

"WHO ISRAEL IS"

Much of the confusion that exists in the religious world lies in a misunderstanding of the Kingdom of God.

First of all, If people could understand that the Kingdom is a SPIRITUAL kingdom.

Secondly, if they could understand that the law of Moses, according to Galatians the third chapter, was only added four hundred thirty years after the promise was given to Abraham. The law was added for just a period of time till the seed came, Jesus Christ. Then the law was disannuled, nailed to the cross, taken out of the way. And we come to a new covenant or new testament through Jesus Christ.

We see in the Word of God that these things were very true.

Now there are those who say, "Just tell the world about Jesus, and let it go at that." But, the Bible plainly tells us that God not only wills for all men to be saved, but also to come to a knowledge of the truth.

The lack of Truth and understanding divides God's people today. Divides people in trying to work God's purpose for a lost and dying world.

IT'S NEEDFUL THAT WE MAKE SURE THAT OUR UNDERSTANDING IS CORRECT.

Why?

Well, if what men teach today in promenant teaching in our land; if what they're teaching, and I just mention three or four things that are being taught today:

The first one is, IF ANCIENT ISRAEL IS STILL GOD'S

CHOSEN PEOPLE.

Secondly, IF JERUSALEM IN PALESTINE IS GOD'S GATHERING PLACE.

IF PHYSICAL CIRCUMCISION IS THE SEAL OF THE COVENANT.

IF JESUS IS COMING TO EARTH AGAIN TO SAVE, HONOR AND REIGN OVER THE LITERAL JEW.

Now, if these things are true, then the Church has no reason for her being whatsoever.

We just might as well "close up shop" and set down somewhere and wait until Jesus comes again.

But, those "points" I just mentioned along with many others; there's no truth in them whatsoever. I SAY THIS WITH LOVE AND RESPECT. You might be thinking, "That's making mighty strong statements." Well, we beg you to "stay with us," and please consider with us as we GO TO THE BIBLE FOR OUR DEFENCE.

Romans 9:1-8 "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethern, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. FOR THEY ARE NOT ALL ISRAEL, WHICH ARE OF ISRAEL: NEITHER, BECAUSE THEY ARE THE SEED OF ABRAHAM, ARE THEY ALL CHILDREN: BUT, IN ISSAC SHALL THY SEED BE CALLED. THAT IS, THEY WHICH ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE FLESH, THESE ARE NOT THE CHILDREN OF GOD: BUT THE CHILDREN OF THE PROMISE ARE COUNTED FOR THE SEED."

Now, here's the apostle Paul pouring out his heart.

Just as Christ gave Himself for the world, the spirit of Christ in Paul would cause him to be willing to lay down his life if it would mean the salvation of his kinsman according to the flesh.

As we've read so far, the apostle Paul truly believed and taught that the literal Jews were accursed (the word accursed means excommunicated, cut off from God). And after He (Paul) made that statement, (remember he's writing to the Romans to try to give them understanding right in the midst of confusion), then he begins to answer some questions.

Again, verse 4 "Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen."

The promises (given in the plural), in Galatians the third chapter. They were given to Abraham and his seed. And he didn't say many seeds, but one seed which is Christ.

Everything that God had to give to us through the promises of Abraham, it came through and by Christ.

It was Christ that was with Israel in the wilderness. It was Christ that brought her out of Egypt. It was Christ that fed her; Christ that clothed her.

He said, Verse 6 "Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: 7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. 8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

Paul lets us know that he had gained clear understanding that the Israelites were not a people who were Abraham's literal seed. They never were. He makes it plain. Abraham had more than one son. But he turned down Ishmael and narrowed it

down as far as the literal seed is concerned to just the seed of Isaac.

When he (Paul) used the word Israelite; let's consider it a moment. You know where it had its beginning; back when Jacob "wrestled with God" and wouldn't let the "angel" go until he blessed him. God changed his name from Jacob to Israel. And his literal descendants were known through the Old Testament as the Israelites.

The Jews love that name because of the meaning of it.

It marked them first of all, when they said they were an Israelite, it marked them a true descendant of Jacob or Israel. And the word Israel means one who prevails with God. They hung on to it as being God's people. They're still hanging on to it yet today.

