

# GOD'S COVENANT PEOPLE

“What The Bible Actually Teaches”

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By: Phillip Hayes

*“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise” [Galatians 3:29].*

As we travel from place to place we have noticed with increasing frequency Jewish emblems, flags, and artifacts in Christian churches. What's going on here? Have Christians forgotten or perhaps not aware that the Jew's religion has been an enemy of Christianity since the birth of the Christian Church two thousand years ago?

Let me be clear, I am not anti-Jewish. However, I am as much anti-Judaism as I am anti-Catholicism. After reading this article, I believe you will see that I am one of a very few ministers in America that is truly for the Jewish people!

Let me first emphasize a foundational truth that every Christian should believe and that is this: Jesus said, “. . . I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” [John 14:6]. This is a huge statement! Do you believe what Jesus said? No man comes to the Father but by Him! “No man” means everyone! Jew, Gentile, Barbarian, Hindu, or Muslim! I know some of you don't believe that! But, I say you can't have it both ways. God is not a respecter of persons.

Jesus literally meant that no person can come to God except through Him! If you believe God's Word, we are well on our way to acknowledging many great truths in this article.

Let's begin with the notion that the Jewish people and particularly the modern nation of Israel are the seed of Abraham. Is this true in light of the New Testament? Let's see what Jesus and the Apostles taught about the true seed-children of Abraham.

From St. John 8: 36-44: *"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you."* Jesus is acknowledging that the Jews of His time were the seed of Abraham by natural birth. However, look how He admonishes them and questions if they are truly Abraham's seed in actions:

*"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."* Jesus is very bold in letting them understand that He did not acknowledge them as the seed of Abraham!

In the next verse Jesus tells them who their father really is. *"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."*

This confrontation between Jesus and the Jews that actually believed on Him reveals a great truth. This is the

first hint as to how our Lord and later His Apostles viewed the seed (children) of Abraham. It is obvious Jesus looked upon Abraham's seed as a spiritual seed, not a natural one. The Apostles later concurred as we will soon see.

John the Baptist and Jesus both preached that the kingdom of God was at hand. Jesus was very clear what was going to happen to the people of His era. A change was soon to come! *"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 shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth"* [Matthew 8:11-12].

What did this mean? The children of the kingdom would be cast out?! Others would come from the east and the west and sit down with Abraham?! Yes! This was exactly what was transpiring! John the Baptist preached, *the axe was laid at the root of the tree*. Later toward the close of our Lord's earthly ministry He cursed a fig tree because it didn't have any fruit. It withered overnight and died! It wasn't time for the fig tree to bear fruit so there should be no doubt that this act was very deliberate and significant. The fig tree represented ancient natural Israel! The axe was laid to the root through the ministry of John the Baptist. Natural Israel failed to bring forth the fruit of God! And now, they were to be cast out of the Kingdom and others would be brought in. The Jewish people would no longer be God's elect or kingdom covenant people! They had rejected the Messiah: the Lord Jesus Christ!

*"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say,*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord" [Luke 13: 34-35]. Desolate: A WASTELAND; WITHOUT LIFE. Our Lord had done all He could do for the people of ancient Israel. He had forgiven sins, healed the sick and raised the dead. He had performed miracles no man had ever performed. He had preached with an anointing no man had ever had. Yet, it was to no avail. All men left Him, only His disciples remained at the end of His ministry. The house Jesus is referring to is the house of Israel. There was nothing left but for Israel to die. This is the sad story of ancient Israel.*

And then according to the scriptures. . . Jesus was crucified, buried and rose again the third day! Thank God! A brand new Kingdom Age was born on the Day of Pentecost. A new Israel came into being! The true seed of Abraham lived on in a people who was not a people but became the people of the Living God. *"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy" [1Peter 2: 9-10].* Praise God!

