

Are You My People?

Ezekiel 36:24-28

INTRODUCTION

Ezekiel 36:28

.....you will be my people, and I will be your God.

I. Traditions

Worldly

Labor Day is a celebration of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well being of our country.

Spiritual

Much of the biblical data concerning tradition is connected with the verbal notion of passing something on or, conversely, receiving something.

Israel's Spiritual Tradition

- Moses – God's chosen people left Egypt (receive freedom)
- King David-God with his people in battle (received support from God through ark of the covenant)
- King Solomon-Great kingdom & world power (asked & received Wisdom from God)
- King Josiah-priest found the Book of Law (received the Book of Law overlooked by King & Priest)

2 Kings 22:8

Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD.".....

II. Background for Ezekiel

- History Conquered & exiled nation
- Literature Apocalyptic similar to Revelation

III. God's promise to restore Israel

Ezekiel 36:24-28

“For I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries, and will bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ ^A And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

IV. Promise fulfilled

Romans 9:1-8

I speak the truth in Christ-I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit- ² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, ⁴ the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. ⁵ Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

⁶ It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷ Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” ⁸ In other words, it is not the children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

Acts 17:29-31

“Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone-an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Ezekiel 36:24-25 Completed in Jesus

“For I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries, and will bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.

Conclusion

Genesis 17:21

But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year.

Justo Gonzalez

Grace the unmerited love of God which both forgives and transforms the sinner.

Ezekiel 36:28

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