"Introduction to the Book of Romans" (And all other books of the New Testament)

By: William N. Hollis, B.S., N.A.

At the time of the appearance of Jesus-Christ 2000 years ago in Bethlehem, Judea, there were few members of ISRAEL, (descendants of JACOB—ISRAEL—God's Chosen Race) to be found in all of JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND GALILEE ¹, which were the political boundaries of the so-called "PROMISED LAND" which Jehovah-God had given to Father Abraham, the patriarch of this CHOSEN SEED. Jehovah-God established this seed-line through ABRAHAM'S son ISAAC, through ISAAC's son, JACOB—ISRAEL (God changed his name) and *ISRAEL'S* (JACOB) twelve sons, and two grandsons, (Ephraim and Manasseh) who are known as "THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL" in the Holy Bible.

Some two million of these "Chosen People" escaped "The Egyptian Captivity" in 1320 B.C., and after forty years of "wandering in the wilderness," they went in and captured this "PROMISED LAND" from the various tribes of people who occupied it. After a period of being ruled by JUDGES who were appointed by God, ISRAEL wanted to be ruled by KINGS as were the other nations around them; (We know this old story: "Everybody 's doing it") so God the Father gave them Saul. After Saul, David ruled, then his son Solomon, and after Solouxn, his son Rehoboani became king. However, during Rehoboam's reign the Kingdom of David split: JEROBOAM led ten and one—half TRIBES OF ISRAEL into the formation of their own country. It became "THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL," and occupied approximately two—thirds of the northern (or best) part of the "PROMISED LAND" with the "CITY OF SAMARIA" as its capitol. This left the balance of the land to become known as "THE KINGDOM OF JUDAN" with the "CITY OF JERUSALEM" as its capitol. (such as the "NORTH AND THE SOUTH" in our Civil War) JEROBOAM became the King of "ISRAEL" and REHOBOAM the King of JUDAH.

These two countries existed side by side, occasionally fighting each other, until 740—21 B.C., when ISRAEL was taken captive by ASSYRIA, and "all ISRAEL" was placed in the area of Assyria, which borders the southern shores of the Caspian Sea. Their vacated land (two—thirds of the PROMISED LAND) was repopulated with people from Assyria. This condition existed until 585 B.C., when NEBUCHADNEZZAR invaded JUDAR and carried most of its inhabitants captive to BABYLONIA. This King did the very same thing as did the ASSYRIAN KING, and repopulated the area of JUDAH with his own people. THEREFORE, AT THIS TIME, 785 B.C., THERE WERE FEW TRUE ISRAELITES TO BE FOUND IN THE ENTIRE "PROMISED LAND". For some two generations (70 years) these PAGAN inhabitants of "THE PROMISED LAND" were free to multiply and occupy the land—which they did!

Then the great Persian king, CYRUS, conquered BABYLON in his quest to establish THE PERSIAN EMPIRE, and in carrying out God's will, (the Bible says so) CYRUS FREED THE JUDEAN CAPTIVES AND ISSUED AN EDICT WHEREIN ANY OF THESE CAPTIVE PEOPLE COULD RETURN TO JERUSALEM, AND THAT HE WOULD FINANCE THE TRIP BACK FOR THEM. The Bible records in EZRA 2:64, that only "42,360" along with some "groupies," availed themselves of the offer and returned. They returned to the CITY OF JERUSALEM, rebuilt the walls, the temple, and set up for business. They brought back with them from Babylon, "Strange wives" and God made them cast them off. NOW, IF ALL OF THESE 42,000 RETURNEES WERE TRUE ISRAELITES, THERE STILL WOULD BE PRACTICALLY NONE OF THE "CHOSEN SEED" IN THE ENTIRE "PROMISED LAND." Race mixing was not all that these returnees brought back with them from their "Babylonian Captivity." They brought back a new religion, the BABYLONIAN TALMUD, a new temple in which to worship called the

¹ Galilee had the greater number of true Israelites, and for this reason the LORD chose eleven of the twelve Apostles from this area, and only one, Judas, from Judea.

"Introduction to the Book of Romans"

SYNAGOGUE, and a new racial identification: THEY BECAME KNOWN AS "JEWS." JESUS called this religion of theirs "THE TRADITIONS OF THE ELDERS."

