Are Foreigners Still Gentiles in the New Covenant?

This short article was originally written as a response to an email where the inquirer seemed to believe that the “Old” testament is for the Jews, but the “New” testament for the gentiles.

This is my response.

Concerning the “New” covenant it is written in Yerem’yahu (Jeremiah) 31:31,

31:31 “Behold, the days are coming says יְהוָה when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah.”

Note, the New covenant is not to the people of the nations (the gentiles) but to the tribes of Israel to the North, and to the tribes of Judah to the South.

This “New” covenant would be written on our minds, and be different than the one given at Mt. Sinai, and it would also be given for the remission of sins; verses 31:32-34. יְהוָה also says in verses 31:35-40 that we will remain a nation before Him forever.

The book of Hebrews echoes these same things in Evreem (Hebrews) 8:1-10:29, and showing that this law that is now easily written in our minds is all related to the Temple and its sacrifices which have now been replaced with Yeshua and His sacrifice.

Note, this is not about one law being for Jews, and the other for the people of the nations (the gentiles), but is about the New covenant given to our people for the remission of Torah violations (sins) that are past; Romans 3:25 through the blood provided through Yeshua’s death and resurrection given in place of the blood and sacrifices of animals.

But because the New covenant is no longer dependent on a centrally located Temple, the Torah, and the opportunity for the remission of violations against that Torah, could now be made available to the people of the nations living outside of the land of Israel.

As it is written in Ephesians 2:11-19,

2:11 Therefore remember, that you, once people of the nations (gentiles) in the flesh…
2:12 that at that time you were without Messiah, being foreigners from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope, and without hope in this world.

2:13 But now in the Messiah Yeshua, you who once were far off have now been made near by the blood of Messiah.

This shows that the foreigners from the nations were grafted into us, not we into them.

2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made us one, and has taken down the Soreg

[The wall that the leaders of the time had built on the Temple mount to separate the Jewish worshippers from the worshippers of the nations (the gentiles), it was a wall not commanded by Torah, but created by civil ordinance and oral tradition].

2:15 having abolished in His flesh the hostility created by the law of commandments contained in civil (manmade) ordinances, so as to create in Himself from the two (peoples), one new man, creating peace.

2:16 that He might reconcile them both to Elohim (God) in one body through the execution stake to put to death the hostility.

2:19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the set-apart ones, and members of the household of Elohim. Again, it is our covenant. They are all our covenants, and the only way to partake in those covenants is through becoming a fellow citizen and heir through Yeshua. As Yeshua said, “Salvation is of the Jews”.

Likewise, as a fellow citizen you abide by the same commandments that we abide by. It is not one set of rules for natural branches of the olive tree, and another set of rules for the grafted in branches.

The problem with the church is that it boasts against the natural branches and claims the “New” covenant as if it was theirs rather than ours.

It is the same with the Gospel. The church acts like the gospel is something introduced through “Christ”, but the Gospel has been here from the beginning, from B’resheet (Genesis) 3:15. This promise of a Messiah to redeem mankind from his fallen condition continued on through Abel, and Seth, Melchizadok and then to Avraham who also heard the Gospel and thought that Yit’zak (Isaac) was that Promised One when he offered up his only begotten son upon the altar, understanding that if Yit’zak (Isaac) was that Mashiach (Messiah) who was to come, that he would rise from the grave and bring redemption to man; Evreem (Hebrews) 11:17-19.

Likewise, Evreem (Hebrews) 4:2 confirms that the Gospel was also heard by our people when we came out of Egypt, but as verse 3:16-19 states, that the ones who fell in the wilderness were those who heard, but who did not combine their faith in what they heard with obedience; much like many of the believers of today.

Now Galatians says, it was because of the need to provide atonement for the sins of the nation
that the “1st” covenant, the “Old” covenant, had to be added in order to act as a tutor to lead us up to the time of Messiah’s arrival where the perfect priesthood covenant, renewed in His blood, could be instituted into the minds of men in place of in the geographically limited Temple of stone. Similar wording is used in Evreem (Hebrews) 9:12-15.

Likewise, מִיַּ said He would make Avraham a great nation; B’resheet (Genesis) 12:2, but then later says that He would also make him a company of nations; B’resheet (Genesis) 17:4, through Yit’zak (Isaac) and Yaaqov (Jacob) B’resheet (Genesis) 26:1-5; 35:9-12.

That nation is Israel with its 12 tribes, but never have we been a company of nations, this prophecy will not be fulfilled until the New Jerusalem of Revelation 21 comes down from heaven in the 8th Millennium from Adam after the Great White Throne Judgment is complete and sin and death done away.

At this time each of the 12 tribes will become its own individual nation, and as it says, it is these nations that are “saved” that will walk through the gates into the city - as it is written, “all Israel shall be saved”; and each of the 12 tribal nations that have been saved, including all the foreigners who have been grafted in; Yechezk’el (Ezekiel) 47:21-23; Romans 11:1-36, shall enter into the city through their own respective gates; Revelation 21:1-27.

There is indeed only one Gospel. Our version we can trace all the back to Adam, and all the way through all of our forefathers and through all of the covenants that were given to us, and what I have shared in this letter is the same gospel and doctrine that all of our forefathers practiced.

The only difference being that when Mashiach (the Messiah) finally arrived on the 4th Millennium from Adam, some of us received Him as that Promised Messiah to come, and some of us did not.

