

Judeo-Christianity

This term is used today to show the connection of two religions. Like any such term it means what you think it means.

If Judeo is an adjective in the term, then it modifies Christianity, giving it a Jewish meaning. But, then we might ask what is Christianity without Judaism?

We may think of 'race' when we should think of 'religion'. Jews are a race of people with a religion identified with the people since the time of Moses. Christianity, on the other hand, only has a religious meaning since it does not relate to circumcision and Zionism.

Christianity began with Jews by Jews so it had racial and religious connections as long as it was identified with Judaism in circumcision. But, Christianity soon broke away from the Judeo-Covenant of Circumcision and began to identify itself with the Jesus-Covenant of Uncircumcision with every family of mankind.

It is difficult to refer to a person as a Jew without identifying both his race and religion. We may refer to one as a Christian which only identifies his religion. Christianity lost it's Jewish identity in the first century of the Common Era. It became a religion of it's own for all people of every race when it discontinued circumcision and subjection to the Mosaic Covenant.

How we understand *Judeo-Christian* determines how we understand both Judaism and Christianity since both find their origin in Genesis.

Genesis was a scroll written by Moses to show Israelites that God was keeping a promise made to Abraham when he rescued them from Egypt to give them the land where the Patriarchs had lived. Paul, however, found another promise altogether: in Abram apart from the patriarchs of circumcision. This promise related to every family of mankind with the difference being rescue from death in Adam to gain life from and with God where the messiah abides.

When the scrolls of Moses and the Prophets were combined, in Codex form by Christians in 350 A.D., they became books bound into a Bible giving meaning *to* each other and deriving meaning *from* each other.

The Christian Epistles are placed in the Codex format with the life of The Messiah located between the Jews' religion and the Christians' religion. This gives the impression of a literary connection and relationship which does not exist in the literature itself.

The rulers of the Jews' religion sent Paul to arrest Jewish Christians, wreaking havoc on the sect with the rules of stoning via Moses, regarding heresy. Paul later

joined the sect and used his knowledge of Jewish law to justify the sect as consistent with the Torah.

Paul discovered the blessing for every tongue and tribe from the loins of Abram long before Moses cut a covenant with God that blessed the circumcised descendants of the Patriarchs. This means that the Messiah-seed in Abram did not bear fruit in Hagar, Sarah, or Keturah...but in a daughter of Abraham through Jacob and David. This brings Messiah into the world by and *through* the Jews but not *from* the Jews.

Christians, today, tend to think their religion has it's source in Judaism. And when a Jew, today, becomes a Christian they will often refer to themselves as a *completed* Jew. This is an erroneous perception.

Those who are faithful to Judaism today see no such connection between these two religions. Rather, they believe Christianity hijacked their faith by making Jesus to be the Jewish Messiah.

Judaism is the religion of the Old Testament while Christianity is the religion of the New Testament. Judeo-Christianity is seen by most to be the bridge between them when it is not.

I will seek to show in this paper that no such bridge exist. Nor, is the New Covenant a completion in any way, or from something lacking, in the Old Covenant.

When Christians speak of Judeo-Christian, they generally mean culture, life style, and American. They automatically connect the two religions as being from the same source – one developing from the other.

When Jews hear the term Judeo-Christian (though most will not use the term) they will not agree with the *Christian* meaning since this term carries a diversity of meanings for everyone today.

Consider what Judeo-Christian meant 2,000 years ago when it began. This will enable us to see how Christians were able to find their religion in the Jewish scrolls, without being Jews or practicing Judaism.

This is important to Christian faith because this faith is found in the Jewish Bible. But, Jews cannot find their faith in Christianity unless they believe that Jesus is really The Christ.

In other words, Judaism has had a profound effect upon Christianity. But the new Christian religion had no effect upon the ancient religion of Judaism, as did the Jews who practiced it.

Bible Religion and Faith

It is easy to see how any foundation can support whatever is built upon it (be it good or bad). But if the foundation is destroyed so is all that depends upon it; whether good or evil.

