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HEBREW

ISRAELITES

ARE A FAKE
RACIST

CULT!

FALSE DOCTRINE

FALSE BELIEFS

Don't go to hell with them!

BREAK FREE!

CULT

Aundrey Richard Hubbard

Citations of biblical scripture are used to counter specific teachings of some Black Hebrew Israelite (BHI) groups, particularly the more extremist sects. Points of biblical contention include their views on salvation, the divinity of Jesus, the identity of the "chosen people," and interpretations of prophetic scripture.

Salvation
through faith
vs. works

Some BHI groups
assert that
salvation comes
through strict
adherence to the
Law of Moses.

Biblical critics
cite New
Testament verses
to argue against
salvation by
works.

Romans 3:20: "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin".

Ephesians 2:8-9: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-not by works, so that no one can boast".

Galatians 3:10-11: "For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse...For 'the righteous shall live by faith'".

Galatians 3:24: "So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith".

Universal
salvation vs.
ethnic exclusivity
BHI groups often
hold the exclusive
belief that Black
people and other
people of color
are the true
biblical
Israelites.
Mainstream
Christian theology
counters this with
verses indicating
that salvation is
offered to all
nations.

Galatians 3:28: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus".

Acts 17:26: "From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands".

Isaiah 25:6-8: This passage describes a feast that the Lord will make "for all peoples," with the promise that "he will swallow up death forever".

Romans 10:12-13: "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' "

Christ's
identity and
divinity
While some BHI
groups accept
Jesus as a
prophet, many
deny his full
divinity and
the Trinity.
This
contradicts
core beliefs in
Christianity.

John 1:1, 14: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us".

John 8:58: Jesus responds to the Jews, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." Critics see this as Jesus asserting his divine, eternal nature.

Colossians 2:9: "For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily".

Isaiah 9:6: The Messiah is prophesied to be called "Mighty God".

Misinterpretations
of prophecy
Some BHI groups
claim that
prophetic
scriptures like
Deuteronomy 28
refer specifically
to the trans-
Atlantic slave
trade. Mainstream
biblical
interpreters offer
alternative
readings.

Deuteronomy 28:68:
While some BHIs
interpret the
"ships" and
"bondage" in this
verse as a prophecy
of the trans-
Atlantic slave
trade, others
interpret this
passage as the
curses for Israel's
disobedience that
culminated in the
siege of Jerusalem
in 70 A.D., where
many Jews were
killed, enslaved, or
scattered.

Deuteronomy 28:48:

Some interpret this verse, which speaks of serving one's enemies, as referring to the slave trade.

However, critics argue this fails to account for other historical contexts, such as the Roman conquest and scattering of the Jews.

Antisemitism is on the rise, and some recent antisemitic comments in the news stem from Black Hebrew Israelite (BHI) ideology. This belief system falsely claims all African-Americans are the true Israelites and modern Jewish people are imposters. In part one of this series, we discussed the history of this movement and refuted its major tenet - Jewish people are not the real descendants of the biblical Israelites. In part two, we will discuss three more unbiblical tenets of BHI ideology:

(1) Salvation comes through keeping the Law of Moses.

(2) In the future, the Jewish people and white nations will serve as slaves to the Black Hebrew Israelites.

(3) Jesus is the Messiah but not God.

Salvation

According to BHI theology, salvation comes through keeping the Law of Moses. (1) Some groups believe only Israelites must keep the law for salvation and Gentiles are saved by grace apart from the law, while others hold that Gentiles can never be saved. (2) Both these views are contrary to Scripture, which proclaims salvation is open to all but can never be earned through keeping the Law (Romans 3:20).

Scripture makes clear everyone sins, and no one can keep the law perfectly (Psalm 14:3, 51:5; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Isaiah 53:6; Rom 7:14-15, 18; Galatians 3:10-11). Good deeds cannot save us (Isaiah 64:5), and God requires a blood sacrifice to atone for sin (Leviticus 17:11). The Law's purpose was to point us to our need for Jesus (Galatians 3:24), who provided the final atoning sacrifice for sin (Isaiah 53:6), and only faith in His death and resurrection can save us (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Black Hebrew Israelite adherents tend to focus on sociologically beneficial commandments, including Sabbath observance, festival observance, and wearing a kippah. However, they fail to realize Scripture pronounces curses upon those who do not keep all the commandments: "But it shall come about, if you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you" (Deuteronomy 28:15, emphasis added).

Since it is
impossible to
observe all the
commandments and
thus righteousness
cannot come through
Law observance
(Galatians 3:21),
Israel's only way
of escape from the
curses pronounced
in Deuteronomy 28
is to trust in her
Messiah, the one
who took her curses
upon Himself:

For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them." Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "The righteous man shall live by faith." However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, "He who practices them shall live by them." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"—in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. (Galatians 3:10-14)

BHI adherents, in attempting to justify themselves before God by keeping the Law, are pursuing an impossible feat and disobeying God by seeking righteousness through the Law instead of through the Messiah, Jesus, whom He sent.

