

## ***Israelology - Spiritual vs: Political Israel***

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**Reading:** Psalm 107:1-32

### **Summary:**

- We've talked about **why Christians should support Israel.**  
Because God loves Israel! **Genesis 12:3, Deuteronomy 7:6-8a, Deuteronomy 9:5-6, Zechariah 2:8, Romans 9:1-5, Romans 11:29,** amongst others.
- We've talked about anti-Semitism, and our need recognize it and to reject it.
- Last week we looked at **Zionism**, defining it as **the right of the Jewish people to live in their ancestral homeland, the land of Israel, as a sovereign nation.**
- We looked at "Christian" or "Biblical Zionism" which is simply believing what the Bible says about Israel's right to the land.
- There are many scriptures that describe Israel's right to the land of Israel,

**Genesis 17:7-8**, "7And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. 8Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

**Genesis 15:18, Genesis 17:13, 19. Genesis 26:3-5, Genesis 28:12-14 Deuteronomy 4:40, Jeremiah 24:6, Jeremiah 30:3, Jeremiah 31:16-17 Ezekiel 37:21, Amos 9:14-15,** and many other scriptures that could be cited.

### **Tonight's Questions:**

1. Is there a distinction between "spiritual Israel" and "political Israel? Or "national Israel?"
2. Why are we sending so much support to Israel when there are so many needs here at home?
3. Time permitting - Q&A regarding Israel.

1. Is there a distinction between "spiritual Israel" and "political" Israel, or "national" Israel?

- I haven't known nor do I don't draw any distinction between the two. Historically, looking at Israel as a national political entity they've never been deserving of God's blessing, that isn't why He chose them.
- When God chose Israel to be His special or peculiar people it wasn't based on their performance, size, or spiritual standing, in fact it seems to almost be in spite of these things.

**Deuteronomy 7:6-8a** “<sup>6</sup>For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. <sup>7</sup>The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; <sup>8</sup>but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers,...”

- When you look at the political leadership of Israel today with all their faults, how does that differ from the reign of Manasseh who was the hands down worst king of Israel? Not that I'm saying Benjamin Netanyahu is doing what Manasseh did. King David is the king that all the other kings are compared to, he was a great king but as we all know he fell far short of perfection.
- Israel had flashes of righteousness or holiness, I'm thinking of Solomon's dedication of the Temple - but look how his reign ended up. Israel has never been righteous or deserving of God's blessing, it has always been based on the grace of God, just like with us.

**Deuteronomy 9:5-6** “<sup>5</sup>It is not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your God drives them out from before you, and that He may fulfill the Word which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

**Psalms 103:10** “He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor punished us according to our iniquities.”

- “Spiritual Israel” vs: “Political Israel” is simply the contrivance of man, with no real scriptural basis, it's an attempt to justify their anti-semitism and or their unwillingness to support Israel.
- For the most part people want to make this distinction because they dislike what they see in modern day “political Israel.” The modern state of Israel is very polarized between the conservative and various liberal factions. This would appear to be a coordinated effort by the media in and out of Israel, and various political elements that want to demonize and de-legitimize Israel just in general.

- Both sides of this debate operate under their own bias. I am biased in Israel's favor, but it's a bias that was initiated and built upon by God. It started with Genesis 12:3.

**Genesis 12:3** "I will bless those who bless you, and curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

- God's eternal blessing upon Abram, and upon his son, Isaac, and Jacob - and his descendants.
- God didn't make a distinction between physical, spiritual, political, historical, or otherwise; He is just going to bless Israel. My bias in this area is based on simply believing God's Word and taking it literally.
- Then it follows on with many other promises that I also take at face value and believe, this forms my bias.
- The bias employed by the other side of this discussion is based on rejecting God's Word with regard to Israel, it's based on anti-Semitism, it is pointedly a contrivance of man and not based on God's Word.

- The enemy always wants us to do the opposite of what God's Word says to do.

The Bible declares:

**1 Corinthians 3:19** "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their own craftiness."

Example:

**Genesis 1:27** "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

- That is the Word of God and the wisdom of God, pretty straight forward.
- The foolishness of the world says, nope - they're not male and female, it's not set, you can transition to whatever you want whenever you want, you can even become a cat. Rebelling against the Word of God.

God created woman from man and created the institution of marriage:

**Genesis 2:23-24** "<sup>23</sup>And Adam said: "this is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man."  
<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

- We learn that marriage is a type or model of our relationship with God, being a monogamous relationship between a man and a woman. This is where you will

find fulfillment, meaning, and purpose in life - in a right relationship with God. Later being typified by Jesus being the groom and His church being the bride.

- When I speak of the foolishness of the world, I could just as easily say the counsel of the Devil. But what does the world say about marriage?
- The world says “nope,” you’ll find fulfillment, pleasure, and meaning in the exact opposite of what God’s Word says; in homosexuality - described as an abomination before God because it’s so contrary to His Word, intentionally so. It is the direct opposite of what God instituted. (Notoriously polygamous, disease ridden, often violent, and unhealthy in so many ways.)

The Bible says:

**Genesis 1:28** “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Speaking about marriage and divorce:

**Malachi 2:15** “But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks Godly offspring? Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth.”

