

# Vineyard Labourer Bible College

## Bible Study Module 7

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God. . .”  
James 1:5

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do . . .”  
John 14:13

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth . . .”  
John 16:13

“Search the scriptures . . . and they are they which testify of me.”  
John 5:39

“All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God . . .”  
2 Timothy 3:16

“Never should the Bible be studied without prayer.  
Before opening its pages we should ask for the  
enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, and it will be given.”  
Steps to Christ by E. White, page 91 para 1.

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***Vineyard Labourer Bible College Training for the Christian Walk***

# 7a - GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE JEWISH NATION AND THEIR FAILURE

## 1. The founding of the Israelites or the children of Israel.

- Gen. 12:1-3. Abraham was called to separate from his people so God could make of him a great nation.
- Gen. 12:5-7. God promised the land of Canaan to Abraham's descendants.
- Gen. 13:14-17. Abraham's family would greatly increase, and their land would be vast.
- Gen. 15:13-18. Four hundred years would pass before Abraham's descendants would possess Canaan, because the iniquity of the Amorites was not yet full.
- Psa. 105:8-12. God's promise made to Abraham was confirmed or renewed to Isaac and Jacob.
- Gen. 32:24-28. God changed Jacob's name to Israel meaning a prince of God, as an indication of his faith
- Gen. 46:1-4. After spending 215 years in Canaan without possessing it, the time came in the days of Jacob and Joseph for God's people to go down to Egypt. In Egypt, the furnace of affliction, God proposed to develop them into "a great nation." See v. 3.  
*Note:-* Abraham was 75 years old when he entered Canaan. (Gen. 12: 4.) He was 100 years old when Isaac was born, having been, therefore, 25 years in Canaan. (Gen. 21: 5.) Isaac was 60 when Jacob was born (Gen. 25: 26.), and Jacob was 130 when he went to Egypt. (Gen. 47: 9.)  $25 + 60 + 130 = 215$  years. Therefore the family of Abraham had been 215 years in Canaan.
- Gen. 32:32; 36:31; Exo. 3:10. God's people are now called the *children of Israel*.
- Exo. 1:7. In Egypt the children of Israel increased greatly.
- Exo. 1:12. The more they were persecuted the more they multiplied.
- Exo. 12:40-42. At the exact time that He said He would, God brought Israel out of Egypt.
- Exo. 20:1-17. God spoke His moral law to Israel from Mount Sinai.
- Exo. 21; 22; 23; etc. God also gave Israel civil laws to govern them.
- Exo. 24:3-8. The nation of Israel was legally established when the people covenanted to obey God. Forty years after leaving Egypt Israel passed through Jordan and took possession of the promised land.

## 2. God had a special purpose for Israel.

- Exo. 19:5, 6. They were to be God's peculiar treasure, a holy nation.
- Deut. 7:6. They were to be a special people above all others.
- Psa. 96:3. They were to spread the knowledge of God to all the world or heathen.
- Isa. 56:3-7. All nations were to be drawn to worship the true God.

## 3. The failure of Israel as a nation.

- Isa. 1:2. Israel rebelled against God.
- Isa. 5:1-7. Israel failed to accomplish God's purpose.
- 2 Chron. 36:14-21. God punished Israel by sending them into captivity to Babylon for 70 years (606 B.C. - 536 B.C.).
- 2 Chron. 36:22, 23. At the close of the 70 years Israel was restored (536 B.C.).  
• Dan. 9:24. 490 years probation was granted to the Jews, commencing with Artaxerxes' decree 457 B.C.
- Jer. 19:10, 11. Jeremiah predicted the rejection of the nation of Israel.
- Matt. 21:33-39. This parable tells us that the Jews failed to profit by their experience, and when Jesus the Christ King of the Jews came, they killed Him.

- John 19:13-16. The Jewish nation rejected Jesus as their King, claiming Caesar as their King.

#### 4. The significance of Israel's failure.

- Matt. 21:40-46. Because of the rejection of Him, God finally rejected Israel.
- Matt. 24:34-38. *Your house is left unto you desolate.* God withdrew Himself from the people who rejected Him.
- Jer. 19:1-15. The Israelites will never become God's special people again.
- Luke 21:20-24. Jerusalem given into the hands of the Gentiles. Note how long.
- Acts 1:8; 13:45, 46. The gospel was given first to the Jews, then to the Gentiles.
- Acts 15:14. God turns to the Gentiles to make a people for His name.