God's Plan for the Future. Some Black Hebrew Israelites teach, in God's eternal Kingdom, Jewish people and white nations will serve as slaves to the Black Hebrew Israelites. (3) One Black Israelite, General Mayakaahla Ka, stated, "Every white person who doesn't get killed by Christ when he returns is going into slavery!" (4)

This picture is in stark contrast to the one Scripture paints. The apostle John, when describing the vision God gave him of the coming Kingdom, wrote: "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb'" (Revelation 7:9-10, emphasis added).

Believers from
every nation,
tribe, and
language will
dwell in God's
kingdom.

Messiah came
to break down
the barrier
between Jewish
people and
Gentiles so
both could be
part of God's
family:

Remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. (Ephesians 2:12-16)

In seeking to exclude whole nations and peoples from heaven, BHI adherents reveal they are propelled by hate rather than by the love of God.

Scripture makes clear God loves the entire world and desires all to come to repentance (John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9). In addition, Jesus told His disciples to “make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19, emphasis added).

Jesus' Identity
Black Hebrew Israelites
also deny the Trinity and
the deity of Jesus,
essential doctrines of
the Christian/Messianic
Jewish faith. Some claim
Jesus was the Messiah;
others claim He was
simply a prophet. (5)
Scripture declares Jesus
was not just a prophet
but also the divine
Messiah, God incarnate
(in the flesh).

In the Hebrew Scriptures,
Isaiah prophesied the
Messiah would be called
"Mighty God" (Isa 9:6)
and "Immanuel" (7:14),
which means "God is with
us." Micah prophesied He
would be from "from the
days of eternity" (Micah
5:2).

In the New Testament, the apostle John wrote “the Word was God” and “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:1, 14). Jesus said, “Before Abraham was born, I am” (John 8:58) and claimed to have existed in glory with the Father before the world existed (John 17:5, 24). The apostle Paul wrote, in Jesus, “all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form” (Colossians 2:9) and “all things have been created through Him [Jesus] and for Him” (Col 1:16-17). Hebrews 1:1 says the world was made through Jesus. Many more verses could be cited. [6] In addition, Jesus performed actions only God can do, like forgiving sins and accepting worship. [7]

He also gave Himself many titles the Hebrew Scriptures apply to God, (8) and He possesses the incommunicable attributes of God, (9) including immutability (Hebrews 1:10-12, 13:8), eternality (Micah 5:2; John 1:1-3, 8:58, 17:5; Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 1:2), omnipotence (Matthew 28:18; Revelation 1:8; Isaiah 9:6), omnipresence (Matthew 18:20, 28:20; Ephesians 1:23; Colossians 3:11), and omniscience (John 2:23-25, 13:29, 16:30, 21:17).

Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," (John 8:32). He also said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me," (John 14:6). My goal in writing this section is to point you to the truth found in the person of Jesus Christ. He claimed to be the only way to God. If one has a false view of Jesus or minimizes who Jesus claimed to be, this group cannot be following God.

While many Black Hebrew Israelites do not claim to be racists, or to hate someone based on skin color, in practice, these Hebrew Israelites do not act this way. On street corners, they frequently accuse people of other races as being backward, wicked, or even subhuman. All of the Black Hebrew Israelite teachings on white people indicate that they are not valued as highly by God.

However, this is not the teaching of the New Testament in which God loves the whole world (John 3:16). While he certainly chose Israel as a nation and called Abraham, God still had a special love and compassion for all the people of the earth.

Furthermore, Galatians 3:28 teaches, "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." The New Testament is not a special book for a certain race of people, but a book for all people everywhere. Jesus sent the apostles into the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8) to make disciples of all nations (Mt. 28:19-20). The book of Revelation describes people of every tribe, tongue, and nation worshiping the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

It does not merely describe one people group whether black, white, yellow, or red. "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb," (Revelation 7:9-10; cf. Revelation 5:9). "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation."

The Black Hebrew Israelites, unfortunately, minimize the person of Jesus, and the focus of their religion becomes black identity and cultural revolution. While it is certainly true that black people have been mistreated and taught many false things by mainstream culture, this is not grounds for minimizing the person of Jesus Christ. Who Jesus is should be the central component of any religion that claims to follow the Old and New Testament. Jesus said, "for unless you believe that I am [He], you will die in your sins," (John 8:24). Jesus is saying that unless you believe that He is the I AM of the Old Testament (Exodus 3:14), you will die in your sins. To reject who Jesus claimed to be is to suffer death in your sins. This is the most critical issue of any religion. The Bible was written to testify of who Jesus is. It is not primarily an identity sourcebook for a particular race of people.

