

THE SEED WARS
(Israel in God's Redemption Plan)
PART 4 The Church

I. After Yeshua

A. Birth of the church

1. Fifty days of waiting

Yeshua's resurrection caused turmoil in the kingdom of darkness.

1 Corinthians 2:7-8

Ephesians 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against
against the rulers of the darkness of this age, NKJV

Yeshua took back authority over death and Hades (temporary area for souls).

He released all the faithful who were held captive by Hades - Revelation 1:18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. NKJV

He taught the disciples for forty days.

Demons stirred up the religious rulers to make up a story that Yeshua's disciples had stolen the body:

Matthew 28:12-13

12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' NKJV

Fake news!

More than five hundred people saw Yeshua. – 1 Corinthians 15:6

Commotion in Jerusalem: Official reports said disciples stole the body, rumours said He had risen.

Some would have called this a conspiracy theory.

During this period Yeshua gave His disciples the Great Commission

After fifty days He brings the disciples to the Mount of Olives.

His disciples asked if He was now going to restore the Kingdom to Israel. – Acts 1:6

They understood the National calling of Israel – Exodus 19:5-6

Yeshua then ascends to heaven, but the angels promised that He would return. – Acts 1:10-11



Before He left He told them to wait in Jerusalem until they received power. (Acts 1:8)

2. Day of Pentecost Holy Spirit falls.

- Pentecost a.k.a. Feast of weeks – Leviticus 23:15-23
- Day Torah was given – same day God gave the Holy Spirit
- Acts 2:41 – three thousand get saved.
- Acts 4:4 – another two thousand, total five thousand
- Acts 2:47 – God added to their numbers everyday.

Multiplied problems for Satan.

Satan launched an attack against the church,

Stephen, a deacon is stoned by the Sanhedrin. (Acts 6-7), Saul of Tarsus was watching.

God was about give him a major blow.

B. Gospel spreads

Satan launches an all-out attack against the fledgling church.

He uses the religious leaders, one of their main agents was Saul of Tarsus.

He goes after the believers in Damascus but along the way Yeshua meets him and he becomes a believer.

Satan is devastated again; one his main agents had defected.

He does greater harm to the kingdom of darkness because not only does he bring the gospel to the Jews but God sends him out to the Gentiles as well.

In two years the whole of Asia (minor) had heard the gospel (land area = 756,000 km²) – – Acts 19:10

Now the message of the Seed was no longer confined to Israel it started spreading to the Gentile world.

Saul (Paul) later brings the gospel across the Aegean Sea into Greece

People who had been worshipping all kinds of gods for thousands of years began believing the in the Jewish Messiah.

Satan's kingdom was being plundered.

C. Meanwhile back in Judea



1. Persecution grows in Judea.

James (brother of John) is the first apostle killed by King Herod. Acts 12:1-2

2. Church in Jerusalem grows

When Paul returns for a visit, James (brother of Yeshua) shows him around and says "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law;" (Acts 21:20 NKJV)

Myriad = 10,000 myriads = multiple 10,000 at least 20,000.

Jerusalem's population then estimated about 300,000

"zealous for the law" = religious Jewish people.

Satan was facing a two-pronged attack; in the Jewish world as well as the Gentile world.

He is facing a very powerful enemy – Jew and Gentile together.

Apostle Paul calls this combination of Jew and Gentile believers "the one new man in Christ" – Ephesians 2:14-16

Unity brings great power – Psalm 133

When Yeshua prayed in Gethsemane He said that if Jews and Gentiles were united in Him and the Father the world would believe in Him. – John 17:20-21.

So, Satan had to devise a way to separate Jews and Gentiles, he called upon the spirit of Anti-Semitism.

II. Church vs Israel

This spirit of Anti-Semitism began to work among the second generation of church leaders and their successors, he turned the church against Israel.

- A. **Ignatius** (Bishop of Antioch 2nd generation believer & disciple of John) 105-107 AD, "if we conform to Judaism we reject the grace of God".
- B. **Epistle of Barnabas** 96 – 98 AD (Pseudepigraphy writing) "false names" not accepted by church but shows the prevailing sentiment against Jews.

