

Abraham's Family Feud

'The Angel of the Lord said to Hagar, "Behold, you are with child and will bear a son. You will name him Ishmael (meaning God hears), because God has heard your affliction. He will be (foolish) like a wild donkey among men. His hand will be against every other man and every other man's hand will be against him (violent, aggressive). He will oppose all of his brothers." ... Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael' (Genesis 16:11, 12 & 16). "As for Ishmael, I (God) have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He will become the father of twelve princes and I will make him a great nation. But My covenant I establish with Isaac whom Sarah will bear to you at this set time next year" (Genesis 17:20 & 21). 'Ishmael lived in the wilderness of Paran. His mother took a wife for him out of the land of Egypt' (Genesis 21:21). We can see here, Ishmael was an aggressive, violent man who fought with all of his blood family and they fought with him. He married an Egyptian woman. Ishmael's aggressive attitude, his foolishness and violence continues through his many descendents to this day. He was not the son of promise, Isaac was. Abraham was a Hebrew (Genesis 14:13) so Ishmael and all of his descendents are Hebrews but are probably unaware of it. They are Hebrews but are not Jewish. Some of them accepted Jesus and became the Coptic Christians who are still active around the world today. Those who are not Christian are wild and aggressive, just like Hagar was told her son would be.

'Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the mountain ... He lived in a cave with his two daughters. The firstborn said to the younger, "Our father is old and there is not a man on the earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. Come, let us make our father drunk and we will lie with him so we may preserve our father's seed." That night they made their father drunk and the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she laid down or when she arose. The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, "Behold, I laid last night with my father. Let us make him drunk again tonight. You go in and lie with him so we may preserve our father's seed." They made their father drunk that night also. The younger went and laid with him. He did not know when she laid down or when she got up, thus both of Lot's daughters were pregnant to their father. The firstborn bore a son and named him Moab. He is the father of the Moabites. The younger also bore a son and named him Ben Ammi. He is the father of the children of Ammon' (Genesis 19:30 to 38). These two men born of depravity and incest have many descendents still living today and many continue their wickedness. Lot was Abraham's nephew so Moab and Ben Ammi were Hebrews but not Jewish. Ruth was a Moabitess (Ruth 1:4) but she gave her life to God and became a righteous woman and an ancestor to King David and later to Jesus (Matthew 1:5 & 6). When Jesus returns, every descendent of Moab and Ben Ammi will be wiped off the earth and their land will be given to the Jewish people. "I have heard the reproach of Moab and the insults of the children of Ammon with which they have reproached My people (the Jews), and magnified themselves against their (Israel's) border. As I live, says the God of Israel, surely Moab will be (destroyed) as Sodom and the children of Ammon (will be destroyed) as Gomorrah, a possession of nettles, salt pits and a perpetual desolation. The remnant of My people will plunder them and the survivors of My nation will inherit them" (Zephaniah 2:8 & 9).

'Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time when God had spoken to him. Abraham named his son whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac ... Abraham was one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him' (Genesis 21:2, 3 & 5). 'Sarah lived one hundred twenty-seven years ... Sarah died in Hebron. Abraham mourned for Sarah and wept for her' (Genesis 23:1 & 2). 'Abraham took another wife named Keturah. She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak and Shuah ... but Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac' (Genesis 25:1, 2 & 5). Keturah's six sons were all Hebrews but were not Jewish. Some of the descendents of these six men were righteous. Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses was a righteous Midianite. Many of these Hebrew descendents would still be alive today but may not know their Hebrew heritage.

'When Rebekah's days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold there were twins in her womb. The first was born red all over like a hairy garment. They named him Esau (meaning red). After that his brother was born and his hand had hold of Esau's heel. He was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah bore the twins' (Genesis 25:24 to 26). Isaac told Esau, "By your sword will you live and you will serve your brother. It will happen, when you will break loose you will shake his yoke from off your neck." Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing Isaac blessed Jacob. Esau said in his heart, "The days of mourning for my father are at hand. Then I will kill my brother Jacob" (Genesis 27:40 & 41). Jacob became the son of promise after Esau sinned. The line should have come through Esau but he was unsuitable. Jacob became the father of Judah from where we get the word Jewish. The Hebrews were first called Jews during the reign of Ahaz (2 Kings 16:6) only about six hundred years before Jesus came. Esau was so wicked, God Himself said He hated him. God said, "I have loved Jacob but Esau I hated and made his mountains a desolation, and gave his heritage to the jackals of the wilderness" (Malachi 1:2 & 3). 'As it is written, "Jacob I loved but Esau I hated" (Romans 9:13). Esau represented a false and corrupted Judaism that caused people to blaspheme the name of the Lord (Malachi 1:4 to 14).