The Bible emphatically teaches that there is one God in all existence (Isaiah 43:10; 44:6, 8; John 17:3). However, it also teaches that Jesus is God (John 1:1-3; 5:18; 8:24; 1 Tim. 3:16). Jesus receives worship (Matthew 2:2, 11), is prayed to (1 Corinthians 1:2; Acts 7:55-59), and is called God (John 20:28; Hebrews 1:6-8). In fact, Old Testament Yahweh passages using the divine name of God are applied to Jesus in the New Testament. Jesus exhibits the unique identity of God. However, the Bible also describes the Holy Spirit as God (Acts 5; 2 Cor. 13:14) and having personal attributes (John 14:26). Since there is only one God, not three gods, each of these three persons have to be the one God. This is the Trinity.

The New Testament was written in Greek, while Jesus probably spoke in Aramaic which is a sister language of Hebrew. The New Testament writers originally wrote in Greek. Salvation was by calling upon the name of the Lord (Romans 10:13; cf. Joel 2:32). Paul, in quoting the Old Testament, uses a Greek translation of the Hebrew text in order to get his salvation point across. The issue is not an exact pronunciation of the Hebrew name, but belief in the Person described in the New Testament.

The author states, based on Acts 4:12, that you have to call upon Jesus in Hebrew. However, he fails to note that the passage that he quotes from is in Greek! The original text of Acts 4 was in Greek. Jesus' name in Greek is Iesous, not Yahoshuu. The Bible teaches that one is saved through believing in his heart (Romans 10:9-10), not through the perfect pronunciation of a Hebrew phrase Yahoshua. Nowhere in the entire New Testament do we see the early apostles teaching that you have to call upon the Hebrew name of Jesus to be saved (Romans 10:13). In fact, many of the early Churches to whom Paul wrote and visited were Greek-speaking peoples who did not know anything about Hebrew.

We are not under the Law of Moses today. Jesus came to fulfill the Law. He did this when he died on the cross and his blood rent the temple veil in two. Jesus is the mediator of a New Covenant (Hebrews 7-9). Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by being made a curse for us (Galatians 3:13). The Law has been done away with. There certainly are moral teachings in the Law in which we should abide, such as not to murder, commit adultery, steal, etc. These teachings are found in the New Testament (Matthew 19:18).

The Law says that we should not lie, steal, covet, or commit adultery. Jesus said that if you look at a woman with lust, you have committed adultery with her already in your heart. Since we cannot keep those Laws, we are guilty before God. The Law was never intended to make us perfect before God. It was to show us our sinfulness and show us our need for Christ (Galatians 3:25; Romans 3:20). The issue is a heart issue. As Jeremiah says, God will write a New Covenant on our hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

Scholars today are not exactly certain what the divine name of God actually is. The original Hebrew text did not have vowel pointings. It was not until around the 7th century that the Hebrew Massoretes began to add vowel pointings to aid pronunciation. While Psalm 68:4 calls God's name Yah, God is also called by various other names in the Old Testament including Yahweh, Elohim, El, etc. Psalm 68 does not teach that God's only name is Yah, nor that one has to know this name in order to be saved. If one has to call on God's name precisely as it is described in Scripture, then one must also call on these other few dozen names of God in precise Hebrew fashion. However, if there are no vowel pointings for this Hebrew name, then how do we even know the exact name of God?

Also, many scholars think that the closest representation of the divine name is Yahweh or Yehvah, not just Yah. Should we be in turmoil since we do not know the exact name of God? Finally, many Jews did not pronounce the name of God since they were afraid of breaking the fourth commandment (Exodus 20; Deuteronomy 5). So as not to take the Lord's name in vain, these Hebrews would say the name Adonai to substitute for Yahweh. They did not want to disrespect this sacred name.

The Bible emphatically teaches that there is a heaven and hell. These are not just metaphors but are descriptions of actual places. The Bible speaks of hell as a lake of fire, the second death, eternal separation, etc. Also, heaven is described as bliss, etc. God will restore the earth and there will be a new heaven and a new earth, but there still is a literal place where the righteous will dwell eternally and a literal hell where the wicked will dwell eternally in torment (Mt. 25:41-46).

DNA evidence suggests that Native Americans are actually descendants from Asiatic peoples in Mongolia, who migrated to the United States via the Bering Land Straight through modern-day Alaska. While there could have been people who came to North America from Africa, the DNA evidence does not suggest that these Native Americans actually have Middle Eastern origins. For the Black Hebrew Israelites to argue that Native Americans in North America are descendants of Israelites, they must provide DNA evidence to support such arguments. As a result, it is quite doubtful that the Black Hebrew Israelites view of the origins of the peoples in North America is accurate.

“Some of Israel do believe in the Messiah and some don't. Even among the ones who don't there exist a slight separation of what they believe about the messiah, this can also be found among the ones who do believe. There isn't one universal belief about the Messiah among Hebrew Israelites. Well not yet.”

Galatians 1:8 ►
International
Version

But even if we
or an angel
from heaven
should preach a
gospel other
than the one we
preached to
you, let them
be under God's
curse!

TURN AWAY
FROM YOUR
SINS AND
REPENT.
PICK UP
YOUR CROSS
AND ABIDE
IN CHRIST.

UNTIL NEXT TIME