

What about Jewish people who reject Jesus

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Original question: If the Jewish people and/or the nation of Israel are God's "chosen people" – then what becomes of those people since they do not accept Jesus as Messiah (meaning modern Jewish people today)?

The short answer

God's chosen people are all people, regardless of genealogy, who put their trust/faith in Jesus for their salvation (salvation = justification = forgiveness of sins and acceptance by God = reconciled with God = in right standing with God = righteous). Anyone who rejects Jesus, Jew or non-Jew, is still under God's condemnation for their sins.

Jesus came to save all people, Jew and non-Jew alike.

- **Mark 16:16** ¹⁶ "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.
- **John 3:17** ¹⁷ "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.
- Significance? Both Jew and non-Jew need salvation.

Jewish people (physical descendants of Israel and those who practice Judaism) need salvation from Jesus.

- **Mark 1:14-15** ¹⁴ Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." (Note: Jesus is preaching to Jews).
- **Acts 2:38-39** ³⁸ Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." (Note: Peter is preaching to Jews in Jerusalem).
- **Acts 5:30-31** ³⁰ "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. ³¹ "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. (Note: Peter is preaching to the Jewish Sanhedrin)

A Jewish person is not saved by their genealogy.

- **Romans 2:28-29** ²⁸ For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. ²⁹ But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.
- **Luke 3:8** ⁸ "Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham.

All people are saved through Jesus only.

- **Romans 3:21-24** ²¹ ¶ But now apart from the Law *the* righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even *the* righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short

of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

- **Romans 10:12-13** ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; ¹³ for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."
- **Acts 4:12** ¹² "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved."

Together, Jewish and non-Jewish Christians are spiritual descendants of Abraham, true Israel, God's chosen people, the new humanity:

- Spiritual descendants of Abraham:
 - **Galatians 3:7** Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham;
 - **Galatians 3:29** ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise
 - **Romans 4:16**
- True Israel, Israel of God, True Circumcision:
 - **Galatians 6:15-16** ¹⁵ For neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And those who will walk by this rule, peace and mercy *be* upon them, and upon the Israel of God.
 - **Philippians 3:3** ³ for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh
- God's chosen people:
 - **1 Peter 2:9-10** ⁹ But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY. (Note: Peter quotes **Exodus 19:6** which originally applied to faithful Israel; here it applies to Christians of Jewish and non-Jewish background)
 - **Titus 2:14** ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.
- Kingdom of God:
 - **Revelation 1:6** ⁶ and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father-- to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- New humanity:
 - **Ephesians 2:11-22** (2:15 "new humanity")
- Other:
 - **Matthew 8:8-12**