

Who Is Israel?

Most good modern atlas's will include a section on the origins of the people in Western Europe. From the megalith builders of Stonehenge and the Beaker people of the Bronze Age to the Celts and later the Angles, Saxons, Vikings and Normans, they all originally came from across Europe or through the Mediterranean Sea, many to arrive eventually in the isles we know as Britain. Trace the arrows back and they originate in what we call the Middle East today.

Why did our ancestors migrate to those islands? Why has the Bible played such an important role in our civilisation? Why was the Celtic church established in Britain so soon after the death of Christ and hundreds of years before the Roman Catholic Church came into existence? Is this fulfilled prophecy, and if so what still lies ahead? What does God require of His people today?

These are some of the questions we will answer from the Bible.

About 600 years before Christ, God gave a message to Jeremiah His prophet, for Israel, Jeremiah 3:12, *'Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, "Return, faithless Israel, declares the LORD. I will not look on you in anger, for I am merciful, declares the LORD; I will not be angry forever.'*

At that time, the nation of Israel had been taken captive by the Assyrians to the area South of the Black Sea, over 100 years previously. The message of the next verses included a prophecy that eventually, God would bring Israel back to their land of promise, verse 14-15, *'Return, O faithless children, declares the LORD; for I am your master; I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. "And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.'*

To this day, Israel has not returned, but that day is coming, verse 17, *'At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the LORD, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the LORD in Jerusalem, and they shall no more stubbornly follow their own evil heart.'*

Today, only the tribe of Judah with some of the Levites, and some Edomites live in the land we call Israel, together with the Palestinians. But the time is coming when Israel and Judah alone will be reunited in the land God promised to Abraham, Jeremiah 3:18, *'In those days the house of Judah shall join the house of Israel, and together they shall come from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers for a heritage.'*

Jeremiah 23 5-8, *"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'* *"Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' but 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.'* *Then they shall dwell in their own land."* When will this occur? Verse 20 - *'The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly.'* In "the latter days", which is Bible code for the end of this age and the return of Jesus Christ.

The Jews, or many of them, have returned relatively recently, but 10 of the 12 tribes of Israel remain lost, their identity almost unknown even to themselves, and still scattered widely over this globe.

Now we should remember that God had changed the patriarch Jacob's name to Israel, and *he* had 12 sons. Each became a tribe, *together* called Israel. But much later, after King David's son Solomon died, 10 tribes split away, to form Israel to the North, leaving Judah and Levi in the Southern nation of Judah around Jerusalem, but now the time is nearing for their reunification, Jeremiah 30:1-4, *'The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you. For behold, days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah, says the LORD, and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it." These are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah.'*

The return of the *ten* tribes will be brought about only after a time of intense tribulation and war, verse 7, *'Alas! That day is so great there is none like it; it is a time of distress for Jacob; yet he shall be saved out of it.'* Notice that King David will once again rule over this reunited Israel, verses 9-11, *'But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them. "Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with you to save you, declares the LORD; I will make a full end of all the nations among whom I scattered you, but of you I will not make a full end. I will discipline you in just measure, and I will by no means leave you unpunished.'*

The question is, where are the lost ten tribes today? Christianity is totally confused about Israel. Most people think the Jews are Israel, and so the many prophecies about Israel in the Bible seem to make no sense at all. That's why many have neglected the Old Testament as having no relevance to the nations today.

We've learned that Jacob is Israel, especially the **two chief tribes** Ephraim and Manasseh are referred to in the Bible as such, and though Israel has lost its identity, it is to be well known amongst the chief of the nations, Jeremiah 31: 7-9, *'For thus says the LORD: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; A great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.'*

This is part of the message which will be broadcast from Jerusalem to the nations after the US and Britain are brought low by God for their sins, resulting in invasion. Who is Ephraim? See our previous article of that title.

The tribe of Ephraim migrated West after their captor Assyria was defeated by the Babylonians, Hosea 12:1, *'Ephraim feeds on the wind and pursues the east wind all day long...'* The whole book of Hosea is directed to the descendants of Israel and especially, Ephraim. God planted them in a place where they stayed, 2 Samuel 7:10, *'And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. ...'* We can figure out where that is from Isaiah 49:1,5,12, *'Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far;' And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob*

again to him, Though Israel be not gathered,Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.’ (Australia)

Which major nation today inhabits islands to the North and West of Jerusalem, a nation which is part of the prophesied ‘company of nations’ and is still ruled over by a direct descendant of King David, just as the Bible promised – whose royal standard motto is ‘God and my right’ with the royal crest above, supported by the tribal symbol of Judah on the one side – the lion, and on the other, the symbol of Ephraim, the unicorn? No prizes for working that one out and why, as a result, God’s church was established so soon in Ephraim in 45 AD, hundreds of years before Roman Catholicism arrived in those isles.

