem Israel was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Therefore, their denial of the Son was also a denial that the Father fulfilled His promise to Abraham through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of the Son, THE “seed” for whom the promise was always intended.

And this same denial by those who do not LOVE this truth persists to this day, not only among national, ethnic Jews still practicing Judaism, but also among many in the corporate spiritual body of Christ who have believed the Jewish supremacy, dual covenant lie.

9 – The Remnant of Israel

It is impossible to overemphasize this one fact: at the resurrection of Jesus Christ ALL of the covenant promises were inherited by Him as the Son of Man, the last Adam, and THE seed of Abraham, and NONE of the unfulfilled redemptive promises to national, ethnic Israel (not to the physical land of Israel, but the covenant people of Israel, the other seeds of Abraham) will be fulfilled separately to them apart from their inclusion in Him by grace through faith.

ALL the covenant promises and ALL the covenant claims now belong to the REMNANT of Israel, spiritual Israel, the Israel of God in Christ, and NOT to national, ethnic Israel.

The Mosaic covenant (the Law) did not bring life but condemned the Jews so that the promise given to Abraham would be inherited and fulfilled by only one man, Jesus of Nazareth, the sole remnant of national, ethnic Israel to fulfill the Law and inherit the promise, thus qualifying Him to become the sinless Lamb of God who would be sacrificed for the sins of ALL mankind, establishing the promised New Covenant in His blood as a priest forever after the order of Melchizedec (a priesthood

unto all mankind, not just Jews) just as it was planned by God before the foundations of the world.

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...(this is the New Covenant written in the blood of Jesus Christ)... ***Not according to the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they...***(national, ethnic Israel)... ***broke, ...***(having failed in their Exodus 23:4 vow to walk perfectly in the Law)... ***although I was ...***(past tense)... ***their Husband, says the Lord.***

But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel...(because the New Covenant is between God and Jesus Christ, the seed of Abraham, the seed of David, and the sole remnant of ethnic Israel to receive the promise, it is, therefore, those who are “in Christ” who are now the “house of Israel” and the “house of Judah”)...: ***After those days, says the Lord, I will put My law within them, and on their hearts will I write it...***(through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit)...; ***and I will be their God, and they will be My people. Jeremiah 31:31-33 Amplified*** (inserts are the author’s)

This prophecy given by Jeremiah has obviously been fulfilled to the “house of Israel” by the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, and we have Paul’s words that it is this spiritual “Israel of God” who has received the fulfillment of redemptive prophecy. Therefore, though God will still fulfill certain prophecies related to national, ethnic Israel in the past, such as Ezekiel 38 and 39, no salvation will come to national, ethnic Jews apart from individual faith in Jesus Christ.

Now these things befell them...(the Israelites)... ***by way of a figure [as an example and warning to us]; they were written to admonish and fit us...***(spiritual Israel)... ***for right action by good instruction, we in whose days the ages have reached their climax (their consummation and concluding period). 1***

Corinthians 10:11 Amplified (inserts and emphasis are the author's)

There will not, then, be any seven year concluding period of time after the church has been “raptured” in which God brings salvation to “all Israel,” because there is no other redemptive covenant. And, as Paul has clearly stated, it is the body of Christ, the REMNANT of Israel, made up of both Jew and Gentile, who are currently experiencing the concluding age.

Therefore, it is the church, the REMNANT of Israel, a.k.a. spiritual Israel, the “Israel of God” in Christ who will be present in the earth until the last day, and it is the body of Christ, which includes both Jew and Gentile, who will bring in the great harvest of souls during the final three and a half years of “great tribulation” in the face of the worst Satan can do through the Antichrist.

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