

# 1 CHRONICLES 5 vs 1

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## Oh that God would make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.

**Genesis 48:20** This was said by the one **Ruled by God**, to the two sons of Joseph who were ½ Egyptian and ½ Hebrew.

The Bible is so interesting; even the Old Testament. Remember: when reading the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles... we read history and events recorded from the perspective of the 2 tribes of the **Southern Kingdom**, the House of **Judah**;

not like 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings... where we read the historical perspective of the 10 tribes of the **Northern Kingdom**... the House of **Israel**.

Jacob's 4 **wives**: the mothers of his 12 sons... were:

**Leah** / sons: **Ruben**, Simeon, Levi, **Judah**, Issachar, Zebulun;

**Bilhah** / sons: Dan, Naphtali;

**Zilpah** / sons: Gad, Asher;

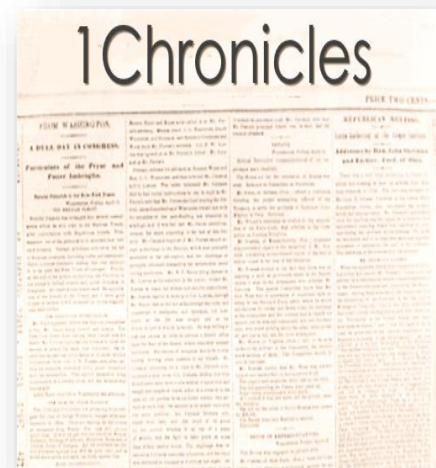
**Rachel** / sons: **Joseph** and Benjamin,

The **10 Northern tribes** were carried 170 years earlier into Assyrian captivity, Nineveh, its capital, the area of modern day Mosul, in Iraq;

the **2 Southern tribes** were carried much later into Babylonian captivity, Babylon, its capital. Only after returning from Babylonian captivity did the terms: **Jew** and **Jewish**—to identify those of the House of **Judah** first start to appear in the Bible. So let's hear from the Jewish chroniclers, what they wrote:

**1 Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel** / and Ruben is not of Judah; they were brothers; Reuben was 1<sup>st</sup>, and Judah was the 4<sup>th</sup> of the 12 brothers,

**Reuben the firstborn of Israel** / Reuben was Jacob's son; he was Isaac's first grandson; and Abraham's first great-grandson... in this line of blessing from God. So, let's pause and pay attention:



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Abraham was **not** Jewish; Abraham did not come from Judah;

Isaac was **not** Jewish; and

Jacob was **not** Jewish;

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... are **Semites**; they are descendants from Shem... of Noah. Read about their ancient lineage in Genesis 11 where we also learn about **Eber**, the father of the **Hebrews**... the name still identified with the Spanish **Iberian** Peninsula.

So, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are all Shemites, and they are all Hebrews.

But the descendants of their father **Israel**; a new name which was given to **Jacob** when he was about 100 years old; and all the children born to him can rightfully be called: Israelites.... though the real history has been ignored and that name has been narrowly co-opted to incorrectly mean: the modern day Jewish people living in the state of Israel.

**The 4<sup>th</sup> son born to Jacob** / Israel... was named: **Judah**... and all the descendants from Judah and in alliance with his brother Benjamin, those **2 tribes** should correctly be called: **Jewish**. Since they are a very small part of Israel, yet they can also be called by the name of their father **Israel** = **ruled by God**

Enough of all that history; back to the Chronicles of Judah:

**Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel -- for he was the firstborn; but since he defiled his father's bed** / the Jewish chroniclers affirm: no doubt that Reuben was the firstborn; but likely an out-of-control kid who grew up with privilege in this grand family descending from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... was he some playboy who slept around moving from one rape to the next? Not a good thing.

**his birthright** / all the blessings and promises God made to Abraham, and Abraham in turn, passed to Isaac, his son of promise: and Isaac in turn passed to Jacob. And Jacob would have passed to Reuben, his firstborn, but Reuben forfeited the birthright.

So what do the House of Judah chroniclers tell us?

**his birthright** was given to **the sons of Joseph** the 4<sup>th</sup> son of Israel:

**and the genealogy is not to be calculated after the birthright** / in this case the genealogy is not to be enrolled, or credited or accounted by who was born first.

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**2 For Judah prevailed above his brothers and sister** / in Genesis 36, we read Judah's effort to spare young Joseph, selling him into slavery; which ultimately saved the whole family.

**Judah prevailed and of him came the chief ruler** / so Judah is promised: Messiah, the great Law Giver; little did they know then... or realize even today the great Law Giver would **not** be legislating... countless burdensome rules, regulations and manmade traditions to inflict on the least and unsuspecting... while the upper echelon of greed and corruption can snobbishly arrogate to themselves privilege.

The greatest Law was and will always be: the Law of love: for God our Father who gave us birth; and for one another. Though a lot of freakish lawyers and embezzlers have come from Judah; The great Law Giver from Judah will come again and He will straighten the crooked: with a little attitude adjustment that is over-due.

And underscoring for a second time what the chroniclers say:

**but the birthright blessing / all the promises of God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; was Joseph's**

Ephraim, the younger son would become a great commonwealth of nations at the center of the earth; and Manasseh, the older son would become a great nation at the center of the earth -- Genesis 48. Why? Simply to foolishly and carelessly, luxuriate in their blessings from God? **No!**

But that they, the **House of Israel**... a **greater commonwealth of nations**... and a **great nation** at the end of the time of the Gentiles, marked with God's favor, would trust God and be a blessing to the whole world. Especially to their cousins: the **House of Judah**; who in recent years had some policy makers and military strategists with sense; most were duplicitous wolves in sheep's clothing; culpable of the genocide of millions; politicians -- grinning imbeciles acting more like brutal Rome, hard as iron until the whole world is broken.

But God will deal with all the thieves and robbers... who have moved into positions of power to embezzle for themselves at the expense of others. Not difficult for Him! He's an Expert at finding rebellious fools.

Father Jacob gathered his sons one last time over 3,000 years ago... and gave blessings to each of them... whose generations will still be around... when the time of the Gentiles comes to an end. Read about it in: **Genesis 49**, (why do 70% of English men have the same DNA marker as Tutankhamen? And yet less than 1% of Egyptian men today have that same DNA?)

**but the birthright was Joseph's.**

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Some might wonder: Do I belong to those people? We follow Jesus the Messiah but our family history reaches to where **the house of Israel** was resettled and lost at the foothills of the Caucasus Mountains. We have in our family names: **Rose, Starr, Sackl** and others. Heritage is interesting. But the Lord God wants us to see His handiwork in time as He works out unconditional promises even to the least and ungrateful.

God knows, heaven and earth will pass away, but He wants us to know when He makes a promise; He keeps His word! His promises are for you and me! He is never too busy to answer, if you call.

By this, He reminds those in every nation, from every tribe, who speak every language... that He has also made many promises for all eternity... to anyone who loves Him; to anyone who will trust Him; which is why John Newton was inspired to write those words of that great hymn: **Amazing Grace**...

When we've been there 10,000 years... bright shining as the sun;

We've no less days to sing His praise, than when we first begun.

Isaiah first wrote: [For since the world was created, no eye has seen; no ear has heard; neither has it entered into the imagination of anyone... all that God has prepared for those who wait on Him -- Isaiah 64.](#) **Oh that God would make you like Ephraim and Manasseh**

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