

The WASP in Wisconsin sure loves law

Two weeks ago I suggested that a WASP (White, Anglo-Saxon Protestant) living in Wisconsin could legitimately embrace the gospel of the Circumcision—that is, the good news given to Abraham and confirmed by our Lord Jesus Christ—that Israel will one day rule the world for a thousand years. How natural for a true Israelite to hear and heed a gospel meant for Israel. The guy in Wisconsin doesn't think he's an Israelite, but he reads Psalms, loves the law, memorizes Matthew, and quotes James on a regular basis. Reading Paul, however, makes his head hurt.

If the western nations are home to the Lost Ten Tribes, then you, the reader, may well be a natural Israelite. Why, then, do you get Paul and embrace the gospel of grace?

Because Paul also got Paul and embraced the gospel of grace. Remember, Paul was an Israelite as well, and yet he forfeited

Paul dissed his heritage; not Peter.

his physical advantage (Phil. 3:7) for a more glorious gospel. Peter never did this. The conclusion: *some Israelites get Paul, others don't.* There are three kinds of Israelites:

- 1) those who stick with the Circumcision gospel, 2) those who jump ship to join Paul, and 3) apostates.

We are surrounded by apostates, I think. We ourselves have joined Paul. The rest of the world (true gentiles) either 1) joins Paul, 2) attaches itself to Israel as proselytes, or 3) watches the Simpsons.

God knows who are who. And in many cases, so do we. ■

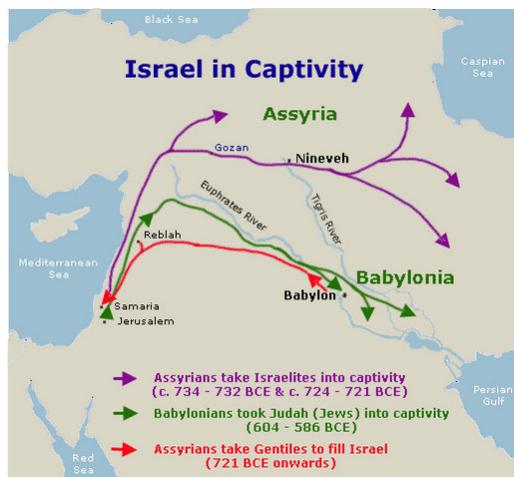
Martin Zender's
Clanging Gong News

"If I know all mysteries and all knowledge, but have no love, I am a clanging gong" --1 Cor. 13:1-2



Two out of three isn't bad.

Western nations home to Lost Ten Tribes



Name's sake, mercifully delivering them from the stigma of killing their own Savior.

Strangely enough, exile rescued the northern tribes from tragedy. Like Jonah's consumption by the great fish, the Assyrian captivity was, for the northern tribes, a blessing in disguise. When Assyria tired of guarding them, these Israelites left to wander the globe. The "Lost Ten Tribes," then, were divinely amalgamated into other nations (Amos 9:9).

Shall I describe these people in a nutshell? They are White; they are Anglos; they are Saxons; they are Germans; they are Scandinavians; they are Britons; they are Americans. More importantly, deep in the blood, they are Israelites; they act like Israelites, and they breathe like the sons of Jacob.

Wherever Israel goes, look for religion, business, and a compulsion to rule. In worst-case scenarios, these three things occur simultaneously.

How do we find the lost tribes? Forget genealogy. Besides a knack for enterprise, locate those who have a form of devoutness, yet deny the power (2 Tim. 3:5). Many deny truth, but show me which peoples polish the form of truth to the extent of naming Christ.

Who besides the Western nations gives the world God *and* mammon. The Chinese? The Japanese? The Russians? The native Africans? The Aborigines? The Inuit? The Indians? Further, where is the classic apostasy? One cannot apostatize—FROM-STAND in the Greek—unless one has first stood in truth. Who among the above-named groups have published Bibles, fed the poor (better, fed the world), re-built nations, prided themselves on pride, and enriched themselves even at the cost of their own morality?

Which of the above peoples have embraced—or attempted to embrace—the Circumcision gospel at the expense of Paul's message?

