

Pastor-teacher Don Hargrove  
Faith Bible Church  
Wed., February 2, 2011  
<http://fbcweb.org/doctrines.html>

JEWISH APOLOGETICS (17)  
ANSWERING JEWISH OBJECTION #8  
(DDR #636)

**Objection #8: “If Jesus is the Jewish Messiah, why don’t more Jews believe in him?”**

Michael Brown notes:

Actually, there are tens of thousands of Jews who have believed and do believe in him. The problem is that most Jews have not bothered to check into the facts about Jesus, and the only Jesus most of them know is either the baby Jesus of Christmas, and emaciated figure hanging on a cross in churches, and the Jesus of the Crusades and Inquisitions. The question is, Why Don’t *you* believe Jesus is the Messiah? Do you really know who he is?<sup>1</sup>

The last question in this response is where you want the dialogue. You could point to famous Jews, many of whom are/were leading thinkers, who did in fact check out the facts and believed in Jesus as the Messiah (cf. Mortimer Adler, Barry Leventhal, John Feinberg). As far as an historical list of famous rabbis, who were eminent scholars of the Old Testament, and who believed that Jesus was the Messiah, see <http://www.messianicassociation.org/profiles.htm>.

The truth of the matter is that most Jews have never really studied the issue. This coupled with the fact that traditional Jewish teaching gives a slanted (un-biblical) portrayal of the Messiah, it is no wonder than most Jews do not believe in Him. Furthermore, Jews have a history of rejecting God and Truth throughout the Old Testament. God, in pointing out to Israel her hardness and obstinacy, said that if He had sent His message to the Gentiles they would have

---

<sup>1</sup>Michael L. Brown, *Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus: General and Historical Objections*, 1ST ed. (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 2000), 21-24. In this work, Brown lists the objection and then gives a short response, which is followed by a more detailed response. This DDR series, for the most part, tracks the objection and his *short* response, after which you will find my comments. I highly recommend his book if you are interested in his detailed response (there is far too much material to include in the DDRs).

believed it:

**Ezekiel 3:4** Then He said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them. <sup>5</sup> "For you are not being sent to a people of unintelligible speech or difficult language, *but* to the house of Israel, <sup>6</sup> nor to many peoples of unintelligible speech or difficult language, whose words you cannot understand. But I have sent you to them [the Gentiles] who would listen to you; <sup>7</sup> yet the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, since they are not willing to listen to Me. Surely the whole house of Israel is stubborn and obstinate.

Again, God says while others will believe God's Word, the Jews were characterized by rejection. The issue is the evidence, not what contemporary Judaism believes. This is true of Christianity as well. The issue is not what contemporary Christianity believes (i.e. some *distort* the Word of God by teaching health and wealth gospel while others *reject* the Word of God as the means of absolute truth).

Positionally seated with Christ in the heavenlies,

**Ephesians 2:5** even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenlies, in Christ Jesus,

Overseer Don