

Is **Yahshua** Building An Israelite Assembly?

[CAVEAT: Everything between the pink brackets that is written in bold, ten-point, italic fonts are not to be taken as part of the scriptures. They are only my attempt to help the readers understand the scripture better. T.A.H.]

Matthew 16 (16) And Simon Peter answered and said, **Thou** art the **Messiah**, the **Son** of the **Living Elohim**. (17) And **Yahshua** answered and said unto him, **Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father which is in Heaven.** (18) **And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Assembly; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

Let us look at the definitions of the Greek word “**Ekklesia**” which has been incorrectly translated as “Church” in most English translations of the Bible. As we study these definitions, please keep in mind that the sign “:--” simply means that the words following it are other words that the translators used (whether correctly or incorrectly) to translate the referred to word. Therefore, to correctly translate the actual meaning we must first check the actual definitions before using one after the “:--” sign.

By following the very simple rule above, we find that the actual meaning of the Greek word “**Ekklesia**” is an “**assembly**,” a “**congregation**,” or a “**calling out**.”

NASC G1577. **ekklyasia**, from G1537 and G2564; **an assembly**, a (religious) **congregation**:-- assembly(3), church(74), churches(35), congregation(m)(2).

Strongs G1577. **ekklesia**, ek-klay-see'-ah; from a comp. of G1537 and a der. of G2564; **a calling out**, i.e. (concr.) a popular meeting, espec. a religious **congregation** (Jewish synagogue, or Chr. community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both):-- assembly, church.

The word “**Ekklesia**” is a very good translation of the Hebrew word “**qahal**” into the Greek language. So let us look at the Hebrew word “**qahal**,” the word which our **Saviour** surely used. (He surely did not speak in the Greek language to His Hebrew brethren.)

NASC H6951. **qahal**, [874c]; from an unused word; **assembly, convocation, congregation**:-- army*(1), assembly(95), companies(1), company(15), congregation(8), crowd(1), horde(2)

By using the same simple rule of first checking actual definitions which are given before the “:--” sign, we find that the actual meaning of the Hebrew word “**qahal**,” is an **assembly**, a **convocation**, or a **congregation**.

From the meanings of both the Greek word “**Ekklesia**” and the Hebrew word “**qahal**,” we can correctly say that **Yahshua** is building His **Assembly**, His **Congregation**, His **Convocation**, or His **Called Out Ones**, but not His “church.” (Most of the time I will refer to it as “**Assembly**.”)

In the New Covenant Scriptures, we find that this **Assembly** was referred to as the following:

It was referred to as the “**Assemblies of Messiah**” **one time** (Romans 16:16).

It was referred to as the “**Assembly of the Firstborn**” or “**Firstborn Ones**” **one time** (Heb. 12:23).

It was referred to as the “**Assembly of the Living Elohim**” **one time** (I Tim. 3:15).

It was referred to as the “**Elect of Yahweh**” **two times** (Colossians 3:12) & (Titus 1:1).

It was referred to as the “**House of Yahweh**” **three times** (I Timothy 3:15; Hebrews 10:21; I Peter 4:17).

It was referred to as the “**Assembly/Assemblies of Yahweh**” a total of **eight times**. (Acts 20:28) (I Cor. 1:2) (I Cor. 10:32), (I Cor. 11:22) (I Cor. 15:9) (II Cor. 1:1) (Gal. 1:13) (I Tim. 3:5).

It seems so obvious that **Yahweh** and **Yahshua** have the same Assembly of people. Was this a **Jewish** Assembly, a **Gentile** Assembly, or and an **Israelite Assembly**?

In Romans 10:19-21, the apostle Paul wrote the following concerning **Israel** and the **Gentiles**.

Romans 10 (19) But I say, Did not **Israel** know? First Moses saith, **I** will provoke you to jealousy by *them that are no people, and* by a foolish nation **I** will anger you. (20) But Isaiah is very bold, and saith, **I** was found of them that sought

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Me not; **I** was made manifest unto them that asked not after **ME**. (21) But to **Israel HE** saith, All day long **I** have stretched forth **MY** hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.

Paul continues his line of thought with Romans 11:1.

