

03 Natural Israel & Spiritual Israel

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Tagline

"Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace." | Romans 11:5

Synopsis

The deeper you look into Bible prophecy, the more apparent it is that the events surrounding the transition from life as we've always known it into the Messianic Kingdom is centered around a very small country and peculiar people in a very central place. For millennia the nation of Israel existed in the central trade route for Europe, Asia, and Africa. While they followed the covenant God made with them, they remained secure in His hands. When they rebelled against the Lord and played the harlot going after other gods as a people, God separated from them and they fell under the judgements they agreed to at Sinai by the surrounding nations.

I believe the idea of faithfulness and unfaithfulness to God is central to understanding the central role that Israel plays in the conclusion of God bringing her back to Him. After the Messiah, born out of Israel, completed the atonement necessary for man to have a personal relationship with God again, Israel was blinded and the land desolate of her people. God promised He was not done with Israel and would never leave her forever. A remnant who will not go after other gods is awaiting redemption, but Israel as a people will be tried through fire and refined. And just as in the days of the Old and New Testaments, not all who are Israel will remain God's people. A great deception is coming to divide those who desire God in Truth from those who are led away by lying signs and wonders. My desire is that all would see their Messiah and come to Him, but that's not what we're told will happen. Deception will lead many in Israel and around the world to eternal destruction.

Just as the good news went out to the Jew first and then the Gentile, Romans 1:16, so too will the deception. The earth will become drunk on wine of the unfaithful harlot's fornication as she worships a false god and the Dragon she rides deceives and carries her away to destruction. Then judgement will come, to the Jew first and then the Gentile. Romans 2:9 The first thing Yeshua warned of when asked about the signs of the end was deception regarding false christs. He was speaking to His Jewish disciples and the centrality of Israel in Bible prophecy and the whole concept of an anointed Messiah is very much a central part of Jewish culture.

As Christians who have believed in Yeshua and accepted Him as the promised Messiah, we have the Rosetta Stone of understanding the mysteries of salvation from the beginning of the world in the New Testament. But while we are a new creation, we often forget the Hebrew roots of our faith and the necessary discernment of what God's designs around the end times are about. Before digging into the eschatology of Christianity, I think it's important that we are all on the same page in understanding God's relationship with Israel and those who have accepted Christ. We need to understand we worship a Son of David from the tribe of Judah. We need to understand that while the focus is on Christians and the Gospel on the earth now, the unblinding of the faithful remnant of Israel corporately and bringing her back into relationship with her Messiah and God will be the focus of God on the earth very soon. Ultimately both Jew and Gentile who accept Yeshua are part of His Kingdom, but before that day comes, there is time.

Overview

- Introduction

- The Root
- Romans 11: Natural and Wild Branches
- The Unjust and the Just
 - The elect, eternal spiritual Israel
 - Kings and Priests
- Effect of context and space-time on prophecy
 - Israel Blinded until Fulness of Gentiles
 - Israel and Jerusalem Prophecies
 - Events signaling the time of the end is near
- Conclusion

Details

- Introduction
 - As will be apparent in the progression through this series of Bible studies, Israel is the main focus of Bible prophecy and the details of prophecy can be very nuanced and detailed. It is therefore important to establish detail that defines the various peoples of the world at certain points in space-time of which prophecy is speaking. While this may be basically understood already, it's a good starting point to define these.
 - Abraham was promised to have children numbered as the stars in heaven.
 - Ishmael
 - God had promised Abraham a son, but Sarah believed she was too old and so she offered her handmaid to Abraham to have a son and he accepted. Sarah immediately regretted this when Hagar conceived and was cruel to her. But God came to Hagar and told her to call her son Ishmael and that he would be a wild, tribal man whose hand was against everyone and everyone against him. **Genesis 16**
 - ◆ The lack of faith in the promise of God, even in the seeming impossibility of His promise, led to much anguish for them and later their children throughout their generations to today.
 - Ultimately, after Isaac was born, things got worse and Sarah demanded her handmaid Hagar and Ishmael be sent away. **Genesis 21:9-13** God kept His hand on Hagar and Ishmael as promised because Ishmael was Abraham's seed.
 - Ishmael lived in the Paran wilderness to the South of Israel, some say in the Sinai Peninsula and some more in the Arabian Peninsula. Regardless, like Isaac's son Jacob, Ishmael had 12 sons, **Genesis 25:12-18**, who he remained with until his death at 137 years old when he died in the presence of his people. It is this lineage from Abraham through Ishmael that is believed to be comprised of the Arab, meaning nomad, people of today. While many Arabs are believed to be traced back to Ishmael, the two are not likely synonymous as Ishmael was not the only lineage living in this region.
 - Isaac
 - God's promise for a son through Sarah was in His timing, not theirs. And when God's timing was right, Sarah conceived Isaac. **Genesis 21:1-7**
 - Israel is comprised of 12 tribes descended from Jacob, renamed to Israel by God, the son of Isaac, who was the promised son of Abraham. Abraham believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness and in His faith he cast the foreshadow of the relationship of the Father that would give His only Son as a sacrifice for sin for all time. And so in him are all the nations blessed because through his seed came the redemption of all mankind through the Messiah.
 - This peculiar people were to be God's portion from among the nations, to follow the One True God, to be his royal priesthood, a holy nation that would represent Him among the nations.
 - ◆ **Deuteronomy 32:8-12** - "When the most High divided to the nations their

inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. **For the LORD'S portion [is] his people; Jacob [is] the lot of his inheritance.** He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple [pupil] of his eye. As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: [So] the LORD alone did lead him, and [there was] no strange god with him."

- ◆ At the time of the judgement through Assyria around 2,700 years ago, the 10 northern tribes were disbursed among the nations and 2 tribes of Judah and Benjamin remained in the South, which is why Israel today is typically defined as Jewish, or of Judah. However, God has promised that all the tribes will be brought back to Israel from their diaspora and joined together as one again in the land. We see in the sealing of the 144,000 from the 12 tribes in the future that Israel is indeed more than just the Jews. I believe we will continue to see this return of Israel to the Promised Land in the coming years unlike any time in the last century.
 - What I will refer to as natural Israel is quite literally a family, a genetic lineage set apart for God's purpose and the family into which Yeshua the Messiah, from the tribe of Judah and descendant of David, was born.
- Gentiles are the rest of the nations of the world that were not God's portion. It was these nations that Israel was to represent God to.
 - **Genesis 10-11** give us the table of nations, the sons of Noah after the flood through which all the modern earth was populated. Apart from God's chosen people from Abraham, the rest of the world carried on apart from the focus of God as they were not His people. There are many places defined in scripture based on these names because that's where they settled and grew as a people there after being scattered when the languages were confused at Babel.
 - Michael S. Heiser has done a lot of research into these concepts of the dividing of the nations and the reality of the supernatural worldview in the Bible. I recommend checking out his book [The Unseen Realm](#), or the less footnoted version [Supernatural](#).
 - As we will see in the [Visions of Daniel and John](#) study, there is critical symbology in the Dragon that seems tied to Gentile control over Jerusalem and Israel through history, although that doesn't necessarily limit that control to Gentiles. The Dragon has been influencing the world as well and we can see the spirit of iniquity alive and well in the world. But we must not forget that the Dragon is not limited in who he can influence. Indeed it would seem that the greatest deception at the end of days may very well center completely around God's chosen people and their promised Messiah.
 - While not genetically Israel, since Yeshua's atonement on the cross, the Gentiles have been brought into the family of Abraham spiritually by faith. Not under the Law that came later to Abraham's descendants in the wilderness after Egypt, but rather through trust and obedience to Christ. That is to love God and each other, fulfilling the spirit of the Law by nature of the Holy Spirit within us. This New Covenant, or New Testament, that was sealed with the death of the testator and His resurrection defeating death for us, is the ketubah, or marriage covenant, that seals those who agree to obey His Word to Yeshua and by that marriage, bring the Gentile nations into the family of God's chosen people.
- The Root
 - That our story begins with Abraham is relevant because as mentioned earlier, in Abraham's faith he cast the foreshadow of the relationship of the Father that would give His only Son as a sacrifice for sin for all time. God had promised Isaac to be Abraham's son, and then God told him to sacrifice his son. Abraham believed God's promise so much that he knew either the sacrifice of Isaac would only be temporary and he would have his son back because of

God's promise, or God would make another way. And as Abraham told Isaac when asked where the sacrifice was, that God would provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering, it became clear that the latter was the case. As Abraham was about to offer Isaac, the angel of the Lord stopped him and indeed provided the sacrifice.

- **Genesis 22:15-18** - "And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, **By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only [son]: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which [is] upon the sea shore;** and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."
- While God promised Abraham to have children as the sand of the sea and stars in the sky, the seed through which all the nations would be blessed was not his people as a whole, but one in particular. This point is made in comparing the works of the Law to the grace through faith, that the promise of redemption came well before the Law Yeshua came to fulfill.
- **Galatians 3:16-18** - "**Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.** And this I say, [that] the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. **For if the inheritance [be] of the law, [it is] no more of promise: but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise.**"
- Not only did God provide the sacrifice for Abraham in place of his son Isaac, but almost 2,000 years later, Yeshua, the Son of God, offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice in agreement with the Father in Spirit for the salvation of all mankind that believes. As we are to do with Christ, Yeshua obeyed the Father in Spirit and Truth.
- **John 10:14-18** - "I am the good shepherd, and know my [sheep], and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and **I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, [and] one shepherd.** Therefore doth my Father love me, because **I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.** This commandment have I received of my Father."
- **Revelation 19:10b** - "...worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."
- God promised Abraham that through his seed the world would be blessed. Indeed, it was through Abraham's seed that the lineage of the Messiah would come. Bible prophecy is centered around the Messiah, Yeshua, who came in the first century to fulfill His role as kinsman redeemer of mankind to the Jew first, but also to the sheep that were not of the fold of Israel, a people that were not His people, the Gentiles. The Spirit of God in a human temple of flesh dwelt among men and experienced the same temptations yet remained blameless. He is the central aspect of Bible prophecy and His desire to redeem His own people, Israel, is central to the time of the end.
- **Jeremiah 23:3-6** - "And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD. **Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.** In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this [is] his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."
 - Jeremiah in the Old Testament connects the Branch of David to the Messiah, a King that will rule with justice in the whole world. At this time, Israel will dwell safely in the Promised Land and the promises made to Israel will be fulfilled.
- **Jeremiah 33:14-16** - "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. **In those**

days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this [is the name] wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness."

