

Israel and The Promised Land

In today's news there's much talk about Israel and the Promised Land. But what is "The Promise Land"? And what is "Israel" according to the Bible? After all, isn't it the scriptures that define this? In Exodus 4.22 The Lord spoke to Moses saying "Israel *is* My son, My firstborn."

So we ask, is that Israel of old God's firstborn son? The answer is no, not that one. That old Isreal only depicted and mimicked some things that are invisible "in Christ".

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 10.10 "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,³ all ate the same spiritual food,⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." Showing us here everything they did had invisible implications.

The same is true for us who are baptised not into Moses, but "in Christ" the place of the fulfillment of all things.

Everyone who was in that Israel, were joint heirs of the things they had. Just as with the New Covenant Israel. Everyone who is "in Christ" are joint heirs of the things that belong to God. They are both explanation forms of the greater reality of things in the spirit for those who are born of the spirit, to associate and eat and drink of the things in the spirit, to assimilate and put on the things God has provided for us to partake of Him.

Truthfully Christ being the first born son is spiritual Israel and Gods only begotten. Those who are "in Christ" are in "Israel My first born son". This is the place the promises of God are fulfilled. They are in "The Promised Land".

The New Covenant says "all the promises of God are yes and amen in Christ". They are fulfilled "in Him". In Christ all things take on their final form. This is the endgain and by-product of the gospel. The gospel us the power of God for salvation. To be found "in Christ". Or to borrow old testament nomenclature, to reside in Israel, in the promised land. The old depicted the new, but we prefer the new wine.

To be in "the promised land" and "in Israel", and "in Christ" are all synonymous terms describing the same thing.

Those who are in Christ are in the new Israel, the only place the fulfillment of all scripture rests, as described in the New Covenant

Paul's last words in the book of Galatians says this about the true Israel.

¹⁵ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God." Showing for us here precisely who Israel is. **That we the elect are in the Israel of God and not a place on earth.** We who are "in Christ" are in the fulfillment of all that was written and spoken of both the old and the new covenants. **These things belong solely to us who are "in Christ" the true Israel of God. You need not look for another.**

Scripture says of Christ that "in Him dwells the fullness of the God head body, and we are complete in Him who is tge head of all powers and principalities and principalities". What could another esrthen Jerusalem add to that?

The Kingdom of God is at hand. Amen.