

“The Study of Eschatology: The **Church** and **Israel**”

Exodus 19:5-6; Deuteronomy 28; 1 Kings 8-10; Acts 1:6-8

Question: “What is the difference between Israel and the Church?”

Answer: “Israel is an ethnic nation, but the Church is made up of people from every nation.”

Memory Verses:

Ephesians 3:6 ESV “This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

Exodus 19:5 ESV “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine;”

I. God Commanded Israel to **Stay** and **Obey**

a) Israel was to **Live** in One Land

Deuteronomy 11:31 ESV “For you are to cross over the Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the Lord your God is giving you. And when you possess it and live in it,”

Joshua 21:43-45 ESV “Thus the Lord gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. ⁴⁴ And the Lord gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the Lord had given all their enemies into their hands. ⁴⁵ Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.”

b) Israel was to **Obey** God’s Law

c) Israel was to **Be** a Kingdom of Priest

Exodus 19:5-6 ESV “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶ and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

d) Israel was to **Receive** Blessings

Deuteronomy 28:1-4 ESV ““And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. ² And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God. ³ Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. ⁴ Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock.”

e) Israel Continually **Disobeyed**

Deuteronomy 28:15-19 ESV “But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. ¹⁶ Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. ¹⁷ Cursed shall be

your basket and your kneading bowl. ¹⁸ Cursed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. ¹⁹ Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out.”

1 Samuel 13:14 ESV “But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.”

1 Kings 8:10 ESV “And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord,”

f) Israel was to **Encourage** All Nations to Worship Christ

II. God Commands the Church to **Go** and **Proclaim**

a) The Church is to Be Christ’s **Witness**

Acts 1:6 ESV “So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”

Acts 1:7-8 ESV “He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

b) The Church is to be One **Body**

Ephesians 3:6 ESV “This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

III. Final Thought of **Application**

“It is important not to confuse **Israel** and the **church** when studying the end times because God has distinct plans for each group according to His promises in Scripture.”