

Who is the Church?

The primary and eternal identity of the church is the Lord Jesus Christ – Yeshua Ha Meshach Himself.

He is our Origin, our Head, our Leader, and our very Life.

The Church's nature and destiny are embodied in the Son of God, and we have no substance apart from Him.

Naturally speaking, the Church that stemmed from the seed of Jesus-Yeshua, the Anointed One of God, sprouted in the soil of Israel.

The birthing of Christianity came through the nation of Israel.

Rom. 11: 11-27 [read scriptures]

The cultivated oil tree [Israel] was the foundation for the new growth known as Christianity.

The Church of the Lord Jesus/Yeshua Ha Meshach finds her roots in Israel.

Eph. 2:11-12 “Therefore remember, that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “uncircumcision by the so called circumcision... remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.”

This reminds us of our carnal, godless, heathen roots that the Lord has saved us from. The Holy Spirit found it necessary to remind the Ephesian believers of their roots, we also need to be reminded to cause a thankfulness to the Lord for allowing us to be grafted in.

Paul said the Gentiles were both separate from Christ and excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, having no hope and no God.

What the church today claims as its New Covenant is really its first and only covenant!

- The everlasting covenant God established with His Son is new only to the Jewish folks who had an Old Covenant with God.
- For the Gentile believer, this is the only covenant.
- Jeremiah 31:31 “Behold, days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a **NEW** Covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.”

We as Gentile disciples through Jesus/Yeshua are introduced into Israel's new and better covenant.

The Mystery:

Paul in Ephesians 3:3-6 “...by revelation there was made known to me the mystery...that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.”

- God, in His great mercies, never intended to limit His grace and covenant to Israel alone, but made a way to invite and include the nations.
- The gospel was not an end in itself, but it was “**through the gospel**” that the heathen nations of the world would be brought into the embrace of God through Jesus/Yeshua as it was demonstrated in His covenant with Israel.

“The Gentiles are fellow heirs...fellow members...fellow partakers” is a picture of them joining an already existing reality – God’s people the Jewish nation.

Through the gospel, Gentiles are able to join a people and a promise, which pre-existed them; they now can join the commonwealth of Israel.

One People:

The Church, Bride of Jesus/Yeshua was never meant to be isolated or separate from Israel.

- The church is not called to **replace – displace – or be separate** from her, but called into the **commonwealth of Israel**.
- Gentiles now have the right to join into the benefits of an existing covenant.

Rom. 11 - Paul uses the picture of the olive tree to clarify and seal this mystery to those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

- The metaphor of the one olive tree is that there is only one Tree.
- Jewish branches and Gentile branches make up the One Tree.
- Both have their sustenance and fruitfulness in the same trunk and root system.
- God never started a “replacement olive tree.”
- God was satisfied with His original design: Jewish branches, Gentile branches, Black branches, Yellow branches, Brown branches and any others; we all find our place in Gods One Olive Tree.

Rom. 11:17-24 “You, being a wild olive [Gentiles] were grafted in AMONG them [Jews] and became partaker WITH them [Jews] of the rich root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant...remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you...for if you were cut off from what is by nature a wild olive tree [pagan roots], and

were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree [Israel], how much more shall these who are the natural branches [the Jews] be grafted into their OWN olive tree?

There is no explanation to this mystery apart from the words found in Rom. 11:33:
“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgements and unfathomable His ways.”

God’s great mercies and compassion move Him to act contrary to nature, in ways that even reverse the order of His own creation, so that multitudes from the nations can find shelter in His love and Kingdom.

We should not be distracted with our separate earthly identities, but be humbled and accept with thanksgiving and joy God’s opinion of us:
“Through the gospel, we are all partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus/Yeshua Ha Meshach.”

The Promise:

Paul, in Galatians, refers to the promise as a central theme to our salvation and destiny in God.

Gal. 3:27-29 “For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek...slave nor free man...male nor female; for you are all ONE in Jesus/Yeshua. And if you belong to Jesus/Yeshua, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”

What is this promise that embraces both Jew and Gentile?

- What is the blessed expectation both Jew and Gentile believers together partake in for God’s purposes?

Please get this:

- Now, Gentile believers are not only related to Father Abraham spiritually but also are heirs of the same promise.
- The promise that: “Through Abraham, all the nations of the earth would be blessed through his seed.” Gen 12:3.
- God’s original intent was to redeem and heal the nations of the world as He grafts them into His Kingdom.
- Spiritually speaking, through Jesus/Yeshua the church was born into that very promise of being a blessing to the world.

That ancient promise has never and will not be changed, rearranged or improved upon.

It is still the same: “Those who are baptized into Jesus/Yeshua...are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”

Those promises which so long rested solely on Israel have exploded through the gospel and have become the inheritance of all the redeemed.

The mandate to be God’s vessel and instrument of blessing and healing in the earth is no longer exclusive to one race, but is shared by God’s sons and daughters from every tribe, nation and tongue.

Revelation 7:9-10, 12 TLV

“After these things I looked, and behold, a vast multitude that no one could count—from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues—was standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Saying, “Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might belong to our God forever and ever. Amen!””