

WHO ARE GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE?

Gen 12:1-3; Rom 9:6 (NASU)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. There is and has always been speculation about Israel's return as the special chosen people of God. (Israel, the Jewish nation-state, was established as an independent democratic state on May 14, 1948) On December 6, 2017, US President Trump announced United States recognition of Jerusalem as capital of Israel and ordered planning of relocation of the U.S. Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.
- B. God did choose Israel as his people and made of them a great nation, as per his plan and purpose
- C. Are they still God's chosen people and a nation with God's special and miraculous help like they once enjoyed?
- D. Much if not all teaching done on subject comes from what is commonly known as premillennialism - which deals with what will happen before millennium (thousand year reign of Christ on earth) which the Bible does not teach in the first place.

DISCUSSION:

I. WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT

- A. The promise made to Abraham was unconditional
 - 1. Palestine given to Abraham and descendants
 - 2. The covenant made with Abraham is eternal
- B. A literal fulfillment is yet to come
- C. Promises cannot be spiritually fulfilled in the church

II. THE PROMISE MADE TO ABRAHAM

- A. First made to Abraham in Gen 12:1-3
 - 1. Leave his home and go into a land shown by God
 - 2. Make of Abraham a great nation
 - 3. In thee shall all nations be blessed
- B. The land promise became a covenant Gen 15:18; 17:8
- C. Renewed to Isaac and Jacob Gen 26:1-4; 28:3,4
- D. This promise was twofold in nature
 - 1. Physical - give land, make a great nation
 - 2. Spiritual - all nations blessed through his seed

III. FULFILLMENT OF LAND PROMISE

- A. Israel did receive the land promised Acts 7:5,17
 - 1. They became a great nation & received a law
 - 2. Reception of the land completes (fulfills) promise
 - 3. The reception was unconditional Deut 28:8
 - 4. The retaining of the land was conditional Deut 28:9
- B. They received all the land that was promised
 - 1. Not one thing failed Josh 21:45
 - 2. Boundaries promised - same as possessed Gen 15:18; 1Ki 4:21 (see note from Adam Clark)

C. Note arguments made from Gen 17:8

- 1. Give unto "thee" and thy seed "after" thee
 - a. Abraham didn't possess - he wandered Acts 7:5
 - b. He received the promise thru his seed Acts 7:17
- 2. Land promised "forever" (Everlasting KJV)
 - a. "Forever" means age lasting (Youngs) - as long as God purposed and as long as they obeyed
 - b. Note the usage of "forever" in other passages
 - (1) Circumcision (everlasting) Gen 17:13
 - (2) Passover Ex 12:14
 - (3) Earth lasts Eccl 1:4

D. Remember, keeping the land was conditional

- 1. Transgression would remove them Josh 23:16
- 2. Failure to keep commands Deut chap 28, 29, 30
- 3. Broken & never put together again Jer 19:7-12

IV. WHAT ABOUT RESTORATION TO THE LAND?

- A. Restoration passages fall into one of two categories
 - 1. Restoration after Babylonian captivity
 - 2. Establishment of spiritual Israel - the church
- B. Restore physical Israel as a nation
 - 1. Ones to be restored to keep the law Deut 30:1-10
 - a. We are dead to the law Rom 7:6
 - b. Law nailed to the cross Col 2:14
 - 2. Not a national return but a "remnant" Isa 10:20-22
- C. Restore Israel spiritually - "all nations of the earth be blessed" Gen 12:1,2; Isa 2:2,3
 - 1. Last days tells when (of Mosaic system) Acts 2:17
 - 2. House of God is the church 1Tim 3:15
 - 3. Conditions of peace evident, exists in church Eph 2:13,14

V. NOT ALL ISRAEL, WHO ARE OF ISRAEL Rom 9:6 NASU

- A. The elect now have what Israel sought for Rom 11:7
- B. "SO" indicates how or the manner Rom 11:26
 - 1. All "Israel" shall be saved
 - 2. Who is Israel? Rom 9:6 ones responding to deliverer
 - 3. "All Israel" is the inward Jew Rom 9:6; the one who circumcises the heart Rom 2:29
 - 4. Note: "hope of Israel" = Christ Acts 28:20; 26:6,7

CONCLUSION:

- A. All promises involving a physical land and physical nation have been fulfilled Josh 21:45; Remember "not ought of any good thing" failed - "all came to pass"
- B. If you want to be a part of God's chosen family today you must be called by the gospel 2Thess 2:14
- C. We are now under a new covenant Heb 9:15-17 and must submit ourselves to it whether Jew or Gentile