

# True Israel

[S9]

## -The Deeper Meaning of the Word "Israel"-

**\*STOP.** Please don't do this lesson until you have gone through the first one, "God's Original Purpose for Israel" #S8

*\*Please Remember to Pray for Wisdom before You Begin*

- 1.) What was the circumstance that caused Jacob's name to be changed to Israel? Genesis 32:24-28 And \_\_\_\_\_ was left alone; and there \_\_\_\_\_ a man with him until the breaking of the day. 25 And when he saw that he prevailed \_\_\_\_\_ against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he \_\_\_\_\_ with him. 26 And he said, let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not \_\_\_\_\_ thee \_\_\_\_\_, except thou \_\_\_\_\_ me. 27 And he said unto him, what is thy \_\_\_\_\_? And he said, Jacob. 28 And he said, Thy \_\_\_\_\_ shall be called \_\_\_\_\_ more Jacob, but \_\_\_\_\_: for as a \_\_\_\_\_ hast thou \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and with \_\_\_\_\_, and hast \_\_\_\_\_. **NOTE: The background for this scene was that Jacob was suffering terrible guilt and remorse for his sin against his brother Esau and his father. He wanted desperately to have forgiveness and healing from the terrible wrong he had done to his brother. Jacob prevailed in faith even when it seemed like everything was against him. He finally received God's blessing of peace and forgiveness when he kept persevering in faith. As a consequence the heavenly Being changed his name to "Israel." Keep this name and its meaning in your mind as you continue studying this subject.**
- 2.) Jesus describes who a real Israelite is and then quotes in v. 51 about Jacob's dream of the ladder between heaven and earth. John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, behold an Israelite \_\_\_\_\_, in whom is no \_\_\_\_\_! 49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_; thou art the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel. 50 Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, \_\_\_\_\_ thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. 51 And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see \_\_\_\_\_ open, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ upon the Son of man. **NOTE: Jesus responded to Nathaniel that he was a true Israelite because of his obedience and faith in Him as the Messiah. Jesus assured that the communion between heaven and earth would be kept open and that would only be possible through the death and resurrection of Christ.**
- 3.) Jacob had twelve sons who became the patriarchs of the nation of Israel. Exodus 1:1 Now these are the names of the children of \_\_\_\_\_, which came into \_\_\_\_\_; every man and his \_\_\_\_\_ came with \_\_\_\_\_. 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin, 4 Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. 5 And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for \_\_\_\_\_ was in Egypt already.

- 4.) God refers to the early nation of Israel as His firstborn son (singular). Exodus 4:22 *And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, \_\_\_\_\_ is my son, even my \_\_\_\_\_: 23 And I say unto thee, Let my \_\_\_\_\_ go, that he may \_\_\_\_\_ me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will \_\_\_\_\_ thy son, even thy firstborn. NOTE: Very interesting how in this instance how God refers to this young nation as His first born son.*
- 5.) What is Israel referred to in this verse from the book of Psalms? Psalm 80:8 *Thou hast brought a \_\_\_\_\_ out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ it. 9 Thou preparedst \_\_\_\_\_ before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it \_\_\_\_\_ the land. NOTE: Remember in the previous Bible lesson “God’s Original Purpose for Israel” how one of Jesus’ parables likened Israel to a vineyard. Here we can see the beautiful harmony throughout scripture. Like a puzzle when we put all the proper pieces together we see a clear picture unfold. Let’s continue to study to put all the pieces together.*
- 6.) In this passage of scripture what does God refer to Israel as? Isaiah 41:8 *But thou, Israel, art my \_\_\_\_\_, Jacob whom I have \_\_\_\_\_, the seed of \_\_\_\_\_ my friend. 9 Thou whom I have \_\_\_\_\_ from the ends of the earth, and \_\_\_\_\_ thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my \_\_\_\_\_; I have \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and not cast thee away. Isaiah 45:4 For Jacob my \_\_\_\_\_ sake, and \_\_\_\_\_ mine elect, I have even \_\_\_\_\_ thee by thy \_\_\_\_\_: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me. NOTE: Israel was likened as a servant to God because He wanted them to serve Him as a witness and light to the rest of the world.*
- 7.) God refers to corporate Israel as His son whom He called out of Egypt. Hosea 11:1 *When \_\_\_\_\_ was a \_\_\_\_\_, then I loved him, and called my \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_.* 2 *As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images. NOTE: Here God refers to Israel as a child when it was in Egypt before it was called out. Not only that, He referred to it as His “son.”*
- 8.) A man named “Joseph” (Jesus’ earthly father) received a dream to flee to Egypt. Matthew 2:13 *And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into \_\_\_\_\_, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to \_\_\_\_\_ him. 14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_.*
- 9.) Matthew quotes Hosea (our previous text from # 7) and applies “Israel My son” to Whom? Matthew 2:15 *And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be \_\_\_\_\_ which was spoken of the \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_, saying, Out of \_\_\_\_\_ have I called my \_\_\_\_\_. NOTE: This gets more interesting as we go along in*

