

Comments On Remarks Regarding “Will Gentiles (Non-Israelites) Inherit Salvation?”

Greetings Jerry in the name of our Saviour and King, Jesus Christ, our Anointed Savior, the One whose blood was shed for our salvation ... and the heavenly Father. Your comments concerning my paper “Will Gentiles (Non-Israelites) Inherit Salvation?” were received and much appreciated. They fell along the lines I had expected, and I do not believe you will ever change your mind regarding whether or not genetic non-Israelites will ever be granted eternal life by their Creator and our heavenly Father. That is my opinion, anyway. This is not to say that the nephalim, descendants of the cohabitation of the [evil] Sons of God and human women, will ever inherit eternal life, for their fate is sealed: Isaiah 26:13-14.

Your paper was read with great interest by this white-haired son of a Norwegian, whose roots I know extend to the fjord country of the Norwegian western coast, and in whose lineage the name Zecharias crops up quite prominently. Did our family’s ancestors know more about their lineage than they wished to admit? As the paper was read I made many comments, but rather than go through them all, or in part, I believe the simplest thing to do here is to set up the hypothesis, “Only descendants of Jacob can be Israelites”, and then examine this hypothesis from both the Old Testament and New Testament writings. According to the scientific method, if even one exception to the hypothesis can be found, then it must be rejected and modified to include the added truth.

Old Testament Writings

Caleb the son of Jephunneh was the spy sent from Judah among the twelve that spied out the land of Canaan (Numbers 13:1-16). Caleb was the son of Jephunnah, a Kenezite (Joshua 14:6; Numbers 32:12). The Kenezites were obviously descendants of Esau, Jacob’s twin brother and arch-enemy. Kenaz was a son of Eliphaz, who was the son of Esau through his wife Adah (Genesis 36:10-11). Here we have a major player in the history of Israel being not a genetic Israelite, but a descendant of Israel’s arch-enemy, who had declared he would kill Jacob given the opportunity (Genesis 27:41). We know that the descendants of Esau (Edom) were cursed because of their hatred of the people to whom God’s birthright blessings had passed, a subject discussed in Obadiah and elsewhere; Edom vanished from history after Jerusalem’s fall in 70 A.D., that nation and people who wished to destroy Israel to its very foundations (Psalm 137:7-8), a nation whose resurgence in these latter days is found amongst the Khazarian Talmudic Jews who control the media, entertainment, money, and essential culture of modern Ephraim and Manasseh.

Then again, we have the record of another prominent Israelite, a mighty man in King David’s army, Uriah the Hittite. The Hittites were a tribe of people, powerful militarily and otherwise, who lived more in the northern part of Palestine, and later formed a kingdom covering much of Asia Minor. Israel was told to exterminate them, along with many other occupying peoples (Deuteronomy 7:1-2). Uriah is well-known as being one of David’s mighty men (I Chronicles 11:41), whose wife Bathsheba David secretly seduced and impregnated. We are familiar with the story in II Samuel 11 of how David had Uriah left to fend for himself before the city’s defenders and be killed.

Here, then, we have two prominent examples of people who were not genetic Israelites, but were of other nations whose people were not of the covenantal chosen ones, but were, nonetheless, admitted into the nation, as Yahweh permitted (Exodus 12:48-49). There was to be one law for the homeborn and the **stranger** (Strong 1616, *geyr*, “client stranger, now a permanent resident, once a citizen of another land who has moved into his new residence, and was to be treated like an Israelite, responsible to and protected by the law”; from *Vine’s Additional Definitions* added to *The New Strong’s Expanded Dictionary*, Thomas Nelson Publisher, Nashville, Tennessee, 2001). However, the *geyr* had to be circumcised, as did all male Israelites ... a direct allusion to the “circumcision of the heart” required for all within the ecclesia (“spiritual Israel”; see Deuteronomy 10:16; 30:6; Jeremiah 31:29-34; Ezekiel 11:19-20; Joel 2:12-13).

While there were people from other non-Israelite nations who joined Israel and became allied to one of the twelve tribes, I will not mention any more here. Suffice it to say that God knew there would be many — how many we do not know — from non-Israelite nations who would enter the Israelite tribes and lose their former national identity within this covenantal society. Otherwise He would have made no provision for it. What a blessing that must have been to them, to observe the laws and commandments that the Creator meant for all people to obey in order that they might enjoy a full and rewarding life.

New Testament Writings

Perhaps the most obvious reference to individuals of non-Israelite genetic origin entering the chosen ecclesia is found in Romans 11. I referred to this scripture at some length in the original paper, but I will include it here again.

