

**The Nation of Israel was specially chosen by God to bear His glory before the nations** of the earth, and to be the channel through which His goodness would shine forth for all the nations to see. *Ex 19:3-6, Deut 7:6, Deut 14:2, Deut 4:5-8, Deut 26:18,19, Deut 28:1.*

The promise and vision of the nation of Israel was given to Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Jacob. *Gen 12:1-3, 13:14-17, 14:19, 15:5-7, 17:4-8, 18:18, 22:17,18, 28:3,4,13,14, 35:11,12, 46:3.*

**The House of Jacob, 70 persons, went down into Egypt,** and after their time in that land **they came forth as the Nation of Israel.** *Gen 46:27, Ex 1:5, Deut 10:22, Ex 12:37,51, Ex 13:18-22, Ex 14:8,22,30.*

**The Name of Israel means “Prince with God,”** and was the Name given by God to Jacob at Peniel. *Gen 32:28-30.*

**The conditions for the fulfilment of God’s purposes for Israel** were obedience to His commandments. *Ex 19:7,8, Ex 24:3-12, Deut 6:1-7, Deut 7:6-14, Deut 8:1-11, Deut 26:16-27:1, Deut 28: 1-14.*

Sadly, Israel as a Nation, fell short of God’s requirements. As it is written in *Rom 9:31*, they did not attain to the law of righteousness. In *Rom 9:32*, it tells us this was **because they did not seek it by faith but by works, or by the works of the law.** In *Rom 10:3*, it says they were ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness have not submitted to the righteousness of God.

**Moses taught Israel the way of faith** to fulfil the requirements of the law but as a nation they did not achieve it. *Deut 30:12-14, Rom 10:1-3,6-8, Heb 4:1,2, 1Cor 10:1-12.*

**As a nation God had blessed Israel with His adoption, glory, covenants, giving of the law, service of God, promises, fathers to Israel, and His Christ,** who is overall, the eternally blessed God, *Rom 9:4,5.*

When Christ came to Israel, He came to His own people, but His own did not receive Him, *Jn 1:11.* He was the Word of God made flesh, *Jn 1:14*, full of grace and truth. He came to reveal God the Father, *Jn 14:9*, and establish God’s Kingdom in the earth, *Mat 4:23.* Jesus sought to draw Israel back to God, *Mat 23:37-39, Lk 19:41-44*, but as a nation they did not accept Him as their Messiah or Christ, *Mat 12:9-14,22-24, Mat 21:33-46.* Jesus said, “The Kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation/people bringing forth the fruit thereof”, *v43*, ie the people who believe in Jesus Christ.

As a result of His rejection by the Nation of Israel, Jesus Christ was crucified to death by the Romans, at the insistence of the Jews. *Mat 27:22-26, Jn 19:7, Ac 2:22-24,36.*

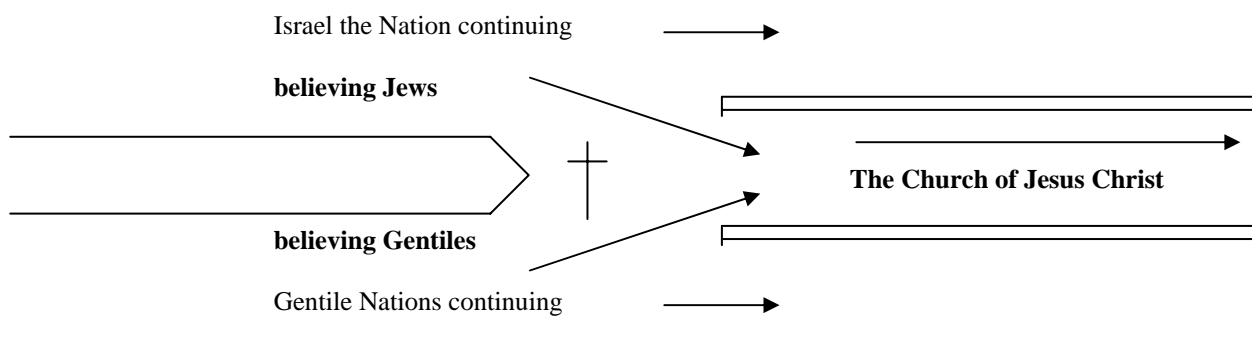
However, three days later He was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, and made to sit at the right hand of God in Heaven. *1Cor 15:3,4, Rom 6:3,4, Mat 28:1-10, Heb 1:3, Heb 8:1, Heb 10:12,13.*

By His death, burial, resurrection, ascension and enthroning in Heaven, Jesus the Christ has obtained eternal salvation and redemption for all who believe in Him, and obey Him. *1Pet 2:24, 1Pet 3:18, 1Cor 15:3, Rev 1:5, Ac 4:12.*

Although as a Nation, Israel rejected Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ, as many as did believe in Him, He gave them the right to become the children of God, *Jn 1:11,12.*

Many of the nation of Israel did believe in Jesus as the Christ, and as Lord and Saviour, *Mat 16:16, Ac 2:41,42, Ac 4:4.* Also, after about ten years, Gentiles started believing in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, *Ac 10:44-48, Ac 11:1,15-18.*

After a short time there was an ever-increasing stream of Gentiles coming to believe in Christ, *Ac 11:9-26.* Missionaries started travelling with the Gospel message and Christian churches were established throughout Asia, *Ac 13:1-3,42-49, Ac 14:1-4,21-28.* During His time of earthly ministry, Jesus said that He would build His Church or Assembly, *Mat 16:18*, and after His resurrection, and the sending of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ became a reality, *Ac 2:1-4,36-42.* Both Jews and Gentiles flowed into the Church or Assembly of Jesus Christ and became one in Christ, *Eph 2:11-22, Gal 3:28.* The Church of Jesus Christ is made up of Jews and Gentiles who believe in Him.



The Church of Jesus Christ is “the One New Man”, *Eph 2:15*, the “One Body through the Cross”, *Eph 2:16*, and “the Israel of God”, *Gal 6:16.*

Concerning the Nation of Israel, which as a whole did not recognise Jesus as the Christ, we need to understand that God has not cast them away permanently, *Rom 11:1,2.* Although God has temporarily “cast them away”, *Rom 11:15*, there is coming a day when they will return wholeheartedly to God, through faith in Jesus Christ as their Messiah and Lord, *Jn 14:6, Zech 12:10, Zech 13:16, Rom 11:15,23-29.*

There is only one way of salvation for Jew and Gentile and that is through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. Together the redeemed from every tribe and tongue and people and nation will worship Him around the Throne, *Rev 5:9-14.*