

Can God Make Void What He Proclaimed to be Everlasting?

Joseph Carty / General

Covenants and Feasts / Covenant; Ceremonial Law; Feasts and Festivals of Israel; Spiritual Israel; Graft; Olive tree; Dispensationalism / Genesis 17:8

There seems to be an infatuation with Israel in Christianity today. We have numerous groups of people who are not genetically Jewish that claim to be Israel. We have those who believe that we should keep/celebrate the feasts of the Old Testament. There are numerous interpretation of last-day events that focus on literal Israel. How can we untangle this confusing we of Literal vs. Spiritual Israel? How does God relate to Literal Judah today? We must be able to answer the question if God is able to make void covenant promises that He told Israel would be eternal.

Eternal or Temporary?

Can God make void what he proclaimed to be Everlasting?

- What applies Today?
 - old covenant,
 - ceremonial law,
 - feast days
- Foundational Premise

- God said: eternal
 - so
 - must still apply today.
-
- What did God say?

“Eternal” Promises

Abraham

Genesis 17:8 *ESV*

And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

- God make covenant
 - offspring of Abraham
- Key Word
 - “everlasting”

- What else is everlasting?
 - Same chapter
 - Same covenant

Genesis 17:13–14 ESV

both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

- Circumcision
 - requirement
 - to enter covenant
 - everlasting condition
- Later,

At Sinai

Exodus 34:10 ESV

And he said, “Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the LORD, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

- Covenant with Israelites
 - not other nations.
- I have not made covenant
 - with other nations...

Time of Joshua

Deuteronomy 11:21 ESV

that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

- What is Promised?
 - Israel in land
- How long?
 - “as long as the heavens are above the earth...”

David and Solomon

1 Chronicles 22:10 ESV

He shall build a house for my name. He shall be my son, and I will be his father,

and I will establish his royal throne in Israel forever.’

After Rebellion...

Jeremiah 33:20–26 ESV

“Thus says the LORD: If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night will not come at their appointed time, then also my covenant with David my servant may be broken, so that he shall not have a son to reign on his throne, and my covenant with the Levitical priests my ministers. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered and the sands of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the offspring of David my servant, and the Levitical priests who minister to me.”

The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: “Have you not observed that these people are saying, ‘The LORD has rejected the two clans that he chose’? Thus they have despised my people so that they are no longer a nation in their sight. Thus says the LORD: If I have not established my covenant with day and night and the fixed order of heaven and earth, then I will reject the offspring of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his offspring to rule over the offspring of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and will have mercy on them.”

- He says
 - Cannot break Covenant!

Summary

1. God Made Covenant with Nation

2. Theocracy
3. Laws of Covenant
4. Circumcision

- How can I say
 - doesn't apply?

New Testament Verses

Gospel to Gentiles

Matthew 28:19–20 ESV

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

- Baptize All Nations
 - teach them
 - disciple them
 - baptize them

- no other conditions

All Nations

2 Corinthians 5:18–20 ESV

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

- God is reconciling
 - all nations/people
 - to Him

through His Church

Story of Cornelius

Acts 10:34–35 ESV

So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

- Story of Cornelius

- No partiality

Circumcision

1 Corinthians 7:19 ESV

For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God.

and this verse...

Romans 2:28–29 ESV

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

- Paul long debate
 - circumcision
 - Old Covenant
 - separation Jews/Greeks
- Conclusion???
 - Condition for Covenant?
 - Circumcision?

- NOOO
- Faith only condition

No Nation theocracy

Romans 9:24–26 ESV

even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?
As indeed he says in Hosea,

“Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’

and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’ ”

“And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’

there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’ ”

- Who are God’s people now?
 - Jews
 - Gentiles

Romans 9:30–31 ESV

What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; but that Israel who pursued a

law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law.

- Jews failed Covenant
- Gentiles entered Covenant.

Galatians 3:26–29 ESV

for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

- Covenant is Open
 - Who wants in?

Health Care

Open Enrollment!!

Separation

Romans 10:12–13 ESV

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

- Who is in Covenant?
 - ““everyone who calls on the name of the Lord...”
- Look at Paul’s interpretation...
 - of [Gen 17](#)...

Summary So Far

- God made Covenant
 - with ethnic group
 - theocracy
 - circumcisions condition
 - Called it everlasting
- Everything was Everlasting
 - Promise to Ethnic Group

- Promise of Land
 - Sanctuary and Worship
 - Circumcision
 - Theocracy
-
- New Testament
 - No more circumcision
 - No more ethnic group
 - No more theocracy
 - Enter by faith
-
- Question...
 - Can God Make Void What He Proclaimed to be Everlasting???
-
- Yes!!!
 - He did!!!
-
- Did God Lie?

- No!
- All of God's Covenants
 - Promises
 - Prophecies
 - **Are Conditional!**

Conditional Upon Obedience

Eternal Hell???

- Uses words
 - eternal
 - everlasting
 - unquenchable...

Paul's Interpretation

The Seed

Genesis 17:8 **ESV**

And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

- Offspring = Seed

Dispensationalism

- Everlasting Promises
- [Dan 9](#)
- 144,000
 - 12,000 from each tribe
- Dispensation for Jews

New Testament Teaching

Jesus Teaching on Israel

Matthew 21:33–46 **ESV**

“Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“ ‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is marvelous in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

- What is Jesus Conclusion
 - They are punished
 - For unbelief
 - No Longer Covenant People!

Where do the Jews Stand in the Eyes of God Today?

Acts 13:46 ESV

And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Grafted In

- Study All of [Romans 11](#)

[Romans 11:13](#) (ESV)

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles...

Skip Down

Romans 11:17–21 ESV

But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you.

- Conclusion:

- Jews
 - Conditional Promises
 - Did not Fulfill Condition
 - They are cut off
 - Not a blessed people!
 - No Future
 - Except in Christ

- Gentiles (us)
 - Grafted In
 - built on Root

- Thankful to Root
- Not Antisemitic
-

What happens to the promises made to Israel now?

- -- some just won't happen at all
- -- some will be fulfilled in Spiritual Israel (in principle but not detail)

Next Summon

- Should we keep feast days?
- Ellen White?
- Why Paul Kept feasts?
- What is appropriate now?
- The Calendar?

Conclusion

- The Old Covenant was “Everlasting”
 - It was a Conditional Promise
 - Conditions Were Not Fulfilled
 - That Covenant Does Not Apply
-
- The New Covenant Applies
 - New Promises
 - New Conditions

Appeal

- By God’s Grace
- Enter This Covenant
- Fulfill the Conditions