



People who walk in God's way

Deuteronomy 10:12-22

The People of Mission

- Deuteronomy: Moses' farewell speech
- Transition time for God's people
- Renewing the covenant – 'are you in or out?'

1. God's gracious choice of His people

¹⁴ To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations - as it is today.

1. God's gracious choice of His people

- Chosen (election) for relationship
- Assurance and identity
- Distinctive, not superior



2. God's ethical demand on His people

*¹² What does the LORD your God ask of you but to **fear** the LORD your God, to **walk** in all his ways, to **love** him, to **serve** the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to **observe** the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?*

2. God's ethical demand on His people

- Whole-life discipleship
- 'Walking in all his ways':
reflecting God's character and
values through:
 - **Imitation**
 - **Instruction**



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2. God's ethical demand on His people

¹⁶ Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes.

2. God's ethical demand on His people

*¹⁸ He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. ¹⁹ **And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.***

2. God's ethical demand on His people

- Chosen by grace to reflect God's character – mercy, justice, etc
- e.g. Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 3:12; 1 Peter 2:9
- Of Abraham (Genesis 18:19): ***For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just***

2. God's ethical demand on His people

*¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. ¹⁹ **For** I have chosen him, **so that** he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, **so that** the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.*

(Genesis 18)

3. God's missional promise to His people

²² Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

(Deuteronomy 10)



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3. God's missional promise to His people

¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky ... ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed.

(Genesis 22; cf. Genesis 12:3)



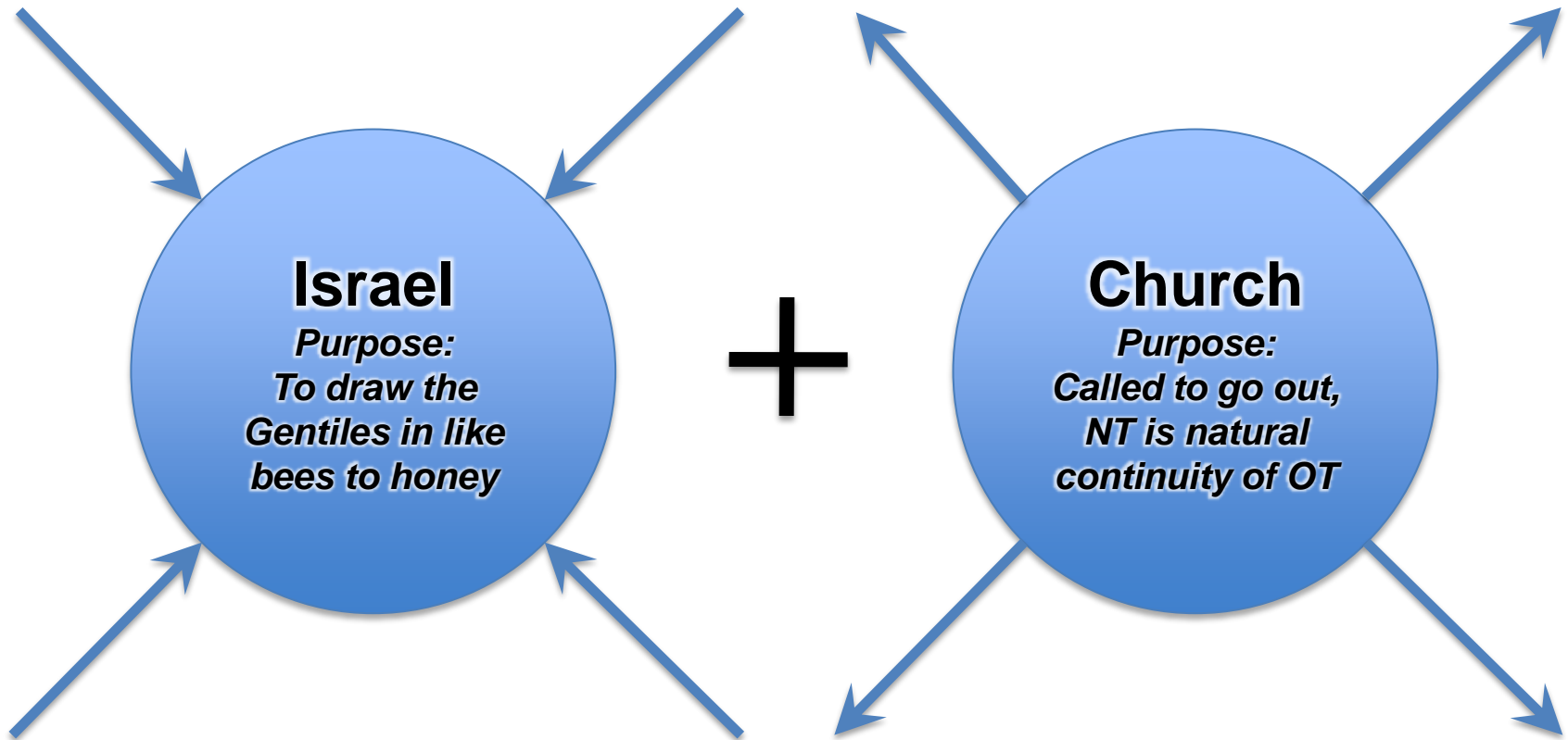
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3. God's missional promise to His people

- Chosen by grace to live by God's ethical standards, to bless all the nations
- The gospel summed up: Galatians 3:8
- Relationship with God, to be shared in relationship with others

Old Testament Mission

New Testament Mission



Drawing in - witness of life

Going out - witness of Word

3. God's missional promise to His people

“If we understand the church ... as the community of people chosen and called since Abraham to be the vehicle of God's blessing to the nations, what else can the church be but missional? This is who we are and what we are here for ... **If it's not missional, it's not church.**”

C.J.H Wright. *The Mission of God's People*, p. 73

In closing ...

- The ethics of our discipleship
 - Converts or Disciples?
 - Facts or Obedience?
 - What are we aiming for?
- ‘Churches full of hypocrites’
 - Are we all that different?



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