

APRIL 29, 2025

WHO'S WHO IN THE BIBLE:

PART IV: JEWS AND GENTILES

Good Afternoon Everyone!

LET'S PRAY! Father YAHWEH, please let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in Thy Sight O LORD, my Strength and my Redeemer! AMEN!

Today, we are going to define what a “Jew” and a “Gentile” are from a Biblical Perspective, as well as what a “Jew” and a “Gentile” are not. I will be using The King James Bible, Charles’ Thomson’s English Translation of the Greek Septuagint and The Greek New Testament, as well as Ben Williams’ Kingdom Bible Study Workbook

and The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible.

When we establish the exclusive nature of Israel as being a Holy (Set-Apart) People (**AM** in the Hebrew and **LAOS** in the Greek) among all the other people groups listed in the Bible, we find conflicts with the common belief about “**Jews and Gentiles.**” The common teaching is that “**the Jews**” are Israel and that “**the Gentiles**” are everyone else. The two views are against each other, one cannot be held together with the other because we will show that “**the Jews**” cannot equate to all Israel and that some “**Gentiles**” may be Israelites in Scripture. Because the traditional teaching is so ingrained in Bible commentaries, concordances,

dictionaries, books, and people's minds, it is very hard for anyone brought up with this belief to shake it off.

Accordingly, we will make an examination of both the words “**Jews**” and “**Gentiles**” as used in Scripture.

That there are two parties in the New Testament does not mean to say that the two parties have to be Jews and Gentiles in the way that this is taught. Rather, the existence of the two parties confirms what is taught in the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets about the division of Israel into two Kingdoms from which arose the Ten-Tribed House of Israel in the North and the Two-Tribed House of Judah in the South. These two Houses are shown in prophecy to be a continual vexation to each other, with a wall of partition between them, until they

are reconciled together under the New Testament as stated in Isaiah Chapter 11, Verse 13:

“And the envy of Ephraim shall be taken away; and the enemies of Juda shall be destroyed: Ephraim shall not envy Juda; nor shall Juda vex Ephraim.”

So, where did the word, “Jew,” come from?

In the King James Version, the first occurrence of the word, **“Jew,”** is found in Second Kings Chapter 16, Verse 6, which states, “At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drave **the Jews** from Elath: and the Syrians came to Elath and dwelt there unto this day.”

According to Strong’s Concordance, the Hebrew word for **“Jew”** is #H3064, **Yehudiy**, which means, **“Judahite, or of the Tribe of Judah.”** Strong’s

Concordance indicates that this Hebrew word comes from #H3063, **Yehudah**, which means, “Judah.”

Because of the sins of King Solomon, Father YAHWEH split the Nation of Israel into two: The Northern Ten-Tribed House of Israel with its capitol in Samaria; and the Southern Two-Tribed House of Judah with its capitol in Jerusalem.

The Northern Kingdom of Israel consisted of the Tribes of Asher, Dan, Ephraim, Gad, Issachar, Manasseh, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon, and Zebulun and half of the Levites, who were Priests, and was first ruled by Jeroboam. This Northern Kingdom was always referred to as “Israel” and “Ephraim,” and were known only as “Israelites” or “Ephramites,” during this time period.

The Southern Kingdom of Judah consisted of the Tribes of Judah, Benjamin, and half of the Levites, who were Priests, and was first ruled by Rehoboam. This Southern Kingdom was always referred to as “Judah,” and were always known as “Judahites” during this time period.

Ezra Chapter 5, Verse 1, states, “Then the prophets, Haggai the prophet, and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied unto **the Jews that were in Judah** and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, even unto them.”

The term, “**Jews**,” is Strong’s #H3062, **Yehudaiy**, which means, “**Judahite**.” The term, “**Judah**,” is Strong’s #H3061, **Yehud**, which means, “**Judah**.”

However, in Ezra Chapter 5, Verse 8, which states, “Be it known unto the king, that we went into **the province of Judea**, to the house of the great God, which is builded with great stones, and timber is laid in the walls, and this work goeth fast on, and prospereth in their hands.”

The term, “**Judea**,” is Strong’s #H3061, **Yehud**, which means, “**Judah**.” There is a translation problem with the King James, as well as a historical issue to address. In Ezra Chapter 5, Verse 8, **Judea should be Judah**.