*this study here. Now the word "Israel" is applied to Jesus. It is evident the Holy Spirit inspired this to show that Jesus the Son of God is becoming the substitute for Israel.*

10.) Was there another "Joseph" in the Old Testament who also had dreams and ended up going to Egypt? Genesis 37:5-7,28, 36 And \_\_\_\_\_ dreamed a \_\_\_\_\_, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. 6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this \_\_\_\_\_ which I have dreamed: 7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood \_\_\_\_\_; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made \_\_\_\_\_ to my sheaf. V. 28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up \_\_\_\_\_ out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_\_. V.36 And the Midianites \_\_\_\_\_ him into \_\_\_\_\_ unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard. **NOTE: This may seem uncanny but the Bible has lots of parallels like this that help make it come alive once we make the connections. The only problem is that most people nowadays aren't studying their Bibles like they should. The OT "Joseph" went into Egypt under very unfortunate circumstances. Then a long time later God called a small nation named Israel "My son" out of Egypt. The NT "Joseph" also went into Egypt under unfortunate circumstances. After they had stayed there with the child Jesus until it was safe to leave, God called Israel (Jesus) My Son out of Egypt. Keep on with the study – It gets better than this!**

11.) God's son (Israel as a nation) left Egypt, came to the Red Sea, "was baptized through the sea" as the Apostle Paul states. 1Corinthians 10:1, 2 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be \_\_\_\_\_, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all \_\_\_\_\_ through the sea; 2 And were all \_\_\_\_\_ unto Moses in the cloud and in the \_\_\_\_\_;

12.) Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan before entering the wilderness for 40 days to be tempted. Matthew 3:13-17 Then cometh \_\_\_\_\_ from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be \_\_\_\_\_ of him.14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? 15 And Jesus answering said unto him, \_\_\_\_\_ it to be so \_\_\_\_\_: for thus it becometh us to \_\_\_\_\_ all righteousness. Then he suffered(allowed) him.16 And Jesus, when he was \_\_\_\_\_, went up straightway out of the \_\_\_\_\_: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_, saying, This is my beloved \_\_\_\_\_, in whom I am well pleased. **NOTE: So far Jesus is repeating some of the same experience Israel of the OT went through. There was a purpose in all of this.**

13.) Jesus after being baptized was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days to be tempted by Satan (see Matt. 4:1,2) After Israel passed through the sea, how long did

they wander in the wilderness also being tempted by the enemy? Deuteronomy 8:2 *And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these \_\_\_\_\_ years in the wilderness, to \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and to \_\_\_\_\_ thee, to know what was in thine \_\_\_\_\_, whether thou wouldest keep his \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.* **NOTE: Jesus was tempted or “proved.” Israel unfortunately proved unfaithful and disobedient. Jesus our redeemer trod a similar path and was victorious! He was the new Israel. Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days and tempted of the devil and quoted scripture to refute the devil’s temptations –all from the book of Deuteronomy which was written in the context of the 40 year wanderings of Israel. It is interesting that in Bible prophecy a day is symbolic of a year. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness before He entered public ministry. Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness before they came to the Promised Land to be a “Kingdom of Priests” to minister and witness to the surrounding nations of God’s love and salvation.**

