

Biblical Sites We Will See in this File

**Paternoster Church, Church of the Multiplication, Upper Room,”
Baptism in the Jordan River, Caesarea, St. Peter’s House, and the
Church of Saint Peter of Gallicantu.**

A Trip of Lifetime...



“Next Year in Jerusalem is Now” TM

“And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem.” Acts 20:22

“Replacement Theology” — A “spirit” of Unbelief

Let me preface my comments with the following...

Most don't know that God said a **“New Covenant”** or **“Good News”** was coming to “Israel” or that the “New Covenant” is HERE. Therefore, when Jewish People hear about the “New Covenant— God put ALL SIN on “Jesus,” and to receive “righteousness” and “salvation” from God (apart from the Law) requires them to **“Confess with their mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in their heart that God raised Him from the dead.”** They reject the **“Good News.”** They do not understand, and how can they? Their **eyes, ears, and hearts are calloused, dull, and closed** to the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Are you beginning to understand?

Most Jews (like myself) were trained to believe that Christianity is the “Religion of the Gentiles.” Jews also believe that **all** Gentiles are Christians. They also believe that the job of the Christians is to “convert” the Jews, egregiously demonstrated during the **“Crusades.”**

The Crusaders (who thought they were doing God's Work) FORCED the Jewish people to “convert” or be put to death. But this egregious gesture has been demonstrated throughout world history.

The **Jewish People** also faced expulsion from “Gentile Nations” for many reasons. They included Babylon, Assyria, Austria, Spain, France, and England. No wonder the Jews immigrate to Israel and say, “Gentiles, leave US alone!” That's interesting because Israel's economy (the 20th Most Powerful) is sustained by creating companies, services, and industries marketed to the “Gentile” Nations. The Jews NEED the Gentiles, and the Gentiles NEED the Jews. Jews and Gentiles cannot exist alone.

“Salvation” is FREE, but it COSTS!

Believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ from **“Israel's”** perspective (and the perspectives of “Rabbis,” Jewish Traditions, Jewish Family, etc.) is this. A Jew, who is now a “Christian,” has “converted” and is a **traitor** to the Jewish Faith. Therefore, “they” will likely lose community, family, business, and professional standing. They will also face the “sure” **inability** (or will have to fight the “system” and the bureaucracy “famous” in Israel) to make “Aliyah” become an Israeli Citizen or buy property in Israel.

Therefore, Gentile Christians do a great injustice to the Jewish People by saying that “Salvation” is so easy to receive. One way is through Christian Television, **now** in every Jewish home in Israel. Putting aside the fact that some of what's on Christian Television isn't “Christian.” Or that the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Biblical Model for receiving “Salvation” is *sometimes* blurry, non-existent, or unbiblical. Jews do NOT respond like Gentiles respond. MOST Gentiles will hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ once or twice at Church or on Christian television and will believe, but that NEVER happens with Jewish people.

“Counting the COST”

The idea of “witnessing” to the Jewish People outside of a personal relationship and waiting for **God** to open the door for having a “spiritual discussion” is futile.

Only God’s Holy Spirit can open the Jewish People’s callused ears, eyes, hearts, and minds. Your job is to **LOVE** and **BLESS** your Jewish friends.

If God provides an opportunity for “spiritual discussions,” **you MUST give your Jewish friends time to think, study, ask questions, and “count the cost.”**

Maybe the Greatest Hurdle Today Isn’t Just the Unbelief of the Jews – It’s also the Unbelief of Many Churches and Christians

Many Churches and Christians believe that God is “finished” with Israel and the Jewish People and that He has “Replaced Israel with the Church.” It is the LIE of “**Replacement Theology.**”

Let me set up a rebuttal.

In the Jewish Feast of Passover, the blood of a spotless Lamb is necessary to “save.” It is a picture of the Jewish Messiah. God “cut” Eight Covenants with His People—the Nation of Israel. Because Adam sinned, “all” are born into “sin,” and a “Messiah” would come to redeem “fallen man.”

God placed the Jews on the earth to **BLESS** the Gentiles and the Gentiles to BLESS the Jews. God said a “New Covenant” was coming for His People, “Israel,” to replace the “Old Covenant.” The Land Covenant reassures His People that the “Promised Land” is the “Land of ISRAEL” and the Bible is the “Title Deed” to that Land.

The “New Covenant” was enacted by the death of the Jewish Jesus. On the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, Jesus ascended, and He sent down the Holy Spirit, and **3,000 JEWS** were “saved.” It began the “Church Age,” which started as a Jewish Church. Christianity is the “fulfillment” of Judaism.

The Church of Jesus Christ is **BOTH** a Jewish and Gentile Church. Remember, the Bible is the story of God’s redemptive Plan for His People— “Israel.” Yes, because of Israel’s Unbelief, God has set His People “**aside for a time**” so that the “**Full Measure of the Gentiles**” can be “ushered” into God’s Glorious Kingdom. Yes, Gentile Christians have the same spiritual blessings and are entitled to the same Covenant Promises as His People—Israel.

But NOWHERE in the Bible does God say He replaced “Israel” with the Church.

Paul, a Hebrew Christian and the author of most of the New Testament, said that Gentile Christians are “engrafted” into God’s “Olive Tree,” which is the Nation of Israel. Therefore, how can the Church have replaced “Israel?” Did God remove all of Israel’s Branches from His Olive

Tree and ONLY keep the engrafted branches of the Gentile Christians? This “picture” **alone refutes** the idea that the “Church” has replaced Israel.

We have a friend here in Trussville whose pastor **told** her that anytime she sees “Israel” in the Bible, she is to “replace” it with the “Church.”

