

## ***Are Jews still God's chosen people today?***

(by George Battey)

In the days of the Old Testament it is obvious that the Jews were God's special chosen people. Here are just a few of the passages which indicate this:

*Deuteronomy 7:6* (NKJV)

*6 "[Moses said to Israel] you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth.*

*Deuteronomy 14:2* (NKJV)

*2 For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.*

So ... the Jews were indeed a "chosen" people of God.

### [A VITAL QUESTION](#)

But ... before we can answer the question, "Are Jews still God's chosen people today?", we need to ask another question first: ***What were these Jews chosen for?***

The reason we need to ask this question is because in the Bible, God chose different men for different reasons. For example:

- *Some men God chose for service.*
- *Some men He chose for salvation.*

When God chooses a man for service, it does not necessarily mean that this person would be saved in heaven. Sometimes God chose wicked men to perform certain functions and these wicked men were used by God without their knowledge. Just because God used them to perform a service did not mean they would then be saved in heaven. For example, in [Isaiah 10](#) God chose the wicked king of Assyria to perform a certain work.

When the work was finished, God punished this king for his own wickedness.

You will remember Judas Iscariot. The Lord chose Judas to be with him and the other apostles, but Judas was not saved.

*John 6:70 (NKJV)*

*70 Jesus answered them, "Did I not **choose** you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?"*

Think about what Jesus just said. Judas was "*chosen*." But Judas was "*chosen*" to perform a certain function which the Lord had need of. Once Judas had accomplished this service, he hanged himself and died a lost man.

So, just because someone was "*chosen*" by the Lord, it did not necessarily mean they were chosen for salvation. They may have been chosen only to perform a certain service and once that service was completed, they are no longer "*chosen*" for anything!

Now ... the question we're asking is this: When God "*chose*" the Jews to be His people:

- *Did He choose them for salvation?*
- *Or did He choose them to perform a certain service?*
- *If indeed He chose them to perform a service, did they fulfill that service?*
- *And finally, if they fulfilled the service, are they still chosen for anything today?*

The Bible clearly indicates that God chose the Jews for service. In Gen 12:3 God made a promise to Abraham that thru his descendants a Savior would be brought into the world who would bless all the nations on the earth. The Jews, of course were the descendents of Abraham, and God was using the Jewish nation to bring a Savior into the world Savior that would save and bless all men from every nation all who would believe in Him and obey Him!

*Acts 3:22-26 (NKJV)*

*22 For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you.'*

*23 And it shall be that **every soul** who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'*

*24 Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many*

*as have spoken, have also foretold these days.*

*25 You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'*

*26 To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."*

Listen carefully to this marvelous passage.

- 1) God chose Israel, not for salvation, but for service – to bring Jesus the Savior into the world.
- 2) The fact that they were chosen for service did not mean they were saved from their sins – they still had to believe in and obey the Savior when He finally arrived.
- 3) As a reward and special blessing, God allowed the Jews to hear the gospel first and gave them the first opportunity to be saved from their sins.
- 4) However, God remembered His promise to Abraham and He arranged that Gentiles from all nations should hear the gospel and likewise have the opportunity to be saved.

*Romans 1:16 (NKJV)*

*16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.*

## JEWS ARE NOT CHOSEN TODAY

Remember, the Jews were called for service, and not for salvation. They were chosen by God to be the nation that would bring the Savior into the world and as we have seen, they fulfilled that service. Because they fulfilled the service for which they were "chosen," God is finished with them as a "special" people. They are no longer "chosen," or "privileged" above any other nation on earth.

Whether a Jew is to be saved in heaven, or not will depend upon whether he obeys the Lord Jesus, or not. No man will be saved simply because of his race.

Matthew 3:7-9 (NKJV)

7 *But when [John the Baptist] saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"*

8 *Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,*

9 *and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.*

Blood relationship to Abraham does not give special privileges toward salvation! To one Jew, who was trusting in his race to save him, Jesus said this:

John 3:5 (NKJV)

5 ... *"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

No Jew on earth can be saved today unless he obeys the Lord in baptism and has his sins washed away (Acts 22:16; 2:38). The Jews are no longer a special, "chosen" people to God. Today, God's chosen people are those who choose to serve Him!

Galatians 3:26-29 (NKJV)

26 *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.*

27 *For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

29 *And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

Here are the "chosen" people of God – those who are Christ's by being baptized into Christ. These are the true "seed" of Abraham.

## GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

Five steps in God's plan of salvation:

- 1) **Hear** the word of God (Rom 10:17).
- 2) **Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (Mk 16:16).
- 3) **Repent** of sins (change from living a sinful life) (Acts 2:38).
- 4) **Confess** your faith verbally before men (Rom 10:10).
- 5) **Be baptized** (immersed) in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).

*Mark 16:16 (NKJV)*

*16 He who **believes** and is **baptized** will be saved; ...*

*Acts 2:38 (NKJV)*

*38 Then Peter said to them, "**Repent, and** let every one of you **be baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**; ...*

After being baptized, one must continue to be faithful (Acts 2:42; Mt 28:20; Rev 2:10).