Romans 11 (1) I say then, Hath **Yahweh** cast away **HIS** people? **Yahweh** forbid! For I also am an **Israelite**, of the **seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin**. (2) **Yahweh hath not cast away His people** which **He** foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elijah? How he maketh intercession to **Yahweh** against **Israel**, saying, (3) **Yahweh**, they have killed **Thy** prophets, and digged down **Thine** altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. (4) But what saith the answer of **Yahweh** unto him? **I** have reserved to **Myself** seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to *the image of Baal*. (5) **Even so then at this present time also there is a Remnant [of Israel] according to the Election of grace**. (6) And if by grace, then *is it* no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if *it be* of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. (7) What then? **Israel** hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the **Election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded** (8) (According as it is written, **Yahweh** hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day. (9) And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompense unto them: (10) Let their eyes be darkened that they may not see, and bow down their back alway. (11) I say then, **Have they [Israel] stumbled that they should fall? Yahweh forbid**: but *rather* through their fall salvation *is come* unto the **Gentiles**, for to provoke them to jealousy.

As you can see in the above scripture, **Yahweh** kept only the **Elect of Israel** and **the rest of them** were temporally **cast off and blinded** until they are provoked to jealousy by the **Gentiles**. The apostle Paul continues to explain the situation by using the analogy of the **Olive Tree**.

Romans 11 (12) Now if the fall of them *be* the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the **Gentiles**; how much more their fulness? (13) For I speak to you **Gentiles**, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the **Gentiles**, I magnify mine office: (14) If by any means I may provoke to emulation *them which are* my flesh, and might save some of them. (15) For if the casting away of them *be* the reconciling of the world, what *shall* the receiving of *them be*, but life from the dead? (16) For if the firstfruit *be* holy, the lump *is* also *holy*: and if the root *be* holy, so *are* the branches. (17) And if **some of the branches** be broken off, and thou, being a **wild olive tree**, wert **grafted in among** them, and **with them** partakest of the root and fatness of the **Olive Tree**; (18) Boast not against the **Branches**. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. (19) Thou wilt say then, The **Branches** were broken off, that I might be grafted in. (20) Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: (21) For if **Yahweh** spared not the **Natural Branches**, *take heed* lest **He** also spare not thee. (22) Behold therefore the goodness and severity of **Yahweh**: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in **His** goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. (23) And they also, **IF** they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted **[back]** in: for **Yahweh** is able to graft them in again. (24) For if thou wert cut out of the **olive tree** which **is wild by nature**, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a **good Olive Tree**: how much more shall these, which be the **Natural Branches**, be **grafted into their own Olive Tree**?

As we continue in the next verse, you can see that the **casting away** or **blindness** was only temporary and when their blindness is lifted they will be grafted back into **Israel**, the **Natural Olive Tree**.

Romans 11 (25) For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel**, until the fulness of the **Gentiles** be come in. (26) And so **all Israel shall be saved**: as it is written, There shall come out of **Sion** the **Deliverer**, & shall turn away wickedness from Jacob: (27) For this *is My* Covenant unto them, when **I** shall take away their sins.

From the above scriptures, it is very clear that the **Gentiles are grafted into Israel** and **does not replace it!** This next scripture is an excellent second witness of that fact. (As you read this scripture, please keep in mind that **Yahshua**, the **Apostles**, the **Prophets**, and all the New Testament writers were all **Israelites**.)

Ephesians 2 (11) Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past **Gentiles** in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; (12) That at that time ye were without **Messiah**, being **Aliens from the Commonwealth of Israel**, and **strangers from the Covenants of Promise**, having no hope, and without **Yahweh** in the world: (13) But now in **Messiah Yahshua** ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of **Messiah**. ... (19) Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but **Fellowcitizens with the Saints**, and of the **Household of Yahweh**; (20) And are **built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Yahshua**

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Messiah Himself being the Chief Corner Stone; (21) In **Whom** all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the **Sovereign:** (22) In **Whom** ye also are builded together for a habitation of **Yahweh** through the Spirit.

Since the **Gentiles** are grafted into the **Natural Olive Tree** which is the **Commonwealth of Israel**, they are no longer **strangers from the Covenants of Promise**. Here is one of the promises of the Covenant which they are entitled to receive with **Israel**.

Exodus 19 (3) And Moses went up unto **Elohim**, and **Yahweh** called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the **House of Jacob**, and tell the **Children of Israel**; (4) Ye have seen what **I** did unto the Egyptians, and *how* **I** bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto **Myself**. (5) Now therefore, if ye will obey **My** voice indeed, and keep **My Covenant**, then **ye shall be a Peculiar [unique] Treasure** unto **Me above all people**: for all the earth *is* **Mine**: (6) And ye shall be unto **Me** a **Kingdom of Priests**, and an **Holy Nation**. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the **Children of Israel**.