- 14.) Israel was called a “vine,” Jesus calls Himself the true “Vine.” Psalm 80:8 *Thou hast brought a \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_: thou hast cast out the heathen, and \_\_\_\_\_ it.* John 15:1 *I am the true \_\_\_\_\_, and my Father is the \_\_\_\_\_.*
- 15.) Israel is called “firstborn,” Jesus is called “firstborn.” Exodus 4:22 *And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, \_\_\_\_\_ is my son, even my \_\_\_\_\_:* Colossians 1:14 *In whom we have redemption through his \_\_\_\_\_, even the \_\_\_\_\_ of sins:* 15 *Who is the image of the invisible God, the \_\_\_\_\_ of every creature:* **NOTE: “Firstborn” basically means to be pre-eminent or superior to all others. According to scripture it does not necessarily mean the first one to be born in the physical sense. Think of it this way; if Jesus, the Son of God had not been born into this world, nobody would have hope of eternal life. Our birth into this world would have been virtually pointless and vain. In fact, life itself probably wouldn’t have been possible unless Christ had stepped down to be born into the human race. His birth (and death) makes all this possible. What good news!!**
- 16.) Abraham’s seed – Israel as nation vs. Jesus as “the Seed.” Isaiah 41:8 *But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ my friend.* Galatians 3:16 *Now to Abraham and his \_\_\_\_\_ were the promises made. He saith not, and to \_\_\_\_\_, as of many; but as of \_\_\_\_\_, And to thy \_\_\_\_\_, which is Christ.*
- 17.) There are many in Christian churches today that teach a “dispensationalist/futurist theory that God has two mutually separate peoples with a different plan for each –the Christian church and the literal (physical) Israel. Is this really compatible with what sacred scripture teaches? John 10:16 *And \_\_\_\_\_ sheep I have, which are not of this \_\_\_\_\_: them also I must \_\_\_\_\_, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ shepherd.* John 11:51 *And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus should die for that \_\_\_\_\_;* 52 *And not*

for that nation \_\_\_\_\_, but that also he should \_\_\_\_\_ together in \_\_\_\_\_ the children of God that were \_\_\_\_\_ abroad. **Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ \_\_\_\_\_ ye who sometimes were \_\_\_\_\_ off are made nigh by the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. **14** For he is our peace, who hath made both \_\_\_\_\_, and hath broken down the middle wall of \_\_\_\_\_ between us; **15** Having abolished in his flesh the \_\_\_\_\_, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; **16** And that he might reconcile \_\_\_\_\_ unto God in \_\_\_\_\_ body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: **17** And came and preached \_\_\_\_\_ to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. **18** For through him we \_\_\_\_\_ have access by \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit unto the Father. **NOTE: Does it look like from the scriptures above that there are two different types of people in the world that God is going to save with two different plans –the Gentile Christians and then literal Jews or Israelites? Take notice of a few more scriptures. 1Corinthians 12:13** For by \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit are we \_\_\_\_\_ baptized into \_\_\_\_\_ body, whether we be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit. **Ephesians 3:6** That the Gentiles should be \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_ body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: **Colossians 1:18** And he is the head of the \_\_\_\_\_, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in \_\_\_\_\_ things he might have the preeminence. **24** Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his \_\_\_\_\_ sake, which is the \_\_\_\_\_: **NOTE: The Bible is so clear. Why do people or so-called “scholars” come up with these complicated theories that only confuse the earnest truth-seeking Christians? The enemy Satan is the one behind all the false theories and teachings of which Christ has warned us about.**

**18.)** What other illustration does the Apostle Paul use that shows that there is one body of Christ as illustrated in one olive tree which has Gentile Christians as well as Jewish believers all partaking of the same trunk and root which is Christ? **Romans 11:17** And if some of the branches be \_\_\_\_\_ off, and thou, being a \_\_\_\_\_ olive tree, wert \_\_\_\_\_ in among them, and with them partakest of the root and \_\_\_\_\_ of the olive \_\_\_\_\_; **18** Boast \_\_\_\_\_ against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the \_\_\_\_\_, but the root thee. **19** Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken \_\_\_\_\_, that I might be grafted in. **20** Well; because of \_\_\_\_\_ they were broken off, and thou standest by \_\_\_\_\_. Be not \_\_\_\_\_, but fear: **21** For if God spared not the \_\_\_\_\_ branches, take heed lest he also \_\_\_\_\_ not thee. **22** Behold therefore the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of God: on them which \_\_\_\_\_, severity; but toward thee, goodness, \_\_\_\_\_ thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut \_\_\_\_\_. **23** And they also, if they abide not still in \_\_\_\_\_, shall be grafted in: for God is able to \_\_\_\_\_ them in again. **24** For if thou wert cut out of the \_\_\_\_\_ which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the \_\_\_\_\_ branches, be grafted into their own olive tree? **25** For I would not, brethren, that ye should be \_\_\_\_\_ of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that \_\_\_\_\_ in part is happened to \_\_\_\_\_, until the

