

Unit 10: Witnessing to the Jew

Unit Introduction

In Unit 10 we will explore the task of witnessing to a Jewish person. If you have some background of the Jewish history, and know how to approach the issue of the Messiah, it can make this seemingly daunting task a whole lot easier and enjoyable.

Many times Christians are afraid to witness to Jewish people. But they are no different than us; they are sinners in need of a Messiah, a Saviour, and the greatest thing you can do for them is to show them that Messiah has already come and paid for their sins. They do not have to continue to wait for Him.

We will start out with a brief look at the heritage of the Jew, and then look at some of the different kinds of Jewish people. We will then look at passages of Scripture to use in sharing Jesus with them. Finally, we will cover some fulfilled prophecies of Messiah that you can use to show them that it is Jesus whom they've waiting for so long.

Unit 10: Witnessing to the Jew

Lesson 23: Witnessing to the Jew Part 1

Lesson 24: Witnessing to the Jew Part 2

Lesson 25: Isaiah 53

Lesson 26: Proofs of the Bible

Lesson 23: Witnessing to the Jew Part 1

Lesson Introduction

In this lesson, we will begin the first of three parts titled “Witnessing to the Jew”. We will look at some of the fundamentals of the Jewish heritage, some phrases to avoid using, and finish this lesson with a look at how to witness to the group of Jewish people known as Orthodox Jews.

Lesson 23: Witnessing to the Jew Part 1

Topic 1: Introduction

Topic 2: A Heritage to Embrace

Not All Gentiles Are Christians

Loving Our Messiah’s People

Topic 3: Considerations in Witnessing

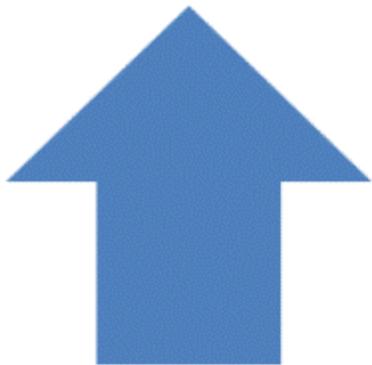
All are Guilty of Messiah’s Death

A Prophesied Rejection

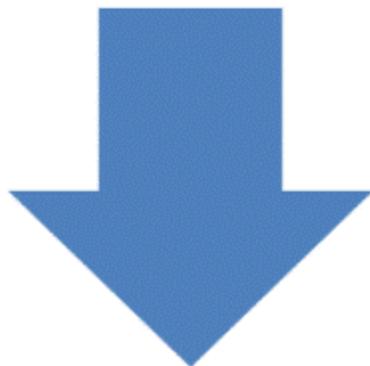
Topic 4 The Orthodox Jew

A Delicate Issue

Topic 1: Introduction



**Bless Israel,
be blessed**



**Curse Israel,
be cursed**

As a group, they are often mocked. As a race, they have been the target of extermination attempts. But as a

people and nation, they have been chosen and loved by God. God promised that He would make them a nation as numerous as the sands of the seashore, and that He would be their God, and they would be His people.

In this lesson we will look at the heritage of the Jewish person and how we as Christians should treat the Jew. We will see that any nation or people who mistreats the Jews will not be blessed by God.

God said, anybody that blesses Israel I will bless them. That is about the only reason, that you can explain that this country is still being great, it is the Jews. And we have to support to Jew. If you are acquainted with Jews, and I'm sure most of you are, we know that statehood in 1948, the Jews became a nation against all odds. All the Arab neighbors were coming and they were going to wipe them off the face of the earth. But God said no the Jews are going to be in Israel, and they are going to be my people and I'm going to call them back. You heard me talk about Zvi and his son, he was on a ship and they have a custom on the ship that they have to interview with the captain. He said Captain, I might as well tell you this because you're going to hear it, and I would rather you hear it from me, I am a Jew, I am proud of being a Jew, I am an Israeli and I am proud of being an Israeli, but I am also a Christian. And he said I just want to tell you how that came about so you will hear it from me. So he goes and gives the Gospel to the captain, and the captain was so impressed he said, I want you to give this to the whole ship. There is something a move, that we haven't seen for years. Because the Jews know that the greatest friends they have is the evangelical Christians. The ones that are supporting Israel across America are the evangelical Christians.

