

CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS

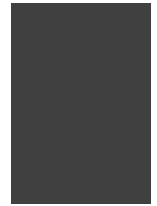


SERMON NOTES

Week 3 August 28, 2022

"Judaism"

Genesis 12:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Jeremiah 31:31, 34
Luke 22:20; I Samuel 15:22; Romans 11:28-29;
Isaiah 53:5



I. History of the Jewish People

- A. Around 2,000 B.C. God enters into a special relationship with _____.
- B. The TaNaK is the _____ Scriptures.
- C. In the United States there are three major divisions or branches within _____.
 - a. Orthodox
 - b. Conservative
 - c. Reformed

II. Beliefs of Judaism

- A. The primary goal in Judaism is to be obedient to the _____ that God made with the Hebrew people.
- B. The Orthodox Jews still pray daily for the coming of the _____.
- C. After the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD, Jews could no longer offer animal sacrifices for the atonement of their _____.

III. Similarities/Differences and Moving Forward

- A. There are a number of Jewish beliefs that share _____ ground with Christianity.
 - a. The first 39 books of our Bible are sacred texts inspired by God.
 - b. We agree that God is the creator of all things.
 - c. We agree that human beings were created in God's image and that we naturally struggle with sin.
 - d. We agree that the children of Israel are the people chosen by God.
 - e. We, too, pledge to love the Lord God with all our heart, soul, and strength.
- B. The one thing we disagree about is the _____ of Jesus Christ.
- C. Some _____ have given their approval, sometimes directly, sometimes in silence to anti-Semitism.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *Aug. 29 – Sep. 3, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

Judaism is the world's oldest monotheistic religion, dating back nearly 4,000 years. Followers of Judaism believe in one God who revealed himself through ancient prophets. The history of Judaism is essential to understanding the Jewish faith, which has a rich heritage of law, culture and tradition.

Monday: Genesis 12:1-3, 15:1-6 and 17:1-27

These two stories, and several others, constitute what biblical scholars call the “Abrahamic Covenant” – the binding agreement between God and Abraham. What did God promise Abraham? What did God expect of Abraham? What was Abraham’s response to God’s promises and call on his life (15:6)? What does this teach us about God’s desire for us?

Tuesday: Exodus 3:1-10

The rest of the book of Exodus is the story of this deliverance of the Israelites. After they were set free from slavery, God made a covenant with them; biblical scholars call this the “Mosaic Covenant” because it was made through Moses. This covenant included God’s promise to be Israel’s God - to love and care for them - but it required that Israel obey God’s Laws which included the Ten Commandments God wrote in stone, and 603 other laws recorded in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Read Exodus 34:27-35 and Deuteronomy 5.

Wednesday: II Samuel 7:8-16

This is known as the “Davidic Covenant” and it is repeated frequently throughout the Old Testament as a promise that brought the Israelites hope that God would deliver them from their enemies, knowing that God had promised that someone from the line of David would rule over Israel forever. Read Psalm 89:3-4, and Jeremiah 33:19-21. Two thousand years ago Jesus was born of the line of David. For 2000 years there has been no other king from David’s line ruling over Israel.

Thursday: Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Matthew 26:26-28

Jesus is clearly indicating that he is fulfilling Jeremiah’s words. Christians believe that through this New Covenant, established through Jesus’ death and resurrection, God superseded the Old Covenant made through Moses – Jesus fulfilled it on our behalf – and he made a new Covenant with all who would enter into this covenant by faith.

Friday: Romans 11

Hebrews 8 and 9 offers another picture of how the early Christians, Jewish Christians, understood Jesus’ work in fulfilling the prophecies and establishing a New Covenant. The Jews are God’s covenant people – always. We have been welcomed in by grace. How should Christians relate to Jews?

MOVING FORWARD

Judaism and Christianity share common ground with many beliefs. The one area of disagreement is the identity of Jesus Christ. Jews do not believe he is the messiah.

In spite of our differences in that topic, we need to hold our Jewish friends and neighbors in highest esteem because they are like our older brother and sisters in faith. Too many times in human history, Christians have been silent in the face of anti-Semitic behavior. We should never tolerate anti-Semitic behavior in our communities and we should never remain silent.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Abraham, B) Hebrew, C) Judaism. IIA) covenant, IIB) Messiah, C) sins. IIIA) common, B) identity, C) Christians.