



**Amir Tsarfati**

## **Truth Be Told: Did God Replace Israel?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WqOVGCmE9A>



Today we're tackling one of the most dangerous heresies infecting the church worldwide—Replacement Theology. The question dividing Christians everywhere is this: Did God replace Israel with the church? Let me give you the answer straight from Scripture: Absolutely not! And I'm going to show you exactly why anyone teaching that the church replaced Israel is espousing a deception straight from the pit of hell.

So, what is Replacement Theology? It is a belief system that espouses that when the Jewish people rejected Jesus, God was done with them. According to this view, the church became the new spiritual Israel and inherited all the promises while Israel got stuck with the curses. Really? Let me read to you a book that says otherwise. It's called the Bible. Give it a try. Let's go straight to **Romans 11:1**. Paul, a Jewish believer himself, asks, **"I say then, has God cast away His people?..."** And his answer? **"...Certainly not!"** God has not rejected Israel, period! End of story. But we're just getting started. Later, in verse 17 of the same chapter, Paul explained the relationship this way: **"<sup>17</sup> And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and *with* them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree,..."** Did you catch that? Paul said, "with them," not "instead of them." The church did not replace the natural branches. It was added to the tree. Gentile believers were grafted into Israel's olive tree. And then verse 18 gives a warning. **"<sup>18</sup> ...do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you."** Think about this logically. You can't be the real Israel if Israel is supporting you.

The root is Israel. The church *depends* on Israel, not the other way around. That's like a branch saying to the roots, "I don't need you anymore. I am the tree now." Doesn't make sense, does it?

Now, I know what some of you are thinking. You're thinking about **Galatians 3:28**, when Paul wrote, "**28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, ...for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**" People say, "See? No distinction anymore." Wait just a minute. That verse is talking about salvation, not identity. Jews and Gentiles are saved the same way by grace through faith in the Messiah. But Jews don't stop being Jews when they believe. And Gentiles don't become Jews when they believe. I'm Israeli. I'm Jewish. When I accepted Yeshua, did I stop being Jewish? No, I'm a Jewish believer in the Messiah. You may be a Gentile believer. God accepts you as a Gentile. He is not waiting for you to start keeping kosher and learning Hebrew before He'll truly love you. Here's the most powerful proof of all. In **Romans 11:29**, Paul wrote, "**29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.**" Believers love quoting this verse about their personal callings and ministries. But look at the context. Paul is talking about Israel. God's calling on the Jewish nation is what the apostle is saying is irrevocable. That means it cannot be revoked. It cannot be taken back. It cannot be transferred to someone else.

Let me take you even further back. In Jeremiah 31:35–36, God made this incredible promise. "**35 Thus says the LORD, who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night,...** **36 'If those ordinances depart from before Me, says the LORD, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever.'**" (**Jeremiah 31:35–36**) Look up right now. Do you see the sun shining? At night, do you see the moon and the stars? As long as they're in the sky, Israel is still God's nation. The only way Israel stops being God's chosen people is if the sun, the moon, and the stars disappear. Last time I checked, they're still there.

Replacement theology isn't just bad doctrine. It's dangerous doctrine that has led to the murder of millions of Jewish people throughout history. Six million Jews were slaughtered in the Holocaust. My own grandparents barely survived Auschwitz. Do you know what fueled much of that hatred? The widespread acceptance that God was finished with the Jews. Do you want the ultimate proof that replacement theology is completely wrong? The Jewish people still exist. Think about this. No nation in the history of the world has survived what Israel survived. We were scattered across the earth for 2,000 years, persecuted in every generation, in every country we lived in. Hitler tried to exterminate us. Stalin tried. Before them, the Assyrians tried. The Babylonians tried. The Romans tried. But we're still here. Why? Not because we're so special, or so smart, or so strong. It's because God keeps His promises.

Now let me show you one more thing. The relationship between God and Israel is different than the relationship between God and the church. In **Ezekiel 16:8**, God said to Israel, **"... 'I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,..."**" God called Himself Israel's husband in Jeremiah, chapter 31, verse 32. But the church? Look at **2 Corinthians, 11:2**; Paul said, **"...For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."** Do you see the distinction? Israel is the wife of the Father. The church is the bride of the Son. Two different relationships in the same family.

Now look at **Romans 11:25**. Paul revealed a mystery: **"<sup>25</sup> ...blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."** Did you catch that word "until"? Israel's blindness is temporary. When the fullness of the Gentiles comes in, when the church is complete and raptured, the tribulation is over, and Jesus returns with us back to earth, then what happens? Verse 26, **"<sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: 'The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;...'"**

God has a plan for Israel's future. How can the church replace Israel when Israel has a prophetic destiny that is still to be fulfilled? It's impossible. Here's the bottom line, and I want you to really hear this. If God broke His promises to Israel, He can break His promises to you. But if God kept His promises to Israel through 2,000 years of unbelief and persecution and scattering, how much more will He keep His promises to you who believe in Him? The survival of the Jewish people is proof that God keeps His word. We're living evidence that when God makes a covenant, He doesn't break it just because people mess up. God's faithfulness to Israel is your guarantee that He will be faithful to you.

\* Scripture is taken from the New King James Version unless noted otherwise.

For all ways to connect with Behold Israel, including media, updates, videos, and teachings: <https://linktr.ee/beholdisrael> or the QR code:

