**What Jesus Accomplished on the Cross Part III**

**The Redemption of Israel and the Jewish People**

* Because of Jesus' work on the Cross there is:
  + The Forgiveness of Sins
  + The Defeat of Death and Promise of Eternal Life
  + Our Adoption As Children of God
  + Our Sanctification As a Believer
  + The Overcame the Curse of Genesis 3
  + The Redemption of Creation
  + The Redemption of the Nations
  + **The Redemption of Israel and the Jewish People**
* God promised the nation Israel in the Old Testament that the Jews scattered throughout the world would return to the Palestine at the end of the age
  + Both those *alive* at the end of time*,* and those who had *died* (!!)
  + Israel will repent and receive their Messiah
  + National and personal holiness will be established
  + And Christ and Israel will rule the nations
* Is. 11:11
* It shall come to pass in that day that the Lord shall set His hand again *the second time* to recover the remnant of His people who are left: from Assyria and Egypt; from Pathros and Cush; from Elam and Shinar; from Hamath and *the islands of the sea*
* Jer. 31:33-34
* "But this is the covenant that I will make with *the house of Israel* after those days," says the Lord. *"I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God*, and they shall be My people...all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”
* Is. 14:1-2
* For the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will *again* choose Israel, and will set them in their own land, and sojourners will join them and will attach themselves to the house of Jacob...*They will take captive those who were their captors, and rule over those who oppressed them.*
* Matt. 19:28
* So, Jesus said to (the twelve), “Assuredly I say to you, that in *the regeneration*, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."
* Israel was destined to go through trials and tribulation
  + Throughout ancient and modern times—until the very end of time
* Jer. 30:7
* Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it;  
  And it is the time of *Jacob’s trouble--* but he shall be saved out of it.
* The tribulation in the book of Revelations is the final period of *Jacob’s trouble* (prophesied in the book of Daniel and Jeremiah)
* Rev. 14:1
* Then I looked and saw the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 who had His name and His Father’s name written on their foreheads *(12,000 from each tribe)*
* God's testing and dealing with the Jewish people (and satan's wrath toward them) did not end in 70 AD with the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple (as preterists and replacement theology folks argue), but continues to date
  + Consider the centuries of anti-Semitism, the Inquisition; the Crusades; the pogroms; the Holocaust, the book of Revelation
* Nations (including Israel) who dishonored God with their idolatry, violence, and injustice will be judged
* Nations can’t be “saved” or sent to hell
  + Nations are judged by suffering the consequences of their evil during this age *(empires rising and falling, e.g.: Rome; the Spanish and English empires; the Third Reich)*
  + These nations will also answer to God for how they treated Israel in judgment at Armageddon and at the beginning of the Millennial Reign (Ps. 84; Ezek. 38-39; Joel 3:1-2; Zech. 14)
  + *And for how they treated Christ's "brothers"* (Matt. 25:40; 45)
* But Israel will be dealt with differently than the other nations of the world because of:
  + God’s promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
  + And Israel’s role in “saving” the rebellious Tower of Babel nations (Deut. 32:8) through Abraham’s calling
  + And Abraham's descendant—the Messiah
* Gen. 15:5-6
* And the Lord took him (Abram) outside and said, “Now look to the heavens and count the stars, if you are able.” ...So shall your offspring be.”
* God's original plan in the Garden of Eden was to create man and women to fellowship with Him, stewarding the land responsibly, and filling the earth with offspring
* But after: 1) the Fall (Gen. 3) and 2) the Watcher incursion (Gen. 6)
  + God expelled the first couple from Eden and sent the Flood
* God then commanded the descendants of Noah to multiply throughout the world
  + Man responded with the Tower of Babel—staying in northern Iraq and seeking the "host of heaven" not the Lord
  + God confounded their languages, scattered them, and assigned angels to guide them;
  + The people worshipped the angels
  + The angels fell and became the pagan gods of mythology (Zeus, Jupiter, Thor, Isis, Vishnu, Molech, Baal, etc.)
* The very next act of God in the Old Testament was to call Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation
* Abraham's descendants (the nation Israel):
  + Were given the Law and a covenant (the *Old* Covenant)
  + Responsible for safely bringing into the world the Messiah against all of satan's attempts to murder the royal line from Seth to Noah to David to Jesus
  + Set the stage for the driving out much of the world’s paganism—with its demon-worship and its worldview of cruelty, immorality, perversion, and evil
* In Leviticus and Deuteronomy, the Lord, through Moses, promised the Jewish people that He will be faithful to this covenant, no matter what
* The Israelites were commanded to be faithful to their part of the covenant
  + Specifically, that they were to worship Jehovah God, the creator, only, and not pagan gods and idols
  + If faithful, then Israel would be blessed in the Promised Land and would prosper in this life
  + And would be a blessing to the world
* But if unfaithful, they would be cursed, not blessed
* Because Israel was unfaithful, she was conquered by pagan nations and driven out of the Promised land
* The "disciplining by God" for Israel's unfaithfulness was temporary exile from the land
  + The *first* example of this being the 70-year Babylonian captivity
* Daniel 9:1-2
* In the first year of Darius, son of Xerxes, a Mede by descent...in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the sacred books, according to the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last *seventy years*.
* Dan. 9:4-6
* And I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed, “O, Lord, the great and awesome God, *who keeps His covenant* of loving devotionto those who love Him and keep His commandments, we have sinned and done wrong. We have acted wickedly and rebelled. We have turned away from Your commandments and ordinances. We have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, leaders, and fathers, and to all the people of the land..."
* Dan. 9:17-19
* "...so now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of Your servant. For Your sake, O Lord, cause Your face to shine upon Your desolate sanctuary...open Your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears Your name."
* God allowed the Babylonian exile to "discipline" Israel with the hope that Israel would yet be faithful, would steward the Promised land wisely, and would accept the Messiah that He would send to them
* Prov. 3:11-12 and Heb. 12:5-6
* My *son*, do not despise the LORD’s discipline, or be weary of his reproof; for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.
* The first exile lasted 70 years.
* The "second exile" has lasted 2000 years
* Luke 13:34-35

