

**What are we to make of Israel today?**  
(notes from Steve Gregg's lecture)

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## **List of Covenants – 4 total**

- 1) Abrahamic – unconditional, but fulfilled in Jesus
- 2) Sinaitic/Levitical – conditional
- 3) Davidic – Also Fulfilled in Jesus
- 4) New – Also Fulfilled in Jesus

## **Abrahamic covenant**

### ***Promise to Abraham***

- a) Notice use of the word “you”

*12:1 Now the LORD had said to Abram:*

*"Get out of your country,  
From your family  
And from your father's house,  
To a land that I will show you.  
2 I will make you a great nation;  
I will bless you and make your name great;  
And you shall be a blessing.  
3 I will bless those who bless you,  
And I will curse him who curses you;  
And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."  
NKJV*

### ***Promise to seed for land***

- b) literally fulfilled in Sinaitic covenant

*Gen 12:7  
7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land."  
NKJV*

*Gen 13:14-15  
14 And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are--northward, southward, eastward, and westward; 15 for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.  
NKJV*

*Gen 15:18-19  
18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates--  
NKJV*

### ***Question: Who can lay claim to this promise?***

- c) There were 8 sons of Abraham
- d) How much Jewish blood must you have to be Jewish?
  - i) Much intermarriage from Abraham's time until now.
  - ii) Persian people became Jewish (Esther?)
  - iii) Ruth became Jewish
  - iv) Whole populations became Jewish (13 cent Khazar's of Northern Europe, near modern Poland)
- e) God can raise up stones as descendants of Abraham.

*Matt 3:8-9*

*8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.  
NKJV*

### ***Not all are Israel who are of Israel.***

*Rom 9:6-7*

*6 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, 7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham  
NKJV*

#### **f) Not outwardly, but inwardly.**

*Rom 2:28-29*

*28 For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; 29 but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.  
NKJV*

#### **i) We (the church) are the circumcision**

*Phil 3:3-4*

*For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,  
NKJV*

#### **ii) Church is Israel of God**

*Gal 6:15-16*

*15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. 16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.  
NKJV*

#### **iii) Jesus told Pharisees they are of the devil**

*John 8:37-47*

*37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. 38 I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father." 39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father--God." 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."  
NKJV*

#### **iv) Only those of faith can be called children of Abraham.**

*Gal 3:6-9*

*6 just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." 7 Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. 8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." 9 So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.*

*NKJV*

- v) Promises of Abraham not to “seeds” (plural), but to “Seed” (Christ).

*Gal 3:16*

*16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.*

*NKJV*

- vi) No Jew or Greek in Christ, we are all heirs.

*Gal 3:28-29*

*28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

*NKJV*

- g) Bottom line: All promises to Abraham fulfilled in Christ and His body, the church.

- i) Literal Abrahamic covenant was type of what was to be fulfilled spiritually, looking forward to a heavenly country, not a physical one.

*Heb 11:8-16*

*8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. 11 By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude--innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.*

*13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.*

*NKJV*

- ii) Physical seed (literal Israel) is a type of the spiritual seed (anti-type is church)  
iii) Promise land is a type of the spiritual country (heavenly)  
iv) Joshua and the promise land did not give God's rest, Jesus gave God's rest.

*Heb 4:8-10*

*8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. 10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.*

*NKJV*

## Sinaitic Covenant

### *Made to literal nation of Israel.*

- a) Entirely conditional
- b) Included slaves and some Egyptians that came with them.

*Ex 19:5-6*

*5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."*

*NKJV*

*Deut 28:1-3*

*"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. 2 And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God:*

*NKJV*

*Deut 28:15*

*15 "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:*

*NKJV*

*\*\*This included expulsion from the land.*

- c) God says, "land is mine"

*Lev 25:23*

*23 The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me.*

*NKJV*

- d) God says land will vomit them out if they don't keep commandments.

