

Christ In The Old Testament
“A New Nation”
Exodus 19:6

Introduction:

1. On November 19, 1863:
 - Abraham Lincoln Delivered:
 - His Famous - “Gettysburg Address!”
 - In Which He Recalled - In The Very First Sentence:
 - The Bright Beginnings Of Our Country!
 - He Said:
 - “Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal!”
 - “A New Nation!”
 - This Was The Goal Of The American Revolution:
 - Due To The Tyranny Of A Ruler:
 - Who Lived Over 3,000 Miles Away!
2. But - The Need:
 - For Something “New” Was Felt:
 - Because Of There Was Something:
 - Missing In The “Old!”
 - And So - When:
 - Jesus Says In Revelation 21:5:
 - “Behold, I Make All Things New!”
 - Not Only Should We Look At:
 - *What* He Makes New:
 - But *Why!*
3. So - As We Are Now:
 - Looking For Christ In The Old Testament:
 - Through Individual Persons:
 - Who Are Given To Us:
 - As Portraits & Types!
 - We Have Already Seen That:
 - He Made A New:
 - Race! Because:
 - In Adam - The Old, Sinful, Human Race:
 - Was Doomed To Death:
 - And Everlasting Destruction!
 - But - When Jesus Came:
 - As The “Second Adam” - He Created:
 - A New, Saved, Heavenly Race:
 - Made Up Of All:
 - Who Believe In Him!
 - Last Week - We Saw That:
 - Jesus Also Made A New:
 - Priesthood! Because:
 - The Old Priesthood Of Israel:
 - Through Aaron & His Family:
 - Was Limited In Its Functions & Effectiveness!
 - But - When Jesus Came:
 - As Our Great High Priest:
 - After The Order Of Melchisedec:
 - He Established For Us:
 - A “New And Living Way” To God!
4. Tonight - We Are Going To See:
 - That - Just Like Our Founding Fathers:
 - Who Were Willing:
 - To Risk Their “Lives, Fortunes, And Sacred Honor!”
 - In Order To Pursue A New & Free Nation!
 - As They Stated In The Last Line Of The Declaration Of Independence!
 - So - The Lord Jesus Christ Came:

- To Give His Life:
 - In Order To Create:
 - A New Nation:
 - That Had Been Promised & Prophesied About:
 - Even Before Israel Became A Nation!
5. Of Course - Every Nation:
 - On The Face Of This Earth:
 - Is A Fallen Nation!
 - Because - Every Nation:
 - Is Ruled Or Governed By:
 - Fallen Leaders! Even "We The People!"
 - They Always Have Been & They Always Will Be!
 - And So - Even From:
 - The Vast Catalog Of Nations:
 - To Ever Exist In This World:
 - We See & Feel The Need:
 - For Something New!
6. So - When Abraham Comes On The Scene:
 - God Graciously Chose Him:
 - And Made A Promise To Him!
 - Even An Unconditional Promise & Covenant:
 - About A New Nation - That Would Come:
 - Through Him & His Own Family!
7. So - Lets Turn In Our Bibles First:
 - To Genesis 12:1-3 - Where We Read:
 - "Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: / 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: / 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed!"
 - So - God Promised To Make Of Abraham:
 - A Great New Nation:
 - Through Which He Would Bless The World!
 - But - We Hear This Promise To Abraham:
 - Not Only In Terms Of:
 - A New Nation - But Also:
 - A Seed!
 - Because In Genesis 15:5-6:
 - God Repeats His Promise To Abraham:
 - "And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. / And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness!"
 - God Confirmed His Promise To Abraham:
 - In Genesis 22:17-18 As Well!
 - "That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; / And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed!"
 - Now - At First Glance:
 - We Assume That God Is Talking About:
 - Making Abraham's Future Physical Family:
 - Into This New Nation!
 - After All - This Is What We See:
 - In His Family-Line:
 - That Came After Him!
 - Through Isaac & Jacob & Jacob's Twelve Sons!
8. But - When We Come To The New Testament:
 - Paul Makes Clear For Us:
 - What God Was Talking About:
 - When He Made This Covenant:
 - With Abraham!
 - In Galatians 3:16 - We Learn:

- "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ!"

- So - The Nation & The Seed:

- That Was Promised To Abraham:

- Was To Be Fulfilled:

- Through A Single Member Of His Family! A Single Person! The Lord Jesus Christ!

9. And - This Promise Of Christ:

- Was Passed Down:

- From Abraham To Isaac!

- As Is Found In Genesis 26:3-4 - "I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father; / And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed!"

- And Then - The Same Promise:

- Was Passed Down:

- From Isaac To Jacob!

- As Found In Genesis 28!

- In Genesis 28:12 - God Appeared To Jacob:

- In A Dream - With A Ladder:

- Reaching From Earth To Heaven:

- With The "Angels Of God Ascending And Descending Upon It!"

