

## CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

A. Where Are the Hittites?

B. Sibling Rivalry

C. Life Before Death

A. The Unfinished Symphony

# Where Are the Hittites?

“I stumbled upon a mystery without a solution, a mystery so immense that I gave up trying to find an explanation because the whole mystery defied belief. The mystery was the survival of the Jews....I couldn't understand how these people had endured as the great people who they were. It was this mystery that drew me back to God.”

Anne Rice



“Why does no one find it remarkable that in most world cities today there are Jews but not one single Hittite, even though the Hittites had a great flourishing civilization while the Jews nearby were a weak and obscure people? When one meets a Jew in New York or New Orleans or Paris or Melbourne, it is remarkable that no one considers the event remarkable.”

Walker Percy

## The Merneptah Stele (c.1210 B.C.E)

**THE FIRST MENTION OF  
“ISRAEL” AS A PEOPLE**



**“ISRAEL IS LAID WASTE,  
HIS SEED IS NOT.”**

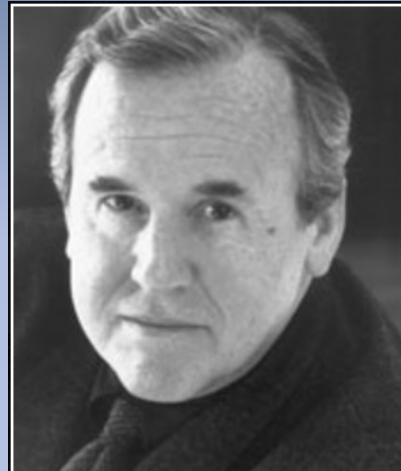
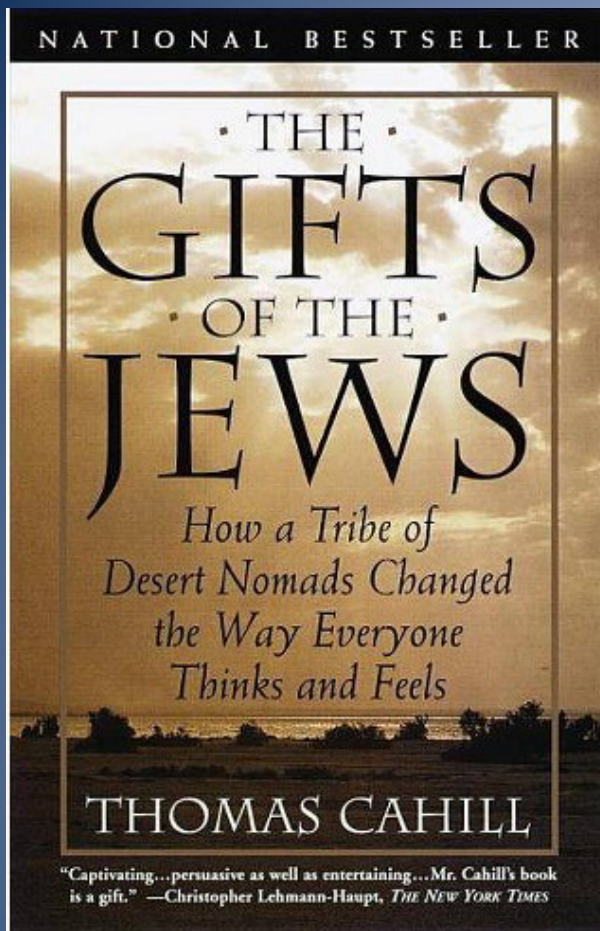
“The name Israel is included among the list of defeated peoples, hence the name Israel stele, referring not to a country but to a tribe of the same name.”



Cairo Museum, Egypt

**BUT THE MORE THE  
EGYPTIANS OPPRESSED  
THEM, THE MORE THE  
ISRAELITES MULTIPLIED  
AND SPREAD, AND THE  
MORE ALARMED THE  
EGYPTIANS BECAME.  
EXODUS 1:12**

“Jewish history is not merely a story of Jews enduring catastrophes that might have spelled the end to less tenacious groups. It is that after every disaster, Jews renewed themselves. They discovered some hitherto hidden reservoir of spirit that fuelled new forms of collective self-expression as the carriers of God’s message to the world.” Rabbi Sacks



We can hardly get up in the morning or cross the street without being Jewish. We dream Jewish dreams and hope Jewish hopes. Most of our best words, in fact - new, adventure, surprise; unique, individual, person, vocation; time, history, future; freedom, progress, spirit; faith, hope, justice - are the gifts of the Jews.

