

Jesus Walks Among the Lampstands

Philadelphia: Perseverance of the Persecuted

Part B

Lesson #18



Istanbul

Sea of Marmara

Thyatira

Pergamum

Sardis

Smyrna

Philadelphia

Ephesus

Laodicea

Aegean Sea

Revelation 3:8-10

“⁸ I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name. ⁹ Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie — I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you. ¹⁰ Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.”

Matthew 26:3-4

“³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas; ⁴ and they plotted together to seize Jesus by stealth and kill Him.”

Matthew 27:1-2

“¹ Now when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death; ² and they bound Him, and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor.”

Matthew 27:17-22

“¹⁷ So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, ‘Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?’ ¹⁸ For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over. ¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, ‘Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him.’”

²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death. ²¹ But the governor said to them, ‘Which of the two do you want me to release for you?’ And they said, ‘Barabbas.’ ²² Pilate said to them, ‘Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?’ They all said, ‘Crucify Him!’

Isaiah 60:14

“The sons of your oppressors
will come bowing before you;
all who despise you will bow
down at your feet.”



Israel
The Nation

The
Gentile
Nation

The Church

It is implied from the denunciation of Revelation 3:9 “Synagogue of Satan who claim to be Jews though they are not.

This is similar to Revelation 2:9 and spoken to Smyrna.

It is implied from the surrounding text. Note Revelation 1:6. “He made us to be a kingdom of priests to His God and Father.”

Exodus 19:6

“⁶ ‘And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”

I Peter 2:9

“⁹ But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

Galatians 5:2-3

“² Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. ³ And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law.”

Galatians 6:12

“¹² Those who desire to make a good showing in the flesh try to compel you to be circumcised, simply so that they will not be persecuted for the cross of Christ.”

Galatians 6:15-16

“¹⁵ For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.
16 And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.”

A true Jew is not identified by outward things like Jewish ethnicity and circumcision but by inward or spiritual things like believing in God and His Son.

Romans 2:28-29

“²⁸ For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. ²⁹ But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.”

Israel has been removed from
God's olive tree due to unbelief,
and the Gentile church has been
grafted in.

Romans 11:17-21

“¹⁷ But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, ¹⁸ do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you. ¹⁹ You will say then, ‘Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.’ ²⁰ Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; ²¹ for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.”

The Gentile church of Thessalonica is implied as the New Israel or eschatological people of God who received the anticipated new covenant blessing of the Holy Spirit. Implied argument from context.

Ezekiel 36:25

“You will be clean from all your uncleanness.”

I Thessalonians 4:3,7

“³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality ... ⁷ For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.”

Ezekiel 36:25

“I will cleanse you from all idols.”

I Thessalonians 1:9

“⁹ For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God.”

Ezekiel 36:27

“I will cause you to walk in my commands, and to keep my judgments and to do them.”

I Thessalonians 4:1

“⁴ Finally then, brethren, we request and exhort you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction as to how you ought to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk), that you excel still more.”

Ezekiel 36:27; 37:6,14

“I will put my spirit in you.”

I Thessalonians 4:8

“⁸ So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.”

The giving of the Spirit from an Old Testament Jewish perspective was always viewed as a future outpouring on Israel. However for Paul, it had become an ongoing reality.

The term *theodidaktos* (an adjective meaning “taught by God”) is striking.

Isaiah 53:14

I Thessalonians 4:9

“Taught of the
Lord”

“Taught by God”

Diaktous theou

Theodidaktos

The “Hope” promised to Israel is now realized in the church.

Romans 4:10-12

¹⁰ How then was it credited? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised; ¹¹ and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them, ¹² and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

Romans 4:13,16

“¹³ For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith....

“¹⁶ For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.”

Exodus 20:12

“¹² Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you.”

Ephesians 6:2-

“² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the Earth.”

What about Jerusalem? This city seems central to Jesus' ministry. Yet it was not Jerusalem but Capernaum that was designated as Jesus' own town.

