

# Some Bible Knowledge is Critical.

Most of the critical scriptural "dots" really DO "connect" ...for those who learn how to study God's written word. But most believers learn only what to study ...to confirm denominational Doctrines. This series can help.

-Series Intro

□ 1 --Noah's Flood

□ 2 After Noah's Flood

□ 3 About the Dinosaurs...

☑ 4 – -Who're the Jews? □ 5 --The Jewish Priesthood

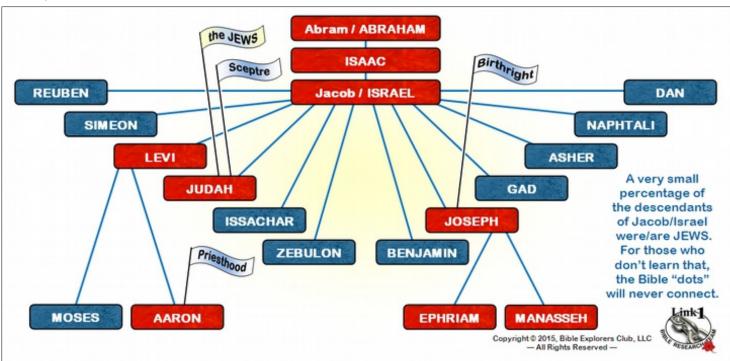
□ 6 — -Eden's Real Story

□ 7 — -Who're the "Elect" and Why Were They "Elected?"

It's okay to ask, "Why is THAT so important for me to know?" about this and any other topic in this series. Often, when we don't ask questions like that, we miss out on some major opportunities to learn from others. We've all been guilty of that at some point. But the answer to the question is this: A Very small percentage of the descendants of Jacob/Israel were/are JEWS. For those who fail to learn that, the Bible "dots" will never connect.

When an Old Testament scripture/prophecy is addressed to Israel, the children of Israel, the nation of Israel or the Israelites, it may or may not also apply to the "Jews." It most often does not. When an Old Testament scripture/prophecy is addressed to Judah, the children of Judah or the nation of Judah, it does not apply to Israel, the children of Israel, the nation of Israel, the Israelites or to the Church. Further, when a New Testament scripture is addressed to Israel, "the lost nation of Israel" or to "the lost tribe/tribes of Israel," it does not apply to the "Jews." Why? Because very few of the descendants of Jacob/Israel were/are "Jews." Similarly, when a New Testament scripture is written to the "Jews," it does not apply to Israelites, the nation of Israel, "the lost tribe(s) of Israel" or to the Church.

Until today's visible church understands and starts teaching the simple Bible truths contained in this article, the traditions of men will continue to cloud the original truth...and keep those "dots" from connecting. We pray that this chart will help:



It will surprise many to learn that there are now and there were then lots of people who claim(ed) to be "Jews" who are/were NOT Jews. That was so important to Jesus that, when He told John what to write in the book of Revelation, He said to include this:

- > "...[I know] the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but [are] the synagogue of Satan." —Revelation 2:9, to the church at Smyrna
- > "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." —Revelation 3:9, to the Philadelphia church

Smyrna and Philadelphia are the ONLY two of those "churches of Asia Minor" that Jesus can find no fault with. The one thing they have in common is that they preach against those who claim to be "Jews" but are not Jews. Please keep in mind, too, that many Bible scholars think those seven "churches of Asia Minor" did not exist when John wrote the book of

Copyright © 2015 Bible Explorers Club., LLC

Revelation. Those scholars think they represent the various divisions of today's church. I agree with them. And I also agree with them that "the gates of Hell" may already have prevailed against some of those churches. Here's a possible indicator of that: "I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest and art dead." —Revelation 3:1 to the church at Sardis

> "...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." —Jesus, at Matthew 16:18

So! What were the differences then and what are the differences today between Hebrews, Jews, Israelites, Gentiles and the Church? The original nation of Israel was made up of the 12 families (tribes) of people who had descended from the man, Jacob/Israel. (You may recall from a previous article in this series that God changed Jacob's name to "Israel" after he had an all-night-long fight with The Angel of the Lord. His descendants came to be called "The Children of Israel.")

