

Jew and **Gentile**

Ronnie McCurry
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Conference
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Jerusalem in the First Century
(reconstruction based on historical and archaeological evidence)

Study Purpose:

To review and understand the terms / words “*Jew*” and “*Gentile*” as used in the scriptures and lay the groundwork for some dispensational consideration within the group of Right Dividers gathered for this conference regarding this question:

Are we, as members of Christ’s Body, to make any distinction between “Jew” and “Gentile” and, in God’s view, are these terms valid today?

To begin, let’s dig into some relative questions.

- Where do the terms “*Jew*” and “*Gentile*” originate in scripture?
- What are the scriptural definitions for each term?
- In what way are the 2 terms related?
- Is there any difference between a *Jew* and an *Israelite*?
- What does the Apostle Paul say with regard to these terms for us today?



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Where do the terms “*Jew*” and “*Gentile*” originate in scripture?

Jew

Jew(s) – (English word) appears in 270 verses, 84 verses in the OT and 186 verses in the NT; first occurrence is 2Ki 16:6: *At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drave the **Jews** from Elath: and the Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there unto this day.*
Hebrew = (*y^ehudiy*), pronounced *yeh-hoo-dee'*
Koine Greek = (*Ioudaios*), pronounced *ee-oo-dah'-yos*

Gentile

Gentile(s) – (English word) appears in 123 verses, 30 verses in the OT and 93 verses in the NT; first occurrence is Ge 10:5: *By these were the isles of the **Gentiles** divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.*
Hebrew = (*goi*), pronounced *go'-ee*
Koine Greek = (*ethnos*), pronounced *eth'-nos*
= (*Hellen*), pronounced *hel'-lane*

? What are the scriptural definitions for each term?

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*“The name is derived from the word **Judah** and originally its application was limited to one of that tribe or country. During the captivity the name seems to have been applied to **any one of the twelve tribes** without distinction (Esther 3: 6,10, Dan. 3:8,12). In the NT, the term “Jew” ceases to have the significance originally attached to it, for both Paul and Peter call themselves Jews although neither were strictly of the tribe of Judah.”*

CHW, Alphabetical Analysis

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*“The English word **Gentile** comes from the Latin and means one belonging to the same class or clan (gens). The scriptural standpoint, however, is that of the Hebrew, and the word **Gentile** in the bible refers to the non-Jewish nations of the earth.”*

*Regarding the verse above (Gen. 10:5), the RV corrects this by reading “ of these were the isles of the **nations** divided”, for until we have a Jew, we cannot have a Gentile, the one being used to distinguish the rest of the population of the earth from the Hebrew nation...” CHW, Alphabetical Analysis*

? What are the scriptural definitions for each term?

Jew and Gentile in the Old Testament

Two peoples. One God. A shared humanity — and a divinely given purpose.



Jew

The descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
(the Israelites)

Key Characteristics in the Old Testament

- Chosen by God as His covenant people
Deuteronomy 7:6–8
- Received the Law (Torah) through Moses
Exodus 19–20
- Set apart for God's purposes
Deuteronomy 14:2
- Expected to live according to God's commands, including circumcision, Sabbath, and the feasts
Leviticus 19:1–2

“For the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples on the face of the earth.”

DEUTERONOMY 7:6



Gentile

The non-Israelite nations
(all other peoples)

Key Characteristics in the Old Testament

- Not part of the covenant at first
Genesis 12:2 (God's promise to Abraham was primarily for his descendants)
- Often lived outside the land of Israel
Leviticus 18:24 (commands against their practices)
- Could worship the true God, but were generally not included in the covenant community
Isaiah 56:3–7 (God welcomes Gentiles who seek Him)
- In the end, God's salvation plan would include the nations
Genesis 12:3; Isaiah 49:6

“I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

GENESIS 12:3

The Old Testament shows God's special relationship with Israel, while also revealing His desire to bless all nations.

GENESIS 12:3 | ISAIAH 49:6



The Old Testament sets the stage for God's greater plan:
through Israel, the Savior would come — and in Him, all nations would be invited.

ISAIAH 42:6; 49:6



In what way are the 2 terms related?

