

**Joseph and Judah: Faith Brothers.
The beautiful story of "the Birthright"
As taught from the Holy Scriptures**

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**Israel's Messiah genealogy not reckoned by the Birthright.
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Here's the Scriptural account of how and why Joseph and Judah, two noble men of faith, received bestowals of certain blessings and precisely why those blessings were transferred to them.

From the Rotherham Bible:

*I Chron.5:1 "And the sons of Reuben the first-born of Israel for he was the first-born; **but** because he defiled the couch of his father, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, son of Israel; and **he (Reuben) is not to be enrolled (reckoned) in the place of the firstborn;***

*5:2 for Judah prevailed over his brethren, so that even **the prince** is from him (Judah): although the birthright pertaineth to Joseph."*

Therefore as searchers of our genealogical truth, before we can proceed any further in a proper study concerning Joseph and Judah, we need to get a handle on the all important foundation that the racial messiah genealogy from that point

on is not reckoned by any original birthright. Specifically we need to take a look at 1Ch 2:3-12 CONCERNING THE POSTERITY OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL where the sons of **Judah** (His descendants), **are now listed first!** Why? Because (1) the right and privileges of the **Messiah ruling line** had been transferred to him - Judah (Gen. 49:8) thus from his tribe the Messiah was to spring; **while** (2) the remaining greater property title and land birthright blessing was given to Joseph. Re-read this last sentence and let it sink in, as the exact division of Reuben's inheritance rights between Joseph and Judah (and who got what) is imperative to our understanding about the Messiah's genealogy.

This is why Paul was able to declare in Hebrews 7:14 *"For it is clear that our Lord arose from the tribe of Judah; regarding which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priests."* (Ferrar Fenton Bible)

The Scriptures tell us that Reuben sabotaged the entire genealogical birthright order by his illicit sexual sin (Gen.35:22), and that certain righteous bestowals would now be given to others – in this case Joseph and Judah. Joseph received the land birthright blessings being subsequently passed on to Joseph's two sons. These sons Ephraim and Manasseh, Jacob's grandsons, would be seen as equal to Jacob's other sons, and accordingly Joseph would receive an "extra portion" of land for the two lads. Gen.48:5 *"And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine (Jacob's)."* --- and --

22"Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brethren",

We read the same thing in the King James Version :

*I Chron. 5:1,2 "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.** For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the Chief Ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's:)"*

Once again let's stress that this clearly defines that the genealogy of the CHIEF RULER, because of the sin of Reuben, would no longer come according to ANY BIRTHRIGHT AT ALL, that is neither from the natural birthright which was Reuben's, **nor** from the gifted birthright which became Joseph's – BUT the genealogy for the Chief Ruler was now bestowed upon Judah,---that is, the line of the Scepter Kings and more importantly THE KING OF KINGS – YAHSHUA/JESUS the CHRIST is from Judah.

This command and promise within the Written Word of Yahweh, divided between Joseph and Judah, must not be avoided or else it will be impossible to understand what happened to the birthright upon Reuben's default.

NOTE:

"And it came to pass, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine: and Israel heard it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:"
(Genesis 35:22)

In other words, it was Reuben that threw the monkey wrench into the rights of original inheritance by genealogy -- - NOT JUDAH as some doctrines teach. It was because of what Reuben did (Gen.35:22), that Yahweh guided Jacob to look to the other sons and put the birthright land portion blessing upon Joseph, and the blessing of the royal Messiah lineage upon Judah (the Chief Ruler line), which the Bible tells us Jacob surely did.

Gen. 49:1 "And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days.

2 Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

3 **Reuben**, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:

4 Unstable as water, **thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed**; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

5 **Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.**

6 O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall.

7 **Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel**: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

8 **Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise**: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee."

The manner of the "praise" shown toward Judah by his brothers' very offspring is clearly explained in the closing words in that they "shall bow down before thee". This type of bowing praise is a reference to Christ the King coming from Judah's family line.