Even Gentiles have "jumped on the band wagon," even though Paul said after the 'CROSS' Jews and Gentiles ceased to exist. However, books are being written about the future of the Jews. They talk about the temple being rebuilt and even going back to sacrificing animals etc.

I say this with love and respect and very "softly," God will never authorize another animal's blood to be shed as a sacrifice.

Why? A better blood's been spilt. Read Hebrews! God ordained something better for man than animal blood and that which was held under the Old Covenant. And since He has something better for us, Paul lets us know, the old decayed, passed away, it's gone for good!

But people who want to hold on to traditions and ideas; trying to make us feel that these things could come to pass.

Now listen to the Apostle Paul. He came right down in verse 5; he let us know that all these things were fulfilled through Christ who is over all and God blessed. And then in verse 6 he said "Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For

they are not all Israel, which are of Israel." And Israel here, he's using as Jacob, in the place of Jacob.

In other words he boiled it down to: All of Abraham's seed weren't children of God; just Isaac's followers. And then he boiled it down a little farther. Just Jacob's children. And then he boiled it down a little farther. Not even all of Jacob's children were really Israelites. Then he got down pretty narrow.

And when he got to verse 6, he said, "Not as though the word of God had taken none effect. Here's a scripture that Millennium teachers use to try to definitely prove that there's many things to take place in the future. Because God's word don't fail, and God promised to give Israel the land of Caanan. Promised to give them peace. Promised to be their God. And they're not living in peace. So, since they're not living in peace, and the word of God don't fail, there has to be another application of these promises out in the future.

Please, look with me further in the Bible. I agree that God's word doesn't fail. And in every period of time, and every century of time since there's been time, when God's word was spoken, it never failed to take affect. Now everybody didn't believe it. Everybody didn't obey it. Everybody wasn't blessed by it. But the word of God never failed to take affect; and it never will.

Back in Genesis 15:18 God promised Abraham; to give him the land or give it unto his seed. And so people go back to this promise and say it's yet to be fulfilled.

Please look at Romans 9:6 again. He said, "Not as though the word of God had taken none affect;" and begins to let us know that he divided a people, and the true Israel was gathered out from a people who were just the literal seed of Abraham, by their attitude toward God's word, whether they believed it or not; whether they obeyed it or not.

Now "hold that thought." You might ask, "Well, who are the Israel of God?" Look at verse 8 "That is, They which are the children of the flesh (Abraham's literal seed), these are not the

children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

Again Genesis 15:18 "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates." There's the promise.

THAT PROMISE WAS FULFILLED! God answered that promise one hundred percent.

2 Chronicles 9:26 Speaking about Soloman, "And he reigned over all the kings from the river (Euphrates) even unto the land of the Philistines, and to the border of Egypt." God promised Abraham's literal seed, "I'll give you the land, the land of Caanan, from Egypt clear to the river Euphrates." And God fulfilled it. Here He had given them the land. Soloman, David's son was king and reigning over the whole land that God had given them.

You can also read it in first Kings 8:56.

When God gave Israel that covenant, remember as Paul explains in Galations the third chapter, that law and that promise was a covenant. A covenant had two parties. And each had a part to keep. And when God gave Israel the land of caanan, He gave it to them under a covenant. There were terms to that covenant. God gave the Jews very definite conditions for them to observe to remain in the land. And He told them if they failed to observe those conditions, they would be driven out. And the covenant would be null and void.

In Deut. 8 God is laying down the Covenant. Letting them know there were conditions. See, where the "wrong slant" is taken, (and I speak lovingly and respectfully) is when it's taught that there are unconditional promises. I do not know of one uncondit- ional promise in God's Word. Every promise God gives is on condition; you do something. And if you don't do your part, the promise or covenant is void. If you confess and forsake, God will have mercy.

Now God gave Israel the land of Canaan on conditions. That was true beginning with the first man. Adam was put in the garden on conditions. "You keep this law. You overstep this law and I'll drive you out." Right here in the beginning back in the Garden of Eden we have our first example of God keeping his word regarding conditions that he set forth.

So, when God gave Israel the land on conditions He made it plain to them that if they met those conditions they would stay in the land. If they failed to meet those conditions they would lose the land.

