



Israel and the Church Are One Family

(March 9, 2015)

The other day, as I was praying with my wife, Consuelo, the Lord gave me this wonderful revelation regarding the younger son in the parable of the prodigal son.

Who is that younger son that Jesus is referring to in the Word of God? We read this passage from Luke 15:13-24:

13. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. 14. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. 17. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18. I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19. And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. 20. And he arose, and came to his father.

But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. 21. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23. And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

The younger son is the Church that once was lost but now is found.

Who is the older son in the parable? The old son on the other hand can be seen as the natural descendants of Abraham, Israel.

We are both part of the same family, the family of the God of Israel!

The Word of God says that the Lord, through the Church, stirs up jealousy in the hearts of Israel, just like in the parable.

Through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles (the nations), for to provoke them to jealousy (Israel).
(Romans 11:11)

The older son (Israel) was jealous thinking that he deserved his blessings because of his righteous living according to the Law, **while the younger son received his forgiveness from his sins and righteousness by grace, through faith.**
(Ephesians 2:8)

We know that God is an absolutely loving Father. If only one natural group of people (Israel) were chosen by Him, then he would be a respecter of persons, which the Bible says that he is not--"**God is not a respecter of persons**" Acts 10:34-- but in order to reach all the world he had to start somewhere, and so he started with Abraham.

We have no control over where we were born or what "ethnos" or gender we are of, **but God still loves us all equally and wants to receive us all into his family.**

The Word says that there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

We are all in the same family!

In Roman's 1:16, Paul states by the Spirit of God: "**For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.**"

Again, same family!

The Jew comes first just like the firstborn that was dedicated to the Lord, but then comes the Greek also, meaning the rest of the world.

We are all special to the Father, and our Father is perfectly fair. The Jew has nothing to brag about and neither does the believer, **for we are all saved by grace through faith (in Yeshua) and it is not from ourselves, but it is the gift of God, not by works so no man can boast. Ephesians 2:8**

-Roger Wågsjö