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, *you will not see me* until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the *name* of the Lord!’”

* The *nation* Israel and the Jewish people will be “saved” by their suffering (their being disciplined as a nation by the Lord)
* Is. 40: 1-3
* “Comfort, comfort My people,” says your God. “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her forced labor has *been completed*; her iniquity has been *pardoned*. For she has received from the hand of the LORD *double for all her sins.”*
* Israel (and Jehovah in her) with her special calling as the national “savior” of the nations:
  + Will be excused from the judgment awaiting the other nations because she has already “paid” for her sins
  + And has endured the discipline of the Lord
* This "saving of all Israel" is completely different from salvation of individuals today, in the age of grace, the "times of the Gentiles"
* Christ’s suffering saves us by God's grace
  + We Gentiles in these times are saved and *then* suffer (with Christ and His reproach as we minister to the lost)
  + But our works and suffering do nothing to save us
  + A Jewish person today, like us Gentiles, must by faith receive Jesus (as revealed at His first coming) as their Messiah and Savior, like every other culture or nation on earth, and join the Church

* The suffering of the Jews was their disciplining, so to speak, for their unfaithfulness as a nation
  + And, having suffered it, God can yet fulfill His promises to them, *despite* their unfaithfulness throughout history
* Rom. 11:11-12
* Again, I ask: Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of *their transgression*, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will *their full inclusion* bring!
* The prophet Isaiah predicted a recovery and restoration from Israel's suffering
* And the prophet Zechariah predicted an end-times national repentance
* Isaiah 14:1-3
* For the LORD will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and will set them in their own land…When the LORD has given you rest from *your pain and turmoil and the hard service with which you were made to serve*, you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon...
* Zech. 12:10-14
* Then I will pour out on the house of David and on the people of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and prayer, and they will look on Me, *the One they have pierced*. They will mourn for Him as one mourns for an only child and grieve bitterly for Him as one grieves for a *firstborn son*. On that day the wailing in Jerusalem will be as great as the wailing of Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. The land will mourn, each clan on its own: the clan of the house of David and their wives, the clan of the house of Nathan…all the remaining clans and their wives.
* How much of Israel will be saved?