QUESTION 1

God has promised to bless those who bless Israel. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 2

In the face of overwhelming odds, the Jews once again became a nation in _____ .

- A. 1967
- B. 1945
- C. 1948
- D. 1973

QUESTION 3

The Bible prophesied that the Jews would be back in the Land. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 4

The Jews know that the greatest friend they have is the _____ .

- A. United Nations
- B. United States
- C. Evangelical Christians
- D. Labor Unions

QUESTION 5

The only reason America is still great is because she has stood by Israel. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Topic 2: A Heritage to Embrace



When the unsaved world looks at the Jewish people, most of the time they see a people to be despised. But as

Christians, we know that the heritage of a Jewish person is one to be treasured. They are a people chosen and loved by God. God has promised them that they will have the land of Israel as their inheritance. While as a nation they have been guilty of rejecting God, that simply makes them no different than the rest of mankind (Isaiah 53:6).

Just as an English person can never stop being an English person, and a Spanish person can never stop being a Spanish person, so a Jew can never stop being a Jew. This is a very important truth to emphasize when witnessing; many times they will be afraid that you are trying to make them stop being a Jew.

In this lesson we will deal with some of the Jewish heritage, as well as some important facts to emphasize to the Jewish person.

When you are witnessing to a Jewish person, I always start out with this: you know if I were Jewish I would be so proud of it, and they kind of look at you startled. But I really mean that, I really wish I was Jewish. But you know that will just loosen up the Jew more than anything else. They might be a little bit surprised about that, and say well why would you feel that way? Well because my Messiah was Jewish, and boy this just seems good. Don't get nervous if you are witnessing to a Jew, I don't know why it is, but Gentiles just start shaking when they are witnessing to a Jew. And when you do that you just lose out, they pick it up immediately, and there is no reason. Why would you be nervous any more than when you're witnessing to Jewish person, but people do. I just don't think you should do that. It is usually beneficial to explain that most people equate a Christian with a Gentile, and that is just not true. You see a Gentile is anybody that is not Jewish, and explain to them that every Gentile is not a Christian. Now a Jew is a Jew from birth, and I know there would be a few that would argue that, not many, most people, everybody would argue that a Jew is a Jew from birth. And that is how they choose the Jews that come into Israel. It is his ancestor. A person can never stop being Jewish. You can never stop being Jewish

never. You're born a Jew, you will die a Jew. If he later becomes whatever, he could become a Catholic, a Baptist, a Methodist, etc., he is still a Jew. And I think it is very important that that person understands that. Of course we want to see him be born again. His beliefs cannot change his physical birth. If they could do that, then Hitler would not have had any way to go against the Jews. Even though, Hitler was part Jewish himself. And he went to destroy every Jew. But now more than a Gentile being anyone that is not a Jew, we do have to explain to them that every Gentile is not a Christian. And I think it is very important for people to understand. A Christian is a Christian from birth. Now I've listed some of these verses, if you will look at your verses, it says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily verily I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." So you got to explain that a Christian is one by birth, the new birth. First Peter 1:23, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever." We are born again, and that is what makes a person a Christian. John 1:12 and 13, "But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. Which were born, not of blood, or the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." But of God. And we need to explain that.

QUESTION 6

Being Jewish is something a person should be proud of. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 7

It is OK to be extra nervous when witnessing to a Jewish person. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 8

Never emphasize that not all Gentiles are Christians. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 9

A Christian is a Christian by (the second) birth, just as a Jew is a Jew by birth. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Loving Our Messiah's People

A good Christian loves the Jews. The true Christian knows that Messiah was a Jew. There are people that literally hate the Jewish people. Now I know for some of us that's hard for us to fathom, because we've not lived around people that would hate to Jewish people. Listen I know, not anybody in this church, but I know relatives of people in this church that hates the Jews. They hate anything that is Jewish. That doesn't mean, now we ought to love them, that doesn't mean that every Jewish person is lovely, neither is every Gentile person lovely, as a matter of fact the majority of Gentiles are not very lovely. You know a Christian has to look beyond individual's personal characteristics, and I think we know to do that, and I hope we do that. A good question to ask the Jew, and I think a real good question, is do you believe your Bible? And if you ask them do you believe your Bible, I think a lot of them, a lot of times they'll say yes. Even though they are not Orthodox most of them will say they believe their Bible, for the Bible does teach in the Old Testament that Jesus Christ was the Messiah. And we're going to look at that in the following weeks. Be sure to mention that there is only one God, and that he is the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. If you want to say music beautiful to the Jewish ear, you say I believe in the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob, and I do believe in the God of Abraham Isaac and Jacob. They will love you to say that. Look at Deuteronomy 6:4, "O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord." In the Hebrew language,

