

The tragedy of Jesus

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Zionism against Judaism

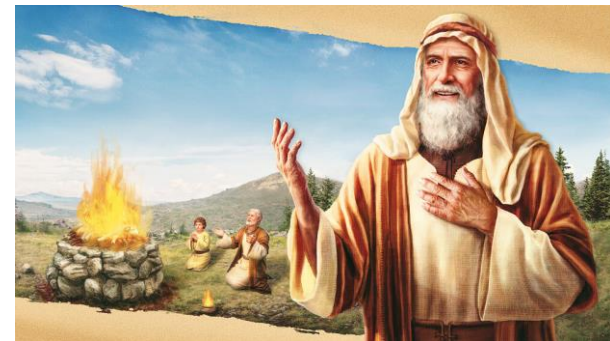
The tragedy of Jesus is Zionism, the politicization of Judaism.

The essence of Judaism is spiritual. This faith in God began with Abraham, 4000 years ago, to whom the Creator revealed Himself, in order to make Himself known, through him, to all men.

- *God spoke to Abram as follows: “For my part, this is my covenant with you: you will become the father of many nations. And you are no longer to be called Abram; your name is to be Abraham, for I am making you father of many nations.” (Genesis 17,3-5)*

The divine intention was not to set up a limited Jewish political movement, but to spread the knowledge of the unique God.

The Hebrews thought that they should express their faith by creating a national State. Judaism, is it a faith or a State? From God’s point of view, the two are incompatible. All the tragedy is here!



History of the politicization of Judaism

In the 11th century B.C. the Jewish community wanted to transform itself into a kingdom:

- “The men of Israel said to Gideon: ‘Rule over us, you, your son and your grandson...’; Gideon replies: ‘I will not rule over you, and neither will my son, because God is your Ruler’.” (Judges 8,22-23).

A second attempt took place one century later under Samuel. A Jewish kingdom was established with Saul as its first king. God considered himself dethroned by the Jews and declared to Samuel:

- *“... It is not you they have rejected, but Me, not wanting Me to reign over them anymore.” (1 Samuel 8,7)*
- *Later, Samuel told them: “Clearly understand what a very wicked thing you have done, in God’s eyes, by asking for a king.” (1 Samuel 12,17)*
- *And the Jews confessed: “To all our sins we have added this wrong of asking for a king.” (1 Samuel 12,19)*

The politicization of Judaism is thus condemned, from the beginning, by the very people who instituted it.

The prophets condemned

Centuries later, the prophets reminded the Jews of their deviation towards politics

- *God said: “They (the Israelis) have set up kings but without my consent, and appointed princes but without my knowledge...” (Hosea 8,4)*
- *“Israel, you have destroyed yourself, though in Me lies your help. Your king, where is he now to save you and your governors of whom you once said: ‘Give me a king and princes’. I gave you a king in my anger and took him away in my wrath.” (Hosea 13,9-11)*

The kingdom was removed from Israel after the Babylonian invasion under Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. The Temple of Solomon was destroyed, the Jews were deported to Babylon, and the royalty ceased to exist in Israel since then (2 Kings 25,8-12).

The Israelis often tried to restore their kingdom in Israel. They saw in the Messiah, the only person capable of restoring this kingdom. Just as the aged Simeon and Anna; they waited for, with all their strength, this “consolation of Israel”, this “deliverance of Jerusalem”.



Waiting for the liberator Messiah

In the first century B.C., under the Roman Empire, the Jews managed to restore a kingdom with Herod the Great as king. This one was not of Davidic descent and had been placed by the Romans to calm the Jews.

The Jews were not satisfied and eagerly awaited the Messiah who, according to them, was to set them free from the Romans. The Messiah, was solely awaited to “save” Israel militarily, in order to restore a vast Jewish empire, a “Great Israel”, similar to that of Solomon.

Even John the Baptist did not understand. He sent his disciples to ask Jesus:

- *“Are you the One who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?”
(Matthew 11,3)*



The main mission of Jesus

The main mission of Jesus was to restore Judaism to its original, spiritual purity, liberating it from politics

- *“My Kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. As it is, my kingdom does not belong here”, said Jesus to Pilate. (John 18,36)*
- *And to the Pharisees: “The coming of the Kingdom of God does not admit of observation and there will be no one to say, ‘Look, it is here! Look, it is there!’ For look, the kingdom of God is into you.” (Luke 17,20-21)*

No one in Israel expected this kind of Kingdom or this messianism.

The Jews even wanted to force Jesus to be the political king of Israel

- *“Jesus, as He realized that they were coming to take Him by force and make Him king, fled away to the mountain alone.” (John 6,14-15)*



Jesus obstacle to the nation

The nationalists were angry with Jesus and judged him unpatriotic because He had not put His miraculous power at the service of the nation and the throne

- *“He leads the people astray” (John 7,12)*
- *“We had hoped that He would be the one to liberate Israel”, said two of his disciples after His death (Luke 24,21)*

The Jewish leaders eventually got Jesus crucified because, through his spiritual messianism that galvanized the masses, He had become an obstacle to the realization of their political and nationalistic goals

- *Caiaphas, the High Priest said: “It is to your advantage that one man should die for the people, rather than that the whole nation should perish.” (John 11,50)*



The Apostles did not understand (1)

Jesus suffered greatly in explaining to his friends His Spiritual Kingdom. On several occasions, he prepared his Apostles on his crucifixion; not on fighting Herod and the Romans. His discourses were never those of a nationalist.

