

## YOUR IDENTITY AS SPIRITUAL ISRAEL

Only by the precious blood of Jesus (Yeshua), He is the “mediator” of the New Covenant God established with both the Jews from the House of Judah and those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the House of Israel. This is based on Jeremiah 31:31-33 and Hebrews 8:7-10.

Jesus (Yeshua) is the Holy One of Israel. Therefore, Israel refers to both the land God promised Abraham’s descendants and His covenant people. God’s covenant people are the children of Israel—both the Jews from the House of Judah and those of us who were former Gentiles from the House of Israel.

We are Israel—God’s covenant people. We are a holy nation, a royal priesthood His own special people, that we may proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (Exodus 19:6 and 1 Peter 2:9).

From beginning to end—the Bible is about one thing which is this: God’s “Covenant of Marriage” with the children of Israel.

And, it is for this very reason, the Church was not birthed in the Book of Acts when the Holy Spirit was poured out. The Church was birthed in Genesis. The Church was born based on one of the many promises God made to Abraham and his descendants based on Genesis 28:3–4. This promise would ultimately result in the fulfillment of Galatians 3:26–29. Genesis 28:3–4, says the following:

*“May God Almighty bless you, And make you fruitful and multiply you, That you may be an ASSEMBLY of peoples; And give you the blessing of Abraham, To you and your descendants with you, That you may inherit the land In which you are a stranger, Which God gave to Abraham.”* (Gen. 28:3–4, NKJV) (emphasis added).

According to *Strong’s Hebrew Lexicon* #H6951, the word “assembly” as used in Genesis 28:3–4, is the Hebrew word “qahal” (pronounced “kaw-hawl”), and is from H6950; assemblage (usually concretely): assembly, company, congregation, multitude.

However, according to the Septuagint, which is the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament, it translates the word “assembly” as the Greek word “Ekklēsia.”

Every time you see the word “Church” in the New Testament, it is referring to God’s assembly, congregation, and His Ekklēsia.

According to *Strong’s Greek Lexicon* #G1577, the word “Church” is the Greek word “Ekklēsia” (pronounced “ek-klay-see’-ah”), and is from a compound of G1537 and a derivative of G2564 and means the following: A calling out, that is, (concretely) a popular

meeting, especially a religious congregation (Jewish synagogue, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both): assembly, church.

Thus, God's Church ("Ekklesia") is His holy nation and royal priesthood. This is the Levitical priesthood which under the New Covenant is under the order of Melchizedek. This priesthood is without end because the Word who became the Son of Man in the Person of Jesus Christ—lives forever.

God gave the children of Israel His grace and mercy long ago (it is not a New Covenant "dispensation") when He delivered His Hebrew people from Egypt and from Pharaoh (King of Egypt). He did this based on one of the promises He gave to Abraham—the father of our faith.

Therefore, God "saved" the children of Israel when they "applied" the blood of the Passover lamb to the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they ate it. Hence, the "blood" was a "sign" on their houses. Because the Hebrew children were "obedient" to do what Moses instructed them to do, when Yehovah (Yahweh [YHWH]) saw the blood, He "passed over" them. Thus, the plague did not destroy His Hebrew people when He struck the land of Egypt during His judgment. As it was in the beginning, so it shall be in the end. God will call the past into account.

Also, Yehovah saved the children of Israel before He gave them His Law (His instructions) at the base of Mount Sinai during the very first Feast of Weeks (Shavuot or Pentecost).

Did you know this is why we commemorate Pentecost? This was when all the children of Israel entered into the "Covenant of Marriage" as the nation of Israel.

God made this "covenant" and "oath, not only with our ancestors who were the children of Israel (His Ekklesia) long ago BUT also with those who were not there on that particular day (Deuteronomy 29:14-18).

This "Covenant of Marriage" was initially ratified (confirmed) by the blood of animals until Jesus shed His precious blood on the cross at Calvary. Thus, Jesus ratified (confirmed) once again this covenant His heavenly Father made with all the children of Israel long ago. In fact, Jesus fulfilled (consummated, executed, and ratified [confirmed]) all the everlasting covenants (plural) Yehovah made throughout the synergy of the ages with mankind and all creation.

## THE NEW COVENANT "RENEWED," "RESTORED," AND "REBUILT" THE FIRST COVENANT

Jesus “renewed,” “restored,” and “rebuilt” the first Covenant (Old Covenant) because there was a change in the law for this reason: Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant, and the New Covenant is based on better promises.

However, the New Covenant in no way abolished (dissolved, disintegrated, or demolished) the first Covenant (Old Covenant) or God’s laws, especially since under the New Covenant He has now put His laws in our mind and written them on the tablet of our hearts.

Our Lawgiver now lives in us, and He gives us His grace and His power to obey His commandments once we become saved by grace through faith. We “obey” His commandments once we become saved because we love Him and want to please the One who has captivated our heart by the power of His love.

When we receive Jesus Christ (Yeshua) as our Lord and Savior we enter into the “Covenant of Marriage” with the Holy One of Israel He initially established with all the children of Israel as the nation of Israel long ago.

And, as it was with our ancestors long ago, we become saved by grace through faith in our Passover Lamb before our heavenly Father gives us His terms and conditions (His laws) or (House Rules) of walking in a “covenant” relationship with Him. This is why once we become saved by grace through faith we are expected to be a “disciple” of His Word, so we will know what God expects from His covenant people.

Yes, indeed. From the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation God’s covenant people are the children of Israel who worship and serve the Holy One of Israel—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel). We (both Jew and former Gentile) are Israel—God’s covenant people.

In fact, this is why Revelation 14:1 talks about the 144,000 whom are from all twelve tribes of Israel, not just the Jews from the House of Judah. So for those who teach only the Jews will be “left behind” and the Church will be “raptured” out of here before the tribulation this is not true because it is not based on the whole counsel of God’s Word. Moreover, the wicked will be “cut off,” and the righteous will inherit the earth.

These 144,000 are “set apart” (consecrated) as they follow the Lamb wherever He goes, and NO deceit is found in their mouths. They are without spot and blemish for they are pure, holy virgins. These few faithful “remnant” will still be alive and remain (survive) to witness the return of Jesus Christ because they have the seal of the living God on their foreheads. In other words, they are supernaturally protected during the tribulation period. Just as God supernaturally protected His Hebrew people in the land of Goshen when He released His judgments against Egypt, Pharaoh, and the Egyptian people because they “applied” the blood of the Lamb on the doorpost of their house. Hence, when we listen to

and obey our heavenly Father's commandments written by His servant Moses and written in the gospels, we are "applying" the blood of the Lamb upon the doorpost of our "circumcised" hearts.

These 144,000 are "counted worthy" to receive the seal of righteousness (God's signet ring) upon their foreheads because they have not committed adultery, spiritually speaking. Moreover, they keep the commandments of God (the volume of Moses [especially God's Sabbaths which are in all seven of His holy convocations] and the gospel), and they have faith in Jesus Christ. God's covenant people are both Jews and former Gentiles who must keep the commandments of God (after we become saved) by our faith in Jesus Christ (Revelation 14:12). Both are required to walk in a covenant relationship with our heavenly Father that Jesus died to "reconcile" and "restore" us to because both houses committed spiritual adultery. And, as a result, our heavenly Father issued them a certificate of divorce.