

# **Preface**

## **God's Plan for One New Man!**

God has a plan! Whether you are Jewish or Christian, you are intended to be part of God's family and part of His plan to create "one new man."<sup>1</sup> So, what is one new man, what does it have to do with your religious faith, and why should you care? It is the plan of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to create a family for Himself out of people who believe in Him and are willing to obey Him. It has everything to do with what you believe about God, and you should care because God holds your eternal destiny in His hands.

In the days of Moses, the world was divided into two categories: the Jewish people, who worshipped a single, invisible God, and the Gentiles, encompassing the rest of the population of the earth. Gentiles worshipped many gods, but they were strangers to the one true living God. God found faith and obedience in a man named Abram, so He changed his name to Abraham, and his wife's name to Sarah. At the age of ninety, Sarah gave birth to Isaac, a miracle in itself considering her age. Isaac was the son God promised to Abraham, and Isaac became the father of Jacob. Jacob was devoted to God, and received a blessing from his father Isaac, then a promise from God similar to the one given to Abraham. God promised to multiply the descendents of Jacob's twelve sons, the twelve tribes of Jewish people, because of the original faith and obedience God found in Abraham. If you are Jewish, then, you are the apple of God's eye, and a core building block in His family picture. But God did not simply throw away the rest of humanity -- that is not His plan.

What if you're a Christian? How do you fit into God's family if you're not a descendent of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? As a Christian, it is your faith in Jesus, or Yeshua, that makes you part of God's family even though you may not have Jewish ancestry. This is where the controversy arises. The majority of Jewish people reject the claim of Jesus being the Son of God, and the claim that He was resurrected on the third day after the Crucifixion. To Christians, these claims are the very core of their religious belief system, so the two groups appear to be diametrically opposed to one another. Even so, it is important for Christians to understand that the Jewish people are very important to God, and a very important part of His family. Jesus was Jewish, and His stated mission was to reach out to the Jewish people, not Gentiles. Jesus always went to the synagogues first to teach – that was His mission. This is why there is no room for anti-Semitism in Christianity, because the very roots of Christianity trace back to an outreach by Jesus to the Jewish people. According to the New Testament, Jesus commissioned Paul to reach the Gentiles after his conversion to Christianity.<sup>2</sup> And Paul made it very clear that there was no class distinction between Jewish and non-Jewish believers in Jesus, that circumcision did not make one a "better" Christian. But, the blessing of Abraham, and the message of deliverance did come to the Jewish people first, even with Paul, then to the rest of the world. Christians are therefore a vital part of the family of God, and key to reaching out to the entire world with God's message of deliverance.

What if you aren't Jewish or a Christian? God has an invitation for you as well to become part of His family. Maybe you don't believe there is a God, or you're just not sure. Well, how do think we all came to be here?

Evolutionists would have you believe that millions of years ago, some proteins just accidentally formed and joined together to create a life form that, given enough time, evolved into all the plant and animal life on earth, including mankind. That belief takes a lot of faith, because humans are far more complex than any machine made by man. So, to believe in evolution, you would also have to believe that if some iron ore rocks fell from a mountain and struck each other enough times, eventually they would accidentally form, say, a set of pistons for an automobile engine. Then, with enough time, some piston rings, cylinder heads, a camshaft, crankshaft, and an automatic transmission would form, along with a frame, steering column, brakes, and wheels, and all of these parts would accidentally assemble themselves into a car, given enough time. Now, if it seems ridiculous to you that a machine as complicated as an automobile with an engine, transmission, steering system, braking system, and all the electrical wiring, could be formed accidentally by rocks hitting each other, even over a million years, then how ridiculous is it to think that your body and brain which are far more intricate and complex could just be accidentally formed without an intelligent Creator doing the forming? Personally, I just can't believe that a car or a television set or anything else will just pop up out of the collision of some rocks, even if they collide a billion times over a million years of time. Neither can I believe that human beings just evolved over time from the "accidental" creation of life.

Maybe you think aliens planted us here on earth. Well, who created the aliens? You see, the question "who created them?" keeps repeating until you arrive at the original Creator who simply exists. The true Creator was not created by anything else, He simply is, and He created everything else in the universe,

including you. That's why His name is recorded in the Scriptures as "I AM." That name says it all, no one created Him, He exists without beginning or ending, like a circle, and He loves you as part of His creation. You have a place in His family if you choose to take it.

God has a plan for the three primary groups of people reading this book: 1) Jewish people, (other than Messianic believers), who likely believe that Jesus was a blasphemer by claiming to be God, 2) Christians, including Messianic Jewish people, who believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that He is part of a Trinity representing God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and 3) the undecided, who may not believe in God or just aren't sure what they believe about God and Jesus. For lack of a better term, I'll refer to the last group as Gentiles, even though some non-observant Jewish people may fall into that category as well. God's plan is to bring all of you together in one family, so that you are all at peace with God and with each other. Rather than being labeled as Jewish, Gentile, or Christian, you will be known in your new eternal life as sons and daughters of God, and your residence will be in the presence of God in the New Jerusalem. By bringing you into this family, God creates "one new man" with whom He can have fellowship and relationship. The labels go away, and we become children and servants of the one true living God.

What's the catch? How do you get into this wonderful family? First, you must believe that God exists, and that He created everything, and understand that He loves you, unconditionally. Then, you need to accept His Messiah and His good news that your salvation is at hand. If you continue to read, you will see evidence that God has placed in Jewish symbols, evidence identifying the Messiah. Then, there are three messages, one to each of the groups that may be

reading these words. It is my prayer to God that you will persevere and review the evidence presented here, even if you disagree with the conclusions, and keep an open mind. Admission to God's family is through forgiveness. In order to form you into "one new man," grudges must be replaced with forgiveness, and hatred must be replaced with love. God will help you see this truth and carry it out in your own life. Just ask Him. Hear the words of the prophet Jeremiah, telling us what God says: "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."<sup>3</sup>

There are key symbols of the Jewish faith that reveal God's plan to those whose eyes, hearts, and minds are open. The Star of David contains God's plan for His "one new man" family, and it clearly identifies the Messiah. The menorah is a picture of how God would accomplish His plan of reconciliation and create this new family. The chapters that follow will challenge traditional beliefs, but never the Word of God. The Scriptures are the final authority, and the basis for understanding God's plan for us, His plan to remove all barriers and create "one new man."<sup>4</sup>

1. Eph. 2:15 – (NIV, New International Version) – direct quotation
2. Act. 9:15, 14:47, Isa. 49:6
3. Jer. 33:3 (NIV) – direct quotation
4. Eph. 2:15 – (NIV) – direct quotation

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