## ISRAEL...ISRAELITE (Location, Community, Individual, Land Mass)

There are at least six different meanings of the world Israel:

- 1) Israel as the name of Jacob
- 2) Israel as a location
- 3) Israel as a nation of people
- 4) Israel as a corporate group of people
- 5) Israel as an individual person (corporal)
- 6) Israel as a he

In the following teaching I will very briefly explain what the word Israel means, looking at it in its various contexts. The context is the key to understanding exactly what the writer in the scroll is referring to. To fully grasp this, we must try to think like the Jewish person scribing the scroll.

#### 1 THE COMMON MEANING FOR ISRAEL AS IN YACOVS' (Jacob's) NEW NAME

In Hebrew the word Israel is Yisra'el H3478 Yisra'el, yis-raw-ale'; from 8280 and 410; he will rule as



God; Yisrael, a symbolical name of Yacov; also (typically) of his posterity:—Israel. Gen. 32:28 "Then the angel (man) said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with Yahveh and with men and have overcome." "Israel" (Israelite), means "overcome by Yah".

Jacob's new name, Israel, means "struggles with Yah", "one who is overcome by Yah". Yahveh demonstrates His authority over Jacob by giving him a new name. Jacob's new name is characteristic of the story of his life, one filled with many struggles with Yahveh and man. **Prov. 22:1a** "*A good name is more desirable than great riches...*" Yah blessed Jacob with a name that would distinguish his descendants forever.

Israel means "one who is overcome by Yah". Jacob was overcome by Yah, he believed in Yah with all his heart. His belief included obedience to the torah, whether written or verbal at that time. Now we have the written torah to follow to prove that we are overcome by Yah. Israel, or Israelites, are those who believe in Yahveh and prove their love for Him by obeying His commands (John 14:15). After they do so, He reveals Himself to them (John 14:21). People who are truly born again and pursue torah are Israel, Israelites, "People of the Way", "Assembly of the People", set-apart, holy, because they obey His Word.

The so-called christian church would have you believe you become a christian when you believe in their god and messiah, but their god and messiah are NOT the same as Yahveh and Yeshua of the bible. Their god requires nothing from anyone in order to have eternal salvation. They are dreamers, not just christians. They follow another messiah. Israel can be looked at in four different ways:

### 2 ISRAEL THE LOCATION AS OF 1948..ZION (Isa. 66:8)

In the bible the land of Israel is totally different from what is today called Israel, so there is no reference actually in the bible to what is called Israel today. By today's definition people who live in the land (Nation), of Israel are called Israel, just as people who live in Canada are called Canadians. They may live in the nation, but they may or may not believe in the Holy One of Israel, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The fact is: Israel today is a far more secular society than most other nations. Very few believe in a God at all. Mt. Zion is in Israel, so sometimes people refer to Zion as Israel.

# 3 ISRAEL THE PLACE..LAND LOCATION..GREATER AS ORIGINALLY DESCRIBED (Promised Land)

Israel the land mass, is described in the following verses. Num. 34:1-2 Then Adonai spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Command the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you enter the land of Canaan, this is the land that shall fall to you as an inheritance, even the land of Canaan according to its borders." In Numbers 34:1-15 El Shaddai explains the exact borders of Greater Israel. Here we see Israel being referred to

as a group of people who made Exodus, and a land mass.

**Gen. 15:18** On that day Adonai made a covenant with Abram, saying, **"To your descendants I have given** *this land,* From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates:"

**Deut. 11:24** "Every place on which the sole of your foot shall tread shall be yours; your border shall be from the wilderness to Lebanon, and from the river, the river Euphrates, as far as the western sea."

Josh. 1:3 "Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses." What we find in Joshua is a repeat of what was told Moses.

4 ISRAEL THE COMMUNITY..THE CORPORATE GROUP

Israel are a corporate group of people that represent Yahveh on earth. The corporate (group) as well as us as individuals have made the same covenant with Yah.