### "Israelites" v. "Jews"—

All the descendants of the man, Jacob/Israel are Israelites/Hebrews, but the overwhelming majority of Israelites and Hebrews are NOT Jews. The term "Jew" is only appropriate for some of the descendants of the man, Judah. It can also apply to some of the man, Benjamin's, descendants...and to some of the descendants of the man, Levi. You may be wondering why I've emphasized the word "some," here. The following critical Bible History lesson may help you begin to understand that:

Forty years after Moses led the Hebrews/Israelites from their slavery in Egypt, they finally moved into the land God had promised them—the land of Canaan. At some point after that – 1,020 years before Jesus was born – Saul (of the tribe of Benjamin) became their King. Twenty years later, David (of the tribe of Judah) became King. David's son, Solomon, became King 961 years before Christ. He was King of all of Israel (properly called "the nation of Israel") for 39 years. When Solomon died in 922 B.C. his son, Rehoboam took over as King of Israel. But Rehoboam wasn't nearly as smart as his dad had been. That new title went to his head! Here's what happened:

Instead of seeking the wise counsel of his dad's closest advisors, Rehoboam decided it would be cool to consult his childhood buddies. They told him something like, "You're gonna have to get tough with'em and show'em who's boss!" So he got tough with'em and showed'em who was boss! One of those "tough" things was to raise their taxes. (Sound familiar?) Well, they didn't like that very much. What they organized, next, may've been something like one of today's political conventions. Ten of the twelve tribes of Israel seceded! Well, what they actually did was to rip the capital city of Israel away from Jerusalem and move it to Samaria! That's a few days' walk to the North. And they chose a new King of Israel: Jeroboam. (Don't know what tribe he was from.)

Poor Rehoboam...a victim of his own youthful stupidity! He was left with being King of just two really small tribes. Those were the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. Why they decided to stay with him, nobody knows; but they did. Rehoboam was the King of Judah (not Israel) for just seven years. For the next 328 years, national Judah was ruled by his descendants. And then, 587 years before Jesus was born, Babylon defeated them and captured their King (Zedekiah), who soon died in prison. For several reasons you may know about, national Israel didn't even last that long. It fell 135 years before the fall of national Judah, in 721 B.C. Its citizens were eventually scattered throughout the world.

The "lost" 10 tribes of Israel are now known to have migrated Northwest into the British Isles (called "the end of the earth" - never "the ends of the earth" - in Bible times) and other parts of Europe. They became the dominant races in those lands—Anglo Saxon (>Isaac's sons). They were also called Caucasian, because they traveled through the Caucasian Pass between the Black and Caspian seas on their prophesied journeys. In some notable cases, they became the ruling families of those lands. There were multiple migrations of Jews, later (i.e.: genetic descendants of the man, Judah) to the same area. Historians often refer to them as "Jutes." As an example of that, the northern part of today's Denmark [>DANmark] is the Jutland Peninsula.

Many Bible scholars find it especially interesting that neither the LION of Judah [Micah 5:8] nor the UNICORN of Israel-Joseph-Ephraim [Deuteronomy 33:16-17] is associated with the modern nation of Israel. But the heraldry of Great Britain and of Ireland include both of them! The ARROWS and the OLIVE BRANCH of Joseph-Manasseh are associated with the United States. (As info, the tribe of Ephraim was the largest of the 12 tribes of original Israel, and of the 10 tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Israel after the split. That's why the Northern nation of Israel is often called "Ephriam" in the Bible.)

Earlier, I mentioned that the term "Jew" is only appropriate for some of the descendants of the man, Judah, and some of the man, Benjamin's, descendants and to some of the descendants of the man, Levi. Here's the scoop on that:

1. Most of the tribe of Levi/Aaron left Jerusalem with Jeroboam and the 10 tribes who moved the kingdom of Israel North, to Samaria, in 922 B.C. Soon, though, when Israel's King Jeroboam converted those 10 tribes to a pagan

- religion, he kicked the Levites and the Aaronic Priests out. Many of them returned to Jerusalem. Those who returned and many of their descendants can safely be called "Jews."
- 2. Years later, most of the descendants of the men, Judah, Benjamin and Levi-Aaron, chose NOT to return to Jerusalem (from Babylon) with either Ezra or Nehemiah to rebuild the city's walls and the temple. Only those who <u>did</u> go back can legitimately be called "Jews."

#### Judah's Sceptre-

- > "The 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 49:10
  - ^ That'll be at "the last trump" of 1 Corinthians 15:51,52, "the trump of God" at 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and the trumpet of the seventh angel of Revelation 11:15: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become [the kingdoms] of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever."
    - Yes; I know: You've probably been taught something very different. But I pray that you'll come to understand that there is no scripture or collection of scriptures in the entire Bible to support the notion of anything different. That promise was not made to national Judah, but to the man, Judah.

You may have heard it preached that King Zedekiah was the last of Judah's royal descendants. If that were true, then God had lied! Zedekiah died 587 years before Christ was even born! What's true is that the prophet, Jeremiah, took two (possibly three) of Zedekiah's daughters to the region that's known, today, as the British Isles. There, one of them married a descendant of Zarah, the prince of the Scarlet Thread. Now, there's an uncommonly fascinating story. Why not grab your Bible and read about it at Genesis chapter 38. Your continued study will also confirm that when an Old Testament Jew died, his birthright went to his oldest son. But if there were no sons to receive the birthright, it would go to his oldest daughter.