*Lev 18:24-28*

*24 Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. 25 For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. 26 You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations, either any of your own nation or any stranger who dwells among you 27 (for all these abominations the men of the land have done, who were before you, and thus the land is defiled), 28 lest the land vomit you out also when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that were before you.*

*NKJV*

- e) Israel never kept it's side of this covenant, very soon began to worship idols.
  - i) Golden Calf, other gods of their neighbors, etc.
  - ii) God compared it to breaking of marriage covenant in many of the prophets
    - (1) Hosea
    - (2) Jeremiah

*Jer 3:8*

8 Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, I had put her away and given her a certificate of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but went and played the harlot also.  
NKJV

(3) Ezekiel

- iii) God had grounds for divorce, but didn't take it...for hundreds of years.
- f) Joshua also warned Israelites about condition

Josh 23:15-16

15 Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all the good things have come upon you which the LORD your God promised you, so the LORD will bring upon you all harmful things, until He has destroyed you from this good land which the LORD your God has given you. 16 **When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land which He has given you.**  
NKJV

***Everlasting promises and things***

- g) Bible speaks of many supposed “everlasting” things, that aren't really everlasting. It's hyperbole used by the author to convey **types and shadows** of real eternal things that are spiritual.
  - i) Circumcision (Gen 17). We don't need to be circumcised anymore (Paul says so)
  - ii) Solomon built temple where God would dwell “forever and ever”. Temple has been destroyed and never rebuilt (physically), but exist spiritually in the believer.
  - iii) Sabbath rest. We don't feel compelled to keep the Sabbath anymore.

Col 2:16-17

16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.  
NKJV

- iv) Tabernacle

Heb 8:1-2

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, 2 a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.  
NKJV

- v) Jesus told Pharisees that the land would be taken from them and given to another (spiritual “land” i.e. promises of Abraham) in Parable of Landowner.

Matt 21:33-44

"Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. 34 Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. 35 And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. 36 Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. 37 Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' 38 'But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' 39 'So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. 40 Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?' 41 They said to Him, 'He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.'" 42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

*The stone which the builders rejected  
Has become the chief cornerstone.  
This was the LORD's doing,  
And it is marvelous in our eyes'?*

*43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. 44 And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."  
NKJV*

## (1) Cross-ref to Isaiah 5

*Isa 5:1-7  
Now let me sing to my Well-beloved  
A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard:*

*My Well-beloved has a vineyard  
On a very fruitful hill.  
2 He dug it up and cleared out its stones,  
And planted it with the choicest vine.  
He built a tower in its midst,  
And also made a winepress in it;  
So He expected it to bring forth good grapes,  
But it brought forth wild grapes.*

*3 "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,  
Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard.  
4 What more could have been done to My vineyard  
That I have not done in it?  
Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes,  
Did it bring forth wild grapes?  
5 And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard:  
I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned;  
And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.  
6 I will lay it waste;  
It shall not be pruned or dug,  
But there shall come up briars and thorns.  
I will also command the clouds  
That they rain no rain on it."  
7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,  
And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant.  
He looked for justice, but behold, oppression;  
For righteousness, but behold, a cry for help.  
NKJV*

- (2) Vinedressers **leased** land from owner pays portion of vintage to owner for rent on land.
- (3) Servants in parable represent prophets
- (4) Heir/son represents Jesus
- (5) Pharisees answer their own doom: “destroy wicked men ..lease to others”
- (6) Jesus says kingdom to be taken away ..given to **nation** that bears fruit.
- v) “Kingdom of priests and holy nation” in Ex 19:5-6 is type of church.
- (1) Peter says that of believers in his epistle

*1 Peter 2:9-10  
9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10*

*who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*  
NKJV

- vi) Another Parable of Jesus, the wedding feast, indicates that those who were first invited would be uninvited and others that are willing to come will come.