“For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify my office, if by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root be holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches be broken off, and you [the Roman brethren] being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them partake of the root and fatness of the olive tree, boast not against the branches. But if you boast, you bear not the root, but the root you. You will say then, The branches were broken off that I might be grafted in. Well, because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Be not highminded, but fear, for if God spared not the natural branches, take heed that He also spare not you. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God, on them which fell, severity, but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness; otherwise, you also shall be cut off. And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree, how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?” (Romans 11:13-24).

This interesting scripture is talking genetic language. The “good” olive tree is obviously speaking of genetic descendants of Jacob, to whom the covenant belongs and to

whom salvation was promised through repentance, baptism, and the laying on of hands. Many branches — individual genetic Israelites — were broken off “because of unbelief” (verse 20). These unbelievers can be changed and “grafted in again” (verse 23) to this same good olive tree. However, these Romans are likened to branches of a “wild” olive tree, having a different genetic composition than those descended from the “good” olive tree ... which were grafted in to the good olive tree because, being members of the human race, any race is genetically capable of producing offspring with any other race ... the “kind”, the olive tree, here being the human race, and the Israelites and gentiles obviously being different varieties of the same kind.

Paul said that God “... has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth ...” (Acts 17:20). Thus, these Romans, as part of that human race but non-Israelite in their genetic background, could form a bond with the cambium and xylem of the good olive tree because they were closely related, though this grafting had to be done by God Himself because it does not occur naturally: It takes a fruitgrower [here likened to God] to carefully cut a twig from the wild olive tree and place it into the wood of the good olive. If the grafting is successfully — and the Almighty sees that it is so, that the new branch will “... partake of the root and fatness of the [good] olive tree ...” (verse 17) — then a well-fitted good olive tree bearing both wild (non-Israelite gentile) as well as natural (genetic Israelite) branches will grow and prosper into a beautiful, fruitful tree.

The symbolism is plain here: gentiles indicates non-Israelite, wild olive genetics, while Israelite indicates good olive stock. It makes no sense to declare that these gentiles of Rome were of Israelite genetic stock when their genes were different from the good olive tree stock of Israel. Paul goes to great pains to differentiate the two. If the Romans were of genetic Israelite stock, did he purposely deceive us by saying they were not? Of course not. Paul knew that they were not, so he called them what they were: of the stock of the wild olive tree, not of the genetic stock of the good, Israelite olive tree. They had to become a part of that good tree, of course, or they could never inherit salvation ... for salvation belongs first to the Israelite, and one must become “Abraham's seed” in order to inherit the promise of salvation (Galatians 3:24-29).

If Paul had not realized that these Roman brethren were actually from Israelite genetic stock, would God not have revealed that to him so he could have corrected himself in Romans 11? Of course He would have. Paul knew these brethren to whom he was writing were not of Israelite genetic stock, so he addressed them as such. They were probably white, and they probably looked similar to us, but so do many nations of non-Israelitish genetic stock.

In Summary ...

I have shown, from just a few examples in both the Old and New Testaments, that the original hypothesis, “Only descendants of Jacob can be Israelites”, is incorrect. The evidence from both ancient Israel, as well as more modern Pauline writings, shows that others besides genetic Israelites have been “grafted into” both that fledgling nation, and into the ecclesia following the first Pentecost after Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. Thus, the original hypothesis must be discarded.

What is the alternative hypothesis that should replace the faulty one? I have witnessed white Anglo-Saxons whose morals make me shiver. I have also seen black and yellow-skinned people whose moral statures are brilliant, and who, I believe, would die for the name of Jesus Christ. May the Almighty Living God judge all men, for I believe,

as the Creator of all the races, He has a plan of redemption that includes all nations, peoples, kindreds, and tongues. He made these people “very good” (Genesis 1:31), and I sincerely believe He will bring, as He already has brought, many of these non-Israelite “gentile” peoples to be raised up at the Seventh Trumpet as kings and priests, to minister to the survivors of the twelve tribes of Israel, and to the survivors of the 70 nations that will have survived the Tribulation as well, in the process of rebuilding the earth to a veritable Eden ... and this is what I really **want**, and what I believe our heavenly Father **wants**, to share the glory with whomever God appoints. I think I have the mind of God on this.

We are not speaking about interracial marriage here in the least, for we know that God created the different races, and by implication did not want them to intermix into one big chocolate brown race. The races are good, and salvation is good for all races. I believe the Scriptures teach this.

As I said at the beginning of this reply, I have not addressed the individual points here which you made in your reply, but I have examined them and could do that at some point. Thanks for your patience in bearing with my thoughts.

Sincerely, Paul
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