There you go, **“Replacement Theology” is not in the Bible unless “YOU” made it to be there.**

“Replacement Theology” most likely began with the “German Christian Movement” from **1932 to 1945**. They were a group of Protestants in Germany who supported Hitler’s antisemitic beliefs. They **removed** the Old Testament from the Bible, etc.

But God caused the REBIRTH of Israel in May **1948**.

I now ask, **Why does God need “Israel” if “Israel” was replaced by the Church?**

The underbelly of “Replacement Theology” **was obliterated** with the Rebirth of “Israel.”

Yet, the lie continues.

WHY?

At the **heart** of “Replacement Theology” is a convoluted, misguided, and **antisemitic** “spirit” **against Israel and the Jewish people.**

“Replacement Theology” is the work of the devil himself.

Think about this – Satan has caused the **“same things”** that were inflicted on the Jewish People also to be inflicted on many Churches and Christians. **Satan has caused the eyes, ears, and hearts of many Churches and Christians to become calloused, dull, and closed.**

More rebuttals...

Why will the **“King of the Jews”** return for **“Israel,”** His People, if the Church has replaced them?

Why, as the Bible says, will **“ONE DAY ALL OF ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED”** if the Church has replaced Israel?

Why are Jewish and Gentile believers coming back to “Tabernacle” with Israel’s King in the **“New Jerusalem”** (God’s Holy City, Jerusalem, located in Israel) if God replaced Israel with the Church? Why will God send **144,000 Hebrew Christians** to evangelize the unbelievers “Left Behind” after God gathers “His Church” to Himself?

Why will there be a need for a **“Third Jewish Temple”** to be built on the Temple Mount (located in Israel) during the “Time of Tribulation” if the Church has replaced Israel?

Why will the Jews offer sacrifices “again” in the Jewish Temple in Israel if God has replaced Israel with the Church?

What’s the solution?

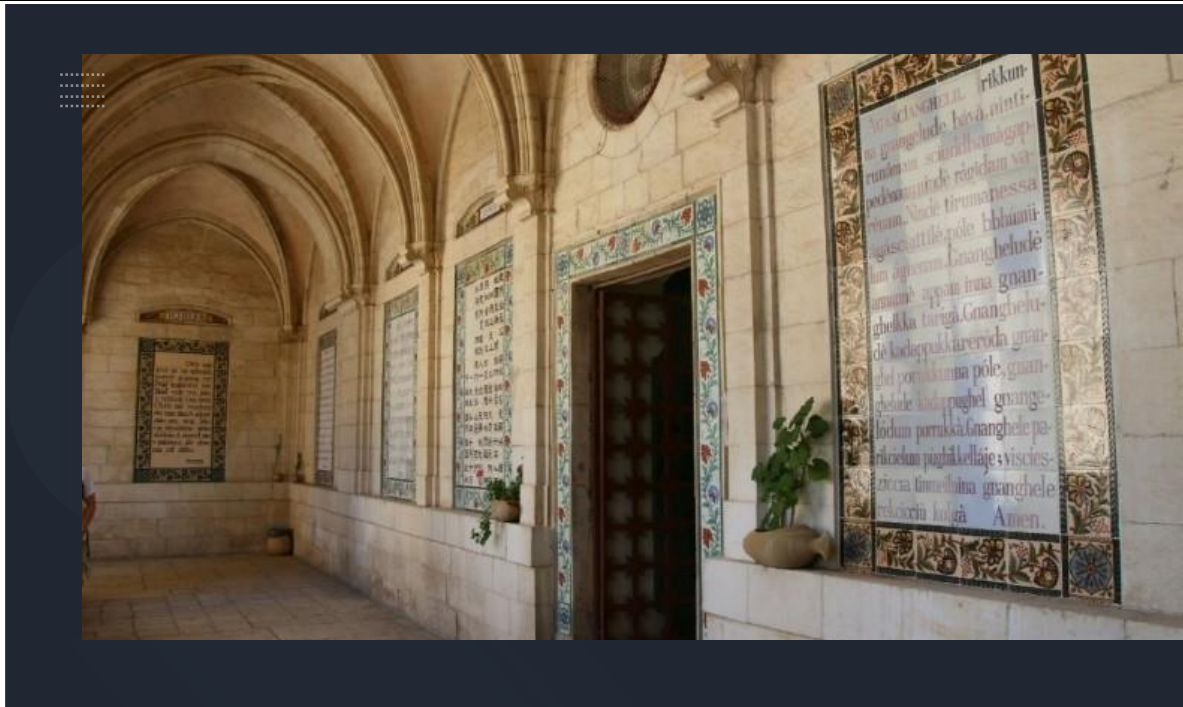
Ignorance and complacency within the heart of many churches and Christians to **love and bless Israel and the Jewish people** and to pray for God to open a door of opportunity to tell the Jewish People about the Good News of the New Covenant requires prayer, preaching, and a repentant and “open heart.”

Overcoming the spirit of “**Replacement Theology**” also requires prayer, preaching, repentance, and an “open heart” to overcome.

Finally, I have never met anyone who “calls” themselves a Christian and who believes in “Replacement Theology” – **also** LOVE and BLESS “Israel” and the Jewish People. It’s Biblically, theologically, and practically impossible.

Now, here are some of the Churches to see in Israel.

Paternoster Church



Located on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. At the “Paternoster Church, you will be reminded to go into your “room” and pray. In context, when you put the “Prayer Shawl” over your head, you are in your prayer room. Now, of course, “anywhere” you pray is your prayer room.