God gave another of His prophets a message for Israel but once again it went undelivered because that prophet was held captive in Babylon. Instead, Ezekiel wrote the message down and Israel will at last receive it, Ezekiel 2:3-5, *‘And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to **nations of rebels**, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants also are impudent and **stubborn**: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD.’ And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) **they will know that a prophet has been among them.**’ And he said to me, “Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with my words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel— not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart.’* Though they will hear, they will not welcome the message!

The reason? We as nations of Israel, and especially Ephraim or Britain, and the USA (who, as the tribe of Manasseh, came out from Britain) and the Commonwealth Dominions, have rejected the God of the Bible in favour of a false Christianity, false religions of all kinds, and even atheism.

But, beyond this bad news, there is good – Ezekiel 37:15-17, *‘The word of the LORD came to me: “Son of man, take a stick and write on it, ‘For **Judah**, and the people of Israel associated with him’; then take another stick and write on it, ‘For **Joseph** (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him.’ And join them one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand.’* The two divisions of Israel are to be re-joined, verse 22, *‘And I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. And one king shall be king over them all, and they shall be no longer two nations, and no longer divided into two kingdoms.’* Obviously this is still future, verse 23, *‘They shall not defile themselves anymore with their idols and their detestable things, or with any of their transgressions. But I will save them from all the backslidings in which they have sinned, and will cleanse them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God.’* ..verse 25, *‘**They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children’s children shall dwell there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever.**’* Verse 27, *‘My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.’*

Are you finding it hard to believe these amazing Bible prophecies? Don’t we live in a modern world now and control our own destiny? Luke 10:21, *‘In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast **hid these things from the wise and prudent**, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.’* Jesus also said, *“Blessed are the meek”*, which means humble or teachable, from God’s word. God, who knows our hearts, knows Israel’s stubbornness and our stiff necked character, but meek Christians with open minds will be prepared to examine the records of secular history and archaeology to confirm the history of Israel, (See our article 28 in Articles 1). By typing in ‘Origin

of Israel' by Steven M Collins ' on Amazon, where you will also see evidence by other authors, you can prove from secular history that God carefully sifted Israel through the nations of Media, Parthia, Scythia, Asia Minor and the European nations, before finally bringing them to North Western Europe and the islands off its shores. Amos 9:9, *'For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.'*

This is also confirmed by a letter addressed to Pope John XXII which can still be seen in the Register House in Edinburgh. It has attached to it coloured ribbons and seals with the signatures of Robert the Bruce and 25 of his nobles. The letter, which is drafted April 6 1320, reads in part: *"We know most Holy Father and Lord and from the chronicles and books of the ancients gather, that among other illustrious nations, ours, to wit, the nation of the Scots, has been distinguished by many honours; which passing from the greater Scythia through the Mediterranean Sea and Pillars of Hercules and sojourning in Spain among the most savage tribes through a long course of time, could nowhere be subjugated by any people however barbarous; and coming thence 1200 years after the outgoings of the people of Israel (Exodus), they by many victories and infinite toil, acquired for themselves the possessions in the West which they now hold ... In their kingdom 113 Kings of their own Royal stock, no stranger intervening, have reigned ..."*



The Declaration of Arbroath 1320

This letter asserts that the Scots, who had the Stone of Scone, were connected with the ancient people of Israel, whom archaeology has established became the Scythians and the Cimmerians of history.

Josephus the historian writing in AD 70 in his "Antiquities of the Jews", writes, of Israel ... *"Wherefore there are but two tribes in Asia and Europe subject to the Romans, while the ten tribes are beyond the Euphrates till now (A.D. 70) and are an immense multitude not to be estimated by numbers (Book 11, chapter V).*

Also, interestingly, though we don't normally use the Apocrypha, it does contain a great deal of the history of Israel and confirms their migration in 2 Esdras 13:40-47, *' ... These are the ten tribes which were led away from their own land into captivity in the days of King Hoshea, who Shalmaneser the King of the Syrians led captive; he took them across the river, and they were taken into another land. But they formed this plan for themselves, that they would leave the multitude of*

the nations and go to a more distant region, where mankind had never lived, that there at least they might keep their statutes which they had not kept in their own land. And **they went in by the narrow passages of the Euphrates River**. For at that time the Most High performed signs for them, and stopped the channels of the river until they had passed over. Through that region there was a long way to go, a **journey of a year and a half**; and that country is called 'Arzareth' (another land).

