



EQUIPPED

Sharing your faith in a complex world



God

Jesus

Salvation

Eternity

A LITTLE BACKGROUND



- O.T. - Temple and Sacrifices
- N.T. - Temple and Sacrifices
- A.D. 70 - Temple is destroyed and Jewish people must “reinvent” how they practice faith. Pharisaical Judaism takes prominence.

TODAY - 3 BRANCHES OF JUDAISM

Reform - Liberal, Humanistic,
Agnostic?, call their gathering places
Temple

Conservative - conserve traditional
practices while accepting modernity

Orthodox - Strict rules, secluded
from modernity

WHAT DOES A MODERN JEWISH BELIEVER LOOK LIKE?

Expressions of faith that are personal and unique for each individual Jewish believer make it difficult to define them as a whole.

Behavior over Doctrine

Ethnic Heritage over Faith

Holy Books:

Torah – The Law, First Five Books

Tanakh - Old Testament composed of
Torah, Prophets, Writings

Interpreted by:

Talmud - the collected commentaries of
prominent Rabbis (teachers) that interpret
and apply the Tanakh

“Even if a voice from heaven
contradicts the consensus of the
sages, it is to be rejected.”

Tanakh is incomplete without
Talmud.

Rules regarding removal of leaven
from a household in preparation
for Passover.

2-3 Verses in the Tanakh

298 pages in the Talmud

God

Shema -Deuteronomy 6:4 (NET)

Listen, Israel: The Lord is our God,
the Lord is one!

Oneness of God - No Trinity

Jesus

Ignore him as irrelevant

View him as a historical Jew who was not the Messiah, and certainly not God incarnate.

Accept him as a Good Teacher, though not the Messiah (Mark 10:17)

Messiah

Future political or military
deliverer

Coming age of peace and
prosperity

Restored Nation of Israel

Messiah

“With the Messiah or without the Messiah, to Judaism the Kingdom of God is in our hands; it is for us to establish it upon this earth.”

“The Kingdom of God is not God’s kingdom, but man’s kingdom where God has been made King.”

Salvation

In general, most Jews will not be concerned with personal salvation and sin, but rather with obedience to God to maintain their relationship with Him as promised to their ancestors.

Salvation

All about obedience to the Talmudic teachings and good works

Suffering of Israel/Jewish people as a whole pay for their salvation

Isaiah 64:6–7 (NLT)

We are all infected and impure with sin.

When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags.

Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

Yet no one calls on your name or pleads with you for mercy. Therefore, you have turned away from us and turned us over to our sins.

Eternity

Obedient enter eternal life with
God, the Unrighteous experience
eternal suffering

No Conscious life following death

This doesn't look like the Jewish faith I read about in my Bible.

Are Messiah rejecting Jews different from other non-believers?



Romans 11

“I ask, then, has God rejected his people? Absolutely not! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin.”

(Romans 11:1, CSB)

God has not fully or forever rejected the Jewish people, they are still His chosen people

“I ask, then, have they stumbled so as to fall? Absolutely not! On the contrary, by their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel jealous. Now if their transgression brings riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fullness bring!”

(Romans 11:11–12, CSB)

“Now if some of the branches were broken off, and you, though a wild olive branch, were grafted in among them and have come to share in the rich root of the cultivated olive tree, do not boast that you are better than those branches. But if you do boast—you do not sustain the root, but the root sustains you.”

(Romans 11:17–18, CSB)


“You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews.”

(John 4:22, CSB)

Our salvation is rooted in
and flows from the Jewish
faith and it's Messiah,
Jesus of Nazareth

“And even they (the Jewish People), if they do not remain in unbelief, will be grafted in, because God has the power to graft them in again.”

(Romans 11:23, CSB)



Jews can be
completed and
restored through
Jesus the Messiah

“I don’t want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you will not be conceited: A partial hardening has come upon Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written, The Deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.”

(Romans 11:25–26, CSB)

In time, there will come
a great revival in the
Jewish community, and
Israel will be restored.

“Regarding the gospel, they are enemies for your advantage, but regarding election, they are loved because of the patriarchs, since God’s gracious gifts and calling are irrevocable.”

(Romans 11:28–29, CSB)

Their current rejection of Jesus opens the door to our salvation, but they will be restored and saved by faith in Messiah, so that God's promises will be kept.

It's not about being "right" or
defeating someone in an argument,

It's about eternity.

Consider, how would your faith change if you lost: your church, your bible, your devotional, etc...

Is your current walk about relationship with Jesus, or about rules and rituals?

What makes your current walk different from a modern Jew?



Jesus and the Emmaus Disciples

Luke 24:13-35

“He said to them, “How foolish and slow you are to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Wasn’t it necessary for the Messiah to suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

Then beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted for them the things concerning himself in all the Scriptures.”

(Luke 24:25–27, CSB)



Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

Acts 8:26-39

“When Philip ran up to it, he heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you’re reading?””

“Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning with that Scripture.”

(Acts 8:30,35; CSB)

Continue memorizing John 20:31

Witness with compassion, sensitivity, and zeal to those you know of Jewish descent.

Become better equipped to share the Gospel using Old Testament passages.

Pray for Israel and the Jewish people to experience revival and welcome their Messiah

“But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

(John 20:31, CSB)