- The relation / distinction between *Jew and Gentile* began with Abram (Abraham) in Genesis 12 when God told Abram to go to a land that he would show him and that He would make of him a great nation. (Gen. 12:1-9)
- God **CHOSE** the blood line of Abraham through Isaac, then Jacob, then through Jacob's 12 sons, the 12 nations of Israel (Jacob); this elevated the "Jews" (Israelites) above the Gentile nations of the earth, by GOD'S choice. (Deut. 7:1-16)
- Even though Abraham fathered other sons by other women (Ishmael by Hagar, 6 other sons by Keturah), they were all counted as **Gentiles** since they, per God's election, could not be an heir with Isaac - only Isaac's blood line mattered to God concerning His promises.
- Even down through the nation of Israel's sorted OT history of evil kings, tribal splits, idolatry, covenant breaking, disputes and "Lo-Ammi" periods, GOD still upheld and upholds His choosing of that nation and the promises made to Abraham.
- God's choosing of the nation of Israel did not negate His love for the Gentile nations of the world He had created- the Jews were intended to be the "channel of blessing" to the rest of the world in God's plan and purpose.

?

Is there any difference between a *Jew* and an *Israelite*?

- The name “**Israel**” was originally given to Jacob at Peniel (Gen. 32:28) and most likely means “ruling with God”. We believe the name was bestowed as an honor, and it became the patronymic of the 12 tribes. (Gen. 35:10-11)

Example: *Jos 3:17 - And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the **Israelites** passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.*

- From Ezra 6 onward the title “**Jew**” became a generic one and was used without discrimination for any member of the nation of Israel.
- The apostle Paul says in Acts 22:3 “*I am verily a man which am a **Jew***” and yet he also calls himself an “**Israelite**” in Rom.11:1.

CHW, Alphabetical Analysis



What does the Apostle Paul say with regard to these terms for us today?

- It is an amazing truth that the apostle Paul that declares (before the rulership of Israel) in **Acts 28:28** *“the salvation of God is sent to the Gentiles, and they will hear it”* would be the same apostle that God chose to reveal the Mystery through in our present dispensation.
- Acts 28:28, as we right dividers have continually said, is the declaration of the “setting aside of Israel”, the great **dividing line** between the Kingdom dispensation and the present one.
- As we right dividers of the word have also noted, this declaration by Paul at Acts 28:28 brings about the 6th and final “Lo-Ammi” period upon the nation of Israel, so that today they are considered by God to be “**not my people**”.
- Here today, in 2026, we are roughly 1,964 years into this “Lo-Ammi” period if we consider Acts 28:28 to be its origin.
- The main difference between the five Lo-Ammi periods recorded in Judges and the one we are currently in today is **DURATION.... The longest of the 5 periods in Judges was 40 years- 40 years is not long enough for an entire NATION to die off of natural causes, but 1,964 years certainly is!**

"LO-AMMI"

"Not my people"



The apparent 93 year "discrepancy" between these two accounts is solved when the beleiver understands that God DID NOT reckon time as passing when Israel was "LO-AMMI" or "NOT my People".

Paul's Account:
Exodus to the end of wilderness- 40 yrs
Judges Period- 450 yrs
King Saul's Reign- 40 yrs
King David's Reign- 40 yrs
First 3 years of Solomon's Reign- 3 yrs
573 yrs

"Anno Mundi"
Reckoning
"In the year of
the world"

