

Contrast between the Commonwealth of Israel (Kingdom) and the Grace Church (Body of Christ)

Commonwealth of Israel (Kingdom)	The Grace Church (Body of Christ)
The Commonwealth of Israel is a nation chosen by God and sustained by His covenant promises to them (Deut. 7:6-9). Not all individuals identified as associated with this nation are God's elect (Rom. 9:6; 11:28). Only God knows those who are actually His.	The Church is a called out assembly of believers who were baptized (placed) into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13). Every member of the body of Christ is saved, though it is possible there are multitudes that associated who may not be God's elect (2 Tim. 2:19). Only God knows those who are actually His.
Israel traces its origin to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Jacob being the father of the twelve tribes). The Kingdom Church traces its origin to the day of Pentecost (Acts chapter two). They were first placed into the commonwealth of Israel in Eternity.	The Grace Church traces its origin to the Church at Antioch (Acts 13) when the Gentiles were caused to believe in the Gospel of Grace. They were first placed into the body of Christ in Eternity.
In God's placement of Israel, His elect comprised a nation (Isaiah 43:10).	In God's placement of the Church, His elect comprised those among all nations (Acts 1:8).
God's eternal plan for Israel centered in Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37) and will again center in Jerusalem during the Tribulation (Matthew. 24:15-20) as well as during the Millennium (Isaiah 2:1-5). Hence, God's manifested plan for the Kingdom Church began in Jerusalem and extended to the uttermost parts of the earth (Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8). The Kingdom Church is identified with the risen Christ in the city that comes down to Earth from Heaven (New Jerusalem).	God's eternal plan for the Grace Church began in eternity and is manifestly extended to the uttermost parts of the earth inclusive of both Jews and Gentiles (Ephesians 2:1-14; Galatians 3:28-29)). Today's Grace Church is identified with the risen Christ, not with any earthly city, as it is purely a spiritual entity.
The hope and expectancy of Israel is purely in the earth, centering in the establishment of the Kingdom of the Messiah foretold by the prophets (Jer. 23:5-8; Isa. 2:1-5; 11:1-16).	The hope and expectancy of the Church is heavenly, centering in the glorious appearing of Christ to receive His elect in the heavenlies (Phil. 3:20-21; Col. 3:1-4; 1 Thess. 4:13-18).
God's purpose and plan for Israel was revealed in the Old Testament Scriptures and the Synoptic Gospels.	God's purpose and plan for the Grace Church was not revealed in the Old Testament but was revealed to the Apostles Paul (Eph. 3:5).
Israel's history, which is in view in Daniel 9:24 (the 70 weeks or 490 years) involved animal sacrifices. These years will include the tribulation and Israel's millennial duration will involve the same (Ezek.	Neither the Kingdom nor Grace Church does involve animal sacrifices. Christ's sacrifice is commemorated by means of the Lord's Table.

43:27).	
Israel's history which is in view in Daniel 9:24 (the 490 years including also the Tribulation) involve a temple in Jerusalem. The same will be true in the Millennium (Ezek. chapters 40-48).	During most of the Church age there is no Jewish temple in Jerusalem. In this Grace age, God manifests His glory in His designated ones, both individually and collectively, designating them as His manifested temple (1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19-20; Eph. 2:21-22), accomplished by the indwelling ministry of God the Holy Spirit.
Israel's history which is in view in Daniel 9:24 (the 490 years) involve a priesthood limited to the sons of Aaron, and excluding most Israelites. The same applies to the Millennium when Zadokian priests (also sons of Aaron) will serve in the temple (Ezek. 40:46; 43:19; 44:15).	During the present Church age, designated ones are enabled to offer spiritual sacrifices to the Lord (Heb. 13:15). Whereas Israel had a priesthood, the Church's inherently has and does dwell in the entity of Christ's Body in Eternity.
Israel's history which is in view in Daniel 9:24 (the 490 years) is on hold and will resume with the tribulation, moving into its glory with the coming of the Messiah to the earth to establish His Kingdom reign.	The Church's history manifests its glory at the Rapture of the Church when the fullness of the Gentiles comes in (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rom. 11:25).
During Israel's history (the 490 years of Daniel 9:24 which also includes the Tribulation) the ethnic makeup of the world is bipartite: Jews and Gentiles. This division of all people into Jews and Gentiles will also apply to those in the Millennial Kingdom in natural bodies.	During the Church age from Antioch to the Rapture there is no ethnic makeup of the Church but the world is tripartite: Jews, Gentiles, and the Church of God (1 Cor. 10:32), the Church being composed of elect Jews and Gentiles united together in one Body (Eph. 2:15; 3:6; Galatians 3:28).
During Israel's history, from Sinai to the Millennial Kingdom (excluding the Church age), Israel's role in the world will be characterized by PRIORITY [that is, they will have a leading role as God's chosen people]—see Deut. 4:6-8; Isa. 43:10; Matt. 10:5-6; Zech. 8:23.	During the Church age, Israel's role in the world will be characterized by its estrangement, whereas the Grace Church manifest both Jew and Gentiles united together presently in one body to bear testimony to a risen Christ (Col. 3:11; Gal. 3:28).
Male Jews were circumcised as a sign of the Abrahamic Covenant. Believing Jews were circumcised in the heart (Jer. 4:4).	The elect of this age enjoy an internal circumcision not made with hands (Col. 2:11; Phil. 3:3). Physical circumcision is not relevant in the Grace Covenant.
Israel was under the law of Moses as a rule of life.	The Church is under the "new creation" rule (Gal. 6:15-16). See our study:
Unbelieving Jews were physical children of Abraham and spiritual children of the devil (John 8:37-44).	The elect in Christ (members of the Church, whether Jew or Gentile) is a child of Abraham in the sense of the faithfulness of Christ rendering them a child of God (Rom. 4:11-12; Gal. 3:26-29). This does not mean that Grace age believers are Israelites.
Israel was to observe the Sabbath Day (Exodus 20:8). Sabbath observance will also take place in the Tribulation (Matt. 24:20) and in the Millennium (Ezek. 46:1,3).	The Church is to be diligent in not esteeming any day over another (Rom. 14:5).
Membership into the Jewish nation was by birth or by becoming a proselyte (a convert to Judaism).	Membership into the Church was by God's chose (spiritual baptizing) in eternity (1 Cor. 12:13).