#### Questions on the lesson.

1. What purpose did God have in mind in the call of Abraham to Canaan? To whom was the land promised?
2. Why was this promise delayed for 400 years?
3. To whom was the Abrahamic promise renewed?
4. What was God's purpose in sending the children of Israel to Egypt? How long had the family of Abraham been in Canaan before going to Egypt?
5. What was said of the prosperity of Israel in Egypt, and when did they leave?
6. What important national developments occurred at Mount Sinai?
7. What was God's purpose in establishing the nation of Israel?
8. How does Isaiah illustrate the failure of Israel to fulfill the Lord's purpose? What punishment came upon them?
9. After the captivity, what period of probation was given to the Jewish nation?
10. What were the consequences of Israel's rejection of the Messiah?
11. Give proof the God's rejection of the Jews as a nation is final.
12. Where did the Lord turn to make a new people for Himself when Israel failed Him?

#### MEMORISE:

- Deut. 26:18.
- C.O.L. page 229 para. 4. "The invitation to the feast was first given to the Jewish people, the people who had been called to stand as teachers and leaders among men, the people in whose hands were the prophetic scrolls foretelling Christ's advent, and to whom was committed the symbolic service foreshadowing His mission. Had priests and people heeded the call, they would have united with Christ's messengers in giving the gospel invitation to the world."

## 7b - WHICH IS THE TRUE ISRAEL TODAY?

**1. The name Israel was first applied by God to Jacob because of his heart changing experience. Israel or the children of Israel was later used in a common sense to the descendants of Jacob.**

- Gen. 32:24-28. The origin of the name *Israel*. (The meaning of *Jacob* is given in Gen. 27:36, margin.)
- Gen. 32:32. The descendants of Jacob were spoken of as the *children of Israel* from the time of Moses (when Genesis was written).
- Exo. 3:16, 18; 4:22. The nation which descended from Jacob became known as *Israel*. This was designated by the Lord.
- Ezra 4:12, 23; 5:1-5. Later in history the Israelites became known as Jews. This designation did not come into general use until after Israel was carried into captivity in 606 B.C. It is thought to be derived from *Judah*, the leading tribe of the twelve.

**2. Strictly speaking, the name Israel can only apply to those who are truly God's children. Only God can determine who are worthy of the name because He reads our heart. Although all the descendants of Jacob in a general sense can be called *Israel*, not all are true Israelites. In the same way today whole nations, communities, or churches are called *Christian*, when in actuality many are *Christian* in name only, not in heart.**

- Rom. 9:6. Not all descendants of Israel are true Israelites.
- Rom. 9:7. Not all the seed of Abraham are his children.
- Rom. 9:8. Fleshly descent counts for nothing with God, but children of promise.
- Mal. 1:2. Although Jacob and Esau were brothers, Jacob was loved of God.
- Rom. 2:28, 29. The true Jew or Israelite is one inwardly or by character.
- John 1:47. Nathanael was *an Israelite indeed*.
- Gal. 3:7-9. They of faith are children of Abraham.
- Gal. 6:15, 16. Those who become a new creature in Christ Jesus are the *Israel of God*.

**3. God no longer extends special favour to the Jewish race or any other race in relation to salvation. There is only one way of salvation and that is through Jesus Christ. Anyone who wishes to be saved must avail themselves by this way.**

- Col. 3:9-11. There is neither Greek or Jew in Christ Jesus.
- Gal. 3:26-29, 14. When baptised we become Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.
- Rom. 2:11; 10:34. God is no respecter of persons.

**4. Every person who enters the heavenly promised land will be *the Israel of God* whether they were Jews or Gentiles.**

- Gal. 3:29. When we become Christ's, then we are Abraham's seed and heir according to the promise.
- Heb. 8:8-13. Those who receive the new covenant ratified by Jesus Christ on the cross, constitute *the house of Israel*.
- Rev. 21:12. All who enter the New Jerusalem enter as one of the tribes of Israel.
- Matt. 8:11. Many from the east and west will enter the kingdom of heaven.

### Questions on the lesson.

1. What is the origin of the name Israel?
2. What was it's later general use?
3. When did the term Jews come into general usage?
4. Who is a true Israelite? Give Scriptural references.
5. How does Paul express the truth that God has no favourites?
6. Who constitute Abraham's true children?
7. Who make up the house of Israel today?
8. Under what banner do all enter the New Jerusalem?