There was a drastic change in both Judaism and Christianity in the first century, but it was due to each

concerning their own internal affairs and not due to each other.

Judaism lost the Temple in 70 A.D. which ended priestly Judaism with all of its blood sacrifices, sabbaths and Holy Days. Rabbinical Judaism preserved the ancient religion for the Jewish people and continues to do so until the present day.

Christianity lost its Jewish roots with the passing of the Christian Apostles and the discontinuation of circumcision which had made all Christians subject to Judaism. This ended the Judeo-Christian era and began a Christianity independent of Judaism which continues until the present.

This transition from one religion to another obviously affected Christianity because it was the only religion in transition. Judaism was never in transition until the priesthood ended in 70 A.D. ,some 40 years after Christianity began.

Christianity began with Jews faithful to Judaism and it was not in transition until circumcision ended. In other words, there never was a transition from Judaism-to-Christianity; only from Jewish Christianity to non-Jewish Christianity. It was a transition of faith within the same religion; not from Judaism to Christianity. Not from faith in one religion to faith in another religion. But, from faith to faith. Or *from* believing that Jesus is a man like Moses (the King of the Jews) *to* believing that Jesus has saved all men from eternal death in Adam and cut a new covenant with God for both Jews and Gentiles.

We tend to think of the Apostle's activity and message as Christian, but it was not called Christian until it went to non-Jews. This caused the first crises of faith and practice for the sect. Christianity became the term for non-Jewish faith and practice and is still used today for the religion of over a billion people.

Judeo-Christianity faded out with the apostolic generation when Jewish Christians ceased to circumcise their children. Judeo-Christianity resulted when Jews, who believed in Jesus as The Christ, went to their fellow Jews with that evangelistic (Gospel) message. It came to an end when all evangelism was directed to non-Jews and the Christian Gospel ceased to be declared to the Jewish remnant of the Diaspora.

The first Christians were all Jews who believed that they had witnessed Messianic benefits for all Israel. Therefore, they went to Jews only with this good news expecting the soon return of Messiah to establish His throne in Jerusalem and reign over His Kingdom like David of old.

When Messiah did not return (and most of the Apostles had been killed) this gospel message ceased to be relevant, thus losing the power of persuasion among the Jews. It was replaced by the Gospel of

Uncircumcision which was rooted and grounded in Abraham before circumcision was required for covenant blessing.

Christians Jews were soon to discover that what they had witnessed was indeed Messianic (Christian) and not Jewish. What they had believed to be for the circumcision only, they now discovered was Messianic benefits for all the families of earth with the Jew being first.

Judeo-Christians were soon assimilated into uncircumcised Gentile Christianity which later was called Catholic because it was a universal non-Jewish movement. Saul of Tarsus became a Judeo-Christian and the first person to deny any and all benefits of circumcision under the Mosaic Covenant.

Paul became the teacher of the Gentiles with his Gospel of Uncircumcision which he applied to himself as well as other Judeo-Christians. When you remove circumcision from the religion (and covenant) that Moses gave Israel in 1200 B.C., you completely destroy that religion, along with the traditions of Judaism which prevailed in the first century.

As a result of Paul's discovery, people can now convert from one religion to another without damage to either religion. People may be in transition without their religion being in transition. Paul is taking Judaism out of Christianity for the Judeo-Christian as well as taking paganism out of Gentile Christianity. The Gospel of Uncircumcision has no affect upon Judaism unless believed and accepted in which case Judaism completely fades out of Christianity.

The Pentecostal Jews who believed that Jesus was their Messiah did not see themselves in transition. Nor, did the rulers of the Jews religion perceive the belief as a new faith rather than a sect of Judaism.

Neither Jesus, or His Christian Apostles, ever saw themselves with faith in any religion but Judaism, and we can see why. They never taught anyone to abandon their faith in God or the Jewish religion. Jesus spoke of a Kingdom coming which the Apostles confirmed as having come with the Holy Ghost. All of this was predicted (prophesied) by Moses and the Prophets. Therefore, it is Jewish and belongs to the Jewish religion of Judaism.

