Replacement Theology Part III The Biblical Response to Replacement Theology

Embracing the Prophetic Call of Israel

As Christians, our response to Replacement Theology hinges on our understanding and embracing the prophetic call upon Israel, yet to be fulfilled. The story of a covenant keeping God, that began with Abram in Genesis and culminates in Revelation, involves a significant role for the land of Israel, and the Jewish people. The completion of the final act of history, the return of Jesus to planet earth and the declaration of His Kingdom reign, will only happen as the sons and daughters of Abraham welcome Him back with "Blessed are you who come in the name of the Lord." It signifies their acceptance of Him as their Messiah and Redeemer. Israel was called to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (Exodus 19:6) and, according to Isaiah 49:6, to be a light for the Gentiles to bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth. God's gifts and calling are irrevocable. Therefore, Israel still has a call to be a great light to the world.

In Ezekiel 36 and 37 the prophet describes the physical restoration of the Jews back to their ancient homeland and the transformation of Israel as a people. Nearly every Old Testament prophet spoke that message. All of those prophesies concerning the return to the land came to pass with the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, as decreed by UN Resolution 181.

This is the prelude to the greater: the spiritual restoration described in Zechariah 12 and 13 when all Israel "will look upon Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns grieves for a firstborn... In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David." And, as Ezekiel prophesied, God would give them a new heart and put a new spirit in them, taking out a heart of stone for one that responds to God's heart. The Messianic movement birthed in the 1960s is the first-fruit of the fulfilment of this unique and great ingathering. While many of the prophesies have been fulfilled, there are yet many outstanding.

Understanding The Gentile Role

As Christians, not only must we acknowledge and embrace the prophetic call of Israel, but we need to understand and, most important, align ourselves in proper relationship to them. Paul reminds Gentile believers in Romans 10 that, as the engrafted wild olive tree, our

strength comes from the Hebraic roots. We are inextricably united to those roots. "Messianic Jews know that unless the Church fulfills its call and destiny, Israel will not be saved and world redemption will not come. Gentile believers also understand that without the Messianic Jewish movement coming into its full strength and playing its proper role within Israel and the body of Messiah, the hope of world redemption cannot be fulfilled. Israel and the Church are interdependent and fulfil different, but complimentary priestly roles."

Great Mysteries Revealed

In speaking to Gentiles, Paul, in Romans 11 and Ephesians 2, reveals two great mysteries. Each illustrates the *interconnectedness* between Jews and Gentiles. He declares a mystery now revealed: the spiritual blindness of the Jews will be lifted when the fullness of the Gentiles has come. Therefore, the kairos timing for the Jews is conditional upon the spiritual response from Gentiles. We are forever connected for divine purpose. "Indeed, the Church has received mercy as a result of Israel's blindness, and during this time and this hour may it begin to cry and push, just like a pregnant woman in labor, that the mighty hand and outstretched arm of the L-ord would bring Israel forth." For the Jew, *if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead.* In turn, as the Church honors, supports and lovingly responds to Israel as God intended, she "is coming to its full purpose and purity in being prepared for the King."

The second great mystery is birthed out of the first. As Jews come to the revelation of Jesus as Messiah, the Church and Israel will together enter into a covenant relationship. Jew and Gentile, in Jesus, will have the same spiritual status, but each with their own unique identity and calling. This reconciliation is birthing what has never before been seen in past generations. Paul describes it in Ephesians 2:Jesus has broken down the wall separating Jew and Gentile, and from the two, is creating *one new man*. He declared it to be the *mystery of Christ*. The power and glory that is released in this relationship will bring the fulfillment of God's overall plan for the reconciling of man, world revival and the return of Jesus.

God is bringing together in one place the two redeemed, reconciled, sons of Abraham through Isaac and Ishmael, and the grafted-in Believers, forming the One New Man which has always been His eternal plan.

¹ Daniel C. Juster, TH.D, Irrevocable Calling (Messianic Jewish Publishers, July 1, 2007) p. 44

² Grant Berry, *The Ezekiel Connection* (Destiny Image, Publishers, Inc. Shippensburg, PA 17257-0310 2013) p. 36

³ Rick Joyner, Word for the Week, Week 39



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Asher Intrater, Messianic Jew, Harun Ibrahim, Muslim
Background Believer

Since the Garden, Satan has set about to thwart the reconciling of the world back to God. He knows that his final destruction is preceded by Jews, Gentiles and the international Church coming together in covenant. If he can prevent this, then he holds back Jesus whom heaven must receive until the times of **restoration of all things**, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began (Acts 3:21) Replacement Theology within the Church has been his effective strategy for the past twenty centuries. It is "an instrument of the powers of darkness to frustrate the purpose of God, by disconnecting the Church from this final great redemptive initiative in history."

A New Reformation Needed

Five hundred years ago a reformation swept the Christian world. It brought much needed correction in many areas of practice and doctrine. But, it fell short in dismantling the lie that continues to bring disastrous consequences for the Jews, Israel and the Church. If the Body of Christ is to come into divine order with God's plan, then the destructive lie of Replacement Theology must be dealt with. Dr. Jürgen Bühler, executive director of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem, sees "another wave of reformation coming to the Church, and it has to do with Israel. The early Church's understanding of God's enduring purposes for Israel and of our connection to the Jewish people must be brought back to mainstream Christianity today."

This necessary reformation must begin with a corporate repentance on behalf of the Church for a theology that has ignored the biblical mandate embracing our Hebraic roots and our debt to Israel. There must be a plea for God's forgiveness for a lie that has created the soil in which much pain and suffering for the Jews has been allowed to flourish for two millennia.

A Corporate Day of Repentance

⁴ Hedding, Rev. Malcolm. *Replacement Theology: Christian Zionism 101*, www. us.icej.org/media/replacement-theology



In 2001 Aglow International President/CEO, Jane Hansen-Hoyt, attended a prayer gathering, All Nation's Convocation in FT Lauderdale, Florida. Several prophets and apostolic leaders, called Jane out of the audience to come forward. They laid hands upon her, praying and prophesying in relation to the call to Israel. It was a public impartation, a public setting apart, for Jane and Aglow.

A powerful word was proclaimed over her and affirmed by the leadership. "Surely you will revere Me, accept instruction, for her dwelling will not be cut off according to all I have appointed concerning her. And all of that which is under your charge, all of that which is under your charge, shall come forth into this revelation, and it will be a domino effect, and there shall be a new injection that shall go forth into the global prayer movement. The global prayer movement of the 21st century shall have massive day, there shall be a massive, corporate day in the global prayer movement for repenting of replacement theology! It shall happen! It shall be! It shall come. And you shall call it into being!

Today, Aglow International spans the globe. We have responded to the word given to Jane at that significant moment in history. We have positioned ourselves as a forerunner, apostolic ministry embracing our Hebraic roots, in covenant relationship with the Messianic Jewish community, and are prepared to uproot the great deception of Replacement Theology. We rejoice to be part of the unprecedented unfolding of the one new man. We embrace the prophetic destiny yet to be fully revealed for Israel and the Jewish people, and we welcome the part we will play in the days ahead.

This is our response. This is the best biblical answer to the Error of Replacement Theology.