*Matt 22:1-14*

*And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, 3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. 4 Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."' 5 "But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. 6 And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. 7 But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. 9 Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'" 10 "So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. 12 So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."*

NKJV

- (1) Again servants in parable represent prophets
  - (2) 22:7 “burned up their city” is ref to 70AD, destruction of Jerusalem.
  - (3) 22:8 those invited first were not worthy, made light of it.
  - (4) 22:9 Servants go and get the gentiles to come to the wedding.
- vii) Israel not cast away, remnant preserved (faithful believers)

*Rom 11:5-6*

*5 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.*

NKJV

- (1) Septuagint uses same “Ecclesia” for faithful remnant as does NT uses for church. It just means “called out ones”.
  - (2) Church (spiritual Israel) still had remnant, even in Jesus day (his followers).
  - (3) Jews are just like everybody else; God is not a racist.
  - (4) No favoritism, it’s by faith only that we can lay claim to God’s promises.
  - (5) FF Bruce said “The remnant was in reality what the nation of Israel was in theory”
- viii) God breaks the covenant of unfaithful Israel.

*Zech 11:10-14*

*And I took my staff, Beauty, and cut it in two, that I might break the covenant which I had made with all the peoples. 11 So it was broken on that day. Thus the poor of the flock, who were watching me, knew that it was the word of the LORD. 12 Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver. 13 And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"--that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter. 14 Then I cut in two my other staff, Bonds, that I might break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.*

NKJV

- (1) Breaking the Beauty (or Grace) staff = God dissolving conditional covenant with Israel
  - (2) Breaking the Bonds (or Unity) staff = Israel and Judah breaking themselves.
- ix) Unfaithful do not have right to claim God's covenants

*Ps 50:16-17*  
*But to the wicked God says:*  
*"What right have you to declare My statutes,*  
*Or take My covenant in your mouth,*  
*17 Seeing you hate instruction*  
*And cast My words behind you?*  
*NKJV*

- x) New Covenant makes old obsolete.

*Heb 8:13*  
*13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.*  
*NKJV*

- (1) Ready to vanish away could refer to Jerusalem's destruction in 70AD.

## Davidic Covenant

### *Nathan gives to David in vs. 12*

2 Sam 7:7-17

7 Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?' " 8 "Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. 10 Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, 11 since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house.

12 "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." " 17 According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David.  
NKJV

- a) Descendant will sit on throne  
***Can't be during millennial kingdom***
- b) David is said to be resting with his fathers (supposedly, all righteous dead will be raised before mill kingdom).
- c) Apostles understood this to be fulfilled in resurrection of Christ

Acts 2:29-35

29 "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself:

*The LORD said to my Lord,  
"Sit at My right hand,  
35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." "*  
NKJV

- i) Points out David is dead and buried
- ii) Peter interprets this as fulfilled (not literally, but spiritually)
- iii) Apostles made to understand scriptures

Luke 24:44-45

44 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the

*Psalms concerning Me." 45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.  
NKJV*

iv) Stephen also sees this as fulfilled in resurrection

*Acts 13:29-34*

*29 Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. 30 But God raised Him from the dead. 31 He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. 32 And we declare to you glad tidings--that promise which was made to the fathers. 33 God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm:*

*'You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You.'*

*34 "And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus:*

*'I will give you the sure mercies of David.'  
NKJV*

**Also:**

*Isa 55:3*

*3 Incline your ear, and come to Me.  
Hear, and your soul shall live;  
And I will make an everlasting covenant with you--  
The sure mercies of David.  
NKJV*

v) Angel says to Mary that Jesus will take the throne of David.

*Luke 1:30-32*

*30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.  
NKJV*

vi) Zacharias prophesies that God fulfills His promises through Jesus.

