

## Israel (In Scripture)

**ISRAEL (Person)** Name meaning “one who strives or struggles with God”

This name was first given to Jacob in relation to his wrestling with God in prayer concerning his brother Esau, who had said he would kill Jacob -

**28 And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.”  
Genesis 32:28**

This name was given to Jacob again in connection to the Covenant promises already given to his fathers Abraham and Isaac -

**9 Then God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Padan Aram, and blessed him. 10 And God said to him, “Your name *is* Jacob; your name shall not be called Jacob anymore, but Israel shall be your name.” So He called his name Israel. 11 Also God said to him: “*I am* God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body. 12 The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to your descendants after you I give this land.”**

Right before Israel, as a nation, goes into the promised land, in connection with God’s giving them His Ten Commandments a second time, note they as a nation are called “Israel” -

**6 “Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess, 2 that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. 3 Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you—‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’ 4 “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:1-5**

Not all of Israel (natural descendants of Jacob) are Israel (the true people of God (true spiritual descendants of Abraham / Jacob) –

**9 I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup> who are Israelites, to whom *pertain* the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> of whom *are* the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Amen.**

Israel's Rejection and God's Purpose

**<sup>6</sup> But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they *are* not all Israel who *are* of Israel, <sup>7</sup> nor *are* they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "*In Isaac your seed shall be called.*" <sup>8</sup> That is, those who *are* the children of the flesh, these *are* not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. <sup>9</sup> For this *is* the word of promise: "*At this time I will come and Sarah shall have a son.*"**

**<sup>10</sup> And not only *this*, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, *even* by our father Isaac <sup>11</sup> (for *the children* not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls), <sup>12</sup> it was said to her, "*The older shall serve the younger.*" <sup>13</sup> As it is written, "*Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.*" Romans 9:1-13**

Who are the true people of God today?

Believers in Jesus Christ or natural descendants of Jacob?

God's people today are Jews and Gentiles who believe in Jesus, Jesus is the only Way to the Father –

**<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6**

**<sup>12</sup> Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12**

All the promises of God, including promises about the land are ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ, and in Him alone -

**<sup>19</sup> For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. <sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:19-20**

Who are the true children of Abraham today?

**<sup>5</sup> Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does He do it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? <sup>6</sup> just as Abraham “*believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.*” <sup>7</sup> Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup> And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, *saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”* <sup>9</sup> So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.**

**<sup>10</sup> For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “*Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.*” <sup>11</sup> But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God *is* evident, for “*the just shall live by faith.*” <sup>12</sup> Yet the law is not of faith, but “*the man who does them shall live by them.*”**

**<sup>13</sup> Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “*Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree*”), <sup>14</sup> that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**

**<sup>15</sup> Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though *it is* only a man’s covenant, yet *if it is* confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. <sup>16</sup> Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “*And to your Seed,*” who is Christ. <sup>17</sup> And this I say, *that* the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect. <sup>18</sup> For if the inheritance *is* of the law, *it is* no longer of promise; but God gave *it* to Abraham by promise.**

<sup>19</sup> What purpose then *does the law serve*? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.

<sup>20</sup> Now a mediator does not *mediate* for one *only*, but God is one.

<sup>21</sup> Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. <sup>22</sup> But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. <sup>23</sup> But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

Sons and Heirs

<sup>26</sup> For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you *are* Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Galatians 3:5-29

What are natural descendants of Jacob, who deny Jesus Christ called? –

<sup>8</sup> “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write, ‘These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life: <sup>9</sup> “I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and *I know* the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but *are* a synagogue of Satan. Revelation 2:8-9

## The Tabernacle, Temple, the New Jerusalem

<sup>8</sup> And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.  
<sup>9</sup> According to all that I show you, *that is*, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make *it*.

Exodus 25:8-9

1. Its purpose - that I may dwell among them.
2. Its design - <sup>9</sup> According to all that I show you

3. Its early competition - <sup>4</sup> **And he received *the gold* from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, “This *is* your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!” Exodus 32:4-5**

4. The tabernacle is replaced by the Temple –

<sup>27</sup> **“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built! 1 Kings 8:27**

5. The temple is replaced by Jesus –

<sup>19</sup> **Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But He was speaking of the temple of His body. <sup>22</sup> Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said. John 2:19-22**

Why does Jesus refer to His body as “this temple?”