- God’s Word says that He’s looking for godly offspring. What does the foolishness of the world produce? How many children are produced in a homosexual relationship? Zero, so much for Godly offspring!
- The world also says go out and have a good time, free sex - no restraints, live together don’t get married - and when all that activity does produce children - kill them, just get rid of them - all the opposite of what God’s Word and His wisdom tells us to do.
- Going back to **Genesis 1:28** - after describing marriage and being fruitful and multiplying He said to have dominion over every living thing that moves on the earth.
- What does the world say? Again, just the opposite: so here we have the spotted owl, the wolves, and frogs all have dominion over us with the power of the state behind it.
- The enemy always wants us to do the opposite of what God’s Word says to do.
- God’s Word says that we’re to bless Israel. What does the world say? The opposite.
- Don’t bless them because.... the foolishness of the world dictates that we do the opposite of what God’s Word says. BDS - delegitimize, dehumanize, persecute, torture, murder, rape, eradicate.

- Having said that, I was trying to think of what scriptures someone might try to use to validate their point about “spiritual Israel” as opposed to “political Israel.”

**Romans 11:26-29** “<sup>26</sup>And so all Israel will be saved as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; <sup>27</sup>for this is My covenant with them, when I take away their sins.” <sup>28</sup>Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. <sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.”

- Paul is quoting Isaiah in this passage, speaking of God’s ongoing covenant with Israel in other words it hasn’t changed because of the advent of the church.

**Romans 9:4-8** “<sup>4</sup>Who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; <sup>5</sup>of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is God over all, eternally blessed. Amen. <sup>6</sup>But it is not that the Word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, <sup>7</sup>nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, “In Isaac your seed shall be called.” <sup>8</sup>That is those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed.”

- Here God is making a distinction between those Jews who are born again and those who are not born again. Speaking of believers, those spiritual descendants of Abraham by faith, which includes both Jews and Gentiles.

**Galatians 3:6** “Just as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”

- This and the rest of Galatians, along with the passage in Romans 9 speak of individual believers, not of a nation; political, spiritual, or otherwise.
- One of the keys to correctly understanding God’s Word is to take it as literally as possible, and to take it in context.

## 2. Sometimes there is a tandem question or followup as to why are we (United States) sending so much support to Israel when there are so many needs here at home?

- My first thought was **Genesis 12:3** “I will bless those who bless you...”
- Name one other nation where the Bible says God will bless you if you bless them? Israel is the only one.
- **Why do you think the USA is even still here?** Have we not surpassed Manasseh and the Israelites of old in our idolatry, in our murder of the innocents, (70m) in

exporting homosexuality, abortion, and perversion all over the world? Have we as a nation not done wickedly? Are we not deserving of God's judgment?

- Like Billy Graham said, *"If God doesn't judge America, He's going to have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."*
- We're only still here because of the grace and mercy of God, because we richly deserve His judgment, and I believe that in part we are still here because our nation has historically supported Israel.
- In 1948 we were the first nation to recognize Israel as a nation. In president Trump's first term we were the first nation to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's eternal capital and moved our embassy to Jerusalem where it should have been all along.
- My next thought was about the question itself. The question isn't asked or phrased as to why we send foreign aid to the nations to the world. Why would anyone focus specifically on Israel as opposed to all the other nations in the world that get support from the US? Because it's about Israel, not the rest of the world.
- **The US gives out 82.3 billion dollars per year in foreign aid** of various kinds, some economic, some military, and medical, and so on. **1.2% of all Federal spending.** (2024). I agree that the US has a lot of problems, but perhaps the solution could be found in the other 98.8%.
- **Israel receives approximately 3.3 billion dollars of US military aid per year which is 4%** of all the aid given world wide.
- Since 2022 we've sent 182.8b to Ukraine.
- **Afghanistan received 17-150 billion** in aid from the US, that is over **5 times** what Israel gets.
- **What did we get from Afghanistan?** A bunch of dead soldiers, lost equipment, and a big o'l black eye, not to mention all the unvetted refugee's that are now on welfare and want to destroy America.
- We're giving **1.7b to Jordan, 1.5b to Egypt, 1.5b to Ethiopia, and 1.2b to Somalia\*** besides that they got out of Minneapolis. No one seems to be questioning our giving to them.

- **Beside the blessing and mercy of God, what's been the return on our investment in Israel?**

1. Most of that 3.3 billion dollars in aid was re-invested back into our own economy with the purchase of American arms. How many Americans today are employed because of that aid?
2. We've supported the only democratically elected Government in the that region that consistently supports our interests in the region and world wide.
3. We've supported a nation that has shared it's technological advancements, along with it's agricultural, medical, and academic advancements all of which have enhanced our nation greatly.
4. We've supported a nation that has more Nobel prizes than any other nation.
5. We've supported a nation that has fought terrorism domestically and internationally, which if they weren't fighting it - we would be fighting it on our own shores.
6. In supporting Israel we are doing what I think to be the morally right thing. We're helping the good guys against the bad guys, the underdog against the bully's.
7. In supporting Israel we are doing God's will, we're being obedient to His word. It's not necessarily an endorsement of their politics, their behavior, or their secular and religious culture, it's just doing what God said to do.

No matter how much we give, we still owe Israel:

**Romans 9:1-5** “<sup>1</sup>I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, <sup>(Hebrews)</sup> <sup>4</sup>who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; <sup>5</sup>of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is God over all, eternally blessed. Amen.”

- Adoption, covenants, giving of the law / God's Word, the promises, Jesus our Lord!

**Psalm 107:31-32** “<sup>31</sup>Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! <sup>32</sup>Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people, and praise Him in the company of the elders.”

- Next week: Israel's place and role in Bible prophecy and end times events.