Deut. 8:19 and 20. "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord your God." God here is speaking through Moses, laying down the conditions of obtaining and retaining the land of Canaan.

Deut. 30:17-20 "But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live. That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Issac, and to Jacob, to give them." Conditions!...over and over He reminded them.

Look at Exodus 19:8, the same picture. This is just in another book, but it covers the same time as Deut. 30. "And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord." There's the Covenant! "Come on, I'll give you

this land, and you can have it throughout your generations, if you be careful to observe and obey. But if you allow your heart to be turned after other gods, and you refuse to obey my words; just like I've caused other nations to be wiped out, I'll wipe you out. And you'll not possess the land any longer. And the people answered, all the Lord has said we'll do. We understand that." And Moses took that word back to the Lord. Here lies a stern warning to the literal Jew. Imposed on them was a condition to remain in the land. And God said, that he called heaven and earth to bear record to this Covenant this day. Well, heaven and earth bears record that they broke that Covenant. Over and over they broke it! And they were expelled from the land. The very God that had driven out their enemies and gave them the land; when they broke the Covenant, God turned and drove them out!

What happened to them? In Deut. 28:25 we can read the nature of their punishment. And it's still going on today! "The Lord shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them, and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth." And it's sad to say, but that's exactly where the Jews are now; removed into all the kingdoms of the earth. That punishment is still going on. They're not a people gathered together in one place.

How did they get scattered among all the kingdoms of the earth? The answer is obvious as we remember the conditions of the Covenant. God himself scattered them as punishment for their disobedience. Let's remember, God fulfilled his obligation when he gave them the land and drove their enemies out. It was their duty to obey God to remain in the land.

Now, I love and respect the literal Jews along with the apostle Paul; my desire is also that they might be saved. However, I have not been able to find anywhere in God's word where he promised to give them the land a second time or a third time. I have found that God promised the land to them once. He gave it to them once. They "messed up." And when they messed up, they brought upon themselves ir-repairable Judgement as far as the nation's concerned.

Yes, He brought them back to Palastine. He brought them back to Jerusalem. But as we study it; how did they come back? They came back in bondage under Roman rule. And what did He bring them back for? To receive the Messiah. And when they turned Him down, they went into a worse scattered condition than ever before.

We may think these facts are hard. We must remember that we're God's creation. God can do with us what he wants to. God sets in the "drivers seat." He makes the arrangements. And it's up to us to keep the arrangement.

So, Israel was driven out of the land. And God didn't promise it to them again. We need to remember that God's Judgements are as sure as his promises. God told them when he gave the promise; "Here's your judgement. You fail to obey me; I've called you out of Egypt. I've gathered you together from the nations and from the kingdoms of the world to make one people out of you. I've given you this land to dwell in. Here's the law you must live by. if you don't keep this law, my curses, my judgments are as sure as my promises." I say this with love and kindness and respect, but Israel must have believed so strongly in "eternal security" that they failed to take God's word serious. I continue to speak with love and kindness and respect, however too many professed Christians likewise appear to believe so strongly in "eternal security" that they too do not seem to take God's word serious. "Surely the Lord won't cast us out. He didn't give us this land to throw us out." Well, He threw them out!

Now, please take note of what I say with love and kindness and all respect. Literal Israel will never possess the land of Canaan again. The Bible makes this perfectly clear. Please don't "throw me over the dump yet." Give me a little more time to prove this right or wrong. Please don't believe what men say. Please, believe only what God says.

History attests to the fact that Israel has reaped exactly the consequences of their choice. They're scattered. They're not a nation. "Oh, they became a nation again back there at a certain

date, 1948?" Again, I speak kindly and with love; that's what man says, that's when man says they became a nation. Please, let's read in God's word and find out when Israel became a nation again.

Man can determine what he wants to. Man did determine that Israel was a nation again in 1948 and the world has recognized this determination up to this very day. Please remember that it isn't what man says, but what God says. God said that she'd never be a nation again. He said that she would remain dispersed among all other nations.