Then they dwelt there until the last times; and now, when they are about to come again the Most High will stop the channels of the river again so that they may be able to pass over.'

So, as we have learned, at the End Time or, 'in that day' verse 11, '***In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old,***' Israel is to be replanted in her original homeland, verses 14-15, '***And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.***'

God has not abandoned His people, Jeremiah 33:24-26, '***“Have you noticed what people are saying?—‘The LORD chose Judah and Israel and then abandoned them!’ They are sneering and saying that Israel is not worthy to be counted as a nation. But this is what the LORD says: I would no more reject my people than I would change my laws that govern night and day, earth and sky. I will never abandon the descendants of Jacob or David, my servant, or change the plan that David’s descendants will rule the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Instead, I will restore them to their land and have mercy on them.”*** NLT.

The Bible informs us that Jesus Christ will not return until certain events have occurred, Acts 3:19-21, '***Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.***' This is because much understanding of God's word has been totally lost by modern Christianity, as well as the knowledge of who is Israel, where the throne of David is to be found today, and exactly *what is* the good news of the coming Kingdom of God. Only when these things have been restored will Jesus Christ return, Matthew 24:14, '***And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.***' That will *never* be achieved by man, but it will be achieved miraculously by God. Revelation 14:6-7, '***Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”***

After Jesus Christ's return from heaven with His Bride, and the twelve tribes are gathered in, they will be vastly reduced in number because a great percentage will lose their lives from war, famine and disease during the coming 'time of Jacob's trouble' and the Great Tribulation, but prior to the latter, the final work of God's church **will provide hope of their rescue to the scattered remnants of the Israelite nations after their invasion**, though their broadcast from Jerusalem, will not be a lengthy one, Romans 9:27-28, '***And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, for the Lord will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.”*** The knowledge of the importance of God's law will be restored, Malachi 4:4-6, '***“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the***

LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

This was the law that Jesus Christ taught and fulfilled by expounding and expanding its *spiritual* intent, Matthew 5:17-18, “*Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have **not come to abolish** them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*” Today, the churches in Israel have no understanding of these things and instead blindly lead their followers astray. When the truth is made known and God’s catastrophic warnings come to pass, many will repent, but not until then, Isaiah 6:8-10, ‘*And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.” And he said, “Go, and say to this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’ Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”* Only the meek will believe.

Ephraim will finally understand who they are and why things have gone so wrong, Hosea 8:1-2, verse 7 and verse 12, “*Sound the alarm! The enemy descends like an eagle on the people of the LORD, **for they have broken my covenant and revolted against my law.** Now Israel pleads with me, ‘Help us, for you are our God!’ “They have planted the wind and will harvest the whirlwind. The stalks of grain wither and produce nothing to eat. And even if there is any grain, foreigners will eat it.Even though I gave them all my laws, **they act as if those laws don’t apply to them.**’* NLT.

Today though, what we see *now* in Israel is merely the beginning of sorrows, Matthew 24:8, ‘*All these are the beginning of sorrows*’, ie. the ‘*tribulation of those days*’, followed by the Great Tribulation, Matthew 24:21-22, ‘*For then there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved [alive]. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.*’

Only after those cataclysmic events will Israel reach the time of its greatest glory. Israel is the only nation in the world founded by a sovereign act of the Lord, Genesis 12:1,7, ‘*Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “**To your offspring I will give this land.**”* So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.’

God will not fall down on His promises, Genesis 49:1, 10. ‘*And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last daysThe sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall **the gathering of the people be.***’ Genesis 28:14, ‘*And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed **shall all the families of the earth be blessed.***’ Genesis 35:11, ‘*And God said unto him [Jacob], I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; **a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins.***’

Those few with eyes to see will recognise that these prophecies have come to pass. The Jews refuse to believe that they are not all of Israel, and the Israelite nations stubbornly rebel against God’s law and so refuse to accept the Biblical evidence we have seen. With indications that all these prophecies will have been fulfilled before the 20’s are out, they don’t realise that they are risking their lives.

The combined, restored nation of Israel will hold the capital city of the whole world, Jerusalem, from where Jesus Christ as King of Kings will reign worldwide, and all nations will look to the nation of Israel as their guide, mentor, pattern and example.

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