With regard to the historical issue, John Hyrcanus (164 B.C. to 104 B.C.), ruled the Hasmonean Dynasty as a Ruler and High Priest of “Israel.” According to Josephus’ Antiquities of the Jews 13.257, Hyrcanus

conquered Idumea, which is Greek for Edom, and forced them to convert to his religion, as well as be circumcised. Therefore, when Judah conquered Idumea, the country became known as “Judea.” It was no longer known as Judah.

So, the translators of the King James Bible in Ezra Chapter 5, Verse 8, made a mistake. It should have been “**Judah**,” not “**Judea**.” Also, in Ezra Chapter 4, Verses 12 and 23, and Ezra Chapter 5, Verses 1 and 5, the Hebrew word, **Yehuday** (Strong’s #H3062) is incorrectly translated as “**Jew**” by the King James’ translators. Based on the Hebrew, the term, “**Jew**,” did not exist during the time of Ezra. In all actuality, the term, “**Jew**,” did not exist until Rome ruled the nation of Judea, under Herod the Great, **King of “the Jews.”** Throughout the

Book of Ezra, the translation should have been either **“Judah”** or **“Judahite.”**

In the New Testament, the word, **“Jew(s),”** is Strong’s #G2453, **Ioudaios**, which means, **“Judean or inhabitant of Judea.”** Everyone who lived in Judea was called a Judean. So, if we are to use the word, **“Jew,”** or **“Jewish,”** while reading the New Testament, we must remember that it is a slang term for **“Judean,”** and always means **“an inhabitant of Judea”** or **“an adherent of Judaism.”** It does not mean **“a member of the Tribe of Judah.”** In the New Testament, the term, **“Jew,”** is a national/religious term, not a racial term.

To be clear, the Judahites who stayed in Babylon during their 70 Year Captivity from 606 B.C. to 536 B.C., and decided to live there afterwards, learned the “oral

traditions of the Elders,” and converted to the new religion called “**Judaism**,” which comes from Strong’s #G2454, **Ioudismos**, which means, “Judaism, the Jewish faith.” Adherents to “**Judaism**” were thus known as “**Jews**.” You will note that in the Gospels, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, condemned the Pharisees who taught “**The Traditions of the Elders/Judaism**” to the Judeans, instead of the Laws of YAHWEH, when He was on this Earth the first time.

Now, where did the word, “Gentile,” come from?

The word, “**Gentile**,” originated from the Latin Vulgate translation, where the Roman doctrine said that the Roman Catholic Church had become the Israel of the Bible. Even more recently, Pope Pius the 11TH reinforced this, saying, “Spiritually, we Christians are

Semites.” The inference of the word, “**Gentile**,” in the Roman Catholic context is **one who is not of Rome**. In the English translations that are based on the Latin Vulgate, this Latin word has carried on with a similar meaning but instead of meaning, but instead of meaning **not of Rome**, it has become to mean **not of Israel**. In the minds of those to whom Rome and Israel are synonymous, there is no difference; to be of the Roman Catholic Church is to belong to and to be part of Israel. Rome has accommodated all races who could buy citizenship. Rome calls herself a universal church with a universal pontiff and is the originator of both modern and ancient universalism in the Christian religion.

But unfortunately, translators have transliterated the Latin word, “**Gentile**,” into their versions, and it has

carried forward even into recent translations. By transliterating the Latin form, it has allowed the scope for the idea that it refers to Roman and non-Roman to continue. Switch “Roman” to “Israel,” because Rome said she was Israel, and we then find how Rome expressed the two parties as “Israel” and “non-Israel.” This has continued even to this day. This doctrine has found its way into Bible commentaries and dictionaries, and through these media, most Christians are still influenced.

The Latin meaning of “Gentiles” is confusing in its own right – it does not mean “nations.” The Latin noun, “**GEN**,” means “**a nation**” and is equivalent to “**ETHNOS**.” However, the word, “**Gentiles**,” does not

come from the noun, but from the adjective, “**Gentilis**,” which means **OF** or **BEGINNING** to a nation.

In his Epistles, Paul did not write to nations as a whole, but to individuals within or belonging to other nations. As all his writings were to Israelites, he used *ethnos* to refer to his outcast kinsmen of Israel because that is how they were addressed in the Old Testament Scriptures. (Please see Genesis 19:4-6; 18:18; Deuteronomy 32:41 where the word, “with,” is NOT in the Hebrew text); Psalms 22:27-28, 57:9, 67:4, 81:8, 108:3, 117:1, Isaiah 5:26, 11:12, 34:1, and Jeremiah 1:5, 10).

The Latin distorts and obscures these facts, and we need to check its context every time it appears in the Biblical Text.

