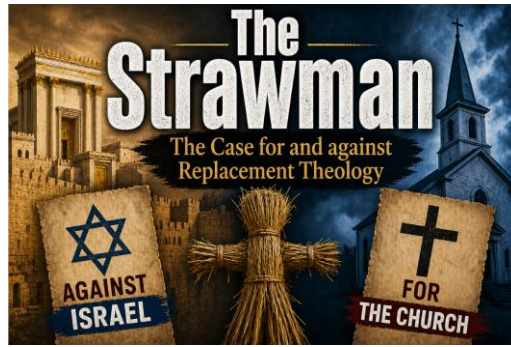




INTRODUCTION

Tonight, we continue our study, "Israel Today." We are seeking God's truth on the issue of Israel and the growing opposition and hatred for the Jews – even among professing Christians.

Many Bible believers are unaware of a growing heresy that is commonly called, "Replacement Theology." It is this false teaching that we are going to focus on tonight. You must beware as many believers just like you – who believed the same things we believe – have been duped!

Now in formal debate, a *strawman* is a fallacy in which someone misrepresents an opponent's actual position into a weaker, exaggerated, or distorted version, then argues against that weaker version instead of the real argument. We will not take this approach with this heresy.

However, there are **3 classic strawmen often used against Israel's future prophecy** and the truth we have learned over the last two weeks. We will look at them and try to get a correct view of the Satanic attack. Then, we will look at **the strongest arguments that are used to support** Replacement Theology. Rather than use a strawman to exaggerate their heretical arguments, we will seek to understand what is being set forth and compare it to the Bible.

Romans 9 – Israel's Past, Romans 10 – Israel's Present, Romans 11 – Israel's Future

1. THE STRAWMEN (Against Israel's prophetic future)

Strawman #1 "The Church replaced Israel because Israel failed."

Their Argument: God permanently discarded Israel because of unbelief.

Why a Strawman: It ignores the Holy Spirit's direct teaching and warning in Romans 11.

Biblical Answer: ***Romans 11:1 – ...Hath God cast away his people? God forbid.***

Strawman #2 "All promises to Israel are now spiritual only."

Their Argument: Land, kingdom, nation, throne – are all fulfilled symbolically in the Church.

Why a Strawman: It changes literal covenant language and promises in the Bible.

Biblical Answer: ***Genesis 15 (Israel land boundaries), Jeremiah 31 (Israel's national regathering), Ezekiel 36-37 (Israel's physical and spiritual restoration)***

Strawman #3 "Modern Israel has no prophetic relevance."

Their Argument: The present nation means nothing prophetically – only spiritual Israel matters now.

Why a Strawman: Not every political event is fulfilled prophecy – their national existence is a miracle!

Biblical Answer: ***Ezekiel 37 speaks of dry bones (physical restoration) before spiritual life.***

2. REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY (An honest look at their arguments)

- Argument #1** **“The Church is called the seed of Abraham, therefore, the Church inherits Israel’s promises.”**
- Bible Quoted:** ***Galatians 3:29** – And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed...*
- Why confusing:** It clearly says believers belong to Abraham’s seed.
- Biblical Answer:** Paul is speaking of spiritual participation in Abrahamic blessing, not cancellation of God’s covenant with Israel. Romans 11 distinguishes between “natural” and “wild branches.” And the “natural branches” will be grafted in again! If Galatians erased national Israel, Romans 11 becomes contradictory.
Sharing in Abraham’s blessing is not the same as erasing Abraham’s nation.
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- Argument #2** **“The New Testament applies Old Testament Israel language to the Church.”**
- Bible Quoted:** ***1 Peter 2:9** – But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation...*
- Why confusing:** Peter is using language that historically was applied to Israel. (***Isa 41:8; Ex 19:5-6***)
- Biblical Answer:** Shared spiritual language does not equal transferred national identity.
Peter never said that Israel no longer exists in prophecy!
Meanwhile, Paul said in ***Romans 11:26***, “And so all Israel shall be saved.”
Borrowed language does not cancel the original covenant meaning.
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- Argument #3** **“Israel rejected Christ, therefore judgment transferred covenant privilege permanently.”**
- Bible Quoted:** ***Matthew 21:43** – ...The kingdom of God shall be taken from you...*
- Why confusing:** Jesus spoke directly of kingdom removal.
- Biblical Answer:** The “kingdom of God” is a spiritual kingdom in the Bible – it is within us (***Lk 17:21***). For those that rejected Jesus Christ, they absolutely lost salvation! This has nothing to do with covenant promises being abolished forever. (***Rom 11:1***)
The restoration of the Nation of Israel will bring in the kingdom of heaven!
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- Argument #4** **“There is now 1 people of God – Israel and Church distinctions end.”**
- Bible Quoted:** ***Ephesians 2:14** – For he is our peace, who hath made both one...*
- Why confusing:** This verse clearly teaches both Jews and Gentiles become one – in Christ.
- Biblical Answer:** Unity in salvation (for those who trust Christ) does not erase covenant distinctions. In Paul’s letter to Romans, he distinguishes Israel nationally in ***Romans 9-11!***
The fact that Jews and Gentiles become one in Christ has nothing to do with the future prophetic distinctions related to the Jews.