— Thomas Cahill —

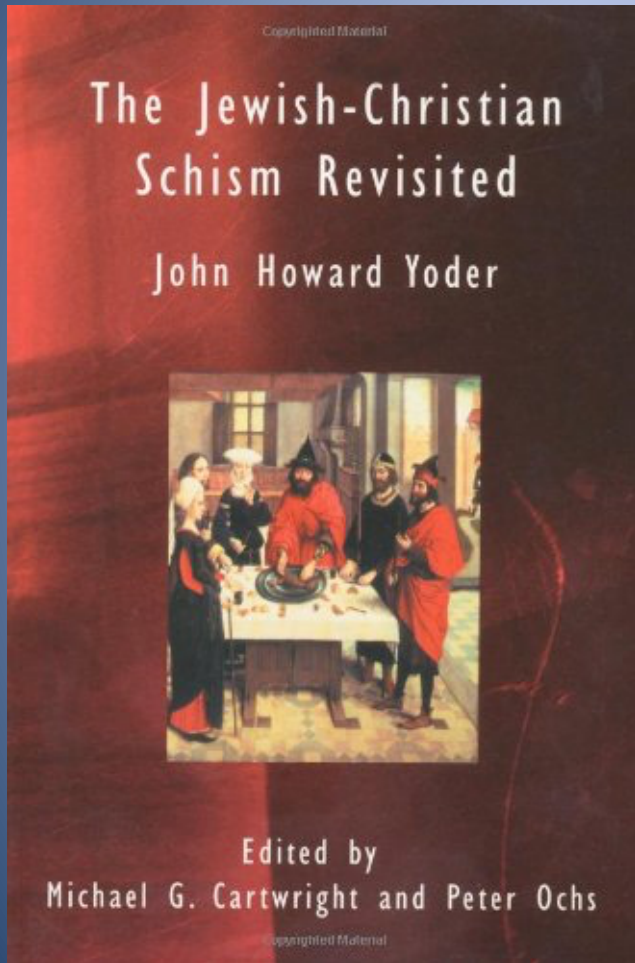
“To the Jews we owe the idea of equality before the law, both divine and human; of the sanctity of life and the dignity of the human person; of the individual conscience and so of personal redemption; of the collective conscience and so of social responsibility; of peace as an abstract ideal and love as the foundation of justice, and many other items which constitute the basic moral furniture of the human mind.”

Paul Johnson

“The number of Jews in the world is smaller than a small statistical error in the Chinese census. Yet we remain bigger than our numbers.”

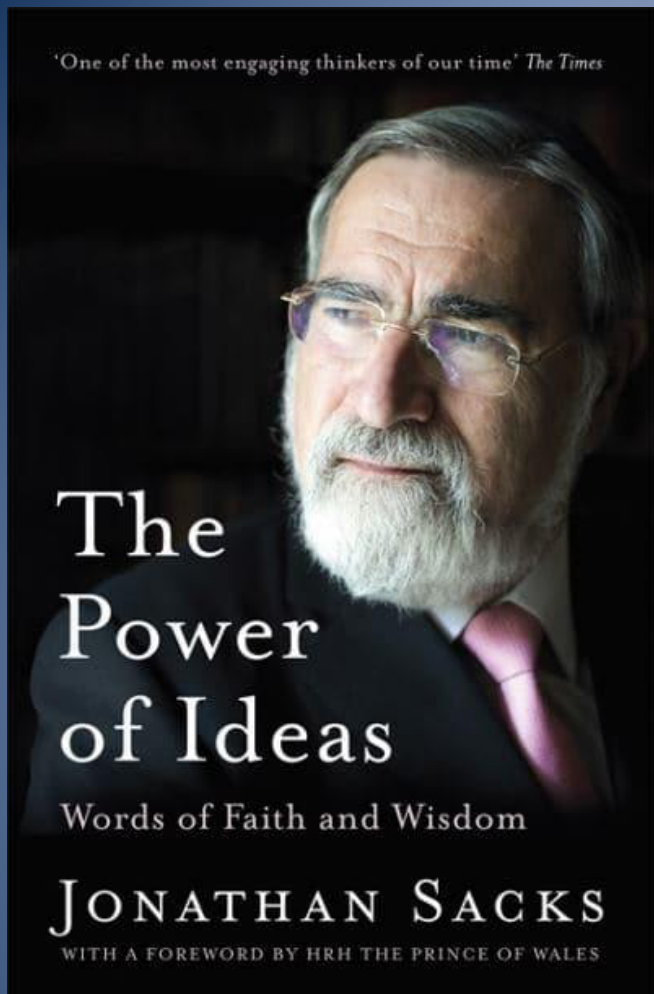
Rabbi Sacks

# “NOT BEING IN CHARGE”



“If there is a single sentence that sums up Jewish history, it is surely the statement of the prophet Zechariah: ‘Not by power and not by might but by My spirit, says the Lord of hosts’ (Zech. 4:6). Jews never had much power....Nor did they have might. Christianity and Islam built massive, monumental empires. Jews never did.”