John Gill's Expository on this verse -- comments: "Ver. 8. Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise, &c. His name signifies praise, and was given him by his mother, her heart being filled with praises to God for him, #Ge 29:35 (*Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah*) and is here confirmed by his father on another account, because his brethren should praise him for many excellent virtues in him; and it appears, by instances already observed, that he had great authority, and was highly esteemed among his brethren, as his posterity would be in future times for their courage, warlike expeditions and success, and being famous for heroes, such as David, and others; and especially his famous seed the Messiah, and of whom he was a type, should be praised by his brethren, who are so through his incarnation, and by divine adoption, and who praise him for the glories and excellencies of his person, and the blessings of his grace:"

Messiah Now Reckoned From The Lion Tribe

In addition to these now repositioned blessings of the resulting 'changed genealogical birthright reckoning' (caused by Reuben), Joseph's descendants would then be blessed to become a "great people, and a multitude of nations" (Gen.48:19), Later in history this became manifested in the USA and Great Britain. Joseph's family birthright blessings also included great abundance of goods and food, being likened to a "*fruitful bough – with blessings of heaven above and the deep that lieth below and of the everlasting hills*" (Gen.49:22 – 26) Joseph's house would be bountifully and plentifully blessed being able to feed not only his own family but those in material need as well. However, Joseph did not have the inheritance of the Messiah lineage – Judah had already been given that. This is confirmed by double witness in the literal ancient Sacred Greek NT text writings in speaking of Yahshua/Jesus the Christ:

Hebrews 7:14 *"For it is clear that our Lord arose from the tribe of Judah; regarding which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priests."* (Ferrar Fenton Bible)

Rev.5:5 *"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."*

"The Lamb" of Rev.5:6 (next) is the same person as the Lion of verse five and is also found worthy to open the book. (v9) The Lion represents Yahshua's power, courage, and great strength, and the Lamb His innocence, purity, and atonement.

Christ, the essential Word of God, the Messiah; in verse 5 is compared to a lion for his strength and courage, and for the

fierceness of his wrath against His enemies; and His voice, in his Word, is like the roaring of a lion exceeding loud, and reaching far, even the uttermost parts of the earth, latter day USA.

Hosea 11:10 *"They shall walk after **Yahweh: He shall roar like a lion: when He shall roar**, then the children shall tremble from the west."* [become startled as was Samuel to hear Yahweh's voice calling him]

Although world powers, or any great power, could be likened to a lion, not merely so of this Lion with the open book of Rev.5:5 for this is not just any lion. He is the strongest of all Lions (powers). We see Him again as the Messiah in His shining glory with the open book in Revelation 10:1-3:

1 *"And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: (see ch 1:15,16 The Messiah)*

2 *And He had **in his hand a little book open**: and He set His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot on the earth,*

3 ***And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth**: and when He had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices."*

This Lion of Judah, the Messiah, is Yahshua (Jesus) the Lamb King destroying the world system with the Word of His Truth. This victory was also heralded by Isaiah the prophet depicting Yahweh as a Lion that conquers false ministers with the power of the Gospel Truth.

Isaiah 31:4 *"For thus hath Yahweh spoken unto me, **Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey**, when a multitude of shepherds (world clergy) is called forth against Him, He will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase Himself for the noise of them: **so shall Yahweh of hosts come down to fight** for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof."*

This is the conquering Lion of Revelation 5:5, the Seed from Judah, conquering the false doctrines of the lying clergy, the multitude of world "shepherds". This Lion is also The Lamb, working the power of both capacities.

In following this testimony of the Bible, we see that along with Joseph being a man of virtue, Judah was also considered honorable as seen by Jacob's blessings of these two fellows due to the sin of Reuben. We'll shortly cover precisely why Judah was held in high esteem along with Joseph.

Joseph the Stone of Gen.49:24

As we continue this account of Reuben's repositioned birthright, it brings us to the misapplied verse about Joseph cited in some theology circles which teach that the Messiah came from the line of Joseph, and not from Judah. This is actually a wonderful story of Yahweh's provision and care for His people when seen in the light of its true account.

Gen. 49:24: -- (about Joseph)

"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:"

From this verse, since we see mentioned the shepherd and stone of Israel, a few people have hastily assumed that this means that Christ the Shepherd comes from Joseph's line. But this is not what this phrase refers to at all. There are "shepherds many" and "stones many" in the Household of God. *"And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them:"* (Jeremiah 23:4) *"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood"*(1 Peter 2:5) and other like verses.