according to the Hebrew book of tradition, the Zoah, the words in this verse actually say, although there is one God, God is also a Trinity. And most of the Jews, if you will use this Deuteronomy 6:4 would understand that. There is one God, but God is also a Trinity. One God in three persons

Assignment:

Memorize Deuteronomy 6:4

QUESTION 10

A true Christian knows that His Messiah was a Gentile. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 11

A Christian has to look beyond an individual's _____.

- A. Personality
- B. Characteristics
- C. Faults
- D. Assets

QUESTION 12

It is not good to ask a Jewish person if he believes his Bible, since this will put them on the defensive. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 13

When witnessing to a Jew, be sure to mention that there is only one God, and He is the God of *(Select all that apply.)* Answer: _____

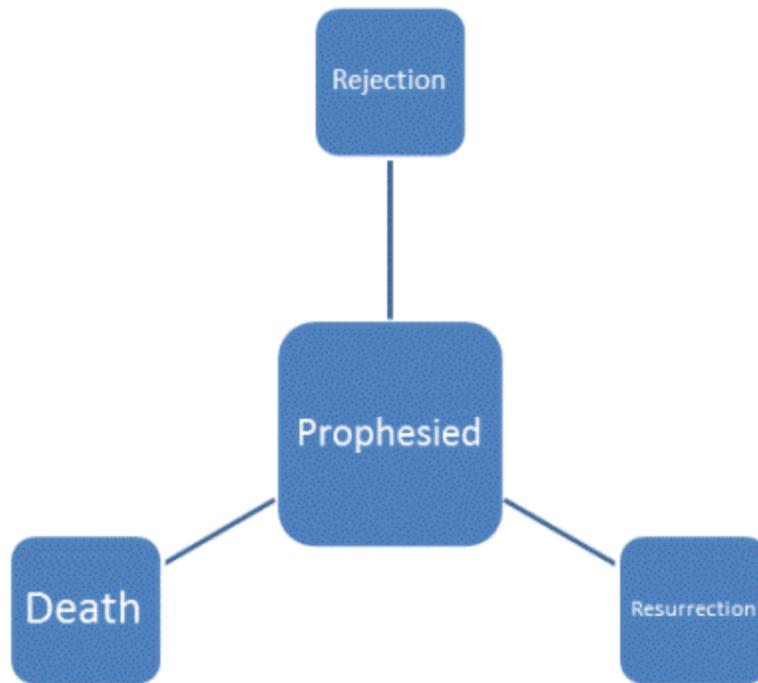
- A. Isaac
- B. Jacob
- C. Moses
- D. Lot
- E. Abraham
- F. David

QUESTION 14

The Bible does teach in the Old Testament that Jesus Christ was the Messiah. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Topic 3: Considerations in Witnessing



In previous lessons on witnessing, we have talked about getting favorable attention. We saw that it's not always

is a good thing to just walk up to someone and ask if they know where they would go if they died. Getting favorable attention is being considerate of a person. After all, the last thing we want to do is embarrass them or make them angry.

When witnessing to a Jewish person, there are a few other things to take into consideration as well. Too often the Jews as a nation have been maligned with terrible designations, and we want to avoid any hint of that. In this topic we will look at some special considerations to keep in mind when witnessing to a Jewish person.

