

## THE ORIGIN OF NATIONS (#4)

During the months of May and June we will be studying a special series entitled the “Antiquity of Nations”.

Lesson #1	Origin of Nations	Gen.10:32
Lesson #2	Table of Nations	Acts 17:26
Lesson #3	Babel Internationalism	Gen.11:1-9
<b>Lesson #4</b>	<b>Priest – Nation of Israel</b>	<b>Ex. 19:1-6</b>

We are currently in a study entitled, Antiquity of Nations. This is the fourth of a series of eight lessons on this subject. We are in a period of our national history when we need an intense study of God’s plan for the nations of the postdiluvian world and especially the United States of America.

It is disappointing that more local Christians aren’t interested in this study since we are up to our eyebrows in national problems. We will see what kind of interest there will be from our church web site on this subject [www.doctrinalstudies.com](http://www.doctrinalstudies.com). Sometimes I hear the prophetic voice of Amos saying to our nation - “For three transgressions of **America** and for four, I will not revoke its punishment.” (Amos 1:3-15)

As we progress in this series, we study the client nation status of America.

<b>Six points on the Priest-nation status of Israel.</b>
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**1. The origin of the priest-nation of Israel was prophesied in the Abrahamic covenant (Gen.12:1-3; 17:5).**

While the promise of the priest-nation of Israel was given in the 21<sup>st</sup> century BC to Abraham, it didn’t come to fulfillment until the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC with Moses and Exodus (Ex.19:1-6; Rom.4:16-25; Heb.10:23).

We are told by Stephen that the patriarch family of 75 went into Egypt and 430 years later the priest-nation of Israel of over 2 million left Egypt (Acts 7:15-19, 34-36; Gen.15:13, 16).

**2. Under the leadership of Moses, the Exodus generation became the priest-nation under theocracy rule.**

“And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.” (Ex.19:6)

Theocracy status is what classified Israel as a priest-nation among nations.

- “And the Lord has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possessions, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; and that He shall set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the Lord your God as He has spoken.” (Deut.26:18-19)

The priest-nation was ruled by a theocracy government from the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC until the monarchy government of 10<sup>th</sup> century BC.

- “Now it came about in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon’s reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv which is the second month that he began to build the house of the Lord.” (1 Kings 6:1) [961 BC]; (1 Sam.8:5, 19-22; 9:15-21) [King Saul] Therefore we are able to date the Exodus: (480 + 961 = 1441 BC).

**3. There are eight periods of messianic history of the priest-nation of Israel.**

- **Exodus from Egypt** The patriarch family to Jacob’s 12 sons to priest-nation status under Abrahamic covenant
- **Theocracy period** Moses, Joshua, Judges

- **United monarchy** King Saul, David, Solomon (messianic lineage/ 2 Sam.7:8-17; Matt.1:1-17; Luke 3:32-33; Acts 2:30; 13:23; Rom.1:1-3)
- **Divided monarchy** Northern (10 tribes/ King Jeroboam) and Southern kingdoms (2 tribes / Judah & Benjamin / King Rehoboam) (1 Kings 11-12)
- **Fall of the Northern kingdom** Assyria in 722 BC (2 Kings 17)
- **Fall of Southern kingdom** Babylon in 586 BC (2 Kings 23-25)
- **Fall of Southern kingdom** Rome in 70 AD and interruption of Jewish age by Church age
- **Tribulation / Rapture of Church** from world and final 7 years of Jewish age and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

**4. During the theocracy period, God established the five cycles of divine discipline upon the priest-nation of Israel (Lev.26 and Deut.28)**

**NOTE:** It is important to understand that each ‘cycle’ was seven times (x7) worse than the previous cycle meaning that the 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle was 1,029 times worse than the 1<sup>st</sup>!

- Cycle 1 (Lev.26:14-17) health
- Cycle 2 (26:18-20) economics
- Cycle 3 (26:21-22) plagues
- Cycle 4 (26:23-26) sword, pestilence, economic collapse
- Cycle 5 (26:27-33) cannibalism, destroy cities, national desolation, scattered among Gentile nations

Gentile nations would serve as God’s instrument of divine judgment as well as the preserver of the priest-nation of Israel (Jer.5:15-17; 7:26-30; Ps.68:6).

**5. During the monarchy of King David, God established another policy of divine discipline of the priest-nation of Israel known as the curse of Coniah (Jehoiachin) (Jer.22:24-30).**

“Jehoiachin therefore was Judah’s last surviving Davidic king – until Christ.” (NIV, Jer.22:30)

The curse of Coniah was attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of divine discipline in 586 BC by Babylon (Jer.22).

The 5<sup>th</sup> cycle to Babylon and the curse of Coniah put the priest-nation of Israel until the divine discipline until the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

**6. During the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, the remnant of the Jewish people especially the pivot of believer’s was looking for the Coming of Christ.**

- Zachariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:1-25)
- Mary and Joseph (Luke 1:26-45)
- Temple shepherd (Luke 2:1-20)
- Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:21-40)
- Magi (Matt.2)
- John Baptist (John 1:19-34)
- Disciples (John 1:40-51)
- Positive volition among the remnant.
  - (John 2:23-25) Jerusalem
  - (John 3:22-36) Judea
  - (John 4:5-42) Samaria

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)