



Do Followers of Christ Have An Obligation to Israel?

What does the Bible say?

- ❖ The Promise to Abraham is transferred from a bloodline nation (**Gal. 4:22-31**) to a spiritual community (**Rom. 10:12**).
- ❖ The Temple is not a physical building. (**John 2:19-21 & Rev. 21:22**)
- ❖ The Jerusalem of prophecy is not of this earth (**Heb. 12:22**).
- ❖ The Kingdom is not a physical state (**Heb. 12:28**).
- ❖ God warned the Israelites (**Ezek. 5:5-8**) He would be expanding the franchise (**Malachi 1:11**) and there would be no more favorite ethnicity (**Hosea 2:23**).

Nowhere in the Book of Revelation is a war against a geopolitical Israel described.

“Israel” has been reassigned. The title now belongs to whoever wants in, a voluntary community of believers.

The present state of Israel is to be judged by the same standards as any other nation.

All yet-to-be fulfilled prophecies, like Daniel’s, must be read through the new spiritual prism.

This is not selective cherry-picking of verses.
It is consistent with the entire sweep of the Bible (see reverse side).

Other references:

- ❖ The Kingdom is not David’s, but of heaven. (**Matt 3:2**)
- ❖ Heirs of Abraham becoming more fluidly-defined. (**Matt.3:9**)
- ❖ Land ownership is not the point. (**Matt. 6:19 & 20**)
- ❖ Old Israel loses the franchise. (**Matt. 21:43**)
- ❖ A new covenant. (**Mark 14:24**)
- ❖ God is “not in temples made with hands.” (**Acts 7:48**)
- ❖ All nations are “of one blood.” (**Acts 17:26**)
- ❖ No distinction between Jew & Gentile anymore. (**Rom. 2 thru 4**)
- ❖ Old Israel loses the franchise. (**Rom. 9**)
- ❖ A new take on Moses. (**II Cor. 3:13-15**)
- ❖ Jesus is the seed of Abraham (**Galatians 3: 16**)
- ❖ All can be “Abraham’s seed and heirs.” (**Gal. 3:29**)
- ❖ Fleshly Jewry no special thing. (**Gal. 6:15**)
- ❖ No distinction between Jew & Gentile. (**Eph. 2:14-19**)
- ❖ The old covenant obsolete. (**Heb. 8:6-13**)
- ❖ Seek a heavenly country. (**Hebrews 11:16**)
- ❖ To people of Gentile lands (**I Peter 1:1**) “You are now the People of God.” (**I Peter 2:9 & 10**)

But what about all the Old Testament vows to restore the Temple and re-take Jerusalem forever? - Done, done, and done: Ezra, Nehemiah & Haggai describe the first rebuilding, the Maccabees restored c. 158 B.C., Herod rebuilt in Jesus’ time, and then Jesus embodied the Temple and the promises forever (**Matt. 5:17, John 2:19-21**)—(actually, Jesus and his believers together: **I Cor. 3:16 & 17, I Cor. 6:15, Gal. 3:28, Eph. 2:20-22**).

There is no advocacy for an Israeli state (or any state) anywhere in the New Testament.

...Is this what your preacher is preaching?

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