

TWtT 2020: Old Made New

Session 3: “The Israel of God”: The OT and Us



Introduction: Recap of Sessions 1 and 2 and goals for this session

A. Eschatological “Israel”

1. “Israel” and “Eschatological”
2. Rom 11:1-24 – the ingrafting of Gentile believers into the remnant of Israel
3. Gal 6:16-16 – not circumcision/uncircumcision, but new creation: “Israel of God”
4. The use of _____ (“church”) in the OT and NT (e.g., Josh 8:35)

Teaching takeaway: Reading the full biblical story helps us grasp the church as eschatological Israel

B. OT and the Church’s *Identity*

1. **Offspring of Adam:** _____
 - 1 Cor 15:45-49 (Gen 2:7)
 - Rom 5:12 (Genesis 2-3)
2. **Offspring of Abraham:** _____
 - Rom 4:16-17 (Gen 17:5)
 - Gal 3:7-8 (Gen 12:3)
3. **A wilderness generation:** _____
 - 1 Cor 10:1-6 (Exodus 13-14)
 - Heb 3:13-4:1 (Ps 95:7-11; cf. Exodus 17)
 - Heb 12:18-22 (Exodus 19)

4. **Priests and sons of God:** _____

- 1 Pet 2:4-5 (Leviticus)
- Rom 12:1 (Leviticus)
- 1 Pet 2:9 (Exod 19:4-5) ←*Double-click*
- Gal 4:6 (cf. Rom 8:15; Exod 4:22-23 and Hos 11:1)

5. **Exiles:** _____

- 1 Pet 1:1, 2:11
- Jas 1:1
- 1 Pet 5:13
- Rev 1:48

6. **Heirs of the New Covenant:** _____

- 1 Cor 11:25 (Jeremiah 31 and Exod 24:6-8) ←*Double-click*

*Teaching takeaway: We want to help others see the manifold ways
OT concepts shape the church's identity in Christ*

C. OT and the Church's Ethics

1. Common misconceptions
2. *But if the apostolic authors see the church as eschatological Israel, it would be no surprise to see the OT moral law being used to guide/shape the NT church*
3. 1 John 2:7 (cf. 2 John 5)
4. Examples of how the NT uses the OT for the ethical formation of the church
 - a. Ten Commandments
 - b. Lev 19:18 ("love your neighbor...")
 - c. Marriage (Gen 2:24 → 1 Cor 6:16 and Eph 5:25-31)
 - d. Caring for the poor (Exod 16:18 → 2 Cor 8:14-15) ←*Double-click*
 - e. Dealing with elders (Deut 19:15 and 25:4 → 1 Tim 5:17-19)

*Teaching takeaway: We need to help others think in a more
nuanced way about how the OT moral law applies today*

D. OT and the Church's Future

1. "On whom the end of the ages have come" (1 Cor 10:11)
2. The church's "inaugurated" eschatology (right now)
 - a. Acts 2:14ff (Joel 2:28-32)
 - b. 2 Cor 6:1-2 (Isa 49:8)
3. The church's "consummated" eschatology (not yet)
 - a. Rev 21:12-14 (twelve and twelve)
 - b. Rev 3:12 (temple imagery)
 - c. Rev 21:1-2 (Genesis 1-2 and Isaiah 65)
 - d. Rev 21:3 (the Immanuel Principle)

Teaching takeaway: The future of the church is the consummation of the covenant promises of God to his people through all redemptive history

E. Re-reading the OT

1. If the church is "eschatological Israel," then we need to ask (at least) two questions when we read/teach the OT
 - a. Where is Christ here? ← (*We covered this last time*)
 - b. Where are we here?
2. Examples
 - a. Joseph narrative
 - b. Demand for a king in 1 Samuel 8
 - c. Psalms of lament and praise
 - d. Warning about bad leaders in Micah 3

Final homework

1. 1 Cor 5:13
2. 2 Cor 3:7-18

Study each passage's engagement with OT using the tools we've learned. Develop a "skeleton" Bible study as practice.