



# INSTRUCTIONS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Dr. Peter D. Wyns

Entry 5 - 7

A - Q

## ISRAEL IS SPECIAL

Except for the first 11 chapters of Genesis, almost all of the Old Testament is about the Jews. I am amazed at how much of the Bible speaks of them. I can't stop thinking about God's focus on this small group of people called Israel. Even in the New Testament, we find great attention given to the Jews. More than 700 verses in the New Testament speak about them. God is staring at them with a relentless kind of passion. Throughout history, He will not take His eyes off of them. He called them His people in the past and He will embrace them and demonstrate His love toward them in the future. He says He will hold them in His hand like a king holds a crown. **"You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God."** Isa. 62:3

The history of the Jews is a story written for the world to see. God has placed them in a glass house; they cannot hide. When Christians study the Bible they read about Israel. They see the good and the bad. The Jews are in a Bible showcase but they have not always been good examples.

*We read "God was not pleased with them ... these things occurred as examples."* 1Co. 10:5-6

*And, "Make every effort ... so that no one will fall by following their example."* Heb. 4:11

For thousands of years, stories about the Jews were shared from pulpits and firesides and from courtrooms to classrooms. The Jewish narrative has been shouted from the rooftops and whispered in dark dungeon corners. Their priests, prophets and patriarchs wandered through the wilderness, onto the pages of the Bible and into our lives. Every nation has been taught from their stories. Every disciple of Christ has been inspired by the lives of Jewish heroes and all have seen their failures. They are examples for us, and the strengths and weaknesses that we find in them are seen in each of our own nations. We should learn from their mistakes.

God refers to the Jews as a crown in other parts of the Bible besides the scripture in Isaiah that we read earlier. One place is Revelation chapter 12. Here the Lord presents us with an elaborate illustration of His family. The illustration is called, **"A Woman Clothed with the Sun."**

*"A great and wondrous sign appeared ... **a woman clothed with the sun**, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head."* Rev. 12:1

The sun is the Lord and **the woman clothed with the sun**, is God's bride. A few verses later, in the same chapter, we discover that she gives birth to the powerful, prophetic, end-time Church. (Rev. 12:5) This church overcomes the devil by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. This is the Church that is not afraid to die for Christ. (Rev. 12:11)

**The woman clothed with the sun**, is defined by the moon beneath her feet and the crown on her head. The moon represents the Church. The moon (the Church) reflects the sun (Christ). The crown of 12 stars represents Israel. There is one star for each of the 12 tribes. The people of God come from two camps, the Church and Israel. They are the two

witnesses that become the one new man. Both are saved only through Jesus. Both are special. As a nation, Israel is very special. Israel is the apple of God's eye, the sheep of His pasture, the crown in His hands, God's chosen children.

The members of Christ's Gentile Church are also God's children. God loves His children. Every man and woman was made in His image but when they turn to Christ they become children of God. Besides the crown (the Jews), **the woman clothed with the sun** is defined by the moon (the Church). At both ends of the woman, at her head and feet, are symbols that illustrate the two types of God's children.

A father loves all of his children. He, nevertheless, may give different responsibilities to different children. He may also promise something to one and not to all. He sees them differently, but he loves them equally; they are all his children.

The Jews have a special role to play in God's plans. He uses them as an example for the world to see. He shows His involvement with them as an example of His involvement with all humanity. He is no respecter of persons. Watching the Jewish story of failure and restoration gives great hope to everyone for all of us are as sheep that have gone astray. All of us need a savior.

The Bible days have passed but the Jews remain. For almost two thousand years, people have tried to discredit them. They have persecuted them, driven them from their lands, destroyed their communities and killed them, en masse. If it were possible, they would have removed the Jews from the scriptures. The atrocities against them have piled up but God will not forget His people. Even when they were not a nation, but just a scattered group of people, they continued to capture His eye and the eye of the world as well. Today, if we fail to keep an eye on the Jews, we will miss what God is doing on the earth. It is time to partner with God and recognize Israel.

Paul told us that there are 8 spiritual things that belong to the Jews. He said:

*"Theirs is [1] the adoption as sons; theirs [2] the divine glory, [3] the covenants, [4] the receiving of the law, [5] the temple worship and [6] the promises. Theirs are [7] the patriarchs and [8] from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ."* Rom. 9:4-5

They are very special people indeed. The Lord promises to release His anointing and glory upon Israel. The Jews will be redeemed and restored. Their revival will be a spectacular crown in the Lord's hands.

Those who understand God's promises for the Jews are excited. They know that when Israel is blessed, the world will be blessed. When she receives her

promises, the Church will experience revival and the nations will be blessed. The fullness of the Jews will be the grand finale, before Jesus returns. He cannot fail. He has decided to have a magnificent **two-fold victory** before He comes back.

**1. He will restore the Church so that she will be without spot or wrinkle. Her anointing and power will be greater than at any time in history. She will even shine brighter than the New Testament Church in the book of Acts.**

**2. He will restore Israel so that she will experience His glory. All of the blessings prophesied by the patriarchs will be fulfilled. Israel will be better than she was at any time in history; even better than the days of the first temple.**

We are seeing a new phenomena; the Church is starting to cheer for Israel. Momentum is gathering but many are still in the dark ages of theology; they have not grasped the importance of Israel. That will change as the Lord reveals His end-time plans to His Church.

People have mixed opinions about the Jews, but we must search the scriptures and see that Israel is special to the Lord. He said that whoever blesses her, He would bless. Pray, love and bless Israel. Prophecy to the dry bones. Oh! Dry Bones, You Will Live! (Eze. 37) **AΩ**



## Christians for Messiah Ministries

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