

Are Unbelieving Jews Heirs of Abraham?

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God promised the land of Canaan to the children of Abraham. But the question is, "Who is a Jew?" This is a question with which Zionists still wrestle. Web site "Judaism 101"¹ says the following:

A Jew is any person whose mother was a Jew or any person who has gone through the formal process of conversion to Judaism.

It is important to note that being a Jew has nothing to do with what you believe or what you do. A person born to non-Jewish parents who has not undergone the formal process of conversion but who believes everything that Orthodox Jews believe and observes every law and custom of Judaism is still a non-Jew, even in the eyes of the most liberal movements of Judaism, and a person born to a Jewish mother who is an atheist and never practices the Jewish religion is still a Jew, even in the eyes of the ultra-Orthodox. In this sense, Judaism is more like a nationality than like other religions, and being Jewish is like a citizenship.

If the above is true, the why are Jews who become Christians not allowed to become citizens of modern Israel? And if one's mother must be a Jew in order for one to be a Jew, then this makes no one a Jew because the first mother of the Jews was a Gentile. There is also the problem of no Temple and no possible way to practice the ceremonial Law of Moses. This is a legal question, which Jesus and St. Paul answered in no uncertain terms.

The Apostle Paul said, "For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly" (Romans 3:28,29).

Jesus said to the unbelieving Jews, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham... You are of your father the devil." (Jn 8:39,44)

To call them children of the devil was equal to calling them Gentiles. To Jews, a Gentile was a Pagan and a child of the devil. God did not promise to leave His inheritance to Gentiles. Jesus said that unbelieving Jews are *not* children of Abraham. Being children of the devil, they are Gentiles and therefore not heirs of the promises to Abraham. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, told us who the children of Abraham are.

"They which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham" (Gal 3:7). Gentiles who believe are baptized into the body of Christ and become Jews in the true Biblical sense. "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Gal 3:29). Believing Gentiles are made children of Abraham and are made Abraham's heirs. Since God promised that Abraham's children would inherit the Promised Land, then it belongs only to believers. But then we are told that true believers have already come to the Promised Land.

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem (Heb 12:22).

The Apostle Paul evidently interpreted the land of Canaan to be a type of the whole world. How else can one interpret what he said in Romans 4:13 when he used the word "world" instead of "land?"

For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith (Rom 4:13).

Paul said that this was "the mystery which has [had] been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints" (Col 1:26). Canaan was a type and shadow of the whole earth.

...the world or life or death, or things present or things to come--all are yours" (1 Cor 3:22).

Only the meek shall inherit the earth. Can we honestly say that Zionists who committed terrorist acts on the British were "meek?" Don't get me wrong. I support what we moderns call Israel, but not because they are true Israelites. Paul called the church the "Israel of God" (Gal 6:16).

Paul even calls unbelieving Jews Arabs by likening them to Hagar, the mother of the Arabs:

For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he *who was* of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar--for

this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children--but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all (Gal 4:22-26).

He likens Sarah to the New Jerusalem and Hagar to Old Jerusalem. He is saying that Old Jerusalem is in bondage because they are Jews “after the flesh” and not after the promise. Unbelieving members of the old system were Jews in the flesh only. But believing Gentiles are children of the promise and are not in bondage like Hagar’s children, but are free.

When we were told to “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem,” which one should we pray for? Should we pray for “Hagar’s” Old Jerusalem or the New Jerusalem, the mother of all believers? The New Jerusalem is neither in Samaria nor in Old Jerusalem, but in Spirit and in truth (Jn 4:24). It is the Mount Zion to which all believers have arrived (Heb 12:22).

If you are having a hard time following the reasoning of Paul and Jesus, it is because the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God. Pray for the “Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Christ (Eph 1:17).

Jesus cursed the fig tree (a symbol of the Old Jerusalem legal system) and said, “Let no fruit ever grow on you again” (Mat 21:19). No fruit will ever grow on Old Jerusalem again (That is, on the old legal system). However, I *do* believe that all nations, including natural Jews will eventually come to Christ.

All the ends of the world
Shall remember and turn to the LORD,
And all the families of the nations
Shall worship before You (Psalm 22:27).

The Prophets foretold that God would divorce His Old Testament wife because she had broken the covenant.

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--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 (Jer 31:31,32).

This New Covenant is made with the true Israel of God as defined by Jesus and the Apostles. God was a husband to the Jews, but they committed adultery and God divorced them. God said He would slay them and call His servants by another name. That name is “Christians.”

You shall leave your name as a curse to My chosen; For the Lord GOD will slay you, And call His servants by another name (Isa 65:15).

He said he would be found by a nation that had not sought Him (Isa 65:1). Jesus said something similar:

[T]he kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it (Mat 21:43).

In the parable of the Wedding Feast, Jesus foretold He would destroy their city and then invite everyone (not just Jews) to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding” (Mat 22:7-9).’

In the parable of the Wicked Vinedressers, Jesus again foretold that He would come and destroy their city and give the vineyard to others. He fulfilled this promise forty years later when He came and destroyed Jerusalem just as Daniel had predicted (Dan 9:26).

Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers? 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” (Mat 21:40.41).

Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell? Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes: *some* of them you will kill and crucify, and *some* of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, that on

you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, “Blessed *is* He who comes in the name of the LORD!” (Mat 23:33-39).

Jesus called the unbelieving leaders of the Jews serpents. He called them children of the devil in John 8:44. Paul called them dogs (Phil 2:2). Paul also likened them to Arabs. That is the equivalent of calling them Gentiles.

Before it had been revealed clearly that the kingdom would be taken from them, Jesus commanded His disciples to preach only to Jews (Mat 10:6). He also labeled the Gentiles as dogs (Mat 15:26.27; 7:6) because unclean animals were a symbol of unbelieving Pagans. Any kind of unbeliever is called a child of the devil and a dog whether he is a so-called Jew or a Gentile. We, as Christians, do not do that, but God does. I guess you could say we are more polite than God. (My little grand daughter once said God was “rude” for destroying Jerusalem.)

He had told them that He had “other sheep,” (John 10:16) and that He had more things to tell them, but they were not yet able to receive it (John 16:12). But the time came when He revealed to Peter that what God had made clean, he was not to call unclean. God led him to the house of Cornelius and the Holy Spirit fell on a house of Gentiles.