

THE CHILDREN OF THE FREEWOMAN AND THE CHILDREN OF THE BONDWOMAN

By Jerry Pourcy

Most denominations just mix people together that will have eternal life but according to scripture and the apostle Paul that is simply not the case.

You have to understand that God has something special for the circumcision, the people that keep covenant with God.

But God has also made something for the uncircumcision, not as good as what he promised the circumcision, but better than ending up in the lake of fire.

Paul explains these differences by using Sarah and Hagar.

As you know, Sarah's son Isaac was by promise, but Abraham also had another son through Hagar, Sarah's handmaid, the bondwoman.

Paul explains that the son of the bondwoman cannot be heir with the son of the freewoman.

So Isaac and Ishmael DO NOT have the same inheritance. This does not mean that Hagar and Ishmael will burn in the lake of fire, but rather their inheritance is different which we will explain in this document.

In Galatians 4 Paul says,

"22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free."

So the son of the bondwoman will not be heir with the son of the freewoman, but this DOES NOT mean the son of the bondwoman burns in the lake of fire for all eternity.

Just a different inheritance as we will see.

Once you see these different inheritances which God will have for all eternity, it will help all things to fall in place.

Then you will say, "WOW, I SEE!"

In Genesis 17 God made a covenant with Abraham that separated men upon the earth. It is the covenant of circumcision.

"1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

2 And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

3 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

9 And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.

13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant."

There are several things we need to notice from these passages of scripture.

Notice:

"...and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant."

1. This covenant will be in the FLESH

2. This is an EVERLASTING covenant. It is not going away but is established forever.

Notice:

"... must needs be circumcised:..."

3. MUST means they have to.

Notice:

"... the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant."

4. The uncircumcised cannot be partakers with the circumcision.

The uncircumcised is breaking covenant with God and not keeping covenant with God.

Notice:

"... to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee."

5. In keeping covenant with God, God will be a God unto them. What does this mean... to be a God unto thee?

God will multiply his seed, watch over them, take care of them, bless them and so forth.

Now does this mean that all uncircumcised will burn in the lake of fire?

No.

It means they cannot be partakers with the circumcision because they are not keeping covenant with God.

So Abraham kept covenant with God and circumcised himself and his son Ishmael who was born of Hagar and the rest of his household.

In Genesis 17 it says,

"23 And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

24 And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

26 In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him."

Now here is a little tidbit of info:

How many men were in Abraham's household?

In Genesis 14 it says,

"14 And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan."

Here Abraham took 318 men that were born in his own house and went to battle. These were TRAINED servants, trained to do battle.

Back in Genesis 17 God told Abraham,

"13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant."

Abraham was a very rich man and had many servants. These were some that were born into his household not counting the women and children, these were old enough to go to battle.

So Abraham had MANY people in his household but he did not yet have a son from Sarah.

Nevertheless, Abraham obeyed God and circumcised himself, Ishmael and all the men of his household, at least a minimum of 318 of them.

So even though Abraham circumcised all of the men of his household as he was told, God told him in Genesis 17,

"15 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

18 And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year."

God was very clear that he would establish his covenant with Issac, not Ishmael, even though Ishmael was circumcised.

In Galatians 4 Paul says,

"22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise."

So Isaac was born by promise and Ishmael was born after the flesh.

So the covenant God established with Abraham was passed along to Isaac, not Ishmael.

In Hebrews 11 it says,

"8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:"

Isaac and Jacob are heirs of the same promise given to Abraham.

But Ishmael is NOT.

So does this mean that Ishmael will burn in the lake of fire?

No.

It means Ishmael is not partakers with Isaac in the promise.

Ishmael was a son to Abraham and I am pretty sure that Abraham brought him up in the ways of God as he did with all his household.

In Genesis 17 it says,

"20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation."

Here we see that God blessed Ishmael, even so, Ishmael was not the child of promise, Isaac was.

So God established his covenant with Isaac.

In Genesis 21 it says,

9 And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, which she had born unto Abraham, mocking.

10 Wherefore she said unto Abraham, Cast out this bondwoman and her son: for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac.

11 And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight because of his son.

12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.

13 And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy seed.

14 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away: and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

15 And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

16 And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bow shot: for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice, and wept.

17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What aileth thee, Hagar? fear not; for God hath heard the voice of the lad where he is.

18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer."

Notice:

"And God was with the lad;..."

So God was with Ishmael and made of him a great nation.

God allowed Sarah to cast out the bondwoman and her child for he told Abraham,

"... Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called."

Does this mean that Hagar and Ishmael will burn in the lake of fire?

No.

It means that they cannot be partakers of the promise given to Abraham and Isaac.

In Genesis 22 it says,

"1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of."

Notice:

"... thine only son Isaac,..."