- We know from the genealogies in **Matthew 1:1-17** and **Luke 3:23-38** that Yeshua is the son of David, but we also see in Revelation that this connection is made explicitly regarding the prophecies of Jeremiah. All of these prophecies are focused on the Messianic Kingdom, when Yeshua has come, not the suffering servant, but the conquering King that will rule the world with a rod of iron from Jerusalem. As we look at the appointed times given to Israel to follow as a foreshadow of their fulfillment in Christ in [The Moedim: Appointed Times](#) study, we will see the two aspects of Christ's redemption fulfilled. First as the suffering servant who would be the Lamb of God that gives His life for His sheep, and second as the conquering King bringing well-deserved righteous judgement to the world and then establishing His Messianic Kingdom.
- **Revelation 5:1-5** - "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, **Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?** And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, **Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.**"
 - The scroll with 7 seals, preventing it from being opened, requires someone worthy to do so and John weeps at the idea of the scroll not being able to be opened.
 - 7 is the number of completion in scripture.
 - The seals are completely sealing the scroll
 - The contents of the scroll are 7 trumpets, 7 thunders, and 7 bowls that complete the wrath of God.
 - As we will see in the [Seals, Trumpets, Bowls](#) study, the seals will show Yeshua's control over the timing of the beginning of the Dragon's plans to fit with God's timing.
- **Revelation 22:14-17** - "Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without [are] dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, [and] the bright and morning star.** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."
- The branch, the root of David will come in the judgement of the wrath of God to destroy those who have deceived the world into following a false god and those who allied with them, murdering those who refused to be led astray. The faithful remnant of Israel will come out of the wilderness after the wrath of God into the Promised Land with the Messiah ruling from Jerusalem.
- **Isaiah 4:1-6** - "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach. **In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth [shall be] excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel. And it shall come to pass, [that he that is] left in Zion, and [he that] remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, [even] every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:** When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory [shall be] a defence. And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime

- from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain."
- The Old Testament also sees that same word used in some other passages about the branch of David, without the mention of David. This idea of a remnant of Israel that escape and who will be remaining in Jerusalem during this time of the reign of the Messiah in His kingdom is a pivotal aspect of the end times that will be covered in greater detail in the [Great Tribulation](#) study.
 - **Isaiah 11:1-16** - "**And there shall come forth a rod [branch, twig] out of the stem [trunk or stump of a tree] of Jesse, and a Branch [green shoot] shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;** And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and **he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.** And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. **They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.** And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. **And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.** The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make [men] go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt."
 - This prophecy covers a large span of time, from the first coming of the Messiah to His kingdom in our future. The idea of the green shoot, or branch, related to the Messiah at His coming will be significant when looking at the appointed times in the next study as His resurrection at first coming, the firstfruits of the resurrection of the just, is also tied to this idea of the greening crops being given to the Lord, the firstfruits of the harvest. We also see the fulfillment of His second coming when He will rule with a rod of iron. Psalm 2:9, Revelation 2:27, Revelation 12:5, Revelation 19:15 Ever since His first coming the Gentiles have been putting their trust in the Messiah from the tribe of Judah, but even in the Messianic Kingdom, the Gentile nations will be coming to Jerusalem to worship Him in the ultimate fulfillment as he rules on the earth.
 - **Romans 15:8-13** - "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises [made] unto the fathers: And that the Gentiles might glorify God for [his] mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. And again, **Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.** Now the God of hope

fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

- It is at this time that the faithful remnant of Israel will come out of the wilderness and around the world into the Promised Land in the fulfillment of God's promises to His people.
- **Zechariah 3:8-10** - "Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they [are] men wondered at: for, **behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH. For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.** In that day, saith the LORD of hosts, shall ye call every man his neighbour under the vine and under the fig tree."
 - The symbology of one stone with seven eyes actually brings together a lot of interesting scripture for interpretation.
 - **Revelation 1:4** - "John to the **seven churches** which are in Asia: Grace [be] unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and **from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;**"
 - **Revelation 1:20** - "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the **seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.**"
 - **Revelation 3:1** - "And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith **he that hath the seven Spirits of God**, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead."
 - **Revelation 4:5** - "And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and [there were] **seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.**"
 - **Revelation 5:6** - "And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and **seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.**"
 - **Acts 2:1-4** - "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
 - **Daniel 2:34-35, 44-45** - "Thou sawest till that **a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet [that were] of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.** Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that **no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.** ... And **in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, [but] it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.** Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream [is] certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."
 - The Spirit of God in the church, the body of Christ, is the eternal spiritual kingdom of selfless relationship with God and each other. Each individual makes up a part of the symbolic body joined to the head, which is Christ. This speaks to

our participation in this invisible kingdom that consumes the earth because the rock on which we have built our spiritual house has established it outside the reach of mortal kings.

- The stone with seven eyes speaks of Christ, yet also His Spirit-filled church with whom He has partnered to be His eyes, ears, hands, and feet, His body in this world until He returns.
- "The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed, the Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed." | Chuck Missler
- In one day Yeshua died and took the iniquity of the whole world upon Himself, He is the branch. Interestingly, this idea of being called from under the fig tree sheds some light on how this prophecy was taken by Nathanael, who clearly recognized this prophecy in relation to Him and believed.
- **John 1:47-51** - "Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee. Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."
- Here we see the idea of a priest on a throne, a king and priest in one.
- **Zechariah 6:11-15** - "Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set [them] upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest; And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, **Behold the man whose name [is] The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne:** and the counsel of peace shall be between them both. And the crowns shall be to Helem, and to Tobijah, and to Jedaiah, and to Hen the son of Zephaniah, for a memorial in the temple of the LORD. And they [that are] far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And [this] shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God."
- **Genesis 14:18** - "And **Melchizedek king of Salem** brought forth bread and wine: and **he [was] the priest of the most high God.**"
- **Psalms 110:4-7** - "The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, **Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.** He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill [the places] with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries. He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head."
- **Hebrews 7:1-28** - "**For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.** Now consider how great this man [was], unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. And here men that die receive tithes; but there he [receiveth them], of whom it is

witnessed that he liveth. And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him. **If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need [was there] that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.** For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. For [it is] evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. For he testifieth, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. **For there is verily a disannulling [antithesis] of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope [did]; by the which we draw nigh unto God.** And inasmuch as not without an oath [he was made priest]: (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:) **By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: But this [man], because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.** Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such a high priest became us, [who is] holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, [maketh] the Son, who is consecrated for evermore."

- So we can see in the foreshadow of the priesthood, where the high priest was to make intercession for the people, that it was first of all not able to take away sin with blood of bulls and goats, but only remind of sin and cover for a time to sanctify them in the presence of God for a short while. Furthermore, the high priest did not live forever, not could he make intercession in heaven on behalf of the people. And so a new eternal high priest, who was worthy and able to stand before God in heaven to intercede on behalf of the people was necessary. And by His blood, the New Testament, made in effect by the death of the testator, was established as an eternal covenant for all those who believed. And as we will see in the [Harpazo: The Blessed Hope](#) study, there's also a connection with this covenant and marriage as seen foreshadowed several times in scripture.
- **Hebrews 2:9-18** - "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom [are] all things, and by whom [are] all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified [are] all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren, Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.** And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath given me. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, **he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For verily he took not on [him the nature of] angels; but he took on [him] the seed of Abraham.** Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like

unto [his] brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things [pertaining] to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

- As we will see, Paul in Romans 11 makes a whole connection to Christ being the root upon which all the natural (Israel) and wild (Gentiles) branches are grafted onto. This is central for Christians to understand the nature of God's designs that center around Israel and our relationship to Israel in Christ.
- Romans 11
 - **Romans 10:17-11:6** - "So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by [them that are] no people, [and] by a foolish nation I will anger you. But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me. **But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people. 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. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? **I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to [the image of] Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.** And if by grace, then [is it] no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if [it be] of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."
 - In the 2nd century BC, Israel was faced with a similar fate when the Seleucid king Antiochus Epiphanes IV stopped the daily sacrifice and sacrificed a pig on the altar, and demanded the Jews turn away from their God and His commandments. Many did, many did not and it led to the Maccabean revolt and rededication of the temple.
 - Fast forward to the future when we see the false christ and false prophet demanding the world bow down and worship and image of the false christ or face death.
 - Israel was rejected by God when she rejected Him, going after other gods and committing spiritual adultery.
 - Yet even through her failings, God has a faithful remnant of which He has plans for redemption. Not through their obedience in following the Law, but by the same grace by which some Jews and Gentiles received their election into the family of God, by faith in Yeshua.
 - **Romans 11:7-10** - "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day. And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them: Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back alway."
 - **Psalm 69:18-29** - "Draw nigh unto my soul, [and] redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies. Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries [are] all before thee. Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked [for some] to take pity, but [there was] none; and for comforters, but I found none. They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. Let their table become a snare before them: and [that which should have been] for [their] welfare, [let it become] a trap. **Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake. Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them. Let their habitation be desolate; [and] let none dwell in their tents. For they persecute [him] whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast**

wounded. Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous. But I [am] poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high."