This sentence in Genesis 49:24 does not say "*from Joseph comes the shepherd, the stone of Israel*", as if to mean The Christ, which would contradict Judah's promised blessing in I Chron.5:2. Rather the Hebrew structure is clear in that "from thence" directly refers to "*the hands of the mighty God of Jacob*" of the previous words, as being from where this mentioned shepherd is called. God, who has the might to call forth the Shepherd (which we see comes from Judah) also has might to strengthen Joseph for great exploits too. This "might" is the divine hand of God which can raise up a "stone" from Joseph or a "Stone" from Judah (as promised). However this verse does not teach that the Messiah comes from Joseph. The context is written as a play on words – comparing Joseph's calling being from a divine origin just as is the major Shepherd's calling is of divine origin.

This shepherd, this lively stone too, here is allegorically applied to Joseph who was raised up by Yahweh through divine circumstances and sent into Egypt to be as a shepherd, to feed his father's family during a time of famine, and as a solid stone to uphold Israel in time of weakness and need. Joseph was a *type of Christ* in the picture of his life, and thus he was Israel's stone and feeding shepherd at that time. We know that the reference to this shepherd/stone in these verses is depicting Joseph's life story of being separated from his brothers, and not depicting Jesus Christ's first coming, since all five verses (22 – 26) in succession each tell of a blessing or attribute specific to Joseph. The birthright story here is one concerning Joseph, and the five verses are not revelation set forth applying to Jesus' birth. The five verse context proves this point and Joseph himself ultimately realized his life's calling was all by Divine Providence in order to tend and support the Jacob/Israel family, Joseph being sought out in Egypt as a Prince by his sojourning kin. Joseph tells his needy family "*Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones.*" (Gen. 50:21) thus becoming Israel's shepherd and stone in the land of Egypt. And how did Joseph become

this feeding shepherd? Just as Gen 49:24 says: the similar "shepherd/stone" (Joseph) was *thence* " **made strong from the hands of the mighty God of Jacob**"._Then repeating this again, Joseph testifies **the same thing** when he tells his brothers " *But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.*" (Gen.50:20)

Joseph spoke the truth. He gave glory to Yahweh for his destiny, because it was "from thence – from Yahweh" that he became the solid figure of salvation empowered to rescue his family in one of the greatest stories of the Bible. Joseph's becoming the similar "shepherd/stone" of feeding Israel was one of the birthright blessings bestowed upon him in Gen. 49:22-26 by material wealth. And what a mighty blessing that was! That blessing is recorded in verse 24, as are the other birthright blessings recorded in the other verses. However none of these verses gives Joseph the blessing of being the genetic father of the lineage that would produce the Messiah, the Chief Ruler. That blessing only belonged to Judah.

We would be mistaken in assuming that Genesis 49:24 revoked Judah's blessing of the Scepter/Messiah lineage. Genesis 49:22 – 26 is solely about Joseph and how he was strengthened and blessed by God Almighty in all that he was called to do. Joseph fulfilled his role with honor and dignity, which historic and spiritual role was given him in light of Reuben's disqualification of the birthright.

What About Judah?

But what about Judah? A doctrine known as "The Ephraim Scepter Doctrine" proclaims that Judah was so dishonorable of a patriarch that eventually the whole tribe of Judah which descended from him became extinct due to race mixing and

that Judahites are not even included in the salvation of Jesus *Christ* which was secured at Calvary.

Such a position is so far removed from Scripture truth that it borders on character assassination and is totally unfair to the man Judah. Even though all men are sinners in need of correction of their flaws (Judah himself being no exception) the tribe of Judah is seen as the **first of the tribes** as being sealed into the fullness of the Divine Kingdom that is to come, hardly an example of a tribe abandoned by God and excluded from the salvation of the New Covenant.

Rev.7:4 *"And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.*

5 Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand"

Jer.23:5 *"Behold, the days come, saith YAHWEH, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.*

6 In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: *and this is his name whereby he shall be called, YAHWEH OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."*

We earlier saw that Judah secured the Chief Ruler lineage due to Reuben's dishonor, and that **the genealogy would not follow the birthright;** while simultaneously Joseph received the birthright blessing of the extra land portion and the miraculous bountiful ability to feed and support his brethren.