- And - It Was In That Dream:

- That God Chose Jacob:

- To Pass Down His Promise:

- Of A New Nation Through A Special Seed!

- In Genesis 28:13-14 - "And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; / And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed!"

10. It Was Also To Jacob:

- That A New Name Was Given:

- To This New Nation - To Be Blessed By God!

- "Israel" - As We Are Told In:

- Genesis 32:28 - "And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed!"

- This New Name:

- Was Applied To Jacob's Twelve Sons:

- And Their Families:

- Until They Were Formed Into:

- A Nation - Under The Leadership Of Moses!

11. And - To Them God Made:

- Another Promise!

- But - This Promise:

- Was A Conditional Promise!

- Unlike The First Promise Made To Abraham & Carried On:

- To Isaac & Jacob!

- In Exodus 19:4-6 - The Lord Says:

- To This Newly-Formed People Called The "Children Of Israel":

- "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. / Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: / And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel!"

- What A Promise!

- A "Kingdom Of Priests & An Holy Nation!"

- Even - "Unto God!"

- Now - That Would Be:

- A New Kind Of Nation!

- The Kind Of Nation:

- That Could Bless "All The Families Of The Earth!"

12. But - What Is The Condition Attached:
- To This Promise?
 - “If Ye Will Obey My Voice Indeed, And Keep My Covenant!” (Exodus 19:5)
 - Now - If You Know Anything:
 - About The History Of The Children Of Israel:
 - Is This A Condition:
 - That They Kept? To:
 - “Obey Indeed?” (Obey - Twice!)
 - Completely / Entirely / Fervently!
 - Not At All!
 - In Fact - Even As Moses:
 - Received God’s Law:
 - From God’s Own Hand!
 - The People Worshiped:
 - A Golden Calf:
 - Formed By Their Own Offerings Of Gold & Fashioned By The Hand Of Their Own Priest!
 - So - This New Nation:
 - Was Not Much Different:
 - Than The Old Nations:
 - That Surrounded Them! And As Such:
 - Became Quickly Old Themselves!
 - So - A New Nation:
 - Was Still Needed!
 - And That New Nation:
 - Would Be Founded By:
 - The Promised Seed Of Abraham!
 - The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - This Is Something That Jesus Claimed For Himself:
 - In John 1:51 - When He Told One Of His Disciples:
 - “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man!”
 - Jesus Claimed To Be:
 - The New Jacob! Even:
 - The New Israel! The One God Chose:
 - To Form A New Nation:
 - That Would Bless The World!

13. And So - As We Trace:

- The Failure Of The Old Nation Of Israel:
 - We Can See How:
 - Jesus Christ Kept The Condition Of God’s Covenant - By:
 - Obeying God’s Voice Completely!

* So - When God Called The Children Of Israel:

1. To Leave:

- Egypt Behind!
 - What Did They Do Instead?
 - In Many Ways:
 - They Brought Egypt With Them!
 - According To Ezekiel 20:8:
 - God Says That The Children Of Israel:
 - “Rebelle d against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt!”
 - So - The Children Of Israel:
 - Failed To Leave & Forsake Egypt!
 - And - They Proved Themselves To Be:
 - Not Much Different Than Any Other Nation Of Old!
 - But - Though They Failed In This:
 - Jesus Christ Did Not! Instead - He Himself Forsook Egypt:
 - And Never Looked Back!

- In Matthew 2:15 - We Are Told That When Jesus Was Born:
 - He Was Taken By Joseph & Mary:
 - To The Land Of Egypt:
 - “And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son!”
 - All According To The Prophecy Of Hosea!
- And So - Beginning At His Own Birth:
 - The Life Of Jesus Can Trace Itself:
 - Through The Outline Of:
 - The History Of The Children Of Israel!
 - So That - In Every Way:
 - They Failed To Keep God’s Covenant:
 - He Would Prevail!

* So - When God Called The Children Of Israel:

2. To Love:

- Him - As The Lord Their God:
 - With All Their Heart & Soul & Might! (Deuteronomy 6:5)
 - And Also - Their Neighbors:
 - As Themselves! (Leviticus 19:18)
 - How Did They Do?
 - They Failed!
 - Because - What Is One Of The Primary Proofs Of Love?
 - Obedience! Even Jesus Said:
 - In John 14:15 - “If ye love me, keep my commandments!”
- So - As God Led Them Through The Wilderness:
 - And Provided For Them:
 - And Meet Their Every Need!
 - Food & Water & Clothes!
 - God Confronted The Children Of Israel:
 - With Their Sin In Numbers 14:22:
 - And Reminded Them How They Had:
 - “Seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice!”
- So - Even Though They Failed:
 - As A Nation - By:
 - Tempting God In The Wilderness!
 - Jesus Christ:
 - Was Faithful To God:
 - When He Was Tempted By The Devil In The Wilderness!
 - In Both Matthew 4 & Luke 4:
 - Jesus Combats The Devil:
 - With The Word Of God!
 - And His Perfect Faithfulness & Obedience To God:
 - Reveals His Infinite Love For The Father!