### MEMORISE:

- Gal. 3:7.
- Sketches From The Life Of Paul by Ellen White page 50 para. 3. "This gathering in of the Gentiles to the church of God had been traced by the pen of inspiration, but had been but faintly understood. Hosea had said, 'Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered, and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.'"

## **7c - THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH THROUGH THE CENTURIES**

### **1. God reveals the future through the sure word of prophecy.**

- 2 Peter 1:19-21. Prophecy is a light in a dark place, and is of no private interpretation.
- Amos 3:7. God reveals His secrets including the future through His prophets.
- Isa. 42:9. God tells us what will take place before it happens.
- Isa. 46:9, 10. God declares the end from the beginning, and things not yet done.
- Rev. 1:1. The book of Revelation is a revealing or prophecy of future events.
- Rev. 1:3. A special blessing is declared on those who study and obey the things found in Revelation.

### **2. Revelation 12 gives us an overview of the Christian church from the time of Christ to the last days.**

- Rev. 12:1. There appeared a great wonder or sign (margin) - a woman clothed with the sun.
- A woman is used as a symbol of a church - Jer. 6:2.
- The sun represents the light and glory of the gospel dispensation - 1 John 2:8; Matt. 5:14.
- The moon represents the Mosaic dispensation. As the moon shines with a borrowed light derived from the sun, so the types and shadows of the Mosaic dispensation shone from the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ (Col. 2:16, 17.).
- The crown of twelve stars represents the twelve apostles who were great leaders in the early church - Matt. 10:1.
- Rev. 12:3, 4. There appeared another wonder or sign - A great red dragon having seven heads, ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.
- This second wonder is Rome - as the beast has seven heads and ten horns which are two identifying marks of Rome. It is still Pagan Rome as the crowns are upon the heads, unlike Rev. 13 where they are on the horns showing the kingdom has been divided and that Papal Rome has come to power.
- This power drew the third part of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. The Jews had three classes of rulers - kings, priests, and Sanhedrin. A third of these, the kings, were taken away by the Roman power.
- Rev. 12:7-9. Satan is introduced into the prophecy.
- There was war in heaven between Michael (Christ) and His angels and the dragon and his angels.
- Christ won the war and the dragon with his angels was cast out of heaven to this earth.
- This dragon (without the multiple heads and horns) is none other than the old serpent, called the devil and Satan.
- 1 Peter 5:8. Satan is the adversary of all men but especially Christians, and Rev. 12 sketches the history of the conflict between the Christian Church and Satan.

### **3. As soon as the Christian church came into existence through Christ while He was on earth, Satan through Pagan Rome opposed it.**

- Rev. 12:1. The church was to give birth to 'a man child.'
- Isa. 7:14. The 'man child' was to be Immanuel or God with us. (See Matt. 1:23.)
- Dan. 9:25, 26. The 'man child' was to be the Messiah.
- Rev. 12:4. Wicked King Herod tried to kill baby Jesus as soon as He was born.
- Matt. 27:24 - 26. Pilate, a governor of pagan Rome, put Christ to death.
- Rev. 12:5. Rome was defeated in attempting to destroy Jesus.

#### **4. When Christ ascended to His throne, Satan's efforts were directed against the Christian Church.**

- Rev. 12:13. Satan through men, especially Rome both Pagan and Papal, persecuted the church.
- Rev. 12:6, 14. The church fled into the wilderness for 1260 days, or prophetic years (Eze. 4:6.). During this time 538 - 1798 A.D. known as the dark ages, the church remained in obscurity.
- Matt. 24:21, 22. These were years of great persecution, and if God had not shortened them the Christian Church would not have survived.
- Rev. 12:14. God provided for the church during this time.
- Rev. 12:15. The dragon deceiving and controlling nations, sent them as a flood against God's people.
- Rev. 12:16. The earth helped the woman. The Reformation which began in the 16th Century swallowed up some of this flood, causing these days to be shortened.

#### **5. In the last days Satan's final attack will be on the remnant church, which will not succeed.**

- Rev. 12:7. Satan becomes angry and attacks the remnant.
- Rev. 15:2 - 4. God's faithful people will be rescued from Satan's power.

