

Is The Two Stick Prophecy Of Ezekiel 37 Replacement Theology?

For Average Joes From An Average Joe
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As with any teaching there are always those who support it and those who disagree. It should not surprise anyone that this should be the case with the Prophetic teaching of the Two House Restoration of Israel. The purpose, intent, and desire of this brief article is to demonstrate that this teaching is in fact based upon Prophecy which Yahuah Himself shall bring to pass. If, after this attempt, any should continue to find themselves in disagreement, then they must argue with Our Mighty One as to whether or not He meant what He said when He said it.

There is not a teaching or a doctrine within the pages of Scripture that someone, somewhere, has not attempted to pervert or use to their own means, ends, and purposes. However, such misuse of the truth does not make the truth no longer true. It simply makes those responsible for teaching and sowing truth, who choose to irresponsibly pervert it, poor messengers in delivering the truth to those who must then struggle in ascertaining whether indeed the truth as delivered is truly truth or not. Those who do so should be ashamed, as they make it much more difficult for the faithful to deliver the truth, and much easier for our adversary to disguise the truth as a lie and false teaching. The truth can be presented in such a way that the average Joe can make neither heads, nor tails of it. This paragraph is intended as just such an example.

Those who oppose and disagree with Two House teaching claim that this teaching is in fact Replacement Theology, seeking to replace Israel. Is it possible that what is truly being communicated by their statements is a fear of the Two House teaching replacing the Jewish people. Let us look at the most powerful witness to the truth of the Two House Restoration of Israel teaching.....

Eze 37:16-22 THE SCRIPTURES--"And you, **son of man, take a stick for yourself and write on it, 'For Yehudah and for the children of Yisra'ël, his companions.'** **Then take another stick and write on it, 'For Yosëph, the stick of Ephrayim, and for all the house of Yisra'ël, his companions.'** **Then bring them together for yourself into one stick, and they shall become one in your hand.** "And when the children of your people speak to you, saying, 'Won't you show us what you mean by these?' say to them, 'Thus said the Master יהוה, "See, I am taking **the stick of Yosëph, which is in the hand of Ephrayim, and the tribes of Yisra'ël,** his companions. And I shall give them unto him, with **the stick of Yehudah,** and make them one stick, and **they shall be one in My hand.**"' "And the sticks on which you write shall be in your hand before their eyes. "And speak to them, '**Thus said the Master יהוה, "See, I am taking the children of Yisra'ël from among the gentiles, wherever they have gone, and shall gather them from all around, and I shall bring them into their land. And I shall make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Yisra'ël. And one sovereign shall be sovereign over them all, and let them no longer be two nations, and let them no longer be divided into two reigns.**

This is a Prophecy of Ezekiel, one of a great number of passages of Scripture which support this teaching. If he was a true Prophet of Yahuah this Prophecy will come to pass. Would any of us dispute the fact that he was indeed a true Prophet?

As with those who pervert the truth of this teaching for their own means, ends, and purposes, it is so also with those who speak against and oppose this teaching. What is their true motive for denying that the above words of Ezekiel are in fact truth and Prophecy to be fulfilled?

When the Prophecy of Ezekiel comes to fruition Israel will be restored, **not replaced.** At present, in the land of Israel today the Jews comprise only three of the twelve tribes which make up Israel. The fulfillment of the Two House Restoration of Israel will restore to the land all twelve tribes as one nation under one King, Messiah Yahusha. Did Messiah teach replacement theology.....Or, rather, did He teach restoration theology.....?

Mat 15:24 THE SCRIPTURES—And He answering, said, "**I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Yisra'ël.**"

Mat 10:6 THE SCRIPTURES—But **go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

There are those who would say that Messiah in the above instances was speaking of the Jewish people, and not the Northern Kingdom and House of Israel. If this argument were true, then would not have Messiah said these words: **"I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Judah. Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Judah?"**

Could it be that as with any child who loves their father dearly and longs to be near him, desiring his attention for them alone, that the true Replacement Theology being taught in this instance is that of a faction within our Jewish and Messianic Jewish brethren seeking, out of child like jealousy, to replace (deny) their brethren Ephraim and the lost tribes as being co-heirs to the land? Are we seeing the parable of the prodigal son become reality as the faithful son becomes jealous and enraged when the unfaithful son desires to come home?

If we allow Yahuah to open our eyes and our hearts we will see clearly that the parable of the Prodigal Son is in fact the story, Prophecy, and accurate historical depiction of the rending of King David's Kingdom in twain. After the death of Solomon the nation of Israel became two separate Kingdoms and Houses of Israel—two Israels—both of which were scattered over the face of the earth for a defined period of time as being the punishment for their sins. The completion of their allotted time and punishment will set the stage for the Two House Restoration of Israel. In 1948 the Jewish people re-established themselves officially as a people in the land of Israel again. The time of their punishment had drawn to an end. If the calendar and time keeping of men is in agreement with that of Yahuah, then the punishment and time of the Northern Kingdom to live among the nations has also drawn to an end. Whether the Northern Kingdom will begin to return to the land of Israel just prior to the coming of Messiah, or whether Messiah Himself will commence their regathering remains to be seen. Rest assured, they will be regathered and returned to the land of Israel.....