*Luke 1:67-75*

*Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:*

*68 "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel,  
For He has visited and redeemed His people,  
69 And has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
In the house of His servant David,  
70 As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets,  
Who have been since the world began,  
71 That we should be saved from our enemies  
And from the hand of all who hate us,  
72 To perform the mercy promised to our fathers  
And to remember His holy covenant,  
73 The oath which He swore to our father Abraham:  
74 To grant us that we,  
Being delivered from the hand of our enemies,  
Might serve Him without fear,  
75 In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.  
NKJV*

vii) Messianic Kingdom (not future). Tabernacle (or booth) of David.

*Amos 9:11-12*  
*"On that day I will raise up*  
*The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down,*  
*And repair its damages;*  
*I will raise up its ruins,*  
*And rebuild it as in the days of old;*  
*12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom,*  
*And all the Gentiles who are called by My name,"*  
*Says the LORD who does this thing.*  
*NKJV*

- (1) Temple was not fallen down in Amos' time
- (2) Reference to the corroded house of David
- (3) David's descendants were corrupt (mostly)
- (4) Re-establish "Dynasty" or King of upstanding character.
- (5) Gentiles subdued by Him.
- (6) James references this as already fulfilled in Christ. (Acts 15:13-18)

*Acts 15:13-17*  
*13 And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, "Men and brethren, listen to me: 14*  
*Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His*  
*name. 15 And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:*  
  
*16'After this I will return*  
*And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down;*  
*I will rebuild its ruins,*  
*And I will set it up;*  
*17 So that the rest of mankind may seek the LORD,*  
*Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name,*  
*Says the LORD who does all these things.'*  
*NKJV*

viii) He is already enthroned in heaven at the right hand of the Father. Earthly reign would be a demotion, not a promotion.

## **New Covenant – All covenants fulfilled**

### ***New covenant w/house of Israel***

*Jer 31:31-36*

*31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-- 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

*35 Thus says the LORD,  
Who gives the sun for a light by day,  
The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night,  
Who disturbs the sea,  
And its waves roar  
(The LORD of hosts is His name):*

*36 "If those ordinances depart  
From before Me, says the LORD,  
Then the seed of Israel shall also cease  
From being a nation before Me forever."  
NKJV*

- a) I will put my law in their inward parts (on mind), and write it in their hearts.
- b) Vs. 36 and 37 denote an everlasting covenant
- c) Covenant of peace (Ezek 37:26)

*Ezek 37:25-28*

*26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. 27 My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 28 The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore." ' "*

*NKJV*

- d) New covenant in my blood

*1 Cor 11:25*

*25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

*NKJV*

### ***Remnant is true Israel***

- e) Acts shows restoration of remnant
- f) Gentiles came in also (no distinction)
- g) Remnant/Church is Israel of God (Gal 6:16)
- h) Branches cut off, gentiles grafted in (Romans 11:15)
- i) Ref to:

*Jer 11:16*

*16 The LORD called your name,*

*Green Olive Tree, Lovely and of Good Fruit.  
With the noise of a great tumult  
He has kindled fire on it,  
And its branches are broken.  
NKJV*

i) Church was once aliens and strangers of covenant of God

*Eph 2:11-13  
11 Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands-- 12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.  
NKJV*

- i) Implies no longer strangers as saved ones.
- j) Blood of Everlasting covenant

*Heb 13:20-21  
20 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,  
NKJV*

- i) Hebrews quotes Jeremiah 31 twice (Ch 8 and 10) as being fulfilled in Christ.

## **Future of Israel – from biblical standpoint**

### ***No promises await a future fulfillment***

- a) Either fulfilled in OT
- b) Or Spiritually in Christ
- c) Or forfeited in disobedience.
- d) 4 promises allegedly unfulfilled
  - i) Have they possessed all the land God promised in Gen 13 & 15?

*Josh 21:43-45*

*43 So the LORD gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. 44 The LORD gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. 45 Not a word failed of any good thing which the LORD had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.*

*NKJV*

- ii) Have all the promises come to pass?

*Josh 23:14-15*

*14 "Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.*

*NKJV*

- iii) David recovered territory at river Euphrates

*2 Sam 8:3-4*

*3 David also defeated Hadadzezer the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his territory at the River Euphrates.*

*NKJV*

- iv) Solomon reigned from Euphrates to border of Egypt.