- The anguish David felt in his psalm was fulfilled by Christ in the garden of Gethsemane and on the cross as He bore our iniquity to die with it and fulfill the righteous judgement owed each one of us. Instead He will give us His righteousness if we believe and obey Him. Yet even as David asked for the wicked's eyes to be darkened, so too did Yeshua prophesy the blindness of those in Israel that rejected Him at His first coming.
- **Luke 19:41-44** - "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things [which belong] unto thy peace! but **now they are hid from thine eyes**. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; **because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.**"
 - Yeshua, at the triumphal entry, prophesied the blindness and destruction that would come on the generation because they didn't recognize the time of His arrival. As we will see in the [Daniel's 70 Weeks](#) study, they had reason to understand when the Messiah would come based off several prophecies and after the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD, they knew from Jacob's prophecy in **Genesis 49:8-12** that they had missed the Messiah. Having rejected this possibility, the Oral Law was developed to interpret some of the problems away, enhancing the blindness.
- **Matthew 23:37-39** - "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. For I say unto you, **Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**"
 - The [Abomination of Desolation](#) study will go into this more, but there are many strange occurrences that happened in the 40 years from 30 to 70 AD indicating God was no longer present with Israel.
 - With Jerusalem and the temple destroyed, Israel went into captivity among the nations. They were blinded until they recognize their Messiah and accept Him in humility. Interestingly, that time that Israel will be unblinded is tied to the fulness of the Gentiles.
 - **Romans 11:25-27** - "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in**. 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."
- Why would God blind an entire people from coming to the Truth? We must reconcile that God is just and causes blindness.
 - Of course there are already Messianic Jews who have accepted Yeshua so the Spirit is still drawing a remnant from His people throughout the world, but the nation corporately has remained blinded.
 - **Isaiah 29:9-16** - "Stay yourselves, and wonder; cry ye out, and cry: they are drunken, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink. **For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which [men]**

deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it [is] sealed: And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. **Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:** Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, [even] a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise [men] shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent [men] shall be hid. Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the LORD, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us? Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?"

- ◆ This is a problem in all belief systems, but Israel was to live by God's Word. To this day the orthodox scholars interpret the Bible from each other over the plain reading. Rabbinic Judaism holds that Moses received the written Torah and the Oral Torah. Until the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple, the Oral Torah was not to be written down and it was transmitted orally to explain the written Torah. After, the Talmud and other texts transmitted the Oral Torah and the teachings that were supposed to interpret the written Torah. While there is sometimes insight, there is also adding and removing from the Word for various reasons, especially when it comes to prophecies of Yeshua as the Messiah interpreted away in the Oral Torah. This is exactly what Isaiah prophesied about where the precepts of men overshadowed the written Word. Indeed, many who are taught Judaism don't actually learn what the Torah says, they rely on the interpretations of the Rabbinical leaders without even looking at Torah themselves. So many additional things are heaped on the written Torah that can't be followed. This is why Yeshua said His yoke is easy and His burden is light.
- ◆ This is a problem at times even in modern legal world where the letter of the laws are used over the spirit of them and they become so complex that everyone breaks them daily without knowing.
- **Isaiah 28:9-13** - "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This [is] the rest [wherewith] ye may cause the weary to rest; and this [is] the refreshing: yet they would not hear. **But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.**"
 - ◆ Man adding to God's Word is a recipe for false teaching and leading away from God. Not knowing the source ourselves can lead us to deception. In this way the spirit of slumber and blindness given them comes from the way the Word is given combined with an unwise heart looking to men for understanding or manipulating interpretation for personal gain of some kind. It reveals the heart, whether it truly desires relationship with the God revealed in the Word or our own ways of man. One can say they are close to God while having no intention of fostering an actual relationship.
 - ◆ God wrote the Bible with stumbling blocks for those who do not build

their doctrine from only the Word of God. When false doctrine is added in, the clarity becomes obscured and those without a love for Truth are blinded by false doctrines of man. Individual passages are taken out of context and separated from related scripture elsewhere that expounds on the topic. Not taking the Word seriously leads to spiritualizing scripture to replace the clear prophetic fulfillment of Isaiah 53 with anyone but Yeshua.

- ◆ In these studies there will be a lot of jumping around scripture for this very reason. The whole council of God is spread out here a little and there a little. Precept is on precept, line upon line. Topical studies of prophecy help to reveal these things and that's why these studies are topical.
 - ◆ It is my belief that when taking the whole council of God seriously and accepting Him at His Word, we can find connecting points from the Word throughout scripture and bring them together for a greater understanding. Let the Word interpret itself as much as possible, 2 or 3 witnesses in scripture.
- **2 Corinthians 3:12-18** - "Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: And not as **Moses, [which] put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which [veil] is done away in Christ. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart.** Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord."
- ◆ To those today who truly seek Him, God has and will reveal understanding in His Word. Check out the [One For Israel](#) channel on YouTube.
 - ◆ "The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed, the Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed." | Chuck Missler
- I believe the blindness of Israel to the Messiah is the partly the result of not taking the whole council of God seriously as it stands and instead falling for the idea that someone else needs to interpret for us to understand.
- ◆ Don't get me wrong, we all stand on the shoulders of those who came before and continually learn from others, but **Acts 17:11** tells us it is noble to study God's Word for yourself and use it as a Rosetta Stone to discern the truth. We can only discern a counterfeit \$100 bill by knowing the real thing intimately.
 - ◆ For example, after Christ came and the temple was destroyed, there was a lot of Rabbis trying to explain why Messiah hadn't come yet, the blind leading the blind. They recognized He had to come in the reign of Titus, but could not accept Yeshua because He didn't perform the role of conquering king. Saving them from Rome.
 - ◆ We are in a much better position today because we have the gift of hindsight and the Spirit of God in us to guide us through His Word.
- I believe the blindness is also partly the result of tradition passed down, sometimes to the exclusion of looking at the actual Word of God and taking Him at His Word.
- ◆ [The Aramaic "Onkelos" is not a Literal translation!](#) | [One For Israel](#) - Part of a series looking at the Christian roots of the Jewish faith, the Septuagint was at one time accepted as inspired by God in Rabbinical Judaism. However, because this Greek translation was used by the Christians to

point to fulfillment in the New Testament, for the sages of the Oral Law, the Septuagint limited the freedom of the rabbinic interpretations found in the Oral Law so the rabbis rejected the Septuagint.

- ◇ However, the Talmud itself states the Septuagint is inspired by God in Megillah 9a. "There was an incident involving King Ptolemy of Egypt, who assembled seventy two Elders from the Sages of Israel, and put them into seventy two separate rooms, and did not reveal to them for what purpose he assembled them, so that they would not coordinate their responses. He entered and approached each and every one, and said to each one of them: Write for me a translation of the Torah of Moses your teacher. The Holy One, Blessed be He, placed wisdom in the heart of each and every one, and they all agreed to one common understanding."
 - ▶ This legend, whether true or not, elevates the Septuagint as divinely inspired by the Talmud.
- ◇ The Onkelos (Aramaic translation of the Torah) was later written to bring rabbinic tradition back into the Old Testament, even before the Exodus. Onkelos translations:
 - ▶ Genesis 9:6 - "He who spills the blood of man, through man shall his blood be spilled, **by witnesses according to the word of the judges.**" Septuagint reads, "**for God made man in His own image.**"
 - ▶ Genesis 12:5 - "And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, **and the souls they whom they had made subject to the Law in Haran.**" Septuagint reads, "**and the souls they had gotten in Haran.**" The Torah (Law) wasn't given until Mount Sinai, well after Abram's day. This is an example of writing rabbinic Oral Law back into the text.
 - ▶ Genesis 25:27 - "Yaakov was a wholesome man, living in tents **[serving in the house of study]**" (specifically where Rabbis study the Oral Law) Septuagint says, "**Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents.**" Once again, well before the Mosaic Law was given.
 - ▶ Exodus 23:19 - "The beginning of the first fruits of your land must be brought to the House of [the Sanctuary of] Adonoy, your God. **You must not cook a young animal in the milk of its mother** [eat meat with milk]." Septuagint says, "**You must not cook a young goat in its mother's milk.**" The original speaks specifically of a goat, not all animals. This is writing rabbinic tradition back into the text.
- ◇ As the Septuagint was the pairing to the Greek New Testament for Christians, the Rabbinic Jews needed their own translation not polluted by Christianity that better fit their traditions and so the Onkelos translation became the pairing to the rabbinic Oral Law.
- ◆ **Joshua 1:8** - "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein"
- ◆ Is it the oral law or the speaking of the written Word?
- ◆ I watched a video of Messianic Jews speaking to Orthodox Jews on the street. One of the interviewees stated regarding Isaiah 53, "We don't learn Tanakh (comprised of Torah [Law], prophets, and writings) in our schools because it's very deep and things can be misinterpreted. So they

don't teach us Tanakh. We learn Talmud (Rabbinic Commentary). We learn what we call the "Oral Law". So, if I want to go into "Isaiah" I would go to my Rabbi and I would ask him to teach it to me. Like everything I don't understand and I ask him to teach to me. But things that I wasn't taught in school because I was told that it's deep to understand, I for sure won't just read texts." [Orthodox Jews Confront Messianic Jews | Isaiah 53](#)

