

For Women...?

For the Joy set before us all!

[Heb 12:1-3](#)



Daniel 3:17-27 Artwork by: Ted Larson

Protection from the [tribulation](#); for every person taking a stand in Christ.

[Luke 10:17-22](#)

The title of this booklet, “For Women,” was chosen at least in part to get it noticed. Truth is, I believe everyone alive should know the “four women” I am about to introduce. What I actually desire, though, is to have you recognize their introduction by God: [Mat 1:1-6](#)

Bible “According to Matthew”

- 1 The book of the history of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham:
- 2 Abraham became father to Isaac;
Isaac became father to Jacob;
Jacob became father to Judah and his brothers;
- 3 Judah became father to Pe'rez and to Ze'rah by **Ta'mar**;
Pe'rez became father to Hez'ron;
Hez'ron became father to Ram;
- 4 Ram became father to Am·min'a·dab;
Am·min'a·dab became father to Nah'shon;
Nah'shon became father to Sal'mon;
- 5 Sal'mon became father to Bo'az by **Ra'hab**;
Bo'az became father to O'bed by **Ruth**;
O'bed became father to Jes'se;
- 6 Jes'se became father to David the king.
David became father to Sol'o·mon by **the wife of U·ri'ah**...
...And on this list goes to the birth of Christ.

In these first six verses of Matthew, the writer (*inspired by God – [2 Tim 3:16-17](#)*) mentions the four women under consideration individually and by name. That introduction is important because we can know God chose specifically to make them known (here in Matthew's account of the history of Jesus Christ)... Our knowing their names was not a necessity to convey the lineage of Jesus. Or was it? It surely was not customary among the Jewish religious leaders to highlight women as Matthew did here, even outstanding ones. Most modern religions view women less sympathetically than did even the ancient Jews. Women are often relegated to second class citizenship, even among modern self-

asserted “enlightened” religions, including the sects of Christendom. This “For Women” booklet, then, should interest every person alive. Why do I attach such importance? Because knowing these women just brings joy to those who love our Creator! They were made familiar to me several years ago as I studied this introduction of Matthew. My interest pricked, I read about and got to know them simply because using *the names of the wives* of the men who form a trace of the lineage of the Messiah was unorthodox. So, the names of Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and the wife of Uriah (Bathsheba) just popped out...

Before reading the brief Bible accounts of these women, however, to gain the happiness and comfort possible in knowing them, you first need some little Bible background. You can't truly and personally know them without knowing a little about their history. If you already know their story, this will be a small refresh. About [6000 years ago](#) (*in about 4026 BCE, [and/or about 6045 years ago as of 2021]*) God created our first parents and placed them in the Garden of Eden; thus affording them the gift of everlasting life in paradise. God's enemy deceived Eve and led humanity's first parents to sin (*to reject and rebel against God's direction*). ([Gen 3:1-15](#)) That all happened long before any of us were even born. We, as descendants of sinful Adam and Eve, were thus born imperfect and under their judgment of death [*having lost the hope* ([Eph 2:11-22](#)) *of the eternal life they were awakened to*]. While our first parents were still in the Garden, however, God introduced the simple theme of the Bible, a theme you should be thrilled to learn: In [Gen 3:15](#), God promised He would raise up a seed of the woman who would crush Satan's head. That seed of the woman, born to destroy Satan, ([1 John 3:8](#); [John 16:33](#); [Col 2:15 of 13-15](#); [Heb 2:14](#)) is later identified as the Messiah (*Hebrew*) or Christ (*Greek - both words meaning anointed one*), or, as the “Son of Man.” ([Mat 8:20](#); [Mat 9:5-6](#)) What that promised Messiah (*also known as the “seed of the woman” from [Genesis 3:15](#)*) did and said thus forms (*or becomes*) the theme of the Bible. ([Mat 17:5](#))

We should then realize, the teachings of the Bible outside the Gospel sayings of Jesus (*recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John*), are mostly (*as Matthew here says*) the account of the men and women God used to produce mankind's promised Messiah. The Bible itself says its teachings

(*outside the words of Christ*) serve as a tutor to lead us to faith in God's son. ([Gal 3:23-29](#))