Israel is destined to hold aloft the torch of truth; God gave them Scriptures. Though twisting these to their own detriment, Israel is yet set for a light. This light waxes, wanes—and sometimes only flickers—but Israel was and is destined to be the head and not the tail (Deut. 28:13). This holds true for them, even while mired in the apostasy of self-righteousness. ■

God has not forgotten His people, Israel. The Jews of modern Palestine are remnants of the House of Judah, which was taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar and returned to the land after seventy years exile. The descendants of these people, present at the crucifixion of Christ, are those who uttered the most nightmarish words imaginable in front of Pilate and their own Messiah:

"His blood be us on and our children! (Mt. 27:25)

The results of this simple statement have been inestimably tragic. Since then, the blood of Christ *has* been on the Jews, and no people on earth have suffered as they.

However. There was another group of God's people carefully removed from the land before Christ's coming. These Israelites were *not* in the land when Messiah faced Pilate, and were therefore spared the self-imposed curse.

In His wise counsel, God split the kingdom of Israel after the days of Solomon, sending ten tribes north, to Assyria, and leaving two tribes in Jerusalem. As I told you two weeks ago, God arranged for the two southern tribes (the House of Judah) to be exiled to Babylon, and then returned to the land. He exiled the northern tribes, however (the House of Israel), to Assyria. Rather than returning them to Jerusalem, God scattered these tribes among every nation (Amos 9:9).

It was in the counsels of God to leave for Himself, on Earth, a vast group of Israelites for His

The remnant of Romans 11



Elijah

“In the current era also, there has come to be a remnant.”

—Romans. 11:5

he says, “God does not thrust away His people whom He foreknew” (Rom. 11:2). Simple enough, but the Romans will want proof. Paul gives it to them by citing the case of Elijah (vss. 2-5) who, in a day of apostasy, thought he was the only believer. But God told Elijah, “I left for Myself seven thousand men who do not bow the knee to the image of Baal.”

It is at this juncture that Paul says:

“Thus, in the current era also, there has come to be a remnant according to the choice of grace.”

When Paul relayed to the Roman saints their blessings in Christ apart from law, they must have thought, “God is finished with Israel.” Paul spends the eleventh chapter of Romans refuting that crazy idea. First

God never leaves Himself without a faithful witness. Whenever Israel seems on the brink of extinction, God consistently points out: **THERE IS A REMNANT.** As in the days of Elijah, so in the days of Paul.

We are still in the days of Paul.

Some people believe that the gospel of Israel (the Circumcision gospel) is inoperative today. They insist that all believers today are automatically in the body of Christ. I admit that Israelites can’t observe law without a temple, but they can faithfully await the return of Messiah. Those who claim an inoperative gospel say that the remnant of Romans 11 is Israelites who jumped ship to join Paul in the body of Christ. This is impossible. The whole point of this chapter is that God will bring His people *into their own calling.* We know this from Romans 11:25-26:

“...and thus all Israel shall be saved, according as it is written: arriving out of Zion shall be the Rescuer...and this is My covenant with them, whenever I should be eliminating their sins.”

“According as it is written.” “Zion.” “My covenant.” This is obviously the circumcision calling. My question, then, is: *How could a remnant of Israel saints who left the Circumcision gospel for Paul’s gospel be offered by Paul as proof that God will fulfill the Circumcision gospel?* That would be like offering up a small crate of oranges as proof that the apple crop will come in.

The remnant is Circumcision. We are still in the current era. Thus, there are Circumcision believers among us. ■

Q&A

MY FRIENDS TALK A GOOD GAME OF GRACE, BUT THEY CAN’T PLAY IT. THEY LOVE LAW, AND THEY CAN’T GET PAST JESUS INTO CHRIST. ARE THEY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST?

I don’t think so. But that doesn’t mean they’re not saved. I contend that a person can be a believer in Jesus Christ today and NOT be in the body of Christ. Peter fit this category. Peter and Paul once sat at the same table in Antioch. Both were believers in Jesus Christ—right? But one was bound for heaven (Paul; Eph. 2:6) and the other destined to shepherd the nations on earth (Peter; Mt. 19:28). They each embraced a different gospel (Gal. 2:7). One gospel wasn’t better than the other; they were just different. I believe that most mainstream Christians are literal Israelites straining to believe the Circumcision



gospel. Most are failing because they’re victims of the classic Israelite impasse: self-righteousness. The remedy? Intense judgment. And boy, is it coming. ■

What a revelation!

