

Five Truths Regarding Spiritual Israel

November 16 & 30, 2023

TRUTH #1: Spiritual Israel was God's Plan

- Brian - Spiritual Israel (i.e. the Church, the Kingdom, the Covenant of Christ) was the purpose that God had in mind from the beginning. Even as Israel was being established, Moses was prophesying of the next covenant (Deut. 18:15-17). We are told that the church was God's eternal purpose (Eph. 3:10-11). The physical kingdom of Israel was a vessel destined to end (or more strongly, to fail, Rom. 9:22). Christ is the end of the matters of the Law of Moses (Rom. 10:4)

TRUTH #2: God Has Fulfilled His Promises to Israel (B.A.)

- **Genesis 12:1-3** records the three major promises given to Abraham and, by extension, his descendants, Israel.
 - Land Promise v.1
 - Nation Promise v.2
 - All Nations Blessed Through You Promise v.3
- The **receiving** of these promises was unconditional. Their keeping was **conditional** (cf. **Lev. 18:24-28; Deut. 30:17-18**).
 - Israel did indeed possess the land. **Josh. 21:45**
 - Israel became a "great nation." **Gen. 15:18 cf. 1 Kings 4:21**
 - God did not fail to keep His promise. **Jer. 2:2-3, 13**
- The blessing promise was fulfilled through Jesus. **Gal. 3:16-18 (cf. Matt. 1:1); Rom. 4:16-17; 5:1-2.**

TRUTH #3: The Nation of Israel Broke its Covenant with God.

- The physical city lost its spiritual significance when Jesus established a new covenant.
 - The establishment of physical Jerusalem was under the covenant God made with the nation of Israel after coming out of Egypt.
 - Tabernacle worship, temple worship, the priesthood, sacrifices, offerings,

etc., were all a part of the Mosaic covenant.

- The nation of Israel continually broke the covenant with God.
- Jeremiah foretold that God would establish a new covenant with His people. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- Under this new covenant, things would be different.
 - Physical Jerusalem would be replaced by a heavenly Jerusalem. (Hebrews 12:22)
 - The Levitical priesthood would be replaced by a spiritual priesthood, with Christ as the High Priest. (Hebrews 9:11; 1 Peter 2:9)
 - The physical tribes of Israel would be replaced by a spiritual “tribe” of people that would be made up of people from all nations, tribes, tongues, etc.
 - Physical sacrifices for sin would be replaced by a singular perfect sacrifice, the death of Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 9:11-15)
- (BRIAN Comment - one interesting point is that it seems it was understood that this covenant would be broken (Rom. 9:22), as it was not a perfect covenant (Heb. 8:7))

TRUTH #4: There are consequences to seeing God's promises to physical Israel being God's chosen:

- It makes God's promises materialistic - John 18:36 - Kingdom not of this world. Colossians 3:1-2
- It presents 2 paths of salvation - one for physical Israel and another for the rest. John 14:3, Acts 4:12
- It gives Jews a false hope - based on previous points
- It ignores the PURPOSE of physical Israel - to bring us to Christ. Galatians 3:19-24.

TRUTH #5: The Call to Salvation Still Applies to Physical Israel.

- Romans 9 - 11 shows God's desire for Israel to be saved. However, not salvation by the blood of bulls and goats, but by the blood of Jesus Christ.
- Romans 10:4 - Christ is the end of the law
- Acts 15:10-11 - we shall be saved in the same manner as they
- Comment from Brian - Physical Israel is so much better off now than it was because the individual members of that nation can choose to join the Kingdom of

Heaven, a better covenant with a better law and better promises

BONUS TRUTH: The New Covenant of Jesus Christ replaced the physical priesthood, the physical temple, physical sacrifices, etc. with heavenly and spiritual replacements.

- New Temple: The new covenant replaced the physical temple with a heavenly and spiritual temple. (Ephesians 2:19-22)
- New Priesthood: We are a part of a royal priesthood with Jesus as our High Priest. (1 Peter 2:9-10)
- New Sacrifices: While Jesus was the perfect sacrifice, once and for all, we offer up spiritual sacrifices to our heavenly Father. (Romans 12:1)
- A new laver to prepare one for priestly duties (Bob).

BONUS TRUTH: Jesus is Sitting on the Throne of David

- God's promises to David. (2 Samuel 7:12-16 – "...I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever...")
- God's promise to David was fulfilled through Jesus. (Acts 2:22-36)
- Jesus is reigning at the right hand of God. (Ephesians 1:19-23)
- God's regarding the "tabernacle of David." (Amos 9:11-12)
 - Rebuilding the "tabernacle of David." (Acts 15:13-17)
- He shall build the temple of the Lord. (Zechariah 6:12-13)