How does Bible knowledge lead us to Christ (*and/or, explain our need for him*)? The Bible teaches in their first 1500 years out of the Garden, humans chose to become so vile God was forced to destroy them in the flood ([about 2370 BCE](#)). ([Gen 6:5-22](#)) After Noah was used to preserve his human Creation alive, God chose to establish a temporary or representative kingdom on earth, to protect mankind from so quickly returning to wickedness (*like pre-flood humanity and like today*). Then, Abraham was born in 2181 BCE (*or about 350 years after the flood*) and chosen by God as He restated or renewed his promise made to Eve about the coming Messiah: God thus announced to Abraham around 1943 BCE ([almost 4000 years ago](#)), that by means of Abraham's seed, all nations of the earth would bless themselves. ([Gen 22:15-18](#)) So, starting with those words, humankind could understand the seed of the woman promised in [Gen 3:15](#) would also come through the line of Abraham. In harmony with that promise to Abraham, God started using the Jewish nation (*born of Abraham's great grandson Judah – hence Jews*) as "God's Nation" to produce the promised Messiah. The Jewish nation would also have God's laws and would make [his name](#) known, so as to help keep mankind from so quickly returning to wickedness (*as they did prior to Noah*). Then, [about 2000 years after Abraham, Jesus was born from among the Jews](#). Jesus's birth as Messiah also reset our world calendar to year one, thus introducing our backwards counting using BCE dates for everything prior to Christ. (*BCE is Before our Common [or Christian] Era*). The birth of Christ started our Common Era (*CE dates*), so, we count upward (*or forward*) since Jesus's birth. So then, counting down from 2181 BCE (*Abraham's birth*) to year 1 (*Jesus's birth*), and then forward (*or upward*) to 2021 CE, is about 4038 years.

That little Jewish history is important because it can help you ~~understand~~ *to really know* the four women we are about consider: Their Jewish life (*two of them were not actually Jews, but chose to join themselves to the God of the Hebrews*) was centered around the Bible prophecies about the coming Messiah. All the Jews (*and Jewish proselytes – meaning those who chose to join themselves to the God of the Jews*) knew about the

promised Messiah from the Old Testament portion of the Bible (*from the Bible such as it existed in their day*). They knew about God's promise to Eve of a Deliverer, and how it was refined and/or reaffirmed to Abraham. In other words, they knew God's Deliverer was being born from among (or into) "their" Jewish nation. That made lineage very important to them. That knowledge will help you love these four women mentioned in [Mat 1:1-6](#). If you love God, you will find joy in just knowing these women; and, you will easily understand why God had their names recorded.

The first woman mentioned is Tamar (*about 1700-1750 Before Christ*). Tamar was married to Judah's firstborn son Er. Er, however, proved to be bad and God put him to death. In accord with Jewish law, Tamar was then given to Judah's second son Onan. Onan disrespected God's arrangement of brother-in-law marriage and refused to give Tamar a child. For that reason, God put him to death as well. (*Remember, God was personally selecting people to produce [to be the fathers and mothers of] the coming Messiah. He likely needed to be very selective of the humanity that went into producing the Christ. – These events surrounding Tamar make me believe God must have thought her an outstanding woman.*) After the death of Onan, Judah promised Tamar another of his sons, but was secretly afraid to give her to him; for fear he also might die. (*Please note, God specifically says in his word it was because of their own badness the first two sons of Judah were put to death. [Gen 38:7-10] Tamar did not cause it.*) The hope of being an ancestress of the promised Messiah was important to Tamar. So... When she saw her father-in-law Judah had lied to her, and was not giving her another husband, Tamar devised a plan. She disguised herself and pretended to be a prostitute. Then, she enticed Judah to have relations with her. From that encounter she conceived twin sons. Tamar very wisely acquired some personal items from Judah during their meeting; and kept them. When it became obvious she was with child, and it was reported to Judah as the patriarch of his household, he was going to put Tamar to death. (*Tamar's plan was not for the faint of heart.*) Tamar then sent to Judah the items she had received from him at their meeting, along with the message she was with child by the man owning them. Judah could only respond that she was more righteous than he. Tamar's sons, Zerah and Perez, are thus able to be mentioned here by Matthew; Perez mentioned as one in the lineage

of Christ, along with his mother Tamar. What an outstanding woman!
([Gen 38:6-26](#))

