

The Two Wives of Jehovah And The Bride of Christ

By Ron Smith

Jehovah had two wives. Judah and Israel were not the same after they split. One wife was Israel (Samaria) whom God divorced in 720 BC when they were carried away to Assyria. The other was her sister Judah (Jerusalem) executed in AD 70 (The Great Harlot of Babylon in Revelation 17). Then came the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev 19:9). Judah was taken into Babylonian captivity in 586 BC and returned to Jerusalem 70 years later. Nowhere in Scripture does it say that Israel ever returned to Jerusalem. Even Josephus said that.

[T]he entire body of the people of Israel remained in that country; wherefore there are but two tribes in Asia and Europe subject to the Romans, while the ten tribes are beyond Euphrates till now... (Antiquities VI, Chapter 5:2).

When Jehovah divorced Israel the ten tribes were lost forever and sown among the nations just as God said He would do. They are now Gentiles and they can obtain mercy through Christ.

Then I will **sow** her for Myself in the earth, And I will have mercy on *her who had not* obtained mercy; Then I will say to *those who were* not My people, 'You *are* My people!' And they shall say, 'You *are* my God! (Hosea 2:23)

Paul quotes the above verse in conjunction with Gentiles being called.

... whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As He says also in Hosea: "I will call them My people, who were not My people, And her beloved, who was not beloved" (Rom 9:24-25).

Jerusalem was the center of worship for the Jews and Samaria was the capital of Israel. The true place of worship is no longer a geographical or nationalist location. The true place of worship now is Mt. Zion, the New Jerusalem. Jesus said it in John 4.

The time is coming when the true worshippers will neither worship in Samaria nor in Jerusalem, but in Spirit and in Truth (My paraphrase of John 4:21-23).

It is unlawful for a man to remarry his divorced wife after she has married another

(Dt 24:1-4) . Therefore, God will never marry the old system again. Jesus said to the fig tree, "Let no fruit ever grow on you again" (Mt 21:19). However, Israel *can* be married to the resurrected Christ because He died and she had become a gentile; but Judah cannot marry Him because God killed her. Outward Jews must come to Mt. Zion, the New Jerusalem in order to be true Jews.

Jer 3:7 And I said, after she had done all these things, "Return to Me." But she did not return. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it. 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.

Jer 3:10 "And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah has not turned to Me with her whole heart, but in pretense," says the LORD.

The above was written by Jeremiah 100 years after God had divorced Israel.

Hosea 1:6 And she conceived again and bore a daughter. Then God said to him: "Call her name Lo-Ruhamah, For I will no longer have mercy on the house of Israel, But I will utterly take them away. 7 Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah, Will save them by the LORD their God."

God saved Judah at that time by killing 185,000 Assyrians outside Jerusalem and had "mercy on the house of Judah" right after he had taken Israel away to Assyria and had no "mercy on the house of Israel."

Jer 31:31 "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. (A husband to both houses.)

The new covenant mentioned above is quoted in Hebrews as the covenant of Christ (Heb 8:10-13).

Ezek 23:2 "Son of man, there were two women, The daughters of one mother. **3** They committed harlotry in Egypt, ... **4** Their names: Oholah the elder and Oholibah her sister; **They were Mine**, And they bore sons and daughters. As for their names, Samaria is Oholah, and Jerusalem is Oholibah. **5** "Oholah played the harlot even though she was Mine; ... **9** "Therefore I have delivered her Into the hand of her lovers, Into the hand of the Assyrians, For whom she lusted. ... **11** "Now although her sister Oholibah saw this, she became more corrupt in her lust than she, and in her harlotry more corrupt than her sister's harlotry (Emphasis mine).

But God did not divorce Oholibah (Jerusalem). He sent her to Babylon in 606 BC, brought her back seventy years later, and killed her in AD 70.

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! (Mat 23:37).

And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth (Rev 18:24).

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready (Rev 19:7).

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church (Heb 12:22,23).

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