Jesus said, “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. This, then, is how you should pray.” “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.” “Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” “Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” “And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.” [Matthew 6:1–13](#)

Church of the Multiplication



At the **Church of Multiplication** in Tabgha, you'll see a dramatic mosaic floor with "fish and bread." It will remind you of Jesus's miraculous provision of food when He took five barley loaves of bread and two fish and fed 5,000 people. God wants us to know that He is a God who provides because feeding the 5,000 is **mentioned in all four Gospels**. No other miracle Jesus performed is recorded four times. Interestingly, there is always more left in both the prophet Elisha's and Jesus's accounts (feeding of 5,000 and 4,000).

God's Miraculous Provision of Food

God is a God of miraculous abundance, and there are many stories in the Bible about God's goodness and His rich supply of "food."

Jesus said, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work." John 4:31–35

The first account of God's miraculous provision of food is in the Garden of Eden, where God plants a garden with all kinds of trees suitable for eating.

"Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food." Genesis 2:8–9

After the Nation of Israel left Egypt, God miraculously provided them with manna and quail.

“Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will rain down bread from Heaven for you... “You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning...That evening quail came and covered the camp... When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat.” Exodus 16:4–18

God miraculously provides food for the prophet Elijah.

“Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: “Leave here, turn eastward, and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there...The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.” 1 Kings 17:1–6

God continues to miraculously provide food for the prophet Elijah.

“Sometime later, the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the Land...I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food.” So, he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.” “As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.” Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first, make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up, and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD gives rain on the land.’” She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So, there was food every day for Elijah, and for the woman and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.” 1 Kings 17:7–16

Another of God’s prophets, Elisha, turns little oil into an abundance.

“The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, “Your servant, my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.” Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?” “Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a little oil.” Elisha said, “Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don’t ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side.” She left him and afterward shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her, and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, “Bring me another one.” But he replied, “There is not a jar left.” Then the oil stopped flowing. She went and told the man of God, and he said, “Go, sell the oil, and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left.” 2 Kings 4:1–7

A man brings Elisha 20 loaves of barley bread, and Elijah turns it into an abundance.

“Give it to the people to eat,” Elisha said. “How can I set this before a hundred men?” his servant asked. But Elisha answered, “Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the LORD says: ‘They will

eat and have some leftover.” Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some leftover, according to the word of the LORD.” 2 Kings 4:42–44

Jesus reminds his disciples to be on guard against the “leaven” of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

“When they went across the lake, the disciples forgot to take bread. “Be careful,” Jesus said to them. “Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” They discussed this among themselves and said, “It is because we didn’t bring any bread.” Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, “You of little faith, why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? Do you still not understand? Don’t you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? How is it you don’t understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” Matthew 16:5–12

Jesus appears to His disciples after His resurrection and caused a miraculous fish-catching.

“Afterward, Jesus appeared again to his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So, they went out and got into the boat, but that night, they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it and some bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.” John 21:1–14

Speaking of food, an Israeli breakfast and dinner served buffet style is most likely part of your Tour package. **You won’t go hungry, that’s for sure!**

Upper Room”



The “Old Covenant” ends as Jesus (The Lamb of God) is crucified on “Passover,” cries out “It is Finished,” and breathes His last breath. Jesus is buried the same evening on “Unleavened Bread,” and He rises from the grave three days later, on “First Fruits”— fulfilling the first 3 Feasts (of God’s Seven Feasts) perfectly.

Jesus said, “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you...when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. “In a little while, you will see me no more, and then after a little while, you will see me.” John 16-7-16

You’ll enter the “Upper Room” in Jerusalem and be reminded that Jesus Christ, a Jewish Rabbi, had just been crucified, buried, and resurrected (fulfilling the first Three Feasts). Then Jesus appeared to His Jewish disciples for 40 days, ascended to Heaven (where He sits at the “right hand” of His Father), and He sent “down” The Holy Spirit” on the “Feast of Pentecost.”

The “Church Age” Begins

On the Day of “Pentecost,” Peter (a Jewish disciple) preached the first sermon to a Jewish audience. Three thousand Jews “Believed” in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and were “saved,” and the “**Church**” was born. The first Church was a Jewish Church. Remember that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is “First” for the Jew, then for the Gentiles.

3,000 Jews believed in the Gospel on “Pentecost” and were “saved.”

- ❖ It began the “Church Age.”
- ❖ The first Church was a Jewish Church.
- ❖ The Gospel of Jesus Christ is “First” for the Jew.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ **was crucified on the cross as a sin substitute**, and His blood was spilled to cover and forgive all past, present, and future sins. This occurred on Passover.

Jesus **died and was buried** that same day. This occurred on Unleavened Bread.

Three days later, the gravestone that sealed Jesus’s body was miraculously rolled away, and **Jesus Christ was resurrected**. This occurred on First Fruits.

Jesus Christ **gives us His LIFE** through the indwelling, Precious Holy Spirit. This occurred on Pentecost.

“Pentecost” is also known as the “**Feast of Weeks**,” as it begins fifty days (seven weeks and one day) after the start of Passover. One aspect of its celebration is to present a “sheaf of barley” and “wave” it to The Lord as a “Wave Offering.”

“From the day after the Sabbath, the day you **brought the sheaf of the wave offering**, count off seven full weeks. Count off fifty days up to the day after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an offering of new grain to the LORD. From wherever you live, **bring two loaves** made of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour, **baked with yeast**, as a wave offering of first fruits to the LORD.” Leviticus 23:15–17



The reference “bring two loaves baked with yeast” foreshadows Jew and Gentile. BOTH are under (leaven) “sin.” Here is what the Apostle Paul said.

“What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin.” Romans 3:9–12



Yes, both Jews and Gentiles are born into sin. But because of the “Finished” work of Jesus Christ, at His death, the “Old Covenant” ended, and the “New Covenant” began.

Therefore, when we “Believe” the Gospel of Jesus Christ, He “deposits” His Holy Spirit “IN” us. We are no longer under the power of the LAW. We are now under the control of the Holy Spirit.

“Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life...Now, if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master because you are not under Law, but under grace.”
Romans 5:20–6:14

The “LAW” KILLS

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the Law, **3,000 Jews** were killed because they were worshipping a golden calf.

Come, make us gods who will go before us... Aaron answered them, “Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons, and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me...He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt...When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned, and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain. And he took the calf they had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it...and that day, about three thousand of the people died.”
Exodus 32:19–28



The “SPIRIT” Gives LIFE

When Jesus sent down His Precious Holy Spirit, **3,000 Jews** were “saved.” They were worshipping the Living God.

The “Holy Spirit” came 50 days after the start of Passover, on the day of Pentecost. When Jesus sent down His Precious Holy Spirit-3,000 Jews were “saved.” They were worshipping the Living God-THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE.

“When the day of Pentecost came...Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from Heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and



began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them... When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment because each one heard them speaking in his own language... Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you...this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the Heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.... “Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...Those who accepted his message were baptized, **and about three thousand were added to their number that day.**” Acts 2:1–42

Peter’s Account of Pentecost.

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from Heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under Heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment because each one heard them speaking in his own language.” Acts 2:1–13

The Holy Spirit’s “Coming” was Predicted.

“Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you...this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the Heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Acts 2:14–21

David “knew” of the coming Messiah and His Precious Holy Spirit.

“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs...This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: “I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in

your presence.’ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.” Acts 2:22-35

3,000 Jews were “saved” on the Day of Pentecost.

“Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words, he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.” Acts 2:36-41

The Gospel of Jesus Christ was Sent from Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria

The Gospel of Jesus Christ was sent forth from the Jewish cities of Jerusalem, Judah, and Samaria. “After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them for forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: **“Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit...But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,[Red arrow] and in all Judea [Orange arrow] and Samaria, [Blue arrow] and to the ends of the earth.[I.E., Trussville AL]”** After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going when suddenly, two men dressed in white stood beside them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? **This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven.**” Acts 1:3–24



“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus, the Law of the Spirit of life set me free from the Law of sin and death. For what the Law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so, he condemned sin in sinful man, so that the righteous requirements of the Law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.” Romans 8:1–17

Pentecost and the Tower of Babel

There is a beautiful contrast between the story of the Tower of Babel and the Feast of Pentecost. After the global flood, the entire world (birthed from Noah's sons) had ONE language. They decided to build a Tower "UP" to the heavens. God didn't like this idea, so He came down, and He "confused" them with MANY "tongues" (languages), so the people could NOT understand each other. Then God scattered the people over ALL the earth.

However, on the "Feast of Pentecost," the people were upstairs in the "Upper Room." The people were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in "tongues" (other languages), but they WERE ABLE to understand each other. Once "scattered," God "gathered" together people from every nation in Jerusalem. Then the Holy Spirit "Came Down" with ("Tongues of fire").

Following Stephen preached to the Jews as a result of Pentecost. Stephen begins at the "beginning" with Abraham and continues through to Jesus. However, the Jews were upset with Stephen and killed him.

"Brothers and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia before he lived in Haran. 'Leave your country and your people,' God said, 'and go to the land I will show you...God sent him to this land where you are now living. He gave him no inheritance here, not even a foot of ground. But God promised him that he and his descendants after him would possess the land, even though, at that time, Abraham had no child. God spoke to him in this way: 'Your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves,' God said, 'and afterward, they will come out of that country and worship me in this place.' Then he gave Abraham the covenant of circumcision. And Abraham became the father of Isaac...Later, Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the twelve patriarchs. "Because the patriarchs were jealous of Joseph, they sold him as a slave into Egypt. But God was with him and rescued him from all his troubles. He gave Joseph wisdom and enabled him to gain the goodwill of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, so he made him ruler over Egypt and all his palace. "Then a famine struck all Egypt and Canaan, bringing great suffering, and our fathers could not find food. When Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent our fathers on their first visit. On their second visit, Joseph told his brothers who he was, and Pharaoh learned about Joseph's family. After this, Joseph sent for his father Jacob and his whole family, seventy-five in all...As the time drew near for God to fulfill his promise to Abraham, the number of our people in Egypt greatly increased. Then another king, who knew nothing about Joseph, became ruler of Egypt. He dealt treacherously with our people and oppressed our forefathers by forcing them to throw out their newborn babies so that they would die. "At that time, Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child. For three months, he was cared for in his father's house. When he was placed outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action. "When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his fellow Israelites. He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian. Moses thought that his own people would realize that God was using him to rescue them, but they did not...After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to Moses in the flames of a burning

bush in the desert near Mount Sinai. When he saw this, he was amazed at the sight. As he went over to look more closely, he heard the Lord's voice: 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.' Moses trembled with fear and did not dare to look. "Then the Lord said to him, 'Take off your sandals; the place where you are standing is holy ground. I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt... He led them out of Egypt and did wonders and miraculous signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea, and for forty years in the desert... He was in the assembly in the desert, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai and with our fathers; and he received living words to pass on to us. "But our fathers refused to obey him. Instead, they rejected him and, in their hearts, turned back to Egypt. They told Aaron, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who led us out of Egypt—we don't know what has happened to him!' That was the time they made an idol in the form of a calf. They brought sacrifices to it and held a celebration in honor of what their hands had made. But God turned away and gave them over to the worship of the heavenly bodies. This agrees with what is written in the book of the prophets: "'Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings forty years in the desert, O house of Israel? You have lifted up the shrine of Molech and the star of your God Rephan, the idols you made to worship. Therefore I will send you into exile' beyond Babylon."