The second woman mentioned is Rahab. Rahab was a harlot living in the Canaanite city of Jericho in 1473 Before Christ; the year her city was being spied out by two Jewish servants of [the true God](#). God was in the process of destroying the pagan worshiping nations in the whole area where his Jewish nation would reside. *(Soon after He delivered them from Egypt. That Jewish subjugation of the then known world no doubt worked to temporarily keep false worship from so quickly causing mankind to become so wicked they would once again have to be destroyed [some say, like it is today]. God was thus protecting the nation He was using to produce his Messiah; and really, all the rest of humanity as well.)* Rahab made the choice to hide the Jewish spies from her own countrymen. She further protected them by allowing them to leave through her window *(in the wall of the city)* and giving them information to avoid being captured when they departed. Why would she protect them at the risk of her very life? Very simple; because Rahab was wise! She had heard about the Jewish nation, and more importantly, about [their God](#) and how He was protecting them wherever they went. She and her whole nation knew what God did to the Egyptians. She knew her depraved nation would fall before the Jews as well. So... She sought an agreement with the Jewish spies to protect her alive; along with all her father's household. ([Jos 2:8-14](#)) They agreed and told her to hang the scarlet cord they gave her from her window, and to have her whole family inside her house. Doing so would preserve them alive. It is most interesting to me that when those men promised Rahab, they likely had no idea God was going to have the walls of Jericho fall down. God arranged it, however, so what the men told Rahab came true! When Jericho's walls fell, only Rahab's section, with the scarlet cord hanging from her window, remained. *(Some [including me] believe the scarlet cord hanging from Rehab's window represents the Good News about Jesus Christ [which is the Bible's theme] running right through the Bible from [Genesis 3:15](#) to [Revelation 22:16-21](#).)* After the city was destroyed, the same two spies she had protected went up and brought Rahab out to safety; along with all her family. Rahab later married a Jew named Salmon and fathered

Boaz; both men named in the lineage of Jesus Christ; along with, of course, Rahab... ([Joshua 2:1-6:25](#))

Third mentioned is a Moabite woman named Ruth (*around 1200-1250 BCE – Before Christ*). Ruth has her own named [Bible Book](#). Ruth was daughter-in-law to a Jewish woman named Naomi: During hard times in Israel, Naomi and her husband and two sons moved from Bethlehem in Judah to Moab. In time, Naomi's husband died and her two sons married Moabite women. Then, her sons died as well. That left Naomi alone with her two Moabite daughters-in-law, Ruth and Orpah. Hearing God had turned his attention to his people to give them bread, Naomi decided to return to her homeland. Her daughters-in-law chose to accompany her. Naomi told them she was too old to have children so they could wait on them to have husbands, so they should return to their own families to find a place of rest (*a husband and family of their own*). Orpah consented and returned home. Not Ruth, however! Ruth absolutely refused to leave Naomi. Ruth's words to Naomi bring joyful tears to most who read them. Ruth said: "Do not plead with me to abandon you, to turn back from accompanying you; for where you go I shall go, and where you spend the night I shall spend the night. Your people will be my people, **and your God my God.**

¹⁷ Where you die I shall die, and there is where I shall be buried. May יהוה do so to me and add to it if anything but death should make a separation between me and you." (I have here used יהוה to represent God because that is what Ruth would have called him. יהוה is the Hebrew name of God and יהוה is recorded as [God's personal name](#) over 6000 times in the Old Testament Hebrew text. There is no inspired translation of God's Personal Name into any other language. ([Isa 42:8](#)) When spoken by Hebrews, God's name sounds like [Yea•Vah](#). That is Yea as in "yea go team," followed by Vah, like the first two letters of "vault.") You should know and use, and also make known, God's Divine Name! ([Pr 30:4](#); [1 Cor 15:34](#))

Did you note the most important thing Ruth said to Naomi was Naomi's God would be her God. Having married into a Jewish family, the Moabite Ruth had learned about יהוה and decided He was her God as well. Loving the true God precluded any possibility of Ruth abandoning her aged mother-in-law. It is doubtful Ruth had any hope of becoming an

ancestress of Christ, but she wanted to serve the true God; and, she might have learned about the “right of repurchase.” Ruth found herself blessed by that Jewish arrangement (one of God’s arrangements of Law) to not only find a husband among God’s nation, but to become an ancestress of Jesus Christ; and then, to be mentioned personally by Matthew. (See the Bible Book of [Ruth](#).)

The last of the women named in Matthew’s genealogy is the “wife of Uriah.” That’s Bathsheba (*she meeting David around 1070 something Before Christ*) and it’s interesting to me that Matthew referred to her as the wife of Uriah. She was also King David’s wife, and, as Matthew follows up, the mother of Solomon (*in the lineage of Christ*). Perhaps Matthew did that because Bathsheba was involved in a sordid story. ([2 Sam 11:2-12:25](#)) She was a beautiful woman and married to Uriah, but King David sent for her and had relations with her. Maybe Matthew called her Uriah’s wife simply because David had many wives. David’s adultery with Bathsheba and his dealing with her husband was probably the greatest mistake of the righteous King’s life. I’m unsure, however, how much it could be attributed to Bathsheba. David was king of her nation, anointed to that position by her God. How could Bathsheba have refused David’s advances? In any case, their adultery produced a child that died. Bathsheba was married to David until his death in old age. She bore Solomon to him. David had other sons by Bathsheba and by his other wives as well. Some tried to call David’s successor into question in his old age... To be certain David’s wishes were honored (*and therefore God’s*), Bathsheba took steps that put her life in danger so as to be certain her son Solomon would become king. ([1 Kings 1:9-53](#)) Her actions brought blessings to the nation as Solomon proved to be a wise king. Her actions also preserved herself and her son Solomon alive. While David’s 40 year kingship was one of war and bloodshed, while he subjugated God’s pagan enemies all around; Solomon’s 40 years could then be a time of peace and prosperity for all. ([1 Ki 2:10-12](#); [2 Sam 8:1-14](#); [1 Ki 11:42](#); [1 Ki 4:20-21](#)) David and Solomon are here mentioned by Matthew in the line of Christ, along with Bathsheba; even if not exactly by name.