I Chron.5:2 *"For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the Chief Ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's:"*

Judah Falsely Accused (no, he did not race mix)

What did God Almighty see in Judah that qualified him to carry the line of the Messiah? Curiously we may ask, did Judah really marry a racial Canaanite? The following detailed considerations reveal the answer.

If Judah was a race mixer as some of today's churches claim, then it may be asked "was Moses also, since Moses married an Ethiopian"? (Numb.12:1) of which we hear no end from the universal gospel crowd teaching that Moses married a black female. The trouble with this and other "one verse" theological doctrines is that they are seldom based upon an examination of any diligent cross reference study within the Scriptures that leads us to the real foundation of truth. Lo and behold, when we turn to the Hebrew text we see that it never did read "Ethiopian" in Numbers 12 (Moses' wife) but it said "Cushite" which anyone can plainly look up in Strong's Concordance at Hebrew ref# 3571. Scholar and Pastor, the late Bertrand Comparet gives us some words of wisdom concerning this most unfortunate mistranslation in our English version Bibles:

"In the Hebrew of Numbers 12:1, it does NOT say "Ethiopian" - it says "Cushi" - a Cushite, a descendant of Cush, or a resident of the land of Cush. You remember that Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth. Genesis 10:6 tells us that the sons of Ham were "CUSH, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan." Noah and his wife were both white; their children were naturally of the same race. One of Ham's sons was Mizraim, meaning "Egyptian" - and we know from all Egyptian art, including their marvelously fine portrait sculpture, that during all the many centuries of Egypt's greatness, they were a pure white people ---

--- Ham's other son, "Cush" was no doubt also White. Now, what about the land of Cush? There were two different countries named "Cush" in Bible times. One was Ethiopia, lying south of the Sudan in Africa. But there was another "Cush" in ancient times: it was in eastern Mesopotamia, or what at other times was part of the Babylonian Empire. These people were certainly not a black race, at any time." (excerpt from: Whom Did Moses Marry by Bertrand L. Comparet)

Comparet's essay goes on to explain that these particular Cushites were white Midianites, related to Abraham but not

in the Israel nation proper, and it was a white Midianite Cushite whom Moses married. Moses did not marry outside his race but just outside his nation.

This truth is further corroborated in that we know that Moses himself strictly gave to Israel Yahweh's laws against race mixing (adulterating), even teaching that a "mamzer" (mixed/mongrel) is not permitted into the congregation (Deut.23:2), that marrying non Israelites is forbidden (Deut.7:1-3), and that Moses himself was not about to violate this most basic of racial laws. The same can be said of Judah, and no proof can be offered, other than conjecture, to promote the heresy that Jesus Christ's bloodline by Judah, Tamar, or Ruth was genetically adulterated. It simply did not happen. (ask for our study on Ruth living in the land of Moab but she was not a racial Moabite)

Some go so far as to suggest that Judah was a moral degenerate because he married a Canaanite --- making the claim that Er and Onan (Judah's sons to the "Canaanite" woman) were killed by God because they were racial mamzers. This is a reach and is pure speculation. "Canaanite" in this episode is not defined racially or geographically, so all we know is that Judah married a woman who, at some point in time, dwelt in Canaan. Judah had a third son, Shelah, to the same woman. Shelah was the founder of a Judahite tribal family (Ge.38:5; Num. 26:20) with no mention of that family ever being of a mamzer racial Canaanite mix. The Scriptures tell us that Er and Onan were killed by divine judgment because of their deeds of sins, which means that they were under the Divine Law even then. (Gen.38:1-10) Racial non Israelites are not subject to the Law of Yahweh. *"He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye Yahweh."* (Psalm 147:19,20)

The episode of Er and Onan was entirely centered around the racial Israelite law of a brother's duty to raise up seed through the wife of the deceased brother, with Onan obviously not complying to the provisions of this law. (repeated at Deut.25:5-10) Also, Judah's "Canaanite" (geographical) wife was a daughter of Shua (Gen.38:2 & 12), which is a particular name within the family of the Israelite tribe of Asher (I Chron.7:30-see v.32) and typically Hebraic in application and origin meaning "freedom and wealth" (Strong's # 7768 through 7774). By Divine Scriptural Law, none of this account concerning Er and Onan could ever apply to non-Israelites or mamzers (both outside that law), although it is a sad story of Judah's own sons doing wickedness.

