

The Great Reformation of Israel

Reformation of Israel

The Great and Terrible Day of the Lord

Pruning of the Covenant with Judah

Redemption of the Covenant with Israel

New Covenant = United Israel = Christendom

Judgment upon Judah

Jeremiah 19:1-10

1 Thus says the Lord, “Go, **buy a potter's earthenware flask**, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests... 3 You shall say, ‘Hear the word of the Lord, **O kings of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem**. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I am bringing such disaster upon this place that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle... 10 “Then you shall **break the flask** in the sight of the men who go with you, 11 and shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts: **So will I break this people and this city, as one breaks a potter's vessel, so that it can never be mended.**

Reformation of Israel

Jeremiah 18:1-6

1 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 2 “Arise, and **go down to the potter's house**, and there I will let you hear my words.” 3 So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. 4 And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and **he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do.**

5 Then the word of the Lord came to me: 6 “**O house of Israel**, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the Lord. Behold, **like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.**”

United Israel Under Christ

Isaiah 11

1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit...

10 In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. 11 In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people... 12 He will raise a signal for the nations and will **assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.** 13 The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart, and those who harass Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim.

Pruning of the Covenant with Judah

Visible & Invisible Covenant

Romans 9:6-8

6 For **not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,**
7 and not all are children of Abraham because they are his
offspring, but **“Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”**
8 This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are
the children of God, but the children of the promise are
counted as offspring.

Ishmael was circumcised into the visible Covenant,
But only Isaac was the child of God, of the invisible Covenant

Visible & Invisible Covenant

Example of Hagar and Sarah

Galatians 4:21-31

21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. 23 But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. 24 Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother.

Visible & Invisible Covenant

Example of Hagar and Sarah

Galatians 4:21-31

27 For it is written, “Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband.”

28 Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

Abraham's True Seed

“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.”

-John 8:31

John 8:37-41 37 **I know that you are offspring of Abraham;** yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. 38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.” 39 They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “**If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did,** 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 **You are doing the works your father did.**” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.”

Abraham's True Seed

42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 **You are of your father the devil**, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. **The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.**"

Abraham's True Seed

Galatians 3:6-9

6 Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”? 7 Know then that **it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham**. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Abraham's True Seed

Zacchaeus as a Son of Abraham

Luke 19:8-10

8 And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.” 9 And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, **since he also is a son of Abraham.** 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

What made Zacchaeus a son of Abraham? *invisible Covenant*
His ethnicity as a Jew? *he was already in the visible Covenant*
His works (restoring 4x the goods he stole)?
His faith in Jesus?

Dividing Wheat and Chaff

John the Baptist - Matt. 3:7-1

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that **God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.** 10 And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and **gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**”

Cut Off of the Covenant

Matt. 21:18-22

18 Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry. 19 And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and **found nothing** on it but leaves, and said to it, “**Let no fruit grow on you ever again.**” Immediately the fig tree withered away. 20 And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither away so soon?”

*Therefore **bear fruits** worthy of repentance, and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’*

Matt. 3:8-9

Wicked Vinedressers

Matthew 21:33-45

33 “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. 34 When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. 35 And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. 37 Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ 39 And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. 40 When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

Kingdom Taken and Given

Matthew 21:33-45

41 They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” 42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? 43 Therefore I tell you, **the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.** 44 And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” 45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them

The Kingdom = The Stone

Matthew 21:43-44

43 Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. 44 And **the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.**”

Daniel 6:34-35 “You watched while **a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.** Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

*God's Covenant with Israel is destined to expand throughout the Earth
This is the New Covenant with Israel, not a different, new Covenant*

Redemption of the Covenant with Israel

Scattering of Israel

Micah 5:8 “And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many peoples.”

Amos 9:9 “For surely I will command and will sift the house of Israel among all nations, as grain is sifted in a sieve; yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground.”

Jeremiah 31:2 “Thus says the Lord: “The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness – Israel, when I went to give him rest.”

Gathering of Israel

Ezek. 36:24-28

24 For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. 25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. 28 Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

Israel Were Not Jews

“[Cyrus the Great] called for the most eminent Jews that were in Babylon, and said to them, that he gave them leave to go back to their own country, and to rebuild their city Jerusalem, and the temple of God... When Cyrus had said this to the Israelites, **the rulers of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with the Levites and priests**, went in haste to Jerusalem; yet did many of them stay at Babylon, as not willing to leave their possessions.”

-Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XI, Chapter 1, Paragraphs 2 & 3.

Where Was Israel?

“The entire body of the people of Israel remained in that country [Media, where they were carried off by the Assyrians]; wherefore there are but two tribes in Asia and Europe subject to the Romans, while **the ten tribes are beyond Euphrates** till now, and are an **immense multitude**, and not to be estimated by numbers.”

-Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, Book XI, Chapter 5, Paragraph 2.

The Jews were the southern kingdom of Judah and Benjamin. The northern kingdom of Israel remained beyond the Euphrates, never returning, and were not part of the Jewish people of Christ's day. Those Israelites were never called Jews.

Deliverance, Fishers of Men

Jer. 16:14-16

14 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when it shall no longer be said, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ 15 but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ For I will bring them back to their own land that I gave to their fathers.

16 “Behold, I am sending for many fishers, declares the Lord, and they shall catch them. And afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the clefts of the rocks.

Fulfilled by Matthew 4:19

18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

New Covenant Israel

Jeremiah 23:1-8

1 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the Lord. 2 Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. 3 Then **I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them**, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4 **I will set shepherds over them who will care for them**, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord.

New Covenant Israel

Jeremiah 23:1-8

5 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

7 “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ 8 but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

Israel as the Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32

One son (Israel) left the home of the Father, while the other stayed (Jews of Jesus' day)

The prodigal son wasted his heritage, ended up with swine

He was eventually humbled and came back to the Father

The remaining son (the Pharisaical Jews) was arrogant and self-righteous, rejecting his brother's redemption

Said the Father: "your brother was dead and is alive again"

In the place where it was said to them 'You are not my people,' There it shall be said to them, 'You are the sons of the living God.'" Hosea 1:10

New Covenant =
United Israel =
Christendom

Two Sticks Into One

Ezek. 37:16-20 (Valley of Dry Bones passage)

15 The word of the Lord came to me: 16 “Son of man, take a stick and write on it, ‘**For Judah**, and the people of Israel associated with him’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘**For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim)** and all the house of Israel associated with him.’ 17 And **join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.** 18 And when your people say to you, ‘Will you not tell us what you mean by these?’ 19 say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, **I am about to take the stick of Joseph (that is in the hand of Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him. And I will join with it the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand.** 20 When the sticks on which you write are in your hand before their eyes, 21 then say to them...

Two Sticks Into One

Ezek. 37:16-20 (Valley of Dry Bones passage)

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will take the people of Israel from the nations among which they have gone, and will gather them from all around, and bring them to their own land. 22 And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And **one king shall be king over them all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two kingdoms.** 23 They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols and their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. But I will save them from all the backslidings in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them; and **they shall be my people, and I will be their God.** 24 “My servant David shall be king over them, and **they shall all have one shepherd.**

Israel and Judah Unite

Jer. 3:18 In those days **the house of Judah shall join the house of Israel**, and together they shall come from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers for a heritage.

Christianity was built around the Christian Jewish Church

Christian Jews maintained a distinct initially:

Some churches practiced circumcision until ~400AD

In time, the Jewish church and Gentile church assimilated

The remnant of Judah in Christianity have not been called Jews for 1500 years

Early Jewish-Christian Church

Early Christian churches, whether originally Gentile Christians or Jewish Christians, emerged from the same root

John Chrysostom, Patriarch of Constantinople, ~400AD

“If you go in a building and you’re not sure if it’s a synagogue or a church, ask, and they’ll tell you.”

Demonstrations how similar Christian and Jewish externals are in the early church, Christian church emerged from the Jewish-Christian church

Early apologists of the 1st-3rd Century stressed the Covenantal continuity of the church as redeemed Israel

A New Name for His Bride

Isaiah 62:2-3

The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and **you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.**

3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A New Name: *Christian*

Same Bride: *Israel*

e.g. Abram-Abraham, Sarai-Sarah, Jacob-Israel
Israelite-Christian