Going deep: The background of the New Testament

Acts 2:14-41

Do Cessationists Miss Out on the Full Joys of Christianity?

John Piper answers this question on the Desiring God blog:

https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/do-cessationists-missout-on-the-full-joys-of-christianity But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law...

Galatians 4:4

"But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust."

Acts 24:14-15

Diaspora and "exile"

therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 3:23-24

all the nations will say, 'Why has the LORD done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?' Then people will say, 'It is because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, and went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not known and whom he had not allotted to them.

Deuteronomy 29:24-28

Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, bringing upon it all the curses written in this book, and the LORD uprooted them from their land in anger and fury and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as they are this day.'

Deuteronomy 29:24-28

In the days of Pekah king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria came and captured Ijon, Abel-beth-maacah, Janoah, Kedesh, Hazor, Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and he carried the people captive to Assyria.

2 Kings 15:29

Then the king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria, and for three years he besieged it. In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, and he carried the Israelites away to Assyria and placed them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

2 Kings 17:5-6

The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Judeans who lived in the land of Egypt, at Migdol, at Tahpanhes, at Memphis, and in the land of Pathros....Why do you provoke me to anger with the works of your hands, making offerings to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have come to live, so that you may be cut off and become a curse and a taunt among all the nations of the earth?

Jeremiah 44:1, 8

This is the number of the people whom Nebuchadnezzar carried away captive: in the seventh year, 3,023 Judeans; in the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar he carried away captive from Jerusalem 832 persons; in the twenty-third year of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away captive of the Judeans 745 persons; all the persons were 4,600.

Jeremiah 52:28-30

These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders of the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon....But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Jeremiah 29:1, 7

The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?

John 7:35

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

James 1:1

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia...

1 Peter 1:1

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven.

Acts 2:5

Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed.

Acts 14:1

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

Acts 18:1-4

After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, "Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans....And they said to him, "We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you. But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against."

The Aramaic language

And Jacob said to his kinsmen, "Gather stones." And they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there by the heap. Laban called it Jegar-sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed.

Genesis 31:46-47

Then Eliakim, Shebna, and Joah said to the Rabshakeh, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, for we understand it. Do not speak to us in the language of Judah within the hearing of the people who are on the wall." But the Rabshakeh said, "Has my master sent me to speak these words to your master and to you, and not to the men sitting on the wall, who are doomed with you to eat their own dung and drink their own urine?" Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah: "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!"

Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise."

Mark 5:41

And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."

Mark 7:34

And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

Acts 1:19

The Septuagint (LXX)

Places where the LXX is cited verbatim

- 1. Acts 2:25-28 (Psalm 16:8-11)
- 2. Acts 2:34-35 (Psalm 110:1)
- 3. Acts 4:25-26 (Psalm 2:1-2)
- 4. Acts 7:49-50 (Isaiah 66:1-2; with change in word order)
- 5. Acts 13:33 (Psalm 2:7)
- 6. Acts 13:35 (Psalm 16:10)
- 7. Acts 28:26-27 (Isaiah 6:9-10, except for the introductory phrase)

Places where Luke cites the OT close to but not exactly corresponding with the LXX

- 1. Acts 1:20 (Psalm 69:26)
- 2. Acts 1:20b (Psalm 109:8)
- 3. Acts 2:17-21 (Joel 3:1-5a)
- 4. Acts 3:22; 7:27 (Deuteronomy 18:15)
- 5. Acts 3:23 (Leviticus 23:39 conflated with Deuteronomy 18:19)
- 6. Acts 3:25 (Genesis 22:18)
- 7. Acts 7:6-7a (Genesis 15:13-14)
- 8. Acts 7:42-43 (Amos 5:25-27)
- 9. Acts 13:34 (Isaiah 55:3)
- 10. Acts 13:41 (Habakkuk 1:5)
- 11. Acts 13:47 (Isaiah 49:6; Amos 9:11-12)
- 12. Acts 23:5 (Exodus 22:7)

Places where the citation is not close to the LXX, and we don't know whether Luke is quoting from memory, conflating, or citing a different Greek version of the OT

- 1. Acts 4:11 (Psalm 118:22)
- 2. Acts 7:7 (Exodus 3:12)

