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Part 2c: The Return of Israel

Mar 24, 2019

1 - The People of Israel are the Remnant People of Promise (con't)

A Son is Born

Is. 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Stump & branch

Is. 11:1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. **3** And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD....

Is. 11:10 In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Is. 11:11 In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea. **12** He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

Is. 11:16 And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt.

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New Heavens & New Earth

Is. 65:17 “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. **18** But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. **19** I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

Is. 66:22 “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. **23** From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

2 – Remnant Israel Returns to the Land

Ezra 1:1 In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: 2 “Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. 3 Whoever is among you of all his people, may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and rebuild the house of the LORD, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem. 4 And let each survivor, in whatever place he sojourns, be assisted by the men of his place with silver and gold, with goods and with beasts, besides freewill offerings for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.” 5 Then rose up the heads of the fathers’ houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites, everyone whose spirit God had stirred to go up to rebuild the house of the LORD that is in Jerusalem. 6 And all who were about them aided them with vessels of silver, with gold, with goods, with beasts, and with costly wares, besides all that was freely offered. 7 Cyrus the king also brought out the vessels of the house of the LORD that Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and placed in the house of his gods.

Back to Old Ways

Zech. 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. 11 As for you also, because

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of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. **12** Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. **13** For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior's sword. **14** Then the LORD will appear over them, and his arrow will go forth like lightning; the Lord GOD will sound the trumpet and will march forth in the whirlwinds of the south. **15** The LORD of hosts will protect them, and they shall devour, and tread down the sling stones, and they shall drink and roar as if drunk with wine, and be full like a bowl, drenched like the corners of the altar. **16** On that day the LORD their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. **17** For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

Zech. 12:10 “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Zech. 13:1 “On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

Mal. 2:11 Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. **12** May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob any descendant of the man who does this, who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

Mal. 3:17 “They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Mal. 4:4 “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. **5** “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. **6** And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

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3 – Summary of Old Testament Promises and Expectations of Israel

1. They are God’s Covenant people of promise. Meaning the promises to the people are made and delivered via covenant relationship with God
 - a. Starting with Adam & Creation covenant
 - b. Then with Noah & all of creation
 - c. Then with Abraham & his offspring
 - d. Then with those taken out of Egypt (Jacob’s descendants) at Sinai via Moses
 - e. Then David & his offspring
 - f. Covenants between God & man are initiated & maintained by God in love
2. They are the Son of God (*Covs: Creation, Abrahamic*)
3. They are promised an offspring who will crush the head of the serpent (*Cov: Creation*)
4. They are the Offspring of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (*Cov: Abrahamic*)
 - a. They will be an uncountable population of descendants
 - i. They will be fruitful & will multiply
5. They are promised to be blessed by God (*Cov: Abrahamic*)
6. They are promised to be a blessing to the world (*Cov: Abrahamic*)
7. They are promised to be in God’s place, or the “land”, or the “kingdom” (*Cov: Abrahamic*)
 - a. Promised to Abraham
 - b. For Israel to be in the Land is to be with God in God’s place under God’s rule, which is to say being in God’s kingdom
 - c. This place includes God’s sanctuary where man and God fellowship
 - i. Seen with Garden, Mt. Sinai, Tabernacle, Temple
8. They are promised peace and rest from their enemies (*Cov: Creation, Abrahamic*)
9. They are a people group united by covenant relationship and mutual covenant loyalty (*Cov: Creation, Abrahamic, Mosaic*)
 - a. Which means they’re not a government/nation-state like we think of today
 - b. Which also means that obedience is required
 - i. Disobedience leads to death, being cut off
10. They will be God’s precious possession (*Cov: Mosaic*)
11. They will be a kingdom of priests (*Cov: Mosaic*)
12. They will be a holy nation (*Cov: Mosaic*)
13. They are the “Remnant” of God’s people truly devoted to God with loyalty/trust
14. They are God’s beloved and devoted bride
 - a. As his bride they will be free from adultery and idolatry
15. They are promised a king who will sit on the throne over Israel forever (*Cov: Davidic*)
 - a. He will rule & reign in righteousness, peace, and justice
 - i. Bringing righteousness, peace, and justice to his people
 - b. He will also give victory over their enemies, giving rest
 - c. He will be a the covenant head
16. They are promised a redeemer (Messiah) who will save the people from their sins (*Cov: Future New Covenant*)
 - a. This redeemer will lead them in another Exodus
 - b. A remnant of God’s people from the foreign nations, who are Not God’s People, will come to this redeemer
17. They are promised a New Covenant (*Cov: Future New Covenant*)

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- a. This covenant will not be like the old, but will be truly transforming
 - i. The external will become internal
- 18. They are promised a new hearts devoted to God and full of His instruction (*Cov: Future New Covenant*)
- 19. They are promised a new Spirit, God's own Spirit in them (*Cov: Future New Covenant*)
 - a. They will be consecrated, sanctified, cleansed from all uncleanness
- 20. They are promised to be gathered from the 4 corners of the earth (*Cov: Future New Covenant*)
 - a. Including all nations that are Not God's people
- 21. They are promised a new heavens and a new earth (*Cov: Creation, Future New Covenant*)
- 22. They are the people of whom it is said, "God will be their God and they will be His people."
(*Cov: Creation, Abrahamic, Mosaic, Future New Covenant*)