- ◆ Combine that with the way it was written to throw in stumbling blocks for the uncaredful reading of it, Isaiah 28:9-13, and the first century Jewish leaders made a concerted effort to wipe out this false doctrine from their perspective, is it possible they found all the stumbling blocks and taught them to their progeny?
- ◆ If the blind are leading the blind, and it's taught not to read on your own and rely only on Rabbinic tradition, how easy is it for blind faith in these interpretations to be used against them with great deception, especially since many haven't read the un-audited original?
- ◆ [Why Jews Reject Jesus as the Messiah? Sam Shamoun](#) - Sam Shamoun talks with a Jew looking to get into his religion, answering questions about why Jews reject Yeshua. He goes over some Rabbinic traditions stating they expected the Messiah in the rule of Titus, but never came from their view.
 - It's important to understand that Orthodox leadership interpreting the Tanakh without the full understanding of what Messiah said as covered in the New Testament can lead to deception. The blind, no matter how smart they are or how much knowledge they have, leading the blind does not lead to a positive outlook for belief. It's not a knock on Judaism, the Christian faith is built on the foundation of the Tanakh. And it's not in any way said with hatred or spite, one can't truly be an honest follower of Yeshua with any hatred in their heart. It is a warning from the heart to go to the source personally and pray that God reveal Himself to you from His Word personally, that is all.
- **Zechariah 12:10** - "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and **they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for [his] only [son], and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for [his] firstborn.**"
 - [When was YHWH pierced?](#) YouTube DTBM - I thought this was a great and concise understanding from the Old Testament as part of a video on the Trinity that I highly recommend watching. I believe that it will be realizations like this that will bring faithful Israel out of her blindness and finally see the Messiah.
- **Romans 11:11-15** - "I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but [rather] through their fall salvation [is come] unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them [be] the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness? For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: If by any means I may provoke to emulation [them which are] my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them [be] the reconciling of the world, what [shall] the receiving [of them be], but life from the dead?"
 - There were originally no chapter breaks and we saw in Romans 10:19-21 that Paul points to both Moses and Isaiah stating the reason for the provoking to jealousy of Israel. It was the spiritual adultery of God's people that provoked God to be jealous for His people. This led to the reciprocation from God to choose another people that were not His chosen people to cause Israel to be jealous. The followers of Yeshua from among the Gentiles are those people.
 - **Deuteronomy 32:18-21** - "Of the Rock [that] begat thee thou art unmindful, and

hast forgotten God that formed thee. And when the LORD saw [it], he abhorred [them], because of the provoking of his sons, and of his daughters. And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end [shall be]: for they [are] a very froward generation, children in whom [is] no faith. They have moved me to jealousy with [that which is] not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities: and I will move them to jealousy with [those which are] not a people; I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation."

- **Isaiah 65:1-7** - "I am sought of [them that] asked not [for me]; I am found of [them that] sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation [that] was not called by my name. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way [that was] not good, after their own thoughts; A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick; Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable [things is in] their vessels; Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These [are] a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day. Behold, [it is] written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom, Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom."
- "This verse has to mean that God makes a no-people (Gentiles) his people for two reasons: | [Does the Talmud agree with the Apostle Paul's interpretation of Hosea 2?? - The Case for Messiah](#)
 - ◆ "Because of how Israel provoked God to jealousy (i.e., they chose false gods)
 - ◆ "Because of the reference to the Gentiles praising God in Deuteronomy 32:43: 'O nations, cause His people to rejoice; For He will avenge the blood of His servants, and will render vengeance on His adversaries, and will atone for His land and His people.'"
- The purpose is for salvation to come to the Gentiles and provoke the Jews to jealousy/emulation. How do the Gentiles provoke Israel to jealousy? What are they going to see that Gentiles have that they desire? When will they see it?
 - While unfaithful Israel rejected the Messiah and was blinded, the faithful Gentiles accepted Him and were called God's people. But through the last thousand years or more, those calling themselves by His name have not always represented Christ well. Until more recently Christians were looked at with distrust for that past. Is Israel jealous of those who follow Christ?
 - As seen in **Matthew 23:37-39**, blindness will be lifted when they say blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord, or when they recognize Yeshua as the Messiah as some did at the triumphal entry.
 - I will posit shortly here and more in depth in future studies that the timing of the fulness of the Gentiles and the unblinding of Israel will happen at the same general time of salvation of both the bride of Christ to heaven at His coming, and the faithful of Israel to the wilderness to be protected there. As the day approaches, I expect a lot of Christians (Jew and Gentile) will be in Jerusalem having heeded the warning of Yeshua and will be participants in the warning and escape of those of Israel who reject the antichrist and flee Judea into the wilderness.
 - ??? Seems out of place ??? As will be covered in greater detail in the [Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future](#) study, the words in **Luke 21:12-24** are different than Matthew and Mark's accounts to provide the warning to believers in 70 AD in addition to those living at the end in the other accounts.

- **Romans 11:16-27** - "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: 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? For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 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."
 - Yeshua, the firstfruit of the meal offering is holy and so is the rest, just as the root of the olive tree is holy and so then are the branches from it. This will be covered in much greater detail in the [Moedim: Appointed Times](#), [Harpazo: The Blessed Hope](#), and [First Resurrection](#) studies.
 - The natural branches are Israel, God's chosen people, and wild branches are Gentiles of the other nations and peoples.
 - The people of Israel can be broken off in unbelief and Gentiles can be grafted in by faith in Christ, the root. The people of Israel can be grafted back in belief and faith too. It's all about timing while alive on this earth.
 - So Gentiles should not boast against the branches cut off of the root because the root bears them just as it did those cut off. There is a condition tied to remaining grafted onto the root, that is if we continue in goodness, walking by the Spirit, obedience. Therefore, if we cease to be obedient to God, we can be cut off. Believers have a responsibility to remain faithful and remain imagers of God by walking in the Spirit of God in Truth.
 - ◆ **John 15:12-17** - "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and [that] your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another."
 - ◇ We are Christ's friends... IF we do whatever He commands. Obedience is part of this relationship. The commandment? To love one another as He loves us. His yoke is easy and His burden is light.
 - So the bottom line is that as branches unless we are grafted onto the root, either before our death or the coming of Yeshua in glory, Israel will be broken off in unbelief and the wild trees of the world will continue to grow with all their branches separate from the one root that is Christ.
 - **Malachi 4:1** - "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them

- neither root nor branch."
 - Only those on the root of salvation will escape the fire of the day of the Lord coming on the earth. The wild olive trees and their branches will be burnt by fire.
- **Romans 11:28-36** - "As concerning the gospel, [they are] enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, [they are] beloved for the fathers' sakes. For the gifts and calling of God [are] without repentance. **For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.** O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable [are] his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, [are] all things: to whom [be] glory for ever. Amen."
 - It's important to remember where the persecution of the early church came from
 - Saul was one of those Jews persecuting the believers until his conversion
 - Even in Gentile nations, it was often the Jews first that caused an uproar in their reaction to perceived blasphemy.
 - Persecution also grew to Gentile nations against Christians, often perceiving it as an attempt to establish a kingdom that would threaten their own.
 - Even though the Jews were enemies of the early church, they were told to love their enemies. We see that recognition that they are blinded and yet still beloved for the Father's sake meant they were not cast off forever.
 - Gentile belief came because of Jewish unbelief
 - Gentile mercy leads to Jewish mercy
 - God lumped all of Israel together in unbelief so He can have mercy on all
 - This would seem to say that their blindness is not a death sentence, but a means to once again in the future offer salvation to all as a corporate whole in the future.
 - **Hosea 6:1-3** - "Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Then shall we know, [if] we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter [and] former rain unto the earth."
 - Could this point to part of the reason behind the Messianic Kingdom?
- The Unjust and the Just
 - As has been stated before, it must be restated that the just live by faith and have gained election by grace, not by works. The acceptance therefore that one is just or unjust is not a matter of pride, but of humility in recognition of our need for a Savior and God's grace in providing salvation to us. We are just according to God's grace and will be judged according to Yeshua's righteousness. The unjust are so because of their works by which they will be judged. This is a choice each person is responsible for themselves.
 - **Romans 2:1-11** - "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? **But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:**

But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with God."

- Wild Carnal Gentiles: the wild branches of all the roots of the nation's will be cast into the fire of eternity
 - Comprised of those Gentiles who never chose to be grafted onto the root of Christ.
 - These will grow to hate God and whoever calls themselves by His name, Israel or Christian, the more they pull away from Him for whatever reason they've chosen to reject God.
- Natural Carnal Israel: The Natural Branch cut off from God and cast into the fire of eternity
 - Comprised of those broken off in unbelief (both secular and orthodox genetic descendants of Abraham, yet blinded to Yeshua as the promised Messiah)
 - At Christ's first coming seeing did not understand and the wicked leaders actively worked, as their forefathers had with the prophets, to kill the anointed Messiah sent to them.
 - **John 10:14-18** - "I am the good shepherd, and know my [sheep], and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, [and] one shepherd. Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father."
 - ◆ It should be noted that Yeshua gave His live, it wasn't taken. And after He laid it down, He took it up again.
 - **Luke 23:33-34** - "And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots."
 - ◆ Yeshua forgave them that rejoiced in His death for their blindness, but ultimately fulfilling His plan from the beginning of time.
 - These were also they that persecuted those who did accept Christ, killing them throughout Israel and beyond. The first persecutors of the Church were their own people, the Jews.
 - **Romans 11:28** - "As concerning the gospel, [they are] enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, [they are] beloved for the fathers' sakes."
 - ◆ Being blinded, they viewed all the Christians stood for on that rock which is Christ as blasphemy, not knowing they were indeed the ones blaspheming God and killing His people.
- The Elect, Eternal Spiritual Israel: The Natural and Grafted Branch together with God in eternity
 - Comprised of both those remaining/grafted on the root (Messianic Christian Jews) and Gentiles who have accepted Yeshua's sacrifice and have been grafted as a wild branch from among the nations onto the root of the olive tree representing eternal Israel, which is Christ.
 - For natural Israel, they were married to their Maker in the Old Covenant at Sinai. Yeshua is the Creator and the Word of God to the glory of the Father. **John 1:1-18** When He came and died, although also divorced, natural Israel was free from the Law made in that Covenant. They are widowers and if they so desire can be married to another. It is that same Maker, who has a new Covenant of marriage, open to any natural branch or wild branch who desires to be grafted onto Christ, the root.