As a matter of fact the Bible identifies natural Israel and specifically natural Jerusalem as Sodom and Egypt! You find this in Revelation 11:8: *"And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified."* Natural Jerusalem is where our Lord was crucified! I don't believe there is anything holy about what is called the "Holy Land" today!

However, there is a New Jerusalem that is not in the middle east. It is a holy heavenly city! (You can read about it in Revelation chapter 21).

To further affirm that God no longer regards today's natural Jews as His covenant people consider the great Apostle Paul's teaching concerning his own countrymen: *"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 9:6-8]. (Bold emphasis mine). Wow! This is powerful! Although they were naturally the seed of Abraham, Paul says they are NOT ALL CHILDREN. He further clarifies this statement by boldly writing, *"They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God."* Again, he is talking about his kinsmen, the natural Jew, and he declares emphatically that they are NOT the children of God.

Paul then concludes his teaching on the subject of Israel by stating, *"What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness"* [Romans 9:30-31]. This is crystal clear to anyone that can read. The natural Jew as a nation has not attained to the law of righteousness, but the Gentiles have! Paul is even more forthright in these verses: *"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 2:28-29]. (Bold emphasis mine). I've got to say it again! Wow! A Jew is not a Jew in the outward appearance! A real Jew is a Jew inwardly! Born again Christians are spiritual Jews. Paul is saying there

is no such thing as a Jew in the flesh. Understand, he is speaking spiritually and redefining who God's covenant people really are.

Although the natural Jews are no longer God's covenant people they can be saved and I believe a great move of God will soon come to the land of Israel. Paul wrote of this soon coming event: *"And so **all Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins"* [Romans 11:26-27]. (Bold emphasis mine). **THEY MUST BE BORN AGAIN!**

This is why I said I was one of only a few ministers that are really pro Israel. I know they are lost without Jesus Christ and they need the Gospel preached to them in order for them to be born again. Most preachers and lay members actually believe the Jews are already saved and that they are God's Covenant People. A bold faced lie if you believe our Lord and His Apostle's teaching!

Remember, I told you the Jews religion was an enemy to Christianity. God loves them and God wants them saved but they are your enemies. *"As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes"* [Romans 11:28].

The scriptures are clear that the Jews rejected Jesus and were ultimately responsible for His crucifixion choosing freedom for a thief and murderer rather than Jesus (Mat. 27; Mark 15; Luke 13; John 18).

Let me show you why the Jews religion is our enemy. Afterward I will deal with these Judaizing Charismatics of today. Judaize: Judaized, Judaizing: *To conform to the spirit, character, principles, or practice of Judaism.*

*"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:*

*Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" [Galatians 1:6-9].*

In these few verses the Apostle Paul states some very startling facts. One: The Galatians were removed from Christ (meaning they were now lost). Two: The reason was they had received another gospel that was a perversion of the true gospel he had delivered to them. Three: Paul issued a curse to anyone that would preach any other gospel than he preached. This curse included angels!

What was this "other gospel" and who had preached it to the Galatians causing their downfall? Paul is clear who they were and what they preached, and also what should happen to them! In verse thirteen Paul tells about his own previous relationship with those perverting the gospel: *"For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers" [Galatians 1:13-14].* There is no doubt! It was the Jews attempting to bring into the Christian church the doctrines and traditions of their religion. Throughout his letter to the Galatians and in many other passages in the New Testament the Apostles took a strong stand against Judaism. Apostle John called them antichrist! (See First John chapters 2 and 4).

They were mixing the Jews religion with Christianity and it was destroying the church! They were teaching Jewish traditions, the ordinances and the law. Paul states, *"But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are*

*known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain*" [Galatians 4:9-11]. The church had begun to observe the feast days, new moons and the sabbaths found in the Old Testament! Paul called their teaching weak, and "beggarly elements". Paul actually said he was afraid of them because he felt his labor among them was in vain.

Paul reminds the Galatians that born again Christians are the true seed of Abraham: *"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"* [Galatians 3:28-29]. Born again Christians are Abraham's Seed! God's New Covenant People!

