

# BIBLE STUDY

LEARNING THE BIBLE WITH AUDIO AND VIDEO SUPPORT

## SERMON SERIES

*The foundation of all Truth and Knowledge*

# FEAST OF FIRST FRUITS SERIES

## Spiritual Israelites

### INTRODUCTION

**C**ongratulations on your decision to learn more about God's Holy Word. These studies are designed to be exciting, inspiring, challenging to all; whether you are new to the Bible, or have been studying for years. The Bible Study Sermon Series is a new video/audio method of learning about God's Holy Word and is the perfect way to study the Bible. Each sermon is specifically tailored to be viewed for an individual study, or to be viewed with family, friends, or a church congregation. Additionally, each of these studies can be used as a stand alone study, or viewed in its complete form as a series. Over time, the Church of God, Ministries International will be adding many specific studies on many different subjects. Be sure to view the website at [www.thecogmi.org](http://www.thecogmi.org) for new studies as they become available.

# Who Are Spiritual Israelites?

**F**orward: Pentecost is the second of God's three Holy Day Seasons. This series explains Biblically the meaning that God has given to us particular to this Holy Day. You find the instructions for the Holy Day given to the Israelites in Lev. 23. God says, "These are the Feast of the Lord, even Holy Convocations, which you shall proclaim in their seasons." Notice, all of the Holy Days God gives us are declared as Feast of the Lord, not the Jews. Most Christians today are under the belief that these days are Jewish, never realizing that God declares them His Holy Days. He gave them to His nation Israel. Of that nation there were twelve tribes. The only tribe remaining today is Judah. That tribe is known today as the nation of Israel.

Pentecost is a New Testament term meaning fifty. Its roots are spelled out in Lev. 23:15-22.

In Deut. 16 God gives us the seven Holy days in their seasons. Deut. 16:1-8 is the Passover Season, Deut. 16:9-12 is the Feast of Weeks Season (Pentecost), and Deut 16: 13-15 is called the Feast of Tabernacles season; which includes the Feast of Trumpets and the day of Atonement. When you study the Bible you will notice that each of the seasons is tied into a harvest.

There are many areas of understanding given to us in each of these Holy Day seasons. God tells us "Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts? For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little." To get the full picture of the plan of God you will need to take your time and read each scripture. Prove for yourself what the Bible says.



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Before you begin, we recommend you first view the DVD in it's entirety. These sermons / studies are terrific for sermon messages for Sabbath Services. They are also the perfect way to lead into a group Bible Study. If you prefer, you can view them privately or with your family for your own personal studies. Once you have viewed the DVD, test your knowledge by answering all the questions in the accompanying materials. Be sure to read all the scriptures quoted in the materials or on the DVD. This way you won't be taking our word for it, you will be proving God's Word for yourself. Finally, view the DVD again with the questions and answers in hand; pausing the DVD from time to time finding all the answers to complete your study.

Whether you use this study personally or with a group, God's Holy Spirit will lead you into truth and understanding that will open your mind to a greater and deeper understanding. Each study you complete will enrich your life as only God can do. May God bless you as you learn more of His Way and His Holy Word. Finally, as with all things, we recommend you begin your study with prayer, asking God to open your mind to understand His Way and guide your every step.

### The Church of God, Ministries International

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### THE BIBLE STUDY SERMON SERIES

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This material has been paid for by others called out by God Almighty to proclaim the Good News of the coming Kingdom of God, and the return of Jesus Christ as the ruling King.

**NOTICE:** Be sure to notify the Correspondence Course Department immediately of any change in your address. Please include your old and new address.

This Bible Study series will pertain to understanding to The Feast of Weeks, commonly known as Pentecost. There will be several lessons pertaining to this subject. Learning the Truth's of God is an on going process. May God bless you as you begin this lesson in this series.

## Spiritual Israelites

There is a common misconception by Christians and theologians alike that misleads people into believing they are other than whom God declares. Most have no comprehension that, "all" of those called by God in this life are known by Him as Israelites. They are His children.

1. What does the Bible tell us is required to be considered as a son of God? Rom. 8:14

The establishment of the nation of Israel began with Abraham, known as the Father of the Faithful.

2. When God called Abraham, (known originally as Abram before God changed his name Gen 17:5), what did God tell him to do. Heb. 11:8

**Comment:** You find Abrahams response to God's command in Gen. 12:1-4. This put into motion the plan of God. From this event God began to build His family, of which all of those called by Him who have His Spirit are known as the children of God. But how is that possible? Continue in the lesson to find out how.

3. When Abraham left his country, what was he looking for? Heb. 11:10

4. Did Abraham find what he was looking for? Heb. 11:13

**Comment:** What God is describing here in chapter 11 of Hebrews is

## FINDING THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS

Each question is designed to let the Bible answer the question for you. Be sure to read each scripture and let the Bible give you the answers to interpret itself.

faith. It is one of the vital ingredients of character required to being a Spiritual Israelite. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." Heb. 11:6

### Pilgrims and Sojourners

In the book of John, it tells us that none can come to the Son, unless they are first drawn by the Father. "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:44

The Bible has much to say on the subject of our calling. If you would like to know more on the subject of "our calling" please feel free to contact us in the home office, or visit us on the web at: [www.thecogmi.org](http://www.thecogmi.org).

Those who are called in this life are much like the pilgrims that founded this nation. They began with the hope of building a better life. When they left their homelands, they did not know what they would find. Those that are called today are much like those pilgrims and all of those mentioned in Heb. 11. Our hope and desire is for the soon coming Kingdom of God. Knowing of a surety that what we have today cannot be compared to what lies ahead.

