



ROMANS Part 101

Chapter 11:1-5

The remnant located.

I am saying, then, Does not God thrust away His people? May it not be coming to that! For I also am an Israelite, out of Abraham’s seed, Benjamin’s tribe. 2 God does not thrust away His people whom He foreknew. Or have you not perceived in Elijah what the scripture is saying, as he is pleading with God against Israel? 3 Lord, Thy prophets they kill, Thine altars they dig down, and I was left alone, and they are seeking my soul. 4 But what is that which apprises saying to him? I left for Myself seven thousand men who do not bow the knee to the image of Baal. 5 Thus, then, in the current era also, there has come to be a remnant according to the choice of grace.

After reading Part 100 of the Romans Series (*The People of the Current Era*; Volume 5, Iss. 36; see link below), an astute reader of the ZWTF sent me a wildly appropriate September 9, 2016 article from *Breaking Israel News* (see link below), titled, “More Christians Striving to Live ‘Biblically-Oriented Lives.” The article is by a woman named Dr. Rivkah Lambert Adler. According to the website:

Breaking Israel News offers news from Israel from an Orthodox Jewish perspective to both Jewish and Christian readers. We encourage open dialogue and welcome respectful questions. However, since we are an Orthodox

Jewish site, our content is meant to stay focused on our shared heritage of the Hebrew Bible, and not Christian Scripture.

Concerning the author:

Dr. Rivkah Lambert Adler is a Bible and Prophecy Watch reporter on *Breaking Israel News*. She made aliyah in 2010 from Baltimore, where her husband served as a synagogue rabbi. Rivkah currently lives in Ma’ale Adumim, just east of Jerusalem. On September 11, 2001, she became passionate about the Land of Israel and the Final Redemption, about which she has been writing, speaking and teaching ever since. Rivkah also enjoys writing about women and Judaism and about making aliyah. She has a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

I think this article offers practical evidence of my theological contention that a believing Circumcision remnant must exist today, in 2016, as God Himself offers up the remnant—in Romans chapter 11—as proof that He has not cast away His people. —MZ

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“And Hashem shall be King over all the earth; in that day shall Hashem be One and His name one.” Zechariah 14:9 (The Israel Bible™)

When Christians seek to live, as best they can, according to the Torah, how should Jewish people react? And does it have any implications for the ultimate redemption?

This inspiring new phenomenon is found today all over the globe. In Aqaba, Jordan, a community of approximately 70 non-Jews is striving to live a Bible-oriented life. Like thousands of Christians around the world, members of this community believe, based on



DNA evidence and family name searches among other things, that they are the physical descendants of the residents of the Northern Kingdom who were exiled from Israel by the Assyrians in the 8th century BCE.

There is no official name for the movement of which the 70 people in Aqaba are part. They are variously called Ephraimites, Ten Tribers, Hebrew Roots, B'ney Yosef, or Torah-observant gentiles.

One thing is certain. They know that they are not Jews.

Valerie Parham, who has been living in Aqaba since 2005, told *Breaking Israel News* that the members of her community “love Israel, love the people, love keeping Torah as we can understand it. We personally feel much more affinity with Judaism than Christianity.” At the same time, converting to Judaism is not a goal.

Why are they living in Jordan? “We believe that Jordan is part of the greater Promised Land and that is part of the reason our Father made this place for us,” Parham said. “Our single greatest pleasure in being able to be here has to do with the fact that we can afford to go up to Jerusalem for the pilgrimage feasts. We have been there for all the [Biblical pilgrimage festivals] for 11 years now.”

Though many of them would like to live in Israel, Parham acknowledged, “We can’t make aliyah (become

citizens of Israel) because, for one thing, we won’t give up our personally held belief that Yeshua (Jesus) is the Messiah.”

The Jordanian community is not the only group of non-Jews seeking to grow closer to their Jewish roots. America is host to a significant number of such communities. Rabbi Jeremy Gimpel and Rabbi Ari Abramowitz, co-hosts of *Israel Inspired on the Land of Israel* radio Network, recorded a show last week about their experiences in America interacting with members of this community. During the show, Gimpel spoke about “The soul connection that I felt with these people that are not Jewish, that are living in a Biblical rhythm, that are living by the Torah to the best of their ability.”

Most Jews have no idea that there are gentiles who live what Hanoch Young, an Israeli tour guide and informal Jewish liaison to this group, calls a “Biblically-oriented lifestyle.”

