## WHY CHRISTIANS MUST STAND WITH ISRAEL!

One of the reasons why Christians must stand with Israel is because we were given the opportunity to inherit the covenant promises of our fathers—the patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) by our faith in Jesus Christ. The Lord our God remembers His covenant FOREVER, the word which he commanded for a thousand generations, based on the covenant He made with Abraham, His oath to Isaac, and He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, for all the children of Israel for an everlasting covenant based on 1 Chronicles 16:14-17 below.

"He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. Remember His covenant forever, The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, THE COVENANT WHICH HE MADE WITH ABRAHAM, AND HIS OATH TO ISAAC, AND CONFIRMED IT TO JACOB FOR A STATUTE, TO ISRAEL FOR AN EVERLASTING COVENANT..." ~ 1 Chronicles 16:14-17 (NKJV)

God established this everlasting covenant with Abraham due to Abraham's faith, trust, devotion, and obedience to God period! Listen to how serious God is concerning the Abrahamic Covenant He established with Abraham that was one of the reasons for Israel becoming a nation again despite all odds on May 14, 1948.

"By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, BECAUSE you have obeyed My voice." ~ Genesis 22:15-18 (NKJV)

Do NOT miss the significance of what God is saying when He said, "By myself have I sworn..." Do NOT miss the fact that God pledged His own throne to keep this everlasting covenant He established with Abraham because Abraham believed God and obeyed His voice!

This truth is clearly substantiated by Moses in Deuteronomy 9:4-6 below, as he is talking to the Israelites before they are about to cross over the Jordan River in order to finally take possession of the Promised Land belonging to nations much greater and more powerful than them that God swore by Himself to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel)!

"Do not think in your heart, after the LORD your God has cast them out before you, saying, 'Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land'; but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out from before you. IT IS NOT BECAUSE OF YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS or THE UPRIGHTNESS OF YOUR HEART that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your God drives them out from before you, and THAT HE MAY FULFILL THE WORD WHICH THE LORD SWORE TO YOUR FATHERS, TO ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB. Therefore understand that the LORD your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stiff-necked people." ~ Deuteronomy 9:4-6 (NKJV)

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Therefore, the bottom line is that God will bless Israel because of His EVERLASTING covenant that He made with Abraham, and his oath to Isaac, and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel for an EVERLASTING covenant! Because Yahweh, is a covenant keeping God even though His people are not!

And, God's Word is very clear that God will bless those who bless Abraham and his descendents, and God will curse those who curse them based on Genesis 12:1-3

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I WILL BLESS THOSE WHO BLESS YOU, AND WHOEVER CURSES YOU I WILL CURSE; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." ~ Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)

Now the Lord really wants His people to get this truth! Listen to how serious God is concerning the Abrahamic Covenant He established with Abraham that was one of the reasons for Israel becoming a nation again <u>despite</u> all odds on May 14, 1948.

"By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, BECAUSE you have obeyed My voice." ~ Genesis 22:15-18 (NKJV)

Do NOT miss the significance of what God is saying when He said, "By myself have I sworn..." Do NOT miss the fact that God pledged His own throne to keep this <u>everlasting</u> covenant He established with Abraham <u>because</u> Abraham <u>believed</u> God and <u>obeyed</u> His voice!

Moreover, God's Word says that salvation came to the Gentiles because **some** of the Jews rejected their Messiah—Jesus Christ! As such, one of the main reasons that the Orthodox Jews do **not** believe that Jesus Christ is their Messiah that they have been waiting for, is because God spiritually blinded them on purpose due to their hardened hearts and unbelief, in order to offer salvation to the Gentiles (pagan, heathen people).

Therefore, for those Jews who did <u>not</u> believe Jesus Christ was their Messiah, they were broken off from the original root of Israel and from inheriting the promises that God gave to Abraham. Yet, God has <u>not</u> cast away <u>all</u> His Jewish people whom He foreknew! And, as a result, at this present time there is a remnant according to **THE ELECTION OF GRACE** rather than of works based on Romans 11:1-6 below.

