

The False Teaching of Replacement Theology

Introduction

Replacement Theology, also known as *Fulfillment Theology*, has gained traction in some Christian circles. This teaching asserts that the Church has replaced Israel in God's plan, claiming that the Jewish people are no longer His chosen nation and that He has no specific future for them. Such a view distorts Scripture and undermines the faithfulness of God to His covenant promises.

This study will demonstrate, through Scripture, that God's covenant with Israel remains intact, that Israel plays a central role in God's redemptive plan, and that His promises to them are irrevocable.

Definitions

Replacement Theology: Replacement Theology teaches that the Church has permanently taken Israel's place in God's redemptive plan. According to this belief, Israel has forfeited its role as God's chosen people.

Eschatology: Eschatology is the study of biblical prophecy concerning future events. At its core, it focuses on:

1. God's plan for Israel as a nation.
 2. The coming of the Messiah—fulfilled in the first and second coming of Jesus Christ.
- The Bible itself is both a historical record and a prophetic account of how God is working through Israel to bring salvation to the world through Jesus Christ.

Antisemitism: Hostility toward or prejudice against Jewish people. The word Semite originates from the line of Shem, Noah's son. In the Greek and Latin versions of the Bible, Shem is Sem. The word antisemitism is the only word in history created for racism toward a specific nation.

God's Sovereignty Over Nations

Throughout Scripture, God demonstrates His authority over rulers and kingdoms. He raises up leaders and removes them according to His will.

- When nations sinned, He often appointed weak or corrupt leaders to bring them to repentance.
- When they turned back to Him, He restored peace and order.

This divine pattern underscores that no king, president, or ruler comes to power apart from God's sovereign permission.

God's Covenant with Israel

God's covenant with Abraham established Israel's role in history and eternity. He promised Abraham three things:

1. **A great nation** would come from him.
2. **A land flowing with milk and honey** would belong to his descendants.
3. **Blessing and protection**—those who bless Israel will be blessed, and those who curse Israel will be cursed.

“God never makes a promise that He cannot keep. He is a promise-keeper.”

- **Jeremiah 31:33** – *“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.”*

The Authenticity of Israel as a Nation

From Abraham to Moses, God led His people into the land He had promised, often driving out ungodly nations who worshipped idols and practiced evil.

- **Deuteronomy 7:6–8** – *“For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. 7 The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; 8 but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

This reminds us that Israel was not chosen for its size or strength, but solely because of God’s love and His covenant with their forefathers.

Israel’s very name reflects this calling. The descendants of Judah were called “Jews,” meaning those who praise God.

- **Genesis 15:18** – *“On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.’”*

And specified to Joshua:

- **Joshua 1:4** *From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory.*

Israel in Prophecy

Is the Nation of Israel from the Bible, the same Israel existing today?

A resounding, YES! The Bible prophesied that Israel would be scattered among the nations and later restored as a nation. Against all odds, this happened in modern history.

- **Isaiah 66:8** – *“Who has heard such a thing? Shall a nation be born in a day? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children.”*

Israel is recognized as a legitimate nation today, with international standing and sovereignty. They have every right to defend the land that was promised to them by God

so many thousands of years ago. The Holy Bible is wholly God's plan for what He plans to do with this Holy Nation. Their survival and reestablishment testify to God's faithfulness.

Jews and their Messiah

Did the Jews kill Jesus?

- **Acts 4 27-28** – *27 Indeed, Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed.*

Both the Jews and the Gentiles (Rome) conspired to be rid of Jesus. But...

- **John 10:18** - *18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."*

Jesus takes full responsibility and describes power over his own life, emphasizing that his sacrifice is voluntary and that he possesses the authority to give and take back his life.

God's Discipline and Love for Israel

Because they are the Chosen, are they exempt from God's punishment when they do wrong?

Absolutely not! Being God's chosen nation does not exempt Israel from discipline. There is proof of this retold through Bible history. Like any loving Father, God corrects His people when they stray. History repeatedly shows how He humbled Israel, then restored them in His mercy.

The Christian's Responsibility Toward Israel

Are we commanded to "support" Israel?

Yes! Believers are called to support Israel—not blindly, but faithfully. Paul explains in Romans chapters 9, 10, and 11 that Gentile believers should live in such a way that Israel is provoked to jealousy and drawn to the love of Christ.

Supporting Israel does not mean excusing governmental errors, just as we do not excuse our own governments. Instead, it means recognizing Israel's covenant role in God's plan and praying for their salvation.