*1 Kings 4:21*

*21 So Solomon reigned over all kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.*

*NKJV*

### ***A look at Daniel 9 (70 weeks)***

*Dan 9:24-27*

*24 "Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.*

*25 "Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.*

*26 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."*

- e) Daniel still living in Persia, stayed even after the others left
- f) 1<sup>st</sup> Decree of Artaxerxes in 458BC + 483years (7wks + 62wks) = 26AD
  - i) Likely to be the year Jesus began his ministry.
  - ii) After the 62 weeks (69<sup>th</sup> week contextually), Messiah shall be cut off.
  - iii) People of the prince (Romans) destroy the city. Ref to 70AD.
- g) When is 70<sup>th</sup> week? (prophesy regarding Jews and Jerusalem 9:24)
  - i) Futurist hold it has not begun (happens after rapture)
  - ii) Who is “he” in the covenant statement? (vs 27)
    - (1) Futurists think it’s Anti-christ, (but there is no mention of him in text).
    - (2) Messiah has been focus of sentence so far. “he” most likely refers to him.
  - iii) Plausible conclusion is that salvation was to be for Jews first then Gentiles after the 70 weeks was up.
    - (1) Steven was stoned around 3 years after Pentecost
    - (2) Saul was converted
    - (3) Gentiles began becoming converted in large number, indicating the end of the exclusively Jewish Church, hence the end of the 70<sup>th</sup> week.
  - iv) Angel was trying to communicate something.
    - (1) What would be communicated if he was off by over 2000 years?
      - (a) He would either be misleading Daniel, or he would be wrong.
- h) Majority of Jews in Israel today are atheists, not even practicing Jews.
- i) If they rebuild temple, it’s not an act of obedience but rebellion. God never commanded them to rebuild temple. Jesus fulfilled and made obsolete that system of sacrifice.

### ***What about the gathering of Israel from all nations? (Deut 30:3-4)***

*Deut 30:1-5*

*30:1 "Now it shall come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God drives you, 2 and you return to the LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul, 3 that the LORD your God will bring you back from captivity, and have compassion on you, and gather you again from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. 4 If any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there He will bring you.*

*NKJV*

- j) Not applicable today because vs 2 sets the condition (if they obey). They are not obeying God, they still reject Christ.
- k) This has fulfillment in the Babylonian/Persian rule. No need to impose a 2<sup>nd</sup> fulfillment.
- l) What about the ref to “all nations where they’ve been sent out and scattered”? Does that refer to the Babylonian exile fulfillment?

*Ezek 11:16-17*

*' 17 "Therefore say, Thus says the Lord GOD: "I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel." '*

*NKJV*

- i) Ezekiel lived at time of Babylonian exile.
- ii) Jeremiah writing letter to the Babylonian captives still in Babylon.

*Jer 29:14*

*14 I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.*  
NKJV

- iii) Zechariah speaking of the Babylonian exile:

*Zech 7:13-14*

*13 Therefore it happened, that just as He proclaimed and they would not hear, so they called out and I would not listen," says the LORD of hosts. 14 But I scattered them with a whirlwind among all the nations which they had not known. Thus the land became desolate after them, so that no one passed through or returned; for they made the pleasant land desolate."*  
NKJV

- m) Has spiritual fulfillment in the church (with mostly Gentiles)

*Isa 43:4-6*

*4 Since you were precious in My sight,  
You have been honored,  
And I have loved you;  
Therefore I will give men for you,  
And people for your life.  
5 Fear not, for I am with you;  
I will bring your descendants from the east,  
And gather you from the west;  
6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'  
And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!'  
Bring My sons from afar,  
And My daughters from the ends of the earth--*  
NKJV

- i) Passage is referenced by Jesus speaking of the church

*Matt 8:10-12*

*10 When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! 11 And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.*  
NKJV

*Luke 13:24-31*

*24 Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open for us,' and He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know you, where you are from,' 26 then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.' 27 But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out. 29 They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and sit down in the kingdom of God. 30 And indeed there are last who will be first, and there are first who will be last."*  
NKJV

ii) "Gather together" is language borrowed from prophets.

