

4. All Israel will be saved, but which Israel? Galatians 3:26-29

Note: We are all made sons of Abraham & God through Faith in Jesus Christ! The emphasis in these verses is faith in Jesus Christ (see also Eph 2:8-9).

5. How did Paul identify a person as a true Israelite? Romans 2:28-29

6. What About the Rebuilding of the Temple? 1Peter 2:4-5

Note: See also 1 Corinthians 3:16. The only temple that needs to be rebuilt to fulfill prophecy is you not a literal temple in Israel. Jesus also called his body a temple (see John 2:19-21). Some of our temples have been wrecked by: alcohol, hard living, drugs, and other addiction, but the good news is that Jesus can rebuild us! If there was ever two books that champion end time prophecy it's Daniel & Revelation. In Daniel the word Israel occurs 4 times (1:3, 9:7, 9:11, 9:20) and in Revelation 3 times (2:14, 7:4, 21:12). Those texts do not refer to Israel's prophetic role or the temple being rebuilt (see also Matt 24:14 & Rev 14:6).

7. Can Jews still be saved today? Romans 11:26, Galatians 6:15-16

Note: In Galatians 6:16 Paul was quoting a portion of Psalm 125:5, which says, "peace be upon Israel." However, Paul says peace be "upon the Israel of God" in verse 16. Why does it matter? Paul makes a difference between those who have faith and those who are from the twelve tribes of Israel.

8. How does Peter describe who are the people of God? 1Peter 2:9-10

Note: Peter cites Exodus 19:6, which was the Old Covenant with literal Israel as being fulfilled New Covenant with Spiritual Israel. Why? See Acts 13:46.

MY CHOICE: I understand that Israel's role in prophecy has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. I want to be a part of the Israel of faith or spiritual Israel.



Lesson #6 Who Is Real Israel?

Millions of Christians who are interested in Bible prophecy believe that the earth's final events will one day center around the Middle East, Jerusalem, and the Jews. What significance if any does Israel play in last day events? Let's go to the Bible for the answer.

1. What did God change Jacob's name to? Genesis 32:28

Note: Abraham & Sarah had Isaac. Isaac & Rebekah had Jacob and Esau. Jacob stole the birthright from Esau when he deceived his father and put wool on his body to appear like his hairy brother, Esau. Jacob had to flee for his life because Esau was very angry with him. Jacob's name means deceiver or supplanter, but after a night with God that all changed. In the Bible, a name denotes character. God changed his name from Jacob (deceiver) to Israel (the prince that prevails with God) because he experienced conversion and a change of character. That can be true for you as well as Jacob.

Note: When you put the pieces of the biblical puzzle together concerning Israel in Bible prophecy, we can see that the Bible doesn't point to man to fulfill prophecy. It points to Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that the true Israel of Bible prophecy is none other than Jesus Himself, the true prince of God.

➤ Joseph has dreams then he goes to Egypt.

Genesis 37:9 "Then he dreamed still another dream, and told it his brothers."
Genesis 37:28 "...so the brothers, pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites, And they took Joseph to Egypt."

Note: Joseph, the earthly Father of Jesus also went to Egypt after having a dream, see Matthew 2:13-14.

➤ Israel is called "my son".
Exodus 4:22 "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, Thus says the LORD: Israel is My Son, My firstborn."

Note: Notice that Matthew cites Jesus fulfilling prophecy not literal Israel, see Matthew 2:15.

➤ Israel leaves Egypt then is baptized.
1Corinthians 10:2 "...all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea."

Note: 30 years after coming to Nazareth from Egypt, Jesus was also baptized, see Matthew 3:15-17.

➤ Israel wanders in the wilderness for forty years.
Numbers 14:33 "And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years..."

Note: Jesus wandered in the wilderness for forty days after His baptism, see Matthew 4:1-2.

➤ Israel receives the book of Deuteronomy at the end of the forty years.

Note: Bible scholars tell us that at the end of the forty years of wandering in the wilderness they received the book of Deuteronomy. Jesus quoted from Duet 8:3, Duet 6:16, and Duet 6:13 in response to Satan's temptations at the end of His forty-day stay in the wilderness, see Mathew 4:4, 7, and 10. Jesus was able to discern the Devil's lies by the knowledge of scripture (see also Ps 119:11).

➤ Israel is called "my servant."
Isaiah 44:21 "Remember these, O Jacob and Israel for you are My servant; I have formed you, you are My servant..."

Note: In fulfillment of prophecy Jesus was called "My Servant", see Matthew 12:16-20. Notice how Matthew sites Isaiah to demonstrate that Jesus fulfilled this prophecy in verse 17.

➤ Israel is called a "vine." Psalm 80:8 "Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt..."

Note: Israel was called a "vine." However, Jesus was called the "true vine", see John 15:1.

➤ Israel is called "My first born."
Exodus 4:22 "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, Thus says the LORD: Israel is My Son, My firstborn."

Note: In fulfillment of prophecy Jesus was also called "the firstborn", see Colossians 1:15.

➤ Israel is called "the seed of Abraham."
Isaiah 41:8 "But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham My friend."

Note: In fulfillment of prophecy Jesus was called "the seed of Abraham", see Galatians 3:16.

➤ Spiritual Israel is called the "seed of Abraham."
Isaiah 41:8 "But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham My friend."

Note: According to Paul, all who have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior are called "Abrahams seed", see Galatians 3:29. In other words, true Christians are now spiritual Israel. Anyone who by faith has accepted the blood of Jesus as His atonement has been adopted into the family of God; therefore, he or she is now "the seed of Abraham." Spiritual Israel is the term applied to Christians who follow and have faith in Jesus.

2. How did Paul describe who are Abraham's children? Romans 9:6-7

Note: The reason why "in Isaac shall your seed be called" is because he was the child of promise, which Abraham believed by faith.

3. Who Are the Children of Abraham? John 8:39-44

Note: Jesus is trying to tell the Pharisee's just because you may be able to trace your lineage back to father Abraham does not give you favor with God. The righteousness that God requires is simply obtained by faith.