Young told *Breaking Israel News*, “The focus in dealing with people like these, whom I believe are our lost brothers and sisters, is to build a relationship with each other – getting to know each other as people, not as representatives of some ideological or theological positions. We need to focus on those things we have in common, rather than those points that could potentially divide us.

According to Young, that commonality is Israel. “We

need to help connect them to the Land of Israel (which is why I became a tour guide, by the way), because it is here, in Israel, that all of our people will return to – and what we pray for on a daily basis. The way to form relationships with people in this movement is only through mutual respect.”

Abramowitz spoke to *Breaking Israel News* about the connection between the Jewish people and those Christians who are pursuing a Torah lifestyle. “Historically Jews have tried to stay away from too many interfaith encounters... But times are different. We have now returned to our homeland and we are no longer at the mercy and whims of the nations around us. And as we return home, there are spiritual tectonic shifts of historic magnitude happening both within the Jewish people as well as the world around us.

“One of the most shocking and curious of these shifts is happening within Christianity, as hundreds of thousands of Christians around the world are connecting to the Jewish roots of their faith, keeping many of the Biblical holidays, Torah commandments, and Jewish rituals.”

Abramowitz addressed Jewish criticism of the movement. “While many Jews write off this phenomenon as a duplicitous Christian strategy to blur the lines between our two faiths in order to accomplish their age old goal of converting us all to Christianity, I have encountered too many Christians who are thirsty, even parched, to learn Torah from the Jewish people, to dismiss this spiritual movement in one fell swoop,” he said.

Are non-Jews reaching out to learn about the Torah from Jews a fulfillment of Biblical prophecy? Zechariah speaks about a time, in the End of Days, when ten non-Jews will grab ahold of the garment of a Jew and ask to be taken along

Parham said, “We would love to continue to develop loving relationships with our brothers in the Land and need to be taught the things we still do not know. We welcome teaching... We are so happy to see that the walls are coming down so that we can have discussions now, those without fear of each other. We would love to welcome any rabbi that wanted, to come and join us down here to teach us. We haven’t found one to agree.”

Are non-Jews pursuing a Torah-based lifestyle while

maintaining a belief in Jesus a reflection of the Messianic process? Hanoch Young thinks so. He asked *Breaking Israel News*, “What greater sign of the impending *geula* (redemption) than thousands of people across the world embracing the Torah?” —*Rivkah Lambert Adler*

Martin, your Romans series has blessed us incredibly. Father has gifted you with the ability to put into words things that might not be totally new, but become amazingly fresh and pertinent. Your article, “People of the Current Era” slipped into place several pieces of the “puzzle” of the picture of these last days. Having been brought up on a full-course diet of evangelical/fundamental eschatology (my dad was a GARBC missionary, for crying out loud), I have found your illumination of the Israelite remnant among us to be extremely fascinating, resonating with the truths that we have come to see about the present era we find ourselves in. After reading Sunday’s article, what happened yesterday was especially cool.

Another couple and my husband and I went to the top of Mt. Mitchell, NC for a Labor Day getaway. And what should we find atop the lookout—a 360 degree view of the Blue Ridge Mountains—but a young man blowing a shofar! He and his two companions (a middle aged couple) were obeying the voice of the Lord to them, as Messianic Jews, to blow the trumpet, calling for national repentance, and to dispel the evil spirits overtaking America. The two men were Jewish Christians, the woman a convert. Of course, we talked to them, and the lady was very excited about her calling from God—Whose voice she heard audibly, she said—to declare the soon return of Messiah and the setting up of the Kingdom. Needless to say, when she quoted Ezekiel from the very same passage you had cited in the article Sunday, I got a case of goose bumps...not sure from whence, but it came anyway. She was so eager that we should know the Messiah/Savior. I guess we listened to her for about ten minutes before we could break away. As we left, I felt we had been given a visual illustration of what your articles had been teaching. We assured her that we, too, were excited about the coming Kingdom...just didn’t go into any specifics about where we would be while they were frolicking in Jerusalem. She was so single-minded that I don’t think she could have heard anything we might have said about the “celestials” and being “snatched away” before all that!

Just wanted to share that story, since it was clearly a confirmation in my mind of all that you have been teaching us. Hang in there, Brother. You are the voice of the Lord to us out here in the wilderness. He could shout in 5 minutes.....

Your sister, JS