Rabbi Sacks



“Our vocation is to be God’s ambassadors to the world, giving testimony through the way we live that it is possible for a small people to survive and thrive under the most adverse conditions, to construct a society of law-governed liberty for which we all bear collective responsibility, and ‘to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly’ (Micah 6:8) with our God....God calls on us to be *true to our faith and a blessing to others regardless of their faith.*”

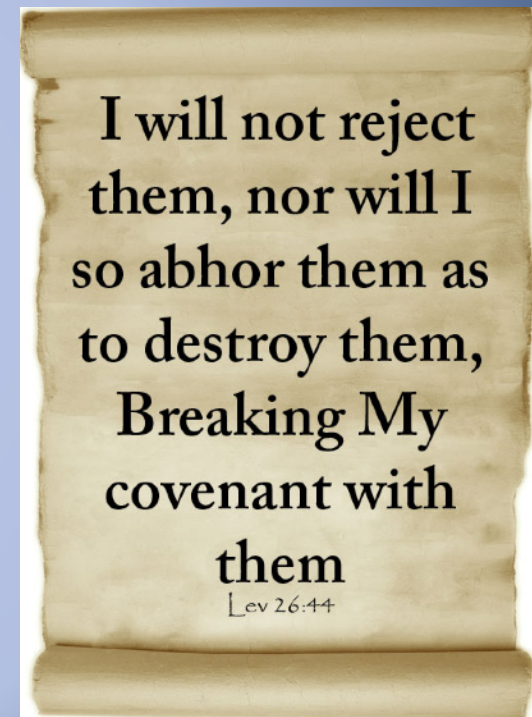
“The choice humankind faces in every age is between the idea of power and the power of ideas. Judaism has always believed in the power of ideas, and it remains the only non-violent way to change the world.”

# God's Eternal Covenant with Israel




## Jeremiah 33:23-26

<sup>23</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: <sup>24</sup>"Have you not noticed that these people are saying, 'The LORD has rejected the two kingdoms he chose'? So they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation. <sup>25</sup>This is what the LORD says: 'If I have not established my covenant with day and night and the fixed laws of heaven and earth, <sup>26</sup>then I will reject the descendants of Jacob and David my servant and will not choose one of his sons to rule over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For I will restore their fortunes and have compassion on them.'"



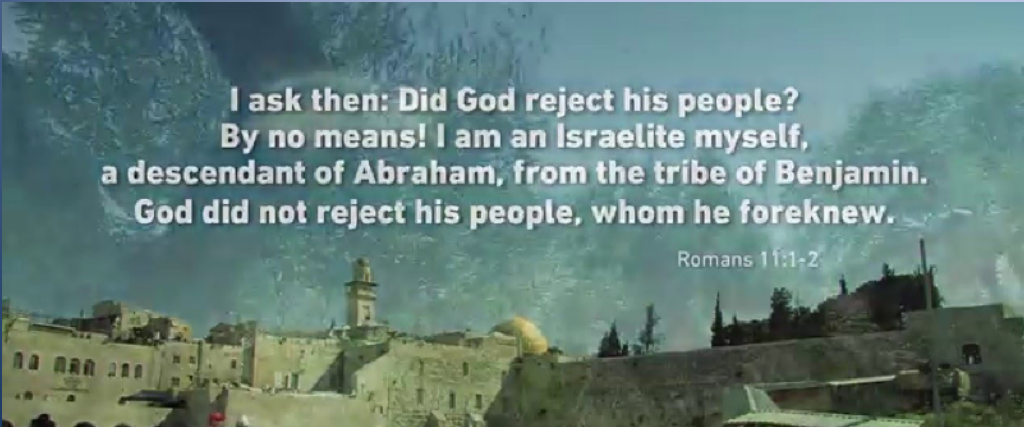
# The Renewed Covenant



For the gifts and the  
calling of God are  
irrevocable.  
Romans 11:29 NKJV

## Hebrews 6:13-18 (Message Bible)

When God made his promise to Abraham, he backed it to the hilt, putting his own reputation on the line. He said, “I promise that I’ll bless you with everything I have—bless and bless and bless!” Abraham stuck it out and got everything that had been promised to him. When people make promises, they guarantee them by appeal to some authority above them so that if there is any question that they’ll make good on the promise, the authority will back them up. When God wanted to guarantee his promises, He gave his Word, a rock-solid guarantee—God *can’t* break his word. And because his word cannot change, the promise is likewise unchangeable.



