

2 Kings 16:1- 20 – “Fall of Israel” –

Jews first mention also”

All Scripture is KJV: 2 Kings 16:1-20

1. We continue with the events after Solomon’s kingdom of Israel had come to an abrupt end.
2. Because of King Solomon’s persistence to go after strange gods, the Lord dealt with him severely and divided his kingdom forever.
3. No longer would there be 12 tribes belonging to Israel, but God would rent away the tribe of Judah and Benjamin for himself, because God had promised king David that out of his house would come the seed of David which would be the messiah. Of course his name was not known then as “Jesus” because this was only revealed in the NT.

But nevertheless the tribes of Israel would always be divided and never to join up again as the 12 tribes of Israel.

This statement alone has much to say when one studies the Book of Revelation 7 and Revelation 14; as these chapters in the Book of Revelation talk about the 144,000 of the 12 tribes of Israel coming back sealed in their foreheads to be witnesses for God during the time that God’s wrath is being poured out in judgement when Jesus returns in the clouds at his second coming.

This is only possible if these were saints who died before the split of Israel.

These witnesses the bible tells us, will be :

Revelation 14. ¹ And I looked, and, lo, **a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads.**

² And I heard **a voice from heaven**, as the **voice of many waters**, and as the **voice of a great thunder**: and I heard **the voice of harpers** harping with their harps:

³ **And they sung as it were a new song before the throne**, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and **no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.**

⁴ **These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men**, being **the firstfruits** unto God and to the Lamb.

⁵ **And in their mouth was found no guile**: for **they are without fault** before the throne of God.

- So these according to the bible are physically 144,000 people. Correctly these are saved but dead “Israelites” or “Hebrews which honoured the Lord. They are redeemed from the earth. They are not Jews, because Jews only came from the kingdom of Judah and not from all the tribes of Israel.
 - Also if Revelation 7 & 14 is to be true then those that the Lord is speaking of being the 12 tribes would have to have been chosen before the split of the northern and southern kingdom because after that there are only 10 tribes in Israel.
- ✚ Revelation 7 tells us more about who these 144,000 are. They are also not the raptured saints because the raptured saints arrive in heaven after them as we read in Revelation 7 now.

Revelation 7 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

² And I saw another angel ascending from the east, **having the seal of the living God:** and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

³ Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, **till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.**

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. Of the **tribe of Reuben** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Gad** were **sealed** twelve thousand.

⁶ Of the **tribe of Aser** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Nephthalim** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Manasses** were **sealed** twelve thousand.

⁷ Of the **tribe of Simeon** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Levi** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Issachar** were **sealed** twelve thousand.

⁸ Of the **tribe of Zabulon** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Joseph** were **sealed** twelve thousand. Of the **tribe of Benjamin** were **sealed** twelve thousand.

⁹ **After this I beheld**, and, lo, **a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues**, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, **clothed with white robes**, and palms in their hands;

¹⁰ And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

¹¹ And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,

¹² Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

¹³ And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, **What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?**

¹⁴ And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, **These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

¹⁵ Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Here are some other views of the 144,000 mentioned here in Revelation 7 & 14 that others believe it is.

1. Some believe the 144,000 is not a literal 144,000 but figurative. They believe that the 144,000 represents those that are saved in the tribulation, or they believe that these are saved Jews who will come back to witness on the earth during the tribulation. The question is though where is that found in the bible?
2. The reason why they say it is symbolic, is because they know that today you will not find any tribes today from those tribes mentioned? Let alone 12,000 virgin men from any of those tribes.....so that is why they say it's symbolic.....and they spiritualize it.
3. Those that believe in it being figurative or symbolic would have to believe in a pre-tribulation rapture because they believe that they will be the first to be caught up. But they don't stop to think about all those people who have died before in the Lord who are already in heaven.
4. How can those that believe it is symbolic answer all the evidence for the fact that it is speaking of literal people, being the 144,000 based on all the evidence you read in Revelation 7 & 14. And also the fact that in Revelation 9:4 they are sealed before the locusts are let loose.
5. Is it too hard to believe that they will be on the earth during the time that the two witnesses are also on the earth testifying for the Lord. (Moses & Elijah).
6. Remember they on the earth having come back before a short time when we will come back as the redeemed saints on earth.