Abraham was a Hebrew so all of his offspring were Hebrews. Ishmael, Moab, Ben Ammi, Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, Shuah and Esau were all descendents of Abraham so they were all Hebrews and cousins and so were their descendents after them. From one of these men, righteous Job was born but we do not know which one. Esau's eldest son Eliphaz was a 'friend' of Job's (Genesis 36:10; Job 2:11) so Job was not born to Esau but he would have come from one of the nine other wayward men. Job lived in Uz, in Israel but did not travel with Jacob's family to Egypt. Who his ancestor was is unknown but God lists Job as one of the three most righteous men with Daniel and Noah (Ezekiel 14:14 & 20).

The ten wayward men were sent away from Isaac so only Isaac could inherit the Promised Land later called the Land of Israel. None of these wayward men or the tribes they founded were to inherit from Abraham. 'Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac but to the sons of Abraham's concubines, Abraham gave gifts. He sent them away from Isaac his son while he yet lived, eastward to the east country (now the Middle East)' (Genesis 25:5 & 6). These ten wayward men and cousins would have been jealous of Isaac and thus the family feud that began with Ishmael has continued down through the generations and continues today with terrible consequences for the descendents of Isaac and his son Jacob. Esau hated Jacob as we read above, solely because Jacob inherited what should normally have gone to Esau as the eldest son, and Esau was jealous and furious. That jealousy, rage and hatred continues today, from Esau's descendents toward Jacob's descendents. God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob plus all of Jacob's descendents now called Jews.

Almost all of the descendents of the ten wayward men have converted to the false religion of Islam. The ongoing conflict between tiny Israel and the vast coalition of Arab/Muslim nations arrayed against her is without question the most dangerous situation facing Israel today. The tribal conflicts that began long ago with the rejection of Ishmael as the son of promise, were recorded in the Bible in detail by the holy prophets thousands of years ago, and that conflict continues today. If we look back in history, Abraham was favoured by the Lord while his brothers were rejected. Isaac was favoured while Ishmael and his half-brothers were all rejected. Jacob was favoured while Esau was rejected. Joseph was favoured while his older brothers were not quite so loved by their father. All of this jealousy, hatred and anger has been passed down from generation to generation. Even today, young Arabs and Muslims are taught to hate Jewish people. Nearly 30% of the Old Testament is devoted to prophecies regarding Israel and the Jewish nation. Twenty times in different ways, God says He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob but He does not say that about any other family, tribe, group of people, nation or any Gentiles. The Jewish people are favoured over the Gentiles. Over two hundred times the Almighty is called the God of Israel, that is the Promised Land of Israel and the Jewish people who live there.

God needed to bring a Messiah to earth to redeem mankind and He needed a special place on earth for His chosen Messiah to come. God needed a holy people to bring forth the Messiah. To fulfil this necessity, God chose the Hebrews to be His own special people. 'You are a holy people to Yahweh your God and Yahweh has chosen you to be a people for His own possession above all peoples who are on the face of the earth' (Deuteronomy 14:2). Those chosen people came from the bloodline of Abraham and his promised son Isaac then on through Jacob and only Jacob's bloodline. Some people today are offended by God's choice but so were the ten wayward tribes and their offspring offended and they still are. The words Israel, Jerusalem and Hebrews are found written in the Bible nearly three thousand times but they are not used in any other so-called religious or 'holy' book. The Jewish people are the centre of God's attention. They are the 'Pupil of His eye' or in English, the 'Apple of His eye'. 'God's portion is His people. Jacob is the lot of His inheritance ... God kept him (Jacob and his descendents) as the Apple of His eye' (Deuteronomy 32:9 & 10). The entire Bible is written by Jewish people, about Jewish people and initially only for Jewish people. No Gentile nation was ever included in God's choice. God gave supernatural knowledge to Moses so he could reveal the truth about creation, the start of the human race, the beginnings of the Jewish nation and prophecies regarding the Jewish Messiah, Jesus. These oracles of God were only ever entrusted to the Jews. 'Moses said to the children of Israel, "The Lord our God will raise up a Prophet (Jesus) for you from among your brothers, like me." This is he (Moses) who was in the assembly in the wilderness with the holy Angel Who spoke to him on Mount Sinai and with our forefathers, who received living oracles to give to us' (Acts 7:37 & 38; Deuteronomy 18:15, 18 & 19). 'First of all, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God' (Romans 3:2). The Jewish people have done an exceedingly good job at bringing the oracles of God to the Gentiles, especially the apostles and the early church. Without them Gentiles would not have any knowledge of the Lord God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, salvation and were utterly without any eternal hope. 'You were at that time separate from Jesus, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world, but now in Jesus, you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Jesus' (Ephesians 2:12 & 13).