I ask then: Did God reject his people?  
By no means! I am an Israelite myself,  
a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin.  
God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.

Romans 11:1-2



“Behold the days are coming, says Adonai, when I will make a  
New Covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah...  
I will put my Torah within them, and I will write it on their hearts.”

Jeremiah 31:31-33



# ESAU AND THE EDMITES

“The wicked Esau came and is going to destroy the Temple and exile Israel from their land.”

“There were two twins who were left to him, these were Remus and Romulus; later they stood and built two great huts in Rome .”

*Esther*

R 586 BCE Babylonian Empire destroys Jerusalem and exiles people

70 CE Roman Empire destroys Jerusalem Temple

135 CE Jerusalem levelled; Jews banished from land

10 "Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered with shame, And you will be cut off forever.

11 "On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem – You too were as one of them.

The Edomites stood off, away from the action, and watched.

They stood on the sidelines and did nothing of aid Israel.

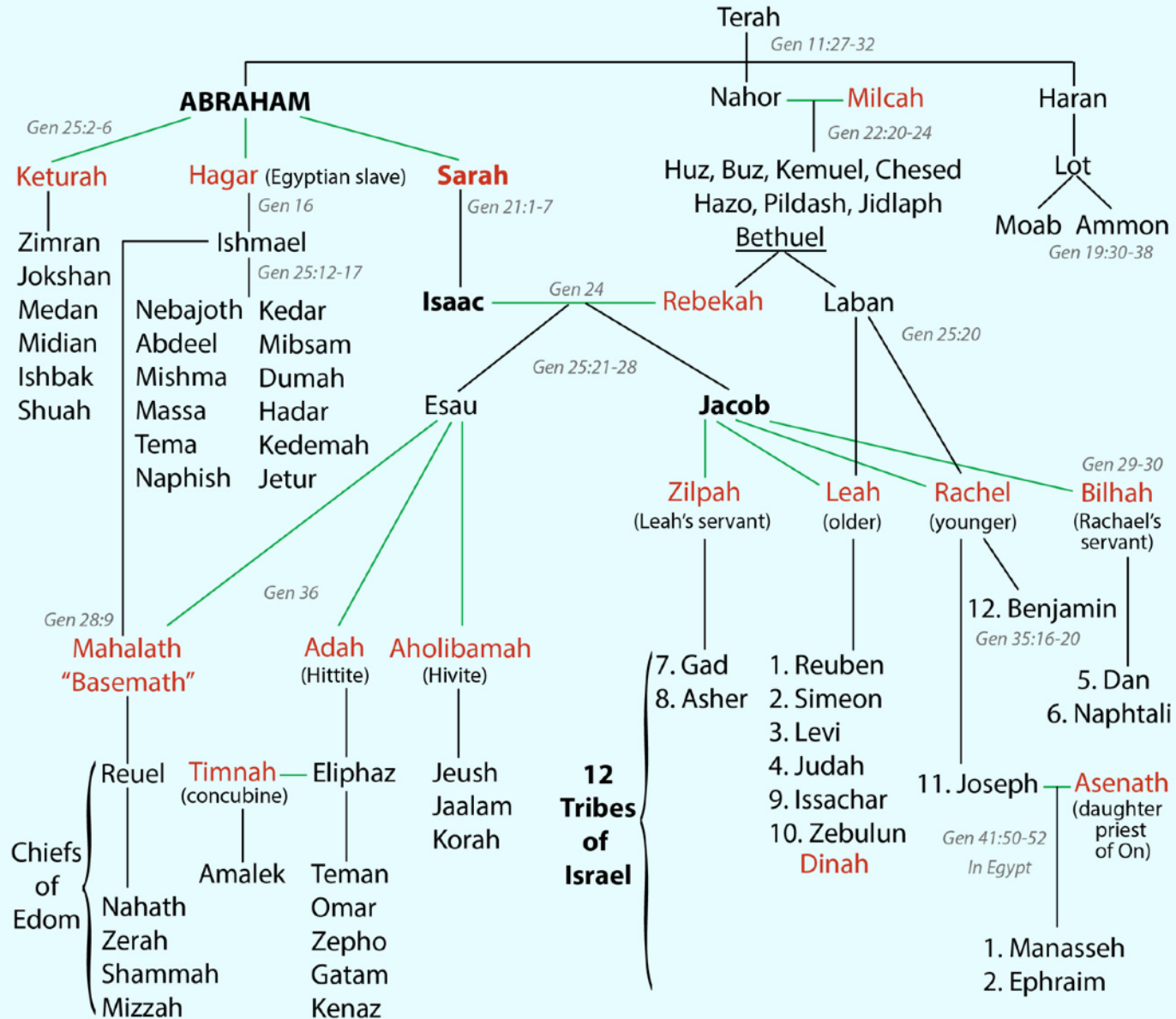
Through their passivity, doing nothing, God charges them with taking part in the crime.