How are we to know if Israel is currently acting righteously?

We cannot fully know if the government of Israel is acting justly in its actions. The secular media, social media, and the internet are not a true source of truth. The only source of truth we can rely on is God's Holy Word. Staying rooted and grounded in His Word, we will be able to see the spiritual side of what is happening in our world.

Currently, many countries are trying to recognize Palestine as a state. Two very dangerous agendas have joined forces to try to overtake Israel, gathering in major cities and at

college campuses in protest against them. Even scarier than that, we are now seeing right-wing conservatives turning their backs on Israel. We must tread lightly as a nation. Because the Word of God says in Joel 3:2 that God will put those on trial who divide up His land.

- **Joel 3:2** - *I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There, I will put them on trial for what they did to my inheritance, my people Israel, because they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.*

The Permanence of Israel's Land

Will Israel keep their land?

Yes! Scripture makes it clear: Israel will not lose the land God has given them.

- **Isaiah 43:5** – *“Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.”*

God will gather Israel from all over the world to His land.

- **Amos 9:14-15** – *And I will bring my people Israel back from exile. “They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit.*

Israel will rebuild cities, plant vineyards, and never again be uprooted.

- **Ezekiel 36:24** – *“For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.*

God will gather His people from the nations and return them to their land. Then, in the end, the scales will fall from their eyes, and they will believe that Jesus Christ is their Messiah.

- **Zechariah 12:2** – *“I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as well as Jerusalem.*

Jerusalem will become a burdensome stone to the nations, yet God will protect His people.

- **Isaiah 59:21** *“As for me, this is my covenant with them,” says the Lord. “My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever,” says the Lord.*

No earthly power can overturn God's decree concerning Israel's inheritance.

Israel's Spiritual Restoration

Is there a salvation plan for Israel?

Yes! While many Jews remain unbelieving today, Scripture promises a future day when they will recognize Jesus as their Messiah.

- **Romans 11:11** – *I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.*

Israel's rejection of Christ opened the door for Gentiles, but their future acceptance will bring even greater blessings.

- **Zechariah 12: 3 - 3** *On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.*

All will join forces against Israel, but will be unable to remove them from their land.

- **Zechariah 12:10 - 10** *“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.*

Finally, the Jews will see that they missed the first coming of their messiah. He was the One Who they pierced.

- **Zechariah 14:4** – *4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives,*

Jesus will return to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.

- **Jeremiah 31:10** - *“Hear the word of the LORD, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’*

This is specific to Israel only. The God who allowed Israel to be dispersed will be the same God who gathers them together, and He miraculously did this on May 14th, 1948. At that time, only \$600,000 Jews lived in Israel. Today, there are well over \$6 million Jews in Israel.

- **Revelation 7:4** – *144,000 from the tribes of Israel will be set apart to proclaim the gospel in the end times.*

God has not abandoned Israel; He is preparing them for redemption, even until the very end. His final goal is to bring them through the tribulation so that they will see their Messiah, Jesus Christ.

The Origin of “Palestine”

The term *Palestine* was imposed by the Roman Emperor Hadrian in A.D. 135, when he renamed the land after Israel's enemies to erase Jewish identity. Historically, no nation of Palestine existed in the biblical era.

Today's Palestinians include diverse backgrounds—many are Jordanian, and not all are Muslim; some are Christian. They are not to be eradicated, for God desires that all come to repentance and salvation.

Can There Be a Two-State Solution?

No! According to Scripture, the land belongs to Israel alone. While non-Jews may live peacefully in the land under Israel's governance, the covenant boundaries cannot be divided. God has reserved this land exclusively for His people.

Conclusion

We must keep in mind that this old but new perception is an ancient battle that has been ongoing for 6,000 years. Satan knows that as long as the Jews occupy this land, that Jesus can return at any moment and end his reign over this earth. We do not battle against flesh and blood, but against the antichrist spirit that is overtaking those who are not rooted and grounded in the Word of God. We must speak out against this theology in love.

And remember that God's promises to us and to Israel are eternal and unbreakable. He chose us, just as He chooses them, disciplined them, restored them, and will one day open their eyes to their Messiah, Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, Replacement Theology denies God's faithfulness, but Scripture affirms it again and again:

- Israel remains God's chosen nation.
- The land is theirs by divine covenant.
- Their future redemption is certain.
- **Psalm 130:7** – *“Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.”*

As believers, we are called to honor God's covenant, pray for Israel, and trust that He will fulfill every promise He has made—because He is the ultimate promise-keeper.