So.....What is it ? Figurative or Literal?

That's why we need to answer the questions that we find in the OT in the Book of the Kings and chronicles concerning Israel.....and who is Israel.

- ✚ In the Book of 2 Kings 17 we read that God abandoned Israel.
- ✚ 2 Kings 17 is all about the continued failure of the northern 10 tribes of Israel to serve God. They had in fact encouraged the southern region of Judah to follow in their footsteps for which God would ultimately judge them by abandoning them to the Assyrians.

2 Kings 17 King James Version (KJV)

¹ In the twelfth year of **Ahaz king of Judah** began **Hoshea the son of Elah to reign in Samaria** over Israel nine years.

² And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, but not as the kings of Israel that were before him.

³ Against him came up **Shalmaneser king of Assyria**; and **Hoshea became his servant, and gave him presents.**

⁴ **And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea:** for he had sent messengers to **So king of Egypt, and brought no present to the king of Assyria,** as he had done year by year: **therefore the king of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison.**

⁵ Then the **king of Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three years.**

⁶ In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and **placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.**

⁷ **For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God,** which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

⁸ **And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.**

⁹ And the children of Israel did secretly those things that were not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

¹⁰ **And they set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree:**

¹¹ **And there they burnt incense in all the high places, as did the heathen whom the LORD carried away before them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger:**

¹² **For they served idols, whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall not do this thing.**

¹³ Yet the LORD testified against Israel, and against Judah, by all the prophets, and by all the seers, saying, Turn ye from your evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by my servants the prophets.

¹⁴ Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the LORD their God.

¹⁵ And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

¹⁶ And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.

¹⁷ And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.

¹⁸ Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

¹⁹ Also Judah kept not the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

²⁰ And the LORD rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight.

²¹ For he rent Israel from the house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great sin.

²² For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they departed not from them;

²³ Until the LORD removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets. So was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria unto this day.

²⁴ And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel: and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof.

²⁵ And so it was at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which slew some of them.

²⁶ Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the

land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land.

27 Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land.

28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear the LORD.

29 Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt.

30 And the men of Babylon made Succothbenoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima.

31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim.

32 So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, **which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places.**

33 They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

34 Unto this day they do after the former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law and commandment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he named Israel:

35 With whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them:

36 But the LORD, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt with great power and a stretched out arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do sacrifice.

37 And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods.

38 And the covenant that I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other gods.

39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies.

40 Howbeit they did not hearken, but they did after their former manner.

⁴¹ So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day.

- ✚ So Israel today is not still around. They have been intermingled with the Assyrians and all other nations of the north.
- ✚ Verses 18, 20 and 23 speak to us about how God had removed them. How he has removed them from his sight.
- ✚ And how he has rejected the seed of Israel.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....

Wait—13 tribes of Israel?

Kind of. Remember, Levi didn't receive tribal territory like the other tribes. Also, Joseph's sons were considered heads of their own tribes—both of which received an inheritance of land. In some lists, Joseph is counted as one of the 12 (Genesis 49; Deuteronomy 33). In others, Levi isn't counted, and Ephraim and Manasseh are considered distinct tribes.

Here's the math:

12 tribes – 1 (Levi) – 1 (Joseph) + 1 (Ephraim) + 1 (Manasseh) = 12 tribes

So, what happened to the tribes in divided kingdom?

After Solomon's reign, the kingdom of Israel divides. Some tribes remain loyal to David's bloodline (the Southern Kingdom), but most tribes rebel and form their own new nation (the Northern Kingdom).