Judaism ended in the Christian faith when uncircumcised Gentiles joined the believers. But it continued in the Jews religion with circumcision.

The Pentecostal Jewish believers were Christians and none ever denied faith in Mosaic Judaism until Paul. These Jewish believers represent the original church and are the people that we identify as Judeo-Christians.

This is the religion which began when Jesus' Disciples sought to keep alive the Messianic movement of a dead Messiah. The Disciples were all Jews who had

followed the Galilean Rabbi believing Him to be the long awaited King of the Jews. They never saw themselves as changing their religion in any way. They continued in all aspects of Judaism, loyal and faithful to Moses and the Prophets. They were rejected by family and friends and persecuted by the Jewish authorities. No one saw the movement as a new religion, they saw it as a sect of heretics.

The temple authorities began to deal harshly with the sect, driving them out of Jerusalem and destroying their common lifestyle. The sect had no message for non-Jews for many years. They were told by Jesus to go only to the Jews with the Gospel of Circumcision.

The synagogue Jews in Diaspora accepted the sect in fellowship being curious about the faith. But, the Temple authorities increased the persecution to those in Jerusalem, even bringing back some of the scattered believers for trial and death.

That conflict was not between two religions or two faiths; it was faith dealing with heresy. It would be like Christianity burning Christians in the Middle Ages; it was a problem of internal affairs.

There have been changes in Judaism since its origin, although very little. Christianity, on the other hand, has changed due to the varying worship practices and different lifestyles and faiths operating under its name – to a point that they could be called different religions.

Judaism

Judaism began with Moses as a religion of faith and practice for the Israelites in the promised land. Centuries later the fallen tribe of Judah sought to keep the religion alive in Babylonian Diaspora, with hope of returning one day to the promised land. This resulted in all Israelites being called Jews and the religion bearing the name Judaism.

Temple worship was restored by the priest until the temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D. This ended the period of priestly Judaism and began Rabbinical Judaism, which still exists today.

There are three distinct periods for the people today who call themselves Jews, and the religion associated with them. First, they are the Hebrew people, then Israelites, and then Jews.

The Hebrew people descend from Abraham and monotheism. The Israelites are descendants of Jacob who's name was Israel. The Jews are descendants of the Tribe of Judah where God chose the Davidic line of Kings.

All Jews are Israelites and all Israelites are Hebrews. But, all Hebrew people are not Israelites, nor are all Israelites Jews.

Israelites did not possess or practice the religion now called Judaism until it was given to them by Moses at Mt. Sinai. The religion was given to a people *but it related to a land*.

The Diaspora left the people without the land which drastically changed the practice of their religion.

Moses had given the Israelites both God and the land. Now, the diaspora has neither and their religion must adapt to life without God and the promised land. They have no King nor the land, but a remnant returns to rebuild the Temple and restore the Priesthood.

It was Priestly Judaism which ruled the Temple worship in the days of Jesus and early Christianity. The only Jewish Kings were the Herodians which ruled the Jewish people for the Romans who occupied the land.

To claim to be the Christ (Messiah) of the Jews was not an offense to the Priesthood because the Messiah was to rule on David's throne and restore the land. This would not affect Judaism and the Temple Priesthood. It would only remove them from Roman occupation which would be good.

However, the claim to be Christ, the King of The Jews, was an offense to the Herodians because they believed that they ruled on that political throne. It also was of much interest to the Romans – not because they believed in this religious hope, but because many Jewish people did believe and it could result in insurrection.

The priestly rulers believed that they were responsible to God to carry out Jewish worship and religion for Diaspora Jews which, by then, included Israelites who came to Jerusalem annually to observe the Feast Days.

These priestly Rulers rejected the Messianic claims of Jesus to be The Christ because they did not believe that He was. Therefore, they had Him crucified because He rejected them and publicly shamed them. They did not fear Jesus would rise from the dead and would continue to be a problem, but they did fear that his disciples would claim a resurrection and continue the movement.

This is exactly what happened and it explains why the cult of the Nazarenes were deceiving heretics and why, initially, everyone waited to see how soon the movement would end.