Wait a minute!

What about Ishmael?

God only acknowledges Isaac as Abraham's son, the son of promise.

It was through Isaac that Abraham's seed would be called and the promises passed down to his seed.

As you know, Isaac had a son named Jacob whose name was changed to Israel. Israel had 12 sons which are the 12 tribes of Israel.

This is who the promises were made to.

In Romans 9 Paul says,

"3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

4 Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;

5 Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen."

These pertain to Israel:

- ... the adoption,
- ... and the glory,
- ... and the covenants,
- ... and the giving of the law,
- ... and the service of God,
- ... and the promises;

So being partakers with the circumcision had great advantages. In Romans 3 Paul says,

"1 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?

2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God."

Does this mean that all uncircumcised Gentiles will burn in the lake of fire?

No.

It means that cannot be partakers with the circumcision in their covenants and promises.

Now let's get down to the nitty gritty.

Who did God promise everlasting salvation to?

Israel.

In Isaiah 45 it says,

"17 But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end."

Again, does this mean that all the uncircumcised Gentiles will burn in the lake of fire?

No.

It means that they cannot be partakers of Israel's EVERLASTING SALVATION.

The salvation God is giving to Israel is special, it is EVERLASTING.

In Jeremiah 31 it says,

"31 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord:

33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

This covenant is for ISRAEL ONLY!

Not the Gentiles.

Notice the main part of the new covenant,

"...for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

God will remember their sin no more.

This is a covenant of promise that God is giving to Israel, a special blessing for keeping covenant with God.

In Isaiah 46 it says,

"12 Hearken unto me, ye stouthearted, that are far from righteousness:

13 I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory."

In John 4 Jesus says,

"22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews."

Make no mistake about it, this EVERLASTING SALVATION belongs to Israel, not the Gentiles.

But what about the Gentiles?

Don't they have an opportunity to have eternal life?

Sure do, but not what Israel receives.

In Romans 2 Paul clearly explains how God gave out eternal life in time past:

"6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

7 To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:

8 But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;

10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:

11 For there is no respect of persons with God.

12 For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

13 (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.:

Notice:

"...the doers of the law shall be justified..."

Whether Jew or Gentile, obtaining eternal life is based upon whether they were good or not.

In John 5 Jesus says,

"28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

Jesus is very clear on the matter.

If they did good they would come unto the resurrection of life and if they did evil, they would come unto the resurrection of damnation.

So what if an uncircumcised Gentile did good? Would they receive life?

Yes, but not the EVERLASTING SALVATION he promised to Israel.

In Israel's EVERLASTING SALVATION, God will remember their sin NO MORE.

This salvation is PERMANENT.

But not so for the Gentiles.

Let's look at a few uncircumcised Gentiles from time past.

In Exodus 18 it says,

"5 And Jethro, Moses' father in law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:

6 And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.

7 And Moses went out to meet his father in law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent.

8 And Moses told his father in law all that the Lord had done unto Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, and all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and how the Lord delivered them.

9 And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the Lord had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

10 And Jethro said, Blessed be the Lord, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

11 Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them.

12 And Jethro, Moses' father in law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God: and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father in law before God."

Jethro was a God fearing man, but he was not one of the children of Israel. He was an uncircumcised Gentile that could not be partakers with Israel in their covenants and promises.

In Jeremiah 27 it says,

"6 And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him."

Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon was a servant of the Lord.

In Daniel 4 king Neb says,

"37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase."

But Neb was an uncircumcised Gentile.

In Isaiah 45 it says,

"1 Thus saith the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;"

Cyrus king of Persia was the Lord's anointed but he was an uncircumcised Gentile which could not be partakers with Israel in their covenants and promises.

The promise was established with Isaac and his seed, not the uncircumcised Gentiles.

So there were PLENTY of uncircumcised Gentiles that feared God and did good, but they could not be partakers with the circumcision in their covenants and promises.

In Ezekiel 37 we see Israel's resurrection.

"11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

13 And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves,

14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord."

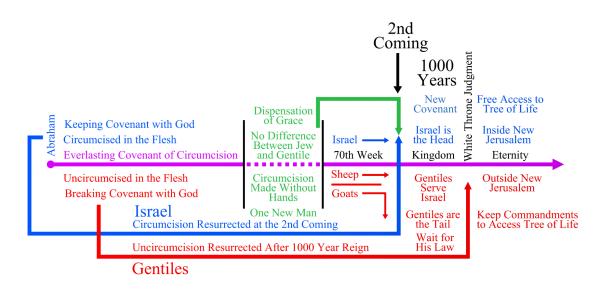
Notice:

"... these bones are the whole house of Israel:..."