Argument #5	“The promises were always fulfilled in Christ, not national Israel.”
Bible Quoted:	2 Corinthians 1:20 – <i>For all the promises of God in him are yea...</i>
Why confusing:	Christ is the fulfillment center of all prophetic promises and covenants.
Biblical Answer:	Yes, they are fulfilled in Christ, but Scripture still shows Christ fulfilling literal promises to Israel. (Luke 1:32-33) David’s throne is connected to Jacob (Israel). The word of God must be rightly divided to understand truth clearly.
Argument #6	“Romans 9 says not all Israel is Israel, therefore national Israel no longer matters.”
Bible Quoted:	Romans 9:6 – <i>... For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel</i>
Why confusing:	Paul clearly distinguishes Israel from others called “Israel”.
Biblical Answer:	Romans 9 narrows Israel within national Israel – it is not talking about us. A physical line to Abraham did not guarantee they are the children of promise. Paul says in Romans 11 that <i>the natural branches will be grafted in again.</i>
Argument #7	“The New Covenant belongs to the Church now.”
Bible Quoted:	Hebrews 8 – <i>... more excellent ministry... better covenant... better promises.</i>
Why confusing:	The Church clearly participates in the new testament blessings.
Biblical Answer:	Jeremiah 31:31 says, “the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah” (Heb 8:8). The Church shares spiritual blessing now, but Israel’s national promises remain. Paul speaks of 3 people in his letters – Jews, Gentiles, the Church. After the Rapture of the Church, God will return His focus to the Jews (the time of Jacob’s Trouble) and restore the remnant who trust Jesus Christ.

3. Summarizing

It is important to understand that someone holding a KJV Bible and quoting verses from that Bible may be the one Satan is using to lead people astray into this heretical doctrine of devils.

They wrestle verses to their own destruction...

2 Peter 3:16 ... *unlearned and unstable wrest... unto their own destruction.*

Revelation 2:9; 3:9 ... *say they are Jews and are not, but ARE the synagogue of Satan.*

Romans 2:28-29 *For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly... But he is a Jew...*

It has been well said:

Your **Hermeneutics** (how to study the Bible – literal, believe every word of God, etc.) determines your **Eschatology** (what you believe about the end times), and your **Eschatology** determines your **Ecclesiology** (your understanding of the Church). “Churches” that are messed up on this issue, take a more **allegorical** approach to studying the Bible which was Origen’s specialty (Origen of Alexandria, Egypt – all modern versions use his corrupt texts).

******* WARNING: THIS IS FALSE TEACHING *******

EXCERPTS FROM A FALSE TEACHER PREACHING FROM A KJV BIBLE

We believe that God's promises are fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ and in all who believe on His name. **We reject political and religious Zionism, which teaches that the modern nation of Israel holds a special divine right apart from faith in Christ.** According to Scripture, there is no distinction in God's plan between Jew and Gentile, for all are one in Christ Jesus. **We believe that the true Israel of God is made up of all believers—those who have been saved by grace through faith. The blessings of Abraham come upon all who are in Christ, and God's covenant promises are realized in His church, the body of Christ, which is commissioned to preach the Gospel to every nation.**

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." ***Galatians 3:26-29***

"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter;" ***Romans 2:28-2***

We believe the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is the inspired, infallible, and preserved Word of God as found in the King James Bible. **We reject dispensationalism and any system of interpretation that divides the Word of God into conflicting messages** or separate plans of salvation. We believe that throughout all ages, salvation has always been by grace through faith, and that God has only ever had one people—those who are redeemed by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. **The church is not a "parenthesis" in God's plan, but the very body of Christ,** called to preach the same everlasting Gospel to every creature until He returns.

"Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." ***Ephesians 3:21***