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Faith Bible Church
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<http://fbcweb.org/doctrines.html>

JEWISH APOLOGETICS (11)
ANSWERING JEWISH OBJECTION #2:
“I was born a Jew and I will die a Jew”
(DDR #630)

“I was born a Jew and I will die a Jew.”

On this objection, Jewish apologist Michael Brown writes in summary:

You're absolutely right! You were born a Jew, and whether you believe in Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, Sigmund Freud, or Rev. Moon, you'll always be a Jew. The question is, Will you be a faithful Jew in God's sight? That's what really matters. You must never forget that as a Jew you have a special calling and responsibility. Will you fulfill the purpose for which God made you? Being a Jew is no small thing. Will you live and die in right relationship with God? Will you love him with all your heart and soul and strength? And if what we're telling you about Jesus being the Messiah is really true (and we're quite sure it is), will you be a faithful Jew who follows your Messiah or an unfaithful Jew who rejects him?¹

If someone raises this objection, the response should be along these lines “of course, I would not want anything else for you. . . .The question is what kind of Jew?” A Jew is born a Jew and will always be a Jew. The question is not if a person is a Jew but what *kind* of Jew—there are atheistic Jews, Buddhist Jews (called JUBU's), orthodox Jews, reformed Jews, Hare Krishna Jews, and all kinds of Jews. By the way, Jews have the highest percentage of atheists (about 8%) whereas the rest of the world traditionally has been around 6% (however, the number of atheistic blacks is about 1%). Furthermore, Jews are also in the highest percentage as far as cults and religions, i.e. like Hare Krishna and Buddhism (JUBU's).

After affirming the fact that a Jew will always be a Jew, you should turn the conversation back to Jesus (Yeshua) and ask him that as a Jew if he would he agree that if Yeshua is who he

¹ Michael L. Brown, *Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus: General and Historical Objections*, 1ST ed. (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 2000), 4-6.

said he is, then shouldn't a Jew follow him. It was the Jew who was given the Word of God and had the responsibility of declaring the glory of God to the nations of the world:

Exodus 19:4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto Myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if ye will hearken unto My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be Mine own treasure from among all peoples; for all the earth is Mine; ⁶ and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.'

Psalms 96:1 O sing unto the LORD a new song; sing unto the LORD, all the earth. ² Sing unto the LORD, bless His name; proclaim His salvation from day to day. ³ Declare His glory among the nations, His marvellous works among all the peoples. ⁴ For great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

After acknowledging the fact that he will always be a Jew, you could move into his responsibility as a Jew—as outlined in his Tanakh (Hebrew Old Testament). Again, God gave His Word to the Jew to make His name made known throughout the world—which Jesus (as the God-man/Jew) continues to do through the *ekklesia*, which began as a Jewish movement:

Acts 10:36 "The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—

Acts 11:19 So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, **speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone.**

Early Christianity was the fulfillment of Judaism, and not some *new* movement outside of Judaism. When Saul/Paul persecuted Christians, note that he was persecuting Jews in *synagogues* (he could not care less about the pagans in heathen temples).

Acts 22:19 "And I said, 'Lord, they themselves understand that in one synagogue after another I used to imprison and beat those who believed in Thee. (Act 22:19 NAS)

Blessed by God with so many blessings, among them are my natural family and my spiritual family—the believers of FBC.

Pastor Don

Philemon 1:4 I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers,