

### The Church is the Kingdom of God on Earth....not the Jews

#### Introduction:

Do you believe in the triumphant church of Jesus Christ who is His Bride, His Body and His army on earth, called to be the Temple of God where the power and glory of God is to be manifest in the earth, against whom the gates of hell shall not prevail? Called of God and equipped of God to destroy the works of Satan and deliver the people into the Kingdom of God. I believe this! But most evangelical prophecy teachers do not believe this. They believe the Jews are the instrument by which the Lord will establish His Kingdom in the earth.

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Christian Zionism is the belief that the Jews of today are the lineal descendents of Abraham and the heirs of the blessings of the covenant that the Lord made with him on the basis of their race. As such they have a separate covenant with God which includes the possession of the land of Palestine, the bringing in of the Kingdom of God on earth through the reestablishment of the throne of David in Jerusalem and the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem, thus all nations of the earth will be blessed through them. This will be accomplished after the Lord takes the church in the Rapture and works through the Jews to bring in His Kingdom on earth during the last days of the 7 year Great Tribulation.

#### Simply put, the question is this:

Do you believe the church of Jesus Christ is the instrument by which God brings His Kingdom into the earth or do you believe the Jews are God's instrument for bringing in His Kingdom?

The sad answer to that question is that the vast majority of evangelical preachers believe the second. Let me explain to you why that is a serious error...

Christian Zionism is the commonly held view among the vast majority of evangelical Christians and any preacher in any one of the major evangelical churches who holds an alternate view will have serious problems with his congregation and his head office. Since the founding of the state of Israel in 1948 it is surely the foolhardy who would doubt the clear evidence of his eyes and clear promises of

scripture. Who could possibly deny that miraculously after 2000 years Jews are gathered from all over the world into their own Israel nation with Jerusalem as the capital, Hebrew is once again spoken in Palestine and the deserts are blooming. Be warned... looks can be deceiving!

But is this really the Lord's doing or are we evangelicals, like blind old Isaac, unaware that Jacob was making out to be Esau in order to steal Esau's birthright blessing; is Esau not now fooling us making out he is Jacob (Israel) in order to steal back the birthright blessing? Malachi 1: 3-4 says:

*"And I hated Esau and laid his mountains and his heritage waste...wherefore Edom says, we are impoverished but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the Lord of hosts, they shall build but I will throw down and they shall call them the border of wickedness and the people against whom the Lord has indignation forever."*

Watch out Church! Malachi prophecy's that descendents of Abraham (Edomites, descendants of Esau) are going to possess the promised land and rebuild the waste places calling it their right, but the Lord is going to throw them out! You need to discern this very carefully in the spirit because there are three very obvious problems with Christian Zionism:

- It is not historically accurate
- It is not scriptural
- It leads us into a strategic dead-end for the church.

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In another article on this website titled "The Return of Israel" I gave to you the historical and prophetic fulfillment to the prophecy of Ezekiel and Isaiah that the Lord would bring Israel out from all the nations where He drove them and restore their nation, the temple and priesthood and that they would dwell safely in their own land again.

That happened in the War of the Maccabees which started in 167 BC and resulted in the new independent state of Israel in 143 BC.

Historically the 1948 state of Israel is not the fulfillment of Ez.36:24! There is no third return of Israel prophesied in scripture. There is however prophesied that Esau's descendants the Edomites would take back the land and possess it and rebuild the waste places and the Lord would kick them out. Read the book of Malachi. That is what happened in 1948.

### What does scripture say of the Jews?

But the real issue is what does scripture say about the claims of Christian Zionism? More specifically in this New Testament era of the New Covenant made in Christ's own blood, **is it still possible that anyone can possibly claim to be specially blessed of the Lord purely on the basis of their race and genetic makeup even though they outright reject the Lordship of Jesus Christ?**

That in actual fact is the claim of Christian Zionists today, that there are a special group of people on the earth today who purely on the basis of their race and regardless of their rejection of Jesus Christ have a special covenant relationship of blessing from God!

Here is the cardinal mistake that the evangelical preachers are making and that Paul warned the Church of in his day:

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*"...for they are not all Israel which are of Israel, neither because they are of the seed of Abraham are they all children...they which are the children of the flesh these are not the children of God.." (Rom.9:6-8).*

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Paul says there are two Israel's. He says that just because you are a Jew does not make you a partaker of Abraham's covenant. He emphasizes this again in Galatians 3:7-9:

***"Know ye therefore that they which are of faith the same are the children of Abraham...so then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."***

Meaning those who are of Abraham's faith... not his race are blessed! In Romans 2 Paul says, **"he is not a Jew who is one outwardly (circumcision)...but he is a Jew who is one inwardly (circumcision of the heart)."**

Be honest...does this fit the description of Jews in Israel today? Then according to scripture they are not Jews.

Christian Zionists deny these scriptures. They contend that the Jews in Israel today are blessed of God and are partakers of Abraham's blessing purely on the basis of their race. Exactly what Paul warned against is now the standard teaching in the church!

Furthermore if we bless these Israeli's then the Lord will bless us (that is part of Abraham's blessing, whoever blesses him the Lord will bless). Furthermore the land that the Lord promised Abraham has now been passed on to the Jews of today purely because they are the inheritors of Abraham's blessing through their racial connection. This is a gospel of race not of grace, it denies the New Covenant made in Christ's own blood as the basis of God's favor to man. It is therefore another gospel and not the gospel of grace and faith!

Today's Israeli's do not qualify to be the inheritors of Abraham's blessings because they do not qualify to be Abraham's seed according to scripture!

Christian Zionists must face another problem of race

The problem is this... Through thousands of years there have been so many other races of people who have converted into Judaism that the whole idea of a genetic race connection of the

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present day Jews to Abraham is ludicrous. Only about 42,000 racial Israelites returned to Judah from Babylon. The land was full of other races. For hundreds of years anybody who lived in Judea was called a Jew (a resident of Judea). John Hyrcanus in 125 BC forced the circumcision and conversion of the Edomites (the descendants of Essau) in southern Judea and they became "Jews".

It was these descendants of Esau who were converted to Judaism who told Jesus...

*"They answered him, We be Abraham's seed and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free..(Jesus answered them) I know that you are Abraham's seed but you seek to kill me... If you were Abraham's children you would do the works of Abraham. "* (John 8:33-39)

They were right. Esau's descendants were never in bondage in Egypt like his brother Jacob's descendants. But they still considered themselves Jews, the seed of Abraham and Jesus acknowledged that they were indeed the seed of Abraham but just like Paul, **Jesus denied that they were children of Abraham!**

Genetics mean nothing to God, only faith! They have no part in the blessings of Abraham regardless of what the Christian Zionists teach.

In Esther's day **"many of the people of the land became Jews."** (Es.8:17). But they were not the seed of Abraham. Are their descendants today Jews that can claim the blessings of Abraham? How? By race?

In about 740 AD the entire Kingdom of the Khazars in the Caucasus region converted to Judaism, took on Jewish names and developed the Yiddish form of Hebrew. They are the forebears of most of today's Askhenazi Jews. But they have no genetic link to Abraham. So on what basis can they claim possession of the land of Israel?

To try to maintain that the modern Jews of today have some genetic link thousands of years later to Abraham and on the basis of this

tenuous, questionable link, you want to base a whole theology of racial blessing?... a whole eschatology of the Kingdom on a myth? Paul warned Titus about "Jewish fables" (Titus 1:14). He told Timothy (1 Tim.1:4) the same thing warning him against "fables and endless genealogies". The church is still infected by these Jewish fables about how your genealogy qualifies you to be a special heir to Abraham's covenant promises!

### Dual Covenant Theology

The teaching espoused by prophecy preachers today that the covenant relationship that the Lord had with the Jews which began with Abraham is still applicable today to his racial, genetic descendants...and therefore the Jews have the right to possess the land of Palestine and call it Israel. This is called Dual Covenant Theology. One covenant with the Jews based on race and the New Covenant with the Church based on faith. In fact they expect other aspects of this covenant to be fulfilled as well, including rebuilding the Temple, resumption of sacrifices, the nations to be blessed through Israel etc.

On the face of it this belief seems so spiritual, so biblical! Who can possibly be against this except anti-Semites? But let me take you further down the road of Dual Covenant Theology and see where it leads to and see if you don't agree with me...it is in actual fact heresy against the gospel of Jesus Christ and a replacement to the preaching of the Gospel of the Kingdom because it promises the blessings of Abraham on the basis of race and not faith in Christ.

The chief proponent of Dual Covenant theology in America is John Hagee the pastor of a Houston mega-church and the national leader of CUFI (Christians United for Israel). John Hagee (you may have heard on TBN or read one of his many books) actually puts into words what the only logical conclusion you can come to the moment you believe there are two covenants in operation right now; one covenant with the Jews based on their race and another covenant with the gentiles based on faith in Christ.