In the scriptures below, is a witness of the fulfillment of that promise.

I Peter 2 (4) To **Whom** coming, *as unto* a **Living Stone**, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of **Yahweh**, *and* precious, (5) **Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a Holy Priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices**, acceptable to **Yahweh** by **Yahshua Messiah**. (6) Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, **I** lay in **Sion** a **Chief Corner Stone, Elect**, precious: and he that believeth on **Him** shall not be confounded. (7) Unto you therefore which believe *He is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the **Stone** which the builders disallowed, the same is made the **Head of the Corner**, (8) And a **stone of stumbling**, and a **rock of offence**, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. (9) But ye *are* a **Chosen Generation, a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation, a Peculiar [unique] People**; that ye should show forth the praises of **Him Who** hath called you out of darkness into **His** marvelous light: (10) Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the **People of Yahweh**: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Revelation 1 (4) John to the seven Assemblies which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from **Him** which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before **His** throne; (5) And from **Yahshua Messiah, Who is** the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the **Prince** of the kings of the earth. Unto **Him** that loved us, and washed us from our sins in **His Own** blood, (6) And **hath made us Kings and Priests** unto **Yahweh, His Father**; and to **Him** *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

To understand how **Israel** was called an **Olive Tree** in the Old Testament Scriptures, we need to have some historical background. Let us start with a scripture that concerning the breakup of Israel into two kingdoms.

I Kings 12 (15) Wherefore the king [**Rehoboam**] hearkened not unto the people; for the cause was from **Yahweh**, that he might perform his saying, which **Yahweh** spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the son of Nebat. (16) So when **all Israel [the Ten Northern Tribes]** saw that the king hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king, saying, What portion have we in David? Neither *have we* inheritance in the son of Jesse: to your tents, O **Israel**: now see to thine own house, David. So Israel departed unto their tents. (17) But *as for* the **Children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah**, Rehoboam **reigned over them**.

These are the same ones that are mentioned again in this next scripture.

II Chronicles 11 (1) And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he gathered of the **House of Judah** and **Benjamin** an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen *men*, which were warriors, to fight against **Israel**, that he might bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam. (2) But **The Word of Yahweh** came to Shemaiah the man of [**Yahweh**] **Elohim**, saying, (3) Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of **Judah**, and to **all Israel in Judah** and **Benjamin**, saying, (4) Thus saith **Yahweh**, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against **your Brethren**: return every man to his house: for this thing is done of **Me**. And they obeyed the words of **Yahweh**, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

At that time there were even more **Israelites** who came to **Judah** from the **Northern Ten Tribes**.

II Chronicles 11 (13) And the **Priests and the Levites that were in all Israel** resorted to him out of all their coasts. (14) **For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem**: (for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto **Yahweh**: (15) And he [**Jeroboam**] ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.) (16) And after them **out of all the tribes**

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of Israel such as set their hearts to seek **Yahweh Elohim of Israel** came to **Jerusalem**, to sacrifice unto **Yahweh Elohim** of their fathers. (17) So they strengthened the **Kingdom of Judah**, and made Rehoboam the son of Solomon strong, three years: for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon.

About 32 years later while Asa was the king of **Judah**, we find more came **out of Israel** to **Judah**.

II Chronicles 15 (8) And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of **Judah** and **Benjamin**, and **out of the cities which he had taken** from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of **Yahweh**, that *was* before the porch of **Yahweh**. (9) And he **gathered all Judah** and **Benjamin**, and the **strangers with them out of Ephraim** and **Manasseh**, and out of **Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance**, when they saw that **Yahweh** his **Elohim** *was* with him. (10) So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Asa.

Forty-two years later, Jehoshaphat the king of Judah made use of “**chief of the fathers of Israel.**”

II Chronicles 19 (8) Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and *of* the priests, and of the **chief of the fathers of Israel**, for the judgment of **Yahweh**, and for controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem. (9) And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of **Yahweh**, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.