How the word, “Gentile,” is misused.

In both the Hebrew and the Greek, there is no word even approaching the way **“Gentile”** is used today. In the concordances, we can see the influences of the religious teaching of the day and age where the Roman influence is manifest.

Strong’s #H1471 is **“Goy or Goi in the singular; Goyim in the plural;”** which means, **“a foreign nation, hence a gentile, also a troop of animals, or a flight of locust, heathen.”**

Strong’s #G1484 is **“Ethnos; Ethne in the plural;”** which means, **“a race, as of the same habit, that is, a tribe, specifically a foreign non-Jewish one usually by implication pagan, gentile, heathen, nation, people.”**

We must remember that concordances give usage rather than definitions, but within these, we can see part of the true meaning like of the same habit and tribe. The lexicons are more definitive:

According to Thayer, **Gentile** is “**a multitude whether of men or beasts associated or living together...of the same nature or genus.**”

According to Vine, **Gentile** “**denotes firstly a multitude or company, then a multitude of people of the same nature or genus.** It is used in the singular of the Jews for example in Luke 7:5, 23:2; and John 11:48, 50-52.”

Vine goes on to show that “Gentile is used in Scripture of both Jew and non-Jews. Strong and Vine use

the word, “Jew,” for “Israel” after the understanding of the periods.

How the Hebrew and Greek words are translated.

Now, let’s look at the words translated as “**Gentile**” in the King James Version of the Bible and immediately, something strange will be seen:

In the Hebrew, the word for **Gentile** is **Gowry, Goi, Goyim** and is used 374 times as “**nations**,” 143 times as “**heathen**,” 30 times as “**Gentile**,” and 11 times as “**people**.”

In the Greek, the word for **Gentile** is **Ethnos, Ethne** and is used 64 times as “**nations**,” 5 times as “**heathen**,” 93 times as “**Gentile**,” and 2 times as “**people**.”

In the Books of Romans and Galatians, the word for **Gentile** is **Hellen** and is used 35 times as “**Gentile**,”

wherein the proper translation of the word is “**Greek**,”
ONLY.

Let us look at some Old Testament Scriptures where the words, **GOWY**, **GOI**, and **GOYIM** are used. If we apply the logic concerning Gentiles for these verses, we can see the ridiculous conclusion that could be reached. Remember that **GOI** and **ETHNOS** are used of Israel as well as other races.

Genesis Chapter 12, Verses 1 and 2 state, “Now THE LORD had said unto Abram...and I will make of thee a great nation.”

Genesis Chapter 17, Verse 5 states, “A father of many nations have I made thee.”

Did Father YAHWEH make a great non-Israel “**Gentile**” nation out of Abraham, and did Abraham

father many Gentiles? Was the great nation other than Israel?

Genesis Chapter 25, Verse 23 states, “And THE LORD said unto her (Rebekah), Two nations are in thy womb.”

Could Rebekah have known that what would become two non-Israel “Gentiles” were in her womb?

Genesis Chapter 48, Verse 19 states, “And his seed shall become a multitude of nations.”

There is no evidence in Scripture that Ephraim would produce a lot of non-Israelite nations.

Genesis Chapter 46, Verse 3 states, “And he said, I AM GOD, THE GOD of thy father (Isaac): fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation.”

Could the sons of Jacob be non-Israel “Gentiles”?

Jeremiah Chapter 31, Verse 36 states, “If those ordinances (the sun and the moon) depart from before ME, saith THE LORD, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before ME forever.”

As the word for “nation” is the same as that translated “**Gentile**,” we could equally read the seed of Israel shall not cease from being Gentiles before ME. We could even say Israel would not cease from being heathen. This is absurd!

When we consider the word **Ethnos**, which is sometimes translated “**Gentiles**” in the New Testament, we have another block of translations among which we

could make transpositions. The consequences are equally absurd!

Luke Chapter 7, Verse 5 states, “For he loved our nation and has built for us a synagogue.”

Would that section of Jewry be pleased if the centurion had built a synagogue for the so-called **Gentiles or the heathen?** “**Nation**” is the word **Ethnos**.

Luke Chapter 23, Verse 2 states, “We found this fellow perverting the nation.”

Would “**the Jews**” care so much if YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, was perverting the “**Gentiles**”?

John Chapter 11, Verse 48 states, “The Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.”

For the Romans to come to Judaea and take away “our” Gentiles gets a little silly!

John Chapter 11, Verses 49 and 50 state, “Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.”