A yoke of bondage had enslaved the Galatian church. They were bound because they had embraced the teachings of Judaism. Instead of Grace, religion now dominated them! *"Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace"* [Galatians 5:4]. Never forget, Satan used the Jews religion to destroy Christians! Apostle Paul was so agitated against these false teachers he said, *"I would they were even cut off which trouble you"* [Galatians 5:12]. It would behoove you to prayerfully read all of Galatians!

Two words I never thought would be used in conjunction together is, "Judaizing and Charismatic". However, as amazing as it is, it appears the Charismatic movement as well as many others in Christianity are embracing Judaism. I might add that it is not just a few, but millions.

It is frightening when you realize the consequences one incurs when one allows and participates in teachings



and traditions of other religions. It could very well mean spiritual death!

This is why I must stand against any and all traditions being instituted in God's church that is in opposition to the teachings of Jesus and His Apostles. This includes Islamism, Hinduism, Mormonism, Catholicism and Judaism. The Christian religion must remain pure in light of the New Covenant teachings of Jesus and the Apostles! *"A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" [Galatian 5:9].*

I have pastor friends that have allowed many Jewish traditions in their church. They are my brothers in Christ and I love them. I realize that many of these pastors don't think it is a serious matter. But in view of the scriptures we have discussed (and many others that space has not allowed us to cover), they are wrong and may be endangering their congregations. Paul said, *A little leaven* (error, sin, etc.) *leaveneth* (ruins) *the whole lump* (church)! Just a little!

A few years ago the charismatic religious networks were filled with news of the coming "Blood Moons" that were to impact the world. I stood against this false prophetic teaching as hogwash. These false teachers made millions of dollars in book and CD/DVD sales promoting their "Blood Moons" theory. "Blood moons" was the talk and expectations among Christians for months! And it was all a lie as I pointed out numerous times during those months!

Many churches begin their services with the blowing of a Ram's horn (Jewish Shofar). I am told this blowing supposedly brings in the Holy Spirit. That statement in itself is antichrist! Nowhere in scripture is this even implied. It should be obvious that such a teaching would be in direct opposition with the teachings in the New Testament. By the way, millions are made selling the shofar to Christians.

The Holy Spirit lives in born again Christians. The Spirit doesn't react to someone blowing a horn! This is

foolish! The Spirit of God is manifested in prayer and worship and especially when the Gospel is preached.

There is more. Many church members are wearing what is called a "Jewish Prayer Shawl". I have actually seen Christians in prayer lines touching people with their prayer shawl as if this will enact a divine healing! Healing and deliverance is manifested through faith, not by touching someone with a prayer shawl. Again, no such teaching is found in God's Word in either the Old or New Testaments.

As one progresses through the steps from blowing a Ram's horn to summons the Holy Spirit into the service; to a prayer shawl that enables one to touch God when praying. The next step I assume is for the prayer shawl to heal someone! There seems to be no end as the Nation of Israel flag, Jewish Menorah (candle holders) and Star of David emblems are appearing in Christian Churches.

The famous "Star of David" is in fact a pagan occult symbol. It is essentially a "hexagram" nothing more, nothing less. There is no Biblical or Jewish evidence that traces this ancient occult symbol with king David of Israel. However, there is historic evidence that it was used by king Solomon, after he turned to pagan gods and the occult, late in his life, causing God to become very angry with him.

It boggles the mind that many churches now keep the Passover as well as other Jewish holy days (Hanukkah, etc.). You would never see such things in Christian churches thirty years ago!

Charismatic television evangelists have promoted Judaism relentlessly! I believe these men and women have a diabolical motive that comes directly from Satan. That motive is to destroy the church of Jesus Christ. They are doing this with seemingly harmless things little by little. Pagan and Jewish teachings, symbols, or artifacts have no place in the church of Jesus Christ. Beware my friends.

Be careful friends. Use God's Word and try the spirits!