Obadiah 10-11

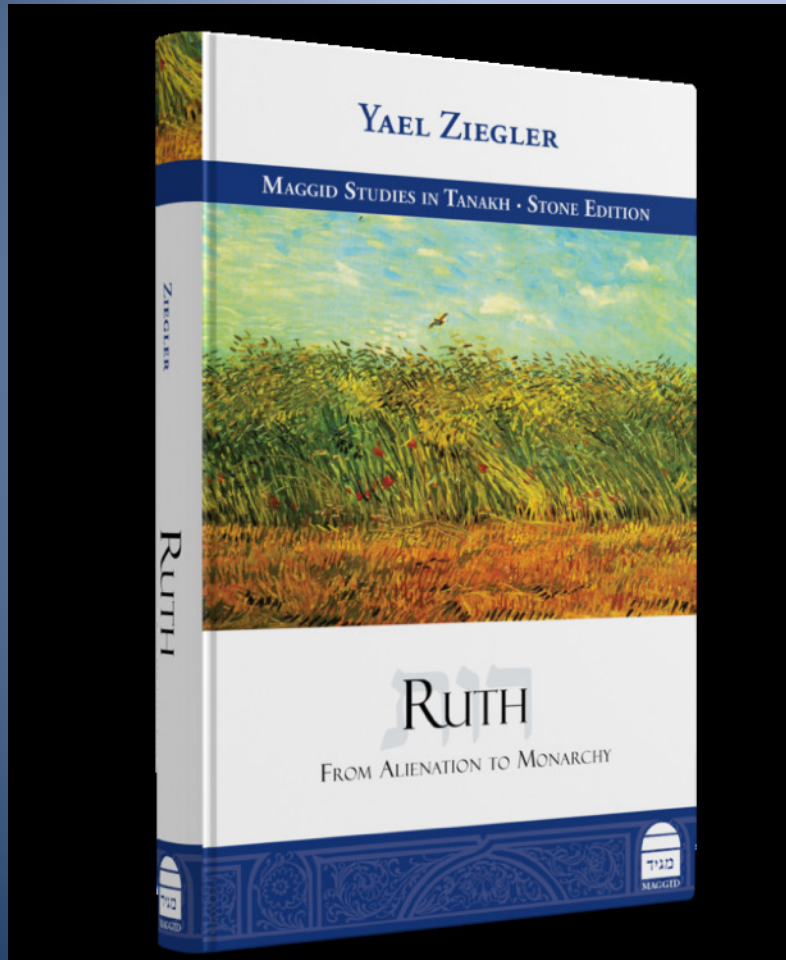
She Who Is In Babylon,  
Chosen Together With  
You, Sends You Her  
Greetings, And So Does  
My Son Mark.

1 Peter 5-13

# GENEALOGY OF ABRAHAM



“May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel.” (Ruth 4:11)



“The story of Ruth contains within it the potential to mend the rift between Rachel and Leah. The unified House of Israel will ultimately be constructed by the scion of the union of Boaz and Ruth.” Dr. Yael Ziegler

# Twelve Tribes of Israel



Ephraim's Jealousy Will  
Vanish, And Judah's Enemies  
Will Be Cut Off; Ephraim  
Will Not Be Jealous Of Judah,  
Nor Judah Hostile Toward  
Ephraim.

Isaiah 11-13

Take a stick and write on it, "For Judah, and the people of Israel associated with him." Then take another stick and write on it, "For Joseph (the stick of Ephraim) and all the house of Israel associated with him," and join them together into one stick, so that they may become one in your hand. And when your people say to you, "Will you not show us what you mean by these?" say to them, "Thus says the Lord God: 'I am about to take the stick of Joseph (that is in the hand of Ephraim) and the tribes of Israel associated with him. And I will join with it the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, that they may be one in my hand.'" (Ezek. 37:16-19)



# “The elder shall the younger serve”

## Esau and Jacob

- *And the Lord said to her: "Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger.*

Genesis 25:23

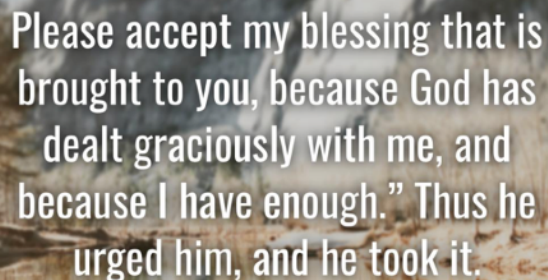
- **Esau: the firstborn**
- **Jacob:**
  - Purchases the Birthright from Esau
  - Esau was willing to sell for a cheap price
  - **Obtains Isaac's blessing through deceit**

Esau Asked, “What Do You Mean By All These Drovers I Met?” “To Find Favor In Your Eyes, My Lord,” He Said.

