

THE TRUE ISRAEL OF GOD



The devil has successfully planted a dangerous lie in modern Christian theology, and it has been unwittingly hatched, adopted and nurtured by most evangelical churches—and now this parasite is pushing out Bible truth with a bigger-than-life deception. Sadly, this adopted falsehood is growing fat with attention while true interpretations of prophecy are starving with neglect.

Today around the globe, millions interested in Bible prophecy have their eyes fixed on Jerusalem. To be fair, it is really not all that difficult with the legitimate news value that comes from that never-ending quagmire of strife and bloodshed between Palestinians and Israelites. Christians are constantly speculating about the modern state of Israel, a rebuilt Jewish temple, and a Middle East Armageddon. These subjects are being discussed through magazines, books, radio, television, the Internet, the pulpit and at Bible prophecy conferences.

It is amazing how many Christians fully buy into this connection of end-time Bible prophecies concerning the nation of Israel. One example, best-selling author Dave Hunt, echoes these views on the back cover of his popular book “A Cup of Trembling”. He writes: “Fast-moving events in the Middle East point almost daily toward the grand finale—the time of greatest suffering for the Jewish people worldwide, which will climax in the terrifying battle of Armageddon and the glorious return of Messiah to rescue Israel and reign over the world from David’s reestablished throne in Jerusalem.”

Let us study and see what the Bible really says. Pray before you begin.



WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT ISRAEL

“For, lo, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will bring again the captivity of my people Israel and Judah, saith the Lord: and I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.”

Jeremiah 30:3

As you study, be thinking about the Life Quest questions.

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

HIS WORD SAYS

1. Why was Jacob’s name changed to Israel? Genesis 32:28.

This is the first mention of Israel in the scriptures. A true Israelite is one who overcomes sin by the blood of the Lamb, the Lamb being Jesus.

2. What did God instruct Moses to tell Pharaoh? Exodus 4:22

Here the name “Israel” is expanded to include Jacob’s descendants. Therefore the name “Israel” first applied to a victorious man, then to his people. You’ll soon see why this is a very important point!

3. Who did Paul say was the firstborn of every creature? Colossians 1:13-15

The name “Israel” not only referred to Jacob, but also to his descendants, the firstborn—who became Israel. Now the same principle is seen in the New Testament applied to Jesus. Like Jacob, Jesus overcame.

4. Who is identified as being the Seed of Abraham? Galatians 3:16

5. Who then become Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise in Galatians 3:26-29

In the New Testament, the name Israel not only applies to Jesus Christ, but also to those who are born in Christ—His Church, which keep His commandments and are covered by His robe of righteousness! In other words, all true Christians are now God's Israel.



6. What does Paul say about Israel. Romans 9:6-8

Paul could not put the matter clearer. He is saying that being a literal Jew is not a passport into the family of God. God's family consists of the children of promise. The true Israel of God are true scriptural Christians.

7. Who did Peter say would be accepted by Jesus? Acts 10:34, 35

God does not hold any specific nation of people in special regard. He loves and accepts all those who believe on Him.

8. How can Gentiles become spiritual Israelites as illustrated in Romans 11:16-26?

Gentiles (wild branches) are grafted into the olive tree (Christ) through faith. The Jews (natural branches) have been cut off and can only be grafted back in as they acknowledge Christ as the promised redeemer. When we consider this in light of the previous scriptures we will see that in verse 26 it is all those of faith, and not all the Israelites of flesh, who will be saved.

9. What wonderful promise is given to the Gentiles in Ephesians 2:19-22?

Gentiles cannot be saved unless they become fellow citizens, Israelites through the new birth. Those who were once Gentiles, were without God and had no hope. They are now, through the blood of Christ, brought into the household of God. They are now part of God's family. They have become one in Christ, true Israelites.



10. What is God looking for in man to find a true Jew? Romans 2:28, 29.

There is no room for further doubt. The house of Israel that God recognises is not literal but spiritual. Its membership does not consist of a people of a certain race, but people of a certain faith, a faith in Jesus, whose hearts have been circumcised and become changed.

11. Through whom do we receive the promise of God, and whose seed are we?
Galatians 3:29

The promise to Abraham's seed went through the line of Isaac and then Jacob (Israel). We cannot change our race. It is spiritually we become Abraham's seed, spiritually we become Israel.

12. Where is the law of God to be found in true spiritual Israelites? Jeremiah 31:31-33 & Hebrews 8:10

All who have entered into the new covenant with God will have God's law written in their hearts and minds.

13. What is the promise to spiritual Israel that is yet to be fulfilled? Hebrews 11:13-16.

If we are strangers and pilgrims of the earth, then earth is not our final home. This promise is still to be fulfilled, and Paul is talking first of Old Testament Jews and in verse 40 of all, Jew and Gentile, who put their faith in Jesus, put on His righteousness, accept His grace and keep His commandments. The heavenly Canaan will be the reward of the saints.

14. Read Exodus 19:6 and 1 Peter 2:9 . What similarity is given to the Israel of the old and the Apostolic Church of the new?

All who believe in and follow Christ are that Holy Nation, Israel. No favoritism in God's Kingdom, praise the Lord!





"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Galatians 3:29

LIFE QUEST:

Have you thoughtfully reviewed these Questions?

- What does this topic tell me about God?
- What difference does this topic make to my daily life?
- How does this topic help me in my relationship with Jesus?

YOUR TURN

Check the statements that most closely reflect your response to this study.

I am excited to know that all those who follow Jesus are spiritual Israelites.

I am now certain Israel as a nation will not be God's last day remnant.

I have chosen to be a part of the family of God's true Israel.

Other _____