THE DIVINE DIVIDE

GENTILES

HEBREWS

Upon the Lord's choice of Abraham the world was divided into two people groups

Hebrews = those who were chosen to serve God

<u>Gentiles</u> = those who would oppose God
Goyim = gentile nations

THE PROMISE

 Abrahamic Covenant was NOT conditional
No "If....Then"

The Promise consisted of God offering a kingdom to Israel and a means for gentiles to join that kingdom

The plan was vague, no explanation of how or when it would happen

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

BATTLING the spirit of Amalek

- > 1st Samuel 15 God orders Saul to destroy Amalek
- Amalek is the epitome of the gentile nations
- Perhaps a metaphor for Satan
- Amalek attacked Israel immediately following their redemption from Israel
- Attacked at the rear, against the weakest and most vulnerable
- Israel had done NOTHING to Amalek
- WHY did Amalek hate Israel? Because THEY EXISTED!!
- Fully parallel with re-birth of Israel after WWII



HEBREWS BORN W/ OUT THE SPIRIT OF AMALEK

- > 1) Hebrews born as God's set-apart people
- > 2) Redeemed from Egypt
- Hebrews are NOT born relieved of the original sin!
- Torah observance dependent on trusting God
- Messiah is at the core of Torah

To dismiss Messiah is to dismiss the Torah

RABBIS SAY 456 OT PASSAGES POINT TO MESSIAH

- The ONLY hope for gentiles is the same as the ONLY hope for Hebrews...Yeshua
- Hebrews begin life from an advantageous position
- Rom.2:25 "For circumcision is indeed of value <u>IF</u> you do what Torah says..."
- Rom. 3:1 "Then what advantage has the Jew? MUCH IN EVERY WAY..."





HOW DISADVANTAGED ARE GENTILES?



> Rom. 3:9 "So are we Jews better off? Not entirely....all people, Jews and Gentiles alike, are controlled by sin" Rom 11:16 "...if you a wild olive were grafted-in among them and have become EQUAL sharers in the rich root....then don't boast....the root is supporting YOU.."



THE NATURE OF OBEDIENCE

King Saul INSISTED that even though he didn't obey every detail, he DID obey

3 questions posed last week for modern application: The issues of tithing, symbols, and observing holidays

Is partial obedience OBEDIENCE, or is it DISOBEDIENCE ?

1ST SAMUEL 15: 13 – end KING SAUL'S SELF-DEFENSE

- King Saul says he was afraid of the people
- Samuel rebukes him by saying in vs. 22, "Does Adonai take as much pleasure in.. sacrifices ... as in obeying ...?"
- This passage does NOT suggest that the Torah is defective, ineffective, or obsolete
- One cannot intentionally disobey God, and at the same time perform a ritual to atone
- "No ceremonial can make up for a rebellious attitude to God and His commandments"



A SACRIFICE IS ONLY TO PAY FOR DISOBEDIENCE



> The idea is **NOT TO SIN** in the first place, so that an innocent animal doesn't have to die If there is no sin, there is no need for sacrifice > Rom. 6:1 "So then, are we to say, Let's keep on sinning so that there can be more grace?" > Heb. 10:26 " if we .. continue to sin....there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.." 'Olah and Zevah = the greatest and the least of sacrifices

Matt. 5:17 "Don't think I've come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets....."

- Samuel is NOT saying that the sacrificial system was obsolete or useless
- Yeshua made it clear that the Torah and the Law continued to exist
- Yeshua's advent did NOT change God's expectation of His followers to be obedient to His commands







SELF-WILL IS IDOLATRY

ALL sin reduces to essentially sorcery or idolatry
Mark 12:28 *"Shema Israel....love Adonai your God with all your heart..."*

- The foundation of all good is to love God.
- The foundation of all evil is idolatry.

In refusing the destroy Agag, and in keeping some of the spoils, King Saul committed the sin of idolatry

THE VERDICT: PARTIAL OBEDIENCE IS DISOBEDIENCE

- King Sha'ul admits his sin, but still blames it on the people he governs
- Proverbs 29:25 "Fearing human beings is a snare; but he who trusts in Adonai will be raised high...."
- David Tsumura: "In Biblical principle, democracy contradicts theocracy"
- Voting is fine as long as it's a vote of preferences and not of divine moral imperatives