Genesis 33-8

Then Esau Looked Up And Saw The Women And Children. “Who Are These With You?” He Asked. Jacob Answered, “They Are The Children God Has Graciously Given Your Servant.”

Genesis 33-5



Please accept my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough.” Thus he urged him, and he took it.

Genesis 33:1

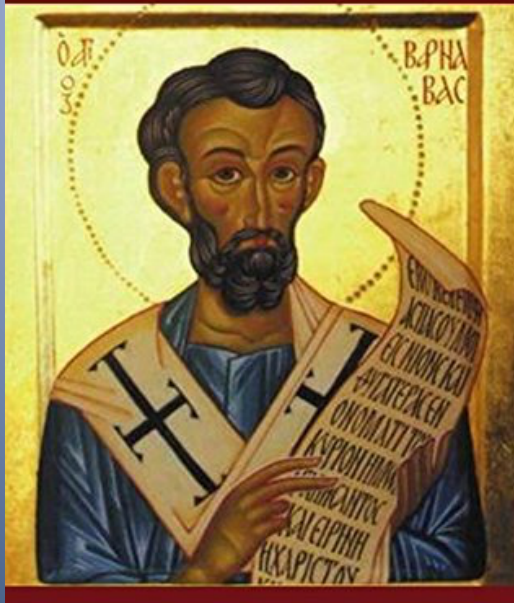
# WHO IS THE LOVED SON?

"I have loved you," says the LORD. "Yet you say, 'In what way have You loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother?' Says the LORD. "Yet Jacob I have loved; But Esau I have hated..."

Malachi 1:2-3

Dr. Malka Z. Simkovich, "Esau the Ancestor of Rome"  
TheTorah.com (2018). <https://thetorah.com/article/esau-the-ancestor-of-rome>

## EPISTLE OF BARNABAS



70-100 CE

## An Answer to the Jews

Tertullian



Published by the Library of Alexandria

Made in the United States of America

200 CE

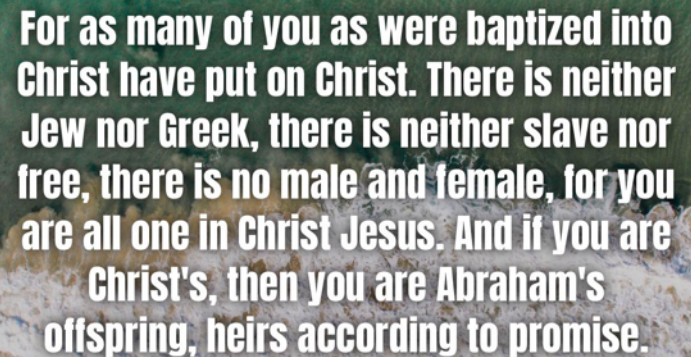
## Romans 4:16-17

16 Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be **by grace and may be guaranteed** to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. 17 As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.

**11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)— 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.**


**Ephesians 2:11-12**

## OUR FATHER ABRAHAM



**For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.**

Galatians 3:27-29



**"You are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household."**

- Ephesians 2:19 -



# “YOU ARE MY SERVANT”

**You shall not abhor an Edomite; for he is your brother.**

*Deuteronomy 23:7*

The Eunuch Asked Philip,  
“Tell Me, Please, Who Is  
The Prophet Talking About,  
Himself Or Someone Else?”

