
Words of Truth

Does The Israel Of Today Matter?

By: Brian A. Yeager

On December 24th I opened my mail and there was a letter from "Chosen People Ministries". After my sincere desire to puke over another human institution being created falsely in the name of Jesus (cf. Romans 12:9), I opened the letter out of curiosity. I often read erring documents so that I can be aware of "the devil's playbook" [so to speak] (II Corinthians 2:11). I even read politically motivated documents, which often represent the thinking of many in our country. The politicians of our country often promote the idea that Israel is some holy place. It is for these reasons that I kept this letter and decided I'd later write an article to expose the error promoted in that letter.

The letter I am referring to made the case that Israel is God's chosen country (scanned copies of these documents can be seen here: <http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wotvol12/wotbulletin0304docs2012.html>). The letter made the plea that people should financially support efforts to help the country of Israel. The letter perverted the Scriptures on many subject matters. In one case, the letter said: "So I ask for your support not only for the sake of Israel and of the Jewish people - - not only for the sake of Chosen People Ministries - - but for your own benefit as well". To support that statement, the Scripture reference was Genesis 12:3. Perverting passages of God's word does not fair well (II Peter 3:16-18) with God's REAL chosen people (I Peter 2:5; 9; cf. Psalms 95:7 and Matthew 12:46-50). God was once the God of Israel, but that is not true today. Additionally, Genesis 12:3 and other Scriptures that once applied to Israel; have NO APPLICATION TO THE ISRAEL OF TODAY!!!

Israel Was Once God's Nation

God has called Israel His people (Exodus 3:10, Exodus 5:1, Deuteronomy 7:1-8, and Jeremiah 31:1). God promised Israel a land and a relationship (Exodus 32:13 and Psalms 105:8-10). However, that promise required the continual obedience of Israel (Exodus 19:5 and Joshua 23:11-16). God does not extend a relationship to those who do not obey Him (Jeremiah 7:23 and Matthew 7:21-23). God fulfilled His promise to Abraham when Jesus was born (Matthew 1:1) and carried out His work on this earth (Galatians 3:14-24).

If an honest person studies through the Old Testament they will find some things to be very obvious. First, God was extremely longsuffering with Israel so that He could keep His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Leviticus 26:40-44, Deuteronomy 9:5, Deuteronomy 9:25-29, and II Kings 13:22-23). The people of Israel certainly didn't make it easy for the Lord to keep His promise. Therefore, the second obvious thing a student of the Old Testament will realize is that when Israel transgressed God's law He brought destruction upon them over and over again (Numbers 11:4-35, Numbers 16:1-35, Numbers 16:41-49, Numbers 21:4-9, Numbers 25:1-9, Deuteronomy 4:1-3, Joshua

5:2-6, II Samuel 24:1-17, etc.). God has never given Israel a pass on their sins! Israel, like all other countries in this world (I John 5:19), has not submitted themselves to God to be His people.

The Physical State Of Israel Is Not God's People Today

Let's begin this section of our study by looking at Genesis 12:3. In this Scripture, God was talking to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-2). This is what God said: *"And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed"* (Genesis 12:3). God is not talking about a physical country in Genesis 12:3. God is talking about the descendants of Abraham. To clarify the matter again, before some idiot thinks he or she "has me" here, the blessings to Abraham's descendants are qualified on the basis of obedience to God (Deuteronomy 11:26-32).

Lest one think that living in Israel makes one a descendent of Abraham, I'll prove that such is not the case. What we will see is that sending money for the Israel of today would be the equivalent of sending money to Satan himself. For, even if one can truly trace his or her bloodline back to Abraham, a person who rejects Jesus is not a true descendant of Abraham. Notice the proof of this from the mouth of our Lord: *"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. **I know that ye are Abraham's seed;** but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, **If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.** But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. Jesus said unto them, **If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God;** neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because **ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it"*** (John 8:31-44).

Conclusion

The physical state of Israel today matters only in the sense that all nations matter. We should want to see those folks obey the Gospel and be saved. It is our goal to reach them for this reason (Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16). Today, Abraham's descendants are not found in any single nation on this earth. Abraham's seed and thus God's real people of today are Christians all over the world. Notice this inspired text as the truth on this matter: *"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise"* (Galatians 3:26-29).