The ones who received Him discontinued the Temple based system of sacrifices for the remission of Torah violations (sins) past; Maaseh (Acts) 15:11; Galatians 3:24,25; Evreem (Hebrews) 8:13; 10:1, and the ones who rejected Him continued in the Temple sacrifices and excommunicated the rest of us who were not going along with the establishment. Everything else remained the same, and remains the same to this day.

I sense that you may be having a struggle with this, and understandably so, for it goes contrary to many of the things that you have been taught. But, no matter how great the Protestant theologian, most all have the following things in common, and that is a premise in their theology that assumes first, that the “Old” testament is for the Jews/Israelites, and the “New” covenant for the gentiles - and for any Jews/Israelites who want to convert to the “gentile” faith. Secondly, it assumes that Genesis through Malachi are no longer binding or relevant concerning Sheol (hell) and salvation.

With these two premises it is impossible to correctly interpret how to translate or apply the “New” covenant to one’s life.

Then to further complicate matters, the Greek manuscripts have not been preserved with anywhere near the precision and accuracy that the Hebrew manuscripts have been. The “Old” testament manuscripts were copied with such precision that every single letter was counted, and if one single letter was missing, it would be destroyed.
Not a single word could be copied from memory, and every time the name of יהושע had to be written, it is said that they would take a Mikvah (baptize themselves) and use a new ink pen that had never been used, and that had been created for the exclusive purpose of writing His name; and then disposed of it upon writing His name.

Every letter had to be perfectly written, no letter could be touching another letter. Every line, and every page had to end with the same word. Over 4000 rules had to be followed in order to produce a Scroll that was acceptable for use in the Temple or synagogue.

These inspired words of יהושע were so perfectly preserved that to this very day thousands of hidden codes lay beneath the surface of the text that cannot even be duplicated in their complexity by the supercomputers of today; and no other writings of any other religion, or famous person, contains any significant codes to even compare, including the Greek New Testament manuscripts.

So you must decide. Who has the true Gospel? Is it us, the Messianic Jewish and Messianic Israelite communities to who Yeshua Himself stated, “Salvation is of the Jews”? Or is it the Catholic/Protestant Church? Because as the Emissary Shaul (the Apostle Paul) said, if anyone teaches any other Gospel, let them be excommunicated. So who is it? For only one of us can be in the correct alignment with Yeshua’s statement.

The Messianic passage of יֵשׁוּעַ (Isaiah) 8:20 says that anyone who does not speak according to both the Torah of יהושע and of the Testimony of Yeshua, has no light in them.

 Revelation 12:17 and 14:12 state that the remnant of יהושע’s people are those who obey the commandments of יהושע and have the Testimony of Yeshua.

Malachi 4:4 says to remember the Torah given through Moshe before the Day of יהושע’s wrath, and יֵשׁוּע (Isaiah) 2:1-5 states that during the Millennial Kingdom that the Torah shall go forth from Mt. Zion.

Do these verses describe the church, or do they describe Messianic Jews and Israelites?

These things are just the tip of the iceberg of verses along these lines. I don’t even need to mention how יָאָבָד (James) 1:1 sent his letter out about 15 or so years after the resurrection to the “12 tribes scattered abroad”. Or how about 20 years or so later there were tens of thousands of Jews in Jerusalem who believed, who were also all zealous for the Torah. Or how about 30+ years after the resurrection when the Emissary Shaul (the Apostle Paul) stated all the way up to his time in Rome that he had never spoken a word against the Temple, or against the Torah, or against his people, or even against Caesar, but was being persecuted solely over his teaching of Yeshua’s death and resurrection; Ma‘aseh (Acts) 24:21; 25:8; 26:4-8; 28:16-20.

Or how Yeshua said that He came only for the lost sheep of the house of Israel, Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 10:6; 15:24. Or how He said that until heaven and earth pass not even the most minor detail of the law will under any circumstance pass away?; Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 5:17-19 or how those who call on His name, and even successfully perform miracles in His name, will be cast out of His presence for calling on His name without following the commandments of Torah?; Mattit’yahu (Matthew) 7:21-23.
There is just no end to the number of Scriptures I can go into.

In Luke 1:67-79 it is shown how Zechar'yah (Zechariah) clearly understood the coming of Yeshua to be the fulfillment of the covenant promised to us through Avraham, the covenant and promise of which would bring us a renewed knowledge of salvation for the remission of Torah violations (sins) for our people that are past.

It is over this same hope that the Emissary Shaul (the Apostle Paul) 30 years after the resurrection stated he was being condemned for, that is, for the promise made by ה' to our forefathers concerning the redemption of the 12 tribes of Israel and of our corresponding resurrection from the dead; Ma’aseh (Acts) 26:6-8. The resurrection of which is clearly portrayed in Yechez'el (Ezekiel) 37:1-28 at Yeshua’s return.

It is all to our people, and for our people, and to those grafted into us, that these promises were made and the covenants given, and the nations are grafted in only as a privilege, and as an act of mercy towards them by Adonai. But nowhere in Scripture is it taught that it is one covenant and one law for the foreigner (gentile), and another covenant and law for us.

The only option to salvation for the non-Israelite (the gentile) is to be grafted in to us through the blood of Messiah shed under the Brit Chadasha (under the “New Testament”); and once you are grafted in you are no longer a foreigner (a gentile), but a fellow citizen and heir - and as a fellow citizen and heir you are bound to the same terms in the covenant as any other citizen and heir of Israel.