



World Christian Fellowship

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Future of Israel

Luke 13:34-35

Luke 13:34-35, *“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! ³⁵ See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ ”*

In the past three weeks we looked at the following.

History of Israel.

Compassion of God

Judgement of God

Hope in God who is faithful.

Loved by God and hate by Israel.

Covenantal Theology

Covenantal Theologians organize all history and theology around several covenants, or arrangements between God and humans or the Son. They are:

1. Covenant of Redemption

This covenant is optional. It occurred before creation.

The Son' agreement - perfect obedience in death promised to the Father.

The Father' agreement - promised to the Son.

- a) all the Son's needs to be met
- b) Holy Spirit given to the Church
- c) salvation to all believers
- d) exaltation of the son.

2. The Covenant of Works

Lasting from creation until the fall.

Man's conditions - Adam must obey God

God rewards obedience with eternal life, punishes disobedience with death.

3. The Covenant of Grace

Lasting from the fall until the second coming.

Man's conditions - saving faith issuing in obedience

God's response - salvation in all its phases.

Dispensational Theology

Dispensational theology organizes history and theology around a series of dispensations, which are each different "economies" or arrangements decreed by God.

Each dispensation begins with an offer of blessing by God and ends with failure by man to meet God's conditions and a resulting period of Divine judgement.

Old line dispensationalists taught 7 dispensations.

Newer, moderate dispensationalism focus only on #1, 5, 6, and 7.

1. The Dispensation of Innocence - Untested Holiness

- Began at Creation and lasted until the fall
- People could have direct fellowship with God, but they must not eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
- Final judgment: People expelled from the Garden

2. The Dispensation of Conscience - Cain & Abel

- Began at the time of the fall and lasted until the flood
- People were responsible to live according to their God-given conscience
- Final judgment: Universal Flood

3. The Dispensation of Government - Noah

- Lasted from the time when God offered Noah a covenant with the rainbow until the Tower of Babel
- People were to follow God both through their own conscience and by establishing just government
- Final judgment: The Tower of Babel - confusion of tongues

4. The Dispensation of Promise - Abraham

- From the calling of Abraham (Gen. 12) until the Exodus.
- The Covenant People were to remain faithful to Yahweh alone and practice circumcision
- Final judgment: slavery in Egypt

5. The Dispensation of Law - Moses

- From the giving of the law to Moses until the second coming of Christ.
- The Covenant People were to be faithful to God through obeying the Law
- Final judgment: The great tribulation

6. The Dispensation of Grace or the Church

- Lasts from the day of Pentecost until the Rapture
- The church is to render saving faith in following Christ
- No ending judgment for this dispensation except for the counterfeit church, which goes into the tribulation with the rest of the world

7. The Dispensation of Kingdom

- Corresponds roughly to the Millennium
- People are to obey Christ who reigns on earth
- Great White Throne

But who are we?

What do we, WCF, believe?

The difference between Israel and the Church is perhaps one of the most obvious differences between Covenant theology and Dispensationalism.

Covenantal theology, the Church and Israel are essentially the same, the one simply a continuation of the other. They see Stephen's reference to the "church in the wilderness" (Acts 7:38) as proof positive that the church existed in the Old Testament despite the fact that the Lord referred to it in the future tense in Matthew 16:18, when He said "*I will build my church.*" To them, the church always was present in the Old Testament, instead of being inaugurated at Pentecost (Acts 2).

The promises made to Israel in the Old Testament are erroneously applied to the Church, since it sees the Church and Israel as the same.

When it comes to unfulfilled prophecy, Covenant theology also lends itself to the employment of a double hermeneutic, meaning two ways of interpreting scripture. This means

applying a literal interpretation of the Bible on one hand and a symbolic or allegorical interpretation on the other. In other words, in matters dealing with the past fulfilment of scripture, a literal method is utilized. But when it comes to unfulfilled prophecy, instead of maintaining a consistency in Bible interpretation, a symbolic hermeneutic is employed.

Dispensationalism falsely denies that Christ established His kingdom in the first century.

Dispensationalism falsely denies that the Abrahamic Covenants and David Covenants have seen their fulfilment in Christ.

Dispensationalism falsely holds that only certain parts of scripture apply to certain ages, a view adamantly denied by both Christ and Paul.

So, we, WCF believe in the whole bible.

What about all the Old Testament promises of Israel's salvation, blessing, land, king, kingdom, world influence?

What about the redemption that was promised to them?

What about the everlasting blessing that was promised to them?

What about the “forever’s” that are linked with their future?

What is the future of Israel in God's plan?

Is this desolation the last and final word? Or is there something else to come?

V 35, *See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' "*

Until plays a key role in the history of Israel.

We may not be able to comprehend the future of Israel today as we stand in the history.

But certainly, sometime in the future they will say looking unto Jesus what was prophesied in **Psalms 118:26**,

You can ask this question: Why we should bother? Whether Israel is restored or not?

Because it is the question on the character of God.

If God does not keep His word to Israel, then how He will keep His word towards the church?

God called Abraham in Genesis 12.

Made covenant with Abraham in Genesis 15.

Gave Torah, five books of the Bible through Moses to Israel.

Made a covenant with David 2 Samuel 7.

Jeremiah 23:5-6, *"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. ⁶In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell*

safely: Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Jeremiah 31st chapter is the New covenant passage.

Jeremiah 31:31-32, *“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ³²not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord.*

Referring to the covenant made with Moses.