1. How does God feel about those that He has called? Rom 8:16

2. What does God promise us as His Children? Rom. 8:17



**Comment:** In Rom. 8:18-19 we are told; “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.” Before going on with this study, take a moment to read what God has left for us in His word, so that we may understand what many of His chosen people went through. Heb. 11:32-40

### The Story of Our Sojourning

Each of God’s Holy day seasons give us insight into His plan for mankind. Passover and Unleavened Bread reveals the Sacrifice and the redemption of mankind. Tabernacle, the third of God’s Holy Day Season’s gives us the insight of our sojourning. Pentecost explains how that sojourning is accomplished via “First Fruits.”

1. Who was Jesus before He became flesh? John 1:14

**Comment: It is important for you to take some time to review the beginning of the book of John. This vital understanding is missed by most of Christianity today. People simple do not understand who and what Jesus was before his physical birth. You need to understand this basic truth.** John 1:1-4 “In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.”

Read the first chapter of John in its entirety. It gives you a detailed understanding that Jesus was the God of the Old Testament. It tells us that all things were made by Him.”

2. When Jesus became flesh, what did He do? John 1:14

The word “**dwelt**” comes from the Greek word that means to tent or encamp. In Strong’s Concordance, “dwelt” is the word #4637; skenoo. Its root comes from #4633, which is translated in other areas as “tabernacle.” It correctly is translated “to occupy” or to reside, as God did in the tabernacle of old.

The clear understanding of John 1:14, is that Jesus became flesh and tabernacled with man. (Temporarily dwelt with man)

**Notice:** You will also find this same

word in Rev. 21:3 and Rev. 12:12

### PENTECOST

The Feast of Tabernacles (Feast of Booths, temporary dwellings) gives us the insight that we are temporary. Our existence is temporary. The scriptures are clear, “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.” Heb. 11:13

Pentecost gives us the insight on how God is working out that plan. When you carefully study the Holy Days in Lev. 23, you will find that the counting of the 50 days is directly tied to the sacrifice of Christ, and His ascension as the wave sheaf.

**Comment:** For more information in the Wave Sheaf, write for, or go online at [www.thecogmi.org](http://www.thecogmi.org) for the Bible Study Sermon entitled the missing 12 hours.

1. What does the Bible say in reference to how God considers time? II Pet. 3:8

The harvest is described in the counting of the fifty days, seven weeks-even unto the morrow after the seventh week. Lev. 23:15-16 This shows us that the harvest began with the very first Adam.



Then God said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." Gen. 22:2

2. What did God say would happen if man disobeyed Him? Gen. 2:17

Satan told Eve, that was not so. Eve did eat of the tree and did not die, even so Adam followed her example and also ate. They were not aware of what Peter tells us. A day to God is as a thousand years. No one has ever lived to be a thousand years old. This means that man did die within the same day, or the thousand years as outlined by Peter in the New Testament.

3. What specific event took place to give us insight into what would be required to pay for the price of sin? Gen. 3:21

**Comment:** God clothed them with coats of skins. This means that the animal had been killed (sacrificed) to take it’s skin.

Read Gen 22:1-12. This gives us

the understanding of what it would be like for the Father, who would have to allow His son to die for all mankind.

4. When does the Bible tell us when the one who would become Jesus Christ was sacrificed? Rev. 13:8

5. Does the Bible give us additional insight of His sacrifice? I Pet. 1:20

The Bible tells us, “the wages of sin is death.” (Rom. 6:23) A price would have to be paid for sin. Even though it would be almost four thousand years before the actual sacrifice of Jesus would take place, it was understood from the time sin entered into the world, a life would have to be taken. It was if He went to the Father and placed His I-O-U on mankind.

The I-O-U meant it required one perfect human life to pay the price for sin. This life had to be without spot or blemish.

The Bible tells us, “for in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.” I Cor. 15:22. Jesus paid the price once, for all. “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many.” Heb. 9:27-28

### Israelites

1. Are we all born Israelites? Rom. 8:14-15
2. Does God tell us that our spirit joins with God’s Holy Spirit? Rom 8:16
3. What does the Bible say that makes us? Rom. 8:16-17
4. Does the Bible tell us that if we are going to be heirs, and joint heirs with Christ that we would go

through suffering? Rom. 8:17

5. What does the Bible tell us about how a person was recognized as an Israelite in the Old Testament? Ex. 12:48

6. What does the Bible tells us about an Israelite under the new covenant with Christ? Col. 2:11

7. When does God tell us this covenant relationship began? Gen 17:9-14

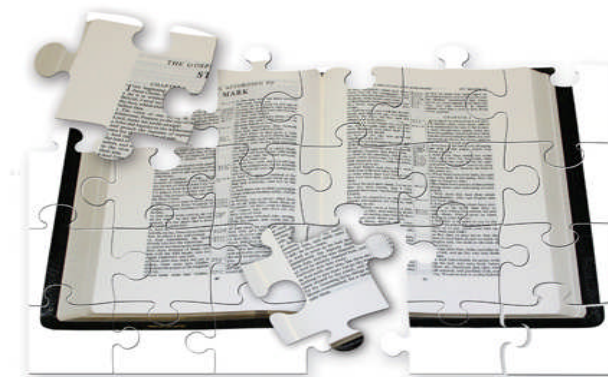
### Conclusion

Notice Rom. 6:3-4 “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also

should walk in newness of life.”

Also see: Col. 2:11-12 “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.”

Under the New Covenant of Christ we recognize that we are all Israelites, either born or adopted. It is through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior that we recognize the need to be His. In the Old Testament they used circumcision as the outward manifestation of acceptance and obedience. In like manner today we under go the act of repentance and baptism is our outward sign that we are His.



**The Bible is not as complicated as most would like you to believe. There are keys to understanding God’s Holy Word. This Bible Study Correspondence Course will unveil those vital keys and open the doors to understanding the Bible.**



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