*Acts 8-34*

**But you, Israel, My servant,  
Jacob whom I have chosen,  
the seed of Abraham My  
friend, you who I have taken  
hold of from the ends of the  
earth, and called you from the  
uttermost parts thereof, and  
said unto you: You are My  
servant, I have chosen you  
and will not forsake you.**

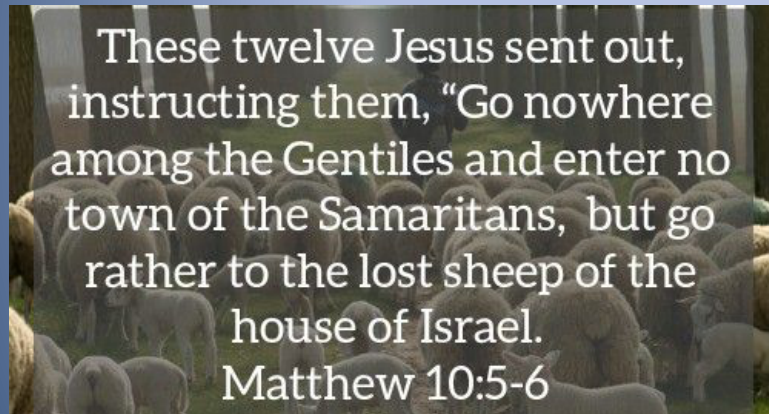
*Isaiah 41:8/9*

Indeed He says,  
‘It is too small a thing that  
You should be My Servant  
To raise up the tribes of Jacob,  
And to restore  
the preserved ones of Israel;  
I will also give You as a light  
to the Gentiles,  
That You should be My salvation  
to the ends of the earth.’ ”

*Isaiah 49:6 NKJV*

“The servant is Israel, but Israel  
may be all or a few or one of  
its members.”

Rabbi Heschel

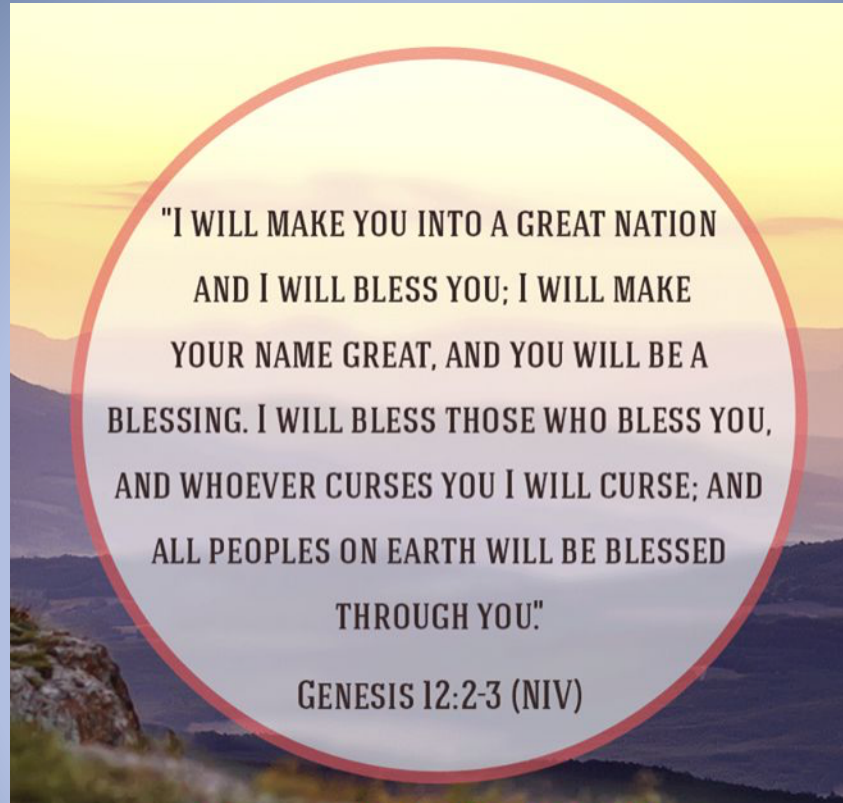


<sup>17</sup> If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, <sup>18</sup> do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. <sup>19</sup> You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in.” <sup>20</sup> Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. <sup>21</sup> For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.

<sup>22</sup> Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.

Romans 11:17-22

# *Does God Have Only One Blessing?*



Esau said to his father, "Do you have just one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, my father." Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.

-Genesis 27:38 WEB

His Sons Isaac And Ishmael  
Buried Him In The Cave Of  
Machpelah Near Mamre, In  
The Field Of Ephron Son Of  
Zohar The Hittite,

Genesis 25-9

## ISAAC AND ISHMAEL

Isaac had just come back from the vicinity of Beer-lahai-roi, for he was settled in the region of the Negeb.