- **Romans 7:1-4** - "Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? **For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to [her] husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of [her] husband.** So then if, while [her] husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. **Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, [even] to him who is raised from the dead,** that we should bring forth fruit unto God."
 - At Christ's first coming they believed and kept the faith through much persecution, the Jew first and then the Gentile. They all preserved the Word of God and spread the Gospel throughout the world, giving us the understanding we have today by their faithfulness.
 - We must not forget that there is no Israel or Gentile in Christ. We are one under Yeshua, bought and paid for by the same Jewish blood and part of the elect.
 - We must also not forget the context of Bible prophecy is almost exclusively centered on the final redemption of the remnant of natural carnal Israel into the eternal spiritual Israel. For those having already accepted Christ as their Savior, their departure before the wrath of God will be tied to the unblinding of the faithful remnant of Israel that will come to join the bride in accepting their Messiah. It is perhaps at that time at the end of Jacob's trouble when they are at their most broken, the escape of the bride will provoke them to jealousy and they will call upon the Lord and the scales will drop from their eyes as they see Him coming in great power and glory.
- Kings and Priests
 - Israel was to be a nation of priests
 - **Exodus 19:3-6** - "And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and [how] I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth [is] mine: And **ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These [are] the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.**"
 - **Exodus 40:12-15** - "And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water. And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats: **And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.**"
 - Depiction of priestly clothes
 - [Naked Bible 306: Exodus 28-29](#) - The descriptions of the vestments worn by the priests of Israel, particularly the high priest, can make for uninteresting reading. But these two chapters of Exodus and their content put forth significant theological messaging. In this episode of the podcast we discuss how the priestly garments take us into the concepts of kingship, mediation, and mission to the nations outside Israel.
 - **Exodus 28:4-6** - "And these [are] the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. And they shall take gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, and **fine linen.** And they shall make the ephod [of]

gold, [of] blue, and [of] purple, [of] scarlet, and fine twined linen, with cunning work."

- Depiction of the high priests clothes
 - Exodus 28 and 39 depict the details of the high priest's attire, which stand out from the rest of the priests.
 - "Essentially, Exod 28 differentiates four items of clothing that are common to all the priests – namely, the tunic, the sash, the headpiece, and the undergarments (Exod 28:39–43) – and four items that are unique to the high priest: the ḥōšen, the 'ēpod, the robe and the diadem (Exod 28:6–38). ... The clothes that all the priests share are made of šēš-linen, which presumably designates a superior type of linen (Haran 1978, 174; Propp 2006, 452); the only exception is the undergarments, which are made of bad-linen. The four items that are specific to Aaron are also made of šēš-linen but are distinguished by their inclusion of other, additional fabrics: the robe of the 'ēpod as well as the cord which fastens the diadem to the headpiece are made of tākēlet, which presumably refers to a sort of bluish or greenish purple; whereas the breastpiece and the 'ēpod are made of tākēlet, 'argāmān (another kind of purple, perhaps more reddish) as well as tōla'at šāni, or crimson (Exod 28:6,8,15,28) The different fabrics used for the high priest and the other priests correspond to the fabrics used for the confection of different parts of the sanctuary. The šēš-linen, with which the main vestments worn by all the priests (tunic, sash and headpiece) are made, is already used for the fabrication of the curtains of the outer court. The mixture of blue, purple and crimson yarns which distinguishes the confection of the breastpiece from that of the 'ēpod is also used for the confection of the curtains of the sanctuary (Exod 26:1; cf. 36:8 MT) as well as of the three veils that delineate the outer court, the outer-sanctum and the inner-sanctum (Exod 26:31,36; 27:16). Additionally, the robe of the 'ēpod and the cord of the headpiece are made of bluish purple (tākēlet) alone, which is the dye used for the laces holding together curtains of the sanctuary (Exod 26:4). The same association between Aaron's clothes and the sanctuary is furthered by the designation of the breastpiece and the 'ēpod as ma'āšēh ḥōšēb, "the work of a skilled designer" (Exod 28:6,15) ["The work of a skilled designer" is] an expression which is otherwise used only to describe the fabrication of the curtains of the sanctuary and its innermost veil (Exod 26:1,31). Additionally, the confection of the breastpiece and the 'ēpod includes a fifth element, namely gold (zāhāb), which apparently refers to golden threads woven into these vestments as the description in Exod 39:3 makes clear. The mention of gold has no parallel in the fabrics used for the tabernacle but closely associates Aaron's clothes with the materials used either for the objects placed inside the sanctuary, such as the ark, the table [MH: (the bread of the presence)] and the luminary [MH: (or the lampstand)], or for the elements that comprise the structure of the sanctuary itself, such as the planks, the columns and the hooks... These observations suggest that the fabrics involved in the confection of the priestly clothes are part of a comprehensive system which indexes the differentiated roles, status and agency of the high priest and the priests. Whereas the fabrics used for the other priests associate them with the outer court, the materials involved in the confection of Aaron's clothes uniquely associate him with the sanctuary [MH: (the inner part)]. The association of the priests and the high priest with different spaces corresponds in turn to their different roles within the cult [MH: the word "cult" used in biblical studies refers to those who do rituals—just the ritual system]: while the priests' main cultic duties comprise the offering of the community's sacrifices in the outer court, Aaron assumes unique responsibilities within the sanctuary... The important

point, here, is that the fabrics used for Aaron's vestments do not merely symbolize his privileged access to, and unique agency within, the sanctuary: in the priestly conception, they literally enable it. While the mixture of various fabrics for the confection of the curtains and the veils of the sanctuary marks off this space as being particularly holy, and therefore inaccessible to humans, the donning of such vestments grants Aaron a permanent right of entry within that space. As such, the description of the fabrics in Exod 28 simultaneously makes human agency possible within the sanctuary while also restricting this agency to one central agent, the high priest, who is identified by his clothes." | Dr. Michael Heiser in *Naked Bible 306: Exodus 28-29* (1/13/2020) references a scholarly article "Aaron's Vestments in Exodus 28 and Priestly Leadership." by Christophe Nihan and Julia Rhyder, which references *Temples and Temple Service in Ancient Israel* by Manahem Haran

- A kingdom of priests requires a king or ruler over the kingdom and it is clear that God intended for Himself to be God and King over Israel. The priesthood of Israel was to minister to God and be the mediator between God and the people while the kingdom as a collective whole was to be the mediator between God and the other nations of the world.
- However Israel, like we all, tended to go their own ways and not in the way God designed for them to do. Israel desired a king like the world, one of their own to rule and judge over them.
- **1 Samuel 8:4-9, 18-22** - "Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. ... And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day. Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles. And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city."
- Saul became Israel's first earthly king, followed by his son Eshbaal for 2 years, then David and his son Solomon, who built the first temple. Things soon devolved after that with the nation of Israel splitting into the Northern kingdom and Southern kingdom of Judah.
- Church are kings and priest
 - In the fulfillment of God's plan for our redemption in the New Covenant, the Mosaic Covenant was replaced with a better Covenant that paid the penalty for sin and cleansed us of it in belief in the grace of God according to His Word. Because this went to the Gentiles after the Jews, we see a union of all mankind under Christ by His blood and adoption of the Gentiles into the promise of Abraham that came by faith, which was before the Mosaic Covenant. And so in belief and faith Jew and Gentile take on that role as the body of Christ, our King and High Priest. The Branch, or green shoot, that came to die for our sins was resurrected to glory and is a King and Priest after the order of Melchizedek.

- This becomes then the ultimate fulfillment of God's plan to have Yeshua, both God and man, as our mediator between the Father and spiritual Israel, which are Jew and Gentile united in Christ. And as the body of Christ, we as kings and priests with Him are the light to the nations, mediators between our God and representatives of Him to the world, that they might come to the same relationship with God we have been gifted. We are the temple of God, individually and as a whole body, indwelt by the Spirit of God to accomplish His purpose in drawing all those that are His.
- **1 Corinthians 12:12-18** - "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also [is] Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether [we be] Jews or Gentiles, whether [we be] bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body [were] an eye, where [were] the hearing? If the whole [were] hearing, where [were] the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him."
- And like a body, each member has a different role. The association of different parts of the physical body relates to the different roles we each have in the body of Christ, as the context of this chapter suggests. Overall, the most important gift is charity, agape love, selflessness.
- **1 Peter 2:7-10** - "Unto you therefore which believe [he is] precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, [even to them] which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. **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."
- **Revelation 1:4-6** - "John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace [be] unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; And from Jesus Christ, [who is] the faithful witness, [and] the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And **hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father;** to him [be] glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."
- And as this role as kings and priests, we must both represent God in Spirit and Truth now, and when we will rule and reign with Christ in the future according to His Spirit of selfless love in justice.
- **Revelation 5:8-10** - "And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four [and] twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And **hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.**"
- **Proverbs 25:2** - "[It is] the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings [is] to search out a matter."
- We saw in **Exodus 28:4-6** that the ancient Israeli priesthood was clothed in fine linen and we see this again in the bride of Christ in heaven representing the purity of the bride in Christ.
 - **Revelation 19:7-8** - "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the

marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And **to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**"

- **Revelation 19:11-14** - "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him [was] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes [were] as a flame of fire, and on his head [were] many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he [was] clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. **And the armies [which were] in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.**"
- Yeshua is the high priest and king after the order of Melchizedek. Melchizedek was the king of Salem (peace), later Jerusalem (In Awe Of Peace, Teaching Peace).
 - **Genesis 14:18-20** - "And **Melchizedek king of Salem** brought forth bread and wine: and **he [was] the priest of the most high God**. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed [be] Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all."
 - **Psalms 76:1-2** - "[[To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm [or] Song of Asaph.]] In Judah [is] God known: his name [is] great in Israel. **In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.**"
 - **Psalms 110:1-4** - "[[A Psalm of David.]] The LORD (YHVH/Father) said unto my (King David) Lord (Yeshua/Son), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people [shall be] willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. **The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.**"
 - **Hebrews 5:5-6** - "So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another [place], **Thou [art] a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**"
 - **Matthew 22:41-46** - "While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, [The Son] of David. He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? If David then call him Lord, how is he his son? And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any [man] from that day forth ask him any more [questions]."
- So looking at the origin of the kingdom of priests that Israel was to be, the idea that the root is Christ and Gentiles are grafted in while faithful Israel remain, we see the ultimate fulfillment in Yeshua being our King and High Priest and we are a kingdom of priests in eternity, dressed in fine linen white and clean which is the righteousness of the saints, both Jew and Gentile together as spiritual Israel, the seed of Abraham by faith. But we must also recognize the eternal perspective is outside of time and we are not.
- Note that natural branches are broken off in unbelief and grafted back in. This pruning and repairing process is constantly in flux through time as each branch lives out their life. We won't know what the final olive tree looks like in eternity until we too are outside of time in eternity. So we, as the body of Christ, must continue in love, patience, longsuffering, faithfulness, and goodness, to build up the body of Christ both with those who have yet to know God, and in support of those who already do that they may grow with us in the knowledge of Christ and conformation to His likeness spiritually.
- Effect of context and space-time on prophecy
 - **Romans 9:22-33** - "[What] if God, willing to shew [his] wrath, and to make his power known,

endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. And it shall come to pass, [that] in the place where it was said unto them, Ye [are] not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. **Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: For he will finish the work, and cut [it] short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.** And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha. **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. Wherefore? Because [they sought it] not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."**