Caiaphas did not know that the word Ethnos would be translated as “Gentile” and “heathen,” and note that he used “nation” in the singular. YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, did die for His Sheep, which the Father had given Him and only that many. He gave Himself a ransom for many, but not everyone on the Earth. It has been explained that the Law and the Covenants were given to the seed of Israel only.

Is popular theology about “Gentiles” correct?

We have already commented on the origin of the word, “**Gentile.**” We have pointed out that there appears

to be no evidence that the Apostles could properly distinguish between Israelites and non-Israelites in the nations to which they went. Hence, the message had to be taken to the nations for the message to reach “all men” of the descendants of the outcast Israelites. These men had the capacity to believe Father YAHWEH and so could accept the “Good News” and be reinstates as Father YAHWEH’s People as stated in Hosea Chapter 1, Verse 10, **“But it shall come to pass that in the place where it was said to them, You are not My People, they shall be called Children of the Living God;”**

But the Roman Catholic Church’s error was picked up, and it has come to prevail. Luther, Knox, Calvin, and Wesley, together with cult leaders such as William Miller, accepted the error. Of course, the originator, the “arch-

cult-type,” the Roman Catholic Church, known as “Mystery, Babylon the Great,” keeps on its unchanging doctrine. But she is the one with whom the kings of the Earth have committed fornication and by whom they have been deceived through her sorceries (Pharmakia in the Greek, from which we get our word, Pharmacy), was Rome who originated the error in doctrine. Please remember that the Roman Catholic Church, the Whore of Babylon, has daughters, the Protestant Churches.

But we are commanded by YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, in Revelation Chapter 18, Verse 4 to **“Come out of her, MY People, that ye be NOT partakers of her sins, and that ye receive NOT of her plagues.”** Now is the time to come out of Mystery, Babylon the Great! Father YAHWEH’s People are warned to come out of all

of Rome's doctrines, including Rome's universalism. Multitudes today are going Rome's way.

How is that for over a millennium, the Papacy and the Pope were viewed as the Antichrist system and the Antichrist, especially during the Protestant Reformation Era, and NOW, the Papacy and the Pope and the Protestant Evangelical Churches have come together singing Kumbaya and are brothers-in-arms in the Catholic Cursillo and Protestant Tres Dias Movements within these so-called churches, which are 501 © (3) corporations in America? What about all of the Martyrs that the Roman Catholic Church horrifically murdered by the millions, especially during the Inquisitions? Was it all for nought? Read Revelation Chapter 6 with regard to the Fifth Seal about the Martyrs under the Altar. Do

you actually believe that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, is going to let them get away with murder, especially when it clearly states in Exodus Chapter 20, Verse 13, Thou shalt NOT commit Murder?

So, who rejoices when Babylon is cast down? Is it not the Holy Set-Apart Ones in Revelation Chapter 18, Verse 20? One has to **come out of her** in order to be Set Apart! Revelation Chapter 19, Verse 8 states that YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, The Faithful and True, will come to judge and make war on that false religious system called Babylon! And He is coming soon!

Jesus' Ministry was NOT primarily to "the Jews" or in Judaea.

Most people would question this statement without even thinking about it. But let's look at this matter more

closely. In the Gospels, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, made a clear distinction between Galilee and Judaea, the latter being the territory of the “the Jews.”

John Chapter 7, Verse 1 states, “After these things, Jesus walked in Galilee: for He would not walk in Jewry, because THE JEWS SOUGHT TO KILL HIM.”

John Chapter 11, Verses 53 and 54 state, “Then from that day forth, they (“the Jews”) took counsel together for to put Him (YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ) to death. Jesus therefore walked NO MORE OPENLY AMONG THE JEWS; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim.”

Matthew Chapter 19, Verse 1 states, “And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these sayings, He

departed **from Galilee**, and came into the coasts of **Judaea**, beyond Jordan.”

Matthew Chapter 4, Verse 12 states, “Now when Jesus had heard that John (the Baptist) was cast into prison, He departed **into Galilee** (from Judaea).”

Acts Chapter 9, Verse 31 states, “Then had the churches rest throughout **all Judaea and Galilee**.”

The highlighted words show clearly that the two territories were treated differently. There was a clear barrier between the two.

Matthew Chapter 4, Verse 23 states, “And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom.”

Matthew Chapter 4, Verses 15 and 16 state, “The land of Zabulon and the land of Nephthalim, by the way

of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people which sat in darkness saw great light.”

