Israel Compared To The New Testament Church

Intro: There are many comparisons between the things found within the Old Testament and the New Testament church. Adam, Isaac, Moses, Joshua, Elijah along with the various offerings and feast are all types of Christ. Both the tabernacle and the temple are types of the church. We also find that Israel is a type of the New Testament church. It is this relationship that we wish to discuss in this lesson.

I. A CHOSEN PEOPLE.
   A. The Israelites:
      1. Psa. 33:12 “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.”
      2. Isa. 41:8 “But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.”
      3. Isa. 44:1 “Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen:”
   B. The church:
      1. Eph. 1:4 “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:”
      2. 2 Thes. 2:13 “But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:”
      3. 1 Pet. 2:4, 9 “To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ‘But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:’”
      4. Rev. 17:14 “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.”
      5. That individual who obeys the gospel and becomes a member of the church has been chosen by God to salvation and eternal life.

II. A PECULIAR PEOPLE.
   A. The Israelites:
      1. Exo. 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: 6And 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.”
      2. Deu. 14:2 “For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”
      3. Deu. 26:18 “And the LORD hath avouchéd thee this day to be his peculiar people, as he hath promised thee, and that thou shouldest keep all his commandments;”
   B. The church:
      1. Tit. 2:14 “Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”
      2. 1 Pet. 2:9 “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:”
      3. The Greek word peripoíesi (peripoiesis) literally means to make around, that is to make something and then surround it with a circle, thus indicating ownership.
         a. It is the unique, private, personal ownership of the saints by God.
b. 1 Cor. 6:19-20 “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

III. KINGS.
A. The Israelites:
1. Exo. 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: 6And 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.”

B. The church:
1. Rev. 1:6 “And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”
2. Rev. 5:10 “And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”
3. We are kings.
   a. Rom. 8:37 “Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.”
   b. Many people have problems understanding this idea. They say if anything the elements rule over us.
   c. Rom. 6:1-14
      1) We are made free from sin.
      2) We are raised free of sin.
      3) We are no longer the servant of sin and sin no longer reigns in our bodies; Rom. 6:14 “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”
      4) We reign over sin: a spiritual reign, not a physical reign.

IV. PRIEST.
A. The Israelites:
1. Exo. 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: 6And 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.”
2. Isa. 61:6 “But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: men shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.”

B. The church:
1. 1 Pet. 2:5, 9 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 9But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”
2. The work of a priest is to offer gifts and sacrifices.
   a. Heb. 5:1 “For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:”
   b. Heb. 8:3 “For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.”
3. **The sacrifices we offer.**
   a. Heb. 13:15-16 “By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. 16But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”
   b. Rom. 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
      (1) Living sacrifice means devoted, consecrated, committed, given to the Lord.
      (2) Not conformed to this world.
      (3) Renewed mind, start thinking correctly that expresses itself outwardly in life.

V. **A HOLY PEOPLE.**

A. **The Israelites:**
   1. Deut. 7:6 “For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.”
   2. Deut. 14:2 “For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”
   3. Deut. 26:19 “And to make thee high above all nations which he hath made, in praise, and in name, and in honour; and that thou mayest be an holy people unto the Lord thy God, as he hath spoken.”
   4. Isa. 26:2 “Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.”

B. **The church:**
   1. 1 Pet. 1:15-16 “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”
   2. Eph. 5:27 “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”
   3. 1 Thess. 4:7 “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.”
   4. Heb. 12:14 “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”

C. **Holiness as applied to people.**
   1. Freed from their sin.
      a. Heb. 5:8-9 “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;”
      b. Our obedience begins with faith; Heb. 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
      c. Repentance is necessary; Acts 17:30 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:”
      d. We must confess our faith if Jesus as God’s Son; Rom. 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
      e. We must be baptized in water for the remission of sins; Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
   2. Dedicated to God’s service.
      a. Rom. 6:3-7 “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness...
of his resurrection: ‘Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ‘For he that is dead is freed from sin.”

b. Rom. 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

VI. A LIGHT TO THE WORLD.

A. The Israelites:

1. Isa. 60:1-3 “Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. 2For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. 3And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.”

B. The church:

1. Mat. 5:14-16 “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

2. Phi. 2:15 “That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;”

3. Light represents that which is of God.
   a. 1 John 1:5 “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”
   b. Thus we live according to God’s pattern; 2 Pet. 1:3-4 “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

VII. OF ONE FAMILY.

A. Israel:

1. They were all children of Abraham.
2. They were all of God.

B. The church:

1. All born into the family of God.
   a. John 3:3, 5 “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 5Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”
   b. Gal. 3:26-27 “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

2. As such there should be no divisions.
   a. 1 Cor. 1:10-12 “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. 12Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.”
b. John 10:16 “And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.”

c. This unity based upon God’s Word (hearing the voice of Christ).

(1) We thus think the same thing; 1 Cor. 4:6 “And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another.”

(2) We speak the same thing; 1 Pet. 4:11 “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

(3) We act the same way.

VIII. A PEOPLE OF INHERITANCE.

A. The Israelites:

1. Deu. 4:20 “But the LORD hath taken you, and brought you forth out of the iron furnace, even out of Egypt, to be unto him a people of inheritance, as ye are this day.”

2. Psa. 33:12 “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.”

3. God brought Israel out of Egyptian bondage to give them the land of Canaan (the promised land, a land of inheritance); a land which flowed with milk and honey.

B. The church:

1. Eph. 1:18 “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,”

2. When we obey the gospel, God adds us to the church and we have the hope of that eternal reward with God.

   a. Tit. 1:2 “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;”

   b. 1 Pet. 1:3-5 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, “To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

Conclusion: Only those who are in the church of Christ have this inheritance and only when they think, speak and act in accordance with the revealed will of God. Are you a member of Christ’s church?