It is pointless resenting God's choice of people. God will never change His mind. 'The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable' (Romans 11:29). That means all Gentiles and all non-Jews will have to accept whom God has chosen and accept Jesus as our Jewish Messiah and Saviour. Our salvation is purely by the grace of God and is His gift to us when we accept Jesus by faith. 'By grace you have been saved through faith and not of yourselves for salvation is the gift of God' (Ephesians 2:8). The God of the Bible has promised to love and protect Israel while false religions and false beliefs want to annihilate the people of Israel and remove the Land of Israel from the map. God is the God of Israel. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. People who love God will love Jerusalem, Israel and the Jewish people because God loves them. People who hate God, hate everything He loves and God has said He will punish those haters to their faces. 'You (the Jewish people) are a holy people to Yahweh your God. Yahweh your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession above all peoples who are on the face of the earth. Yahweh did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any people for you were the fewest of all peoples, but because Yahweh loves you and because He would keep the oath He swore to your forefathers. Yahweh brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore, Yahweh your God. He is God, the faithful God Who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations, and repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. God will not be slack to those who hate Him. He will repay them to their face' (Deuteronomy 7:6 to 10).

For centuries genuine Christians have taught from the Bible the fact that God would bring His people back to their homeland. The Bible has mentioned the return of Jews to Israel hundreds of times. Jesus spoke of it, the apostles and disciples taught the early church about it so the return of the Jews to Israel is not a new concept. The miracle of the return of the Jewish people to Israel is phenomenal. After being dispersed for two thousand years, they still speak their original language of Hebrew although it is slightly different. Their written language and characters are almost the same as the original. The Bible is the same. Their feasts and holidays are the same. Their calendar is the same as the one God gave them when they emerged from Egypt. What is different is the way other nations have forced Israel to give up so much land, the land God gave to them, the land God promised to them, literally dividing God's land, something which has made God angry. God said, "Behold, in those days and in that time (this time right now in our day), when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat and I will execute judgment on them there for My people and for My heritage, Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations. They have divided My land" (Joel 3:1 & 2). Any nation who comes against Israel will be punished by God, eventually.

The sin of anti-Semitism is on the rise globally. The family feud that began with Ishmael and spread to his Hebrew brothers and cousins has now spread like a horrible disease to some Gentiles who were not originally part of this family feud. Those Gentiles have adopted an irrational defiance of God and His will and are fanatical about destroying Israel. Their struggle is not about Israel's borders, it is about Israel's existence. Coming against Israel will qualify them for special wrath from God on Judgement Day. Israel is Israel, it is not Palestine. When the King of the Jews, Jesus comes again, He will rule the earth from Jerusalem and that is something nobody on earth can stop. He will rule from Israel, not Palestine. Jerusalem has been the capital of Israel for four thousand years yet the fairly recently formed European Union, United Nations and some countries refuse to accept Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem. One day the Lord will fully restore the entire land of Israel to the Jewish people as He promised Abraham, and it will be huge. 'In that day Yahweh made a covenant with Abram saying, "To your descendents I have given this land (later called Israel) from the river of Egypt (the Nile) to the great river, the river Euphrates"' (Genesis 15:18).

