

JEWS / ISRAELITES

Jews — Are Jews of today REALLY **Israelites**? Of course they are! *Jacob* (whose name was changed to *Israel* by God) had 12 sons, and one of his 12 sons was named *Judah*, the father of the Jews (Genesis 49). King David was a descendant of Judah, as was Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38). Therefore, both David and Jesus were Jews. But, both David and Jesus were also Israelites—as are ALL the descendants of Jacob’s 12 sons. And today’s Jews—being descendants of Judah—are therefore Israelites.

But NOT all Israelites are Jews! Remember, Jacob (a.k.a. “Israel”) had 12 sons—not just one son—therefore the descendants of ALL 12 sons are “Israelites.” As a result, there are *many people* (in many nations) living today who are not Jewish but who are indeed descendants of Jacob (as they descended from one of the other 11 sons)—and therefore they are also Israelites! Consequently, many of the Bible prophecies concerning “Israel” in the “last days” involve these other “Israelite” people as well as the Jews.