

What and Who is a Gentile
Part Three

Understanding the significance

Before we continue:

- Purpose is NOT to tell you what to understand.
 - The purpose is to examine the words of the Bible, rightly divided.
 - Scripture is the believer's authority, not what the believer has heard from others. Do your own study:
 - Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Introduction:

- There is among many believers today a sense of concern, if not also bondage, within “Christianity” concerning:
 - Certain behaviors please God.
 - Other behaviors displease God.
 - The believer must serve God.
 - The believer must suffer for His sake.
 - The believer must appear at the judgement seat.
 - The believer obtaining a reward.
 - The believer loss of reward.

Where we are headed:

- A better understanding of What and Who is a Gentile offers to remove the believer's sense of concerns:
 - No behaviors that either please or displease God.
 - No service obligations to God.
 - No obligation to suffer for His sake.
 - No appearance at the judgement seat of Christ.
 - No reward or loss of reward.
- HOWEVER, there were those to whom all these matters applied: the believing uncircumcised Hebrew!
 - Paul's prison epistles covers it all.
 - Starting with the epistle to the Ephesians.

What we have found:

- “Gentile” primarily includes (out of all nations and people) the Uncircumcised Hebrew who also believed, and were called to a vocation and provided the Spiritual gifts necessary to serve through the prospect of suffering, judgement, rewards, and to live righteously:
 - Concerning their belief –
 - Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise

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 - Concerning their calling and vocation –
 - Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called

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 - Concerning their gifts –
 - Ephesians 4:7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

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 - Concerning their service –
 - Ephesians 6:7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men

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 - Concerning their judgment –
 - Ephesians 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

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 - Concerning their rewards –
 - Ephesians 6:8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether *he be* bond or free.

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- “Gentile” primarily includes (out of all nations and people) the Uncircumcised Hebrew who also believed, and were called to a vocation and provided the Spiritual gifts necessary to serve through the prospect of suffering, rewards, and to live righteously:
 - Concerning their suffering –
 - Ephesians 6:11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

What we have found:

- “Gentile” primarily includes (out of all nations and people) the Uncircumcised Hebrew who also believed, and were called to a vocation and provided the Spiritual gifts necessary to serve through the prospect of suffering, rewards, and to live righteously:
 - Concerning their behavior –
 - Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love

What we have found:

- “Gentile” primarily includes (out of all nations and people) the Uncircumcised Hebrew who also believed, and were called to a vocation and provided the Spiritual gifts necessary to serve through the prospect of suffering, rewards, and to live righteously:
 - All these matters, and more, applied to the believing uncircumcised Hebrew who, through Paul’s ministry believed the gospel of THEIR salvation.
 - They were the good soldiers as Paul instructed Timothy:
 - 2 Timothy 2:3-4 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

What we have found:

- After THEM (all those uncircumcised believing Hebrews who were the called of God to serve in Body over which Christ is head) came all of US.
- Those good soldiers are now all gone.
- What was THEIR calling and obligations are for us:
 - Ephesians 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him
 - Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.
 - 1 Timothy 3:1 This *is* a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

Looking back at a previous study:

“What and Who is a Saint”

First mention...

Deuteronomy 33:3 Yea, he loved the people; all his saints *are* in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; *every one* shall receive of thy words.

What people did the LORD love?

1 Kings 10:9 Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel: because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king, to do judgment and justice.

2 Chronicles 2:11 Then Hiram the king of Tyre answered in writing, which he sent to Solomon, Because the LORD hath loved his people, he hath made thee king over them.

2 Chronicles 9:8 Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, to be king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice.

In this study:

“What and Who is a Gentile”

First mention...

Genesis 10:5 By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

Note: “isles”: regions

Note: “Gentiles”: nation, people.

Question:

Were there Jews in Israel that considered certain of the Hebrews to be “Gentiles”?

Answer:

John 7:33-35 Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and *then* I go unto him that sent me. Ye shall seek me, and shall not find *me*: and where I am, *thither* ye cannot come. Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles?

Note: the “dispersed” primarily points to the scattered of Israel.

Note: “the Jews” considered “the dispersed among the Gentiles” as “Gentiles”.

Paul is the apostle to those uncircumcised Hebrews:
Ephesians 2:11-13 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

Colossians 2:11-14 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Note: “ordained” – to prepare by order/decreed.

Question:

Who are these that were “ordained”?

Answer:

The Saints: Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

The church/body over which Christ is head: Ephesians 2:15a Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances...

Remember what we found:

- After THEM (all those uncircumcised believing Hebrews who were the called of God to serve in Body over which Christ is head) came all of US.
- Those good soldiers are now all gone.
- What was THEIR calling and obligations are for US:
 - Ephesians 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him
 - Colossians 4:5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.
 - 1 Timothy 3:1 This *is* a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work.

*And when the Gentiles
heard this, they were
glad, and glorified the
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many as were ordained
to eternal life believed.*

Acts 13:48

Acts 13:47-48... For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

Note: “as many as” which is to say not all the “Gentiles” were Hebrew Gentiles “ordained to eternal life...”.

Paul addresses Jews and Gentiles in Romans

Romans 11:2 God hath not cast away his people
which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture
saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God
against Israel...

Romans 9:1-5 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: 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; Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

Romans 9:6-8 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they *are* not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, *are they* all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

Romans 9:11 (For *the children* being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;))

Romans 9:14, 23-25 What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? God forbid. ... And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? As he saith also in **Osee**, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved.

Hosea 1:9-11 Then said *God*, Call his name Loammi: for ye are not my people, and I will not be your *God*. Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, *that* in the place where it was said unto them, *Ye are not my people*, *there* it shall be said unto them, *Ye are the sons of the living God*. Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great *shall be* the day of Jezreel.

Romans 9:27-28 Esaias also crieth concerning Israel,
Though the number of the children of Israel be as the
sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: For he will
finish the work, and cut *it* short in righteousness:
because a short work will the Lord make upon the
earth.

Isaiah 10:21-23 The remnant shall return, *even* the remnant of Jacob, unto the mighty God. For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, yet a remnant of them shall return: the consumption decreed shall overflow with righteousness. For the Lord GOD of hosts shall make a consumption, even determined, in the midst of all the land.

Romans 9:30-32 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because *they sought it* not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone

Note: this “righteousness” required Israel’s obedience be “of faith”, not “by the works of the law”.

Romans 10:12-13, 19 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. ... But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by *them that are no people*, and by a foolish nation I will anger you.

Romans 11:11 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.

Ephesians 2:11-13, 19 Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. ... Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God

Note: also true for Gentiles that are of the dogs.

We look again at the account of the woman of
Canaan...

Matthew 15:23-28 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast *it* to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great *is* thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Jesus said:

Matthew 15:24 “I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel”.

The resurrected Jesus said to his disciples:

John 20:21 “Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you”.

Question: To whom was Jesus sent?

Answer: unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Question: To whom were Jesus’ disciples sent?

Answer: unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Romans 15:8-12 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* unto the fathers: And that the Gentiles might glorify God for *his* mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

Note: “mercy”: something deserved was withheld.

Romans 15:15-16 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God, That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Note: “grace”: something given that was not deserved.

Isaiah 65:1 I am sought of *them that* asked not *for me*; I am found of *them that* sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation *that* was not called by my name.

Matthew 21:43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.