The short version of this long story is that Zedekiah was clearly NOT the last scepter-bearer of the Judah line of Kings. That royal line continues TODAY...just as God promised the man, Judah, that it would, at Genesis 49:10, above.

Yes; this is all very well documented. Here are a few of non-fiction extra-Biblical resources we've used in addition to the Bible, itself: The first one you should probably get and read is C. R. Dickey's <u>One Man's Destiny</u> (1942). You might want to read <u>Joseph's Birthright and Judah's Sceptre</u> (1902), by J. H. Allen, next. And then, if you're *really* serious about gaining such critical Bible knowledge, you should read the <u>History of England</u> (1926). That book's author is G. Macaulay Trevelyan. Here's a memorable quote from that one: "Some Iberian [Hebrew] blood probably flows in the veins of every modern Englishman, more in the average Scot, most in the Welsh and Irish." I'll mention two other resources that have been valuable to us: (1) <u>Anglo-Saxon Israel, or Israel-Britain</u> (1939), by Adam Rutherford and (2) <u>Tamar Tephi: or The Maid of Destiny</u> (1924), by John Dunham-Massey.

Again, at various times in the recorded history of the European Continent the Sons of Isaac were called by a variety of names. Among them were Saxons (<Isaac's Sons), Angles (<Anglo-Saxon), Engles (<English) and Iberians (<sons of Eber —from which the racial designation, "Hebrew," was derived). They were also called Caucasians, because most of them had travelled through the Caucasian Pass, between the Black Sea and the Caspian Seas on their prophesied migrations. Until the 6<sup>th</sup> Century or later, the Hebrew alphabet had no vowels so the term, "Isaac's Sons," was written "SXNS." That's why the people of that time called them "Saxons."

### "Israelites" v. "Jews" v. "Gentiles" v. "The Church"—

The term, "Gentiles," refers to all people who're not genetic descendants of <u>Jacob/Israel</u>. In addition to Abraham's first son, Ishmael, and his second son, Isaac, he had six more sons by his second wife, Keturah. Ishmael and Keturah's sons and all of their offspring are appropriately called Gentiles. The offspring of recurring visits of "the sons of God" are also Gentiles. (Yes, they can be "saved.") "The Church" is made up of ALL people – except "the sons of God," the ones with no belly buttons – who have chosen to <u>follow</u> Christ. It does NOT include those who've simply come to believe that He is who He says He is: "...the devils also believe and tremble." —James 2:19

- > "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." —Galatians 3:28
- > "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond [nor] free: but Christ [is] all, and in all." —Colossians 3:11

## Then, Where On Earth Are "The Lost Tribes of Israel?"—

Between 740 and 710 B.C., all ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom of Israel (and its capital city, Samaria) were exiled to Assyria. Large numbers of the two tribes of JUDAH were exiled along with them. Before long they were all "scattered" to the point that any historical record of their continued existence was almost impossible to find. The scriptures never refer to any of those people as "Jews." Prior to the dawn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, they were correctly called "The Lost House of Israel." Why the 19<sup>th</sup> Century? (Hope you're ready for this!):

Three different verses at Leviticus 26 record God's vow to punish Israel (NOT to include the House of Judah) seven "times" for their sins. It is generally agreed among Bible scholars that a prophetic "time" is 360 years. Using that measure, "seven 'times'" equals 2,520 years. Doing the math, then, should be pretty easy: Just add the current year (2015) to the 710 B.C. final "scattering" of those people. That'd be 2,725 years. Then, subtract the 2,520 years from the 2,725 years. That should leave 205 years. Now, subtract that 205 years from the current year (2015) to learn that Israel's punishment should have ended somewhere around 1810 A.D. That's the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century! (In the 3-column quote that appears below, the author uses exactly the same math, but he starts out with the year 740 B.C., when the "scattering" started. The only difference is that I've started with 710 B.C., when the "scattering" ended.)

