

#### Karl Barth



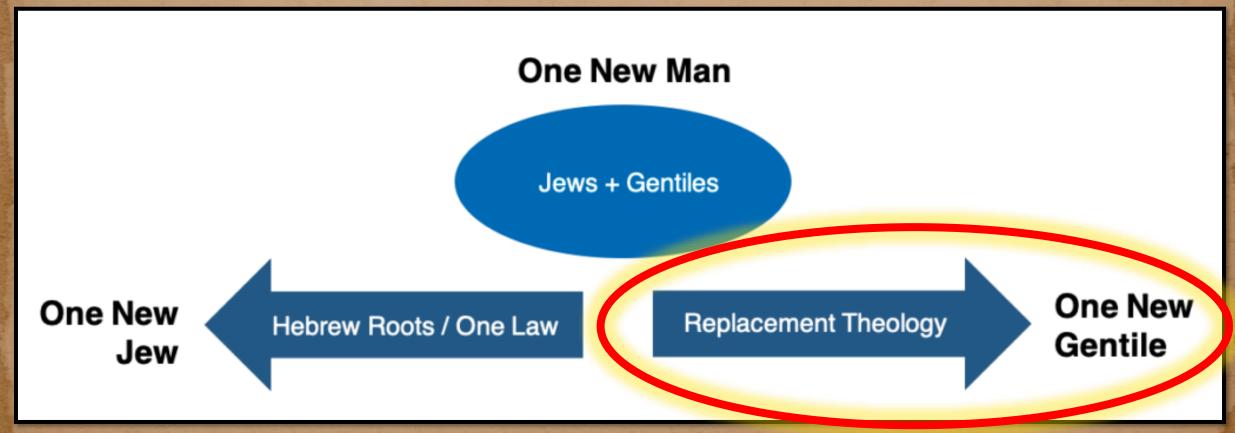
One of the most important theologians of the 20th century, the respected Karl Barth, is credited with the following quote:

"The question that most determines the future of the Church and how it operates will be determined by its relationship with Israel."

#### Supersessionism & Replacement Theology



EPHESIANS 2: His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility



Dr. David Rudolph, The King's University

#### Christian Antisemitism/Anti-Israelism



The marriage between replacement theology and antisemitism IS AS OLD AS THE CHURCH ITSELF AND IT IS AGAIN MAINSTREAM IN PUBLIC DISCOURSE!!!!

It is now manifested not only in theological replacement, but often in the form of antizionism

Antisemitism Is Alive & Well In Both The Unchurched World & The Church



#### Replacement Theology:

The idea that <u>Christians</u> have replaced <u>Jews</u> as God's people.



Replacement Theology:
The idea that <u>Christianity</u> has replaced <u>Judaism</u>.



Replacement Theology:

Christian interpretation of the Bible replaces

JEWISH INTERPRETATION



#### Replacement Theology

Transforms the gospels from Jewish stories about the Jewish Messiah interacting with the Jewish people...into Christian stories about the Christian Savior arguing against the Jewish people about the Jewish religion.

It was no longer Yeshua the Jewish Messiah proclaiming the message to repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand...instead, it became Jesus the religious revolutionary demanding mankind to leave paganism and the Jews to leave the old religion and join the new one.

## Who Teaches Replacement Theology?



## The 2 Major World Religions:

- 1. The Christian Church
- The Roman Confession
- The Eastern Confession
- All 36,000 Protestant Denominations
  - 2. The Muslim Ummah Shia & Sunni Islam





#### The Real Question:

What transformed the Hebraic community (ekklesia) of the disciples (talmidim) of Yeshua that existed at the end of the book of Acts to where the Church is today?



The historical timeline: 32 – 135 CE

The transition from the first generation of believers in the Jewish Messiah with a Hebraic focus, Jerusalem centered, Jewish expression of faith in the God of Israel

TO

A generation of believers who rejected the former and transformed it into a Greek focused, Rome centered, Gentile expression of faith in a God who looked and acted nothing like the God of Israel



The historical timeline: 32 – 135 AD

- The original struggle among Messianic believers was how to integrate the growing gentile population of believers into the Jewish Messianic expression of faith, and whether it required gentiles to become ethnically Jewish the answer according to Acts 15 was no
- This is in direct opposition to the progressive tenet that developed in the new gentile-centric church, which said that Jews must refute their ethnic and covenantal commitment to Judaism to become true "Christians"



Gentile believers were influenced by Marcion (ca 85-160 CE), who preached that the Hebrew bible, the story of the Hebrew God who was a demiurge (lesser God), inferior to Jesus who represented another God, the true ruler of the universe. Marcion developed the first "Christian" canon ("bible"). Even though he was eventually excommunicated, the influence he had of a cataclysmic distinction between the old "God" (testament) and the new "God" remained.



