

Blessings and Curses



**The Word of God
And**

The State of Israel

Blessings and Curses

When we think of The State of Israel, too often, people think that it is the same nation spoken of in the Old and New Testaments!

This assumption is incorrect! In this study, we will show why this assumption is the foundation of many incorrect and preconceived ideas concerning the modern State of Israel! Our very best guide is the Word of God! What you are about to hear and learn may be quite shocking; but remember, our Lord has given us ample information about Israel! And as we will hear, the LORD desires that Israel repent and believe that Jesus of Nazareth is their Messiah!

Blessings and Curses

The issue is that many in Israel do not know this and in some respects...don't what to know. So let's show you what God has to say about: **Israel!**

The Primary Texts we will be using are:

- + Deuteronomy 28**
- + Ezekiel 37-38**
- + St. Mark 7:1-8**
- + Romans 9 and 11**
- + Revelation 7**

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The Blessings of Obedience

¹“Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. ²And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: ³“Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country. ⁴“Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The Blessings of Obedience

⁵“Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.

⁶“Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. ⁷“The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. ⁸“The LORD will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you. ⁹“The LORD will establish you as a holy people to Himself, just as He has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in His ways.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The Blessings of Obedience

¹⁰Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. ¹¹And the LORD will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. ¹²The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. ¹³And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them. ¹⁴So you shall not turn aside from any of the words which I command you this day, to the right or the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

¹⁵“But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: ¹⁶“Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country. ¹⁷“Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. ¹⁸“Cursed shall be the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flocks. ¹⁹“Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

²⁰“The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me. ²¹The LORD will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from the land which you are going to possess. ²²The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish. ²³And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. ²⁴The LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

²⁵“The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth. ²⁶Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten them away. ²⁷The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed. ²⁸The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart. ²⁹And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

³⁰“You shall betroth a wife, but another man shall lie with her; you shall build a house, but you shall not dwell in it; you shall plant a vineyard, but shall not gather its grapes. ³¹Your ox shall be slaughtered before your eyes, but you shall not eat of it; your donkey shall be violently taken away from before you, and shall not be restored to you; your sheep shall be given to your enemies, and you shall have no one to rescue them. ³²Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, and your eyes shall look and fail with longing for them all day long; and there shall be no strength in your hand. ³³A nation whom you have not known shall eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor, and you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually. ³⁴So you shall be driven mad because of the sight which your eyes see. ³⁵The LORD will strike you in the knees and on the legs with severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your foot to the top of your head.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

³⁶“The LORD will bring you and the king whom you set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods—wood and stone. ³⁷And you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the LORD will drive you.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

³⁸“You shall carry much seed out to the field but gather little in, for the locust shall consume it. ³⁹You shall plant vineyards and tend them, but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them. ⁴⁰You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you shall not anoint yourself with the oil; for your olives shall drop off. ⁴¹You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity. ⁴²Locusts shall consume all your trees and the produce of your land.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

⁴³“The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. ⁴⁴He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail.

⁴⁵“Moreover, all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you. ⁴⁶And they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder, and on your descendants forever.

Blessings and

Deuteronomy

The CURSES of Dis

⁴⁷“Because you did not serve the LORD with gladness of heart, for the abundance of food, you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will put against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in nakedness. And he will put a yoke of iron on your neck until

⁴⁹The LORD will bring a nation against you from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flies, a nation whose language you will not understand, ⁵⁰a nation of fierce countenance, which does not respect the elderly nor show favor to the young. ⁵¹And they shall eat the increase of your livestock and the produce of your land, until you are destroyed; they shall not leave you grain or new wine or oil, or the increase of your cattle or the offspring of your flocks, until they have destroyed you.



