



Study: What is going on with Israel?

INTRODUCTION

What is going on with Israel? Where are Christians getting their opinions and beliefs?

If God could permanently abandon Israel after making unconditional covenant promises to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and the prophets – then how can any New Testament believer be certain He will never abandon us?

The issue is bigger than Israel. The issue is whether God keeps His promises when man fails.

Israel **failed** – in a big way.

Israel **rejected** and killed God’s prophets.

Israel **rejected** the promised Messiah.

Israel **crucified** the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yet Paul says in **Romans 11:1**, “**Hath God cast away his people? God forbid.**”

That phrase settles the doctrine before the rest of the chapter and this study even continues...

Truth: God’s present setting aside of Israel is judicial, partial, and temporary – not final.

1. Israel’s unbelief did not SURPRISE God.

Romans 9:27 – *Esaias also crieth concerning Israel... a remnant shall be saved:*

Romans 10:21 – *But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands...*

Romans 11:1 – *...Hath God cast away his people? God forbid... I also am an Israelite...*

Insights:

- ✓ Israel’s rejection was foreseen, but not final. Prophets saw national rebellion, hardened hearts, and rejection of God’s messengers – yet covenant promises were never canceled.
- ✓ Israel rejected Christ **nationally**, but not every Jew rejected Him... example: **PAUL!**
- ✓ The nation stumbled but not beyond recovery. It did not cease to exist in prophecy.

Comparing Scriptures

Isaiah 53:3 – *He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows...*

Zechariah 12:10 – *And I will pour upon the house of David... shall look upon me...*

Acts 3:17-21 – *... I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers...*

Consider...

*A branch cut back in winter looks dead, but the root is still alive.
Israel looks spiritually barren now, but the covenant “root” still lives.*

2. Israel's blindness is partial and TEMPORARY during the Church Age.

Romans 11:25 – *For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this MYSTERY, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **BLINDNESS IN PART** is happened to Israel, **UNTIL** the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.*

Insights:

- ✓ Blindness *in part* is **happened to Israel**, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in!
“Blindness” – a spiritual inability to recognize Jesus Christ nationally
“In part” – not every Jew – many Jews have been saved individually
“Until” – an ending point exists – that single word destroys “Replacement Theology”

Comparing Scriptures

Ephesians 3:4-6 – ... That the Gentiles should be **fellowheirs**, and of **the same body**, and **partakers of his promise in Christ** by the gospel:

Church Age Truth

Right now God is gathering Jews and Gentiles into one body: the Church.

The Church Age is not cancelation of the Jews – it is a parenthesis in God's **TIME** calendar.

Prophetic Transition

When the Church is removed at the Rapture (**1Ths 4:16-17**), prophetic focus returns to Israel.

- **Daniel 9:27** – Daniel's 70th week resumes ... *confirm the covenant... for one week*
- **Jeremiah 30:7** – Jacob's trouble begins ... *it is even the time of Jacob's trouble*
- Israel will become central to God's focus again!
- God paused Israel nationally, but He did not erase Israel prophetically!

3. Israel will be RESTORED through Tribulation and Christ's return!

Romans 11:26 – *And so **all Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and **shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob**:*

Romans 11:27 – *For **this is my covenant unto them**, when I shall take away their sins.*

Insights:

- ✓ “All Israel” does not mean every Jew throughout all of history!
- ✓ It means the surviving, believing remnant alive when Jesus Christ comes for them!

Key Prophecies

- **Revelation 7** – 144,000 Jewish witnesses ... *them which were sealed... of Israel*
- **Zechariah 12:10** – national mourning when they see Christ! ...*look upon me*
- **Zechariah 13:8-9** – a third part remnant refined through fire! ...*It is my people*
- He does not return to Rome... or Washington. He returns to **JERUSALEM!**

Comparing Scriptures

- **Zechariah 14:4** – And his feet **shall** stand in that day upon the mount of Olives...
- **Revelation 19:11** – And I **saw** heaven opened, and behold a white horse...
- **Luke 1:32-33** – He **shall** be great... And he **shall** reign over the house of Jacob...

Jerusalem Matters

David's throne in prophecy is **LITERAL!** Amen. Amen. Amen.

If Jerusalem is symbolic, then David's covenant becomes symbolic too. (*which it is not!*)

The Bible presents a literal throne, a literal kingdom, and a literal reign of Jesus Christ!

4. Summarizing the chaos and hatred of Jews in the world TODAY.

Yes...

- ❖ Many Jews rejected and presently still reject Jesus Christ!
- ❖ Many Jews violently oppose Christians and gospel preaching!
- ❖ Modern Israel often appears deeply and passionately anti-biblical and anti-**GOD!**

But Paul explains why...

Romans 11:28 – *As concerning the gospel, they are ENEMIES for your sakes:
But as touching the election, they are BELOVED for the fathers' sakes.*

The verse gives **BOTH** truths at the same time...

Presently – they are enemies concerning the gospel!

Covenant – they are beloved because of God's promise to Abraham!

THE BIBLICAL POSITION

We do not defend Israel's unbelief.

We do not excuse Israel's rejection of Jesus Christ.

We do not approve of or condone Israel's violence and rebellion against God.

We do recognize God's covenant promises to the nation of Israel.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

The same God who will restore Israel after centuries of rebellion...

... is the same God who restores rebellious and fallen believers today.

Israel's future is proof that failure is not always final when the word of God has spoken.

The Cross did not end Israel's story.

The Church did not replace Israel.

The Tribulation will indeed refine Israel.

And Jesus Christ will reign from Jerusalem exactly as God has promised!