"Our forefathers had the tabernacle of the Testimony with them in the desert. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. Having received the tabernacle, our fathers under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them. It remained in the land until the time of David, who enjoyed God's favor and asked that he might provide a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built the house for him. "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by men. As the prophet says: "'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me? says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things?' "You stiff-necked people with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— you who have received the Law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it." When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to Heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." At this, they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep. And Saul was there, giving approval to his death."

"On that day, a great persecution broke out against the Church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria...Saul began to destroy the Church. Going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison. Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and

many paralytics and cripples were healed. So there was great joy in that city... But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is the “New Wine”

The Holy Spirit is often referred to as “New Wine.” And just like you cannot put new wine into old wineskins because it will burst, you cannot put the Holy Spirit into the “OLD” man. “New Wine” can ONLY be put into a “NEW” man.

Jesus said, “No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out, and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.” Matthew 9:15–17



Because of Adam and Eve’s sin (The Fall), sin is the default setting for MAN. The Bible reveals it, and our personal lives confirm it. Every person born (natural birth) is programmed to follow the “Sin Nature.” According to Galatians 5:16-22, “Sin Nature” is apparent:

- Sexual Immorality, Impurity, Debauchery, Idolatry, Witchcraft, Hatred, Discord, Jealousy, Fits of Rage, Selfish Ambition, Dissensions, Factions, Envy, Drunkenness, Orgies, and the like.

In the “Old Covenant,” God required blood for the remission of sins, so He set up a “Temporary System.” When a person sinned, they went to the Temple with a spotless animal, like a sheep, and sacrificed it. After, a right relationship with God was restored-Until the Next Sin! Therefore, the sacrificial system was never-ending.

God took ALL sin and put it ALL on Jesus. In the “New Covenant,” God no longer requires the sacrifice of an animal. Instead, God provided His one and only Son, Jesus Christ—the Spotless Passover Lamb—to be the atoning sacrifice. Therefore, when a person believes the Gospel of Jesus Christ, a miraculous event takes place. God’s Precious Holy Spirit enters (takes up “residence” or “indwells”) the believer and gives them a “NEW” Spirit.

Baptism in the Jordan River



The Jordan River flows southward from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea. You may choose to be baptized in the Jordan River to celebrate your NEW birth in Christ. Even if you were baptized before, the experience of being baptized in the Jordan River is—exhilarating! “Baptism” is an act of obedience demonstrated by a new believer after they have believed the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Public testimony of “Faith” says, “I am a disciple of Jesus Christ.”

Jesus said, “All authority in Heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Matt. 28:19-20**

Caesarea



There are several sites associated with Caesarea. King Herod built one of his many homes along the Mediterranean Sea (in Caesarea). As you look at the picture, imagine how grand his house must have been.



King Herod also built a magnificent hippodrome and amphitheater, still standing. You'll climb the stairs and look down from the top of the Hippodrome. There's Michelle. I took the picture from the top of the Hippodrome. By the way, live concerts are held here from time to time.

King Herod also built a fantastic aqueduct system in Caesarea, and Caesarea is mentioned many times throughout the New Testament. Pictured are Michelle and me.

In Caesarea, other events took place. Many are recorded in the book of Acts.

- ❖ Philip, the evangelist, lived in Caesarea with his four daughters. Act 21:8-9
- ❖ After Paul's conversion on the Road to Damascus, Paul sailed from Caesarea to Tarsus. Acts 9:30
- ❖ Paul passed through Caesarea during his second and third missionary journeys.
- ❖ Later, Paul was held as a prisoner in Caesarea for two years (Acts 24), where he was put on trial (Acts 23:31-26:32) before his voyage to Rome. In Caesarea, Herod Agrippa was struck down by God for his idolatrous blasphemy. (Acts 12:19-23).

It was in Caesarea that Peter also had the vision that showed him that the Gospel was to go out to Gentiles as well as Jews.

"At Caesarea, there was a man named Cornelius... One day at about three in the afternoon, he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!... Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon, who is called Peter...Peter went up on the roof to pray...while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw Heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." This happened three times, and immediately, the sheet was taken back to Heaven...While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. So, get up and go downstairs... Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil because God was with him. "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles." Acts 10:1-48

Caesarea is also the home to the ONLY golf course in Israel. For the golfing enthusiasts, I suggest staying at the Dan Caesarea Golf Hotel on your second or third trip to Israel. Then, you'll have bragging rights with your golfing partners back home. "I golfed in ISRAEL!"

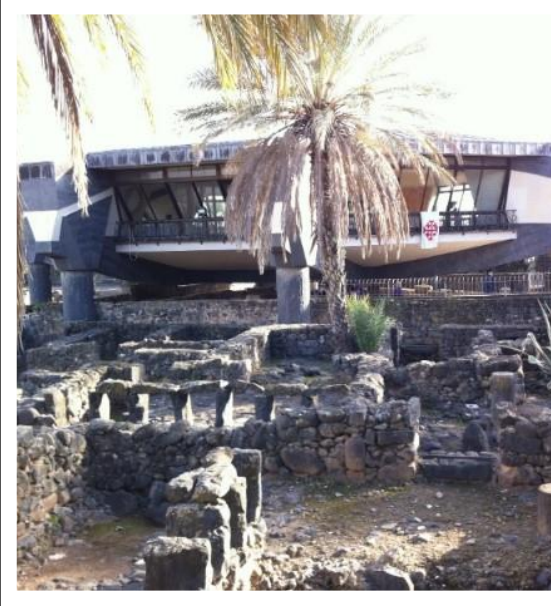
It was in Caesarea where Jesus commissioned Peter.

"When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in Heaven. **And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades [HELL] will not overcome it.**" Matthew 16:13–19



Here are three churches related to Peter.

St. Peter's House



Pictured are the ruins of the “House of St. Peter” (in Capernaum), which served as a meeting place for early Christians. It was here that **Jesus healed Peter’s mother-in-law**.