The story of Judah's sons is not an isolated example of sons gone bad --we read about the sons of Eli, High Priest to Yahweh in 1 Samuel 2:12 *"Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not Yahweh"*. "Belial" literally means "wickedness and wicked worthless people" in Hebrew, but this does not mean that Eli's sons were the progeny of an unlawful interracial mating on the part of Eli. Eli's sons were "sons of Belial" in that they followed after their own carnal nature of the flesh and lusted after sinfulness. Likewise, that's all we know about Judah's sons, Er and Onan. The Scriptures plainly tell us that they lusted to break Yahweh's laws and were killed for their sins, not because of their race.

The Scriptures teach that Ephraimites too risk judgment of death at times, just like Judah's sons Er and Onan, when Ephraimites follow after unholy ways. We realize that this can apply to all Israelites born at any time or in any place.

Hosea 13:1 *"When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, **he died.***
[Note: Humbleness and obedience bring life; sin and offenses bring death either slow or at times immediate]

2 *And now they (Ephraim) sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.*

3 *Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew **that passeth away**, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney."*

Judah: Qualified To Retain The Scepter, and Still Does

Yes, Joseph was a righteous servant of Yahweh, no doubt, but Judah was an honorable man in his own right and so the Bible teaches. Judah was the fourth son of Jacob to Leah. In fact, because of the sins of Reuben, and sins of the next son Simeon, and sins of the next son Levi – these three DID NOT qualify to receive particulars of the blessing inheritance, but the next in line, Judah, DID QUALIFY as Judah's character was worthy in the sight of Jacob who blessed Judah saying "*Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.*" (Gen.49:8) "*The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.*" (Gen. 49:10)

The term "Shiloh" refers to the second coming of Christ, as "all the people" were not gathered at Jesus' birth, but this would be a work that would take the Gospel spreading throughout the past two thousand years to achieve. It's a work in progress. Since Jesus the Christ came to bring a sword and not peace (Mat.10:34), and since "Shiloh" means 'tranquility' (Strong's # 7886) which will not happen until God's enemies are defeated at the end of the age, we know that Judah still has the Scepter, just as the Bible has promised.

Once again, the teaching known as The Ephraim Scepter doctrine teaches that Judah was primarily evil, so much so the theory goes, that at the end of our present age Israel/Ephraim must conquer and destroy Judah which these same teachers see as being the wicked world system at the core of the ungodly New World Order. This mistaken theology purports that today's "jews" (descendants of Cain's, Esau's, and Turk Khazar's nonIsrael people) are Judahites of the tribe of Judah. But the Bible teaches the exact opposite of this, in that the Scriptures reveal a family tie between Joseph and Judah, whose subsequent tribes were foreordained to be united again in the culmination of all events of the end of this age. Today's so called "jews" are not Judah, neither are they Israel or even semites (Shemites = whites from Shem).

We would do well to remember that Judah was not associated with his brothers Simeon and Levi when by treachery those lads took vengeance upon their sister's defilement by the Hivites. (Gen. ch.34) Not that the Hivites shouldn't have been dealt with, but in their reckless revenge and anger the method and timing of Simeon and Levi's action endangered Jacob's entire family, for which they were harshly reprimanded by Jacob. Judah took no part in his brothers' unwary deeds.

When Joseph's brothers became so jealous of him that they plotted Joseph's murder, it was Judah and Rueben who saved Joseph's life by having him sold to the Egyptians instead of being killed. (Gen. 37:26-28) Some rationalize that Judah was wicked in selling Joseph, but we actually need to recall that all the rest of Joseph's brothers (except for Reuben) actually wanted to MURDER Joseph. Outnumbered by their Israelite brothers, Judah and Rueben still convinced them to do otherwise. The whole plot was being influenced by Yahweh anyhow for a higher purpose (Gen. 45:5), but it was Judah's vocal option that kept

Joseph alive so that the will of God would eventually unfold as it did. It was because of Judah's part in keeping Joseph from being murdered, that in the long run all of the brothers were much later exonerated by Joseph who discerned the divine plan. Joseph told them:

v5 "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life. v7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance". (Gen.45:5 & 7)

Before that however, Joseph would become the ruler of Egypt only second to Pharaoh, with Joseph having stored enough food nationwide to ride out a world famine in those days. When Jacob's sons appeared before Joseph to ask for care and provisions, Joseph did not reveal his true identity to his brothers, but ordered to have Benjamin detained while a decision was made. Upon hearing this, Judah selflessly came before Joseph and by an emotionally compassionate speech asked to become a prisoner in exchange in Egypt, if Benjamin would be released to freedom. The Bible student should read this account and dialog to see what kind of person Judah was.