Valentinus of Rome (ca 100-180 AD) — Another popular gnostic who nearly became a "bishop" in the fledgling Christian church, blended Platonic and Christian world views into a theology that completely removed the Jewish foundation, creating an ascetic syncretism that ultimately become a competitor to mainstream Christian teaching and rejected by later Church fathers, but influenced its eventual ideology significantly through the idea of Christianity being something completely distinct from Judaism

#### The Evolution of Replacement Theology



- The Jews were still around...how could that be explained?
- The Jews still believed in God, but not in Jesus, God's new representative.
- Abraham started the process. He was replaced by Moses, who was in turn replaced by Jesus.
- The Jews had rejected their Messiah...so the fact that they missed it must be explained by a clear difference between what they believe and what the new religion believes.
- Therefore, the new religion preserves Judaism but recreates it into a negative religious expression to be replaced by the new, which is the positive, new, and better religious expression.
- Rather than being the continued and ongoing story of God, Christianity became the new story that "replaced" or "superseded" the old one.



- 1. "Economic Supersessionism"
  - Israel's role as the people of God was meant to be temporary and is now obsolete
- 2. "Punitive Supersessionism"
  - Israel not only missed the Messiah, they killed Him, and deserve judgment and suffering



After the Gnostics tried to sever Christianity completely from its Jewish roots, the early church sought a way to keep Israel's God and Scriptures while claiming superiority over the Jewish people. In this second installment, we meet the architects of replacement theology—Justin Martyr, Melito of Sardis, and Tertullian—whose ideas shaped the "true Israel" doctrine and turned prophetic rebuke into a theological weapon.

The legalistic rules of the OT were never meant to be followed forever but ONLY as a teacher to instruct us that another covenant will come to supersede the legalistic covenant



#### Justin Martyr

- Pagan convert
- One of the first to clearly articulate supersessionist theology
- "Dialogue with Trypho the Jew" argued against a Jewish community leader from the Hebrew scriptures that Christians are the true heirs to the promises of God and the Jews are no longer God's chosen
- Economic supersessionism Judaism was a preparatory stage for Christianity
- He was the first to make the statement, Christians are "The New Israel" – and that God always had this in mind



- Justin Martyr
- Judaism is a tragically obsolete religion
- His arguments were primarily theological and economic (salvific)
- But he laid the groundwork for punitive supersessionism and antiwemitism by stating that circumcision was not just the sign of the Abrahamic covenant, it was meant by God to be the mark so that Jews can be identified for a people who must suffer punishment, be separated from the nations and from Christians for the sin of rejecting Jesus...ethnic supersessionism



How did things go from anti-Judaism to pure and unadulterated racial and violent anti-Semitism?

It wasn't just that the Jews killed Jesus, they killed "GOD" – and that was the lynchpin that converted theological anti-Judaism into racial and ethnic anti-Semitism, which deserved punishment.



#### Melito of Sardis

- He developed Justin's argument further and fused economic with punitive supersessionism
- The cross made the entire Sinai covenant void and the Jews obsolete
- Moreover, the Jews are cursed because God has been murdered, the King of Israel slain by Israel's own hand



- Tertullian of Carthage
- Was the first to write in Latin
- He composed "The Answer To The Jews"
  - Christianity's interpretation of the Hebrew bible is superior to the Jewish interpretation
  - Physical circumcision was initiated as a sign for a stubborn people, where spiritual circumcision was for the obedient Christian
  - The Sabbath was meant to be temporary, and Christianity transforms the promises of the law into spiritual fulfillment of the new covenant



- Ignatius of Antioch (ca 50-117 AD) Taught that those who partake of the Passover are partakers with those who killed Jesus.
- Irenaeus (ca 130-202 AD) Declared the Jews were disinherited from the grace of God.
- Origen (185-254 AD) —Was responsible for much anti-Semitism, all of which was based on his assertion that the Jews were responsible for the murder of God.