<sup>9</sup> **For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; Colossians 2:9**

6. When Jesus raises from the dead does the Jerusalem temple become the dwelling place of God on earth again?

No, we, the church, are the Temple –

<sup>16</sup> **Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? <sup>17</sup> If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

<sup>19</sup> **Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

**<sup>16</sup> And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:**

***“I will dwell in them  
And walk among them.  
I will be their God,  
And they shall be My people.” 2 Corinthians 6:16***

**<sup>19</sup> Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Ephesians 2:19-22**

A prayer for the spiritual temple –

**<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—<sup>19</sup> to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**

**<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, <sup>21</sup> to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:14-21**

Building blocks / stones in the Temple, again note these are human beings, especially Christ –

**<sup>4</sup> Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, <sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual**

sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture,

**“Behold, I lay in Zion  
A chief cornerstone, elect, precious,  
And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”**

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, to you who believe, *He is precious*; but to those who are disobedient,

***“The stone which the builders rejected  
Has become the chief cornerstone,”*** <sup>8</sup> and

***“A stone of stumbling  
And a rock of offense.”***

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.

<sup>9</sup> But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. 1 Peter 2:4-10

<sup>9</sup> For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, *you are* God’s building. <sup>10</sup> According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. <sup>11</sup> For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. <sup>12</sup> Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, <sup>13</sup> each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. <sup>14</sup> If anyone’s work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

A literal or spiritual pillar? –

**<sup>12</sup> He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And *I will write on him My new name.* Revelation 3:12**

What is the New Jerusalem?

**21 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. <sup>2</sup> Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. <sup>4</sup> And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”**

**<sup>5</sup> Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”**

**<sup>6</sup> And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. <sup>7</sup> He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. Revelation 21:1-7**

Described as a City and a Bride, the church is the Bride of Christ  
Describes an eternal / unchanging state

Will the new Jerusalem have a Temple in it?

**<sup>22</sup> But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup> The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. <sup>24</sup> And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). <sup>26</sup> And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. <sup>27</sup> But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an**



**abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. Revelation 21:22-27**

Is there a future for national Israel?

**<sup>11</sup> I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation *has come* to the Gentiles. <sup>12</sup> Now if their fall *is* riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!**

**<sup>13</sup> For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, <sup>14</sup> if by any means I may provoke to jealousy *those who are* my flesh and save some of them. <sup>15</sup> For if their being cast away *is* the reconciling of the world, what *will* their acceptance *be* but life from the dead?**

**<sup>16</sup> For if the firstfruit *is* holy, the lump *is* also *holy*; and if the root *is* holy, so *are* the branches. <sup>17</sup> And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, <sup>18</sup> do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, *remember that* you do not support the root, but the root supports you.**

**<sup>19</sup> You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in." <sup>20</sup> Well *said*. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. <sup>21</sup> For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. <sup>22</sup> Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in *His* goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off. <sup>23</sup> And they also, if they do not continue in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. <sup>24</sup> For if you were cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and were grafted contrary to nature into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, who *are* natural *branches*, be grafted into their own olive tree?**

**<sup>25</sup> For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup> And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:**

***"The Deliverer will come out of Zion,  
And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob;***

***27 For this is My covenant with them,  
When I take away their sins.”***

***28 Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.***

***29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30 For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, 31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. 32 For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.***

***33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!***

***34 “For who has known the mind of the LORD?  
Or who has become His counselor?”***

***35 “Or who has first given to Him  
And it shall be repaid to him?”***

***36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen. Romans 11:11-36***

Seems to indicate a future for National Israelites

Contingent upon belief in Jesus - :23

Grafted into the same, not a different Olive Tree - :23-24

All Israel ??? :26

In some sense they (or a future remnant of them) are still elect - :28-32

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