All Are Guilty

Now the Jewish person may fear that you are trying to convert him. Reassure him that if he accepts Christ as the Messiah, he's still a Jew, but a Jew that has his sins paid for. They don't have to give up their nationality. If someone said, well to be a Christian you have to quit being American, no you don't quit being American because you are a Christian. You don't quit being whatever nationality you are because you are a Christian. Another good thing to share to the Jewish people is, all that we know from the Bible we owe to the Jews. All we know from our Bible, I should say almost all we know, almost totally written by the Jews. Another thing in witnessing to the Jews, is to point out that Abraham was a Gentile. Abraham was not a Jew, because God at that point had the Jews. Isn't that an amazing thing, that Abraham was a Gentile, the father of the Jews? Israel is a chosen race, God chose Israel as a nation through the Messiah, through which the Messiah would come. Make it clear that Jews were not Christ killers. So many, they think that we feel like they were Christ killers. The Jews were not Christ killers, and I think we need to make that very, very clear to them. In John 10:18, "No man takes it from me but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. This commandment have I received of my father." So let them know that you don't believe that they were Christ killers, the Jews killed Christ, the Gentiles to Christ, the Roman government killed Christ, but

Christ gave his life. You might mention that all the first Christians were Jewish. Boy that's a good one. And that is true isn't it? All the first Christians were Jewish. And they were surprised, you know, when God allowed the Gentiles to be saved. They were very surprised. So I think that is something important to point out. And by the way, in many Jewish things that they have now, came right from the early Christians that were Jewish.

QUESTION 15

The Jewish person may fear that you are trying to _____ him.

QUESTION 16

Reassure him that if he accepts Christ as Messiah, he is still a _____, but one who has his sins paid for.

- A. Jew
- B. Convert
- C. Gentile
- D. Sinner

QUESTION 17

Almost all that we know from our Bible, we owe to the Gentiles. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 18

The Jews and the Romans both took Jesus' life from Him. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 19

The very first Christians were _____.

- A. Gentiles
- B. Greeks
- C. Jews
- D. Romans

A Prophesied Rejection

Another point is that percentagewise, there are as many Jews that know the Christ as Messiah today, as there are Gentiles, probably more so. You know David Ben-Gurion wasn't a Christian, but he said this, the founder of Israel, he says, David Ben-Gurion, the great Jewish statesmen, you know he was everything to the Jewish people, and he made the statement, "Surely these are the days of the Messiah, and if you listen closely you can hear his footsteps." Point out to the Jew that in the Bible it talks about two comings of Christ. If you will look at first Peter 1:10 and 11, "Of which salvation the prophets had inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you, searching what or what matter of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when he testified before hand the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow." It prophesied that Jesus was going to come. What a tremendous thing that is. He first must suffer. In Luke 17:24, "For as the lightning, that lightning out under the one part of heaven shineth onto the other part under heaven, so also shall the Son of Man be

in his day, but first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation." He had to suffer, he had to die, because he wanted to save us.

QUESTION 20

It is helpful to point out that the Bible talks about _____ coming(s) of Christ.

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 7

QUESTION 21

Jesus Himself prophesied that He would be rejected and suffer. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Topic 4: The Orthodox Jew (Introduction)

The Orthodox Jew is one who usually is easily recognized by their dark clothing, prayer shawl, and head covering.

ng. They are devout Jews who are still awaiting Messiahs return. In Jerusalem, they can be found praying at the Western Wall, praying for Messiah to come.

But in their zeal for God, they do not know that they have missed Messiah. In Romans 10:1, Paul spoke of them having a zeal for God but not according to knowledge. Like Paul, our hearts desire and prayer for them should be that they would see that Jesus is Messiah, and that they can be saved from their sins.

In this topic we will see how God wants us to have a burden for the Orthodox Jew to be able to see past his tradition and rituals and look to the Messiah Who was slain for the sins of the world.

