



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Key Differences between the Nation of Israel and the Church	SPEAKER	SP Daniel Foo
THEME	Time of the End (3)	DATE	09 & 10 Jan 2021

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This is the third of an 8-part series on the end times. This message focuses on the differences between the Nation of Israel and the Church. We must recognise the **signs** that Jesus is coming back very soon. While we anticipate His return, we must be prepared and watchful.

KNOWING THE TIME OF THE END

There are several reasons why it is important to know when it is the time of the end.

1. Look for the blessed hope. We're not looking for the anti-Christ or the mark of the Beast.
2. We are blessed to read, hear and keep the prophetic word in our hearts and to share them as led (Revelation 1:3).
3. Focus on the Urgency and Imminence of Time; this is not about predicting dates.
4. Evangelism - Salvation of loved ones at stake.
5. We are encouraged to heed the prophetic word (2 Peter 1:19) until the Rapture.
6. Revelation is progressive. Current insights are built upon previous understanding. Hence, it is important to know Time of the End (TOTE).

OVERVIEW OF GENTILES, ISRAEL AND CHURCH

The whole of mankind is divided into three groups (1 Cor 10:32)

1. Gentiles: From Adam to Abraham
2. Israel/Jews: From Abraham, Isaac, Jacob onwards. God made a specific covenant with the Jews
3. The Church: Created after Jesus died and ascended to heaven. From that point, everyone, Jew or Gentile, who believes and receives the Lord Jesus in the window of grace is part of the Church (Gal 3:26-28)

Not all scripture/covenant is written for the Church; some is meant for Israel; some is meant for the Gentiles and some is meant for the Church. Applying a scripture to the Church when it is originally meant for Israel or vice-versa can lead to confusion and misunderstanding of the prophetic word.

(I) Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven – For Israel

The Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven is based on the premise of God's Covenant to Israel in the Abrahamic Mosaic and Davidic covenant (Romans 9:4; Matthew 10:5-8).

1. The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3; 17:7-8; Lev 26:42)
 - The promise of literal land

2. The Mosaic Covenant (which confirms the Abrahamic Covenant); (Exodus 6:2-4, 8 God gives the Nation of Israel)
- A. literal, physical and earthly signs, to lead them to their ...
 - B. ... literal, physical and earthly land, to fulfil the prophecy of the ...
 - C. ... promised Jewish Messiah, reigning from a ...
 - D. ... literal, physical and earthly throne, in ...
 - E. ... literal, physical and earthly Jerusalem, from where He will establish ...
 - F. ... His literal, physical and earthly kingdom
- This is the Gospel of the Kingdom for the Nation of Israel (1 Cor 1:22; Acts 7:36)

3. The Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:16)
 God promised David that the Promised Messiah would come through His Seed and that His Throne would be established forever. This is why Christ is referred to as the Son of David (i.e., root & offspring of David). The Gospel of the Kingdom is for Israel and is accompanied by literal signs, miracles and wonders to lead the Nation of Israel to their Promised Land - Millennial Kingdom. Acts 1:6.

II. Gospel of Grace – For All Mankind (During the Church Age)

- Now, we are living under the Gospel of Grace of God, which
- 1. was revealed and entrusted to the apostle Paul (Acts 20:24; Galatians 1:11-12, 16, 18; 2:1-2)
 - 2. was spelt out in the bodily death and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
 - 3. is for all who believed and receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10)
 - 4. is completely dependent on the grace and mercy of God (Ephesians 2:8-9)
 - 5. is the finished Blood Atonement that imputes God's righteousness to sinners who believe and receive Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:4-8)

Key differences between the Gospel of the Kingdom (GOK) and the Gospel of Grace (GOG)

Gospel of the Kingdom (GOK)	Gospel of Grace (GOG)
1. GOK is for the Israel Jews	GOG is for all men, i.e., Jew and Gentile during the Church Age today (Matthew 10:5-6; Romans 1:16)
2. Saints in the GOK do not have the indwelling Holy Spirit because they were covered by the blood of animals, which was only temporary	Saints in the GOG (Blood of Christ) have the indwelling Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 6:19)
3. Righteousness in the GOK is the person's righteousness	In the GOG, it is God's righteousness imputed to the believers. (Ezekiel 14:14, 16, 18, 20; Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 10:3-4)
4. In the GOK, there is no assurance of salvation. (Ezekiel 18)	In the GOG, we are eternally secured in Christ. (Matthew 24:13; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13)
5. In the GOK, the association is primarily the Jewish nation of Israel.	In the GOG, we (both Jew & Gentile believers) are members in the same Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:27; Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:14-16, 18)
6. The next immediate prophecy in the GOK is the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7;	In the GOG, it will be the rapture. (1 Corinthians 15:51; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Jeremiah 30:7)

Matthew 24) because Israel rejected Jesus as their Messiah. They have never believed up to now that they needed a “spiritual messiah” to save them from their sins as they have the law of Moses, even though we know that the law kills and no one is able to keep the law perfectly. Israel wants a “warrior” king, not the suffering-Servant who came and died for the sins of the world.	
7. In the GOK, it is the fulfilment of the covenant God made with Abraham, Moses and David.	In the GOG, it is the fulfilment of the covenant that Father-God made with the Lord Jesus (Hebrews 7:22; 8:6).
8. In the GOK, the final judgement is the Great White Throne (Revelation 20:11).	In the GOG, it is the Judgement Seat of Christ (Romans 14:10; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

CONCLUSION

1. Israel held accountable for not receiving the Messiah (Luke 19:41-44).
2. Israel held accountable for failing to discern the signs (Matthew 16:1-3).

Similarly, we have to guard against spiritual blindness. When God reveals to us certain issues repeatedly, it is our responsibility to act on the revelations. If we keep ignoring these promptings, it will lead to a layer of spiritual blindness, which will cumulatively, over time, result in the hardening of hearts. We must recognise the **signs** that Jesus is coming back very soon. The signs of His Coming are clear with precursors such as the Covid-19 pandemic, rapid pace of digitalisation, cryptocurrency and bit coins, which will fulfil the end time prophecy. Therefore, let’s be watchful and bring our lives in alignment with the God’s will, reset our priorities, humble ourselves to become His true disciple.

QUESTIONS

1. One of the key reasons why we need to be aware of what is happening in the end times is to have a sense of urgency and to evangelise – The lives of our non-believing loved ones are at stake. Is there anyone in your oikos whom you are burdened for? Share your challenges in reaching out to this person(s).

2. We are especially privileged and blessed to not only live in the Age of the Gospel of Grace, but to also live in Singapore, where we can openly worship and proclaim the grace of God. Are we still vigilant and faithful in preparing for Jesus' coming or have we taken things for granted? How can we better prepare for the end of time?

3. Understanding the differences between the gospels and prophecies for Israel and those for the Church are fundamental to our understanding of the end times. Do you have any questions or are you confused about the message this week?