- 2015 —the current year
- + 710 —the # of years before Christ when the last remnants of Israel were "scattered"
- 2725 —the estimated total # of years since Israel's "seven 'times'" punishment began
- -2520 —the estimated length of a prophetic "seven 'times'"
  - 205 —the # of years to subtract from the current year to learn the approximate end date for Israel's prophesied "seven 'times'" punishment. I get the year 1810 A.D., the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Sure enough, credible historical evidence of Israel's true identity started surfacing early in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. That evidence continues to escalate. There remains little question in the minds of many Bible scholars that genetic ISRAEL is comprised, primarily, of the citizenry of Earth's "Christian nations." Here's some more good news:

> "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob" —Paul, at Romans 11:26

"Many contend that the church is the kingdom of Christ which becomes a great mountain and fills the whole earth. Yet how can it be? Daniel saw the God of heaven setting up an empire that would break in pieces ruthless, aggressive nations and scatter them like chaff. That is not the work of churches and ministers of the sacred altars; it is the work of nations, statesmen and military strategists under divine guidance...The time of their expansion should coincide too with the ending of the 'seven times' punishment, 2,520 years after the captivities of Israel and Judah....Reckoning the fall of Samaria to have occurred in 722 B.C., the 2,520 years would end for that portion of Israel around 1798 A.D. That brings us to the end of the eighteenth century which is also the time of papal Rome's decline. And what do we find taking place as this

time approached? We see Anglo-Saxon Israel begin the most gigantic territorial expansion in the world's history...

"Anglo-Saxon expansion took place in the exact order stated to Jacob: westward first from Palestine, across Europe to the British Isles; then on west in the seventeenth century to America; in the same century India was acquired in the east; Canada, the northernmost section of the British Empire, was taken from the French in the eighteenth century; then in the nineteenth century Britain colonized Australia, New Zealand and South Africa... In the meantime dramatic chapters were being added to United States history as pioneers blazed famous trails westward to the Pacific Ocean...to the West they went - across the Appalachian Highlands, the central plains, the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. One of the most important events in American history was the Louisiana Purchase in which Thomas Jefferson bought from Napoleon a vast territory extending from the Gulf of Mexico to Canada. The transaction took place in 1803 and marked a new era of expansion for the United States. In the same century brilliant heroes of Texas history freed that vast territory from the domination of Spain and Mexico. In 1867 the great northwestern peninsula of Alaska was purchased from Russia.

"Today islands scattered in all the oceans and seas look to the navies of Britain and the United States for protection. Truly the Spirit said of Jacob-Israel, 'His seed shall be in many waters.'"

-quoted from C. R. Dickey's book, One Man's Destiny (1942)

Before the 19<sup>th</sup> Century almost nobody suspected all this. But we live in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This is often called "The Information Age." Those Bible "experts" who still don't know (and share) all this are without excuse.

Finally, those who still lived in Jerusalem in 70 A.D. were forced into exile, too. It's said that Jerusalem became a Jewish city, again, in 1967—after having come into existence with a fanfare in 1948. Did it? Is modern "Israel" the revived Jewish Nation of prophecy? I'm in agreement with those serious Bible scholars who aren't so sure about that. (See Revelation 2:9 and 3:9 for a quick refresher.)

#### Now, for our review:

- All Jews are Israelites, but an extremely small percentage of Israelites are Jews. The Jews include some of the descendants of the man, Judah. It can also apply to some of the man, Benjamin's, descendants...and to some of the descendants of the man, Levi. Jesus is concerned that there are still many people who claim to be Jews who're not Jews.
- Whether the modern nation of Israel is the prophesied restoration of "the Jewish state" remains uncertain.
- 3 Traditional teaching says that Judah's King Zedekiah was the last of the prophesied line of royalty that can only come through the man, Judah. But multiple historical and Bible facts suggest that Judah's line of royalty continued and still exists today, in Great Britain – without even a short break.
- 4 The prophetic "seven times" punishment of the disobedient nation of Ephriam-Israel likely ended in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. In that era the Roman Catholic Church had begun to lose its purely evil, monopolistic grip on the Christian faith. That's also when "Anglo-Saxon expansion took place in the exact order stated to Jacob: westward first from Palestine, across Europe to the British Isles; then on west...to America..." —from One Man's Destiny (1942), by C. R. Dickey
- 5 Credible historical evidence of Israel's true identity started surfacing early in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. That evidence continues to escalate.
- 6 There remains little question in the minds of many Bible scholars that genetic ISRAEL is comprised, primarily, of the citizenry of Earth's "Christian nations."
- Per Romans 11:26, all Israel will be saved.

The next article is about the strange "evolution" of the Jewish Priesthood. Don't be fooled into thinking that'll be boring: It won't. Buckle up for more surprises!

—a collaborative effort with several other members of our Link1<sub>[™]</sub> Bible Research Team

NOTE: If you'd care to compare and begin to understand the differences between the profound, easy-to-confirm truth of our review point 3 and widespread traditional teaching about that, our five-chart Appendix #5 can be a really great starting place for you: http://bibleexplorers.webs.com/ Appendices/Appendix%205.pdf.