“When Jesus came into Peter’s house, he saw Peter’s mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.” Matthew 8:14-15

Reflecting on the stones that formed Peter’s house, I was reminded that you and I are living stones and part of His Church.

“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—**you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house** to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture, it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,” and “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. “1 Peter 2:4–10

A modern church was built atop the ruins of St. Peter’s House in the 1990s, with a glass floor in the middle so visitors can see the original Church below.

Saint Peter's Church



While in Jaffa, you will visit the “BIG fish” statue and “The Church of St. Peter.” This site marks the site where Peter had a vision about the “great sheet.” This occurred while Peter was at Simon’s home, the tanner. Peter also had the vision that showed him that the Gospel was to go out to the Gentiles as well as the Jews.

Church of Saint Peter of Gallicantu



Located on **Mount Zion**, the Church of ‘Saint Peter of Gallicantu’ takes its name from the word ‘Gallicantu,’ which means ‘cock’s-crow’ in remembrance of Peter denying Jesus three times.

Jesus predicts that Peter will deny Him three times.

“Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.” Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.” “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “this very night before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” Matthew 26:31–35

Peter denies Jesus three times.

“Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year... Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard, but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there, and brought Peter in. “You are not one of his disciples, are you?” the girl at the door asked Peter. He replied, “I am not.” [first denial] ...Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, “You are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it, saying, “I am not.” [second denial] One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, “Didn’t I see you with him in the olive grove?” Again, Peter denied it, [third denial], and at that moment, a rooster began to crow. John 18:12–27

The Church, God's Peculiar People

The Jewish people are “Peculiar People,” and Israel is God’s “Treasured Possession.” But after Jesus sent down His Precious Holy Spirit and the “Church Age” began, the Church is now God’s “Peculiar People.”

In saying this, it's important to remember that the Church has NOT replaced Israel.

Instead, both Israel and the Church are “Peculiar” to God.

They are both HIS “Treasured Possession.”

“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture, it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now, to you who believe this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone,” and “A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” 1 Peter 2:4–12

“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age. At the same time, we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearance of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own.” Titus 2:11–14

There are many Churches in Israel, and throughout your tour of Israel, you will discover many of them. Whenever you see or visit a “Church,” keep the term “Church Age” in mind.

The Church HAS NOT REPLACED ISRAEL!!!

The MOST Crucial Question ANYONE Can Ask—
“How can a mortal be righteous before God?” Job 9:2

The answer to that question is revealed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus is the Jewish Messiah.

What is the Gospel? It is “Good News!”

God’s redemptive purposes are revealed in His “Eight Covenants.” “Three Covenants” provides context for concisely proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. They are categorized as the “Bad News,” the “Old News,” and the “Good News.”

Edenic Covenant

“Bad News”

SINFUL

“LIFE”

It is a Conditional Covenant Between God and Adam that is NO longer in effect.

In God’s First Covenant, God commands Adam NOT to eat from “The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.” Eternal life with God was available to Adam and Eve by eating from the “Tree of Life” in the middle of the “Garden of Eden.” But they ate from “The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” instead. Adam, the “first man,” sinned, and by his sin, he blew it for ALL Mankind. “We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one...” Romans 3

The “Edenic” Covenant is NO longer in effect; however, the impact of Adam’s sin is. The Bible Outlines and Reality Confirms that all people are “born” to live out their lives by the Sinful Nature. Galatians 5:19-21 outlines the sinful nature: Sexual immorality, Impurity, Debauchery, Idolatry, Witchcraft, Hatred, Discord, Jealousy, Fits of Rage, Selfish ambition, Dissensions, Factions, Envy, Drunkenness and Orgies.

No One is immune from the reality of sin. From birth, we sin against others, and others sin against us. Most of the time, when we sin, we “think” we are getting away with sin because there are no immediate “external” consequences. But that’s not true. **All sin has consequences**. It may not be legal, monetary, or other retributive “external” consequences, but ALL sin brings about “internal death” or even “literal death.” Internal death includes emotional, psychological, and mindful consequences such as guilt etc. On the flip side, when others sin against us, it often hurts deeply and can also produce the effects of “internal death.”

In summary, we are all born destined to live by our “desires” and “choices” — NOT God’s. We are, by default, bound to our sinful nature and to reap the “internal and literal death” consequence of our sins. All this and more is Bad News.

Old Covenant “OLD NEWS”

WORKS “LIFE”

It is a conditional covenant between God and Israel that is no longer in effect.



At Mount Sinai, God gave the Jews 613 Laws. One of the Laws instructed the Jews to place God’s Word ON their Minds and ON their Hearts. This was accomplished with two small boxes called “**Tefillin.**” Therefore, God’s Word was **symbolically** placed “externally” ON their Minds and ON their Hearts. In the picture, God’s Word is placed on the **head** (mind) (See the **Red** arrow) and the left arm (closest to the **heart**). See the **Blue** arrow. The Jews also placed Scriptures inside a covering called a “Mezuzah,” which is hung on the door frame of their homes (on the right side). See **Orange** Arrow. One passage of Scripture inside the Tefillin and Mezuzah is called the “Shema.” “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:4–9

It’s important to remember that God’s Law has no power to cause anyone NOT to steal, bear false testimony, covet your neighbor’s property, etc. Instead, **the “Law” revealed that we are sinful and cannot obey it.** “For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “Do not covet.” But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from Law, sin is dead. Once, I was alive apart from Law, but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life, and I died. **I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death.** For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment deceived me and, through the commandment, put me to death. So then, the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous, and good. Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! But in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it produced death in me through what was good.” Rom. 7

In the “Old Covenant,” God also set up a system for dealing with “ongoing sin.” God’s “system” required a blood sacrifice to “cover” sin. God gave Moses “specific instructions on how to construct a “Tabernacle,” which was replaced with the First and Second Temple. “Righteousness” or Right Standing with God was unobtainable because “man” kept sinning. Therefore, God’s people had to keep coming back to the Tabernacle or Temple and sacrifice an animal sacrifice. Its blood would be shed for the remission or forgiveness of sins committed.