If we as a corporate group don't do as He commanded us, we get cut-off from His people, thrown out of the community as a whole. If your cut off from your people and you die before you receive restoration, then you cannot be restored back into the camp during the millennial kingdom. If you get back on track you will be resurrected after the millennial kingdom (rest). This is considered either a blessing or a curse depending on whether or not we remain loyal. We see this same thing happen in our personal walk, but it takes place in our body. We are promised that our remnant shall be saved, but your body will not be. The flesh shall be corrupted



and be no more. Once again, the remnant of your body is your soul and spirit.

Right now the corporate body is dissolved. It has been promised that it will be restored in the last days, but as it is now the corporate body has been dispersed all over the world.

### READ Lev. 26:21-33

Yah warns us corporately about what He will do when we disobey His instructions. Yah administers discipline time after time, trying to get us corporately back on track. He disciplines those He loves because He wants all of us to be blessed corporately and individually. He keeps gathering the lost back to Himself to learn the way of His word. Because of His grace, we have had many opportunities to return to torah. How long will He extend His grace is the big question.

Lev. 26:14-20 'But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments, 15 if, instead, you reject My statutes, and if your soul abhors My ordinances so as not to carry out all My commandments, and so break My covenant, 16 I, in turn, will do this to you: I will appoint over you a sudden terror, consumption and fever that shall waste away the eyes and cause the soul to pine away; also, you shall sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies shall eat it up. 17 'And I will set My face against you so that you shall be struck down before your enemies; and those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when no one is pursuing you. 18 'If also after these things, you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. 19 'And I will also break down your pride of power; I will also make your sky like iron and your earth like bronze. 20 'And your strength shall be spent uselessly, for your land shall not yield their fruit."

He tells us of the blessings He wants all of us to experience in Lev. 26:1-13 and gives us a choice. He desperately wants us to pursue His Word, or return to His word and be blessed to the max. The land of Israel is no longer blessed because they have ignored His plea to return back to His Word. The constant rebellion of the people claiming to be His, has caused Him to disperse them all over the world among the gentiles. Until they return to His ways, they will not be fully gathered together or fully blessed. Only the remnant will return in the last days.

**Jer. 50:17** *"Israel is a scattered flock, the lions have driven them away. The first one who devoured him was the king of Assyria, and this last one who has broken his bones is Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon."* **The Israelites were also referred to as the "House of Israel".** 

**Exod. 40:38** "For the cloud of ADONAI was above the tabernacle during the day, and fire was in [the cloud] at night, so that all **the house of Isra'el** could see it throughout all their travels.

**Lev. 10:6** Then Moshe told Aharon and his sons El'azar and Itamar, "Don't unbind your hair or tear your clothes in mourning, so that you won't die and so that ADONAI won't be angry with the entire community. Rather, let your kinsmen — **the whole house of Isra'el** — mourn, because of the destruction ADONAI brought about with his fire.

**Lev. 22:18** "Speak to Aharon and his sons and to **the entire people of Isra'el;** tell them: 'When anyone, whether a member of the house of Isra'el or a foreigner living in Isra'el, brings his offering, either in connection with a vow or as a voluntary offering, and brings it to ADONAI as a burnt offering,

Jer. 5:11 "For the house of Isra'el and the house of Y'hudah have thoroughly betrayed me," says ADONAI. Matt. 10:5-6 These twelve Yeshua sent out with the following instructions: "Don't go into the territory of the Goyim, and don't enter any town in Shomron, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el. Matt. 15:24 He said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Isra'el."

Acts 2:36 Therefore, let the whole house of Isra'el know beyond doubt that God has made him both Lord and Messiah this Yeshua, whom you executed on a stake!"

#### 5 ISRAEL THE INDIVIDUAL PERSON..THE CORPORAL

Israel can also be a corporal, individual personal relationship with Yah. The corporate (group) as well as us as individuals have made the same covenant with Yah.

In Lev. 26 it is talking about the corporate group, not individuals. Those who do as He says will be blessed accordingly. This is the nation of Israel. They will be cast out of the land as a nation if they do not obey His commands.

#### Last days

No-matter what happens, we know that in the end there will be a remnant that will remain obedient. If we as individuals don't do as He has commanded us, we become cut-off, or thrown out of the house, so to speak.