The movement did not fizzle out as expected; in fact, it had more power and influence than when Jesus was the leader. The Jewish rulers had to use their Temple authority to stop the Apostolic sect since the Herodians and Romans were not threatened by them. The sect was feared by the Priesthood because they thought Jesus had political ambition.

Apostolic Faith

The Herodians were Jews appointed by the Romans as Tetrachs over Jewish provinces and they may have believed in the Jewish Faith regarding the resurrection of the dead. But, none of them ever believed that Jesus had risen from the dead as claimed by the sect.

The Disciple James was killed by Herod – not because James was a heretic, but because it politically pleased the Jews.

Stephen was stoned by the rulers because he insulted them with the Apostolic message.

The Apostles believed God was visiting His people in Jesus His Son who the rulers had rejected and killed. They believed that the presence of God's Spirit among the sect was proof that God had finally returned to the Land.

God had forsaken both the Temple and the Throne in the Days of Jeremiah leaving the people to serve the Babylonians. Now Stephen is rebuking the Temple rulers for resisting God.

The Apostles believed and taught that God had returned to abide again with His people, and that Jesus would return to rule in Jerusalem very soon.

This confirmed Jesus' conflict with Temple authorities that God was not in the Temple as before and they were hypocrites deceiving the people. This also explains why the Apostolic Faith was so offensive to temple authority and not to Herodians, or Caesar.

The sect lived a very temporal life style because they truly believed in the Resurrected Jesus who they expected to return at anytime to restore Israel and rule again in Jerusalem.

The Sect continued in Judaism, very faithful in Kosher life until the Gentiles became believers. This is the origin of the term Christianity. The Gentiles who believed were called Christians some 15 years after Christianity had began with the Resurrection of Jesus.

The Gentile Christians were not permitted to be circumcised and join the Judeo believers. This prevented Gentile believers from any access to Jewish benefits from God (but there were none anyway).

This resulted in a division of Faith; one based on Moses with circumcision, the other based on Abraham without circumcision.

Religion and Politic

Let's direct our attention to both religion and politics to understand Judaism and Christianity because both religion and politics are associated with each) although Christianity did not get involved in politics until the 4th Century).

Religion is that spiritual part of human-life that is personal, individual and ideological while politics relates

to the flesh-life which is family, communal tribal state, etc.

Traditional religion related to the tribal witch doctor while politics related to the Chief. They worked together in the same tribal kingdom. Another tribe would have a different Chief and witch doctor even if political and religious ideology were the same.

Life, and lifestyle, is determined by faith (belief ideology etc.) which is determined by where, when and who you were at birth.

Unless you have moved, converted, changed, etc; you are who, what and where you were at birth which may determine nobility worldly wisdom and riches.

Judaism was both the religion and the politics of the Jewish people in the days of Jesus and the Apostles. The chief that ruled the politics was Caesar this left Judaism with only religious authority.

In our present time Jews, once again, have obtained statehood bringing religion and politics together. This statehood is called Zionism, while the religion remains Judaism.

Today the Diaspora covers the globe, but in the first century it only covered the world of the Roman Empire.

Today a person may be a Jew without Judaism or Zionism; but in the first century there was no Jewish state, only zealots with Zionistic hopes.

Being a Jew in the first century only subjected one to Moses' religion for the land. Caesar ruled over Zion and determined citizenship in the commonwealth.

We must understand the meaning of these religious and political terms to correctly identify people, politics and religion, or else one becomes guilty of racial profiling and guilt by association.

We call people Jews, and that make them Jews according to our precept of Judaism. We also call people Christians and that makes them Christians according to our precept of Christianity. We call the Creator, God, and then make Him God according to our precepts of the Bible God.

We must allow the term, Jew, to refer to a race, not religion, or politics if we are to be able to understand Moses and the Old Testament. And, we must never allow the term Christian to refer to race, religion or politics if we are to understand Jesus and the New Testament.

Judaism and Zionism

What came first and who is included? Is Moses the author of both? How does the Holy Land relate to either?