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"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. 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, "LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life?" 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." EVEN SO THEN, AT THIS PRESENT TIME THERE IS A REMNANT ACCORDING TO THE ELECTION OF GRACE. And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work." ~ Romans 11:1-6 (NKJV)

Moreover, God's Word says about <u>some</u> of the Jews unbelief concerning Jesus as their Messiah. In Romans 11:7-10 below, we are told that it is God that has given those who still do <u>not</u> believe Jesus Christ is their Messiah, *a spirit of stupor* so they would be spiritually blinded on purpose until the *Fullness of the Gentiles* comes in!

"What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. Just as it is written: "GOD HAS GIVEN THEM A SPIRIT OF STUPOR, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, TO THIS VERY DAY." ~ Romans 11:7-10 (NKJV)

Notice, that Romans 11:7-10 above states that God has given <u>some</u> of the *children of IsraeL* **A SPIRIT OF STUPOR** as it is to <u>this</u> very day due to their rejection of Jesus Christ by their unbelief AND disobedience! As such, God has purposely blinded them to His truth because of their stubborn and rebellious hearts until the fullness of the Gentiles comes to fruition!

Moreover, we must always keep in mind that salvation has come to us, those of us who were formerly Gentiles, in order to make the Jews envious! Do not miss the significance of what the apostle Paul is saying to us in Roman 11:11-16 below. He is saying that salvation was offered to the Gentiles because **some** of the Jews rejected their Messiah due to their **spiritual** blindness given to them by God so that reconciliation could be brought to the whole world! Therefore, because **some** of the Jewish people rejected Jesus Christ, those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the **House of Israel** (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim) were given the opportunity for salvation for the purpose of making the Jews from the **House of Judah** envious. Moreover, because **some** of the Jews from the **House of Judah** rejected Jesus Christ as their Messiah it has brought reconciliation to the entire world!

"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. Now if their fall IS riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles,

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how much more their fullness! For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh [the Jews] and save some of them. FOR IF THEIR BEING CAST AWAY IS THE RECONCILING OF THE WORLD, WHAT WILL THEIR ACCEPTANCE BE BUT LIFE FROM THE DEAD? For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches." ~ Romans 11:11-16 (NKJV)

Next in Romans 11:17-21 below we are warned that we should not be arrogant or feel like we are superior to people who are lost and still held captive by Satan due to unbelief in Jesus Christ. We were all once lost and held captive by Satan too. If it had not been for the mercy and grace that God extended to us when we did <u>not</u> deserve it, we would have died in our sins and hell would be our destination. We <u>must</u> never forget this basic truth. This is why once we BECOME saved by our faith in Jesus Christ we must continue to work out our salvation with fear and trembling. If we are arrogant or have a haughty attitude we will be judged by God accordingly while we are still living on the earth AND at the Day of Judgment. Do not be deceived for God is not mocked, whatsoever a man sows that he shall also reap! We will reap from God exactly in the same proportion to what we have sown to others.

"And if <u>some</u> of the branches were broken off, and <u>YOU</u>, being a wild olive tree, were <u>grafted</u> in among them, and with them <u>became</u> a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, REMEMBER THAT <u>YOU</u> <u>DO</u> <u>NOT</u> <u>SUPPORT THE ROOT</u>, <u>BUT THE ROOT</u> <u>SUPPORTS YOU</u>. You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in." Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and <u>YOU</u> stand by faith. <u>DO</u> <u>NOT</u> <u>BE HAUGHTY</u>, <u>BUT FEAR</u>. FOR IF GOD DID <u>NOT</u> <u>SPARE THE NATURAL BRANCHES</u>, <u>HE MAY NOT</u> <u>SPARE YOU</u> <u>EITHER</u>." ~ Romans 11:17-21 (NKJV)

Next, in Romans 11:22-24 below, the apostle Paul warns us what will happen to us if we do **not** continue in God's goodness, kindness, and **walk** in love—we will be cut off from being His covenant people!