Around ninety years after the **Northern Kingdom of Israel** was carried away by the Assyrians in 721 BCE, we still see **remnants of Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, Naphtali**, and **of all Israel** with **Judah** and **Benjamin** in the land of **Israel**. (It is a big mistake to think that the entire land of **Israel** was devoid of **Israelites** after 721 BCE. Apparently, **Yahweh** choose to preserve many of them to stay in their own land for the sake of the Patriarchs and for the sake of His great Name.)

II Chronicles 34 (1) Josiah *was* eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in **Jerusalem** one and thirty years. (2) And he did *that which was* right in the sight of **Yahweh**, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined *neither* to the right hand, nor to the left. (3) For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the **Elohim** of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images. (4) And they brake down the altars of Baalim in his presence; and the images, that *were* on high above them, he cut down; and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images, he brake in pieces, and made dust *of them*, and strowed *it* upon the graves of them that had sacrificed unto them. (5) And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and cleansed **Judah** and **Jerusalem**. (6) And *so did he* in the cities of **Manasseh**, and **Ephraim**, and **Simeon**, even unto **Naphtali**, with their mattocks round about. (7) And when he had broken down the altars and the groves, and had beaten the graven images into powder, and cut down all the idols throughout **all the land of Israel**, he returned to Jerusalem. (8) Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of **Yahweh** his **Elohim**. (9) And when they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of **Elohim**, which the **Levites** that kept the doors had gathered of the hand of **Manasseh** and **Ephraim**, and of **all the remnant of Israel**, and of **all Judah** and **Benjamin**; and they returned to Jerusalem.

All of the above, are the very **same remnants** from all the **Twelve Tribes of Israel** that Jeremiah spoke to in approximately 628 B.C.E. He had just started prophesying in the streets of **Jerusalem** concerning the coming destruction of **Jerusalem** and **all the cities of Judah** by the Babylonians. In those prophecies, **Yahweh** was addressing **Judah**, the **Men of Judah**, **House of Judah**, **Jerusalem**, **Inhabitants of Jerusalem**, **House of Jacob**, and **House of Israel** even though the **Northern Ten Tribes** had already been taken captive by the Assyrians for around ninety years. (As seen in the above scripture, neither the land of Southern Two Tribes of **Israel** nor the land of the Northern Ten Tribes of **Israel** was devoid of **Israelites**.)

Jeremiah 2 (1) Moreover **The Word of Yahweh** came to me, saying, (2) Go and cry **in the ears of Jerusalem**, saying, Thus saith **Yahweh**; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after **Me** in the wilderness, in a land *that was* not sown. (3) **Israel** *was* holiness unto **Yahweh**, and the **firstfruits of His** increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith **Yahweh**. (4) Hear ye **The Word of Yahweh**, O **House of Jacob**, and **all the families of the House of Israel**: (5) Thus saith **Yahweh**, What iniquity have your fathers found in **Me**, that they are gone far from **Me**, and have walked after vanity, and are become vain?

Jeremiah 11 (1) The word that came to Jeremiah from **Yahweh**, saying, (2) Hear ye the words of this covenant, and speak unto the **men of Judah**, and to the **inhabitants of Jerusalem**; (3) And say thou unto them, Thus saith **Yahweh Elohim of Israel**; Cursed *be* the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant, (4) Which **I** commanded your fathers in the day *that I* brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey **My** voice, and do them, according to all which **I** command you: so shall ye be **My people**, and **I** will be your **Elohim**: (5) That **I** may perform the oath which **I** have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as *it is* this day. Then answered I, and said, So be it, O **Yahweh**. (6) Then **Yahweh** said unto me, **Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem, saying**, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and do them. ... (9) And **Yahweh** said unto me, A conspiracy is found **among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem**. (10) They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear **My** words; and they went after other elohim to serve them: the **House of Israel** and the **House of Judah** have broken **My Covenant** which **I** made with their fathers. (11) Therefore thus saith **Yahweh**, Behold, **I will bring evil upon them**, which they shall not be able to escape; and though they shall cry unto me, **I will not hearken unto them**. (12) Then shall the **Cities of Judah** and **Inhabitants of Jerusalem** go, and cry unto the elohim unto whom they offer incense: but they shall not save them at all in the time of their trouble. (13) For *according to* the number of thy cities were thy elohim, **O Judah**; and *according to* the number of the streets of Jerusalem have ye set up altars to *that* shameful thing, *even* altars to burn incense unto Baal. ... (16) **Yahweh** called thy name, **A Green OLIVE TREE**, fair, *and* of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken. (17) For **Yahweh** of hosts, that planted thee, hath pronounced evil against thee, for the evil of the **House of Israel** and of the **House of Judah**, which they have done against themselves to provoke **Me** to anger in offering incense unto Baal.