Can a Gentile become a Jew? Can a Christian become a Jew? How does Judaism and Zionism relate to the Covenant? Does a breach of Covenant affect Judaism and Zionism? How does the New Testament connect to the Old Testament? How does the Christian religion

relate to Judaism or to Zionism? Why didn't Jesus call for reforms in Judaism and Zionism instead of overthrow and replacement? Is repentance calling people back to do better in works of the past or calling them to begin a work that they have never even heard of?

All these questions and many, many more cry out for answers which only the Bible provides but we all tend to make the Bible speak according to our precept of God.

We make the Creator to be the God of the Bible, then make Him a God according to our precepts. This is the same profiling that we do with Jews and Christians.

God is a spirit. Therefore, He is not subject to a carnal profile (image).

Let us consider a brief history of both Judaism the religion and Zionism the throne of statehood.

The race precedes the religion if Judaism begins at Sinai with the Covenant (which puts the people under a theocracy).

The tribe of Judah lost the Covenant and the land with the Temple and the Throne, making it necessary to reconstruct the religion to adapt to life without God in the Temple and without a son of David on the throne.

This is when the Mosaic religion became known as Judaism because it had been redefined by a remnant from Judah now called Jews.

The original Moses religion had begun with the children of Jacob who were called Israelites. These Israelites were born in Egypt without Judaism or Zionism. They were religious people, but so were the Egyptians that ruled over them.

These Israelites had no literature for their faith and they could not read or write anyway. They had no statehood, citizenship or civil rights.

Moses asked Pharaoh to give the people a three day journey to worship the God of the Hebrews. What would have been the nature of such worship? Could we call this worship Judaism? It certainly is not the same as the Judaism given by God to Moses later at Sinai which could not be fully applied until they reached the land anyway.

My point is to show that Judaism and Zionism are both one in Moses and that God is the author and ruler over both, whether through a priest or through a King.

The Bible reader is apt to miss this when God gives the priesthood to one tribe, and 300 years later gives the throne to another tribe.

The religion and the politics of The Kingdom still abide under the Jurisdiction of one federal Head. There is only one language, one people, one religion, one country, one God overall and for all. God rules in both religious matters and civil matters. He also is Commander in Chief

over all the Armed forces, but like our American President, He puts others in charge of such matters.

The Zionist state divided when King Solomon died. Ten tribes set up statehood in Samaria leaving Rehoboam on the Throne in Jerusalem and the Priesthood in the Temple.

King Jeroboam could, and did, set up a Zionist state apart from Jerusalem and Mt. Zion, but he could not establish a priesthood apart from the Temple and the Priestly tribe of Levites.

God established a nation in Moses on a promise that He made to Father Abraham in circumcision. The Mosaic Covenant, cut with the Blood of animals, confirmed this promise.

But neither the blood of animals, Judaism, Zionism or Moses had anything to do with confirming the Messianic Covenant of Uncircumcision mediated by Jesus.

The nation established in Moses was one nation under God (the religion and the politics); one people, one language, one culture, one land, one religion – equal opportunity for all. It was one nation under God but it was not indivisible.

A nation divided cannot stand, therefore this nation eventually fell.

We look for causes when nations fall. But, do we look for and find the true cause?

A nation built by God had fallen. But, were the seeds of destruction sown in the Foundation? Or, was the division into two nations the cause?

The Northern Kingdom was called Israel. The Southern Kingdom was called Judah. Can they stand alone? And, whose side is God on?

Israel lasted about 200 years. Judah lasted about 300 years. But what caused them to fall? Was it a religious cause, or a political cause? Did they abandon God, or did God abandon them? Was the cause in the priesthood or with the Throne? Was the cause found in the priesthood at the Temple, or with the Kings at Mt. Zion? Was it Judaism the religion, or Zionism the state?

The Bible reveals the causes as unbelief which kept the pleasure of God from prospering in the hearts of those responsible for the Oracles of God.

Gentile Faith

Other Kingdoms may prosper or fail without God's hand involved. But, this is a chosen people in a marriage covenant where God is committed to husband-like duties and responsibility.