The latter verse identifies these Israelites in Galilee and calls them “Gentiles.” In the Thompson Chain Reference Bible on pages 274 and 275, the Footprints of Jesus are presented graphically showing that Galilee was the major area of Jesus’ Ministry.

Matthew Chapter 4, Verse 13 states, “And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the seacoast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:”

Most Christians seem to think that Jesus dwelled among “**the Jews**” in Jerusalem, but this is not so. Christians seem to think that Jerusalem was the center point of Jesus’ Teaching Ministry. Jesus went to

Jerusalem at particular times for particular purposes. His Disciples did not appreciate these times about going up to Jerusalem as Jesus once told them in John Chapter 7, Verse 6, “**My Time is not yet come: but your time is always ready.**” Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament Times exactly regarding the Sabbaths and the Feasts of Israel. Jesus said that He knew the exact day of His Crucifixion at Jerusalem for He stated in Matthew Chapter 26, Verse 2, “**Ye know that after two days is The Feast of the Passover, and the Son of Man is betrayed to be crucified.**”

Jesus went to Jerusalem exactly on the right day, the 10TH of Nisan, to be chosen by the Judahites among the population as their King, and He was delivered to

become the all-sufficient sacrifice for the redemption of His People.

Jerusalem was the center point where YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, fulfilled His Mission and His Father's Will to be the Passover Lamb for Israel, which was a once and for all Sacrifice for All Time!

Jeremiah Chapter 31, Verses 35 and 36 state, "Thus said the Lord Who hath given the sun to enlighten the day and the moon and stars to enlighten the night, and hath caused the sea to roar and its billows to resound, the Lord Almighty is His Name: **If these laws cease to operate in My Presence, saith the Lord, then may the race of Israel cease from being a nation before Me forever.**"

The Hebrew and the Greek words, which are sometimes translated, “**Gentile**,” have both pagan and Israelite connotations. The words **goi** and **ethnos** are used of any group of a common racial origin. The idea that the word, “**Gentile**,” refers only to non-Israel people comes from the translators, who took their lead from the Latin Vulgate, whose interpretation of “**Gentile**” was one who was not of Rome. This can never mean “**not a Jew**” in the sense it is given today. There are other words that apply to heathen and barbarians, and Paul could have used these to describe non-Israelites if that had been in his mind. But he did not. What the word, “Gentile,” has come to mean is not the original meaning and therefore not the true meaning.

Going forward, we can now determine who is who in the Bible with regard to “**Jews**” and “**Gentiles.**” As you can see, Israelites came from the Northern Ten-Tribed House of Israel, Judahites came from the Southern Two-Tribed House of Judah, Jews were known for practicing Judaism in Babylon and were later mixed with Judeans in Judea during the time of YAHSHUA, and the majority of Gentiles are those who were scattered abroad throughout the nations of the world.

Father YAHWEH promised to bring the Two Houses together in the End Times as found in Ezekiel Chapter 37, Verses 22b through 23 which states, “**And they shall no more be two nations; nor shall they any more be split into two kingdoms, that they may no more be polluted with their idols. And I will deliver them from all their**

iniquities and purify them from all their sins which they have committed. And they shall be My People, and I the Lord will be their God.”

You will note that that EVENT has not happened yet!

Please remember YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ's, admonitions as found in Revelation Chapter 2, Verse 9b, which states, **“I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews (Judahites), and are NOT, but are the synagogue of Satan,”** and Revelation Chapter 3, Verse 9, which states, **“Behold, I (YAHSHUA) 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.”**

Now, who did Father YAHWEH love and hate in the Bible? According to Romans Chapter 9, Verse 13, which was originally quoted in Malachi Chapter 1, Verses 2 through 3, “**Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.**”

So, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, will make those who say they are “Jews,” who are Edomites, worship at our (Jacob’s) feet, to make them know that He loved us!

Until then, we must obey what YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ, commanded us to do in Luke Chapter 19, Verse 13b, “**Occupy till I come,**” and in Luke Chapter 21, Verse 36, “**Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.**”

So, “**OCCUPY,**” “**WATCH,**” AND “**PRAY
ALWAYS**”!

LET’S PRAY!

We thank You Father YAHWEH for the Bread of Life that we have received today! We also thank You for opening up our ears to hear and our eyes to see Your Word! I pray for all of our brothers and sisters and their families Whom You have brought here today, as well as those watching online! May Your Name be Blessed Among ALL the Nations! I pray all this in the Name of our Lord and Savior, YAHSHUA, Jesus the Christ! AMEN!

Now please receive the Benediction!

May the peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. AMEN!

