

## Some 'SPIRITUAL' Truth

In this study we will look at some basic principals .... that I believe are overlooked, ignored, or even hidden, by 'self-called mid-Acts grace preachers,' who have created **2 distinct groups** of God's people, **they even call them 2 different CHURCHES ....**

namely Israel and the body of Christ.

And this they do .... right in the face of scripture from their champion Paul who **SCOLDED** the saints at Corinth .... for **DIVIDING** in this very way:

**1 Cor 1:10-12** Now I beseech you, brethren,  
by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that ye all **speak the same thing**,  
and that **there be no divisions among you;**  
but that ye be **perfectly joined together**  
**in the same mind and in the same judgment.**

11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that **there are contentions among you.**

'Mid-Acts gracers' are **still** doing .... what Paul **criticized** the **carnal** Corinthians for doing .... **separating** according to their minister:

12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith,  

- **I am of Paul;**
- **and I of Apollos;**
- **and I of Cephas;**
- **and I of Christ.**

• **Paul** -- That's who 'mid-Acts gracers' claim to be 'of.' They will only allow people to be in 'the church, the body of Christ' .... if they have believed through Paul. If anyone claims to believe through **any other prophet, including Jesus Himself** in His earthly ministry - Who they say is 'another Jesus' - they say that person has believed 'another gospel' and is therefore **NOT** part of the body of Christ. When they speak of 'the church,' they always specify 'the church, the body of Christ' since they see it different than 'the church' as such in scripture.

## Paul preached the kingdom of God:

**Acts 20:25** And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone **preaching the kingdom of God**, shall see my face no more.

**Acts 28:30-31** And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

31 **Preaching the kingdom of God**, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.

Also Rom 14:17; 1 Cor 4:20, 6:9-10, 15:50; Gal 5:21; 2 Thes 1:5.

Paul's **HELPERS** were even **JEWISH**. It was **the circumcision**

who **assisted .... come-along-side .... and consoled** him:

**Col 4:11** And Jesus, which is called Justus, **who are of the circumcision**. These only are **my fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God**, which have been a comfort unto me.

- **Apollos** -- He preached the Lord's way and John the Baptist's

**water baptism .... until he learned more information from his friends:**

**Acts 18:24-28** And a certain Jew named **Apollos**, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and **mighty in the scriptures**, came to Ephesus.

25 **This man was instructed in the way of the Lord;**  
and being fervent in the spirit,

he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord,  
knowing only the baptism of John.

26 And he began to **speak boldly in the synagogue:**

whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them,  
and **expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.**

27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, **helped them much which had believed through grace:**

28 For he **mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly,**  
**shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.**

After Saul was saved and water baptized, he preached the **same** as Apollos:

**Acts 9:22** But **Saul** increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, **proving that this is very Christ.**

and he 'got' them again in chapter 3 .... this time about Apollos and him:

**1 Cor 3:1-9** And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto **spiritual**, but as unto **carnal**, even as unto **babes in Christ**.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat:

for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you **envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?**

4 For while one saith, • **I am of Paul;**

and another, • **I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?**

This is the **very thing** 'mid-Acts grace believers' are doing! They claim to **all** be 'of Paul.' According to them, if you're not 'of Paul' .... then you're not in the body of Christ. They won't classify you as being 'in the body' .... if you claim '**anyone** other than Paul' as your 'spiritual father' (also see **1 Cor 4:15-17, 1 Tim 1:2, and 2 Tim 1:2**). But even Paul taught the saints at Corinth different than that:

5 • **Who then is Paul,**  
• **and who is Apollos,**  
**but ministers by whom ye believed,**  
**even as the Lord gave to every man?**

6 • **I (Paul) have planted,**  
• **Apollos watered;** but God gave the increase.

7 So then • **neither is he that planteth any thing, (Paul)**  
• **neither he that watereth; (Apollos)** but God that giveth the increase.

