

The Great Danger of the Ephraim doctrine

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I believe, that for both Jews and Gentiles ...
you can only come into correct identity with Israel
through Yeshua and His Cross and His Blood
and His death and Resurrection; not through Ephraim

Genesis 35:11 Also God said to him (Jacob), “I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.”

Genesis 48:19 But his father Israel (Jacob) refused and said, “I know, my son (Joseph), I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. But truly his younger brother (Ephraim) shall be greater than he, and his (Ephraim’s) descendants shall become a multitude of nations.”

Hosea 1:9-11 Then God said, “... For you are not My people, and I will not be your God. Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not My people,’ there it shall be said to them, ‘**You are sons of the living God.**’

Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and appoint for themselves one head; and they shall come up out of the land (of Israel), for Great will be the day of Jezreel!

This Scripture refers only to the 10 northern tribes, called Israel, and to the 2 southern tribes, Judah and Benjamin. Notice that they came ‘up’ from the land of Israel, not from the nations, and they are united together.

God is speaking here **to Israel**, and prophesying to them that one day they would be forgiven by God **through the Atonement of His Son Yeshua**, so that they might become true sons. And that is when the Gentiles from many nations would also be able to be grafted into this Promise first given to Israel.

Romans 9:23, 24

Galatians 6:15, 16 For in Christ Jesus (Messiah Yeshua) neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but **a new creation**. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon **the Israel of God**.

What is **the Israel of God**? I believe the answer refers to those Jews and Gentiles who are saved, and who together make up ‘**the one new man.**’ This is redeemed mankind, who will be in the Kingdom of God on earth.

Romans 9:6-8 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For **they are not all Israel** who are of Israel, nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "... in Isaac your seed shall be called." That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but **the children of the promise** are counted as the seed.

Ephesians 2:12-22 ...at that time you were without Christ, **being aliens from the commonwealth (citizenship) of Israel, strangers from the Covenants of promise**, having **no hope and without God** in the world. But now in Messiah Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near **by the Blood of Messiah**. For He Himself is our peace, **who has made both one**, and has broken down **the middle wall of separation**, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as **to create in Himself one new man from the two**, thus making peace, and that He might **reconcile them both to God in one body** through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him **we both have access by one Spirit to the Father**. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, **but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God** (the Kingdom of God), having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

What does **the commonwealth, citizenship or community of Israel** mean? In this instance it is referring to **the salvation Covenant promises** given to the people of Israel and fulfilled in Yeshua. It is **not referring to the land Israel**.

John 10:11-16 "**I am the Good Shepherd**. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the Shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. **I am the Good Shepherd**; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As My Father knows Me, even so I know My Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

And **other sheep** I have which are **not of this fold**; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and **there will be one flock and one shepherd**."

Yeshua was speaking about all the Gentiles who would also be saved!

[This is the **one new man**, Jews and Gentiles united together **in Yeshua**.]

Ezekiel 34:2, 7-15 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD to the shepherds, “Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? ‘Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD,

“As I live,” says the Lord GOD, “surely because My flock became a prey, and My flock became food for every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd, nor did My shepherds search for My flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock.”

Therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the LORD! Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require My flock at their hand; I will cause them to cease feeding the sheep, and the shepherds shall feed themselves no more;

For I will deliver My flock from their mouths, that they may no longer be food for them.” ‘For thus says the Lord GOD, “Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.

And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land (Israel); **I will feed them** on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. **I will feed them** in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. **I will feed My flock**, and I will make them lie down," says the Lord GOD.

This is referring only to God’s persecuted people, the Jews, and does not refer anywhere to the Gentiles, which will later come from the nations. These Scriptures, and many others like it, refers to the LORD gathering the dispersed, the Jewish people, i.e. Holocaust survivors ...

Jeremiah 3:14-19 “Return, O backsliding children,” says the LORD, “for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding. Then it shall come to pass, when you are multiplied and increased in the land in those days,” says the LORD, “that they will say no more, ‘The Ark of the Covenant of the LORD.’ It shall not come to mind, nor shall they remember it, nor shall they visit it, nor shall it be made anymore.

At that time Jerusalem shall be called ‘The Throne of the LORD,’ and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.

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 (Israel) that I have given as an inheritance to your fathers. “And I said, ‘You shall call Me, “**My Father**,” and not turn away from Me.’ ” Jeremiah 3:17-19

Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again**, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be **born again**.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” John 3:3-8

Our acceptance into the Kingdom and family of God, and the Commonwealth of Israel has absolutely nothing to do with ethnic lineage. To think otherwise only refutes the Sacrifice Yeshua paid on the Cross for each one of us. “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!”