fulness of the \_\_\_\_\_ be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the \_\_\_\_\_, and shall turn away \_\_\_\_\_ from Jacob: **NOTE: The natural branches that are retained are the literal Jews who believe in Jesus. The ones cut off are literal Jews who rejected Jesus. The wild olive branches that are grafted in are gentiles who become Christians. The wild olive tree branches that could be cut off are Gentile Christians who abandon their relationship with Christ. To be part of this olive tree means that you believe and are connected to Christ. If you are cut off that means you have turned your back on Jesus. [see study on "Once Saved Always Saved –Is it True?]** The Bible is our authority and standard of truth.

**We need to keep in mind that there have been many Jews who have been converted and accepted Christ as their Savior and there will undoubtedly be many more before Jesus comes. In fact, we should probably expect a great awakening of many Jews to the acceptance of Jesus as their Messiah just before the end of time.**

**19.) What happens when we accept the new Israel (God's Son)? Galatians 3:26-29** For ye are all the \_\_\_\_\_ of God by \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ have put on \_\_\_\_\_. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are \_\_\_\_\_ one in Christ Jesus. 29 And \_\_\_\_\_ ye be \_\_\_\_\_, then are ye \_\_\_\_\_ seed, and \_\_\_\_\_ according to the \_\_\_\_\_. **NOTE: If we have accepted Jesus Christ as our personal savior and been baptized into Christ, we are part of Abraham's seed that was promised to him thousands of years ago. We become part of the true "spiritual" Israel that God will gather into one in the last days. As the verse above says, we even become heirs to the rich inheritance that Christ will give us in His new kingdom. Literal Jews if they accept Jesus as their Messiah and Savior can be part of this True Israel but they must do so individually because corporately as a nation they have forfeited their role as God's people and now God's commandment-keeping Christians are the ones that new converts link up with. Looking to the literal nation of Israel which has become very secular along with the Ultra-Orthodox Jews which have become extremely legalistic and largely caught up in forms and ceremonies -are not the ones we should be looking to in these end times for the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. This is futile! Keep in mind that there is the "Type" vs. "Anti-Type." There is the "literal" vs. the "spiritual." There is the "Old Testament" vs. the "New Testament." Once we understand this, the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation take on a living and powerful meaning and make more sense logically! Let's be determined to study God's Word earnestly and follow only truth!**

## Brief Quiz

### Circle One

- 1.) True/False – There is no significance to the word "Israel" when it was first given to Jacob after his wrestling experience with the Angel
- 2.) True/False – Later on in the Bible the word "Israel" refers only to the nation.

- 3.) **True/False** – The Israelites were victorious when they wandered through the wilderness on their way to the promised land.
- 4.) **True/False** – Two “Josephs,” one in OT and one in the NT both had dreams and ended up in Egypt.
- 5.) **True/False** – Jesus is referred to as Israel in the Bible.
- 6.) **True/False** – Where Israel failed, Jesus conquered and was victorious.
- 7.) **True/False** – Christians who accept Jesus as their personal Savior can now be part of Spiritual Israel.
- 8.) **True/False** – Literal Israel that is over in the Mid-East will play a significant role in end-time events as depicted in the book of Revelation.

### ***My Response***

*It has now become clearer to me from the scriptures that the term Israel has a more spiritual significance that concerns God's salvation for us through Jesus Christ His Son. I want to accept Jesus as my personal Savior and to be a part of Spiritual Israel that will bring Honor and Glory to the God of heaven in these last days!*

*Signed* \_\_\_\_\_