The next verse **kills and buries** the 'mid-Acts grace doctrine' .... showing Paul and Apollos **UNITED .... NOT DIVIDED** into different programs:

8 Now • **he that planteth (Paul) and**  
• **he that watereth (Apollos) are one:** (don't miss that)  
and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For **we are labourers together with God:** (not Paul vs. all others)  
ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's **building.** (the **same** house)

- **Cephas** -- that's Peter, to whom Jesus gave the keys of the kingdom of heaven (**Matt 16:18-19**), which so-called 'mid-Acters' say we have no inheritance in .... even though they **oddly** also say that the 'body of Christ believers' will now go to **heaven** when they die. Do they think that God broke down the **middle wall of partition** on earth (**Eph 2:14**) but kept one erected in heaven .... in order to maintain the 'earthly kingdom program saints' (like Israel) in a different 'heavenly' place than 'heavenly body of Christ saints' (like they claim to be)? How absurd!

**Peter** (as did all 12 of Jesus' disciples) **preached the kingdom of God:**

**Luke 9:1-2** Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

2 And **he sent them to preach the kingdom of God,**  
and to heal the sick.

- **Christ** -- 'Mid-Acts gracers' even divide Christ into the earthly Jesus (see **2 Cor 11:4** for 'another Jesus') .... **from** the risen, glorified Lord that called Paul (actually, **Saul**) from heaven .... even though the scriptures testify that He is the **SAME** Jesus (**Acts 1:11, 2:36; 1 Cor 12:5; 2 Cor 8:19; EPH 4:10; Heb 13:8**).

**Jesus preached the kingdom of God:**

**Mark 1:14-15** Now after that John was put in prison, **Jesus** came into Galilee, preaching **the gospel of the kingdom of God,**

15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God** is at hand: repent ye, and **believe the gospel.** (What gospel? the gospel of the kingdom of God .... as in **1 Chron 17:14-15, Isa 9:6-7, Dan 2:44**)

Even after His crucifixion and resurrection, Christ told those who saw Him about things concerning God's kingdom:

**Acts 1:1-3** The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that **Jesus** began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infalible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and **speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:**

So we see that Paul, Apollos, Cephas, and Christ, were all '**on message.**'

taught that 'earthly' Jesus was a 'different' Jesus than 'heavenly' Jesus ....  
(or as they prefer to call Him, the 'risen, glorified' Jesus). Yet it was Paul  
that asked the rhetorical question .... that 'mid-Acts gracers' get wrong:

**1 Cor 1:13** **Is Christ divided?** (No, of course He is not divided ....  
and neither should His saints be!) was Paul crucified for you?  
or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

We have read passages where **Paul** showed that **it didn't matter**  
**which man's preaching** that a person heard to believe the gospel and  
be saved. God even gave **specific instructions .... not just to not**  
**FOCUS on that .... but to not even let it be an ISSUE.** Now we will  
see that the Gentiles are make **PARTAKERS** of Israel's blessings .... and  
again, not that we have **separate** blessings from them:

**Rom 15:25-27** But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.  
26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia (**Gentiles**) to make  
a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem. (**Israel**)  
27 It hath pleased them verily (**vs.26**); and their debtors they are. For if **the**  
**Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things,** their  
(**Gentiles**) duty is also to minister unto them (**Israel**) in carnal things.

It is **repeatedly** expressed .... that Gentiles are one **with** Israel ....  
not that God made an entirely different one, as 'mid-Acts gracers' think:

**1 Cor 10:16-17** The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not  
**the communion** of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break,  
is it not **the communion** of the body of Christ?  
17 For **we being many are one bread, and one body:**  
for **we are all partakers of that one bread.**

We have a fellow-inheritance .... with those already saved before us:

**Eph 3:6** That the **Gentiles should be fellowheirs,**  
**and of the same body,**  
**and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:**

are **PARTAKERS** with Israel's tree -- not an entirely **new, different** tree:

**Rom 11:16** For if the **firstfruit (Christ)** be holy,  
the lump (**1st Israel, then including the Gentiles**) is also holy:  
and if the **root (Christ)** be holy,  
so are **the branches**. (**1st Israel, then including the Gentiles**)

Clearly, believers in Israel .... were the natural branches:

**John 15:5** **I am the vine, ye are the branches:** He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Watch God **MERGE** the Gentiles **INTO Israel** -- not start a new tree:

**Rom 11:17-27** And if some of the branches (**Israel**) be broken off, and **thou, being a wild olive tree, (Gentiles) wert grafted in (cut into for the sake of inserting a shoot or bud of a plant) among them (Israel), and with them (Israel) partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;**

18 Boast not against the branches.

But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that **I might be grafted in. (grafted in where? AMONG them)**

20 Well; because of **unbelief** they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

21 For if God spared not **the natural branches, (Israel)** take heed lest he also spare not **thee. (Gentiles)**

22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity;

but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

23 And they also, if they abide not still in **unbelief**, shall be grafted in: for **God is able to graff them in again.**

24 For if **thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree:** how much more shall these, which be **the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?**

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until **the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.**

26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (**Dan 9:24**)

27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

Abraham is Israel's father, as pertaining to the flesh (Rom 4:1).

Unto many of the Pharisees and Sadducees, the religious leaders of Israel, who felt smug about their heritage as God's people .... Jesus said:

**Matt 3:9** And think not to say within yourselves, **We have Abraham to our father:** for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Jesus taught a truth .... that was also later written by Paul ....

Just because someone was a **physical descendent** of Abraham .... didn't make that person an **automatic child of God**. They had to **believe**:

**John 8:31-33** Then said Jesus to those **Jews** which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;**

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

33 They answered him, **We be Abraham's seed,** and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

**John 8:37-45** **I know that ye are Abraham's seed;** but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

39 They answered and said unto him, **Abraham is our father.** Jesus saith unto them, If ye were **Abraham's children,** ye would do the works of Abraham.

40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

41 **Ye do the deeds of your father.** Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

42 Jesus said unto them, **If God were your Father, ye would love me:** for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

44 **Ye are of your father the devil,** and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

45 And because I tell you the truth, **ye believe me not.**

Paul also taught that being Abraham's natural children is not enough:

**Rom 9:6-8** Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect.

For **they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:**

7 **Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children:** but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

8 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.

Paul showed the **expansion** of Abraham's children to include .... not just his **physical seed that believed** .... but also **GENTILES that believed:**

**Rom 4:8-13** Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

9 Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that **faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.**

10 How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but **in uncircumcision.**

11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that **he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised;** that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

12 **And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.**

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, **but through** the righteousness of **faith.**

Abraham is our father, too. He is the father of **all that believe:**

**Rom 4:16-18** Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end **the promise might be sure to all the seed;** not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is **of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,**

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that **he might become the father of many nations,** according to that which was spoken, **So shall thy seed be.**

Abraham is the father of **everyone who believes:**

**Gal 3:6-9** Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that **they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.**

8 And **the scripture**, foreseeing that God would **justify the heathen (Gentiles) through faith**, preached before **the gospel** unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

9 So then **they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.**

So, again, Gentiles who believe will receive Abraham's blessings ....  
through faith .... and in Christ:

**Gal 3:14,16** That **the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; (the Seed)**

that we might receive the promise of the Spirit **through faith.**

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made.

He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one,  
And to **thy seed, which is Christ.**

Spiritually speaking .... Jerusalem .... like a woman .... is Israel's mother:

**Isa 66:7-13** Before she travailed, she brought forth;  
before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child.

8 Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as **Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.**

9 Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the LORD: shall I cause to bring forth, and shut the womb? saith thy God.

10 **Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her: rejoice for joy with her, all ye that mourn for her:**

11 That ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations; that ye may milk out, and be delighted with the abundance of her glory.

12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.

13 **As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.**

New Jerusalem is our mother .... in fact, the mother of **all that believe:**

**Gal 4:21-31** Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law,  
do ye not hear the law?

22 For it is written, that **Abraham had two sons,**

- the one by a bondmaid,
- the other by a freewoman.

23 • But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh;  
• but he of the freewoman was by promise.

24 Which things are an **allegory: (teaching a lesson with symbols)**  
for **these are the two covenants;**

- the one from the mount Sinai,  
which gendereth to bondage,  
which is Agar.

