

## 78 CHRISTIAN ZIONISM IS NOT BIBLICAL

**Introduction:** American Christian Zionism is based on the erroneous teachings of the Scofield Bible notes. It teaches the land promises to Israel in the Bible were absolute and not conditional on obedience to God, as stated in Deuteronomy 28 and other scriptures. The Scofield commentary notes also contradict the Bible in maintaining that “God’s people” is based on ethnicity instead of faith. We will seek to show that Christian Zionism is contrary to scripture and the real descendants of Abraham— “the people of God”— are believers in Jesus Christ.

**Background:** American Christian Zionists are under the mistaken belief that present day national Israel honors and practices the Torah. With the destruction of the priesthood, sacrificial system and temple in AD 70, the Old Covenant was ended and practice of the Mosaic Law was made impossible. Instead, today the writings of the Rabbis, the Talmud, are the sources of Jewish religious law and theology. These writings come under the category of “the traditions of men” that Jesus warned against: “You set aside the commandment of God, and hold tightly to the tradition of men.” Mk 7:8

**1. The following verse is often used to motivate support for the nation state of Israel.**

“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who treats you with contempt.” Gen 12:3

**2. However, when taken in context, this was addressed to Abram (Abraham) and not ethnic Israel.**

“Now Yahweh said to Abram, ‘Leave your country, and your relatives, and your father’s house, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who treats you with contempt. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you.’” Gen 12:1-3 (See also Gen 22:17-18)

**3. Israel was chosen to glorify God, be a light to the nations, and be the salvation to all the earth.**

“He said to me, ‘You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.... I will also give you as a light to the nations, that you may be my salvation to the end of the earth.’” Is 49:3, 6.

**4. National Israel did not meet any of the requirements of Is 49. Their behavior brought about a curse.**

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I would have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is left to you desolate.” Mt 23:37-38

**5. Paul explained that God’s promise of blessing to Abraham, was fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Jesus was the one and only offspring of Abraham that was able to be a light to the nations and bless all the families of the earth.**

“Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his offspring. He doesn’t say, ‘To descendants’, as of many, but as of one, ‘To your offspring’, which is Christ.” Gal 3:16.

**6. Jesus stated emphatically that unbelieving Jews were not, in truth, Abraham’s offspring.**

“They answered him, ‘Our father is Abraham.’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.... If God were your father, you would love Me, for I... have come from God.... You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. You don’t hear, because you are not of God.’” Jn 8:39-44

**7. Jesus warned the Jews repeatedly to love truth or they would find themselves outside the kingdom.**

“God’s Kingdom will be taken away from you and will be given to a nation producing its fruit.” Mt 21:43

**8. Being of the physical lineage of Abraham counts for nothing.**

“Don’t think to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham for our father,’ for I tell you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.” Mt 3:9

**9. Abraham received the promise because of his faith. Faith determines who the offspring of Abraham are.**

**A.** “The promise to Abraham and to his offspring that he would be heir of the world wasn’t through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.” Rom 4:13

**B.** “They are not all Israel that are of [the nation of] Israel. Neither, because they are Abraham’s offspring, are they all children.... it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as heirs.” Rom 9:6-8

**C.** “Know therefore that those who are of faith are children of Abraham.” Gal 3:7

**10. Abraham's offspring are believers from all people groups.**

- A. "There is neither Jew nor Greek.... for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring and heirs according to promise." Gal 3:28-29
- B. "In the past, you [non-Jews] were not a people, but now are God's people, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." 1 Pt 2:10
- C. "...the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." Gal 3:14

**11. There are many, many references to Abraham's exemplary faith in the New Testament.**

- A. "By faith he [Abraham] lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a land not his own..." Heb 11:8
- B. "By faith, Abraham, being tested, offered up Isaac." Heb 11:17
- C. "He [Abraham] didn't waver through unbelief, but grew strong through faith, giving glory to God." Rom 4:2
- D. "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." Rom 4:3
- E. Abraham "believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness." Gal 3:6
- F. "By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed to go out to the place which he was to receive...." Heb 11:8

**12. It is impossible to worship God and reject His Son.**

- A. "He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God..." Col 1:15
- B. Jesus said, "I and the Father are one." Jn 10:30
- C. "He who has seen me [Jesus] has seen the Father." Jn 14:9
- D. "This is the antichrist; he who denies the Father and the Son." 1 Jn 2:23
- E. "His Son is the radiance of His glory, the very image of His substance..." Heb 1:3

**13. Throughout Old Testament history, there was only a remnant of Hebrews who worshipped God.**

Isa 10:20-22, Isa 11:11, Isa 11:16, Is 37:32, Isa 46:32, Jer 23:3, Mic 2:12, Mic 4:7, Mic 5:7-8, Zeph 2:7-9

**14. "All Israel" is the Jewish remnant added together with gentile believers.**

- A. "Isaiah cries concerning Israel, "If the number of the children of Israel are as the sand of the sea, it is the remnant who will be saved." Rom 9:2
- B. "Even so too at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace." Rom 11:5
- C. "And so all Israel [Jewish remnant and gentile believers] will be saved..." Rom 11:26

**15. Deceivers will say that this is "replacement theology". Rather, it is "inclusion theology".**

"He is our peace, who made both [Jew and non-Jew] one, and broke down the middle wall of separation." Eph 2:14

**16. Because there is no distinction between Jew and non-Jew, the migration of people who identify as Jews to Palestine in 1948 has no Biblical meaning. The New Covenant meaning of being "in the land", is being "in Christ".**

- A. "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day. He saw it and was glad." Jn 8:56
- B. "But now they [Abraham and others] desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed of them, to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them." Heb 11:16
- C. "You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem... to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect." Heb 12:22-23
- D. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ..." Eph 1:3

**17. Futurist eschatology is based on a lack of understanding of the meaning of "the day of the Lord".**

Please see Preterist Paper video/document #2, "The Day of the Lord Has Happened Many Times". See also P.P. #1.

**Closing thoughts:** Scofield's commentary notes permeate evangelical Christian churches today. The New Scofield Study Bible, published by Oxford University Press in 1984 states, "For a nation to commit the sin of anti-Semitism brings inevitable judgement." In many circles, criticism of anything Israel does, would be considered "anti-semitic". This deception has made an idol of the state of Israel and makes Christians into warmongers who support any action the nation state of Israel takes—right or wrong. The popularity of this view in evangelical circles (well over 50%) reveals the utter ignorance church goers have of scripture and their reliance on earthly "authorities" to tell them what to think. We need to study scripture diligently and think for ourselves, with the help of our Heavenly Father.