

Why Does Loving Israel & the Jewish People Matter?

Rabbi Troy Wallace | January 2, 2022

ISRAEL + JERUSALEM + ZION = 3390 OCCURRENCES.

An average of 3 times per page of the Bible.

Let this speak to your heart and not just your brain.

1. It is a matter of the Lord's heart

Exodus 4:22-23a (NKJV)

²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord: "Israel is My son, My firstborn. ²³ So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me.

Exodus 19:5-6a (NKJV)

⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. ⁶ And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'

When the Lord was sanctifying Israel, He had the salvation of the world in mind.

Jeremiah 31:3-4a (NKJV)

³ The Lord has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

⁴ Again I will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel!

Luke 19:41-42 (NKJV)

⁴¹ Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, ⁴² saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

Why does loving Israel & the Jewish people matter? Because it matters to the Lord's heart.

2. It is a matter of His servants' hearts

Isaiah 22:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Therefore I said, "Look away from me,

I will weep bitterly;

Do not labor to comfort me

Because of the plundering of the daughter of my people."

Luke 1:46, 49-50, 54-55 (NKJV)

⁴⁶ And Mary said:

“My soul magnifies the Lord...

⁴⁹ For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
And holy is His name.

⁵⁰ And His mercy is on those who fear Him
From generation to generation...

⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel,
In remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers,
To Abraham and to his seed forever.”

Romans 9:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, ² that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, ⁴ who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; ⁵ of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

The servants of the Lord – the prophets and apostles among them – saw themselves within the promises and history of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel and loved them deeply.

Why does loving Israel & the Jewish people matter? Because it matters to His servants' hearts.

3. But why does loving Israel & the Jewish people matter to me today?

Because we should have hearts like the Lord Himself and His servants as recorded in scripture

Because context matters

Our personal salvation & personal destiny in Jesus is not independent of or separate from the Lord's love for & covenants with Israel and the Jewish people.

The immediate context of almost every book of the Bible is something happening at a specific time related to the Jewish people and the Land of Israel even if written to a primarily Gentile audience.

Because of what is at stake

Romans 11:25-26 (ESV)

²⁵ Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,
“The Deliverer will come from Zion,
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob”

Wholeness of the Gentiles + Wholeness of Israel's Salvation = Hope of the Coming Deliverer