Genesis 24:62



### HAGAR

Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are God Who Sees"; for she said, "Have I not even here [in the wilderness] remained alive after seeing Him [who sees me with understanding and compassion]?" Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi (Well of the Living One Who Sees Me); it is between Kadesh and Bered.  
**GENESIS 16:13-14**

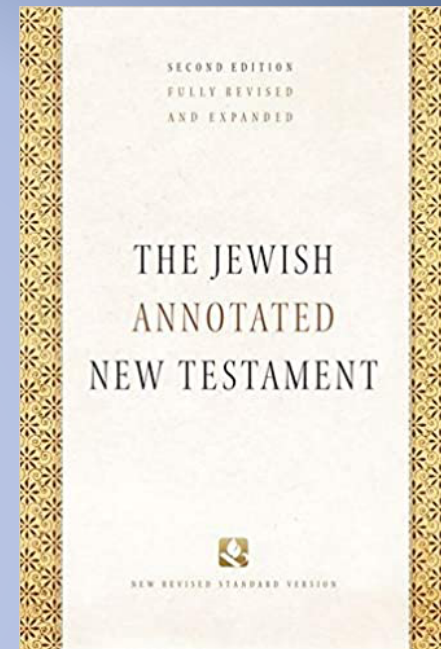
# Jewish-Christian Dialogue

“For the rest of the time we had an unusual, even transformative, encounter with the African Bishops, ending with a chassidic-style *tisch* [festive meal] during which we shared with the Bishops our songs and stories and they taught us theirs. At three in the morning we finished by dancing together. We knew we were different, we knew that there were deep divides between our respective faiths, but we had become friends. Perhaps that is all we should seek. Friends don’t have to agree in order to stay friends. And friendships can sometimes help to heal the world.”

Rabbi Sacks



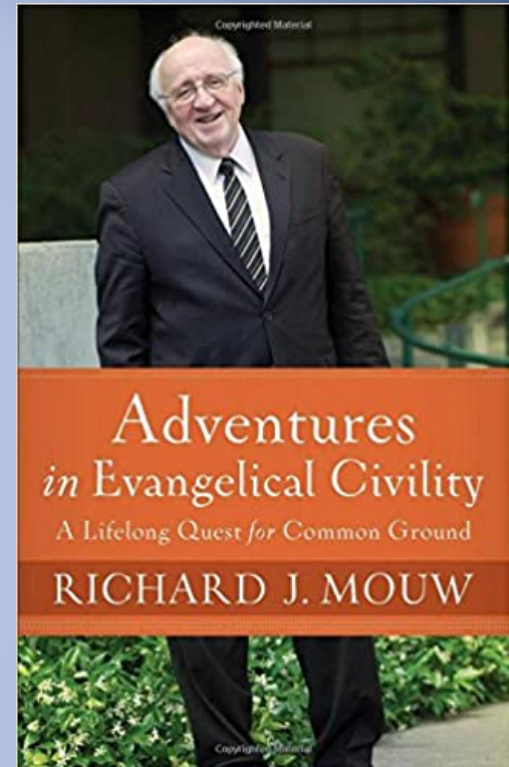
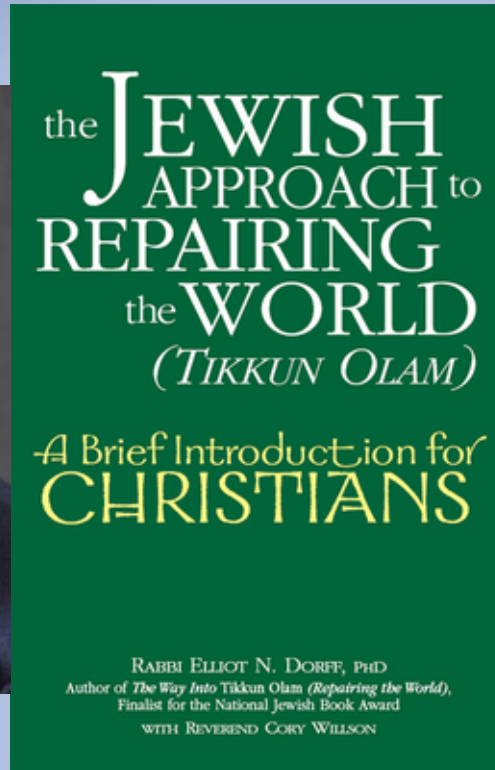
# Jewish-Christian Dialogue



“I had, fortunately, been inoculated against seeing only hate. My Christian friends had modeled for me the grace and friendship that are at the heart of the church; my parents told me that Jesus was a Jew speaking to other Jews, and that his basic message was exactly the same as that of Judaism: ‘to love the Lord your God’ and to ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’ So I knew that, although the New Testament could be read as anti-Jewish, it did not have to be read that way.”

Amy-Jill Levine

# Jewish-Christian Dialogue



“Richard manages to fix the world each and every day in many, many ways. He is a true model of what we Jews call a mensch, a human being of real character—indeed a model for us all.”