At that time, the tribe of **Judah** was indeed blessed with the lineage of **Messiah Yahshua**, the Sceptre of **Yahweh's Chosen (Elect) People Israel**, **Yahweh's** chosen city of **Jerusalem**, and the **Remnant of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel** that **Yahweh** preserved for the sake of the Patriarchs and for the sake of His own great Name. So, the **Olive Tree is the remnant of the ISRAEL OF YAHWEH!**

As Jeremiah prophesied, **Judah** and the **inhabitants of all her cities**, including the **remnants of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel**, were captured and taken to Babylon for seventy years. When those who chose to return returned, there was again the **Olive Tree**, the **Remnant of all Israel**, the **ISRAEL OF Yahweh**, dwelling again in the land of **Israel**.

Cyrus, whom **Yahweh** set over all kingdoms of the Earth, gave **all Israel** (not just the “Jews”) the opportunity to come back to **Jerusalem** which is in **Judah**.

Ezra 1 (1) Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that **The Word of Yahweh** by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, **Yahweh** stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying, (2) Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, **Yahweh Elohim** of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and **He** hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which *is* in **Judah**. (3) **Who is there among you of all His people? His Elohim** be with him, and **let him go up to Jerusalem**, which *is* in Judah, and build the house of **Yahweh Elohim** of Israel, (**He is** the **Elohim**.) which *is* in Jerusalem. (4) And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of **Elohim** that *is* in Jerusalem. (5) Then rose up the chief of the fathers of **Judah** and **Benjamin**, and the **priests**, and the **Levites**, with **all them whose spirit Elohim had raised, to go up to build the House of Yahweh** which *is* in Jerusalem.

It would seem logical that **Yahweh** put the will to return back to the Holy Land into the minds of **all the repentant Remnants of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel** that **Yahweh** preserved for the sake of the Patriarchs and for the sake of HIS own great Name. (As seen in all the above scriptures, **Yahweh** already had preserved a **Remnant of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel** with **Judah** and **Benjamin**.)

When those who came back were numbered, they were actually numbered as the **People of Israel**, not “Jews,” or the **House of Judah**. (However, I do admit that later on in Ezra that are referred to as **Judah** and **Benjamin**.)

Ezra 2 (1) Now these *are* the children of the province that went up out of the captivity, of those which had been carried away, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away unto Babylon, and came again unto **Jerusalem** and **Judah**, every one unto his city; (2) Which came with Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai,

Bilshan, Mizpar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. **The number of the men of the People of Israel [not just "Jews"]:** (3)-(58) These all total **29,967**.

There were **652** of who could not prove that they were of **Israel**.

Ezra 2 (59) And these *were* they which went up from Telmelah, Telharsa, Cherub, Addan, *and* Immer: but they could not show their father's house, and their seed, whether they *were* of **Israel**: (60) The children of Delaiah, the children of Tobiah, the children of Nekoda, six hundred fifty and two.

There were also some of the priest (Levites) who had no record at all who were not numbered.

Ezra 2 (61) And of the children of the priests: the children of Habaiah, the children of Koz, the children of Barzillai; which took a wife of the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and was called after their name: (62) These sought their register *among* those that were reckoned by genealogy, but they were not found: therefore were they, as polluted, put from the priesthood. (63) And the Tirshatha said unto them, that they should not eat of the most holy things, till there stood up a priest with Urim and with Thummim.

The whole congregation was **42,360**.

Ezra 2 (64) The whole congregation together *was* **forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore**, (65) Beside their servants and their maids, of whom *there were* **seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven**: and *there were* among them **two hundred** singing men and singing women. (66) Their horses *were* seven hundred thirty and six; their mules, two hundred forty and five; (67) Their camels, four hundred thirty and five; *their* asses, six thousand seven hundred and twenty. (68) And *some* of the chief of the fathers, when they came to the house of **Yahweh** which *is* at Jerusalem, offered freely for the house of **Elohim** to set it up in his place: (69) They gave after their ability unto the treasure of the work threescore and one thousand drams of gold, and five thousand pound of silver, and one hundred priests' garments. (70) So the priests, and the Levites, and *some* of the people, and the singers, and the porters, and the Nethinims, dwelt in their cities, and **all Israel in their cities**.