Luk 15:11-32 THE SCRIPTURES—And He said, **"A certain man had two sons, (House of Israel and House of Judah)** and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods falling *to me.*' And he divided his livelihood between them. **(Dividing of the Kingdom into two Houses—Northern and Southern kingdoms.)** "And not many days after, the younger son, having gathered all together, went away to a distant country, and there wasted his goods with loose living. **(Younger son—Northern Kingdom—House of Israel taken captive and scattered over the earth.)** "And when he had spent all, there arose a severe scarcity of food throughout that land, and he began to be in need. "And he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him to his fields to feed pigs. **(Northern Kingdom living among the nations, eating what they ate.)** "And he was longing to fill his stomach with the pods which the pigs were eating, and no one gave to him. "But having come to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I am perishing with hunger! 'Having risen, I shall go to my father and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against the heaven, and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" **(Ruach HaKodesh working in hearts of those answering the call to the Northern Kingdom scattered over the earth.)** "And having risen, he went to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. "And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against the heaven, and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 'And bring the fattened calf here and slaughter it, and let us eat and rejoice, because this son of mine was dead and is alive again, and he was lost and is found.' And they began to rejoice. "And his older son **(Southern Kingdom—House of Judah.)** was in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. "And having called one of the servants he asked what this meant. "And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received him back in health.' "And he was wroth and would not go in. **(Southern Kingdom opposed to Two House Teaching.)** So his father came out and pleaded with him. "And answering, he said to his father, 'See, these many years I have been serving you, and I have never transgressed a command of yours, but to me you have never given a young goat, so I could rejoice with my friends. 'But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with whores, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' "Then he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all I have is yours. 'And we had to rejoice and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive, and was lost and is found.'" (Isa 11:13 And **the envy of Ephrayim shall turn aside, and the adversaries of Yehudah be cut off. Ephrayim shall not envy Yehudah, and Yehudah not trouble Ephrayim.)**

I have read statements which say that gentiles, such as I, are not grafted into Israel the nation but are grafted into the body of Messiah as believers. This is a talented method of twisting truth in order to oppose truth. We as gentiles are grafted into the commonwealth of Israel in much the same way as the mixed multitude which left Egypt—left slavery and bondage—were also accepted and became a part of the

commonwealth of Israel. This should not surprise us. Do we not have foreigners living in our land today who enjoy the benefits of living in our land, but also share the obligation to obey the laws of our land? However, unless they complete the naturalization process, they do not enjoy and possess the rights of citizenship. We, as a result of the better promises of the Renewed Covenant, are not only engrafted into the commonwealth of Israel receiving all the benefits of living in the land and obligations to obey its Laws—Torah, but we have also become citizens and fellow heirs of the household of Our Mighty One.

Exo 12:37-38 THE SCRIPTURES--And the children of Yisra'el set out from Ra'meses to Sukkoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides the little ones. And **a mixed multitude went up with them too**, also flocks and herds, very much livestock.

Rom 11:17-19 THE SCRIPTURES--And if some of the branches were broken off, and **you**, being a wild olive tree, **have been grafted in** among them, and came to share the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. And if you boast, remember: you do not bear the root, but the root bears you! You shall say then, "The branches were broken off that I might be **grafted in.**"

Num 15:15-16 THE SCRIPTURES—' **One law is for you of the assembly and for the stranger who sojourns with you – a law forever throughout your generations. As you are, so is the stranger before יהוה.** 'One Torah and one right-ruling is for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you.' "

Many of those supporting the Two House Teaching are attacked because they lay claim to being Ephraim. It is said that these people who make such statements have no proof of their lineage to Ephraim. This is true, they cannot prove their claims or statements. It is also true that at this point in time, until some type of DNA test or other is developed, no one can prove that they are not, either.

Very little is said among the Messianic Jewish neighborhood when one of their brethren decides to take upon himself a new name. For example: Baruch Ben Samson. Is this the persons true name? No. It is not. This person is merely selecting for himself a better name to identify himself with the Hebrew roots of his faith. Is this wrong? Does this make him a liar? Is it wrong to desire a better name?

On the other hand when a person who believes the Prophecy or Ezekiel regarding the Two House Teaching begins to feel in his heart that perhaps he may be a part of the lost tribes and so refers to himself as being Ephraim, then he is called a liar and a false teacher. For what.....How is he doing more wrong or more harm than his Messianic Jewish brother by claiming for himself a better name, identifying himself with the Hebrew roots of his faith?

Only Yahuah knows who is and is not a member of the lost tribes whom He is calling home and will restore to the land. Only Yahuah knows who is and is not a member of the tribes of Judah, Levi, and Benjamin—the Jewish people—regardless of whether they now live in the land or not. It matters not what anyone calls themselves, although I am not promoting anyone changing their names. It matters only what is in the heart, and what proceeds from the heart, and out of that heart what is given to the world as a witness to Yahusha Messiah. When the Day of Yahuah arrives, our names will not make us Israel if we have not **become Israel** before that moment. In the end, this is the only thing that will matter: **Are we Israel?**

In the meantime, many Gentiles are waking up to this teaching and realizing that **they are Israel**, identifying with their Hebrew roots as being part of the commonwealth of Israel. The majority of these Gentiles are Christians who before their eyes were opened believed and taught that, "Jesus did away with the Law." They are now keeping Sabbath and learning Torah.

How can we label as false a Prophetical teaching which draws people to Messiah and inspires them to walk in Covenant with Yahuah? Where is the logic in that? I hope we are all able to see at this point that neither Jews, Ephraim, nor Gentiles are replaced, excluded or mistreated as a part of Yahuah's plan to restore Israel to a complete and spotless Bride.

The Scriptures, from cover to cover, is the greatest love story ever told. It is the story of a Husband with an unending love for His Beloved—Israel—and His willingness to win her love no matter how great the cost, **even if it meant sacrificing His own life.** The instrument He has chosen to bring this to pass is the Two House Restoration of Israel.