SPQR

“Senatus PopulusQue
Romanus”

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

⁵²“They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you. ⁵³You shall eat the fruit of your own body, the flesh of your sons and your daughters whom the LORD your God has given you, in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you. ⁵⁴The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children whom he leaves behind, ⁵⁵so that he will not give any of them the flesh of his children whom he will eat, because he has nothing left in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

⁵⁶The tender and delicate woman among you, who would not venture to set the sole of her foot on the ground because of her delicateness and sensitivity, will refuse to the husband of her bosom, and to her son and her daughter, ⁵⁷her placenta which comes out from between her feet and her children whom she bears; for she will eat them secretly for lack of everything in the siege and desperate straits in which your enemy shall distress you at all your gates.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

*⁵⁸“If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, **THE LORD YOUR GOD**, ⁵⁹then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses. ⁶⁰Moreover He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. ⁶¹Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed.*

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The CURSES of Disobedience

⁶²You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God.

⁶³And it shall be, that just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

⁶⁴“Then the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other, and there you shall serve other gods, which neither you nor your fathers have known—wood and stone. ⁶⁵And among those nations you shall find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting place; but there the LORD will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. ⁶⁶Your life shall hang in doubt before you; you shall fear day and night, and have no assurance of life. ⁶⁷In the morning you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were evening!’ And at evening you shall say, ‘Oh, that it were morning!’ because of the fear which terrifies your heart, and because of the sight which your eyes see.

Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28

The **CURSES** of Disobedience

⁶⁸“And the LORD will take you back to Egypt in ships, by the way of which I said to you, ‘You shall never see it again.’ And there you shall be offered for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will buy you.”

Blessings and Curses

Now We Go to the NT

*As we arrive in our Lord's time, who is in charge in Israel...? **ROME!***

*In other words, all is not well in Israel...how so? **Dt. 28 and the Curses Clause has been invoked; since, as we have just studied, the Eagle now rules in Israel!***

And why has the Curses Clause been invoked? Who has lead them astray?

St. Mark 7:1-13 tells us!

Blessings and Curses

St. Mark 7

Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the Tradition of the Elders.¹ When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches.) Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?”

¹This is the Oral Law that, according to the Pharisees, Moses brought down from Mt. Sinai.

Blessings and Curses

St. Mark 7

⁶He [Jesus] answered and said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written:

*‘This people honors Me with their lips,
But their heart is far from Me.*

*⁷And in vain they worship Me,
Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’*

⁸For laying aside the commandment of God,⁺ you hold the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do.”

Is it not clear, that our Lord is telling you that the Pharisees have rejected God’s Word...they are idolatrous...just as bad as the false kings of Israel!

⁺See Dt. 28:15!

Blessings and Curses

The Pharisees



Blessings and Curses

St. Matthew 23

However, Jesus is even more pointed in His scathing rebuke of the Pharisees in Matthew 23:1-36!

What is our Lord's point?

- *The Pharisees are rank idolaters!*
- *Those that they teach are also idolaters!*
- *Therefore, they practice a false religion!*

Israel: Old or New?

Ezekiel 37 – 38

When most Christians and their teachers(?) look at Israel of today, they will immediately go to Ezekiel 37 and 38. Is Ezekiel actually giving a prophecy concerning modern day Israel? Why are some Christians so obsessed with the modern state of Israel? Especially given the fact that only 2% of Israelis' believe that Jesus is the Messiah!