Joseph was so moved by Judah's noble and honorable motives that he then revealed himself with tears to his brothers as to who he really was. (Gen. 44:18-34; 45:1-5) It was Judah who had touched his brother Joseph's heart.

Later when we find Jacob on his way to Egypt, bringing the family into Joseph's then domain for rescue, it was Judah whom Jacob sent before him to lead the way to Goshen even though Judah was not the eldest son. (ch 46:28) Yes, when Joseph made ready his chariot to meet Israel on their return trip to Goshen with all the family, it would be Judah whom Joseph would see first and welcome with open arms. Thus, we can see that it was Judah's upright character that secured the birthright portion of the Scepter by his father

Jacob. And it was Judah's upright character that caused Joseph to break into tears and reveal his love for his family.

Even after the death of Joshua, with Israel in dire need of brave leadership, it was the tribe of Judah that was sent by Yahweh Himself to first fight in battle against the cursed Canaanites and take possession of the allotted territory.

Judges 1:1 *"Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked Yahweh, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?"*

2 And Yahweh said, Judah shall go up: *behold, I have delivered the land into his hand."*

We read that all of the tribes sinned later in not completing the conquest as directed, but let's make a certain mental note here that it was the tribe of Ephraimites who were the first of Israel recorded to concede to a multicultural society and allow the Canaanites to live right among them!

Judges 1:29 *"Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them."*

The Summation: Israel and Judah are today united in Christ

In the ancient history of our race all of the tribes of Jacob's offspring eventually fell into sin. Where Judah sinned – it was sin and wrong. Where Ephraim sinned – it was sin and wrong. We can take the Scriptures and find ALL the family of Israel and Judah coming under chastisement from God for disobedience at one time or another. However, we also see that Our Everliving Father through loving correction, has firmly decreed His plan that in the course of many centuries the people of all of Jacob's seed are brought together again in the fullness of the Kingdom of Jesus the Christ.

Isaiah 11:12 "And HE (Yahweh) shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the **outcasts of Israel**, and gather together **the dispersed of Judah** from the four corners of the earth.

11 The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.

12:4 And in that day shall ye say, Praise Yahweh, call upon His name, declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted.

5 Sing unto Yahweh; for He hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.

6 Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion (God's prophetic nation): for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee."

Ezek.37:16 "Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it, **For Judah**, and for the children of Israel his companions: then take another stick, and write upon it, **For Joseph**, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions:

17 And join them one to another into one stick; **and they shall become one in thine hand."**

22 "And I will make them **one nation** in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all:

23 Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: **but I will save them out of all their dwellingplaces, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they (Joseph and Judah) be MY PEOPLE, and I will be their God."**

History and the the Scriptures both declare that this divine work of first regathering and ultimately sanctifying Israel with Judah had begun in 1620 with the landing of the Pilgrims in North America. The people of Judah (Germanic Saxon people) and the people of Israel (remaining Europe Saxondom) have been united once again into the rightful family nation built by ALL ISRAELITES, the end time prophetic nation of the USA. The two brothers Judah and Joseph, our ancestors, had a close relationship in the past Biblical annals of our people, and by the merciful hand of Our Father their children are again favored in a regathering of racial destiny in God's latter day Zion nation, America The Beautiful! (Isaiah 18; Jer.3:14; Numb. 35:7; Rev.12:14; more) (plus, the Israelite explorers and colonizers who have braved the oceans to spread to the East, West, North, South, are most importantly heirs to the covenant Kingdom also, but it's another topic)

This is the wonderful Scripture story and joyful account of Judah and Joseph --- brothers in partnership of the Faith. Let not this Scriptural heritage be denied, as God's promises surely do come to pass.

Blessings to the Remnant in Jesus (Yahshua) the Christ,

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