ONE DAY, FAITHFUL ISRAEL WILL ARRIVE IN JERUSALEM

Ezekiel 11:13-18: “And I am falling on my face and crying out: ‘Alas! My Lord! A finish art Thou making of the remnant of Israel!’ And coming is the word of Yaheweh, saying, ‘All the house of Israel are those to whom the dwellers in Jerusalem say, “To us it is given the land for a tenancy.” Wherefore say, “Thus says my Lord, ‘Seeing that I scatter them in all lands, yet I shall become a Sanctuary to them...in the lands where they have come. And I will convene you from the peoples and gather you from the lands in which you are scattered, and give to you the ground of Israel.’”’”

Imagine the shock when God finally calls forth the *true* Israel to displace the imposters now living in Palestine. Can you say, “*Shock and awe*”? ■



So-called Rapture for Body only!

If most mainstream Christians cannot grasp the essentials of Paul’s gospel (the Trinity keeps them from believing in the death of Christ), they can still grasp Peter’s gospel by acknowledging Jesus as Savior. But the doctrine of human free will prevents even that, putting self in the place of Christ: *I’m saved because I believed.* This makes most Christians either apostate Jews or unbelieving gentiles. Either way, they miss the snatching away—known as the rapture—because only members of Christ’s body get taken to heaven. What does this mean? Many who don’t think they’ll be on the earth, *will* be on the earth during the coming Tribulation. ■

Rants & Stuff

The Apostle Paul says we should not murmur (Philippians 2:14). Therefore, I shall rant.

First-century drama near downtown Detroit

ALL I DID WAS BROADCAST ON HER FREQUENCY

In the mid '90s, Jory Stephen Brooks pastored the Restoration Bible Church near downtown Detroit. This church loved Israel and the law. The congregants were not of a recognizable religious Jewry; none of the men wore beards, and the women went scarfless. Even so, these pleasant people tacked maps of the Holy Land on the vestibule walls, and spoke with relish (both literal and figurative) of the Jewish feast days.

They believed that the Anglo-Saxon peoples were the Lost Ten Tribes, and they lived it; they lived continually conscious of their Israelite heritage. One congregant, Edna, was sure that she was of the tribe of Ephraim. Another, Ed, claimed to be a Reubenite.

"What are you?" one of them asked me.

"A parasite," I said. "From way back."

"I know who you are," I said. "And here is why it doesn't matter."

Pastor Brooks caught wind from a friend that "this guy in Ohio" believed in the successful saving power of Christ and could speak intelligently on it. And that is how I came to arrive at the RBC in the Spring of 1997. You see, this church also believed in the eventual salvation of the world through Christ's sacrifice.

On my first three ventures north, I spoke on topics related to the salvation of all: death,

hades, the eons, and why the Rich Man and Lazarus was a parable. Everyone liked me; I was a big hit. The problem was that, on the eve of my fourth visit, I lay awake wrestling with the notion of teaching them justification apart from law. I knew from conversations with several members that the very concept of "apart from works of law" (Rom. 3:28) vexed them like a Chinese puzzle.

What finally convinced me to do it was that I was getting tired of driving all the way to Detroit every third Sunday.

I showed up looking like one of them: suit and tie. Then I laid in. I said, "I believe the truths of the Lost Ten Tribes; I know who you are." Lots of smiles from the pews. Then I said, "And here is one good reason why it doesn't matter."

So much for upturned mouths. And yet, I soldiered on. I spoke on the reasons the apostle Paul had renounced his Israelite citizenship for the excellencies of Christ. I told them that justification by faith could *only* exist in an absence of law, because, "by works of law, no flesh at all shall be justified" (Rom. 3:20). Forty minutes later, I



finished—in a sweat.

No one came up to me after the talk.

Except for one person.

Fixing her eyes intently on me, her voice shook when she said, "I have been coming to this church for three years..." she was crying now... "And today, I have heard my gospel for the first time."

First-century drama is still available today for those able to broadcast on the Pauline frequency. ■



Thanks to all of you who have written to tell me how these truths have changed your life. This ministry exists by the grace of God and the support of the body of Christ. If God puts it on your heart to support this ministry financially—then yep, that's God all right. I can't do this without you. Literally. http://martinzender.com/donation_mz.htm **Thanks!**

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