

The Blessing of Shem

Jehovah is the God of Shem; that is, the Semitic race is the bearer of His especial revelation. For *Japheth* God is Elohim, the creator, maintainer, and universal ruler (Gen. 9:27); but for Shem He is Jehovah the covenant God and Redeemer... Thereby Shem becomes the recipient and channel of his special redeeming grace, and henceforth the promise of spiritual salvation is concentrated in his descendants.

This salvation is brought to completion in Christ, for He, the Redeemer, as son of David descends through Abraham from Shem (Luke 3:36); even as He Himself has said in the gospel of John (4:22), “The salvation comes from the Jews”; and as His greatest apostle testifies, the “noble olive tree” of God's Kingdom is “their” olive tree (Rom. 11:24; comp. Eph. 2:11-22; Rom. 15:27; Gal. 3:9, 14).

So God's temple of His New Testament revelation rests upon the rock foundation of the Old Testament revelation given through God's prophets (Matt. 5:17, 18; John 10:35; Acts 24:14; 26:22), and in Christ the blessing of Shem has become the gospel for the world.

(The Dawn of World Redemption: A Survey of Historical Revelation in the Old Testament by Erich Sauer (Translated by G. H. Lang), Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1955, 76, Text and Paragraph Structure Modified)