#### **Questions on the lesson.**

1. Amos compares prophecy with what?
2. What does God use prophecy for?
3. What is pronounced upon those who study and obey the things found in Revelation?
4. What are the two leading symbols of Revelation 12, and who do they represent?
5. In Revelation 12 what is represented by 1) the sun; 2) the moon; 3) the twelve stars; and 4) the man child?
6. What is the main power used by Satan to attack the Christian Church?
7. How is the attack on the Christian Church depicted in Revelation 12?
8. What did God use to preserve the church?
9. Against whom is Satan's final attack directed?
10. Will Satan fulfil or fail in this attack?

#### **MEMORISE:**

- Rev. 12:17.
- G.C. page 608 para. 2. "Persecution in its varied forms is the development of a principle which will exist as long as Satan exists and Christianity has vital power."

#### **For Further Study**

1. Read "Daniel and the Revelation" by Uriah Smith, on Revelation 12.

## 7d - THE CHURCH AND THE STATE

### 1. There are two distinct spheres of authority to which all men are accountable.

- Matt. 22:15 - 21. Christ showed that in some things men were accountable to Caesar (representing the state or civil power); in other things men were accountable to God.

### 2. First and foremost man's accountability is to God.

- Matt. 4:10. Worship is due to God only. If any man, organisation, power, or government requires worship (bowing to) or puts itself in a position where it seeks to make man accountable to it in religious matter, it is usurping the place of God.
- Rom. 14:12. Every single man is to give account unto God for what he does or does not do, and how he worships. Therefore, it is his God given right to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience.
- 2 Cor. 5:10. All will be judged by God.

### 3. Man also has a responsibility to the state.

- Titus 3:1. Man is to be subject to principalities and powers.
- 1 Tim. 1:9. Laws are not made for the righteous, but the lawless and disobedient.
- Dan. 2:37; John 19:10, 11. God gives kings and rulers their kingdom, power and strength.
- Rom 13:1. We are subject to higher powers as they are ordained of God.
- Rom. 13:2. Those who oppose government for government's sake will receive damnation.
- Rom. 13:3 - 6. The Christian should render obedience to the civil power not out of fear, but 'for conscience sake.'
- Rom. 13:7. We are to render dues to the civil power.
- 1 Peter 2:13 - 17. Our duty to rulers.
- Matt. 5:40, 41. Jesus bade His disciples to do even more than was required of them by civil authorities.

### 4. The civil power is ordained of God to govern in civil affairs, and is not to interfere in matters of religion.

- Rom. 13:1 - 4. God ordains the civil power over civil affairs.

The Lord shows us that the civil power has no right to dictate to men as to how they should worship, in such instances as :-

- The deliverance of the three Hebrews - Daniel 3.
- The deliverance of Daniel - Daniel 6.
- The deliverance of the Jews from Haman - Esther.
- The witnessing of Peter and John - Acts 5:17 - 32.

### 5. The church on the other hand is ordained of God to preach the gospel and win men, not by force, but by the power of persuasion.

- Mark 16:15. The commission to all the church.
- Eph. 6:11 - 18. The weapons a Christian is to use.
- 2 Cor. 10:3 - 5. The church is not to use force.
- Matt. 26:51 - 53. Christ condemned Peter for using his sword.
- Luke 9:51 - 56. Christ came not to destroy with weapons, but to save.

**6. When any authority commands or legislates in religion to force us to disobey God, it has usurped its legitimate sphere of authority, and we are to obey God despite the consequences.**

- Acts 4:18 - 20. Peter and John disobeyed the council, but obeyed God.
- Acts 5:29. We ought to obey God rather than man in religious matters.
- 2 Thess. 2:3, 4. There will be authorities who try to take the place of God.
- Eccl. 5:8. There is a power higher than the highest powers of earth.

**Questions on the lesson.**

1. What two distinct spheres of authority did Christ refer to?
2. Who only is worship due to?
3. Why should men have the right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience?
4. What is man's responsibility to civil governments?
5. What are some of the dues we owe to the civil power (this will vary depending on your civil government)?
6. What sphere of authority has God ordained for civil powers?
7. What sphere is outside of the civil powers legitimate authority?
8. What examples do we have in Scripture that show a civil power's illegitimate authority?
9. What is the work and what are the weapons the Christian church are to use?
10. Does the church have the right to use force? Why or why not?
11. To whom should man render supreme obedience?