Therefore, all we have to do to understand not only the Book of Romans, but all scripture wherein the terms JEW, JEWS, OR JEWRY, are used, is to know the following:

AN ISRAELITE COULD BE CALLED A "JEW" IF HE LIVED IN JUDEA: BUT A "JEW" WAS A "JEW" WHEREVER HE LIVED, AND WAS NEVER CALLED AN ISRAELITE. THE TWO TERMS ARE NOT SYNONYMOUS:

Now let us review the ninth, tenth, and eleventh chapters of the BOOK OF ROMANS, and let us capture the "PEARLS OF GREAT PRICE."

ROMANS, CHAPTER NINE:

1—6) THE APOSTLE PAUL states that he speaks the truth, and does not lie. He has a "heaviness," a "hurta pain in his heart for his brethern—his kinfolks. (The Children of Israel who are "scattered" abroad as "The Lost Ten Tribes of Israel," and who have lost their identity, and their language as a punishment of God, who has "divorced" himself from them) Paul wishes that he could be cut off from Christ instead of his kindred who have been "CUT OFF TEMPORARILY FROM JEHOVAH—GOD."

IT IS TO PAUL and his kinsmen, ISRAEL, that God's law was given, and to whom also the "ABRAHAMIC COVENANT" was made by God; and also the race of people whom God called into his service here on earth. It is also to this race of people CHRIST came in the flesh: (God "adopted" ISRAEL, and gave them his LAWS, and His DIVINE SERVICE, His PROMISES, and the COVENANTS! In other words, they inherited the ORDINANCES OF GOD.) Because most of the people in the country in which he was born, (JESUS was born in JUDEA) did not believe in him or his message (explained in the introduction—they were JEWS) did not in the least alter the fact that JESUS was the CHRIST; because PAUL said, "THEY ARE NOT ALL ISRAEL, WHICH ARE OF ISRAEL." (JACOB—ISRAEL) JESUS CHRIST, THE MESSIAH, came from among ISRAEL—that is to say, he came from the Tribe of JUDAB, the "SEED OF DAVID," which was, and is, the RULING TRIBE OF ISRAEL."

- 7.) JUST BECAUSE SOME OF THEN (the JEWS) were of the seed of ABRAHAM, (Abraham had Ishmael, a son by Hagar—a bondwoman, and six sons by Keturah—a concubine) are they considered CHILDREN (legitimate) because "ONLY THROUGH THE SEED OF ISAAC," ABRAHAM' S ONLY SON BY SARAH, HIS LAWFUL WIFE, were the "Children of the Promise," (Covenants). to come!
- **8.)** THE "CHILDREN OF ISRAEL" are not the "children of God," because they are in the flesh; (Jesus fathered no children) but since they are the "children of the Promise," (ISRAEL) they are to be considered as CHILDREN. (Seed)
- 9—13.) JEHOVAH—GOD PROMISED SARAH, Abraham's wife who was ninety years old, that at a set time, God would deliver her a son and that she should name him ISAAC. He was the only child of this marriage, and when he was grown he married Rebecca. Rebecca became pregnant with twins, and God selected Jacob, the younger one to rule over the older one, ESAU. GOD also told Rebecca that he loved Jacob more than he did Esau. God chose JACOB in the womb so that we may believe in the doctrine of "ELECTION," since it was evident that neither of the twins could have sinned before they were born.

We can easily see in this Epistle to the Romans, that Paul fully complied with the stipulations within this Godly commission. In other words, PAUL DID WHAT GOD TOLD HD1 TO DO, AS DID ALL OF THE

"Introduction to the Book of Romans"

CHOSEN APOSTLES. Since they were "chosen from the foundations of the earth" they could do nothing else! The term "ROMANS" is national. (i.e., geographical—as Texan, or American.) Therefore, it included true ISRAELITES of the LOST TRIBES, other non—ISRAELITE races, and of course JEWS. Since the Empire was composed of conquered nations, there were numerous "Kings of people" for Paul to witness to.