In John 10:34, Yeshua stated to the religious Jews, “Is it not written in your Psalms, ‘I said, “**You are gods?**”, ... but you shall die as men.” quoting from Psalm 82:6 That would now change, for born again believers would no longer die just as men, but now they would be able to die and be taken immediately to Heaven (no more having to stay in a holding place) and live Eternally as true sons of God, coming in from all the nations. Adam, son of God ... Luke 3:38

John 20:17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’ ”

Only after Yeshua’s Resurrection and ascension into Heaven were these Words of Yeshua made a reality for all saved and born again believers. For now a real connection was restored to all children of Adam with their Father in Heaven, perhaps even much greater than that which Adam and Eve had enjoyed in the Garden of Eden.

No one is saved through ethnic heritage, be he Jew, Eskimo, or Ephraim.

There is **only one Way** to come into the Kingdom of God, and into the family of the saints of God and into the Commonwealth of Israel. It is not by coming through any tribe of Israel, be it Judah or Ephraim or Levi, or any other tribe. I believe this Ephraim doctrine is an incorrect interpretation of Scripture, which might only hinder one from receiving clearer and deeper revelations from God, and perhaps lead to even greater deception.

It is only through **King Messiah Yeshua** and **His Blood** and His Cross, His death and His Resurrection that anyone is able to have **their identity in Yeshua**, and automatically become part of **the Israel of God!**

“I will bless those who bless you (Abram),
and I will curse him who curses you.

And in you (**in your Seed: Yeshua**)
all the families (nations) of the earth shall be blessed.”
Genesis 12:3 (and Genesis 22:18)

It is only through **this Seed** (Messiah Yeshua) that any of us are **saved** and also come into right relationship with Israel and the God of Israel. There is no other way!

“And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of **all the nations** which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year (from their nations) **to worship (Yeshua) the King, the LORD of hosts**, and to keep (Succoth) the Feast of Tabernacles.”
(in Jerusalem) Zechariah 14:16

And the nations of **those who are saved** shall walk in its light; the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it (New Jerusalem). And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it.
Revelation 21:24, 26

“When **the Son of man** comes in His Glory,
and all the holy angels with Him,
then He will sit on the Throne of His Glory.

All the nations will be gathered before Him.

And He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on His left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘**Come, you Blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world!**

For I was hungry and you gave Me food;

I was thirsty and you gave Me drink;

I was a stranger and you took Me in;

I was naked and you clothed Me;

I was sick and you visited Me;

I was in prison and you came to Me.’ ”

“Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ” And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren (especially Jewish), you did it to Me.’

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into **the Everlasting fire** prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ “Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these (esp. My Jewish brethren) you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into Everlasting punishment, but the righteous into Eternal Life!” Matthew 25:31-46

Israel blessed his grandson Ephraim, Joseph’s youngest son, with a prophetic blessing of one day becoming a company or a multitude of nations, from the Hebrew words of ‘ha goyim.’ Many believers have taken this Scripture of Genesis 48:19 to have other meanings. It has been translated to also mean ‘**the fullness of the Gentiles.**’

And then they also conclude that this is where Gentile believers are grafted in or come into the nation of Israel as spiritual heirs through Ephraim ... some even believing that this is where they may have also become physical heirs (Israelites) with the people of Israel through the tribe of Ephraim.

If this was truly so, for either of these two opinions, why then has God repeatedly only referred to **the nations of those who are saved** as being the only ones who come to Yeshua, and as being the ones invited from their nations to come to Israel for Succoth, to keep the feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, and as being the only ones who will be able to enter the New Jerusalem?

God has never done away with the nations!

In the book of Revelation 7:5-8,
Ephraim is not mentioned as one of the 12 tribes of Israel.
Why continue to put your focus or identity with the tribe Ephraim?

Conclusion:

The Ephraim doctrine only diminishes the glory of the Gospel message of Yeshua, which is that both Jew and Gentile have been made '**one new man**' in Messiah!

And it is only through the work of the Holy Spirit, because of the last prayer of Yeshua in John 17 that they can become one.

Multitudes of 1000's of believers in Jesus have chosen to separate themselves from the main stream of the basic foundations of the Gospel because of this false and deceptive teaching.

The only real answer for any of us is in true **sonship in Yeshua** and in true obedience to His commandments!

We are all in the process of being changed and transformed by the Holy Spirit from orphanhood into true sonship with God. And Yeshua has promised that He would not leave us as orphans!
John 14:18

We have written this paper because this is the way we see it, and also how we understand the dangers of the Ephraim doctrine.

Sincerely,
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Feed My Sheep Jerusalem

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