

**FELLOWSHIP CHAPEL
THE LAST DAY MESSENGER**

THE RIGHT OF THE FIRSTBORN

By Pastor Ona Bogart

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Study # 33

In Exodus 13:13 we begin to see Moses under the instruction of God, set down the right of the firstborn. “All the firstborn of my children I redeem” Numbers 3:13 “All the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast: mine shall they be.” Numbers 3:40-45.

The firstborn of both man and beast were considered as belonging to God. If the firstborn was of man, the child was to be redeemed. To the firstborn son, belonged the birthright, which was to include the headship of the family or tribe, and a double portion of his father’s property, but there were conditions that the firstborn had to meet.

The firstborn often didn’t meet the qualifications that were required of them, and then the birthright went to one of the remaining brothers. This became the case in the sons of Abraham, because Abraham and Sarah made a decision not to wait on the Lord to provide a son for them, but rather they choose to have a child by the handmaid of Sarah, Genesis 16:1-16, Read.

That was not pleasing to God, and caused sorrow to all concerned, Genesis 17:18 “And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!” But God had a plan for the descendents of Abraham and Sarah through a child that would be born to them in both of their old ages, Genesis 17:19 “And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shall call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21 But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.”

Ishmael, the firstborn son of Abraham, was not the chosen of God and did not receive the blessing and the birthright. It was Isaac that received the blessing and calling of the Lord.

Abraham did not wait on God’s promise to be fulfilled in his life. Sarah was barren, and Abraham did not wait for God to keep His promise that he would have a son of his lineage. They tried to help God bring the promise to pass and therefore the firstborn son of Abraham did not receive the blessing, Genesis 25:19.

The firstborn son of Isaac also did not receive the blessing and the birthright, for the firstborn son of Isaac, which was Esau, sold his birthright to his brother Jacob for a mess of pottage. Esau was the firstborn son and a twin born to Isaac and Rebekah, Genesis 25:19-34. Isaac loved the firstborn son Esau, but Rebekah loved his twin brother whose name was Jacob. Esau was a hunter and a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents. Esau sold his birthright to his brother for some pottage (stew) because he was hungry when he came from the field, Genesis 25: 29-34.

Isaac grew old and his eyes were dim. He loved venison so he called Esau and asked him to take his weapons and go out to the field and get him some venison to make a stew that he liked. He thought that he was giving the instructions to Esau, but through deceit Jacob and his mother, sent Jacob into his father's presence and Jacob pretended to be Esau. Because Isaac was almost blind he thought it was his son Esau his firstborn, therefore Isaac gave the blessing of the firstborn to the youngest son Jacob, Genesis 27:1-46.

Later when Jacob was barely gone from the presence of his father, Esau came with the savory meat that Isaac loved. Isaac now was made aware that his youngest son, Jacob had deceived him, and he trembled. Esau cried for a blessing from his father, but Isaac said, "Thy brother came with subtilty, and hath taken away thy blessing." Genesis 27:35, and here we see again the blessing that went to the youngest son instead of the firstborn, Genesis 27.

The firstborn son of Jacob, Reuben, also did not receive the blessing and birthright from his father Jacob, because he slept with one of his father's wives, Genesis 49:3,4, but this time one of the younger sons of Jacob, which was Joseph, received the birthright, 1 Chronicles 5:1 "Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel, (for he was the firstborn; but, forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright. 2 For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's:)

In Genesis 49: 22, Jacob as he was dying, was pronouncing the blessings on his sons and when Joseph's blessing was told, Jacob said "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

23. The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him:

24. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel.)"

Notice how the ending of this blessing is concluded, from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel. But who is Moses speaking of here? (thence: from that place, from that time afterward, for that reason, from that time onward or from that place onward.)

Moses is writing that the blessing that Jacob was pronouncing upon Joseph, would from that time forward, lead to the true Stone that Isaiah prophesied would be One that was tried, and precious, and would be a sure foundation that the gates of Hell would not prevail against, Matthew 16:18.

Isaiah 28:16 "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste."

Psalms 80:1 "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth.

2. Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up thy strength, and come and save us."

As we read on in Isaiah 80, we find David saying in verse 8 “Thou hast brought a vine out of Egypt: thou hast cast out the heathen, and planted it.

9. Thou preparedst room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land.

10 The hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars.

11. She sent out her boughs unto the sea, and her branches unto the river.

12. Why hast thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they, which pass by the way, do pluck her?

14. Return, we beseech thee, O God of hosts: look down from heaven, and behold, and visit this vine;

15. And the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself.

Genesis 49:24 THE STONE OF ISRAEL Genesis 49:22 Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall:

23. The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him:

24. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel). We understand that God is speaking in the last portion of this Scripture of Jesus and *from that time forward Jesus would become the stone of Israel.*

My subject is, the Right of the Firstborn Son, and in Exodus 4:22 we read, “Thus saith the Lord, *Israel is my son, even my firstborn:*” and again in Matthew 2:15 “*Out of Egypt have I called my son.*” Who is God speaking of here? He is speaking of the whole 12 tribes of the nation of Israel, but through the years and generations of time, the 12 tribes were split into 10 tribes 1 Kings 11:31-35, and then into 2 tribes, 1 Kings 11:36. This was the prophet Ahijah prophesying to Jeroboam.

