

# **Surpassing worth of knowing Christ**

**Philippians 3:1-12**

1 Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: “Unless *you are circumcised*, according to the custom taught by Moses, *you cannot be saved.*”

5 Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, “The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to *keep the law of Moses.*”

**Acts 15:1, 5**

<sup>10</sup> This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: **Every male among you shall be circumcised.** <sup>11</sup> You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. <sup>12</sup> He who is **eight days old** among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, <sup>13</sup> both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. <sup>14</sup> Any uncircumcised *male who is not circumcised* in the flesh of his foreskin **shall be cut off** from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

**Genesis 17:10**

<sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup> “Behold, **my covenant is with you**, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup> And *I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring* after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup> And I will give to **you and to your offspring** after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and **I will be their God.**”

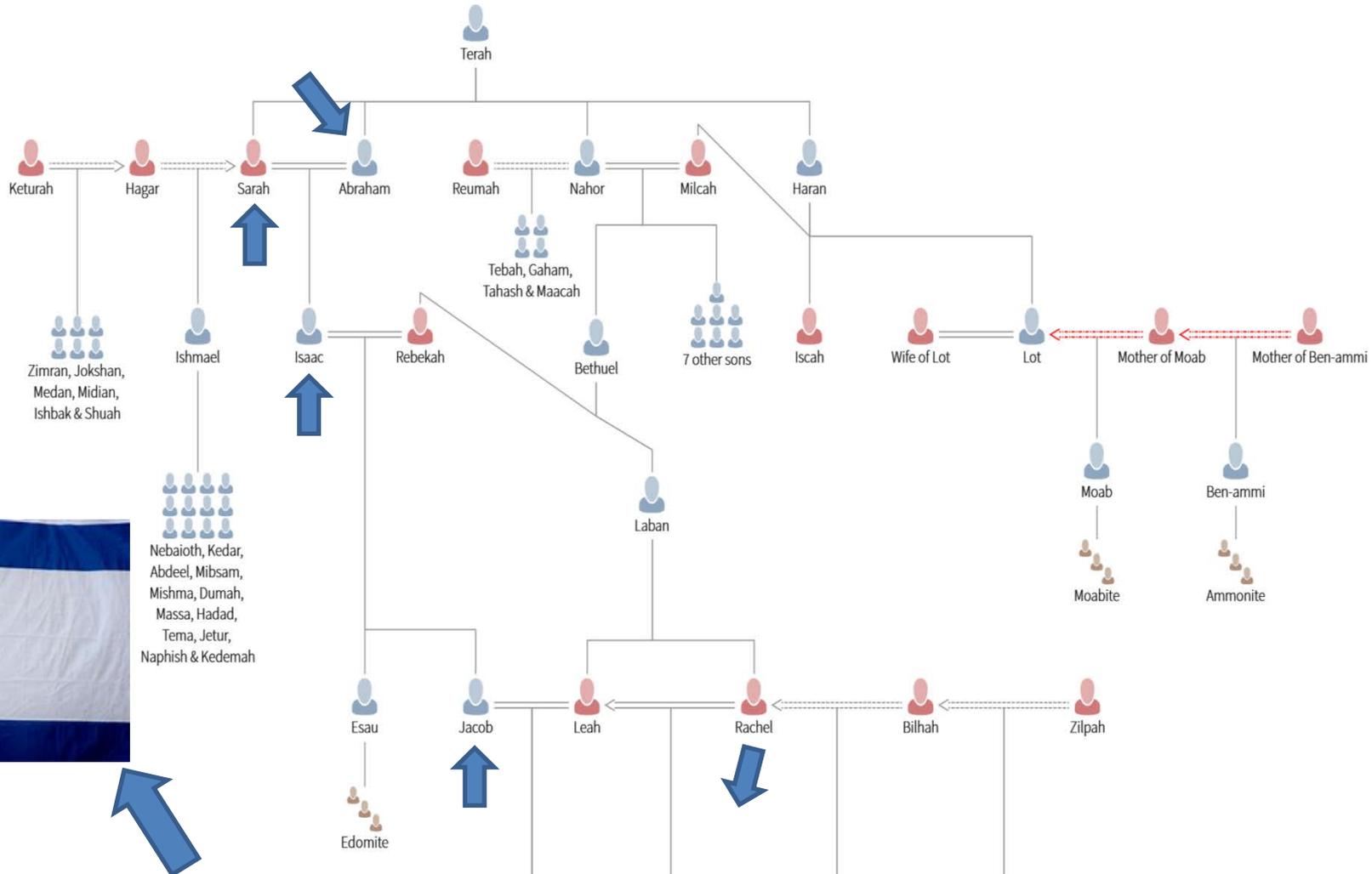
**Genesis 17:3-8**

<sup>29</sup>About that time **Jeroboam** was going out of Jerusalem, and Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh met him on the way, wearing a new cloak. The two of them were alone out in the country, <sup>30</sup>and Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. <sup>31</sup>Then he said to Jeroboam, "Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'See, I am going to tear the kingdom out of Solomon's hand and give you ten tribes.' <sup>32</sup>But for the sake of my servant David and the city of Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, he will have one tribe.