Here is a direct quote of John Hagee on You

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Tube promoting his new book. "In Defense of Israel":

***"In Defense of Israel will shape Christian Theology...it will also prove that Jesus did not come to earth to be the Messiah...since Jesus refused by word and deed to claim to be the Messiah, how can the Jews be blamed for rejecting what was never offered."***

There is more...

"There are right now Jewish people on this earth who have a powerful and special relationship with God ...**let us put an end to the Christian chatter that all Jews are lost and can't be in the will of God until they convert to Christianity**" ("Should Christian Support Israel", Hagee, p.124,125,127)

In an article in the Houston Chronicle of April 30, 1988 (Hagee has been teaching this heresy for a long time!) he is quoted as saying:

"I'm not trying to convert the Jewish people to the Christian faith. In fact trying to convert Jews is a waste of time...The Jewish person who has his roots in Judaism is not going to convert to Christianity. They have a faith structure. Everyone else whether Buddhist or Baha'I needs to believe in Jesus, but not Jews. **Jews already have a covenant with God which has never been replaced by Christianity.**"

There is lots more where this came from, but you get the idea of where Dual Covenant theology leads you. But how did an evangelical preacher like Hagee get to such a clearly unscriptural teaching? Actually quiet easily and logically from the following statement from his website:

*"Our Commitment to Israel  
We believe in the promises of Genesis 12:3 regarding the Jewish people and the nation of Israel. We believe that this is an eternal covenant between God and the seed of Abraham to which God is faithful."*

It seems an uplifting and scriptural statement does it not?

Until you ask the question: "Yes, but with which seed of Abraham does God have an eternal covenant with? The spiritual seed or the genetic

seed?"

But Hagee is actually correct in making the further conclusion about the other aspects of that covenant, including salvation. If it is an eternal covenant to the racial descendants of Abraham (the Jews of today) and therefore still in operation, then not only can they claim the land of Palestine back, but the promises of salvation blessings under that covenant are also still in effect!

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**Therefore today's Jews can have a relationship with God apart from faith in Jesus Christ just as John Hagee claims.**

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Can you see where Dual Covenant Theology ends up?

But regardless of what Hagee and the Christian Zionists say this is what the Bible says:

*"And if you be Christ's then are you Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise"* (Gal.3:29)

Can scripture be any clearer? Your race does not qualify you to be an heir and inheritor of Abraham's covenant promises and that includes "the promised land". Only faith qualifies you to be his seed...and that means faith in Jesus Christ! So let's make this very clear:

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**If you believe that the Jews of today have inherited the land of Palestine because they are heirs of Abraham by race and do not need to be heirs of Abraham through faith in Christ, then you are preaching another gospel and you need to get back to sound Biblical evangelical principles...don't judge by sight, judge by what the Word of God says!**

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Let's get back to a sound scriptural position that reflects the gospel, prophecy and historical facts:

- The establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 was not a fulfillment of Ez.36:24 as that promised return already happened in 143 BC with the re-

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establishment of the independent state of Judea and the monarchy in 103 BC as prophesied by Ez. 4:1-6. (I will explain this in detail in Chapter 5 “The Return of Israel”)

- The covenant promises to Abraham are only applicable to his true heirs, those of faith. (Gal.3:29)
- The Jewish return to Palestine in 1948 was not a re-gathering by the Lord as it did not fulfill the requirements of Deut. 30:1-3 that it be accompanied with repentance and a return to the Lord. The return of 143 BC was accompanied with repentance and a return to the Lord.
- Christian Zionism of today is a racist theology based on blessings to people on the basis of their genetics and is totally incompatible with the entire gospel as preached by the apostles.
- In actual fact the Jewish people of today have no real genetic link in any case to Abraham or Jacob because of the many proselytes from other races who became Jews through the centuries. This is especially true of Ashkenazi Jews.

### All Israel Shall be Saved

This will then obviously lead to the question that Paul raises and answers in the 11th chapter of Romans:

**“Has God cast away his people?”** (Rom.11:1)

To which he immediately declares emphatically, No! and his first proof is that he himself is a Jew and has been saved. And then he goes into a lengthy explanation of the tree of Israel and the root and branches being cut off and others grafted on and then he concludes with this incredible statement in verse 26: **“...and so all Israel shall be saved”**. Not only has God not cast away His people but in actual fact all of Israel will be saved!