The prophet Ahijah illustrates this by tearing his cloak into 12 pieces and giving 10 pieces to Jeroboam, who would rule the Northern Kingdom. He says that one piece (Judah) will remain with Solomon's son for the sake of God's covenant with David ([1 Ki 11:31–32](#)).

So a little more math:

12 (Israel) — 10 (Northern Kingdom) — 1 (Judah) = 1 (who's left?)

It turns out that Benjamin joined the tribe of Judah, and combined to form the Southern Kingdom ([1 Ki 21:12](#)). The Southern Kingdom is ruled by the house of David, who was from the tribe of Judah, so the kingdom is often just called "Judah."

The tribe of Levi was also aligned with the South. Jeroboam set up a new priesthood to false gods in the North, and so because the temple of the Lord was in Judah, the Levites migrated there ([2 Chr 11:13](#)).

So the original divided kingdom looked like this:

Northern Kingdom	Southern Kingdom
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ephraim• Reuben• Simeon• Issachar• Zebulun• Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judah• Benjamin• Levi

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asher• Gad• Naphtali• Manasseh | |
|---|--|

However, several members of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Simeon defected to Judah when they realized that God was with the righteous King Asa ([2 Chr 15:9](#)).

So, that's the list of tribes, and an idea of what happened to them when the kingdom split. You can read about the divided kingdom in the summary of [1 & 2 Kings](#).

Bible search results

[Amos 5:26](#)

But ye have borne the tabernacle of your **Moloch** and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves.

[In Context](#) | [Full Chapter](#) | [Other Translations](#)

[Acts 7:43](#)

Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of **Moloch**, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

[In Context](#) | [Full Chapter](#) | [Other Translations](#)

Kings of the United Kingdom (c 1025-925 BC)		
King	Relationship to Previous King	God's Judgment
Saul	none	did evil
Ishbosheth*	son	(unknown)
David	none son-in-law of Saul (1 Sam. 18:20-27)	did right
Solomon (AKA Jedidiah)	son	did right in youth, evil in old age
* The kingdom was divided during Ishbosheth's reign; David was king over the tribe of Judah.		

Kings of Judah (c 925-586 BC)			Kings of Israel (c 925-721 BC)		
King	Relationship to Previous King	God's Judgment	King	Relationship to Previous King	God's Judgment
Rehoboam	son	did evil	Jeroboam	servant	did evil
Abijam (AKA Abijah)	son	did evil			
Asa	son	did right	Nadab	son	did evil
			Baasha	none	did evil
			Elah	son	did evil
			Zimri	captain	did evil
			Omri	captain	did evil
			Ahab	son	did evil
Jehoshaphat	son	did right	Ahaziah	son	did evil
Jehoram (AKA Joram)	son	did evil	Jehoram (AKA Joram)	son of Ahab	did evil
Ahaziah (AKA Azariah or Jehoahaz)	son	did evil			
Athaliah	mother	did evil	Jehu	captain	mixed
Joash (AKA Jehoash)	son of Ahaziah	did right in youth, evil in old age	Jehoahaz	son	did evil
			Joash (AKA Jehoash)	son	did evil
Amaziah	son	did right in youth, evil in old age	Jeroboam	son	did evil

Uzziah (AKA Azariah)	son	did right	II		
			Zachariah	son	did evil
			Shallum	none	did evil (surmised)
			Menahem	none	did evil
			Pekahiah	son	did evil
Jotham	son	did right	Pekah	captain	did evil
Ahaz	son	did evil	Hoshea	none	did evil
Hezekiah	son	did right			
Manasseh	son	did evil	Assyrian captivity		
Amon	son	did evil			
Josiah	son	did right			
Jehoahaz (AKA Shallum)	son	did evil			
Jehoiakim (AKA Eliakim)	son of Josiah	did evil			
Jehoiachin (AKA Coniah or Jeconiah)	son	did evil			
Zedekiah (AKA Mattaniah)	son of Josiah	did evil			
Babylonian captivity					

Color Code Legend:	King did right	King did evil	Other
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