

## **WHAT DISPENSATIONALISM IGNORES**

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### **1 - Preamble**

God instructed Abraham (1969-1794 BC) to sacrifice his only son Isaac (1870-1689 BC) on an altar on Mount Moriah as a burnt offering, and Abraham accepted God’s will that he do so. Then Isaac accepted his father’s will that he become a burnt offering on Mount Moriah.

God instructed his only Son Jesus (a) to become incarnate in a man on Earth, (b) to live a sinless life for 33 years, (c) to be crucified on a cross at Golgotha on Mount Moriah on Passover in 33 AD, hanging on the cross for six hours (9:00 am-3:00 pm) and then dying as the *unique, one-time, all sufficient, never-to-be-repeated* sacrifice to atone for all the sins of mankind from Creation to the Parousia, (d) to spend three days in the grave, (e) to be resurrected on the first day of the week, and (f) to ascend to heaven forty days later. Then Jesus accepted His father’s will that He do so.

Unfortunately, many Christians do not pay attention to the enormity of what happened here. The Creator of all that was, is, or is to come sacrificed his only Son to atone for the sins of mankind – or at least those men, women, and children who repent of their sins and accept his Son as their Savior and Lord. Moreover, they – particularly Dispensationalists - seem unaware that many important changes occurred at the sixth hour (3:00 pm) on Passover in 33 AD or shortly thereafter.

## **2 - Critical Changes**

### **2A - The covenantal period changed**

The Mosaic Covenantal Period (1464 BC to 33 AD) ended<sup>1</sup> and the New Covenantal Period (33 AD to the Parousia) began. Clearly, the Mosaic Covenant was rendered obsolete forevermore.

### **2B - The Shekinah Glory moved**

During the Mosaic Covenantal Period, the Shekinah Glory (a sign of God's presence) dwelt in the Holy of Holies in the *physical* Temple<sup>2</sup> on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Then, when God's Son died, the veil before the Holy of Holies in the Temple was rent from top to bottom, thereby indicating that the Shekinah Glory was leaving this place. Now, during the New Covenantal Period, the Shekinah Glory dwells in the *spiritual* Temple of the Holy Spirit<sup>3</sup> in the hearts of all believers, where it will remain forevermore. Clearly, the *physical* temple on the Temple Mount was rendered obsolete forevermore.

### **2C - The acceptable sacrifice to atone for sin changed**

During the Mosaic Covenantal Period, God accepted the sacrifice of animals and birds as a *temporary* atonement for the sins of the Jewish people. Now, during the New Covenantal Period, God accepts only the sacrifice of his Son on Golgotha as the *permanent* atonement for the sins of mankind. Clearly, the sacrifice of animals and birds to atone for sin was rendered obsolete forevermore.

Indeed, after the Crucifixion, the sacrifice of animals and birds to atone for sin became the most egregious offense against God that mankind could devise. Daniel referred to it as "the abomination that makes desolate"<sup>4</sup> and your Son referred to it as the *Abomination of Desolation*.<sup>5</sup>

#### **2C-1 – The 1<sup>st</sup> instance of the Abomination of Desolation**

The first instance of it occurred during the 37-year period (33-70 AD) immediately following the Crucifixion, when the Sanhedrin ignored the sacrifice of your Son on Passover and had the priests continue the sacrifice of animals and birds in the *physical* temple on the Temple Mount, which resulted in (a) the utter destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple and (b) the banishment of the Jews from Judea for the next almost two millennia.

#### **2C-2 – The 2<sup>nd</sup> instance of the Abomination of Desolation**

The second instance of it will occur in the End Time, when the Israelis will (a) rebuild the Temple of Solomon on the Temple Mount and (b) resume animal and bird sacrifices there,<sup>6</sup> which will result in the destruction, not just of Jerusalem and its temple, but of the current heavens and the current Earth

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<sup>1</sup> The Mosaic Covenant was perfectly fulfilled by God's Son becoming incarnate in a mortal man, living a sinless (unblemished) life, and dying on a cross as a perfect sacrifice to atone for the sins of mankind.

<sup>2</sup> The Koine Judeo-Greek word "hieron."

<sup>3</sup> The Koine Judeo-Greek word "naos."

<sup>4</sup> Daniel 11:31 & 12:11.

<sup>5</sup> Matthew 24:15 & Mark 13:14.

<sup>6</sup> An effort to accomplish this objective is already underway. See Randall Price's Ready to Rebuild - The Imminent Plan to Rebuild the Temple the Last Days Temple (1992), The Coming Last Days Temple (1999), and The Temple and Bible Prophecy - A Definitive Look at Its Past, Present, and Future (2005).

## **2D - The identity of God's Chosen People changed**

During the Mosaic Covenantal Period, God's Chosen People were the *physical* or blood descendents of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and the male members of the covenantal community were identified by the mark of circumcision.<sup>7</sup> Now, during the New Covenantal Period, God's Chosen People are the *spiritual* descendents of Abraham, who is called "the father of the faithful,"<sup>8</sup> and the members of the covenantal community are identified by the mark of baptism.<sup>9</sup> The first members of the New Covenant community were obviously Jews, but they quickly learned that Gentiles could become members of it by (a) repenting of their sins, (b) professing faith in God's Son, the Promised Messiah of Israel, as their Savior and Lord and (b) undergoing baptism.