The Council of Nicea (325 AD in Anatolia)

- Prohibited Christians from sharing a meal with a Jew, marrying a Jew, blessing a Jew or observing the Sabbath
- It changed the celebration of the Resurrection from the Jewish Feast of First Fruits to Easter for the purpose of disassociating Christian holy days from Jewish feasts
- The Council stated: "For it is unbecoming beyond measure that on this holiest of festivals we should follow the customs of the Jews. Henceforth let us have nothing in common with this odious people...



The Council of Nicea (325 AD in Anatolia)

- It decided that "the Sunday a week after the Sunday after Passover would be the official date of the Resurrection, and that all celebrating on Passover would be considered anathema."
- This is when the Quartodeciman persecution began.

  ["Quartodeciman" is Latin for "fourteeners" and it referred to those that celebrated Passover on 14 Nisan]



- Eusebius (ca 275-339 AD) Taught that the promises of Scripture were meant for the Gentiles, and the curses were meant for the Jews. He asserted that the Church was the "true Israel"
- Hilary of Poitiers (AD 291-371) wrote: "Jews are a perverse people accursed by God forever."
  - Gregory of Nyssa (died AD 394), Bishop of Cappadocia wrote: "the Jews are a brood of vipers, haters of goodness..."
  - Jerome (AD 347-407) describes the Jews as "serpents, wearing the image of Judas, their psalms and prayers are the braying of donkeys."



Augustine (354-430 AD) — Asserted that the Jews deserved death but were destined to wander the earth to witness the victory of the Church over the synagogue.

During the Middle Ages, Passion plays abounded and they were used to cultivate hatred toward the Jewish people.

In 1478, Pope Sixtus IV granted the monarchs of Spain, Ferdinand and Isabella, the right to establish a special inquisition in Spain to deal with baptized Jews who were suspected of remaining faithful to Judaism. Thousands were burned at the stake by order of the Spanish Inquisition.

In 1492, King Ferdinand decided that all Spanish Jews should be banned from Spain. It was feared that Jews were a danger to Christianity. Approximately 150,000 Jews were forced to leave Spain.

## Martin Luther (1483 – 1546)



"For such ruthless wrath of God is sufficient evidence that they, the Jewish people, assuredly have erred and gone astray. Even a child can comprehend this. For one dare not regard God as so cruel that he would punish his own people so long, so terrible, so unmercifully ... Therefore, this work of wrath is proof that the Jews, surely rejected by God, are no longer his people, and neither is he any longer their God"

From "On the Jews and Their Lies"



Doesn't the "Old Testament" and even Moses himself support the premise that the Jews are cursed and rejected by God?

#### Deuteronomy 29



(26) They went and served other gods, prostrating themselves before them, gods they had not known and which he had not assigned them. 26 (27) For this reason, the anger of Adonai blazed up against this land and brought upon it every curse written in this book; 27 (28) and Adonai, in anger, fury and incensed with indignation, uprooted them from their land and threw them out into another land — as it is today.'

#### Questions



Didn't the prophets and Jesus Himself judge the Jews for their disobedience and idolatry?

Wasn't curses pronounced by the prophets and Jesus on the Jews by God for their disobedience and idolatry?

#### Isaiah 2



1 The word of Adonai came to me: 2 "Go and shout in the ears of Yerushalayim that this is what Adonai says: 'I remember your devotion when you were young; how, as a bride, you loved me; how you followed me through the desert, through a land not sown. 3 "Isra'el is set aside for Adonai, the firstfruits of his harvest; all who devour him will incur guilt; evil will befall them," says Adonai. 4 Hear the word of Adonai, house of Ya'akov and all families in the house of Isra'el; 5 here is what Adonai says: "What did your ancestors find wrong with me to make them go so far away from me, to make them go after nothings and become themselves nothings?

#### Matthew 23



37 "Yerushalayim! Yerushalayim! You kill the prophets! You stone those who are sent to you! How often I wanted to gather your children, just as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, but you refused! 38 Look! God is abandoning your house to you, leaving it desolate. 39 For I tell you, from now on, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of Adonai."