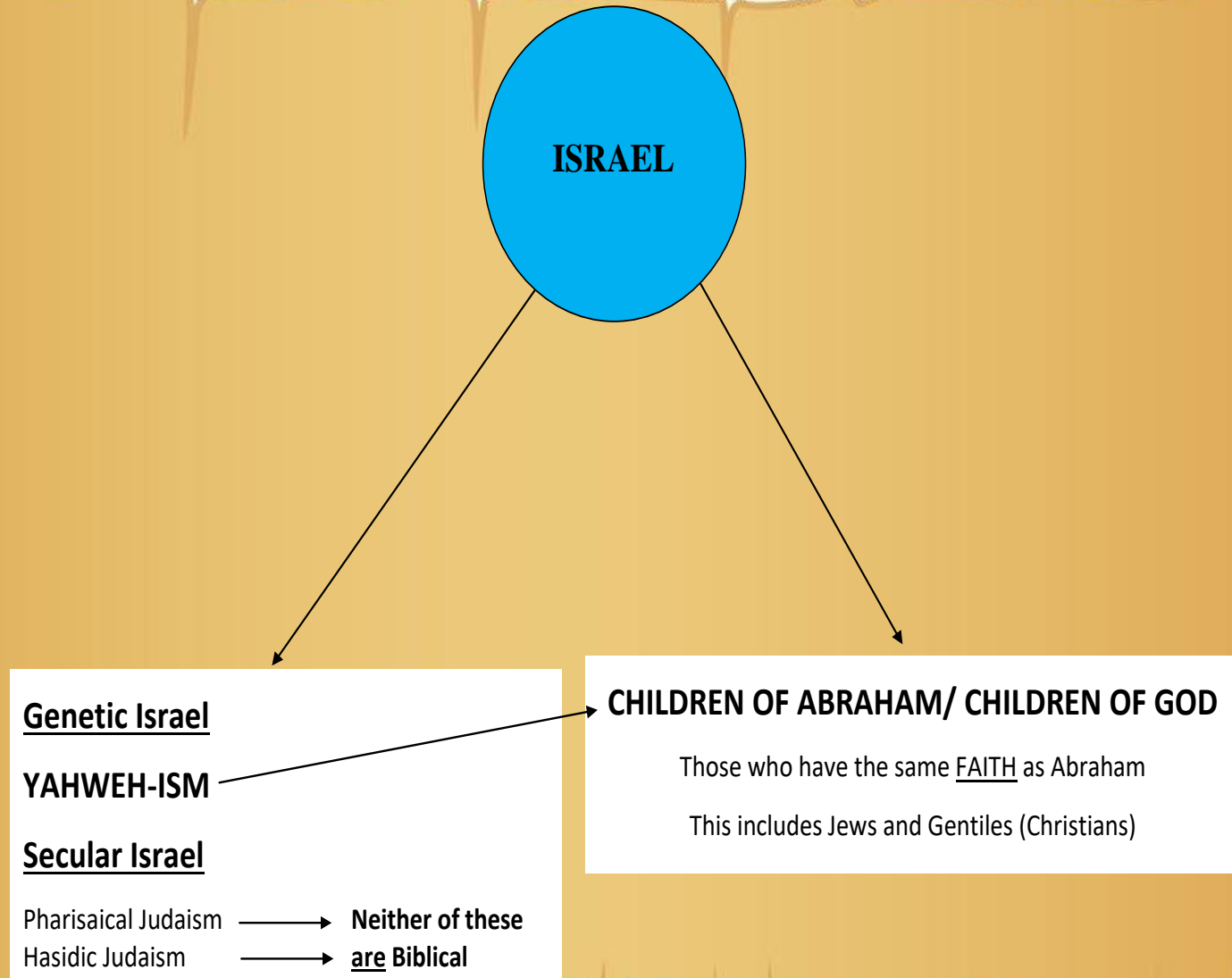
What are the to two major religions in Israel?

- Orthodox and Hasidic Judaism!

What does God's Word truly say about modern day Israel?

- ...Deuteronomy 28!

Israel: Old or New?



Israel: Old or New?

Ezekiel 37 – 38

Therefore, Ezekiel 37 and 38 has NOTHING to do with the restoration of the nation-state of Israel! It has NOTHING to do with a genetic, ethnic people who refuse to believe Jesus as their Messiah!

Ezekiel 37:

And the Valley of Dry Bones! What's it all about?

- This prophecy has NOTHING to do with 1948!*
- Then there's vv.11-14...it's a prophecy concerning the Resurrection of the Dead!*

The Prophecy of the Stick (vv.15-28)

- This is a prophecy of the Eschatological Israel!*

Israel: Old or New?

Ezekiel 37 – 38

And now,

Ezekiel 38

*The only way to understand this chapter is to have
Scripture interpret Scripture!*

Revelation 20:7-10

Who is Gog and Magog waging war against (v.9)?

- + The Saints (THE TRUE ISRAEL)!*
- + Ezekiel and St. John are both describing
the Final Last Eschatological battle!*

IT'S JUST THAT EASY!!!

Next Sunday!

Romans 11:13-24

How Gentiles Should Respond
to Israel and to God:

The Olive-Tree Analogy

- *We will discuss “Replacement Theology”*
- *The Danger of Anti-Semitism!*