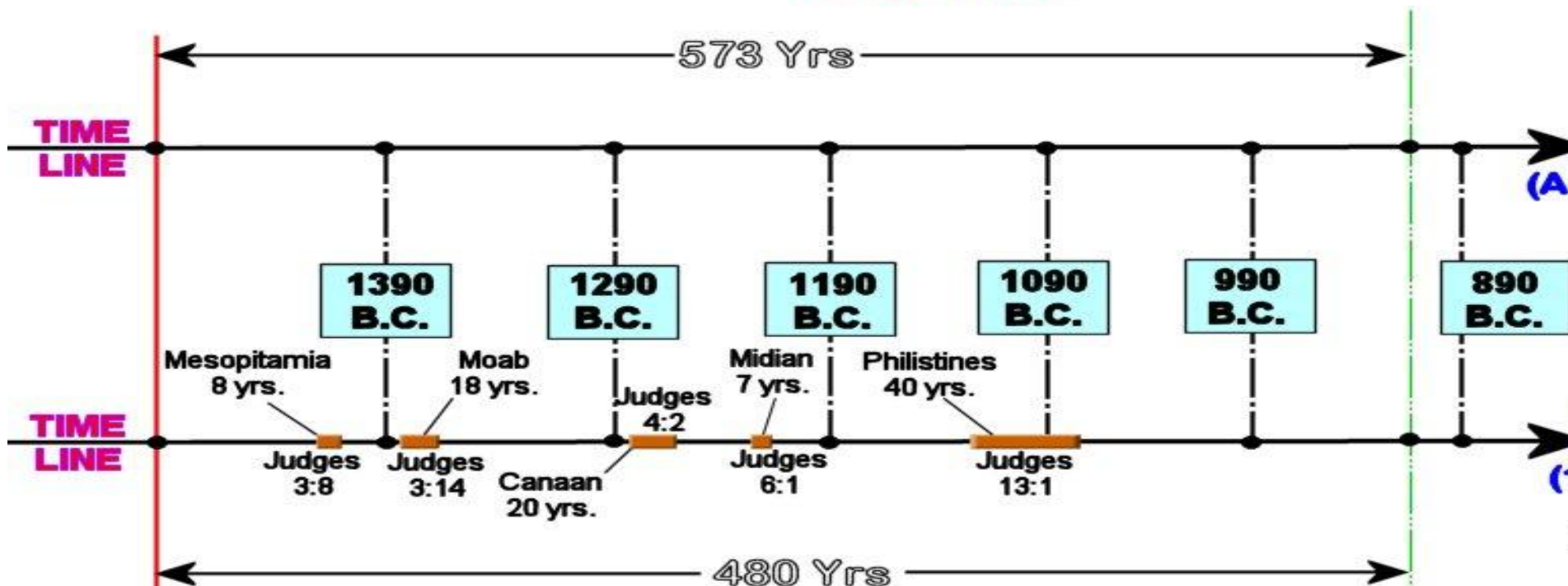
**Paul's
Account**
(Acts 13: 16-22)

"Anno Dei"
Reckoning
"In God's
Year"

**1st Kings
Account**
(1 Kings 6:1)

The Five "Lo-Amami Periods:
1)- Mesopotamia- 8 yrs
2)- Moab- 18 yrs
3)- Canaan- 20 yrs
4)- Midian- 7 yrs
5)- Philistines- 40 yrs
93 yrs

917 B.C.
Building of
Solomon's temple
Commenced- (2nd
month of Solomon's
4th year or reign
(1 Kings 6:1)



**The
"Exodus"
1490
B.C.**

The ORIGIN
point of both
accounts



What does the Apostle Paul say with regard to these terms for us today?

So, this brings us back to my original question.....

Are we, as members of Christ's Body, to make any distinction between "Jew" and "Gentile" and, in God's view, are these terms valid today?



What does the Apostle Paul say with regard to these terms for us today?

With regard to the word “**Jew**”, it is extremely notable that the word only appears in Paul’s 7 post-Acts epistles one time...

Colossians 3:11

Col 3:8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

11 Where there is neither Greek nor **Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.**

(vss 8-11 shown for context)



What does the Apostle Paul say with regard to these terms for us today?

- **If “*there is neither Greek nor Jew*” in today’s dispensation, how does this effect our doctrine regarding the current inhabitants of the land of Israel ?**
- **I believe the words of Col. 3:11 “*where there is neither Greek nor Jew*” is literal and refers back to the “*new man*” that we have “*put on*” per Vs. 10.**
- **Since the current “Jews” of Israel today are less than 2% “Christian” in their belief and almost completely as a nation still hold Christ in contempt, are they God’s Israel?**
- **I DO support the Israelis today within their national status awarded them in 1948 and I applaud them for the freedom their citizens enjoy, but I respectfully submit that they are NOT God’s Jews, for he will raise His true Israelites up from the dust and fulfil all the prophecies and promises He made to them! I submit this respectfully to this group for consideration and urge you all to SEARCH AND SEE!**

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!