

Are the Jews still to be regarded as God's chosen people?

By Adam Mills

Many Christians fail to reckon with the termination of the distinctive status of the Jewish nation under God, as clearly evidenced by the following scriptures:

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.

Romans 4:11,12: And he [Abraham] received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which [he had yet] being uncircumcised: that he might be THE FATHER OF ALL THEM THAT BELIEVE, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also: And the father of circumcision to them who are not of THE CIRCUMCISION only, but WHO also WALK IN THE STEPS OF THAT FAITH of our father Abraham, which [he had] being [yet] uncircumcised.

Romans 10:12,13: 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. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Romans 11:1,2: I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also AM AN ISRAELITE, of the seed of Abraham, [of] the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.

Romans 11:16~24: For if the firstfruit [be] holy, the lump [is] also [holy]: and if the root [be] holy, so [are] the branches. And if SOME OF THE BRANCHES BE BROKEN OFF, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, [take heed] lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in [his] goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. And they also, IF THEY ABIDE NOT STILL IN UNBELIEF, SHALL BE GRAFTED IN: [TAKE NOTE OF THE ONLY WAY ANY ETHNIC JEW CAN BE CONSIDERED A GENUINE ISRAELITE BY THE GOD OF JACOB] for God is able to graft them in again. For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural [branches], be grafted into their own olive tree?

Luke 3:7~9: Then said he [John the Baptist] to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits

worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves [ETHNIC JEWS], We have Abraham to [our] father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

[NOTE: Here John announces that a time of final determination concerning national Judaism has arrived. 'EVERY TREE' {individual Jew} cherishing unbelief toward the ministry of both John, and Jesus Christ, the Messiah would be 'HEWN DOWN', and meet their ultimate destiny in the fires of hell.]

Acts 13:45,46: But when THE JEWS saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing YE PUT IT FROM YOU, AND JUDGE YOURSELVES UNWORTHY of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

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.

Ephesians 2:13~19: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath MADE BOTH ONE, and hath BROKEN DOWN THE MIDDLE WALL OF PARTITION [between us]; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, [even] the law of commandments [contained] in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, [so] making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

Daniel 9:24~27: SEVENTY WEEKS ARE DETERMINED UPON THY PEOPLE AND UPON THY HOLY CITY, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. Know therefore and understand, [that] from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince [shall be] seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof [shall be] with a flood, and UNTO THE END OF THE WAR DESOLATIONS ARE DETERMINED. And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations HE SHALL MAKE [IT] DESOLATE, EVEN UNTIL THE CONSUMMATION, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

[NOTE: This period of 490 prophetic years came to an end at the time of the martyrdom of Stephen in 34 A.D., marking the final termination of the covenant relationship between the God of heaven, and the nation of ethnic Israel. Christ affirmed the prophetic words of Daniel by the following declarations:

“For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of

the Gentiles be fulfilled.” Luke 21:19~21

“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)” Matthew 24:15]

These and other texts, which will be cited in this study, clearly affirm the fact that God's distinction of the nation of ethnic Jews as His chosen people has been annulled, and the Christian church inherited this distinction in fulfillment of Christ's words:

Matthew 15:12~14: Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. LET THEM ALONE: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

John 8:37~44: I know that ye are Abraham's seed [GENETICALLY]; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, IF YE WERE Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, [even] God. Jesus said unto them, IF GOD WERE your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? [even] because ye cannot hear my word. 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 10:24~27: Then came THE JEWS round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because YE ARE NOT OF MY SHEEP, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Matthew 8:11,12: 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. But THE CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM [JEWS IN NAME ONLY] shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 23:37,38: O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, YOUR HOUSE IS LEFT UNTO YOU DESOLATE.

Matthew 21:43: Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be TAKEN FROM YOU, and GIVEN TO A NATION bringing forth the fruits thereof.

All of this was spoken by our Lord in fulfillment of prophecies such as this:

Isaiah 65:14,15: Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart,

and shall howl for vexation of spirit. And ye shall leave your name for a curse unto my chosen: for the Lord GOD shall slay thee, and CALL HIS SERVANTS BY ANOTHER NAME: [CHRISTIANS: Acts 11:26]

In the following texts, the Christian church is seen to inherit the status and name which ethnic Judaism had forfeited through unbelief:

1 Peter 2:9: But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, AN HOLY NATION, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: [See also: Exodus 19:5,6]

James 1:1: James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to THE TWELVE TRIBES [OF GENUINE, SPIRITUAL ISRAEL] which are scattered abroad, greeting.

Galatians 6:15,16: For in Christ Jesus NEITHER CIRCUMCISION AVAILETH ANY THING, nor uncircumcision, 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 [CHRISTIANITY].

Galatians 4:22~28: For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he [who was] of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman [was] by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. 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. For it is written, Rejoice, [thou] barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now WE [WHO BELIEVE ON JESUS CHRIST], brethren, as Isaac was, ARE THE CHILDREN OF PROMISE.

Hebrews 12:22~24: But YE ARE COME UNTO mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than [that of] Abel.