Galatians 4:26

“²⁶ But the Jerusalem above
is free; she is our mother.”

Hebrews 12:18-24

“¹⁸ For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind, ¹⁹ and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which sound was such that those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not bear the command, ‘If even a beast touches the mountain, it will be stoned.’”

²¹ And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, ‘I am full of fear and trembling.’ ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.”

Isaiah 10:21-22

“²¹ A remnant will return, the remnant of Jacob, to the mighty God. ²² For though your people, O Israel, may be like the sand of the sea, Only a remnant within them will return; A destruction is determined, overflowing with righteousness.”

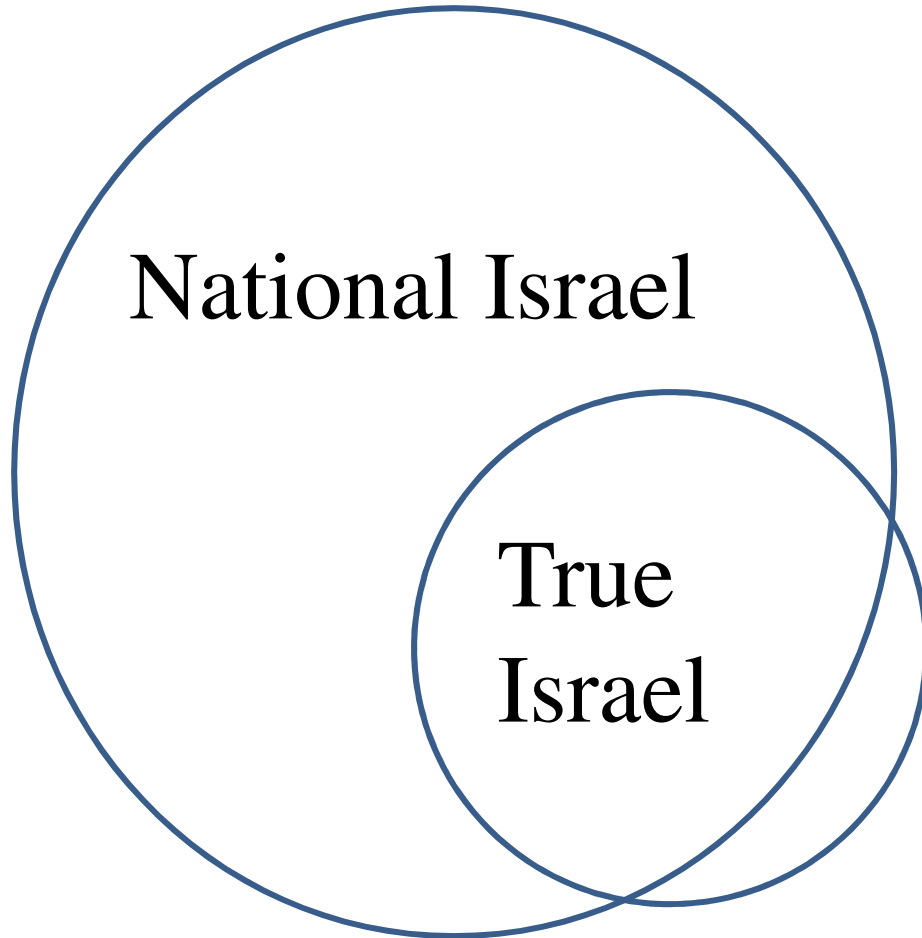
I Kings 19:18

“¹⁸ Yet I will leave 7,000 in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Romans 9:6