- 2.) Paul states that ISRAEL has a zeal for GOD, but their knowledge of him is wrong. (They were following pagan gods as well as those ISRAELITES who followed JUDIASM, the religion of the JEWS, and therefore were known as JEWS.
- 3—5.) Following these pursuits, ISRAEL was ignorant of GOD'S righteousness, because CHRIST is the end of all righteousness, and they did not as yet know him. Also, Paul tells us that CHRIST is the end of the law for righteousness, and he said that those WHO DO THESE THINGS, live by them.
- 6—9.) Righteousness by faith shall not cause us to ask, "Who is going to Heaven?" or to "descend into the deep?" Rather, it will cause us to express with our mouths the fact that "if thou will confess with thy mouth the LORD JESUS, and shalt believe in thins heart that GOD hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."
- 10—12.) Paul tells us that if we truly believe in JESUS CHRIST, we will not be ashamed of him; because in our hearts we believe unto righteousness—but with our mouths (orally speaking) we confess him unto our Salvation! Every race is the same in GOD'S eyes regarding these requirements, and PAUL urges us to avail ourselves to the riches of the LORD by calling on him.

ROMANS: Chapter 11

- 1.) Paul asks if GOD has forsaken his people ISRAEL? He answers his own question with a resounding "NO." Then he goes on to tell us that he is an ISRAELITE, OF THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN. (not a JEW) THE SEED OF ABRAHAM, whom GOD foreknew. (from the beginning of the foundations of the earth.)
- **2-4.)** HE TELLS US THAT THE PROPHET ELIJAH appealed to GOD against Israel, (actually against JUDAH) stating that they had "killed the prophets, torn down their own alters of worship, and were now trying to kill him. (Elijah was during the reign of AHAB, the king of ISR.AEL (875—853), when the tribes were split into two kingdoms, JUDAH AND ISRAEL.) ISRAEL had slipped back into the worship of BAAL and was very sinful. ELIJAH sought refuge in the LORD, and told him:

"Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thy alters; and I am left alone, and they seek my life."

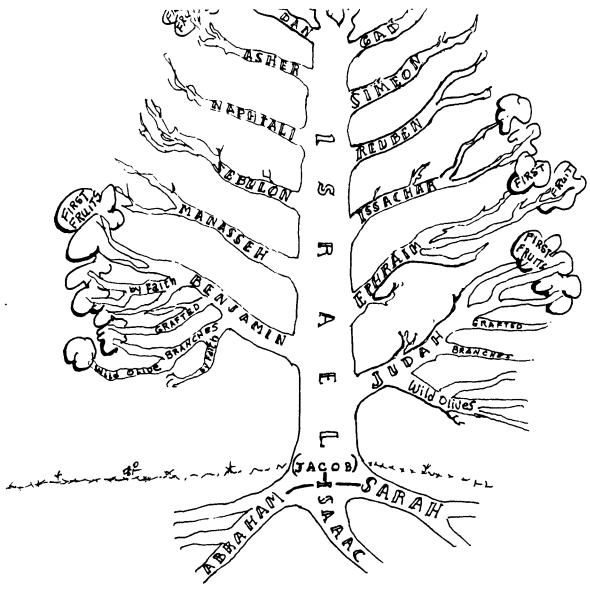
The LORD heard ELIJAH, and answered,

"I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, 'who have not bowed the knee to the image of BAAL."

Since he has already told us, that he "is an Israelite',' (not a JEW) and that much of the empire was made up of members of ISRAEL. .THE LOST TRIBES SCATTERED ABROAD." Paul also knew that many of his brethren (his own kinsmen) are "Jews" because they embraced Judaism—the religion of the Jews. (This is the true definition of the term Jew today, and the Supreme Court of Israeli (so—called Israel) has ruled it so.) Therefore, Paul states that he hopes that his ministry to the "dispersed" Gentiles will cause some of his "own flesh" which are "Jews," to want to become like these converted Christian "gentiles" and therefore become converted themselves.

