

Miguel Christopher

Professor Garcia

THE 444

February 14, 2023

RESPONSE 3, HOPE FOR ISRAEL'S PRESENT AND FUTURE

There is a temple of restoration for present Israel and future Israel. This temple that will not be made with human hands is the blessed hope, a sure stone, the chief cornerstone. The book of Enoch 28-29 quotes a text, “and I stood up to see till they folded up the old house, and they carried it off and laid it in a place in the south of the land, and I saw till the Lord brought a new house, greater and loftier than the first which had been folded up. This text has a very familiar narrative when you look at it at a closer glance, you begin to decipher the similarities between the old covenant and the new covenant. The author of the Enoch text has no complaints against the old temple but, he nevertheless hopes for a better, God-made temple at the end of days; this shows that the eventual removal of the actual old temple and the supernatural replacement with the new temple, is not a negative attitude towards the old temple, but simply is in the hope for a more established and foundationally firm future.

Mathew 5:17” do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. In Mark 14:24, Jesus says “this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many. The eternal hope of Israel and for all humanity, the new temple, the word that became flesh, not of the seed of Adam (man) but, of the seed of the Spirit of the most high God. The new temple, the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29).

The vision of the ideal temple at the end of days, arose in earlier times when the Jews returning from the Babylonian exile felt the difference between the old temple house and the real splendors of the Solomonic temple. In John 2:19-21 Jesus answered and said unto them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days but, he spoke of the temple of his body. The Prophets of old even predicted the destruction of the old temple, as a fitting punishment for the sins committed in it. One of these Prophets of destruction was Jesus. In Matthew 21:13; Jesus said, “he said to them, the scriptures declare, my temple will be called a house of prayer but, you have turned it into a den of thieves”. The hope of Israel’s present and future is the resurrection of Jesus. The new temple, the resurrection of Jesus’s body can never again be desecrated. The new temple is a temple of eternal holiness, not made by the hands of man and not able to be contaminated by man’s sins. The new temple is the only eternal hope for all humanity.