If this nation prospers it will be the power of God to cause it – and if this nation fails it will be the neglect of God to cause it – but why would God forsake His people?

In other words, God rules over both the faith (religion) of the people and the Land (Throne).

When those of Judaism joined Christianity at Pentecost, the Holy Ghost was proof that God was with them, thus confirming His promises.

This involved no change in their Religion, which was Judaism, but they had no proof to confirm any promises concerning Zionism

The Jewish believers continued under one accord and much tribulation from Judaism. But they had no authority at the Temple or Mt. Zion where Rome ruled.

When the message of Messiah went to Gentiles it called them out of their pagan religion but it did not permit them to be Jews and worship according to Judaism, thus leaving them without religion.

This left Gentiles without a faith to practice until the Apostle Paul discovered the Christ in Abram and uncircumcision where a New Covenant was cut by Messiah for all the families of earth.

This enables us to see that no connection exist between the two covenants. The only connection that could exist would be with the Jewish people who were part of both covenants; or, those who thought that they were partakers of both.

This is the origin of the hyphenated term *Judeo-Christian* which, in reality, is an oxymoron because no Jew was ever a part of both Moses & Circumcision and Messiah & Uncircumcision – he just thought that he was.

The Pentecostal Jews believed they were heirs of the Moses Covenant. However, Jesus had made it plain that the Messianic Kingdom would be *spiritual* like God The Creator, and not carnal as in nature and creation, where flesh and circumcision exist.

In other words, it would be a new and different covenant altogether pertaining to the Children of God instead of the Children of Israel. This is different from circumcision when Moses kept out the uncircumcised. The new Family of God is like God – it is *spiritual* where flesh does not exist and where circumcision is of the heart. In the Old Testament Moses kept out the uncircumcised. Now, in the New Testament, The Messiah is keeping out the circumcised.

The flesh-Kingdom of God in Moses, concerning the flesh-blessings of nature and creation, were given to one family that descended from Abraham, in the flesh. This Kingdom and Covenant was lost by the family to whom it was given. Since all Israel is now dead, any restoration would require resurrection, which is what the Messiah provided. This resurrection involves regeneration that translates a soul from life in flesh-birth, to life from a spirit-birth.

Notice how personal instead of national that resurrection and regeneration are. Both have been a promise of God since the fall of man. But, they never were made to a tribe or nation, only to the just of every tribe and nation.

The Moses Old Testament was to the circumcised males of one chosen nation; but the New Testament is to both, male and female, of every tongue and tribe.

It is not possible for a person or a nation to have flesh-life on earth and at the same time possess after-life in the spirit world. There is no flesh in the after-life, nor is there anything carnal from nature, or the creation in the spirit world. Therefore, for the Mosaic Kingdom to be restored with carnal benefits, it must be given to a living generation *before* they die and need resurrection.

The Judeo-Christians believed that they were this chosen generation...until they began to die before the Kingdom came. Then they ceased to circumcise the next generation of their children because they discovered that Messianic benefits were not in circumcision at all – but in the faith provided by The Christ.

When Jewish Christians began to understand why the Holy Ghost had prevented Gentiles from being a Jewish Christian by circumcision, they also remembered why Moses had required it for participation in the First Covenant, to begin with.

The Holy Ghost is teaching that the Messianic New Covenant is spiritual and so is everything in the Kingdom of Christ; even circumcision.

Moses required flesh-circumcision for the national covenant with Israel, but the Christian Covenant is not with a nation – it is personal with males and females, from all the flesh-families of earth. The children of God were taken from the children of Israel first; then they were taken from every family of man.

The Old Testament consists of Judaism and Zionism, but neither exist in the New Testament although the original Jewish sect continued the Hope of Israel until they realized that Jesus was not coming back.

Judeo-Christianity (spiritual Israel) faded out with the death of Pentecostal Christians and was replaced by Uncircumcised Christianity as many Jewish Christians joined the Apostle Paul in denying Old Testament benefits and becoming a part of the New Testament with the Gentiles.

###