* Also - When God Called The Children Of Israel:

3. To Live:

- According To The Covenant:
 - He Made With Them - He Told Them:
 - In Leviticus 18:8 - “Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD!”
 - God Offered The Children Of Israel:
 - His Own Words Of Life!
 - But - What Did They Do:
 - With God’s Statutes & Judgments?
 - Time After Time:
 - They Ignored Them & Failed To Keep Them! So:
- Once Again - They Failed!
 - But - What They Failed To Do:

- Jesus Christ Fulfilled!
 - He Lived To Uphold Every Word:
 - Of God His Father!
- In Matthew 5:17-18 - Jesus Said:
 - “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. / For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled!”
- So - Once Again - Only Christ:
 - Was Able To Keep The Conditions Of The Covenant:
 - Given To The Children Of Israel:
 - In Exodus 19:5-6 - “Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: / And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation!”

* But Even More - When God Called The Children Of Israel:

4. To Liberate:

- The Promised Land - What Did He Tell Them?
 - Through Their Great General - Joshua:
 - He Said - Joshua 23:6-8 - “Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left; / That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them!”
 - But - Even With This Admonition:
 - What Did The Children Of Israel Do?
- They Failed To Liberate The Land:
 - From Their Enemies!
 - Even - All Those Old Nations:
 - And Their Gods!
 - Instead - All Throughout Their History:
 - They Adopted Many Of Those Old, False Gods As Their Own:
 - And Worshiped Them In Unspeakable Ways!
 - But - Even Though The Children Of Israel Failed:
 - To Deal With Their Enemies:
 - Jesus Christ Fought:
 - To Defeat Every Enemy!
 - Through His Life & Death & Resurrection & Ascension!
 - The Gospel!
 - Even As We Are Told In:
 - 1 Corinthians 15:25-26 - “For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. / The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death!”
 - And - Jesus Christ Did All Of This:
 - In Order:

5. To Found:

- A New Nation!
 - That Would Be:
 - “A Kingdom Of Priests, And An Holy Nation!”
 - Like The One Offered By God Back In:
 - Exodus 19:5-6!
- So - What The Old Israel:
 - Failed To Do:
 - The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - As The New Israel - And:
 - The True Israel:
 - Accomplished Perfectly!

Conclusion:

1. Now - What Does It Mean For Us?
 - That Jesus Christ Is:
 - The New & True Israel?
 - Well - We Find The Meaning:

- In Revelation 1:5-6 - Where Believers In Christ Are Told That:
 - Jesus “Loved Us, And Washed Us From Our Sins In His Own Blood, And Hath Made Us Kings And Priests Unto God And His Father!”
 - “Kings & Priests!”
- Also - In Revelation 5:10:
 - We Hear The Song Of The Redeemed:
 - Singing That Christ Has:
 - “Made Us Unto Our God Kings And Priests: And We Shall Reign On The Earth!”
- 2. This Is The New Nation:
 - Promised To Jacob Back In:
 - Exodus 19! This Is The:
 - “Kingdom Of Priests” That Only Could Be:
 - Founded & Formed:
 - By One Who Would Keep The Conditions Of The Covenant!
 - And - When You Believe In The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - As Your Own Savior From Sin:
 - Then You Become Part Of:
 - This New Nation! This:
 - New & True Israel!
- 3. So That - Even In This World:
 - With All Of Its Old Nations:
 - Including Our Own! We Belong To:
 - A New Nation!
 - So - Even With The Elections Coming Up This Week:
 - Where So Many Are Looking For:
 - Something New!
 - Yet - What Happens More Often Than Not:
 - Is More Of The Same!
 - More Of The Old!
- 4. Instead - Remember That:
 - Since Jesus Is The New & True Israel Of God:
 - Who Kept Everything:
 - That Israel Was Called To Do!
 - In That He Obeyed His Father’s Voice Indeed & Kept His Covenant!
 - He Is Now The Head Of:
 - A New Kind Of Nation!
 - A Nation To Which You Belong As:
 - “A Kingdom Of Priests & An Holy Nation!”
- 5. Isn’t This How The Apostle Peter:
 - Also Describes Us? In 1 Peter 2:9:
 - “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people!”
 - And Now - How Should We Live?
 - As Part Of This New Nation?
 - “That ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light!” / “Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul!” (1 Peter 2:9, 11)
 - So - In Jesus Christ:
 - We Find A: A New Race, A New Priest, & A New Nation!
 - Let Us Strive To Live Every Day:
 - In The “Newness Of Life” Jesus Has Given Us!
 - Even As “Strangers & Pilgrims” In The Old Nations Of This World!

Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
4245 North 200 West
Greenfield, Indiana 46140
317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com