

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

RLJ-1592

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MARCH 26, 2017

PART 21: JEWS VS. GENTILES

A man in Norway recently told me how his nation converted to Roman Catholicism in 1000 A.D. when the king changed religion. The people were forced to give up their pagan gods and few were born again. Norway was later ruled by a Danish king, and when this monarch converted to the Lutheran faith in 1536, another mass conversion took place. Depending upon your viewpoint, it could be said that Norway has been a Christian nation for 1,000 years with no Jewish influence during this time period.

Although it would be good, this man doubts that Jesus Christ will physically come to reign the world because he is not sure the Bible support such a belief. He told me that the Christian faith in Norway has only been perverted by Zionism during the last 30-40 years.

This is especially interesting since this message deals with Israel and its role during the 1,000 year kingdom. I am moved by the Holy Spirit to begin by establishing that the King James Bible is a true version of the Old and New Testaments as found in original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts. **Psalm 119:89; Matthew 5:17-18; Hebrews 9:16-17**

FIRST FRUIT

This message is going to deal with concepts that are difficult to understand. Even the apostle Peter had problems understanding some of Paul's writing. **2 Peter 3:15-16**

The people of Israel are the first fruit in the Kingdom of God. Jesus came to the Israelites first with the Gospel. **John 1:1-5, 9-13**

The church on the day of Pentecost was part of the first fruit. **Acts 2:1-4**

GENTILES GRAFTED IN

Paul states that if the first fruit (Jews) is holy, so are the people of Israel, and if the root (Jesus) is holy, so are the branches. **Romans 11:16**

Because of their sin and unbelief, the branches (Jews) were cut off and Gentiles who received Christ were grafted in. Gentiles should not boast since it is the root that nourishes the rest of the tree. **verse 17-18**

Do not teach that the Jews were cut off so the Gentiles could be saved. **verse 19**

It was their fault since it they made the choice to reject Jesus as the Messiah. The Gentiles had faith which the Jews did not possess. Therefore, Gentiles should not be proud but fearful of the fact you could have been lost as well. **verse 20**

If God did not spare the original branches, He will certainly not spare the Gentiles if they do not believe as well. **verse 21**

Be aware of the goodness of God and don't take it for granted. Examine the judgments of God. **verse 22; Galatians 6:7-8**

Jews can still be saved and grafted back into the tree. **Romans 11:23; John 6:53; 65**



God can take Jews who have rebelled against Him and turn them around. **Romans 11:24**

ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED

Paul stated that all Israel will be saved. **Romans 11:25-27**

This will take place toward the end of the reign of Antichrist prior to the second coming of Jesus. God will supernaturally remove the blindness placed on the Israelites and they will receive the gift of repentance and embrace Jesus Christ. **Isaiah 10:20-23; Ezekiel 36:16-38; 37:1-28; Zechariah 12:8-14**

ISRAELITES ARE NOW THE ENEMY OF GOD

The people of Israel are the enemy of God, but because of the promise to Abraham, they are still God's beloved. That doesn't mean they everyone will be saved; only a remnant will be saved. **Romans 11:28-29**

As a Gentile, you did not initially believe in Jesus, but you still received mercy despite your unbelief. **verse 30**

Paul is hoping that the mercy of God will also be extended to the Jews. **verse 31- 32**

WHO CAN KNOW THE MIND OF GOD?

Paul realized he did not know how God thinks and that the wisdom of God is not understandable to men. The Lord will give mercy to some and reject others. **verses 33-36**

SUMMARY

Gentiles should not boast over the fact that the Jews had been rejected by God and that He had turned to the Gentiles; instead, we should be thankful, humble, loving and praying for the salvation of the Israelites.

All the people of Israel will be saved at the very end but those who have died in their sins from the time of Christ to this point are lost and waiting for the Great White Throne Judgment.

Paul did not understand the thinking of God and all he could do was to trust in the Lord and accept God's way without questioning it.

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?