



The first time we see the name Israel in the Bible it is the new name given to Jacob by God to indicate a change in his character.

*"And he said, Your name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince have you power with God and with men, and have prevailed."*  
 Genesis 32:28 KJ 2000 Bible

Jacob had a new spiritual character, and was given a new spiritual name, as Israel literally means "prince of God"! Remember this!

Israel (formerly Jacob) had 12 sons that multiplied and were forced into slavery in Egypt until Moses went to Pharaoh with a message from God... *"Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, and I told you, 'Let my son go, so he may worship me.' But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.'"* Exodus 4:22-23

Now we see that God refers to His spiritual people... all the descendants of one man (Israel) as a nation of people called Israel that He calls out of Egypt.

*"When Israel was a child, I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt."* Hosea 11:1

We see someone else was called out of Egypt...

*"So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son.""* Matthew 2:14-15

\*Israel was called out of Egypt...  
 Jesus was called out of Egypt.

\*Israel was baptized through the Red Sea (1 Corinthians 10:2)... Jesus was baptized at the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13-17).

\*Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness (Joshua 5:6)... Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-2).

\*Israel is called a vine (Psalm 80:8)... Jesus calls Himself the vine (John 15:1).

\*God calls Israel His son, His first born (Exodus 4:22)... Paul calls Jesus "the first born of every creature" (Colossians 1:15).

What do these and other parallels with Jesus to the nation of Israel mean?

It means that Jesus is repeating the history of Israel, overcoming where they had failed!

He is the new spiritual Israel, the Prince of God, who overcomes sin, sickness, disease, death, principalities and powers... to give the same to those who decide to become children of God!

Isaiah called Israel "the seed of Abraham" (Isaiah 41:8)... Paul wrote "The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ." (Galatians 3:16)

Here in the Old Testament God calls all of Israel the seed of Abraham, yet Paul says here Abraham's seed is now not many but one... Christ!

In the Old Testament the name Israel was one man, Jacob, and then later also to his descendants.

We see the same parallel again in the New Testament.

After Paul tells the new Gentile converts about Jesus being "the seed", he tells them,  
"And if you be Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed" Galatians 3:29

In the New Testament, Israel is now not only one man again but also those who are in Him.  
Believers also become the seed of Abraham!

Followers or descendants of Jesus as Christ (true Christians) are now God's spiritual ISRAEL!

\*Moses made a covenant with Israel with animal sacrifice and blood (Exodus 24:8)... Jesus made a new covenant with His sacrifice and Blood with those who believe and accept Him as their sacrifice to God... "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:28

According to the New Testament there are now two Israel's!

Paul said in Romans 9:6, "It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel". He said in Romans 9:3 there is a flesh Israel, "For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race" and in Galatians 6:16 that there is a spiritual Israel, "Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule-to the Israel of God". Paul also said in Galatians 3:6-7, "So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Understand, then, that those who have faith (in Jesus as Christ and His Gospel) are children of Abraham".

Many think that Israel is the land between Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon and only the Jews are Israelites and God's chosen, but the Bible says in John 14:6 and in many other places that only through Jesus are you saved, "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me". The Bible says that Jews who deny Christ are flesh Israel... no longer God's spiritual Israel.

Only those who accept Jesus as their Saviour are spiritual Israel, and are the only Israel that God considers to be His children... they are also called Christians!

God had the obsolete physical temple in Jerusalem destroyed because the law and flesh sacrifice was now all fulfilled in Jesus. His temple is now a spiritual temple within each believer... "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?" 1 Corinthians 3:17

The temple that Jews and most Christians pray for today to be rebuilt in Israel is not of God and never will be!

All the promises God made in the Old Testament applying to Israel apply to the spiritual Israel today!

"And you, dear brothers and sisters, are children of the promise, just like Isaac." Galatians 4:28

CHRISTIANS... Search through the Old Testament and get hold of all of your inheritance and all of God's promises, as we each of us are the true Israel!

"To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne."  
Revelation 3:21



Your throne awaits  
you Israel...  
Seize your destiny!