- Gentiles have been more receptive to Yeshua than those of Israel because of their blindness and stumbling over the letter of the Law rather than the Spirit of it. Thank God this has been happening throughout all of history as opportunities have come to those of Israel with ears to hear and eyes to see. Before the end comes, each natural and wild "branch" has their lifetime to experience, learn, and choose.
- There is a time coming when there will be no more fence sitting and a choice will be forced on that generation living at that time before they die. This is what the prophetic narrative is speaking to. Bible prophecy is not about eternity, it is about moments in time revealed to us about the time before eternity. Which version of Israel being spoken of is dependent upon time and space, understanding the generic national context of the people, not individuals.
- Three main views of the future (there are of course variations in each)
 - What is orthodox natural Israel looking for in their future? In general, the arrival of Messiah to conquer their enemies and establish His Messianic Kingdom. There is some nuance to this in that they are, interestingly enough, expecting a dual fulfillment of the arrival of the Messiah. In the Rabbinical view every generation can have a messiah, yet there is a future fulfillment of prophecy in the Messiah. There are variations to some of these generalities, but I think these are interesting.
 - Messiah ben Joseph will rebuild the temple, defeat Israel's enemies, establish a great empire with Jerusalem as its capital, and fulfill the suffering servant aspect in death for his people in battle, such as perhaps the Gog/Magog battle. (Zechariah 12:10-12)
 - Messiah ben David is expected to revive Messiah ben Joseph who will rule Israel as her king and bring the world to peace in a permanent Messianic Kingdom.
 - What are Jew and Gentile Christians looking for in their future? Redemption and catching away to Christ to the marriage before He establishes His Messianic Kingdom, to be in the presence of God from His arrival in glory for time without end.
 - What are the unbelieving Jews and Gentiles looking for in their future? Whatever plans they are making and fulfilling in living their lives as they always have, oblivious, unbelieving, or willingly ignorant to any unfolding future foretold in the Bible.
- Where we are at in the timeline of history determines how we look at prophetic elements. God, being outside time, knows the end from the beginning and all who are His.
 - The elect are eternal spiritual Israel, Jew and Gentile. There are of course Jews who accepted Yeshua as the Messiah and are part of the body of Christ, growing from the root. We may see it in context of a particular time where it may be focused on people that don't seem like they're saved yet.
 - God is outside of space and time. He already knows who are His elect, whether

they are living outside of relationship now but will come to Him or they have been living in Him for the past 20 years.

- **John 6:35-40** - "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. And **this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.** And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."
- We are locked in time without any view of the future except what God has given us in His Word. Our job is to be a light and provoke to emulation through the Spirit within us. In today's world, acts of selfless love shine like a beacon when everyone else is looking out for number 1.
 - **Matthew 10:16** - "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves."
 - We must be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. We are in hostile territory in this world. We must understand how the wicked one thinks and how we can reach those that don't believe, and in so doing be harmless as doves reflecting the Spirit in our lives.
- The point when looking at Bible prophecy in relation to Israel is to take account of the time of the prophecy. The coming studies will detail the times more and reveal the context of God's plan to redeem and refine Israel through the fire, but not just Israel. As will be covered in greater detail in the [Hour of Temptation: Left Behind](#) study, the parable of the 10 virgins would seem to indicate that 50% of those who are waiting for the return of the bridegroom have no relationship with Him and will be shut out of the marriage and cast into great tribulation unless they repent before He comes.
- **Revelation 3:15-19** - "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and [that] the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. **As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.**"
- **Revelation 2:21-23** - "And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works."
- Just as with Israel, spiritual fornication puts other gods above God. This doesn't have to be literally believing in other belief systems, they are waiting for the bridegroom. Do you say all the right words, do you speak Christianese, but where does your heart lie?
- **Israel and Jerusalem prophecies**
 - **Daniel 9:24** - "**Seventy weeks are determined upon thy [Daniel's] people and upon thy [Daniel's] holy city [Jerusalem], 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.**"
 - This prophecy was given to Daniel in response to His desire to understand his people's future after the Babylonian captivity. This will be covered in greater detail in the [Daniel's 70 Weeks](#) study, but it highlights that this prophecy is specific to Israel and Jerusalem.
 - **Jeremiah 30:4-7** - "**And these [are] the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah.** For thus saith the LORD; We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see

every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness? Alas! for that day [is] great, so that none [is] like it: **it [is] even the time of Jacob's trouble**; but he shall be saved out of it."

- Again, a prophecy is given to Jeremiah explicitly concerning Israel and Judah regarding the time of Jacob's trouble. Jacob's name was changed to Israel and this hints at a time of unparalleled family trouble for Israel.
- **Matthew 24:15-16, 21-22** - "**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:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:** ... For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."
 - Yeshua, on the Mount of Olives, told His disciples what would come to pass before His coming again. He explicitly points back to Daniel regarding what he said about the abomination of desolation, which is tied to the temple in Jerusalem. Furthermore, when this event happens, those in Judea are to flee to the mountains. This is the great tribulation, but why are only those in Judea told to flee? What about the rest of the world? This will be covered in greater detail in the [Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future](#) and [Great Tribulation](#) studies.
- **Revelation 11:1-2** - "And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty [and] two months."
 - We know this is the temple of God in Jerusalem, because the only other temple of God is in heaven, where Gentiles cannot trample it and the outer court would not be left out. What is interesting is that the outer court has reason to be left out if the placement of it is to the North of the Dome of the Rock and that were to be left in place.
 - Furthermore, we know that it is a physical temple because John is told to measure it. We also know that there are worshippers in it. Given that this is not in heaven, it is in Jerusalem. Again, the central nature of the city in Bible prophecy is highlighted for us.
- **Revelation 11:7-8** - "And when they [two witnesses] shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. 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.**"
 - While hinted at without naming, Yeshua was crucified in Jerusalem, and it is in Jerusalem that the two witnesses will be prophesying in the end and doing all sorts of miracles and warning those in Jerusalem to repent.
- **Zechariah 14:3-5** - "Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. **And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which [is] before Jerusalem on the east**, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, [and there shall be] a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south. **And ye shall flee [to] the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah:** and the LORD my God shall come, [and] all the saints with thee."
 - So we have the Lord coming to Jerusalem and splitting the Mount of Olives when those in Judea flee through the valley created in the mountain.
- These things have not happened yet, but we can trust the Word of God that they will happen, and these are not the only prophecies regarding the future. It is clear that future prophecy centers around a particular people and a particular place. Neither of these were possible before 1948, and in that one day on May 14 when a nation was reborn, the prophecies suddenly became alive again. Prophecy that had been spiritualized into

meaninglessness was suddenly also reborn in reality and as time goes on it has only become more real than before.

- **At the time of the end: Distinct events signaling the time is near**
 - "About the time of the end, a body of men will be raised up who will turn their attention to the Prophecies, and insist upon their literal interpretation, in the midst of much clamor and opposition." | Sir Issac Newton 1642-1727
 - Time is short, the time of choosing has arrived. Sure people have been saying that ever since Yeshua ascended. But given the centrality of Israel, Jerusalem, and the temple to the prophetic events yet to come to pass, we should recognize all the pieces that have been coming together to lead to the point where the events can happen quite suddenly.
 - **Matthew 23:37-39** - "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. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**"
 - **Hosea 3:4-5** - "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and [without] teraphim: **Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.**"
 - Like me over 20 years ago, most people aren't that aware or interested in what the Bible has to say about the future, and have very little knowledge about world events happening outside their local lives. Sure, there are big events that capture the attention for a moment, but the silent building continues in the background.
 - For the first time in 1,879 years, the state of Israel reappeared in the same land 77 years ago (2025) on May 14, 1948. They also revived the Hebrew language in the process and brought the land from a desolation to the prosperous land it is today.
 - Up until that time the idea that the prophetic narrative had anything to do with Israel was in question and a lot of people found ways to interpret it without Israel and Jerusalem at the very center that scripture places it in.
 - Israel on the defensive - That time since has not been a time of peace and security for them. Coming out of the holocaust, rejected by all nations, they began to settle in the one place that was once their homeland.
 - 1948-49 – Attacked after declaring independence, Israel fought back and won. Preferring peace, she stopped the aggression there. The foundational element of a State of Israel didn't even exist until 1948. The people of Israel began to go back to the land as the world hated them more and there was nowhere else to go for safety in numbers. Remember that Israel is essentially the very large family of Jacob. The dead language of Hebrew was revived to become the language of the people once again and the land blossomed.
 - January 23, 1950 Israel declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel.
 - June 5-10, 1967 – 6-day war started with a pre-emptive attack by Israel due to war machine buildup leading to war. After defeating all her enemies, she gave back much of the land taken. All of Jerusalem was taken, yet the control over the Temple Mount was ceded to the Waqf. Since then, conflict has continued and a growing part of Jewish culture seeks to gain access for the purpose of rebuilding the temple. The Temple Institute has already created all the temple instruments and garments according to the Old Testament and is training the priesthood.
 - October 6-25, 1973 – Yom Kippur War Egypt and Syria led a coalition of Arab states in the Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula.
 - August-September, 2005 – Israel forcibly removed her own Israeli citizens from Gaza, leaving the infrastructure there, which was destroyed by those in Gaza that remained.
 - October 7, 2023 Israel was attacked by Hamas from Gaza and 1,139 people were killed and 250 taken hostage back into Gaza. Since that time, Israel has been resolute to

eliminate Hamas and give back Gaza under leadership other than Hamas.