"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. And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you [who were formerly Gentiles] 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, [the Jews] who are natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?" ~ Romans 11:22-24 (NKJV)

And, we <u>must</u> heed this warning—the branches which are cut off will be thrown into the *lake of fire* as proclaimed by John 15:6 (NKJV) which says, "<u>If anyone</u> does <u>not</u> abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned."

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Again, if God has extended His grace and mercy to us BEFORE we came to the saving knowledge of His truth, (His Word), then we should be willing to extend our grace and mercy to those who are still held captive by Satan. Moreover, God's Word says that we <u>will</u> also perish if we do **NOT** continue in God's kindness. Like us, everyone should be given the opportunity for salvation by believing in Jesus Christ and it begins with His people <u>walking</u> in God's love and mercy that He has given us, while we help win lost souls for the *Kingdom of Light*.

Finally in Romans 11:25-27 below, the apostle Paul is telling us to always remember that if it were <u>not</u> for this "spiritual" blindness God caused to happen to <u>some</u> of the Jewish people so that we, the Gentiles, could be offered salvation and become grafted into the commonwealth of Israel by our faith in Jesus Christ, then we would still be lost with no hope of eternal life! In addition, God has **NOT** forsaken the Jews from the *House of Judah*! Therefore, a remnant of Jews from the *House of Judah* shall be saved along with those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the *House of Israel* (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim) so that <u>all</u> of Israel shall be saved because "It is written!"

"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. And so <u>ALL</u> Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; For this IS My covenant with them, When I take away their sins." ~ Romans 11:25-27 (NKJV)

As I have said before, but bears repeating, we are now entering the time of the *Fullness of the Gentiles*. The leading missionary organizations project from statistical data that the gospel will be presented to <u>ALL</u> 6,000 ethnic people groups among the 238 nations by 2015-2016.

Based on Matthew 24:14 below, this will fulfill <u>one</u> of God's main mandates for His *Ekklēsia* —the *body of Christ*, which is comprised of disciples of Jesus Christ from the *House of Judah* and the *House of Israel* (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim).

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in <u>ALL</u> the world as a witness to <u>ALL</u> the nations, and then the end will come." ~ Matthew 24:14 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>According to Strong's Greek Lexicon Number G5056 the word "end" as used in Matthew 24:14 above is the Greek word "telos" which means 1) end a) termination, the limit at which a thing ceases to be (always of the end of some act or state, but not of the end of a period of time) b) the end 1) the last in any succession or series 2) eternal c) that by which a thing is finished, its close, issue d) THE END TO WHICH ALL THINGS RELATE, THE AIM, PURPOSE. IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THE END OF THE WORLD. RATHER IT COULD MEAN THE END OF ONE ASSIGNMENT AND THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER.

Therefore, the *body of Christ* must stand with the state of Israel and pray unceasingly for the salvation of all Israel (all twelve tribes)! And, we must ask God to remove the spiritual blindness from the Orthodox Jews from the *House of Judah* which prevents them from seeing that Jesus Christ is their Messiah they have been waiting for.

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Moreover, we are commanded to also provide financially for the state of Israel and the Jewish people as well. Why? We owe it to them because we, who were formerly Gentiles from the *House of Israel* (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim), would **not** have the New Covenant which was established by Jesus Christ's precious blood and be grafted into the commonwealth of Israel, if it were not for the Jews from the *House of Judah*! Following are all the reasons why we owe the Jewish people from the *House of Judah* our gratitude and unwavering support based on Romans 9:3-5 below.

"For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen [the Jews from the House of Judah] according to the flesh, [not spiritually speaking] who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants [plural], the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen." ~ Romans 9:3-5 (NKJV)

What the apostle Paul is saying to us in Romans 9:3-5 above is this. The Jews from the *House of Judah*, who are Israelites in the flesh, are the very reason those us who were formerly Gentiles from the *House of Israel* (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim) were offered...