Instead of blaming the Arabs for the ongoing feud in that area, many world leaders blame Israel. Israeli's are not the aggressors. If their neighbours gave up their hatred and stopped attacking Israel, there would be peace in the Middle East. The ten wayward cousins of the descendents of Abraham have been attacking and murdering the descendents of Jacob/Israel for thousands of years. Many Gentiles have been killing Jews for thousands of years. Anti-Semitism is a world wide sin and the entire world is guilty. Although war on Jews has never actually been declared, anti-Semitism is a war on Jews and thus the coming Messiah. It is irrational to hate the Jewish people to the degree they are hated but the Jews have hope. When the Messiah comes to rule from Israel, all anti-Semitism will cease. All nations will have to bow the knee to the Lord Jesus, our Jewish Messiah. 'Look to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God and there is no one else. By Myself have I affirmed the word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not return. To Me every knee will bow, every tongue will confess. Only in Yahweh it is said of Me, is righteousness and strength. To Him will men come and all those who were enraged against Him will be disappointed. In Yahweh will all the descendents of Israel be justified and will glory' (Isaiah 45:22 to 25). 'You, why do you judge your brother? You again, why do you despise your brother? We will all stand before the judgment seat of Jesus the Messiah. It is written, "As I live, to Me every knee will bow. Every tongue will confess to God." Each one of us will give account of ourselves to God' (Romans 14:10 to 12). 'At the name of Jesus every

knee will bow, of those in heaven, those on earth and those under the earth (who have died and been buried) and every tongue will confess, Jesus the Messiah is Lord, to the glory of God the Father' (Philippians 2:10 & 11).

The prophecies regarding the return of the Jewish people to Israel, their rightful homeland is being fulfilled in our day. The Lord has spoken, He has decreed and nobody can stop the Jewish people from returning to Israel. The Lord God made very sure the Jewish people were in Israel before Jesus was born as a holy Baby. The Jewish Messiah had to be born in God's Promised Land. Israel is the Lord's land and He has put His name on it. Israel means 'God fights' or 'Contender of God'. God will fight and contend for His people, the Children of Israel, the descendants of Jacob/Israel. Now that the return of Jesus is a short time away, the Lord God has made very sure the Jewish people are again in Israel to welcome their holy Messiah. He will come as a King, not as a Baby. Jesus will rule the world from Jerusalem and that will be very humiliating for all people who hate the Jewish people. Muslims, Arabs and the descendants of Abraham will be deeply humiliated and so will the Gentiles who have sided with the descendants of the ten wayward tribes. Imagine the Muslims and Arabs having to bow down to Jesus, the Jewish Messiah. It will be maddening for them. They will be humiliated, embarrassed, humbled, disgraced and their false religion will be shown up for what it is – fake. Many will turn to Jesus after learning Who He really is. They will finally learn Islam is a false religion, Allah is a false god, Muhammad is a false prophet and their book the quran is a false revelation. Muslims will never win the war against Israel. God is contending for Israel. He is on the side of Israel and fights for them and always will. Those countries that fight against Israel will be severely punished as the following verses reveal.

'The Lord will go out and fight against those nations as when He fought in the day of battle. His (Jesus') feet will stand on that day, on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, making a very great valley. Half of the mountain will move toward the north and half of it toward the south ... God will come and all the holy ones with Him. On that day, there will not be light, cold or frost. It will be a unique day known to God, not day and not night but it will come to pass, at evening time there will be light. On that day, living waters will go out from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea, in summer and in winter it will be. Jesus will be King over all the earth. On that day Elohim will be one and His name one ... People will dwell there and there will be no more curse. Jerusalem will dwell safely. This will be the plague God will strike all the peoples (neighbouring nations) who have warred against Jerusalem. Their flesh will consume away while they stand on their feet. Their eyes will consume away in their sockets. Their tongue will consume away in their mouth. On that day, a great panic from God will be among them and they will grab everyone on the hand of his neighbour. His hand will rise up against the hand of his neighbour. Judah will fight at Jerusalem and the wealth of all the surrounding nations will be gathered together, gold, silver and clothing in great abundance ... Everyone who is left of all the nations that came against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King (Jesus) and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles' (Zechariah 14:3 to 16). 'Amen! Yes, come quickly Lord Jesus' (Revelation 22:20).

Amen and God bless you.

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