- This event seems to have both broken and mended Israel. In the months that followed, massive protests followed closely by media around the world seemed to deepen the feeling that Israel was alone in the world. The upside down thinking that Israel couldn't deal with Hamas after what happened and the events of the Holocaust when the world turned their backs on the Jews after, all culminate in a stronger bonding of Jews together. The contentious political climate just before October 7 has been eclipsed by the united front to confront her enemies.
- As we will see, this resoluteness combined with a return to her religious roots are big signs of the times. Israel will not be defensive forever, and when they see the Old Testament prophecies appearing to be fulfilled in the destruction of her enemies, beware of deception. These are the times we need to know the source of Truth so we are not caught up in deception.
- Even outside these major periods of conflict with her neighbors, there has been a constant threat to the safety of the Jewish people in the land. While they are not defeated, the toll of constant struggle amidst a political world that seems to hate her can take its toll.
- While much of the Jewish part of the State of Israel is a secular country that has come in from all the nations of the world, it's mixed with millennia of tradition rooted deep in the psyche.
- There are a growing number under the pressure of the insecurity that read their ancient text like the Psalms and feel the words.
- **Psalm 40:11-14** - "Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me. For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me. Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me. Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil."
- The Temple Institute
 - "The Temple Institute, founded in 1987, is dedicated to every aspect of the Holy Temple of Jerusalem, and the central role it fulfilled, and will once again fulfill, in the spiritual well-being of both Israel and all the nations of the world. The Temple Institute was founded on the principle of action. Its goal is to provide a basis in research, planning and infrastructure for the Third Temple."
 - "The Temple Institute's Research Department is led by Rabbi Azaria Ariel. A team of rabbis, scholars, scientists and other experts in various fields are presently occupied with the study of various Temple-related subjects. The results of these studies are published periodically by the Temple Institute. The conclusions of this research form the basis for the creation of the sacred vessels and priestly garments that are fashioned by the Institute's Restoration Department, comprised of experts representing a wide range of fields and professions: gold and silversmiths, weavers, gemologists, musicologists, carpenters, painters, graphic artists, architects and more."
 - "Over sixty sacred Temple vessels have already been restored, including some of the most difficult and complicated projects, such as the Menorah and the precious stones of the High Priest's breastplate."
 - "The priesthood has been in training to strictly follow Torah for when the time comes for them to minister to God at the temple."
 - Many Christians have a difficult time with the idea of a third temple. After Yeshua when the Spirit of God came, each individual person who accepted Christ and was filled with the Spirit of God became the temple of God, which corporately is the body of Christ. The logic then goes that since this is true, which it is, then we don't need a

third temple and therefore one won't exist ever again.

- Someone should tell the blinded Jews this! They don't seem to want to believe this to be true, and in their blindness they are searching again for relationship with the same God we serve, they just can't see it yet.
- This is a very Western church take on the idea of a physical third temple. While it is not required to commune and have a relationship with God, like much of the Bible, prophecy is simply stating what will come to pass before it does. And let's not forget that Jerusalem will be utterly destroyed during the wrath of God, including the third temple. In the case of the end of the age, it is meant to be a warning against deception and slumber so when we see these things come to pass we will wake up and give God the glory.
- I would suggest that as Western Christians, we step out of our mindset and understand the Jewish mindset, which was blinded by Christ until the fulness of the Gentiles. Those who have not accepted Christ neither have the Spirit of God dwelling in them nor believe that is even a thing. To them, seriously desiring a relationship with God, the only way they understand is from their scriptures, and ours I might add.
- **Exodus 29:42-43** - "[This shall be] a continual burnt offering **throughout your generations [at] the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee.** And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and [the tabernacle] shall be sanctified by my glory."
- Will God again dwell in the third temple? Scripture doesn't say, but as we will see in the [Abomination of Desolation](#) study, it could be implied. In order for an abomination to cause desolation, must it not be desolate first in order to become desolate because of the abomination? What does desolate mean? Wasn't this already done in history? These are all questions that will be looked at in more detail in the rest of these studies.
- Let us not forget the Hebrew roots of our faith nor the promise God made to His people Israel. We have attained the promise and in the end after all is said and done, those who accept Christ will be the only people of God, but we are not to that point yet and neither is God's promise null and void. The church has not replaced Israel. Israel is central to the depiction in prophecy of God's plan to redeem His people, His literal brothers and sisters from the lineage of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Let's not forget the very clear point Paul made about this.
- **Romans 10:21-11:1** - "But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people. 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."
 - ◆ He didn't say he was spiritually welcomed into the community of God because he had faith like Abraham. He clarified that God's people, of whom he is one, was a genetic lineage from the seed of Abraham to Jacob (Israel) to Benjamin of the 12 tribes of Israel.
- Some attempt to negate the relevance of the natural branches of the Hebrew people and spiritualize what is plainly stated in scripture.
- I cannot do this. The Word of God was given for a reason to provide understanding. As soon as we don't take it seriously as written and attempt to apply some alternate meaning, the meaning becomes lost. Furthermore, this divides the people because as soon as we do this, the same passage can be interpreted by 10 different people to mean 10 different things when in reality the words say something very clearly on their own. Our desire to not accept them as written will only distort our understanding.
 - ◆ **1 Corinthians 14:32-33** - "And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not [the author] of confusion, but of peace, as in

all churches of the saints."

- ◆ **2 Peter 1:20-21** - "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost."
- ◆ **John 16:12-15** - "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew [it] unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew [it] unto you."
- ◆ **Revelation 19:10** - "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: **worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**"
- ◆ Trust the Word of God with the guidance of the Author of it that lives within your temple of flesh with you. Lean not on your own vain imaginings. Our only foundation is the Word of God, interpreted by the Word of God.
- ◆ **Acts 17:11** - "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

○ Red Heifer

- March/April, 2024 Four viable red heifers are in Israel with plans to sacrifice one. To my knowledge that did not happen.
- The October 7, 2023 "Al Aqsa Flood" attack was stated by Hamas spokesman Abu Ubaida 100 days later, at least partially, a response to the Jews "bringing red cows." [CBS News](#)
 - The Muslims in the Middle East paying attention know what this means to the Orthodox Jewish culture in Israel.
- This is the final required item necessary to sanctify the temple, the temple instruments, and the priests.
- **Numbers 19:1-2, 5-6, 17-19, 21** - "And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, This [is] the ordinance of the law which the LORD hath commanded, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring thee a red heifer without spot, wherein [is] no blemish, [and] upon which never came yoke: ... And [one] shall burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her flesh, and her blood, with her dung, shall he burn: And the priest shall take cedar wood, and hyssop, and scarlet, and cast [it] into the midst of the burning of the heifer. ... And for an unclean [person] they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel: And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip [it] in the water, and sprinkle [it] upon the tent, and upon all the vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave: And the clean [person] shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even. ... **And it shall be a perpetual statute unto them**, that he that sprinkleth the water of separation shall wash his clothes; and he that toucheth the water of separation shall be unclean until even."
- But that is all in the past! I know, for the Christian it is different, we're cleansed by the blood of Christ. But again, just because we know this to be true does not stop those who don't know it to be true from returning to the "perpetual statute" given to them by our God and theirs to try and get back in relationship with Him.

- I think it's also important to understand the reasoning behind the sacrificial system as it's commonly misunderstood. It was never possible for the blood of animals to take away sin.
- **Hebrews 10:1-4** - "For the law having a shadow of good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those [sacrifices there is] a remembrance again [made] of sins every year. **For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.**"
- I would recommend watching Dr. Michael Heiser's "Thinking Like an Israelite" series for a more scholarly point of view on this.
 - [Week 1: Impurity and Sin](#)
 - [Week 2: Sacred Space and Sacrifice](#)
 - [Week 3: Sacrificial System \(OT Sacrifices\)](#)
 - [Week 4: Chaos & Calendar](#)
- **Hebrews 9:6-15** - "Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service [of God]. But into the second [went] the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and [for] the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: **Which [was] a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;** [Which stood] only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and **carnal ordinances, imposed [on them] until the time of reformation.** But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions [that were] under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."
- Lamech prophecy – 40 (2 periods of 40 years, 80 years, will have passed in 2028)
- "'How did you go bankrupt?' Bill asked. 'Two ways,' Mike said. 'Gradually and then suddenly.'" | *The Sun Also Rises*, 1926 Ernest Hemingway
 - Let me share a what-if scenario that can demonstrate how suddenly can happen. There is no time more apt to lead to accepting a solution for peace than when all security has been removed and there is nowhere else to go. The vocal minority of the world has responded to the October 7, 2023 attacks in just such a way that enhances this feeling. On top of the continued war with Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis, and their backer Persia, the pressure has only been building. What would happen if a leader were to rise who could speak plainly to the problems, but also act with great resolve? If that person were to show the strength of Israel to the surrounding nations that hate her in such a way that they would back off out of respect for the defeat they suffer as they are unable to stand against Israel, as much as they hate her.
 - And what if as part of this, Israel finally says enough with the ceding of control of the Temple Mount to the Waqf. History and archaeology have more than proven the central nature of the Temple Mount to the nation of Israel, yet for fear they don't touch it. Well, their enemies are already at war with them, and now a leader has come

that isn't putting up with it anymore and has the strength to defeat their enemies. Whispers of Messiah would grow among the religious communities, yet the secular community would likely remain mostly unchanged, although it would certainly draw many back to their religious roots. Add to this the requirement for the ashes of the red heifer to purify the temple instruments, the priesthood, and the people in order to rebuild the temple.