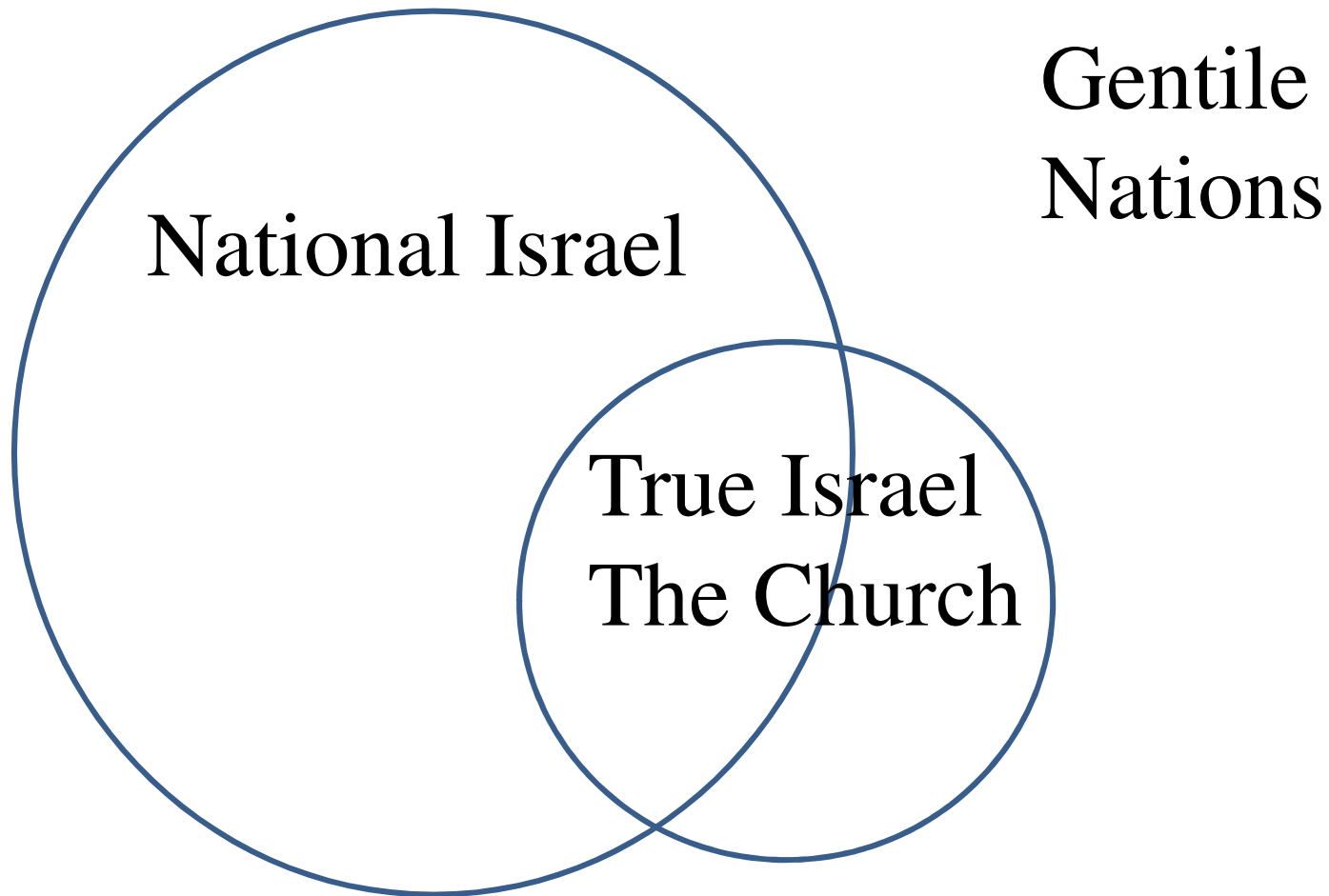
“⁶ But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For they are not all Israel who are descended from Israel.”

True Israel Identified as a Remnant.