Barnabas 4:7-8 **Ours it is; but they (Jews) lost it in this way for ever**, when Moses had just received it. For the scripture saith; And Moses was in the mountain fasting forty days and forty nights, and he received the covenant from the Lord, even tablets of stone written with the finger of the hand of the Lord. 8 **But they lost it by turning unto idols.** For thus saith the Lord; Moses, Moses, come down quickly; for thy people whom thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt hath done unlawfully. And Moses understood, and threw the two tables from his hands; and their covenant was broken in pieces, that the covenant of the beloved Jesus might be sealed unto our hearts in the hope which springeth from faith in Him.



- C. **Justin Martyr** “Father of Christian Theology” 130s AD 1st and 2nd apologies said there are 4 major episodes in human history:
- Creation
 - The Fall
 - Redemption in Christ
 - Consummation when Christ returns

There was no place for Israel in his theology.

In his “letter to Trypho the Jew” written in 140s he said there are 3 roles for Old Testament:

- Prophecies about the Messiah
- Moral teaching
- The rest was for Jews and no longer relevant.

D. **St. John Chrysostom (Golden Mouth)**

He said “The synagogue is a criminal assembly of the Jews, a place of meeting for the assassins of Christ, a house worse than a drinking shop, a den of thieves, a house of ill fame, a dwelling of iniquity, the refuge of devils, a gulf and abyss of perdition.”

III. Rome Converted

A. Constantine’s conversion

1. Emperor Constantine “converts” in 312 AD after seeing a cross in the sky with the words “With this sign go and conquer”. Compels all Romans to convert to Christianity. From an “outlaw religion” it becomes the religion of the State.
2. **The Council of Nicea (325 AD):** *Constantine did not want Easter to be celebrated on the Jewish Passover. He said it was a Christian "duty to have nothing in common with the **murderers of our Lord**" (ignoring the fact that Christ's execution was a joint effort of Jews and Gentiles). The Council of Nicea accordingly required the feast of the resurrection to be celebrated on a Sunday and never on the day of the Jewish Passover. Easter was to be on the Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring equinox. (Christian History Institute)*

This was a repeat of what Jeroboam did in Israel – 1 Kings 12:32-33

Christmas and Easter were not God-ordained feasts.

Church began to teach that Jews were the killers of Messiah.

They also began to teach that Jews have been replaced by the church and have no place in God’s plan, they have become like any other nation (Replacement Theology)

Satan succeeded in separating the church from her roots in Israel.

Paul prophesied that in the end times there would be people who have a form of godliness but without the power. – 2 Timothy 3:5



IV. God's promise to scatter and gather Israel

A. Scattered

Great Revolt 70 AD – Temple was destroyed, Jewish people evicted from Jerusalem.

Bar Kochba Revolt 135 AD – Jewish people scattered to the nations.

Reason – they did not receive Yeshua, although many did majority did not. – John 1:11, Matthew 23:37-38, Luke 21:20-24,

Israel was scattered to the nations, yet there was a remnant in the land.

B. God's Promise of Restoration

Ezekiel 11:17-20, Isaiah 11:11-12, Jeremiah 3:14-15, Zechariah 8:7-8

History has proven God's Word to be true.

V. Islam

Mohamed was born around 570 AD in the city of Mecca

Arabs worshipped many gods; allah was the moon god.

In 610 AD Mohamed receives a revelation of one god,

Failing to convince the people he moved to Medina; Jews refused to join him, he builds an army and attacks Mecca

All the idols were removed from the Ka'abah and Allah was elevated to the position of the only God.

Mohamed died in 632 AD but by the 700s Islam had conquered much of Middle-east, North Africa and parts of Europe including Spain and parts of France.

Monotheistic people were given the status of "dimmi" in Arab lands, these were "second class citizens".

Jews received it first but Christians later because of the belief in the Trinity.

Islamic world view:

Dar Al Islam – land of those submitted to Allah

Dar Al Harb – Land of war or conflict; lands where Muslims live but not submitted to

Islam's View of Jews and Christians

Islam sees us as one:

al-Ma'idah 5:51

Believers, take neither Jews nor Christians for your friends. They are friends with



one another. *Whoever of you seeks their friendship shall become one of their number. Allah does not guide the wrong-doers.*

at-Taubah 9:29]

*Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last day, nor hold the forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and his messenger, nor acknowledge the Religion of Truth from among the **People of the Book (Jews & Christians)**, until they pay the Jiziyah with willing submission. And feel themselves subdued.*

Jews and Christians see ourselves as unrelated but in the spirit we are one.

Romans 11:17-18

17 If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, 18 do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. NIV