Did you notice that? It said that **all Israel dwelt in their own cities**.

Yahweh has always had compassion on the **poor**. Therefore, the poor were probably many of the **remnant of all Israel** that was left in the land while **Judah** with **Benjamin** and a **Remnant of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel** were in exile in Babylon. (It is very likely that the poor are the humble ones that **Yahweh** would choose to preserve for the sake of the Patriarchs and for the sake of His great Name.)

II Kings 25 (10) And all the army of the Chaldees, that *were with* the captain of the guard, brake down the walls of Jerusalem round about. (11) Now the rest of the people *that were* left in the city, and the fugitives that fell away to the king of Babylon, with the remnant of the multitude, did Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carry away. (12) But the captain of the guard **left of the poor of the land to be** vinedressers and husbandmen.

Perhaps many more Israelites who had been exiled in Assyria may have been inspired to return when Cyrus made that famous proclamation that all those of **Yahweh's** people in all the kingdoms of the Earth could come back to the land. The scriptures do not record a big exodus of such. However, those who were to come back were to come back in very small groups as stated in the prophecy of Jeremiah 3:11-14. (Some say this prophecy is to be fulfilled in our future, but it probably started near the end of the seventy-year exile.)

Jeremiah 3 (11) And **Yahweh** said unto me, The **backsliding Israel** hath justified herself more than **treacherous Judah**. (12) Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou **backsliding Israel**, saith **Yahweh**; *and I* will not cause **Mine** anger to fall upon you: for **I am** merciful, saith **Yahweh**, *and I* will not keep *anger* for ever. (13) Only acknowledge thine iniquity, that thou hast transgressed against **Yahweh** thy **Elohim**, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed **My** voice, saith **Yahweh**. (14) Turn, O backsliding children, saith **Yahweh**; for **I am** married unto you: and **I** will take you **one of a city**, and **two of a family**, and **I** will bring you to Zion: (15) And **I** will give you pastors according to **Mine** heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. (16) And it shall come to pass, when ye be multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, saith **Yahweh**, they shall say no more, The ark of the covenant of **Yahweh**: neither shall it come to mind: neither shall they remember it; neither shall they visit *it*; neither shall *that* be done any more. (17) At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of **Yahweh**; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of **Yahweh**, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after

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the imagination of their evil heart. (18) **In those days the House of Judah shall walk with the House of Israel**, and they shall come together out of the land of the north to the land that **I** have given for an inheritance unto your fathers. (19) But **I** said, How shall **I** put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? And **I** said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me. (20) Surely *as* a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have ye dealt treacherously with **Me**, O **House of Israel**, saith **Yahweh**.

For those who say that verses fifteen through seventeen did not come to pass, just read Jeremiah 18:7-10 and you will understand why it wasn't fulfilled to the whole nation of **Israel**, but it was fulfilled to the **Elect** portion of **Israel**. Hopefully, it will be fulfilled to the rest of **Israel** soon.)

Jeremiah 18 (7) *At what* instant **I** shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy *it*; (8) If that nation, against whom **I** have pronounced, turn from their evil, **I** will repent of the evil that **I** thought to do unto them. (9) And *at what* instant **I** shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant *it*; (10) If it do evil in **My** sight, that it obey not **My** voice, then **I** will repent of the good, wherewith **I** said **I** would benefit them.

If **I** understand all of the above scriptures correctly, then **Yahweh's Olive Tree** was indeed still dwelling in the **Land of Israel** during the three and one half years of **Yahshua's** ministry.

Yahshua was not sent to the "Jews" only. He was sent to seek out HIS **lost sheep of the House of Israel** from the **remnant of all twelve tribes!** (When **Yahshua** used the word "lost," He was referring to them being lost in their relationship with **Yahweh**.)

Matthew 15 (24) But **He** answered and said, **I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the House of Israel.**

Yahshua sent His Apostles to the **lost sheep of the House of Israel.**

Matthew 10 (5) These **twelve Yahshua** sent forth, and commanded them, saying, **Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:** (6) **But go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.** (7) **And as ye go, preach, saying, The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.**

Yahshua sent the **Seventy** to every city and place, whither **He Himself** would come.

Luke 10 (1) After these things the **Sovereign** appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before **His** face into every city and place, whither **He Himself** would come.