- **15.)** Again Paul reminds us here that if "the casting (divorcing) away of them (the members of the Tribe of Judah which still remain "Jews", causes the world to be evangelized by "the Lost Tribes of the House of Israel',' thus" reconciling it to God',' that when God receives them back into the fold, it will be as "life returning from the dead."
- 16.) "If the first fruit is holy, then the lump is also holy." This is simply another way of expressing what Paul has already told us in the 15th verse. (See attached graphic) The roots are Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac. The lump (trunk) is Jacob—Israel, and the branches are the twelve tribes of Israel. (The seed of his twelve sons) The "first fruits" are the "Whomsoever" who believe the gospel, in Jesus—Christ, and are saved. (grafted in)
- 17—21.) Paul tells us that if some of the tribes of ISRAEL (branches of the "Good Olive Tree) are "broken off," (temporarily) and the "First fruits" (believing "Whom— soevers") coming from a "Wild Olive Tree" (Unbelievers) were "grafted in" because of their faith, and because of this fact, they get to partake of the "roots" and the goodness of the entire "GOOD OLIVE TREE". (ISRAEL) These grafted in—adopted—non—ISRAEL people should not complain against the "CHILDREN" because then they would have been supported by the branches rather than being of support themselves to the body. If you (the adopted) say that the branches were broken off so that you might be grafted in, well, you are right said the Apostle. But they (the Lost Tribes of Israel) were broken off because of unbelief and you were grafted in because of your faith. However, Paul continues, this is nothing for you to be high—minded about. You should be fearful; because if God spared not the natural branches (12 tribes—see graphic attached) be careful that God does not spare you!
- 22—24.) Take heed of GOD'S goodness and his severity which fell upon the branches which were broken; but upon you fell his goodness. However, if you do not continue in his goodness (a result of your faith) you too, will be cut—off! And if ISRAEL does not continue in their disbelief but rather becomes BELIEVERS (CHRISTIANS) THEY TOO SHALL BE GRAFTED IN AGAIN. IF YOU (OTHER THAN ISRAEL), WERE A BRANCH OF A WILD OLIVE TREE, AND WERE GRAFTED INTO A GOOD (CULTIVATED) OLIVE TREE (ISRAEL), HOW MUCH MORE WILL THESE NATURAL BRANCHES (12TRIBES OF ISRAEL) WHICH WERE BROKEN OFF (LOST THEIR IDENTITY AND LANGUAGE, FOR WORSHIPING BAAL, AND SCATTERED NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, AND WEST ACROSS THE RIVER JORDAN) BE GRAFTED INTO THEIR OWN OLIVE TREE!
- 25—27.) As we have pointed out earlier, Paul's "brethern" of ISRAEL and not the JEWS. We also stated that in any crowd of "JEWS" that the Apostle would be addressing, there would be some true ISRAELITES who were "JEWS" because they had embraced JUDAISM, or that they were Inhabitants of JUDEA; but the majority of them were NON—ISRAEL JEWS. So Paul had some racial brethern in JUDEA; but the vast majority of ISRAEL were to be found IN THE TERM "GENTILES" AS THEY WERE INHABITANTS OF

OTHER COUNTRIES." Paul went on to explain that "blindness in part, has happened to Israel (both the remnant left in the "Promised Land," and "the Lost Sheep of the House of Israel" scattered abroad and worshiping Pagan Gods until the "fulness" of the GENTILE NATIONS in which they comprised a great multitude, were more fully developed. Then, Paul reminds these ISRAELITE ROMANS, "ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED." It is written in the scriptures,



"THE FIRST FRUIT TREE"
(ISRAEL)

"THE CULTIVATED OLIVE TREE" ROMANS 11:13—24:

"Do I therefore say, 'They have stumbled, so that they might fall'? Never! But that by their mistake the salvation has come to the heathen, so as to arouse themselves. But if their mistake enriches the world, and their loss is wealth for nations, how much more will their prosperity be!

"Introduction to the Book of Romans"

"For I speak to you heathen, because I myself am an apostle of the heathen; I magnify my service, so that I may excite my kindred, and save some from among them. For if their dispersion (the Lost Ten Tribes of Israel) reunites a world, what will their re-union be but life from death? And if the first-fruit is sound, so also is the crop; and if the root is sound, so are the branches. But if some of the branches were cut off, and you, a wild olive, were grafted into their place, and became a participator in the root and fatness of the olive, do not exult over those branches; and if you should exult, the root bears you, and not you the root.

'You may reply, however: 'The branches were cut off so that I may be grafted in.' Quite right. They were cut off for unbelief; but you were inserted by faith. Be not haughty, but fear. For if God spared not the natural branches, how much less likely will He spare you! Reflect, therefore, upon God's beneficent action and pruning:

For those who failed He applies a pruning; but upon you a Divine beneficent pure: and if not, you will be cut off. And they, if they do not adhere to their belief, will be grafted in again;(the Children of Israel) for God is able to graft them in again.

"For if you, a cutting from a wild olive, contrary to your nature have been engrafted into a cultivated olive, how much easier can they be naturally grafted again into their own olive tree!"