Let's begin to take a look. What about Pentecost when they came together at Pentecost? "Jews devout men out of every nation under heaven." They didn't have any nation of their own. They came "from every nation under heaven." How did they get "out there?" God scattered them out there. His judgement was as sure as His promise. Needless to say, God means what He says. So history attests to the fact that they reaped the consequences.

In 1 Kings 8:56 we see one more witness that God fulfilled His pledge. Here's Soloman in his prayer. He said "Blessed be the Lord, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant." If that isn't enough, look at Joshua 21:45; Then, Joshua 23:14. Twice, two different times, Joshua as he was dying told Israel, "I want you to know this, not one word of the promise that God promised has failed. He's given us every thing he promised." In other words, there's nothing left to be fulfilled."

I say again with love and kindness and respect, nowhere in the Bible can we find where God promised Israel the land a second time.

Please turn with me to Ezekiel 16:55. "When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former

estate." Ezekiel is writing to Judah here. Remember Israel was broken up at this time into ten tribes and two tribes. The two tribes made up Judah or Jerusalem. And the ten tribes were spoken of as Samaria. And Ezekiel merely brings Sodom up because Sodom, the minute you hear the word, you think of leudness, sinfulness, ungodliness and disobedience. And God, speaking through Ezekiel, went on to say here that Judah had lived a worse life than the Sodomites. Maybe it will help if we look at verse 44 of Ezekiel 16. "Behold, everyone that useth proverbs shall use this proverb against thee, saying, As is the mother, so is her daughter. Here's a proverb. Needless to say, a proverb is something set up as an equation to set forth truth.

Now what's God saying about Israel when she failed? "When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate."

NOW, DO YOU THINK THAT ISRAEL IS EVER GOING TO RETURN TO HER FORMER ESTATE?

Well, according to Ezekiel 16:55 IT WILL BE WHEN SODOM RETURNS TO HER FORMER ESTATE. Lets read on; verse 56. "For thy sister Sodom was not mentioned by thy mouth in the day of thy pride, 57. Before thy wickedness was discovered, as at the time of thy reproach of the daughters of Syria, and all that are round about her, the daughters of the Philistines, which despise thee round about. 58. Thou hast borne thy lewdness and thine abominations, saith the Lord. 59. For thus saith the Lord God; I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant." What did they do? They broke the covenant. Here's the prophet teaching them. Why they're in such a pitiful shape. The prophet goes on to tell them that THEY WERE IN A WORSE SHAPE THAN SODOM WAS IN. AND AS FAR AS HAVING ISRAEL REDEEMED AS A NATION; YOU CAN JUST AS WELL EXPECT GOD TO RAISE SODOM UP FROM THE DEAD SEA. SPEAKING KINDLY, ISRAEL BROKE HER COVENANT AND BROUGHT UPON HERSELF IRREPAIRABLE JUDGEMENT.

We might think that's terrible judgement. Needless to say, His judgement is just as strict today. Sure, we're living under the sure mercies of David. Certainly a saviour has died. Certainly Christ's blood is greater. Certainly God has given us grace, but when we push God far enough to bring His judgement upon us, His judgement is just as strict and straight today as it was then.

What's the prophet trying to teach those people? He's trying to teach them, and he's trying to teach us that the heinousness of sin is in proportion to the position of privilege that the sinners had. The Scriptures teach us that God rates sin. How's he rate sin? According to how much privilege we have. Sin's "blacker" and we'll go to a "deeper hell" when we set under the truth; have opportunity after opportunity. Why was Israel's sin so heinous? Because they killed the prophets; stoned them that were sent to them. God gave them opportunity after opportunity to repent, but they refused. And the heinousness of sin is governed by God according to the opportunity offered. That's why God could say that Israel was in worse shape than Sodom. Why? Sodom didn't have the privilege that Israel had...and Sodom didn't have the privilege that we have had.

Now, please turn with me to Lam. 4:4-11. Jeremiah was thrown in jail, and he wrote these lamentations. I'll just quote verse 6. "For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her." Why is it greater? Sodom's punishment was sharp and short. God said "I'll destroy the city; I'll send fire and brimstone out of heaven and I'll destroy the city." And in a moment of time, after Lot and his family got out, God's judgement was short - it devoured the city and there was nothing left but a bunch of ashes. But Judah's punishment is greater. Why? It's sharp, but it's long lasting. Still going on, still going on and still going on!