**MEMORISE:**

- Matt. 22:21.
- 1 T. page 361 para. 1. "I saw that it is our duty in every case to obey the laws of our land, unless they conflict with the higher law which God spoke with an audible voice from Sinai, and afterward engraved on stone with His own finger."

## 7e - COME OUT OF BABYLON MY PEOPLE

### 1. Babylon, the false church, is revealed in Revelation 17 as a corrupt and vile woman, and applies to the Papacy.

- Rev. 17:1-4. Just as the pure woman of Rev. 12 represented God's pure church, so the harlot of Rev. 17 represents an apostate church.  
*NOTE:-* The beast or civil authority, on whom she sits in none other than Rome. So we here have the woman, the church, seated upon a scarlet-coloured beast, the civil power, by which she is upheld, and which she controls and guides to her own ends, as a rider controls the animal upon which he is seated.
- Rev. 17:18. The great city who ruled the world at that point in time was Rome.
- Rev. 17:5. The name given to this church is Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots. This tells us the true origin of the services, rites, rituals, dress, images, etc., that go along with the Roman Church and her daughters.
- Rev. 17:6. The Papacy has been the great persecutor of God's people over many hundreds of years. But why was John so amazed? It was not strange that pagans should persecute Christ's followers; but when he looked forward, and saw a church professedly 'Christian' persecuting the followers of the Lamb, and drunken with their blood, he could but wonder with great amazement.
- Matt. 24:21, 22. Christ's description of the Papal persecution.  
*NOTE:-* It is estimated that the Roman Catholic Church has been responsible for the deaths of from 50 to 120 million people martyred for their faith.

### 2. Babylon, the apostate church, includes all false systems of religion. Whenever a church imbibes the spirit and doctrines of Satan, that church becomes a part of the system of Babylon.

- Rev. 17:5. Babylon has daughters who are also corrupt. By her daughters would be represented other churches that cling to her doctrines and traditions.
- Rev. 14:6 - 8. This message announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to religious bodies that were once pure and have become corrupt. Since this message follows the warning of the judgment which started in 1844, it must be given in the last days. Therefore it cannot refer to the Roman Church alone, for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries.

G.C. p. 382 para. 3. "Babylon is said to be 'the mother of harlots.' By her daughters must be symbolized churches that cling to her doctrines and traditions, and follow her example of sacrificing the truth and the approval of God, in order to form an unlawful alliance with the world. The message of Revelation 14, announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to religious bodies that were once pure and have become corrupt. Since this message follows the warning of the judgment, it must be given in the last days; therefore it cannot refer to the Roman Church alone, for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries. Furthermore, in the eighteenth chapter of the Revelation the people of God are called upon to come out of Babylon. According to this scripture, many of God's people must still be in Babylon. And in what religious bodies are the greater part of the followers of Christ now to be found? Without doubt, in the various churches professing the Protestant faith. At the time of their rise these churches took a noble stand for God and the truth, and His blessing was with them. Even the unbelieving world was constrained to acknowledge the beneficent results that followed an acceptance of the principles of the gospel. In the words of the prophet to Israel: 'Thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it was perfect

through My comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord God.' But they fell by the same desire which was the curse and ruin of Israel--the desire of imitating the practices and courting the friendship of the ungodly. 'Thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown.' Ezekiel 16:14, 15."

- Gen. 11:9. Babel or Babylon as it was later known means confusion. This can be found in the margin of the Bible, as well as Strong's Exhaustive Concordance.  
*NOTE:-* "And the term 'Babylon' - confusion - may be appropriately applied to these bodies, all professing to derive their doctrines from the Bible, yet divided into almost innumerable sects, with widely conflicting creeds and theories." G.C. p. 383 para. 1.

### **3. In Rev. 18 God repeats this message about the fall of Babylon, with an urgent call for God's people to separate.**

- Rev. 18:1-4. The complete and total fall of Babylon. God's people are called out so that they partake not of her sins nor receive her plagues.  
*NOTE:-* "But the message of the second angel did not reach its complete fulfillment in 1844. The churches then experienced a moral fall, in consequence of their refusal of the light of the Advent message; but that fall was not complete. . . . The Bible declares that before the coming of the Lord, Satan will work 'with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness;' and they that 'received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved,' will be left to receive 'strong delusion, that they should believe a lie.' 2 Thess. 2:9-11. Not until this condition shall be reached, and the union of the church with the world shall be fully accomplished throughout Christendom, will the fall of Babylon be complete. The change is a progressive one, and the perfect fulfillment of Revelation 14:8 is yet future." The Faith I Live By p. 285 para. 3.
- Rev. 18:5 - 8. Babylon to be punished.
- Rev. 18:21. Babylon will be overthrown violently.
- Rev. 16:17 - 19. Her final punishment will occur under the seventh plague.
- Rev. 18:22, 23. Her destruction will be utterly complete.