Sacrifices were made at the “Brazen Altar of Sacrifice” (see **BLACK** arrow). Millions of animals were sacrificed, and a lot of blood was spilled. “This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the Law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool, and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. He said, “This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep.” In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. **In fact, the Law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.**” Hebrews 9:18–22

The sacrificial system was never-ending as the people of God continued to sin. **Therefore, God had it in mind to replace the “Old Covenant” with a “New Covenant.”** “The time is coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel [Israel- was the “Northern Kingdom” consisting of Ten Tribes] and with the house of Judah. [Judah was the “Southern Kingdom” comprised of Two Tribes). It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my Law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD, ‘because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” Jeremiah 31:31-34

New Covenant “Good News”

GRACE “LIFE”

An Unconditional Covenant Between God and Israel is still in effect.

The Good News of God’s eighth covenant, “New Covenant,” is that God no longer requires an animal’s sacrifice to forgive sins. Therefore, instead of putting sin on an animal (“Old News”) as the Jews did. **God placed “All” our sins “Past, Present, and Future” on His One and Only Son, Jesus Christ, the Jewish Messiah.** The “New Covenant” was enacted at the moment of Jesus’ death on the cross.

The Gospel or “Good News” of Jesus Christ encompasses these Four Truths.

- 1-** Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross as a sin substitute, and His blood was spilled to cover and forgive all past, present, and future sins.
- 2-** Jesus died and was buried that same day.
- 3-** Three days later, the gravestone that sealed Jesus’s body was miraculously rolled away, and Jesus Christ was resurrected.
- 4-** Jesus Christ gives us His LIFE through the indwelling, Precious Holy Spirit.

The “Life of Grace” of the “New Covenant” offers “True Life,” replacing the “Life of Works” of the “Old Covenant,” which offers no life at all. “Righteousness” or “Right Standing” with God (which includes forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and a relationship with God), once unattainable in the “Old Covenant” (no one could obey all 613 Laws), is now obtainable in the “New Covenant.” “Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the Law; rather, through the Law, we become conscious of sin. But now a righteousness from God, apart from Law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.” Romans 3

Belief or Faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

Rescues you from Satan, sin, Hell, and the grave- **“You Receive Salvation From God.”**

Puts you in “right standing” with God- **“You Are Declared Righteousness By God.”**

Therefore, here is the Biblical model for receiving “salvation” and “righteousness.”

“If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved... “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:8-13

The Biblical Model for Receiving “Salvation” and “Righteousness” from God

Here’s the Biblical roadmap.

“The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: **That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” Romans 10:8-13

Let’s break down the verses into four parts.

“That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord.”

*“And believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. You will be **saved.**”*

*“For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are **saved.**”*

*“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be **saved.**”*

1- ***“That if You Confess with Your Mouth, Jesus is Lord.”***

“Jesus is Lord of ALL, or He is not Lord at ALL.”

We don’t use the word “Lord” in our modern culture. So, most people do not know what “Lord” means. Therefore, when you confess “Jesus as Lord,” you say I’m no longer in charge of my life. **NOW**, Jesus Christ is in charge of every detail of my life.

You are affirming His:

- Authority
- Sovereignty
- Rulership

Confessing “Jesus as Lord” is a humble act that transfers control of your life to Jesus Christ.

- ✓ You are humbled when you say Jesus is the authority. I’m not.
- ✓ You are humbled when you say Jesus provided for my salvation. I can’t.
- ✓ You are humbled when you say Jesus rules over every aspect of my life. I can’t.

When you confess “Jesus as Lord,” you are saying, **“He is MY Lord,”** and HE is in control over “everything” in your life. It includes your finances, family, relationships, mind, emotions, work, children, marriage, health, education, profession, future, etc. Therefore, when communicating the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ to an unbeliever, we must explain the Biblical

definition of “Lord.” They must understand that confessing “Jesus as Lord” means giving up total control of their lives and turning everything over to Jesus Christ.

I have heard evangelists, pastors, and teachers selling “fire insurance,” saying, “Confess ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and you won’t go to Hell.” This point is debatable, but one thing is not. Confessing “Jesus as Lord” is an act of “humility.” Let’s look at the point of coming to God in humility and making Him Lord.

In the following passage, a man “falls on his knees” (a humble gesture) and addresses Jesus as a “Good Teacher.” However, the better translation is “**Master.**” The man wants to know how to have **eternal life**. With love, Jesus looks at the man and says, “*Go sell everything you have and give it to the poor.*” It is important to note that Jesus is not saying that “everyone” must sell everything and give it to the poor to inherit eternal life. Jesus tests this man to see if “**HE is Lord**” (Master). The man failed and walked away, “sad” because he had great wealth. **The man was unwilling to give Jesus Christ total authority, sovereignty, and rulership over his life.**

“As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’” “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven. Then come, follow me.” At this, the man’s face fell. He went away sad because he had great wealth.” Mark 10:17-22

In the following passage, Jesus addresses those who are confident in their own “righteousness”—people who trust in their “**works**” to achieve “right standing” with God. Remember that righteousness with God is not attained by works but by believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus compares two people. The first person, a Pharisee, gloats about how he is “good” and emphasizes all the “good” things “he” is doing. The other person is a “tax collector,” the lowest and most hated profession of that day. The tax collector would not even look up to Heaven but beat his breast and say, “**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**” Jesus says the tax collector went home “justified” (righteous) before God. The tax collector displayed true humility in coming to God. The tax collector knew **nothing he could do** to earn God’s favor and eternal life. “Salvation” and “Righteousness” are credited to anyone (Jew or Gentile) who humbly believes in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This truth is a stumbling block to many, especially Jewish people.