Matt. 10:5. "These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7. And as ye go, preach, saying,

The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8. Heal the sick...etc. vs. 11. And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, inquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. 12. And when ye come into and house, salute it. 13. And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14. And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. 15. Verily I say unto you, it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgement, than for that city." Is that judgement worse than Sodom?

Matt. 11:20. "Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: 21. Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgement, than for you. 23. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day (I wouldn't have had to put judgement on it and wipe it out). Remember, God judges according to what we receive. Luke 12:47 "And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 48. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

Ezekiel 16:59 "For thus saith the Lord God; I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant. 60. Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant." After he said, "I will even deal with thee as thou hast done, which hast despised the oath in breaking the covenant. Nevertheless,... Thank God for the mercy of God! Thank God for the nevertheless in the bible! What does he say? "Nevertheless, I will remember my covenant

with thee in the days of thy youth, (Let's read it, then I'll "expand it.") and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant. 61. Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: (We'll clarify that) and I will give them unto thee for daughters," (Surely you know that the church is a mother. She's got sons and daughters. And only mothers have sons and daughters.) REPEAT..."when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger:" Remember what he said to Abraham, "I'll make your seed as the stars of the sky and I'll bless you and I'll be a God to you and your people will be my people." That was the promise He made before the law was ever given. That was the promise of Israel's youth. Back when Isaac was a little boy..."Out of Isaac shall your seed be blest." Back when Isaac was a boy when Abraham took him up and offered him on the alter. That's when God gave him that promise; back in Israel's youth when they were as it were "in the loins of Abraham." God gave them a promise. The "other covenant" was added for just a particular time "till the seed came." And Israel broke that "other covenant" and God drove them out of the land and brought upon them irretrievable judgement. Now, after He told them what the judgement was, He said, "Nevertheless I remember the covenant of your youth. You remember the first covenant that was made? Well, I'm going to establish that one. And it's going to be an everlasting covenant. It will not only be good for time, but it'll be good for eternity!"

(my translation!, smile.) Stay right with me! What's he talking about? Here is the Gospel covenant! Remember, the Gospel was before preached unto Abraham. Galatians 3:8. God's first covenant with man was the Gospel when it was first preached unto Abraham. Then, years later another covenant was made with literal Israel. They broke the covenant. God "tore it up." And He said, "I remember that covenant of your youth. I'm going to establish that everlasting covenant with you. What was it? The Gospel covenant. The first covenant he made that was for all nations. You might be thinking, "I don't think that's it. Stay with me just a little bit. He said, "I'll establish an everlasting covenant with you. It may be hard for you to accept, but the promises from that point forth were transferred to the church. The "other covenant" was to stand, Paul said,

"till the seed came." And that seed was Christ. And when He came He took it (Col. 2nd chapter) and nailed that old covenant to the cross. He finished it! Fulfilled it! God stood ready to establish an everlasting covenant. The Gospel covenant. That covenant He had spoken back before any law was given, before any covenant for canaan was made. Again, the first covenant He ever gave Abraham; "You walk with me, I'll be a God to you and your seed will be as the stars of heaven. And in blessing I'll bless you and make you a blessing and I'll be a God to you and your people will be my people. That's the covenant God remembered. I say the promises are transferred to the church. And if you can't receive that, don't take it for a moment, but I'll prove it to you. It's a new and everlasting covenant. How do we know it's the Gospel covenant?

Turn to Jeremiah 31. We're coming to the new testament shortly. Let's look at this everlasting covenant. Verse 31.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, (they broke that one) although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: 33.

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, form the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." There's the new covenant. There's the everlasting covenant!

Do I hear you saying(?), "That doesn't say it's the Gospel covenant! In Hebrews the 8th chapter - watch the writer to the Hebrews put it where it belongs. Hebrews 8:7-13. "For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Judah: 9. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took

them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11. And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." Who's the Hebrew writer writing to? The Hebrews. The Jews who were trying to hold on to the first covenant. He let them know that God had made a new covenant. The old one had decayed and was ready to vanish away. God had given us a better covenant.