Jeremiah 31:33-35, *But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” ³⁵Thus says the Lord, Who gives the sun for a light by day, The ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, Who disturbs the sea, And its waves roar (The Lord of hosts is His name):*

Who does God say that He will make a covenant?
Israel!

Why?

His name is at stake!

Jeremiah 31:36-37, *“If those ordinances depart From before Me, says the Lord, Then the seed of Israel shall also cease From being a nation before Me forever.”* ³⁷ Thus says the Lord: *“If heaven above can be measured, And the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel For all that they have done, says the Lord.*

God controls the day, the night, and the seasons.

We have not seen any of these fulfilled!

The promise of the Old Testament is that God is going to fulfil everything He promised to that nation Israel.

Malachi prophesied about the coming messenger who will prepare the way for the Messiah in Chapter 3.

Malachi 3:1, *“Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,”* Says the Lord of hosts.

When He comes, He will bring judgement?

Malachi 3:18, *Then you shall again discern Between the righteous and the wicked, Between one who serves God And one who does not serve Him.*

The Old Testament ends with the anticipation of the coming One!

Everybody who knew the Old Testament knew that the Messiah hadn't come until Jesus arrived and the true believers, Elizabeth, Zacharias, father of John the Baptist, Mary, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, and others came to believe.

Romans 11:1, *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.*

Romans 11:11, *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.*

It is not the final end.

Romans 11:12, *Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!*

The failure of Israel the Lord to come to the world and establish the church, so their transgressions brought gospel riches to the world.

Their failure brought salvation riches to the Gentiles!

God called the nation Israel to be His witness nation in the world. Even their failure caused the gospel to go to the world.

How much greater will be the influence of their salvation and their fulfilment?

They will become the greatest evangelistic force that has ever existed in the world. As they evangelize the world beginning in the time of tribulation and throughout the whole of the millennial kingdom.

Zechariah 8:23, *“Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.” ’ ”*

Romans 11:15, *For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?*

They will come alive from their spiritual deaden.

Romans 11:23, *And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.*

God is able to craft them into the tree like the branch which was cut off.

Romans 11:25, *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.*

A partial hardening has happened to Israel. It's only partial because there's always a remnant and it's only temporary, and here's the word again, until!

Romans 11:26-27, *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; ²⁷For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins."*

All Israel will be saved and then Paul quotes the verse from the Old Testament Prophecy from Isaiah.

Isaiah 59:20-21,

Paul ends with that saying such callings are irrevocable.

Romans 11:29, *For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

This was prophesied by God through Ezekiel. The captive people who are in Babylon, taken captive because of their idolatry and their sin and their rebellion.

Ezekiel 20:13, *Yet the house of Israel rebelled against Me in the wilderness; they did not walk in My statutes; they despised My judgments, ‘which, if a man does, he shall live by them’; and they greatly defiled My Sabbaths. Then I said I would pour out My fury on them in the wilderness, to consume them.*

The promise of God through Ezekiel of a final salvation of the nation Israel.

Ezekiel 20:33-44, *“As I live,” says the Lord God, “surely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you. ³⁴ I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out. ³⁵ And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead My case with you face to face. ³⁶ Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you,” says the Lord God.*

³⁷ *“I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant; ³⁸ I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord.*

³⁹ *“As for you, O house of Israel,” thus says the Lord God: “Go, serve every one of you his idols—and hereafter—if you will not obey Me; but profane My holy name no more with your gifts and your idols. ⁴⁰ For on My holy mountain, on the mountain height*

of Israel,” says the Lord God, “there all the house of Israel, all of them in the land, shall serve Me; there I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your sacrifices, together with all your holy things. ⁴¹ I will accept you as a sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you before the Gentiles. ⁴² Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I bring you into the land of Israel, into the country for which I raised My hand in an oath to give to your fathers. ⁴³ And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed. ⁴⁴ Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have dealt with you for My name’s sake, not according to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel,” says the Lord God.’ ”

Zechariah's given a vision of the future when Israel has been saved.

Israel is the nation with the fulfilment of the

- kingdom,
- blessing,
- redemption.

King and a glorious kingdom when they literally are the primary nation in the world ruled by Messiah. The millennial kingdom

and through them the world is being influenced for righteousness.

The whole world is being dragged to see the glory of Christ.

That's the future of Israel. Salvation, redemption, and they will become the greatest force for evangelism in the world.

Zechariah 8:20-23, *“Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Peoples shall yet come, Inhabitants of many cities; ²¹ The inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, “Let us continue to go and pray before the Lord, And seek the Lord of hosts. I myself will go also.” ²² Yes, many peoples and strong nations Shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, And to pray before the Lord.’ ²³ “Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, “Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.” ’ ’ ”*

The whole nations are going to come against Israel and then the Armageddon and through that the nation of Israel will be saved.

We have done a detailed study of the second coming of Jesus Christ, please watch it and read it.

Revelation 19:6-9, *And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! ⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him*

glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”⁸ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ ” And he said to me, “These are the true sayings of God.”

Final word!

Isaiah 62:7, *And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*

God will never rest until Israel is saved!

God will never rest until Jerusalem is righteous!!

God will never rest until the Abrahamic, Davidic promises are fulfilled through the New Covenant.

God will never rest until the millennial glory arrives.

His word is at stake, His promise.

Right now, in this age, Jew and Gentile we can come to the gospel and come to faith in Christ.

The same gospel saves Jew and Gentile.

There is Jew nor Gentile.

How wonderful it is to know that in the future all Israel will be saved!

God keeps His covenant.

So, we can trust Him for all His promises to us.