*John 11:49-53*

*49 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." 51 Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.*  
NKJV

iii) The remnant returning to the **Mighty God**

*Isa 10:21*

*21 The remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob,  
To the Mighty God.*  
NKJV

(1) Messiah referred to as **Mighty God**

*Isa 9:6*

*6 For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder.  
And His name will be called  
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*  
NKJV

(2) Paul says only a remnant shall be saved!! Most Jews won't be.

*Rom 9:27*

*27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel:*

*"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea,  
The remnant will be saved.*  
NKJV

***What about the restoration? (Jerusalem, temple, Davidic order)***

n) Are these still future?

*Isa 62:6-7*

*6 I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem;  
They shall never hold their peace day or night.  
You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent,  
7 And give Him no rest till He establishes  
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*  
NKJV

-and-

*Isa 65:18-19*

*18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create;  
For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing,  
And her people a joy.  
19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
And joy in My people;*

*The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her,  
Nor the voice of crying.  
NKJV*

- o) These passages are fulfilled in the spiritual, not physical, Jerusalem (church).  
These do not reference a literal city on earth.

*Isa 28:16*

*16 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:*

*"Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation,  
A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation;  
Whoever believes will not act hastily.  
NKJV*

- i) This is always a reference to Jesus in the New Testament.  
ii) Mt Zion is referenced spiritually as church.

*Heb 12:18-24*

*18 For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. 20 (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." 21 And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.  
NKJV*

- iii) Jesus told disciples that they are a "city" on a hill.

*Matt 5:14*

*14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.  
NKJV*

- iv) Sarah (mother of the child of promise), said to represent Jerusalem above.

*Gal 4:21-27*

*21 Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, 24 which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar-- 25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children-- 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.  
NKJV*

- v) New Jerusalem said to be Lamb's bride (always ref to the church)

*Rev 21:2-11*

*2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain,*

*for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." 6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. 8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*

*9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the glory of God.*

NKJV

vi) Church is the temple of the Holy Spirit

*John 14:16-18*

*16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.*

NKJV

vii) New Testament writers apply all these things to the church.

**What about Romans 11:25-26? (all Israel will be saved)**

p) Reference to all Israel being saved once the fullness of the Gentiles is brought in?

*Rom 11:25-27*

*25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. 26 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;  
27 For this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins."*

NKJV

- q) This chapter/passage nowhere makes a reference to end times.
- r) Not necessarily ethnic (or nation of) Israel.
- s) Jews are saved the same way everyone else is, by faith in Christ.

*Rom 10:12-13*

*12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."*

NKJV

- t) The context of passage is continuation of an unbroken discussion that began in chapter 9.
  - i) Relating to soteriology (study of salvation from Greek word soteria), not eschatology (study of end times from Greek word eschaton).
  - ii) Chapters and verses not inspired, only convenient for us.
  - iii) Paul belaboring the point that not all who are of Israel are Israel.

*Rom 9:6-9*

*6 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, 7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed*

*shall be called." 8 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.*  
NKJV

iv) Chapter 10 points out that the Jews have missed it.

*Rom 10:19-21*

*19 But I say, did Israel not know? First Moses says:*

*"I will provoke you to jealousy by those who are not a nation,  
I will move you to anger by a foolish nation."*

*20 But Isaiah is very bold and says:*

*"I was found by those who did not seek Me;  
I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me."*

*21 But to Israel he says:*

*"All day long I have stretched out My hands  
To a disobedient and contrary people."  
NKJV*

v) Interpreters link Isaiah 45:17 to this verse. Speaking of an everlasting salvation, he says Israel **has** been saved (in NASU).

