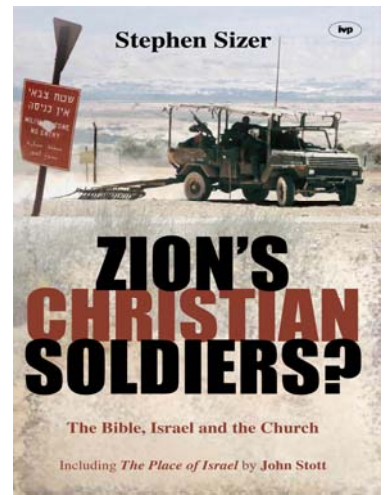


ZION'S CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS

Seminar 2: Israel and the Church: Who are God's Chosen People?



“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.” (Ephesians 2:13-16)

1. The Sand and the Stars

2. Blessing and Cursing Israel

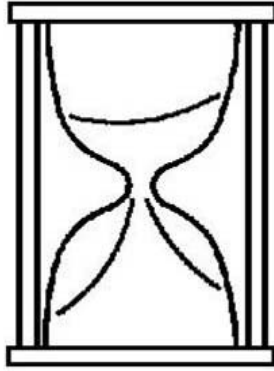
3. The Israel of God in the Old Testament

- An Inclusive Israel
- An Inclusive Inheritance
- An Inclusive Temple

4. The Israel of God in the New Testament

- The Vine and the Vineyard
- What does it mean to be a Jew?
- What does 'All Israel' mean?
- What does it mean to be the 'Chosen People'?

Promise to Abraham
The Remnant of Judah
The Remnant of Exiles
Jesus the 'seed' Remnant
The Apostolic Remnant
The Pentecost Church
The Great Multitude



Genesis 12:3, 22:17
2 Kings 17
Isaiah 6:13; 10:20 Ezra 9:9-15
Isaiah 53; Galatians 3:16
Acts 1:12-14
John 1:12-13; Acts 2:41, 4:4
Revelation 7:4-10

What about the idea of a 'Remnant'?

So who are the real 'Children of God'?

Israel: The Church in the Old Testament	The Body of Christ: The Church in the New Testament
Righteous live by faithfulness (Hab. 2:4)	Righteous live by faith (Romans 1:17)
Holy people (Deu. 7:6; 33:3; Num. 16:3)	Holy people (Eph. 1:1; Rom. 1:7)
Chosen (Deu. 7:6; 14:2)	Chosen (Col. 3:12; Tit. 1:1)
Loved (Deu. 4:37)	Loved (Col. 3:12; 1 The. 1:4)
Called (Isa. 41:9; 2 Chr. 7:14)	Called (Rom. 1:6-7; 1 Cor. 1:2)
Assembly (Psa. 1:5; 89:5; 149:1)	Assembly (Acts 7:38; 20:28; Heb. 2:12)
'Church' = Assembly in Greek OT (Mic. 2:1)	Church (Matthew 16:18; 18:17; Eph 2:2)
Flock (Eze. 34:2, 7; Psa. 77:20)	Flock (Luke 12:32; Act. 20:28)
Holy nation (Exo. 19:6)	Holy nation (1 Pet. 2:9)
Treasured possession (Exo 19:5)	Special possession (1 Pet. 2:9)
Kingdom of priests (Exo. 19:6)	Royal priesthood (1 Pet. 2:9)
Children of God (Hos. 1:10)	Children of God (Joh. 1:12)
People of God (Hos. 2:23)	People of God (1 Pet. 2:10)
People of his inheritance (Deu. 4:20)	Glorious inheritance (Eph 1:18)
My dwelling place = tabernacle (Lev. 26:12)	Dwelling among us = tabernacle (Joh. 1:14)
I will walk among you (Lev. 26:12; Jer. 32:38)	I will... walk among them (2 Cor. 6:16-18)
I will be his father = of David (2 Sam. 7:14)	I will be a father to you (2 Cor. 6:18)
God is a husband betrothed (Jer. 3:14; 31:32)	Christ is a husband betrothed (Eph 5:25-30)
Twelve tribes (Gen. 49:28; Rev. 21:12)	Twelve Apostles (Mar. 3:14; Rev. 21:14)

Summary Points

1. God has only ever had one people
2. Citizenship of Israel was always open to all people who acknowledged God.
3. Old Testament analogies for Israel are applied in the New Testament to the Church
4. God's people has always been inclusive and spiritual not exclusive and physical
5. The promises made to Abraham are fulfilled in and through the Church.
6. Those who receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour are:

Passages to Review

John 15; Ephesians 2; Galatians 4; Romans 2; Romans 9-11.

Questions for Further Study

1. Why are the followers of Jesus described as God's 'chosen people'?
2. Which of the Old Testament analogies for Israel applied to the Church in the New Testament do you find most meaningful and why?
3. What exactly was the 'wall of separation' that Jesus has broken down?
4. How did he remove it and why?
5. In what sense was the 'remnant of Israel' reduced to one man as Jesus died on the cross?
6. How does the idea of a remnant evolve and develop in scripture?
7. In the light of this how should we regard Jewish people today?