Your soul and spirit are what are destroyed during the second death if you are not one of Yah's people Israel. The second death destroys your soul and spirit, because your fleshly body is already destroyed. This is part of the Passover understanding. Our first death does not take place because we are under the blood of the lamb.

**Jer. 31:31-33"** "Behold, days are coming," declares Adonai, <u>"when I will make a new covenant with the house</u> <u>of Israel</u> and with the house of Judah, <u>not like the covenant</u> which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, <u>My covenant which they broke</u>, although <u>I was a</u> <u>husband to them</u>, <u>"declares Adonai</u>, "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares Adonai, "I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people."

The people in bondage in Egypt, just before the Exodus, came from all over the world. They willingly sold themselves to the Pharaoh just so they could survive the drought. The decedents of these people are the original slaves referred to when Moses lead them out of the land of Egypt. These people were so used to being in slavery they could only dream of what freedom would be like. These are the people who cried out to the Almighty for help and He answered their prayers through His servant Moses.

**Deut. 5:15** 'You shall remember that **you were a slave in the land of Egypt,** and Yahveh your Elohim brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore Yahveh your Elohim commanded you to observe the sabbath day."

They were not Jews. These people consisted of many tribes, races and nationalities. No Jews existed at that time. They were people forced into hard labor for generations, crying out to a god that would listen to their plea. Then the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob answered their plea. They were like slaves who became slaves when they were overtaken by other nations in various battles of old. It is these slaves and others who were in agreement with their God, that left Egypt and became the original Israelites. Israel/Israelite meaning "those overcome by Yah", "he who submits to Yah".

**Exod. 20:2-3** *"I am Adonai your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 3 "You shall have no other gods before Me."* We see clearly in the first commandment how

important it is to come out of the World, Eqypt.

Our spirit and soul are part of our physical body. Our flesh has been corrupted and it will disappear, but the remnant (soul and spirit) will not disappear upon death. They will go on for eternity. This is a synonym for the remnant of His people in the last days. Those who truly love Him and are obedient to His word will gather together in the kingdom for eternity.

When we are reading in torah we must always remember that the word is referring to the corporate body and or the individual. Most of the time it's referring to the corporate body, but we must keep this in mind to see the context of what is written.

There are strings attached to His covenants, especially the Mt. Sinai covenant. He gives us the right to chose to obey and be blessed or disobey and be cursed. This is the case whether we look at it corporately or individually. Then in Lev. 26:40-45 we see He gives us the opportunity to make "teshuvah", to repent. Even after we have been cut off we can be re-grafted IF we REPENT (Roms. 11: 17-24).

#### **ISRAEL AS A HE** 6

We also see Israel referred to as a "he" in Hosea chapters 8-10. Here is an example: Hosea 8:13-14 They offer me sacrifices of flesh and eat them, but ADONAI does not accept them. Now he will recall their crimes and punish their sins - they will return to Egypt. "For Isra'el forgot his maker and built

palaces; and Y'hudah made more fortified cities; but I will send fire on his cities, and it will consume their stronaholds."

#### PROPHETICALLY

Todays Israel is a remnant of the original land of Israel. The roots people today in Israel are a remnant of the nation Israel.

Matt. 15:24 " But He answered and said. "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

The common teaching that the "church" is the Renewed Covenant bride of Yahveh is completely false. The bride of Yahveh is Israel, and only Israel. Yah is coming back for a spotless bride, not two brides. If as in Matt. 19:3-8, the church is a separate entity from Israel, then our Yah is a spiritual adulterer with two brides, called, the church, and the Jews. There is only one flock as stated in John 11:52, and 10:16. The renewed covenant believers that Paul talks about in Gal. 6:16 includes both Jewish and non Jewish followers of Yeshua. all those who have been redeemed by the blood of Yeshua (Eph. 2:12-19). Yeshua said in Matt. 15:24 "But He answered and said. "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." He didn't say He came for Jews or Gentiles, but for the 'lost sheep". We are all lost sheep until we are born again, then we come the Sons of Israel. Likewise in James 1:1 James addresses the body of Yeshua (12 tribes), not two different groups of the Renewed Covenant. All the Renewed Covenant writers wrote about, "a flock of sheep", not two separate, "flocks of sheep". The devil doesn't really give a hoot if you call one entity ("the church"), spiritual Israel, and the Jews, physical Israel. As long as you don't recognize the BODY of YESHUA as a single entity. that is simultaneously both physical, and spiritual Israel, in one blood bought, and precious body of redeemed people called Israel.