- *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs... Blessed are the meek ... Blessed are the merciful...” (Matthew 5,1-12)*
- *“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field...” (Matthew 13,24)*
- *“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” (Matthew 5,43-45)*
- *“The Son of man is going to be delivered into the power of men and they will put Him to death”. Hearing this “a great sadness came over them.” (Matthew 17,22-23)*

In order to institute the divine Kingdom, the idol of the political Messiah had to be broken. Jesus knew that he would only succeed at the cost of his blood. He was therefore preparing his Apostles.



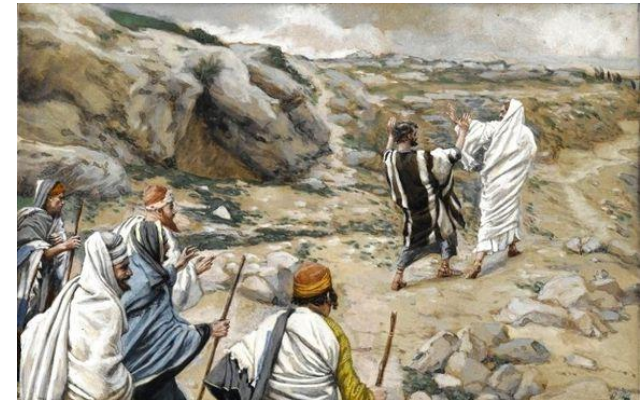
The Apostles did not understand (2)

At first Jesus had to make sure that the Apostles believed in him as Messiah. After 2 years, this was acquired and he began to prepare them to accept a spiritual, universal and not warrior Messiah

- *“You, who do you say I am?” .. “You are the Messiah”, Peter replied. Jesus praised him, telling him that this revelation came to him from God (Matthew 16,15-17)*

The second step to overcome was the revelation of his spiritual messianism. The Apostles could not even imagine this.

- *“From then onwards Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to rebuke him. ‘Heaven preserve you, Lord’, he said, ‘this must not happen to you.’*
- *But he turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because you are thinking not as God thinks but as human beings do.’” (Matthew 16,21-23)*



The Apostles did not understand (3)

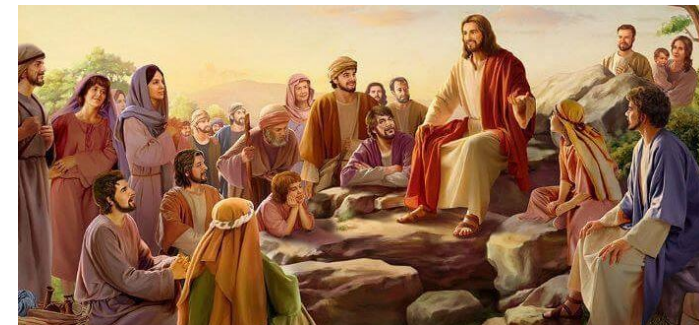
Jesus told them three times of his crucifixion and his suffering. The Evangelists reveal to us that these words of the Passion did not penetrate the opaque mentality of the Apostles:

- *“...but they did not understand what He said; it was hidden from them so that they should not see the meaning of it, and they were afraid to ask Him about it.” (Luke 9,45 & Mark 9,31-32)*
- *Luke even adds immediately after: “An argument started between them about which of them was the greatest.” (Luke 9,46)*

This misunderstanding of the Apostles appeared until the moment of Jesus’ Ascension

- *“Lord, has the time come for you to restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1,3-6)*

It was only when they received the power of the Holy Spirit that they understood.



A real brainwashing

It was necessary that the Apostles undergo a real brainwashing on the part of the Master, a “baptism”.

He could only change their mentality on the cross. The concept of the Zionist Messiah to which they believed had to die. Jesus had to die without restoring an Israeli kingdom. Then their faith in Him as Messiah -no longer nationalist, but spiritual and universal- was to continue to live in them, which they did not understand until later, after the crucifixion of Jesus.

Therefore, by the death of Jesus, the Zionist idol crumbles in the spirit of His disciples. By His death, Jesus triumphs over the death, that is nationalism: “I have overcome the world”, said Jesus on the eve of his crucifixion (John 16,33).



After the Resurrection of Jesus

After the Resurrection of Jesus, the Apostles went on believing in Him as the Messiah. They discovered the spiritual and universal dimension of salvation.

God was no longer a Jewish monopoly. He belonged to the whole world

- *“Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.” (Matthew 28,19-20)*
- *Later Paul wrote to the Romans: “Is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also!” (Romans 3,29)*
- *Peter with the pagan centurion Cornelius: “While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on gentiles too...” (Acts 10,44-45)*

The goal was achieved. The Light of Jesus could then spread to the whole world.



For more information
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