#### **Questions on the lesson.**

1. What is symbolised by a woman in prophecy?
2. Who is the woman of Revelation 17?
3. Give your reasons for applying the term 'Babylon the great' to the Roman Catholic Church.
4. Who are the daughters of Babylon?
5. What is the second angel's message and to whom does it apply?
6. Explain the origin and the meaning of 'Babylon.'
7. What final call is given to God's people and why is it urgent?
8. What fearful punishment will come to Babylon?

#### **MEMORISE:**

- Rev. 18:4.
- G.C. p. 45 para. 3. "They saw that separation was an absolute necessity if they would obey the word of God. They dared not tolerate errors fatal to their own souls, and set an example which would imperil the faith of their children and children's children."

#### **For Further Study**

Read G. C. pp. 603 - 612, chapter 38 entitled 'The Final Warning.'

## **7f - THE GATHERING OF THE TRUE ISRAEL**

**1. Because the nation of Israel continually sinned against God by worshipping other gods, they were carried away into captivity. However, God promised to bring them back into their own land again.**

- Jer. 34:16, 17. Because of their sins God was going to remove them to all the kingdoms of the earth.
- 2 Kings 17:5 - 8. The nation of Israel was taken captive to Assyria or Babylon in 721 B.C. for 70 years.
- 2 Chron. 36:5 - 21; Jer. 25:8 - 11.. Judah was carried captive to Babylon for 70 years from 606 - 536 B.C.
- Jer. 29:10 - 14. God promised to gather Israel from all the nations where they had been scattered.
- 2 Chron. 36:22, 23. In 536 B.C. Israel was given the opportunity of returning to their own land by King Cyrus.
- Ezra 2:1 - 61. Captives from all parts of Israel returned, showing some from all tribes returned.
- Ezra 7:11 - 26. More Israelites returned to help to restore and build Jerusalem in 457 B.C.

**2. After their return from captivity Israel again departed from God, and He finally rejected them as His people, and turned to the Gentiles.**

- Dan. 9:24. Seventy weeks or years were given to Israel to determine if they would follow God or not.
- Matt. 21:33 - 43. Christ predicting Israel's rejection in a parable.
- Luke 21:24. Jerusalem given to the Gentiles.
- Jer. 19:1-11. Israel was to be broken like a clay pot that can never be made whole again.
- Acts 15:14. God is now gathering Himself a people from among the Gentiles.
- John 10:16. Jesus spoke of other sheep not of this fold.

**3. When Christ returns at His second coming God will gather His people, true Israel, from all nations. They will not be gathered to Palestine, but New Jerusalem the Holy City.**

- Isa. 10:21 - 23. God calls a remnant people out.
- Rev. 14:8. The falling of Babylon caused many to leave the fallen churches. This brought about the first gathering of true Israel. Spalding and Magan Collection p. 1 para. 2. "I saw that God had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people. They are these who have been covered up in the 'rubbish' since 1844."
- Rev. 18:1-4. The second calling out of God's people.
- Isa. 11:11, 12. The second gathering of the true Israel.
- M. R. Vol. 11 p. 229 para. 2. "I was confirmed in all I had stated in Minneapolis, that a reformation must go through the churches. Reforms must be made, for spiritual weakness and blindness were upon the people who had been blessed with great light and precious opportunities and privileges. As reformers they had come out of the denominational churches, but they now act a part similar to that which the churches acted. We hoped that there would not be the necessity for another coming out. While we will endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, we will not with pen or voice cease to protest against bigotry."
- Micah 4:6 - 8; Zeph. 3:10 - 20. Prophecies of the final gathering.
- Mark 13:26, 27. The final gathering of true Israel from all parts of the earth.
- John 14:1 - 3. The gathering place of Israel is Heaven.
- Rev. 21:1 - 3. God will dwell with His people in the New Jerusalem.