The present situation with commonwealth Israel is that Gentiles from many nations recognize the Jewish Messiah, yet the majority of national Israel do not. Suppose citizens of Canada, India, Nigeria, Australia, and others members of the British Commonwealth of Nations recognized Elizabeth as their Queen, but most individual Englishmen, as well as the British Government, did not. In this circumstance it would be wrong to say that Great Britain was no longer a member of the Commonwealth, when in fact it would still be the central member among equals. It would also be incorrect to agree with the English that Queen Elizabeth is not the Queen. Rather, one could only try to convince them them (both individual Englishmen and their governmental establishment) to honor Elizabeth, who is in fact the Queen.

#### Summary

I hope this helps someone better understand what is being referred to in scripture when the word "Israel" is used. It can be used with various meanings, and those meanings must be kept in context with the surrounding message and thoughts. I like to put it this way: "all those who are truly born again People of the Way were once "lost sheep" and have returned to be lead by our shepherd Yeshua to the divine truth of His Word. Only is we love Him and prove our love by keeping His commandments are we truly in His flock of sheep.

#### **ISRAEL AS PROPHETICALLY SEEN IN THE FEASTS OF YAHVEH**

#### The seven Feasts of Yah can also be representative of the seven steps in our eternal walk of salvation and the beginning of the end of the world as we know it:

First step: When we become truly born again, we step out from Egypt, (the world as we know it and its pagan so-called christian churches), and Exodus into the Promised Land of Yah. We become Israelites (those overcome by Yah), and accept Him as our King. Then the "death angel" of the Feast Of Passover, must passover us. In order for this to take place, we must of course celebrate His Passover Feast. When we do this we are "covered by the blood", marked peculiar, set-apart, holy and recognized as His.

Second step: After we accept Yeshua as our Savior, we must accept His renewed covenant (communion/last

supper) and take of the Feast Of Unleavened bread. When we partake of the wine and the bread we are covered by His blood.

**Third step:** Then we accept Yeshua as the "First Fruit" of all mankind, hence the Feast Of First Fruits". This is a prophetic message of redemption, sanctification and salvation.

**Fourth step:** Then as true servants, disciples, we help spread the good news to others, hence we harvest the crop of Believers, as in the Feast Of Pentecost. This is a prophetic message of the covenants, outpouring of the Spirit (Ruach) and glorification.

**Fifth step:** Then we as individuals humbly prepare ourselves as brides with white gowns (righteousness), waiting for the groom to announce Himself with Trumpets, hence the Feast Of Trumpets. He takes us to be His bride.

**Sixth step:** After Yah has taken His bride, atonement takes place for the all sins of the world, hence Feast Of Atonement.

**Seventh step:** Then Yah takes us (His bride) to His Tabernacle in Heaven. He Tabernacles with us forever, hence the Feast Of Tabernacles. This is a prophetic message of the End Times, of reconciliation, and the restoration of all things.

**The last great day:** After all the Feasts have been celebrated and the wedding supper begins, Yah judges everyone that is not His bride, hence the "Great White Throne Judgement" of the world. This is Yah's eternal plan from the alpha to omega (alef-tav).

**Ps. 128:5** Adonai bless you from Zion, And may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **Ps. 132:13** For Adonai has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation.

**Isa. 28:16** Therefore thus says Yahveh, "Behold, I am laying in **Zion** a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.

**Isa. 30:19** O people in **Zion**, inhabitant in Jerusalem, you will weep no longer. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you.

**Joel 3:21** And I will avenge their blood which I have not avenged, For Adonai dwells in **Zion**. **Rom. 11:26** and thus all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, "THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM **ZION**, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB."

**1Pet. 2:6** For this is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD I LAY IN **ZION** A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNER stone, AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED."

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