* Rom. 11:25-27
* I do not want you to be ignorant of *this mystery*, brothers, so that you will not be conceited: A hardening in part has come to Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so, *all Israel will be saved,* as it is written

“The Deliverer will come from Zion; He will remove godlessness from Jacob; and this is My covenant with them when I take away their sins.”

* The nation Israel rejected God the *Father* throughout the Old Testament; God the *Son* when He came; and God the *Holy Spirit* when offered to them in the book of Acts
* How can it be that Jews can be “saved” without confessing Jesus as Lord during this time—the church age?
  + The "salvation" referred to in Romans 11 is a "national" salvation – not of individual Jews (although this will, of course, include individual Jews)
* Israel as a nation will choose salvation through Jesus, their Messiah, in the Tribulation and the Millennium
* They will repent as a nation
* Following Jesus' second coming, He will reign over them and the world as the promised descendant of King David on a throne in the Millennial Kingdom
  + Israel will be faithful stewards of the Promised Land
  + And will rule and bless the nations of the world
* Ezekiel 37: 12-14
* Therefore, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, O My people, *I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves and bring you into the land of Israel*. Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O My people...I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land.
* This prophecy is not just that Israelites who are *alive* would return to their land (as is happening now)
  + Or even that Israelites who are alive at the end of the Tribulation will return to their land as the Millennial reign begins
  + It is a prophecy of *dead* Israelites entering the Millennium
  + A Jewish "rapture," one might say

* How much of "all Israel" is all Israel???
  + A "national" repentance is in view here—tied with entering the Millennium and living under the reign of Christ for 1000 years
  + Involving individual Jews who with their nation will enter the Millennial reign of Christ
    - Where there is still the possibility of sinning (with immediate judgment)
    - But there is also the possibility of obedience and eventually entering the new heaven and earth at the end of the 1000 years (Rev. 20-22)
* Summary:
* Jews who recognize Jesus as their Messiah during the age of grace (the church age--now) will, of course, be saved and join the Church
  + The only way for them to be saved at present
* But because of God’s promises to Abraham, at the Judgment of the Nations, *Israel as a nation* and her people (including their past dead!!) will be restored to their land with Christ as their king; and will rule the nations in the Millennium.

* Israel will take her God-ordained place in the redemption of the nations and as the teacher of God's precept to the world's people
* Gen. 22:18
* "…and in your (Abraham's) offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed…"
* Micah 4:1-3
* And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains...and *the peoples will stream to it*. Many nations will say, “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may *teach us* about His ways, and that we may walk in His paths.”
* Then, after the Millennium, Israel and her people will join the Church in the new heaven and new earth in the ages to come.
* Eph. 2:14-15
* For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation...so as to create in Himself *one new man from the two*,thusmaking peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body *through the cross*
* Eph. 2:7
* That in *the ages* to come *(both the article and the noun in Greek are masculine plural)* He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
* Jesus dying "according to Old Testament scriptures"(I Cor. 15:3) has far-reaching consequences and benefits
  + Providing redemption for individuals, for Israel, for the nations, and the creation
  + Fulfilling all of God's promises to the Patriarchs and all of His prophecies to the Jewish people
* Matt. 5:17-18
* "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the *Prophets*. I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them. "
* Rev. 21:1-4
* Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth... the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God."
* Our responsibility to the Jewish people today:
* Rom. 1:16
* For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to *the Jew first* and, also to the Greek.
* Matt. 28:19-20
* Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spiritteaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..