It is here where the Christian Zionists miss the entire point of Romans 11. They start with verse 1 to say, “See God has not cast Israel away and He still has a plan for the Jews!” That is right, the Lord has a plan for the Jews but that plan is

for them to be grafted back into the tree, not have a separate tree! That plan has this indisputable result...”and so all Israel shall be saved”. But in the theology of Christian Zionists they teach Jews = Israel. So if all Israel is to be saved they are looking for some event in the supposed Great Tribulation which will cause all the Jews to be saved. But what about the Jews of the last 2000 years? Surely according to this interpretation they must also be saved if “all Israel is to be saved”? (John Hagee probably believes they are saved) Can you see that this just does not work at all. Paul is not teaching all racial Jews will be saved.

To understand that phrase you need to read the phrase immediately before it and it will all become clear what Paul means “...and so all Israel shall be saved”. I am going to drop the verse division and just write it in one sentence as it was meant to be read; **“...until the fullness of the gentiles be come in and so all Israel shall be saved.”** Rom.11:25-26).

Can you see what Paul is saying; Only when the gentiles come to salvation can you say that all of Israel has been saved! Why is that? Because throughout his epistle to both the Galatians and Romans he has been explaining that there is and only has been one Israel through all the ages: the people of faith! This tree called Israel is rooted in Abraham but only those who like Abraham had faith in the Lord are part of this tree called Israel. Branches are cut off if they do not produce fruit; Ishmael was cut off, Esau was cut off, even though they were genetic children of Abraham, but that counts for nothing.

But what about the Jews? Paul says no, they have not been thrown away, and he uses himself as an example. The gospel went first to the Jews like him and those who believed like he did were saved and grafted back into the true tree of Israel. That is God’s plan for the Jews and all nations.

You see Paul also knew of the other promises of the covenant to Jacob when he was renamed Israel: “And God said unto him...a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee.” (Gen:35:11) God’s plan was never intended for

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just one nation. Israel was to be a “company of nations”. That is what Paul meant that when the gentiles also come into the covenant relationship then indeed all Israel will be saved and not just the Jews. We are to go forth and disciple the nations and graft them into this tree called the Israel of God that they also become heirs of Abraham’s covenant blessings.

### **The Promised Land is not in Palestine...it is the World!**

Christian Zionists make a tragic mistake when they think the dusty patch of ground in Palestine is the promised land that God promised to Abraham and his descendants, This is not scriptural.

This promised land for Abraham and his seed was spelled out by Paul in Romans 4:13...”

***“For the promise to Abraham that he should be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or his seed through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of none effect.”***

Can it be any clearer?

The Promised land promised to Abraham and his heirs is not Palestine...it is the world!!!

The inheritors are not genetic Jews...they are all those of the faith of Abraham.

### **The Earth is the Lord’s and has been given to His Church...**

The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof (Psalm 24:1) He has given us dominion over all the works of His hands. (Psalm 8:6) This is our promised land inheritance as the Israel of God. Bring in the nations into the Kingdom and possess the earth...it belongs to us!

The Church is His Body of which He is the head (Eph.1:22, Col 1:18, Rom:12:5, 1Cor 12:27). The Lord is present in the earth through His church. His church is mighty to pull down strongholds. The gates of hell will not prevail against His church (Mat.16:18).

So I ask you: Who is going to do the work of the

Kingdom of God in this world? The Church filled with the power of the Spirit of God or the Jews?

### **Strategic Dead End**

There is great danger ahead for the church caught up in this false doctrine. The scripture predicts the end of natural Israel!

Read Gal. 4 very carefully. There Paul clearly describes Jews to Hagar and her son Ishmael and he describes Sarah and her son Isaac to the church. What does he say...cast out the bondwoman because her Ismael will not inherit the promises of God...only the church, Sarah and the true heir Isaac will inherit.

Jesus said it more plainly to the Jews...”the kingdom has been taken from you and given to another who brings forth the fruit”. When was the Kingdom taken from the Church and given back to the Jews? Jesus cursed the fig tree and said never again will you bear fruit...even though the leaves sprouted in 1948...there is still no fruit...and there never will be.

The evangelical church has lost the gospel of the Kingdom and replaced it with a gospel of race. To them the Jews will bring in the Kingdom, not the church. They are looking to a nation in Palestine for end time miracles instead of discipling the nations. They are looking for a rebuilt Temple in Jerusalem instead of building the true Temple of the Lord, His Church. They are looking for a physical Jesus to sit in Jerusalem ruling the nations instead of manifesting the power and presence of Christ in the world today because He is in fact now ruling over all principalities and powers in both the heavenlies and on earth.

This is the legacy of Christian Zionism...we have given back to Esau the birthright inheritance so he can establish Zion through war, money and power politics. It’s a strategic dead end for the church diverting us from our calling to disciple the nations and bringing in the Kingdom through faith and the power of His Spirit.