Then in 1 Kings 12:15 we hear God saying “Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from the Lord, that he might perform his saying, which the Lord spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat.

16. So when all Israel saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O Israel: now see to thine own house David. So Israel departed unto their tents.

17. But as for the children of Israel, which dwelt in the cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

18. Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the tribute; and all Israel stoned him with stones that he died. Therefore king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

19. So ISRAEL rebelled against the house of David unto this day. (*Not Judah but Israel*)

20. And it came to pass, when ALL ISRAEL heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over ALL ISRAEL: there was NONE that that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah ONLY.”

It is very important that we follow and understand, that according to the Scriptures, the house

of David (*Judah*) is split away from the 10 tribes of Israel that followed Jeroboam. The house of David, which is referred to as Judah, was not included from that time onward as a part of the 10 tribes of Israel.

It is sometimes hard for one to understand why God would say, “the cause was from the Lord, that he might perform his saying, which the Lord spake by Ahijah to Jeroboam the son of Nebat” but from the time that God began to lead the children out of the land of Egypt, He constantly had to deal with a people that were a complaining, and rebellious, and a stiff-necked people, Exodus 32:9 33:3 34:9 Deuteronomy 9:6,13.

We see in Isaiah 65:1 that God has become tired of dealing with a revolting and complaining people, and He says. “I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me unto a nation that was not called by my name.
2. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts;
3. A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick;
4. Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine’s flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;
5. Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou.”

Romans 10:20 “Elias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me.

21. But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.”

The whole nation of Israel WAS the firstborn son of God, Exodus 4:22, and in Matthew 2:15 God said that He called His son out of Egypt, but on the way out of Egypt they constantly were disobedient and complained until God turned to another nation that had not asked for Him, Isaiah 65:1 and Romans 10:20. Paul makes it clear in Romans 11, that they were broken off, 11:20. Therefore the firstborn son, Israel, lost the birthright and the Gentiles became the recipient of the firstborn Son. I know that Paul writes in Romans 11:20 that all Israel shall be saved, but who now is all Israel?

BUT WHO IS the Israel of God? Paul writing in Galatians 6:15 says “In Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor un-circumcision, but a new creature.

16. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the ISRAEL OF GOD.”

The Ministers of today like to point to the Jews as still being the Israel of God. They still refer to the Jews as God’s Chosen People, but when we take the time to read and study and to understand what God has indicated throughout the Old and the New Testaments, we see that the Jews have been broken off that we, the Gentiles, might be grafted into the natural branch. Of course we have been warned not to make ourselves an offender for the Word, but we ARE exhorted to STUDY and to show ourselves approved unto God, rightly dividing the Word of

Truth, 2 Timothy 2:15.

Jesus makes it very clear that there is NO OTHER way into heaven except by HIM, John 14:6 “I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” Since Jesus came and gave His life for the whole world, there is no other way into heaven. Those that lived under the Law of Moses, will be judged by the Law of Moses, and the Jews WERE Gods Chosen People of that day, but since Jesus came if ANYONE DOES NOT come by way of the Cross they WILL BE LOST.

In the days of Rehoboam and Jeroboam when the kingdom of Solomon split, 10 of the tribes that went with Jeroboam were referred to as all Israel, 1 Kings 12:16, 19, and the 2 tribes that stayed with Rehoboam the son of Solomon, were referred to as Judah and Benjamin, 1 Kings 12:1-20.

If we are really concerned and want to find the truth of this statement by the Apostle Paul, we will willingly read all of the Scriptures that are referred to above.

There is very little teaching and studying, on the split in the 12 tribes of Jacob in this Day and Age in which we live, and this is ONE of the most important revelations in the whole Bible. We are constantly hearing messages that the tribe of Judah is the CHOSEN OF GOD, but in this writing I hope that I can bring you to a different enlightenment on this subject.

When Paul wrote that the natural branches were broken off and the Gentiles were grafted in, that only reveals that not only the people of Israel were God’s chosen people, but it left open the door for any nationality that would come to the full stature and knowledge of Jesus Christ, could become one in the 100 fold and the peculiar People of God.

This then, leaves the Church of Jesus Christ, the 100 fold, as the Chosen of God. It makes no difference what nationality or color they are, if they bear the fruits of the Spirit of God and become a PERFECTED People; these then truly become the Bride of Jesus Christ and the Chosen People of God. It is NOT the Jews that become the Chosen of God, although the Jew can become a PART of that PERFECTED NUMBER, if they come by the WAY of the CROSS.

THE ISRAEL OF GOD

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September 2, 2008

BUT Who IS the Israel of God? Paul writing in Galatians 6:15 says “In Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor un-circumcision, but a new creature.

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We are constantly hearing messages on the tribe of Judah being the CHOSEN OF GOD, but in this writing I hope to point out some things that if studied, will lead to a complete change of the way that we view the Chosen People of God.