

I. GOD IS SETTING WATCHMEN ON THE WALLS IN AGREEMENT WITH HIS ZEAL FOR ISRAEL

Romans 9:1-5 (NKJV) I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, ² that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, ⁴ who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; ⁵ of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

- A. Israel Mediates the Covenants of God. Israel makes available the covenants to the nations. Noahic, Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, and the New Covenant.
- B. Paul has entered into Holy Spirit-enabled intercession for Jesus to come and reign on the earth, and ultimately, the Father as well. It's not just about me, or revival in my life. It's about something bigger: God's plan to visit this earth, His habitation (Isa. 9:6-7).

Isaiah 62:1, 6-7 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns... ⁶ I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent, ⁷ And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

Zech 8:2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I am zealous for Zion with great zeal; With great fervor I am zealous for her.'

II. ISRAEL IS STILL GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE TO BRING BLESSING TO ALL THE NATIONS

- A. Israel has temporarily rejected God's plan of righteousness in Jesus Christ.

Rom 10:1-4 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
- B. God's everlasting covenant to Abraham has not been replaced (Gen. 12, 15, 17; Deut 14:2). God is still upholding His promises to Abraham. For almost 2000 years, there was no nation of Israel. In 1948, the nation of Israel was re-established, to show that God is faithful to His promises. No nation has survived more than 40 years without a homeland. After almost 2000 years, God has restored the nation of Israel and they are back in their homeland.

Romans 11:1-2a I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew.

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

III. ISRAEL WILL BE PROVOKED TO JEALOUSY BY A CHURCH OPERATING IN THE LOVE AND POWER OF GOD

Romans 11:11-15 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation has come to the Gentiles. ¹² Now if their fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness! ¹³ For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, ¹⁴ if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

A. Israel's Rejection of the Messiah Means Salvation to the Gentiles. Israel's Acceptance of Jesus at His Second Coming will Usher in the Millennial Reign of Jesus.

Matt 23:-37-39 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! ³⁸ "See! Your house is left to you desolate; ³⁹ "for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'" "

1. "Life from the dead" results in the created order being delivered from bondage of its condition (Rom. 8:17-23; 11:15; Isa. 11:6-9; 35:1-8; 65:17-25).

2. Jesus will rule all the nations from His Throne of glory in Jerusalem.

Mt. 25:31-32 When the Son of Man comes in His glory...then He will sit on the Throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him...

Jer. 3:17 At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem.

3. The Heavenly City will descend on Jerusalem (Rev. 21:1-4).

B. The Church must stand with Israel and demonstrate God's love and power. Satan, knowing that he will be imprisoned at Jesus' return, will try to destroy the Jewish people (Matt 24:21).

IV. AS A RESULT OF ISRAEL'S REJECTION, THE GENTILES HAVE BEEN GRAFTED IN

Rom 11:17-21 And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree,¹⁸ do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you.¹⁹ You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in."²⁰ Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear.²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either.

A New Covenant was established through Jesus' death on the cross; therefore, the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant would be made available to the Gentiles. What Jesus did allows us to be partakers by faith of the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant (Gal. 3:8)

Gal 3:13-14 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

V. THE NEED FOR REVELATION OF THE WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD TO BRING MERCY AND BLESSING TO ALL: THE MYSTERY OF ISRAEL'S TEMPORARY BLINDNESS UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES.

Rom 11:25-29 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;²⁷ For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins."²⁸ Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

- A. After the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, all Israel will be saved. Until then, Israel is experiencing a blindness in part.
- B. Until Jesus' Second Coming, the most significant spiritual battle front is the battle for Jerusalem. Jesus' Second Coming is in context of the battle for Jerusalem.

Psa. 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you."

VI. THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE RICHES OF GOD'S WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE RESULTS IN PRAISE AND GLORY TO GOD.

Rom 11:32-36 For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.³³ Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?"³⁵ "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?"³⁶ For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.