# Doesn't the "New Testament" support the premise that the Jews are the murderers of God?

#### Acts 2



22 "Men of Isra'el! Listen to this! Yeshua from Natzeret was a man demonstrated to you to have been from God by the powerful works, miracles and signs that God performed through him in your presence. You yourselves know this. 23 This man was arrested in accordance with God's predetermined plan and foreknowledge; and, through the agency of persons not bound by the Torah, you nailed him up on a stake and killed him!

24 "But God has raised him up and freed him from the suffering of death; it was impossible that death could keep its hold on him.



Doesn't Paul support the premise that the Jews are no longer the people of God?

#### Romans 2



28 For the real Jew is not merely Jewish outwardly: true circumcision is not only external and physical. 29 On the contrary, the real Jew is one inwardly; and true circumcision is of the heart, spiritual not literal; so that his praise comes not from other people but from God.

#### Romans 11



7 What follows is that Isra'el has not attained the goal for which she is striving. The ones chosen have obtained it, but the rest have been made stonelike, 8 just as the Tanakh says, "God has given them a spirit of dullness — eyes that do not see and ears that do not hear, right down to the present day." 9 And David says, "Let their dining table become for them a snare and a trap, a pitfall and a punishment. 10 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they can't see, with their backs bent continually."

## [Mis]Understanding Paul



#### Acts 21

20 On hearing it, they praised God; but they also said to him, "You see, brother, how many tens of thousands of believers there are among the Judeans, and they are all zealots for the Torah. 21 Now what they have been told about you is that you are teaching all the Jews living among the Goyim to apostatize from Moshe, telling them not to have a b'rit-milah for their sons and not to follow the traditions.

Is This Accusation True or False? Why Was Paul Accused Of This?

#### [Mis]Understanding Paul



#### Romans 3

20 For in his sight no one alive will be considered righteous on the ground of legalistic observance of Torah commands, because what Torah really does is show people how sinful they are. 21 But now, quite apart from Torah, God's way of making people righteous in his sight has been made clear — although the Torah and the Prophets give their witness to it as well — 22 and it is a righteousness that comes from God, through the faithfulness of Yeshua the Messiah, to all who continue trusting.

## Didn't Paul Teach That The Torah Was Abolished And No Longer Relevant?

#### Summary Of History – God's View



- Major rebellions rejecting God's plans and purposes have come since the Garden of Eden
- God identified a chosen tribe in the face of rebellion to implement His plan of redemption
- The descendants of Abraham, through Isaac & Israel were chosen through which to implement His plan
- Yeshua, the Jewish King Messiah Son of Abraham is, has always been and will forever be the central focus through which the plan of redemption is implemented
- God never changes and the calling upon the descendants of Abraham is irrevocable

#### Summary Of History – God's View



- The chronic rebellion of Abraham's descendants has been met with intentional consequences, but will never abrogate their chosen status
- The ultimate rebellion of those that have been graced with the opportunity of adoption and grafted into the Abrahamic tree is to reject the root of the tree
- The penance for that rebellion will come about through a remnant of the adopted showing definitive mercy to the descendants of the original tree, helping to lead them to their promised redemption
  - God's ultimate plan of redemption will conclude with both the original and grafted in branches uniting under the Jewish Messiah King the Lion of the Tribe of Judah upon His return as one redeemed body

#### The Blessing & Burden of The Chosen



#### The Blessing

You and I have been graced with being chosen – to be a holy priesthood under the banner of Yeshua, the Jewish King Messiah

#### The Burden

We have been given the burden of being a light to our brothers and sisters in Messiah to reverse their rebellion, understand their true adopted root, and take on the calling of showing mercy to the descendants of Abraham and to the rebellious nations as well

#### Obadiah 1



11 On that day you stood aside, while strangers carried off his treasure, and foreigners entered his gates to cast lots for Yerushalayim you were no different from them. 12 You shouldn't have gloated over your kinsman on their day of disaster or rejoiced over the people of Y'hudah on their day of destruction. You shouldn't have spoken arrogantly on a day of trouble

#### Obadiah 1



15 For the Day of Adonai is near for all nations; as you did, it will be done to you; your dealings will come back on your own head.

"The prophet's message is clear: We cannot stand by and do nothing when God's people, your 'brothers,' are attacked – physically or verbally. If we do, God sees us as complicit in the attack."

Sandra & Kerry Teplinsky