Just where did **Yahshua** go? Did He just go around in the **land of Judah** to the Jews? The following scriptures will shed some light on the territory that He covered **in addition to** all the **land of Judah**.

Matthew 4:13 And leaving **Nazareth**, **He** came and dwelt in **Capernaum**, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthali:

Matthew 4 (18) And **Yahshua**, walking by the **Sea of Galilee**, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. (19) And **He** saith unto them, **Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.**

Matthew 4:23 And **Yahshua** went about **all Galilee**, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Matthew 4:24 And **His** fame went throughout **all Syria**: and they brought unto **Him** all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and He healed them.

Matthew 4:25 And there followed **Him** great multitudes of people from Galilee, and *from Decapolis*, and *from Jerusalem*, and *from Judaea*, and *from beyond Jordan*.

Matthew 15:21 Then **Yahshua** went thence, and departed into the coasts of **Tyre** and **Sidon**.

Matthew 16:13 When **Yahshua** came into the coasts of **Caesarea Philippi**, He asked **His** disciples, saying, **Whom do men say that I the Son of Man am?**

Matthew 20 (29) And as they departed from **Jericho**, a great multitude followed **Him**. (30) And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that **Yahshua** passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O **Sovereign, Thou Son** of David.

Mark 8:22 And **He** cometh to **Bethsaida**; and they bring a blind man unto **Him**, and besought **Him** to touch him.

Luke 8:26 And they [**Yahshua and His Apostles**] arrived at the country of the **Gadarenes**, which is over against Galilee.

John 4:46 So **Yahshua** came again into **Cana** of Galilee, where He made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

The above verses verify that **Yahshua** told the truth when He said, “**I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the House of Israel.**” Therefore, He visited the **OLIVE TREE**, the **Remnant of all the Twelve Tribes of Israel** that was dwelling throughout the whole **land of Israel**, including the **land of Judah**.

On the Day of Pentecost and afterwards, Peter preached to these same **lost sheep of the House of Israel**.

Acts 2 (36) Therefore let all the **House of Israel** know assuredly, that **Yahweh** hath made that same **Yahshua**, **Whom** ye have crucified, both **Sovereign** and **Messiah**.

Acts 3 (12) And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, **Ye men of Israel**, why marvel ye at this?

Acts 4 (8) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said unto them, **Ye rulers** of the people, and **elders of Israel**, (9) If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; (10) Be it known unto you all, and to **all the people of Israel**, that by the name of **Yahshua Messiah** of Nazareth, **Whom** ye crucified, **Whom Yahweh** raised from the dead, *even* by **Him** doth this man stand here before you whole.

Acts 4 (27) For of a truth against **Thy** holy **Child Yahshua**, **Whom Thou** hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the **people of Israel**, were gathered together, (28) For to do whatsoever **Thy** hand and **Thy** counsel determined before to be done.

Acts 5 (31) **Him** hath **Yahweh** exalted with **His** right hand *to be* a **Prince** and a **Saviour**, for to give repentance to **Israel**, and forgiveness of sins.

Acts 10 (34) Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that **Yahweh** is no respecter of persons: (35) But in every nation he that feareth **Him**, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with **Him**. (36) The **Word** which **Yahweh** sent unto the **Children of Israel**, preaching peace by **Yahshua Messiah**: (**He is Sovereign** of all:) (37) That word, *I say*, ye know, which was **published throughout all Judaea**, and **began from Galilee**, after the baptism which John preached.

Did **Yahweh's** People Israel just vanish away when **Yahshua** sat up the Kingdom of Heaven among men which was near at hand in the first century? The description in the last two chapters of the Bible of the **Holy City New Jerusalem** which was to come down out of Heaven to this Earth shows otherwise. (Oh, may the reader understand!)

Revelation 21 (1) And I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth: for the first Heaven and the first Earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. (2) And I John saw the **Holy City, New Jerusalem**, coming down from **Yahweh** out of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (3) And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of **Yahweh** *is* with men, and **He** will dwell with them, and they shall be **His** people, and **Yahweh Himself** shall be with them, *and be* their **Elohim** (4) And **Yahweh** shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. (5) And **He** that sat upon the throne said, Behold, **I** make all things new. And **He** said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. (6) And **He** said unto me, It is done. **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.** **I** will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. (7) He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and **I** will be his **Elohim**, and he shall be **My** son. (8) But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 21 (9) And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the **Lamb's** wife. (10) And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the **Holy Jerusalem**, descending out of Heaven from **Yahweh**, (11) Having the glory of **Yahweh**: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; (12) And had a wall great and high, *and* had **twelve gates**, and at the gates **twelve angels**, and names written thereon, which are *the names* of the **Twelve Tribes of the Children of Israel**: (13) On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. (14) And the wall of the city had **twelve foundations**, and in them the names of the **twelve apostles** of the **Lamb**.

