

WHO ARE YOU?

There are only two groups of people living during this age. First we will talk about Israel. Israel is strictly through the line of three men, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was later renamed by God as Israel. Israel had twelve sons. The name of Israel was given to any descendant that came from any one of Israel's twelve sons. Their names can be found in Gen. Chapter 49 where old Israel pronounced a prophetic blessing on each of his twelve sons, regarding their descendant's futures. Unless one came from one of these twelve sons, they did not belong to the family of Israel, even though he may have been born to Abraham, who remarried Keturah, after Sarah died, or he may have been born to Jacob's twin brother Esau.

A lot has happened that has been unexplained by most religious leaders that is very important. For instance: Jeroboam, a rebel leader in the time of Solomon decided to rebel against the government of Solomon. Read about this in 1Kings chapters 11 and 12. He was given permission from God to take ten tribes away from Judea. Later, because the ten tribes turned away from God, He allowed them to be taken into captivity by Syria. Because they no longer kept God's laws and Sabbaths, they became scattered throughout the world, and lost their identity.

Only the remaining Israelites kept the knowledge of the Sabbaths, and their identity when they went into bondage to Babylon, for their brutal sins. When they returned to their land they were known as Jews. There were also, from the tribe of Levi, some that had migrated into Jerusalem, during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, with the tribe of Judah.

God has chosen to work with Israelites to bring them through many tribulations and experiences so that they will eventually become the greatest nation on earth, not always in this age but in the very last two, the sixth and seventh ages. Many books and manmade movies have been available in our age about Israel and their past history. However very little has been written about the future of their race. You can read about their futures in Eze. Chps 37 through 48. Also Isa. 43:1-21, 59:20-21, and many other prophecies.

Jesus was an Israelite, from the tribe of Judah, a Jew. Paul, for instance, was an Israelite, of the tribe of Benjamin. However, he was considered a Jew because he was a legal citizen of Judea, and also of Rome. The sad part is that Paul explains in Rom 10 and 11 how almost all Israel (not just Jews), have chose to be blind to God's word, rebelling against Him. God has turned against Israel for a time, until the fullness of the Gentiles is completed. Is it any wonder there is so much confusion among the religions of the world?

For further information about Israel read the study titled, "New Covenant to Israel"
And "New Beginnings 2013"

Next we will discuss Gentiles: I ask again "Who Are You"? Are you an Israelite or a Gentile? If you are not an Israelite, then you are a non-Israelite. You have to be a Gentile. That's not so bad right now since God has blinded Israel. Gentiles are any who are not descendants of one of Jacob's twelve sons. They are referred to, in the Bible, as Gentiles, nations, tongues, and peoples etc. In other words they are non-Israelites. There is an abundance of history, throughout the Bible, of many of these peoples. The most information found in the Bible concerning Gentiles is found in Paul's teaching to his newly converted Gentile congregations and in the book of Revelation. You will find the seven Gentile churches that existed during the time of Paul and John. But history will repeat itself when these Gentile congregations

will revive in the end of this age. We can know this because next to the last church, Philadelphia, is told that she will not have to suffer the hour of tribulation that will come upon the whole world (meaning the seven vials of God's wrath). This period of time is the only time something happens that effects the whole earth.

Then we read about where the next, and last, Gentile church era is having to go through this test by being tested as by fire. It is clear that this last Gentile church is having to go through the seven plagues of God's wrath at the end of this age. Rev. 3:7-22 and 16:21 Of course, anyone, Israelite or Gentile, can avoid this horrible time now, because we won't live long enough to see it. That is the good part, but, regardless of who we are, we have to make a decision as to whether we want to be blinded, or be called as a begotten child of God, to be born into His family, at the resurrection. He has blinded those Israelites who are rebellious and refuse to accept God's way of life. It is also very good that He has turned to the Gentiles from now until after the thousand year millennium. As a Gentile you have a better chance of being called than an Israelite has. Paul says God has blinded Israel and turned to the Gentiles. Rom. 10 and 11 Rev. 14:12-20. However, we are told "not all" Israelites are permanently blinded; they can choose not to be blinded, by not accepting false religions and staying close to God by obedience to Him.

Another thing to consider: the reason there are no Israelite churches mentioned in Revelation is because the nations of Israel are presently turning away from God and He will let their enemies destroy them; they will be out of the picture by then. Israelite nations, and the righteous, will be murdered by Satan's religious and political powers. So what is the answer to our dilemma? The same as it has always been: yield ourselves to God and rely on Him to work it out in our lives. He has promised to comfort us in times of trouble and reward us for our devotion. We have to believe Him, whether Israelite or Gentile. Without faith we are none of His!! Aoh, and by the way, Israelite nations will be resurrected and be unblinded after the millennium Eze. 39.