- Did you know October 7, 2023 was partially due to the bringing of red heifers to Israel from Texas? Did you know this is the last thing needed to purify the already trained priests and created temple instruments?
- This could all happen tomorrow, and all the pieces would be set according to what the Bible says will happen during the great deception and apostasy in Jerusalem.
- Now imagine if as part of this sudden confluence of events, the Ark of the Covenant was brought back in an amazing archaeological discovery. The mercy seat that was central to the Jewish identity of sanctification as a people on Yom Kippur and relationship with God, the physical proof of the stone tablets of the commandments given at Sinai. It was not part of the catalog of temple instruments taken to Babylon and there are beliefs that Jeremiah hid the Ark prior to the Babylonian captivity in the elaborate cave system under Jerusalem. There are also rumors that Israel knows where it is, but are waiting for the right time to reveal it.
 - **2 Maccabees 2:4-8** - "...It was also contained in the same writing, that the prophet, being warned of God, commanded the tabernacle and the ark to go with him, as he went forth into the mountain, where Moses climbed up, and saw the heritage of God. **And when Jeremy came thither, he found an hollow cave, wherein he laid the tabernacle, and the ark, and the altar of incense, and so stopped the door.** And some of those that followed him came to mark the way, but they could not find it. Which when Jeremy perceived, he blamed them, saying, As for that place, it shall be unknown until the time that God gather his people again together, and receive them unto mercy. Then shall the Lord shew them these things, and the glory of the Lord shall appear, and the cloud also, as it was shewed under Moses, and as when Solomon desired that the place might be honourably sanctified."
 - ◆ This is not canon, but as we will see in the [Visions of Daniel and John](#) study, the historical details given in Maccabees corroborates the precision of Bible prophecy in the 2,300 days prophecy. This excerpt is not theology, it is a statement of the historical account of what it was believed Jeremiah did with the tabernacle, Ark of the Covenant, and Altar of Incense.
 - **2 Baruch**, a Jewish apocalyptic work, holds that **the greatest treasures of the Temple were swallowed up by the earth near Jerusalem before the Babylonians could loot them.**
 - *Massekhet Kelim*, or *Treatise of the Vessels* is a Hebrew work that disagrees with itself in places, but the point is not about the legitimacy, but the expectation and how that plays into deception. The text promises that **all these implements would remain hidden until the coming of "David, son of David" (the messiah), when they will "ascend and reveal themselves."** suggesting that **when the messiah comes, the Gihon will overflow unto the Euphrates, and only then will the vessels ascend and reveal themselves.**
 - Did you know Rabbinic tradition expects Elijah to "restore to Israel these three things which had been lost: the golden pot of Manna, the vessel containing the anointing oil, and that with the waters of purification - according to some, also Aaron's rod that budded and bore fruit." These were all at one time in the Ark of the Covenant.
 - ◆ **Hebrews 9:3-5** - "And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; **Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the**

covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein [was] the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly."

- ◆ When we look at the [Man of Sin: False Christ](#) study, we will see an interesting case presented the forerunner prophesied for the Messiah is to come in the spirit of Elijah, which was John the Baptist. So could a false prophet prepare the way for a false christ in the same way, to deceive a people blinded to the already fulfilled prophecy with deception? And isn't it interesting as well that Rabbinical tradition, based off scripture, is also expecting the Messiah to build the third temple?
 - Prophecy speaks of a third temple without the outer court, in other words unique in history. This is central to the false christ declaring himself to be god. A precursor to this would require ashes of a red heifer, a priesthood, temple instruments, a tabernacle until a temple could be built, and a desire to accomplish these in the face of clear war in response.
 - Israel is already at war, they already have red heifers but are afraid to use them. They already have a priesthood that has been trained from their youth, they have already built the temple instruments. How long would it take to make a tabernacle? What if most of it was already there, just rediscovered along with the one artifact that would unite Israel in their roots in Jerusalem? All that is missing is the forerunner to prepare the way for the messiah to rebuild the temple and defeat any enemy who comes against Israel for doing so.
 - So what is really preventing this from happening tomorrow? We will cover this in greater detail in [The Moedim: Appointed Times](#) study.
- The bottom line is that the land and the people of Israel, Jerusalem, and the temple are central to the desires of both a religious Israel and Bible prophecy. We are closer than ever before in history since the diaspora for this alignment of the Jewish desire, ability, and prophecy to become reality, as we will see as we continue in these studies.
- Conclusion
 - Israel is the center of Bible prophecy and it is important to understand the elect are eternal spiritual Israel and distinct from natural carnal Israel in light of Bible prophecy.
 - To the Jew first, then the Gentile
 - Gospel/salvation (scriptures)
 - **Romans 1:15-17** - "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; **to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.**"
 - **Romans 2:10-11** - "But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, **to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile**"
 - **Acts 10:34-38** - "The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ"
 - **Luke 24:44-49** - "repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name **among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**"
 - **Acts 1:4-8** - "ye shall be witnesses unto me **both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth**"
 - **Acts 13:42-47** - "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.** For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth."
 - Judgement (scriptures)
 - **Romans 2:9** - "Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil,

of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile"

- Testing
 - Jews - Unparalleled time of Jacob's trouble starts with the abomination of desolation, which begins the reign of the antichrist over the whole world, but those in Judea written in the book will be saved out of that time into the wilderness.
 - All world - **Revelation 3:10** - "the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."
- God's chosen people are still favored by Him, but ultimately His heart is for all who choose to love and obey Him. Those that love Yeshua are neither Jew nor Gentile, but one elect joined to one body, branches to one Root, which is Christ.
 - **Romans 10:11-13** - "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. **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."
- I believe as we go through these other studies that this distinction will become more and more pronounced and shed light on many aspects of Bible prophecy. God chose Israel through which to bring the Messiah and is not done with Israel yet and will save those of her that choose Yeshua over the false christ.
- We need to pray for eternal spiritual Israel of whom God will lose none. We don't necessarily know who they all are, but we should live like they are everyone and shine the light of peace and selfless love wherever we go and sharing the Gospel with those who have ears to hear.
- Protection from deception
 - Through history the masses have deferred to the expertise of religious leaders who seek control of those masses. Let us understand the Word of God we have all been given to the glory of God and stand united in His Word in faith.
 - Let us also not let the emotional waves of current events blind us to the reality of what God's Word says will happen. Support and love Israel, putting God first and understanding that while God is not done with His people, they are blinded to the truth we know and the Messiah is not returning on earth to establish His kingdom before He is coming from heaven with great power and glory to judge the whole world and we should not be deceived by anything other than that, no matter how much we support Israel in the hope and promise of her redemption to God.
 - But if a one were to rise up in Israel and bring Israel back to the Mosaic Covenant, defeat all her enemies and turn the hatred of the nations around to support Israel, would any in the church supporting Israel be deceived into believing Christ had returned? I would hope not, but many Christians don't know the scriptures. Yeshua was clear about His return, and anything other than that is a deception.
 - **Matthew 24:4-5, 23-27** - "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. ... Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here [is] Christ, or there; believe [it] not. For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Behold, I have told you before. Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, [he is] in the secret chambers; believe [it] not. For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."
- Good evil, evil good
 - The vocal minority, like those responding to 10/7 in support of Hamas, being so obviously backward in morals and logic will cause the silent majority, who are lost as to why the world seems to be so backward, to cheer and accept the ones who start making things right again. This can also be part of the deception.

- If we're looking for problems of the end times to be solved by anyone on earth, we are primed for deception. The only resolution will come with Yeshua coming from heaven with great power and glory and every eye will see him.
- The final battle for each human soul is about to hit in full force, are you spiritually ready for what is to come? Do you know what is coming or how it is coming? Do you think it might be beneficial to know God's plan for your future that He has revealed in His Word? That is what **HIS**tory, Our Future: Pearls for the Bride is all about, and I hope you will continue this journey through the Bible to understand what God has told His friends.

May God continue to bless you as you remain in Him.

Associated studies

- [The Moedim: Appointed Times](#)
- [Olivet Discourse: Vision of the Future](#)
- [Daniel's 70 Weeks](#)
- [Visions of Daniel and John](#)
- [Seals, Trumpets, Bowls](#)
- [Man of Sin: False Christ](#)
- [Abomination of Desolation](#)
- [Great Tribulation](#)
- [First Resurrection](#)
- [Harpazo: The Blessed Hope](#)
- [Hour of Temptation: Left Behind](#)

References

- [False Christ | Will the Antichrist Claim to Be the Jewish Messiah?](#) by Chris White ([Audible Audiobook](#) | [Kindle](#) | [Paperback](#))
- [THIS Is Why Jewish People REJECT Jesus as the Messiah](#) Rabbi Schneider discusses with Allen Parr aspects of Jewish culture.
- [The Aramaic "Onkelos" is not a Literal translation!](#) | [One For Israel](#)
- [Orthodox Jews Confront Messianic Jews | Isaiah 53](#)
- [Why Jews Reject Jesus as the Messiah? Sam Shamoun](#)
- [When was YHWH pierced?](#) YouTube DTBM
- [Finding Mashiach: An Emotional Search for the Jewish Messiah](#) by Berel Solomon | YouTube
- Michael Heiser
 - [Naked Bible 306: Exodus 28-29](#) - The descriptions of the vestments worn by the priests of Israel, particularly the high priest, can make for uninteresting reading. But these two chapters of Exodus and their content put forth significant theological messaging. In this episode of the podcast we discuss how the priestly garments take us into the concepts of kingship, mediation, and mission to the nations outside Israel.
 - [Week 1: Impurity and Sin](#)
 - [Week 2: Sacred Space and Sacrifice](#)
 - [Week 3: Sacrificial System \(OT Sacrifices\)](#)
 - [Week 4: Chaos & Calendar](#)
- The October 7, 2023 "Al Aqsa Flood" attack was stated by Hamas spokesman Abu Ubaida 100 days later, at least partially, a response to the Jews "bringing red cows." [CBS News](#)

Associated Dates

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Tags

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Script