Revelation 21 (15) And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. (16) And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, **twelve** thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. (17) And he measured the wall thereof, a hundred *and* forty *and* four cubits, *according to* the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. (18) And the building of the wall of it was *of* jasper: and the city *was* pure gold, like unto clear glass. (19) And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; (20) The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst. (21) And the **twelve gates** *were* **twelve pearls**: every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass. (22) And I saw no temple therein: for **Yahweh Elohim Almighty** and the **Lamb** are the temple of it. (23) And the **City** had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of **Yahweh** did lighten it, and the **Lamb** is the light thereof. (24) And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. (25) And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. (26) And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. (27) And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the **Lamb's Book of Life**.

Revelation 22 (1) And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of **Yahweh** and of the **Lamb**. (2) In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the **Tree of Life**, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. (3) And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of **Yahweh** and of the **Lamb** shall be in it; and **His** servants shall serve **Him**: (4) And they shall see **His** face; and **His** name *shall be* in their foreheads. (5) And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for **Yahweh Elohim** giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22 (6) And he said unto me, These sayings *are* faithful and true: and **Yahweh Elohim** of the holy prophets sent **His** angel to show unto **His** servants the things which must shortly be done. (7) **Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.** (8) And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which showed me these things. (9) Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship **Yahweh**. (10) And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. (11) He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. (12) **And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.** (13) **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.** (14) Blessed *are* they that do **His Commandments**, that they may have right to the **Tree of Life**, and may enter in through the gates into the [**Holy**] City [**New Jerusalem**]. (15) For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Revelation 22 (16) **I Yahshua have sent Mine angel to testify unto you these things in the Assemblies. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**

Revelation 22 (17) And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Revelation 22 (18) For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, **Yahweh** shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: (19) And if any man shall take

away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **Yahweh** shall take away his part out of the **Book of Life**, and out of the **Holy City**, and *from* the things which are written in this book.

Revelation 22 (20) **He** which testifieth these things saith, **Surely I come quickly**. Amen. Even so, come, **Sovereign Yahshua**. (21) The grace of our **Sovereign Yahshua Messiah** *be* with you all. Amen.

CONCLUSION: From all the scriptures shown in this article, the following facts have been revealed.

#1 **Yahweh's** and **Yahshua's** “qahal,” or “Ekklesia” is an **Assembly**, a **Congregation**, a **Convocation**, or the **Called Out Ones** to be **Yahweh's** People.

#2 **Yahweh's Assembly** was **built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Yahshua Messiah Himself being the Chief Corner Stone**.

#3 **Yahshua**, the Prophets, the Apostles, and all the writers of the Old and New Testaments were **Israelites**.

#4 **Yahshua** came only to the **lost sheep of the House of Israel**.

#5 **Yahshua** sent His Apostles and the Seventy to the **lost sheep of the House of Israel**.

#6 As shown in the analogy of the **Olive Tree**, the Gentiles **did not replace Israel**, but were grafted into the **Elect of Israel** while **the rest of Israel** were temporally **cast off and blinded** to be provoked to jealously by the **Gentiles**.

#7 In the last two chapters in the Holy Scriptures, there are important names connected with the **New Jerusalem, the Holy City**, coming down from Heaven. They are: **Yahweh, Yahshua**, the **Twelve Apostles** and the **Twelve Tribes of Israel!**

Let us end this article with the two following blessings.

Revelation 22 (14) **BLESSED** *are* they that do **His Commandments**, that they may have right to the **Tree of Life**, and may enter in through the gates into the **[Holy] CITY [the New Jerusalem]**.

Galatians 6 (16) And as many as walk according to this rule, **PEACE** *be* on them, and **MERCY**, and **UPON THE ISRAEL OF Yahweh**. Hallelu**Yah!!!**

[Revised and/or edited in 2026 by T.A.H.]