*Isa 45:17*

*17 Israel has been saved by the LORD  
With an everlasting salvation;  
You will not be put to shame or humiliated  
To all eternity.  
NASU*

vi) Jews **and** Gentiles are Israel.

*Rom 9:22-26*

*22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? 25 As He says also in Hosea:*

*"I will call them My people, who were not My people,  
And her beloved, who was not beloved."  
26 "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them,  
'You are not My people,'  
There they shall be called sons of the living God."  
NKJV*

vii) Not all Jews will be saved. Isaiah says only a remnant will be saved.

*Rom 9:27-28*

*27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel:*

*"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea,  
The remnant will be saved.  
28 For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness,  
Because the LORD will make a short work upon the earth."  
NKJV*

- u) God has not cast away His people and gives himself as evidence.

*Rom 11:1-5*

*11:1 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying, 3 "LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life"? 4 But what does the divine response say to him? "I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." 5 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.*

*NKJV*

- i) He's saying that Jews are not eliminated entirely from the Kingdom, but are saved in the same way Gentiles are, through faith in Jesus.  
ii) This is not a question about the future, but the present (vs. 5).  
iii) We have to import the word "permanently" into the text (vs. 1) for this to be future. Only if we look at it through futurist lenses.  
v) 11:11-15 need not apply to the future to make sense.

*Rom 11:11-15*

*11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. 12 Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness! 13 For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, 14 if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. 15 For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?*

*NKJV*

- i) vs. 12 and 15 could mean future, but doesn't need to.  
(1) "Their fullness" in vs. 12 could mean Gentiles fullness.  
(a) It's the last noun (it works grammatically)  
(b) Spoken of later in vs 25.  
(2) "Their acceptance" in vs 15 could mean Gentiles also.

\*note: I have a real hard time following Steve's line of reasoning on these two verses (12 and 15). However, I do think that vs. 12 and 15 could both be rhetorical question of Paul's wishful thinking in vs. 14. Like saying, "wouldn't that be great if they became jealous enough to see the light they were meant to see and turn and be saved?" It's like he's saying, he hasn't given up on his fellow Jews. He is still holding out hope for "some" of them.

- b) Olive branches

*Rom 11:16-25*

*16 For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. 17 And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, 18 do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you. 19 You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in." 20 Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. 22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off. 23 And they also, if they do not*

*continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 24 For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?*

*NKJV*

- c) He never says that God **will** graft them back in, only that he **can**.
  - (1) This is conditional “if they do not continue in unbelief” vs23.
  - (2) Not a prediction, but saying it would be much more natural for them to be saved since they were chosen to carry this message of salvation. They should’ve known better and believed.
- d) Back to vs. 25-26
  - i) Dispensational understanding is “temporary” hardening until the last Gentile is saved,...and so “then” all Israel will be saved.
    - (1) Must insert that meaning into the passage to get that out of it.
  - ii) “in part” means simply that among the Jews, some are hardened, and some are not (as it always was).
  - iii) “until fullness of Gentiles has come in” just represents the church age until the end, when Jesus returns.
  - iv) “And so” means “in this manner” or “in this way”.
  - v) “Deliver will come out of Zion” quoting Isa 59:20-21 (septuagint)

*Isa 59:20*

*20 "The Redeemer will come to Zion,*

*And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,"*

*Says the LORD.*

*NKJV*

- (1) Hebrew includes “those who turn from transgression”
- e) Bottom line is that Paul is demonstrating in chapters 9-11 how the prophesy regarding all Israel being saved is to be fulfilled. He’s saying to be careful not to look at the word “Israel” the wrong way. Don’t misunderstand, it’s not the physical nation of Israel, but the spiritual nation of Israel, God’s Israel (Gal 6) that is to be saved. Jews and Gentiles alike make up this nation, with no distinction.