Topic 4: The Orthodox Jew

Now there are several kinds of Jews. The Orthodox Jew, and they are looking for Messiah to come, but they missed the Messiah. I believe that's where the 144,000 Jews are going to come from. You know my heart really goes out for the Orthodox Jews, and I want them to be saved, and I want to love them. I want you to have a love for the Jews, I want us to think about what the apostle Paul, and how his heart just was breaking. Look at Romans 10:1 through four, it says, "Brethren, my hearts desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." Now listen to this, "For I bear the record that they have the zeal of God but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For that Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth." They are ignorant of God's righteousness; in going about to establish their own righteousness have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. Listen the Bible tells us that our righteousness is nothing but filthy rags, and that is why that will just not work. You know Jesus told the Pharisees, and by the way they were the religious Jews, and he told them in very strong language, if if you look at Mark 7:6, it says "He answered and said unto them, well has Elias prophesied of you, you hypocrites, as it is written, the people honor me with their lips but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of man. For laying aside the commandment of God, you do hold the traditions of man. As the washing of pots and cups, and many other like things you do, and he said unto them, full well do ye reject the commandments of God, that you may keep your own tradition." You know why so many people don't get saved today? Because they want to save their own tradition, and it doesn't work. You know back in the Old Testament we see where people neglected their people. Jeremiah 10: 21, "For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought..." that word pastor means the shepherds, of the people, the pastor is a shepherd, "...they have become brutish and not sought the Lord. Therefore they shall not prosper and their flocks shall be scattered." You see God gives us pastors to keep us from scattering, to keep us what he wants, and no there is no perfect pastor and there never will be, but these were some that had purely gone away from God. And God did not want them to do this. Look at Jeremiah 23:1, "Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scattered the sheep of my pasture, saith the Lord." Boy I tell you that is pretty strong and we've got to be able to see that. People follow traditions, they don't follow the things of Christ. People in America today would say, Listen I don't want to hear what you're saying about Jesus paying for all sins, they say my tradition tells me that I have got to work my way to heaven. It is my tradition and it is beautiful. Listen, the Jews tradition was beautiful too, but how beautiful is anything that takes away from what Jesus did, when Jesus died on the cross?

Assignment:

Memorize Romans 10:1-2

QUESTION 22

The Orthodox Jew believes that Messiah has already come. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 24

Many people refuse to trust Christ because of their "beautiful traditions." *True or False?*

Answer: _____

A Delicate Issue

Well many times you will have trouble winning a Jew, or an Orthodox Jew, or anybody to Christ and here is one of the troubles you're going to have. They're going to say, well if I trust Christ then my relatives are in hell. Then you say well if your relatives are in heaven, they would want you to go there. If your relatives are in hell, they would not be so cruel to want you to come there. It is a very delicate issue, but something that we have to deal with. There are some people that say, look if I can go where my husband or my wife went, listen as sad as it is to say, Hell is, it's a fire, it's a total darkness, and it's sad. No one is going to be visiting people. We showed Luke, the parable of the rich man and Lazarus, it's not a parable should say because it names names but Luke 16:27, "Then he said I pray thee therefore father, that thou wouldst send him to my father's house, for I have five brethren, that he might testify unto them lest they also come into this place of torment." I would use that in witnessing to the Jews.

QUESTION 25

Sometimes people will refuse to trust Christ, because if they do it means that their relatives are in hell. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 26

No relative would be so cruel as to want you to join them in Hell. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 27

We must gently, but urgently, warn them that hell is fire and darkness, and no one will be visiting with their relatives. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

LESSON 23 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: True [He also promises to curse those who curse Israel.]

QUESTION 2

C. 1948

QUESTION 3: True [No other people have lost their land for so long to come back later as a nation.]

QUESTION 4

C. Evangelical Christians [Generally speaking, the ones supporting Israel across America are the Evangelical Christians.]

QUESTION 5: True [God promised to bless those who support Israel.]

QUESTION 6: True [Our Messiah Himself was Jewish.]

QUESTION 7: False [You will lose out if you get extra nervous; they are just like other people.]

QUESTION 8: False [It is beneficial to explain this because most Jews equate a Gentile with a Christian.]

QUESTION 9: True [John 3:3 “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”]

QUESTION 10: False [Jesus was a Jew, and we should love them.]

QUESTION 11

B. Characteristics [There are unlovely people in every group and race, just as there are lovely people in every group and race.]

QUESTION 12: False [If asked, most Jews will say they believe their Bible.]

QUESTION 13

A. Isaac

B. Jacob

E. Abraham

QUESTION 14: True

QUESTION 15: convert

QUESTION 16

A. Jew

QUESTION 17: False [The Bible was almost totally written by the Jews.]

QUESTION 18: False [Jesus Himself said, “No man takes it from me but I lay it down of myself...(John10:18)”]

QUESTION 19

C. Jews

QUESTION 20

B. 2

QUESTION 21: True [Luke 17:24 “...but first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.”]

QUESTION 22: False [The Orthodox Jews are still watching for Him to come.]

QUESTION 24: True [No tradition can be “beautiful” if it takes away from what Jesus did on the cross.]

QUESTION 25: True

QUESTION 26: True [These types of situations must be handled extremely delicately.]

QUESTION 27: True [Luke 16:27 is a good verse to show people who feel this way.]