

# God is Moving

## *Israel, the Church, & the Nations*

Romans 11:33–36 (NIV®)

<sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

<sup>34</sup> “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?”

<sup>35</sup> “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?”

<sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

## I. Israel & the Church

### A. One Covenant Unites Us

- ❖ Not Two Separate Paths to God
- ❖ The Church Did Not Replace Israel in God’s Purposes
- ❖ We Stand Together in God’s Unfolding Purposes
- ❖ Jew & Gentile Believers Opposed by the Spirit of Antichrist

### B. Differing Places in God’s Unfolding Purposes

Romans 9:4–5 (NIV®)

<sup>4</sup> ...the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. <sup>5</sup> Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Ephesians 2:12–13 (NIV®)

<sup>12</sup> ...remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

### C. Israel/Jewish People — A Promised Land

Genesis 13:14–15 (NIV®)

<sup>14</sup> The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, “Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. <sup>15</sup> **All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.**”

### D. The Church — A Land of Promises

2 Peter 1:4 (NIV®)

Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

## II. One Covenant Unites Us

### A. Not Two Separate Paths

Ephesians 2:11–13 (NIV®)

<sup>11</sup> Therefore, remember that formerly **you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision”** (that done in the body by the hands of men) —

<sup>12</sup> remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Galatians 3:26–29 (NIV®)

<sup>26</sup> You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

## B. The Church Did Not Replace Israel

Romans 11:1–4 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> I ask then: **Did God reject his people? By no means!** I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what the Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel: <sup>3</sup> "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me"? <sup>4</sup> And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

Galatians 3:26–29 (NIV®)

<sup>26</sup> You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> **If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.**

## C. We Stand Together

Ephesians 2:13–15 (NIV®)

<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For **he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,** <sup>15</sup> by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,

## III. What Should We Expect???

### A. He Watches Over Israel

Joel 3:16 (NIV®)

The Lord will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the Lord will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

Isaiah 44:3 (NIV®)

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

### B. A Response to the Nations

Joel 3:1–3 (NIV®)

<sup>1</sup> "In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land. <sup>3</sup> They cast lots for my people and traded boys for prostitutes; they sold girls for wine that they might drink.

Genesis 12:3 (NIV®)

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."