

1  
understanding of these things was very hazy. Surely this fact is far more important than the question whether they lived in Jerusalem or were in captivity in Babylon, whether the events of their life were pleasant or whether they ~~suffered~~ endured suffering and misery during the short time that they stayed on this earth. Many have been saved through all eternity; many are lost. The proportion of Israelites who were saved is doubtless far greater than the number from other nations, though there were doubtless Gentiles as well as Jews saved during this time. Was Naaman merely given the privilege of relief from leprosy, though eventually he had to die anyway, or ~~did he truly~~ was he truly saved? Jesus said of

"I have not found such faith in Israel."

He praised the faith of the Syrophenician woman who wanted to enjoy the crumbs like the dogs under the table. The ~~great~~ Great privileges were given to the Israelites. Reading the prophets one would get the impression that the overwhelming mass failed to <sup>of heretics</sup> follow their teaching ~~through being unbelieving~~ and were lost. The question which were saved and which were lost is surely far more important than the earthly blessings that ~~were~~ that God graciously granted to some of them.

If ~~a Jew~~ an Israelite went to the Temple and performed the sacrifices and put his trust in the God of Abraham, but knew nothing about Christ, he would be saved if he died before the <sup>time of the</sup> resurrection and the pouring out of the Spirit. If he lived five years longer and never heard of Christ, would he be lost?

[What would he do after the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D.? Would he still be saved without bringing the sacrifice? It is hard to imagine a Jew who would not have heard of Jesus by that time though.]