## **2E - The meaning of "Israel" changed**

During the Mosaic Covenantal Period, "Israel" meant the *physical* descendants of Abraham - i.e. the Jewish people or the Jewish nation. Now, during the New Covenantal Period, God distinguishes between (a) Abraham's *physical* descendants and (b) Abraham's *spiritual* descendants. Now there are two Israels:

### **2E-1 – Israel of the Spirit**

Israel of the Spirit, which consists of (1a) *believing Jews*, who are the *Faithful Remnant of Israel* and reside in the *Cultivated Olive Tree*, and (1b) *believing Gentiles*, who are pruned from the *Wild Olive Tree* and grafted into the *Cultivated Olive Tree*; and

### **2E-2 – Israel of the Flesh**

Israel of the Flesh, which consists of *unbelieving Jews* who are pruned from the *Cultivated Olive Tree* and cast away.<sup>10</sup>

*Unbelieving Gentiles* reside in the *Wild Olive Tree*.

## **2F - The priestly order changed**

During the Mosaic Covenantal Period, Israel was represented in the *physical* tabernacle or temple by priests of the Order of Aaron, who was (a) a descendant of Jacob's son Levi, (b) the older brother of Moses, and (c) the first Levitical High Priest. All the Levitical priests were (a) blemished (sinful), mortal, and imperfect. Now, during the New Covenantal Period, "Israel of the Spirit" is represented in the *spiritual* Temple of the Holy Spirit by the Order of Melchisedek, who was (a) the King of Salem,<sup>11</sup> (b) the King of Peace,<sup>12</sup> (c) the priest of the Most High God,<sup>13</sup> and (d) the shadow of the High Priest to come, who would be unblemished (sinless), divine, and

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<sup>7</sup> Note that the Mosaic Covenant divided mankind into three groups: (a) Jewish covenant-keepers, (b) Jewish covenant breakers, and (c) Gentiles to whom the covenant did not apply (excepting in rare cases like Caleb, Rahab, and Ruth).

<sup>8</sup> Isaiah 51:1-8, Romans 4:11-13, Galatians 3:29, Hebrews 11:8-10, ,

<sup>9</sup> Note that the New Covenant eventually divided mankind into three groups: (a) Christian covenant-keepers, (b) Christian covenant breakers, and (c) non-Christians who ignored or rejected the covenant.

<sup>10</sup> Unbelieving Gentiles remain in the *Wild Olive Tree*.

<sup>11</sup> Undoubtedly Jerusalem. Also *salem* means "shalom" or "God's peace."

<sup>12</sup> Hebrews 7:2.

<sup>13</sup> Genesis 14:18.

perfect in every respect - i.e. the Prince of Peace,<sup>14</sup> the Sun of Righteousness,<sup>15</sup> the Son of God, the Son of Man, and the Promised Messiah of Israel. Clearly, the Levitical priesthood became obsolete forevermore.

### **2G - A Spirit of Strong Delusion appeared**

Early in the New Covenantal Period,<sup>16</sup> God sent a “Spirit of Strong Delusion” into the world to test the faithfulness of those who profess that God’s Son is their Savior and Lord. Moreover, to leave us without excuse if we succumb to the spirit’s lies, God put a stern warning at the end of the passage in 2 Thessalonians 2, in which (a) verses 3-10 describe the context of the offense<sup>17</sup> and (b) verses 11-12 warn of the consequences of the offense.<sup>18</sup>

### **2H - The Great Falling Away began**<sup>19</sup>

With the arrival of the lying spirit, the *Great Falling Away* got underway, first (1) during the persecution of the early church by the Rabbinic Jews and Romans emperors,<sup>20</sup> then (2) under the persecution of the Protestant churches by the Romanist church,<sup>21</sup> and lastly (3) under the persecution of the saints by the *antichrist* during the End Time, which I believe (3a) began with the appearance of the movement to rebuild the *Temple of Solomon* in Jerusalem and to resume animal and bird sacrifices there to atone for sin,<sup>22</sup> and (3b) will culminate in the rise to prominence of the *antichrist*, who claims to be a true believer and God’s appointed head of the Universal Church, and who will become the head of a new world government, preside over the ratification of a treaty between the new world government and Israel, which will permit the Israelis to seize the Temple Mount, rebuild the temple, and resume sacrifices there, and initiate the persecution of the saints, who will refuse to acknowledge him as the head of the Church Universal or to support the Israelis in their rebuilding of the temple and their resumption of sacrifices there.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Isaiah 9:6.

<sup>15</sup> Malachi 4:2.

<sup>16</sup> 33 AD-unknown date in the future.

<sup>17</sup> 3-Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4-Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 5-Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6-And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7-For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8-And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9-Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10-And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (KJV 2 Thessalonians 2:3-10)

<sup>18</sup> 11-And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12-That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. (KJV 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12)

<sup>19</sup> Also called the Great Apostasy.

<sup>20</sup> During the 433 years (33-476 AD).

<sup>21</sup> Particularly during the Great Tribulation that lasted 1,260 years (538-1798 AD), but also afterwards as well.

<sup>22</sup> Circa.1925 AD. Please note, however, that none but God-the-Father knows the timing of the End Time events.

<sup>23</sup> I *speculate* that the most likely End Time scenario is that (a) Babylon-the-Great (probably the USA) will be destroyed, thereby taking with it the UN headquarters in NYC, (b) a new UN headquarters will be built in Israel, (c) the *antichrist*, whom the Scriptures identify as the Romanist pope, will be appointed as its Secretary General, (d) the *antichrist* will preside over the ratification of a treaty between the UN and Israel permitting the Jews to seize the Temple Mount, rebuild the temple, and resume animal and bird sacrifices, (e) the world will be plunged into a time of terrible trouble and tribulation, and then (f) the end of the age will come with the Parousia, the General

### **3 - Closing**

If Dispensationalists continue adhering to the lies of the deceiving spirit, they will join the Great Apostasy and be numbered among the Lost.

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Resurrection, the Rapture of the Saints, the Battle of Armageddon, and the destruction of the old heavens and the old earth.