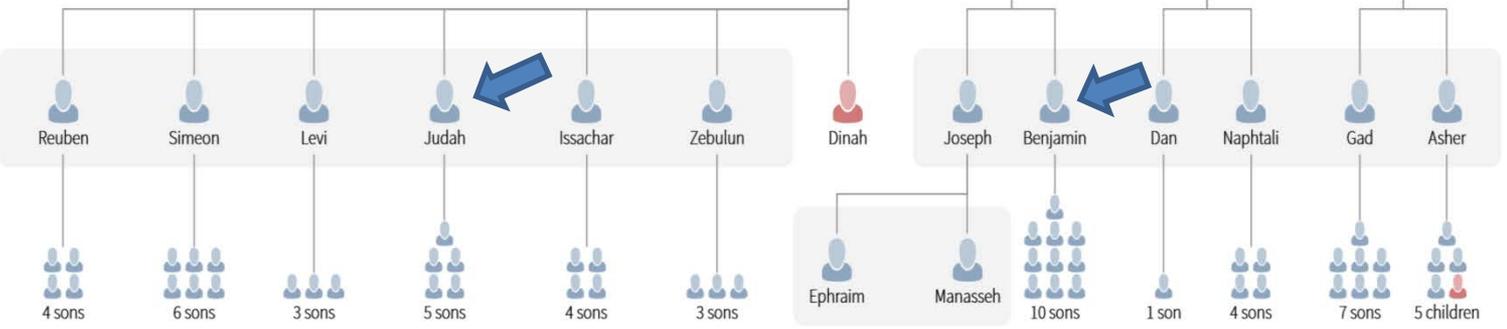
**1 Kings 11:29-35**

<sup>21</sup> When **Rehoboam** arrived in Jerusalem, he mustered *all Judah and the tribe of Benjamin*—a hundred and eighty thousand able young men—to go to war against Israel and to regain the kingdom for Rehoboam son of Solomon. <sup>22</sup> But this word of God came to Shemaiah the man of God: <sup>23</sup> “Say to Rehoboam son of Solomon king of Judah, to all Judah and Benjamin, and to the rest of the people, <sup>24</sup> ‘This is what the LORD says: Do not go up to fight against your brothers, the Israelites. Go home, every one of you, for this is my doing.’” So they obeyed the word of the LORD and went home again, as the LORD had ordered.

## **1 Kings 12:21-22**



12 Tribes of Israel



Half-Tribes

<sup>6</sup> But Paul, ...Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a **son of Pharisees**; it is with regard to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am indicted *and* being judged.

**Acts 23:6** (AMPC)

“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but raised in this city. I was educated at the feet of Gamaliel in strict conformity to the Law of our Fathers. I am just as zealous for God as any of you here today.

**Acts 22:3**

# Jesus' perception of Pharisees

“But they **do all their deeds to be noticed by men**; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels *of their garments*.

“They **love the place of honor** at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues, and respectful greetings in the market places, and being called Rabbi by men.

**Matthew 23:5-7**

# God's verdict on all human boasting

**20** Surely there is no righteous person on earth who does good and never sins.

## **Ecclesiastes 7:20**

23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

24 and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus....

## **Romans 3:23-24**

# Paul's motivation, purpose, and vision for his life as a Christian

1. To know Christ
2. To know the power of Christ' resurrection
3. Fellowship of sharing in his sufferings
4. Becoming like him in his death

So somehow to attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

**Romans 8:34**

<sup>16</sup>I heard and my heart pounded, my lips quivered at the sound; decay crept into my bones, and my legs trembled. Yet I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come on the nation invading us. <sup>17</sup>Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, <sup>18</sup>yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. <sup>19</sup>The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights. For the director of music. On my stringed instruments. **Habakkuk 3:16-19**

- In spite of all appearances to the contrary, and no matter how difficult conditions might become, he must continue to believe, continue to trust the promise of God, and have confidence that the Lord of all the earth would do right (**Habakkuk 3:16-19**)
- Righteous shall live by faith (**Job 2:4**)