- 1. Adoption into the commonwealth of Israel.
- 2. The glory of God.
- 3. We are included as Yahweh's covenant people.
- 4. We were given the law (Torah) which are Yahweh's instructions for all His people to live by which was delivered through Moses.
- 5. We were brought into the service of God.
- 6. We were given the opportunity to inherit the covenant promises of our fathers—the patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) by our faith in Jesus Christ. The Lord our God remembers His covenant FOREVER, the word which he commanded for a thousand generations, based on the covenant He made with Abraham, His oath to Isaac, and He confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, for <u>all</u> the children of Israel for an **everlasting** covenant based on 1 Chronicles 16:14-17 below.

"He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. Remember His covenant forever, The word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, THE COVENANT WHICH HE MADE WITH ABRAHAM, AND HIS OATH TO ISAAC, AND CONFIRMED IT TO JACOB FOR A STATUTE, TO ISRAEL FOR AN EVERLASTING COVENANT..." ~ 1 Chronicles 16:14-17 (NKJV)

7. All this resulted in the birth of Jesus Christ, our Jewish Messiah, our Redeemer, and our Lord and Savior whom is a direct descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) and King David from the *tribe of Judah*. Again, it is for this very reason, that Jesus Christ's genealogy specifically says, in Matthew 1:1

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(NKJV), "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, [the Jews from the tribe of Judah] the Son of Abraham..."

Therefore, if you want to be blessed by the Lord, instead of cursed by Him for **not** standing with the nation of Israel and the Jewish people, not only should we as the *body of Christ* pray unceasingly for Zion's salvation, it is our duty to provide materially for them as well based on the following Scriptures.

"For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, And all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, Which the mouth of the LORD will name. You shall also be a crown of glory In the hand of the LORD, And a royal diadem In the hand of your God." ~ Isaiah 62:1-3 (NKJV)

"It pleased them indeed, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their DUTY IS ALSO TO MINISTER TO THEM IN MATERIAL THINGS." ~ Romans 15:27 (NKJV)

It is only after the *gospel of the kingdom* is preached in the entire world as a witness unto <u>all</u> the nations; will the Lord then turn His full attention back to the physical nation of Israel and the Jewish people *because they are loved on account of the patriarchs* as indicated in Romans 11:28-32 below.

"Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but CONCERNING THE ELECTION THEY ARE BELOVED FOR THE SAKE OF THE FATHERS. [ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB (ISRAEL)] For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For as YOU were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, THAT THROUGH THE MERCY SHOWN YOU THEY ALSO MAY OBTAIN MERCY. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all." ~ Romans 11:28-32 (NKJV)

Therefore, the *body of Christ* must stand with the state of Israel and pray unceasingly for the salvation of all Israel (all twelve tribes)! And, we must ask God to remove the spiritual blindness from the Orthodox Jews from the *House of Judah* which prevents them from seeing that Jesus Christ is their Messiah they have been waiting for.

God's people need to know that any Christian who does NOT stand with our Jewish sisters and brothers and the nation of Israel is going against Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) and His only *begotten* Son Jesus Christ who is the Holy One of Israel! And, if this is the case, then we are choosing to reject and go against the very God we profess to serve!

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And, last, but certainly not least, as Benjamin Netanyahu declared in his speech when he said, "Ladies and gentlemen, history has placed us at a fateful crossroads. We must now choose between two paths." Benjamin Netanyahu is correct.

This day we as God's people must choose between two paths for this historic speech delivered to our nation's leaders by Prime Minister Netanyahu is the "valley of decision" for the United States of America! This is the day that God's people in America must NOT falter between two opinions! For if Yahweh, is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel), is also the same God that believers in Jesus Christ serve, which He is, then we must follow Him and stand with Israel and the Jewish people! However, if we choose to follow Baal then we must be prepared to reap the consequences of our actions. America, let's NOT be like the people who stood on Mount Carmel long ago, that said NOT a word! As Mordecai told *them* to answer Esther long ago, if we remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but for us and our nation we shall perish if we choose to remain silent and complacent. Yes, indeed, God's people in America were born for a time such as this and we are at the valley of decision this day!

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