I. **Battle for Israel = Battle for Truth**

A. **Identity**

1. Israel is *never* a synonym for the church
2. Israel is frequently a *type* of the church
   a. “Israel” or “Israelite” 74 times in New Testament—never a synonym for the church
   b. Nine times direct quote from Old Testament—but meaning never changed
   c. Restrictive use of word “Israel” twice:
      (1) Romans 9:6–8 (but contrast Rom. 9:3–5)
      (2) Galatians 6:16
   d. Restrictive use of word “Jew” twice in Romans 2:28–29 (compare John 1:47)
   e. “Jew” used in its normal sense in New Testament about 200 times
   f. “Israel” used to *distinguish* from the church in Romans 11:7, 11–14, 25–26

B. **Destiny**

1. Based on God’s election—a stumbling block (Rom. 9:10–18)
2. Only a remnant—based on election (Rom. 9:27–29 [Rom. 11:5–7]) but which will become *all Israel* (Rom. 11:25–26)
4. Specifically, the *covenant* of the *land* (Ps. 105:8–11 [compare Acts 17:26, NIV])
5. It took the *Holocaust* to get the Jews back to their land—will God deal less severely with other nations?
6. In *blessing* and in *judgment*, always the Jew *first*—then the *other nations* (Rom. 2:6–10)
1. God’s covenants and promises to Israel are sure
2. Title deed of land of Canaan (Ps. 105:7–11)
3. God has a plan for each national group (Acts 17:26)
4. God deals with nations according to their deeds (Rom. 2:6–10). Always the Jew first.

C. Church
1. Same principles of election and grace apply to the church (John 15:16 [Rom. 8:29–30; 1 Pet. 1:2; Eph. 1:3–6, 11–12; 2:8–10])
2. Church also a remnant (Luke 13:23–28 [compare Matt. 7:21; 24:8–13; Rom. 11:17–22])

D. How shall we respond?
1. Focus on and obey God’s Word (Heb. 10:35)
   a. Jubilant praise (Jer. 31:7 [compare Ps. 8:2; 2 Chron. 20:20–24])
   b. Proclaim (Jer. 31:10; Ps. 125:3; Phil. 2:9–11)
   c. Pray (compare 1 Chron. 17:23; Luke 1:38 [based on Ps. 102:13–18])
2. Beware of distractions (Neh. 6:1–4)

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