“To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ “But the tax collector stood at a distance. **He would not even look up to Heaven but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’** “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” Luke 18:9-14

Here is an evangelistic passage of Scripture many evangelists miss.

“You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn, and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” James 4:4-10

You and I have heard this passage of Scripture used in many contexts for “believers.” And there are truths for believers we can apply. However, I am convinced that this passage of Scripture addresses “unbelievers.” I believe this because James uses the term “**sinner**.” The word “sinner” is always used in the Bible to refer to “unbelievers.” James also begins this passage with “adulterous” people. “Adulterous” is also a word used to address unbelievers. This passage reveals what an unbeliever does and says. Thankfully, God wants all unbelievers to humble themselves and “**Come to Him!**” Here are my observations from this passage.

- A friend of the world is an enemy of God, but God longs to be your friend. Come to Him!
- The Holy Spirit does not dwell in the heart of an unbeliever. But God wants to place His Holy Spirit in you. Come to Him!
- The proud cannot obtain God’s grace- “salvation and righteousness.” Therefore, humble yourself before God, and He will give you His grace. Come to Him!
- The devil’s evil demons inhabit unbelievers. But they cannot occupy believers. Therefore, return to God, and the wicked demons will flee from you. Come to Him!
- You have dirty hands because of your sins. Wash your hands with “Me,” and you will be clean. Come to Him!
- You have evil hearts. Purify your hearts with “Me,” and you will be whole. Come to Him!
- You have one foot in the world and one foot in religiosity. You are double-minded. Instead, say goodbye to the world and choose “Me.” Come to Him!
- Grieve, mourn, and wail because of your sins. Change the laughter about your sins to mourning because of your sins. Come to Him!
- Change the joy about your sins to the gloom of recognizing the ungodliness of your sins and sinfulness. Come to Him!
- Believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and confess, “Jesus is Lord.” Turn over control of every detail of your life to Jesus Christ. Humble yourself before the Lord, and He will lift you up. You will be “saved” (receive salvation and righteousness). Come to Him!
- A true believer cannot attend Church on Sunday and do “good works” (like serving in the children’s story), then go to work, lie, steal, and cheat. True believers cannot watch pornography, be unfaithful to their mate, ignore their children, be “friends” with the world system, and still believe they are “friends” with God. Many unbelievers have one foot in the Church and their other foot in the world. They are “double-minded.” However, a true believer is single-minded. Their focus and allegiance are to Jesus Christ. Yes, all believers sin

sometimes. However, a true believer is under the authority of Jesus Christ. God's Holy Spirit convicts the believer's heart concerning their sin. True believers repent and turn away from their sins. So, if there is no conviction of sin and repentance from sin, the so-called believer is most likely not a Christian.

2- "And Believe in Your Heart That God Raised Him From the Dead, You Will Be Saved."

Our Christian faith rests on the "foundation" of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, believing in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is also believing and accepting everything else in the Scriptures about Jesus Christ and what He did and will do in the believer's life.

Here are the truths of the New Covenant that a believer receives.

- ❖ You are declared "Righteous" before God and are now in "right standing" with Him.
- ❖ You have the assurance that all of your past, present, and future sins are forgiven.
- ❖ You have 24/7 access to God and a personal relationship with Him.
- ❖ You have His LIFE in you.
- ❖ You have the guarantee of eternal life with God.
- ❖ You have the assurance of a bodily resurrection.
- ❖ You have the sure hope that you will rule and reign with Jesus Christ in His Glorious Kingdom.
- ❖ You will receive eternal rewards from God.

Sadly, many will read the resurrection stories and still choose to be unbelievers.

"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ, all will be made alive. But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him... I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last Trumpet. For the Trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 15: 12-58

The entirety of the Bible rests on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus Christ also means accepting and believing everything else the Bible says. There is no such thing as "Easy Believism" in the Bible. Granted, you won't understand "everything" in the Bible immediately. Believing God raised Jesus from the dead is not the end but the beginning.

3- “For it is With Your Heart That You Believe and Are Justified and it is With Your Mouth That You Confess and Are Saved.”



The terms “belief” and “faith” are “*cousins*” in modern usage. But from a **Biblical perspective**, **belief and faith are “*identical twins*.”** Therefore, “belief” and “faith” in the New Testament are interchangeable. The ideogram of this gold coin represents **belief** or **faith** in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. On one side, “**salvation**” means being “rescued” from something. The flip side is that “**Righteousness**” (NASB) or “Justified” (NIV) means to be in “right standing.”

4- “Everyone Who Calls on the Name of the Lord Will Be Saved.”

ONLY Belief or Faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

Rescues you from Satan, sin, Hell, and the grave- “**You Receive Salvation From God.**”

Puts you in “right standing” with God- “**You Are Declared Righteousness By God.**”

When you’re ready:

“Confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” Romans 10:8-13

I Confess with my mouth that “Jesus is Lord.”

I Believe in my heart that “Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead.”

Welcome into God’s Kingdom!

Therefore, at the moment of your “Belief,” the Precious Holy Spirit takes up residence inside you, and HE can manifest the “**Fruits of the Spirit**” through you as you abide with Him. They are Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control.

The Christian LIFE is a moment-by-moment choice to abide by and walk with HIM. The Holy Spirit, who now lives in you, will begin His transformative work in you and your life.