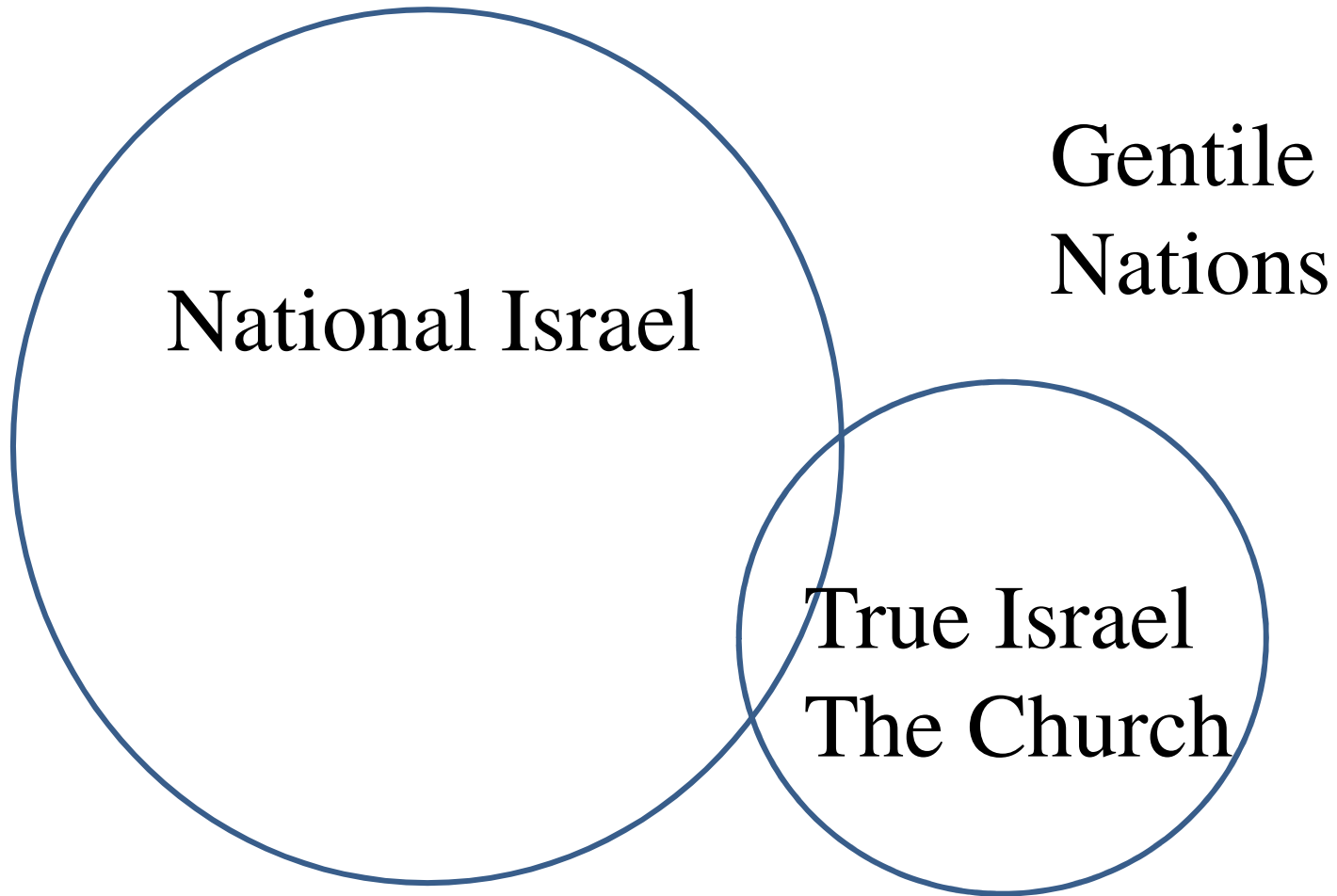


Gentile
Nations

Day of Pentecost and moving forward.
Samaritans and Pagans receive the
Word of God.



Present Age.



**Any distortion of the
nature and character
of God is idolatry.**

**Evangelical Christianity must
recapture the missing jewels
when discussion of modern-day
Israel dominates the air waves.**

**Our true comfort lies in Christ
who has made Gentile
believers and Jewish believers
one in Himself.**