25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia,  
and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, **(earthly)**  
and is in bondage with her children.

26 • **But Jerusalem which is above (heavenly) is free,**  
• **which is the mother of us all.**

27 For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. **(Read reference Isa 54:1-8)**

28 Now **we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.**

29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, **even so it is now.**

30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture?

Cast out the bondwoman and her son:  
for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir  
with the son of the freewoman.

31 So then, **brethren,** • **we are not children of the bondwoman,**  
• **but of the free.**

**Keep reading .... Don't go back under the old testament law ....  
but stay under the new testament grace:**

**Gal 5:1** Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

**God told Abraham he would be a father of many nations:**

**Gen 17:3-5** And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee,  
and thou shalt be **a father of many nations.**

5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for **a father of many nations have I made thee.**

God instructed Abraham and his physical seed (and any man child living in his house, not of his blood) to have a **physical circumcision**:

**Gen 17:10-11** This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; **Every man child among you shall be circumcised.**

11 And ye shall **circumcise the flesh of your foreskin**; and it shall be **a token of the covenant** betwixt me and you. (also read vs. 12-14)

God also instructed Israel to have a **spiritual circumcision**:

**Deut 10:16** **Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart**, and be no more stiffnecked.

Again, we see that those who had **physical** circumcision ....

also needed **spiritual** **circumcision**:

**Jer 4:3-4** For thus saith the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem, Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns.

4 **Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart**, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

The apostle Paul explained that physical circumcision could be made as **uncircumcised**, and **uncircumcised** can be counted as circumcised. Jews are not Jews 'in the physical' anymore .... but those that are of faith are the true Jews. Spiritual circumcision is the issue, not physical anymore:

**Rom 2:25-26, 28-29** For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, **thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.**

26 Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not **his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?**

28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; **neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:**

29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and **circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter**; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Physical circumcision .... or being a Jew .... no longer has any advantage:

**Gal 5:6** For **in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision;** but **faith** which worketh by love.

**Gal 6:15** For **in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision,** but a new creature.

**Circumcision is now spiritual .... and it applies to all who believe:**

**Phil 3:3** For **we are the circumcision,** which worship God **in the spirit,** and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Paul made the clear point to **Gentile** saints .... **physical circumcision is no longer an issue - now it's spiritual.** It is for those who are **in Christ:**

**Col 2:11** 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:

**Water (physical) baptism was a visible sign to point Israel to Christ:**

**John 1:31** And I (John the Baptist) knew him (Jesus) not: but that he should be made **manifest to Israel,** **therefore am I come baptizing with water.**

Because Israel is blinded (**Rom 11:7-15, 23-25**) in unbelief ....

there is no more need for **physical baptism** anymore:

**1 Cor 1:14-18** I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;

15 Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name.

16 And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other.

17 For **Christ sent me not to baptize,** but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

As it is with circumcision, so likewise it is with baptism ....

It is no longer **physical baptism** .... but instead it is **spiritual baptism**:

**1 Cor 12:13** For **by one Spirit are we all baptized** into one body, **whether we be Jews or Gentiles**, whether we be bond or free; and have been **all made to drink into one Spirit**.

The old testament, written on tables of stone (Exo 31:18, Deut 9:11), often focused on the outer man .... with physical circumcision and water baptism .... but the new testament, written on the heart (Jer 31:33, Heb 8:10, Rom 2:14-15) works on the inner man .... with spiritual circumcision and spiritual baptism:

**2 Cor 3:13-14** And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly **look to the end of that which is abolished**:

14 But their minds were **blinded**: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of **the old testament**;  
**which veil is done away in Christ**.

Being in Christ .... makes the difference:

**2 Cor 5:17** Therefore if any man be **in Christ**, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

In Christ ....

- we are Abraham's seed
- we are spiritual Jews
- we have spiritual circumcision
- we have spiritual baptism
- we have the same inheritance:

**Gal 3:29** And **if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise**.

*This is David Dowell, saying, "Think about it!"*

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