### **Questions on the lesson.**

1. Draw a time line of Israel's captivity, defining the 70 years prophesied by Jeremiah.
2. How do we know that some from all the tribes of Israel returned from captivity?
3. What time period was given to Israel to determine their faithfulness or rejection of God?
4. When did this period end, and what was determined?
5. What illustration did Jeremiah use to describe Israel from that time on?
6. Where did God then turn to find a people for Himself?
7. When was the first calling out?
8. Give two texts showing that there will be a second calling out?
9. Where will be the gathering place for this second calling out?

### **MEMORISE:**

- Isa. 11:11.
- P. K. P. 22 para. 2. "The Master of the vineyard is even now gathering from among men of all nations and peoples the precious fruits for which He has long been waiting."

### **For Further Study**

1. Read P. K. pp. 703 - 721, the chapter entitled 'The House of Israel.'

## 7g - THE LAST CHURCH

### 1. God has always had faithful witnesses even during great apostasy. This is true even in the last days.

- 1 Kings 19:9, 10. Elijah thought he was the only one left serving God at a time when most of Israel worshipped Baal.
- 1 Kings 19:18. God told Elijah that there were still 7,000 who were faithful.
- Rom. 11:4, 5. As in Elijah's time there was a remnant in Israel that believed the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 1 Tim. 3:1 - 5. There will be many and great apostates amongst Christians in the last days.
- Luke 18:8. Jesus poses a question at the end of a parable - shall He find faithful when He returns?
- Rom. 9:27, 28. God will finish the work and a remnant will be saved.
- Rev. 13:15 - 17; 14:9, 10; 15:2. Though all the world worships the image of the beast, some will refuse to do so.
- 1 Thess. 4:17. The righteous living will be translated at Christ's second coming.

### 2. Only loyal and true Christians will make up God's remnant church.

- Rev. 12:17. They keep God's Commandments and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.
- Rev. 14:12. Patience of the saints, keep the Commandments and the faith of Jesus.
- Rev. 19:10. The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- Acts 2:17, 18. The gift of prophecy will be given in the last days.
- Rev. 14:1 - 5. They are not defiled by false churches, no guile was found in their mouth, and they are without fault before God.
- Zeph. 3:13. They will be truthful in all they say.
- Heb. 9:28. They look for Christ's second return.
- Isa. 25:9. They will say, 'Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us.'
- Psa. 50:5. They sacrifice for God.
- Matt. 24:44 - 47. They work for God.

### 3. The remnant church will suffer persecution because of their faithfulness. However, God will give them help and deliverance.

- 2 Tim 3:12, 13. The reason why persecution comes.
- Rev. 12:17. Satan makes war against the remnant.
- Rev. 13:16. Apostate Protestants and the USA government will seek to force all to worship on Sunday.
- Rev. 13:17. God's people will be excluded from buying or selling.
- Rev. 13:15. Dissenters will be condemned to death.
- Rev. 20: 4. Some who do not worship the beast, his image, or receive his mark will be killed.
- Psa. 91. After probation closes God will protect His people even during the plagues.
- Micah 4:6, 7. God will gather His afflicted remnant and reign over them.

### 4. The faithful remnant who live through the plagues will receive a glorious and everlasting deliverance.

- Matt. 25:1 - 13. A mere profession of knowledge of the truth will not save anyone, but a living relationship with Jesus Christ and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
- Dan 12:1. The remnant will pass through a terrible time of trouble.

- Jer. 30:5 - 9. The time of Jacob's trouble is severe, but the righteous will be saved out of it.
- Isa. 35:8 - 10. The ransomed shall have everlasting joy.
- Rev. 7:14 - 17. The special reward of these translated remnant.

### Questions on the lesson.

1. What was the spiritual condition of Israel in Elijah's day?
2. How did Elijah err in his judgement as to the true state of affairs?
3. Paul claimed a similar situation. Where is this claim made and how was it similar?
4. How do we know there will be a few faithful in the last days?
5. What are the eight of the prominent characteristics of the remnant church?
6. Why does persecution come?
7. What is the main cause of and who does the persecution in the last days?
8. Will all survive this persecution?
9. What parable teaches that mere profession will not save us?
10. The righteous will be saved out of what time of trouble?

### MEMORISE:

- Psalm 91.
- G. C. p. 605 para. 2. "The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not."

### For Further Study

1. Read G. C. pp. 635 - 652, the chapter entitled 'God's People Delivered.'

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