This is Israel's resurrection. It has nothing to do with the Gentiles. Israel was promised EVERLASTING SALVATION which is ETERNAL REDEMPTION which they will receive when they get their new covenant at the second coming of Christ.

But the Gentiles were not promised this.

Let's look at this chart:



http://www.gracebiblestudy.net/.../Circumcision-chart.jpg

Notice the blue line. Israel, the circumcision, will be resurrected at the second coming.

This is the resurrection of Ezekiel 37, the resurrection that was promised to Israel.

Jethro, Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus are not the children of Israel and will not be part of Israel's resurrection.

When Israel is resurrected, they will receive their new covenant to where God remembers their sin no more.

This is EVERLASTING SALVATION, ETERNAL REDEMPTION.

In Luke 21 Jesus says,

"27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

This is when Israel will receive their redemption.

Since this salvation is EVERLASTING, when they are resurrected the second death has no power over them.

In Revelation 20 it says,

"6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

The people in the first resurrection, which is Israel's resurrection, receive their EVERLASTING SALVATION that was promised to them.

They will be under the New covenant to where God will remember their sin no more.

Therefore, the second death has no power over them, what they have is ETERNAL REDEMPTION.

But what about the Gentiles?

Everyone left in the graves will be resurrected at the end of the 1000 years.

This is the resurrection of John 5 where Jesus says,

"28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

This is where Jethro, kings Neb and Cyrus will be resurrected and given life along with all the other uncircumcised Gentiles that did good.

They will live outside of the New Jerusalem and have to keep the commandments of God in order to have access to the tree of life to keep their fleshly bodies living forever.

In Revelation 22 it says,

"14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie."

This is what God is giving to the Gentiles.

But Israel will have ETERNAL REDEMPTION and live INSIDE the NEW JERUSALEM.

As we saw in Genesis 17, the covenant of circumcision is an EVERLASTING covenant.

There will be a separation of men forever.

In Galatians 4 Paul says,

"22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.

23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise.

24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar.

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now.

30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free."

The children of Israel are the children of the FREEWOMAN and will dwell INSIDE the New Jerusalem.

All others are children of the BONDWOMAN and will dwell OUTSIDE the New Jerusalem and have to keep the commandments of God in order to have access to the tree of life to keep their fleshly bodies living forever.

The children of Israel will have EVERLASTING SALVATION and the second death will have no power over them, for God remembers their sin NO MORE.

But the people outside the New Jerusalem will have to keep the commandments of God to have access to the tree of life or they will eventually die.

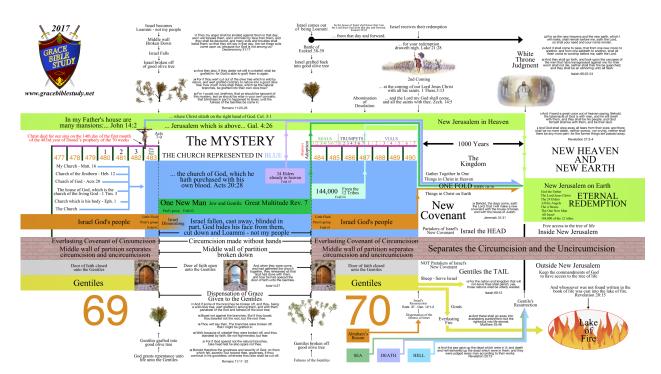
Then the second death WILL have power over them, they were not promised eternal redemption as Israel was.

Now we, the one new man, have been made partakers with Israel in their covenants and promises and are the children of promise as Isaac was.

We will be partakers with them in the new Jerusalem and have eternal redemption.

We are children of the FREEWOMAN.

Let's look at this chart:



http://www.gracebiblestudy.net/.../GBS-Interactive-Time...

As we look to the right hand side we see the new heaven and new earth with the new Jerusalem.

There will always be a separation of men on the earth.

Again, those inside the new Jerusalem are the children of the FREEWOMAN. Those outside the New Jerusalem are the children of the BONDWOMAN.

During the dispensation of the grace of God given to the Gentiles, God allows us Gentiles to be partakers with Israel in their EVERLASTING SALVATION that he promised to Israel.

In Romans 11 Paul says,

"11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy."

WHAT A WONDERFUL GOD WE HAVE!

So these are the two different inheritances that God has given unto men for all eternity.

1. Living INSIDE the New Jerusalem - children of the FREEWOMAN

2. Living OUTSIDE the New Jerusalem - children of the BONDWOMAN

But Dispensationalism teaches that we, the body of Christ, have an ETERNAL HEAVENLY INHERITANCE and Israel has an ETERNAL EARTHLY INHERITANCE.

This doctrine was started by our Acts 28 brethren and is incorrect. They made it up to show separation between us and Israel.

Paul is VERY CLEAR on what the different inheritances are.