Reading the Bible account of these four women brings me more joy than I can possibly explain or convey. I’m not sure why. They just do... All four

are so outstanding as to be nearly incomprehensible. We can know they were (are) true lovers of God. We can also know they will soon be alive again. ([Acts 24:15](#); [Mat 22:29-33](#); [John 11:23-24 of 17-27](#)) We who follow Christ can come to know them personally. What a joy! What a hope!

The healing benefits of a healthy mind: Some of my religious enemies would say I am the last person to talk about having a healthy mind. (Eh, what do they know?) One problem I freely own is my having trouble keeping my thoughts focused. My mind tends to just flit and flutter about like a butterfly, landing on first one thought and then another. Sometimes it is hard to control. When reading the Bible, for example, my mind tends to wander and interrupt my concentration. Same with watching a movie; or anything else I might choose to do. One dark side of that process is my mind tends to alight on the bad from my past. I served in a war, had a marriage fail, and brought lots of other harm in the wake of my life. My mind especially tends to drift to and dwell on anything bad that is currently happening in my life. And we all have plenty of that, right? It seems my mind (my conscience I suppose) has a tendency to think on the harm I have caused. Dealing with that problem is, I believe, one great benefit of the words of Christ. Last night I couldn't sleep because of some of those disquieting thoughts. ([Psalm 94:19 of 17-19](#)) So, I got up and worked for an hour or so on a Bible Study Booklet similar to this one (***The Your War*** – "[JustBibleTruth.com/TheWar.pdf](#)"). My purpose was to focus my mind on the sayings of Christ Jesus. What I was thrilled to find was, as I considered those scriptures, I became totally focused (fully involved) and my mind didn't wander. When I ended my study and went back to bed, I slept through the night with no (or at least few) disquieting thoughts. Healthy mind, as they say, healthy body. God has promised a physical healing for those who love him. ([Job 33:13-30](#)) It is my personal belief what I herein describe is part of that process. As Christ's words become so intimately familiar to us, they become ~~a part of~~ *who we are*, our mental butterfly then tends to land on those comforting words of Christ. Our physical healing will then follow along with our mental well-being... That's my faith, what is yours? ([Mat 8:13 of 5-13](#))

One benefit of my knowing these women is the encouragement that God wants ~~us~~ *me* to get past or stop wondering secretly (*when my faith*

wavers) if he even really exists; as when I lie in private praying for him to prove his existence: “Just talk to me openly,” I sometimes pray, “and tell me what you want!” These women make me ashamed when I realize what I’m doing. I must always remember: God actually *has* talked to me, openly and personally, doing so through the words of Jesus Christ (*God speaks to you in that same way*)! ([Mat 17:5](#); [John 18:37](#); [John 3:19 of 16-21](#)) His speech to me is personal because it rests with me to actually read for myself (and become intimate with) what Jesus said! Do we believe? Do I *truly believe*? If so, rather than vacillating, shouldn’t we be like these 4 women mentioned by Matthew in his first 6 verses? They didn’t waver or fail to act. Their lives were very different from each other (*and from ours*), in part because God was active in accomplishing different things based on when we each one lived. What these women all shared, however, was this: Each one paid attention to first see what God was doing, and then, they each one took a stand to have a part in יהוה’s activity. None of them listened to some churchy religious leader telling them what to think and do. They had been paying attention and trying to do the right thing all their lives. ([Ps 58:3 & 10 of 1-11](#)) When it came time, then, what they each one did really amounted to a display of “who” they were (*and are*)! Without hesitation, they each took action that put their lives in danger; and then later, their good choice actually preserved them alive. Can and do you see what God is doing in our day? ([JustBibleTruth.com/YouAreMarked.pdf](#)) You *can*! You can know what God is doing, and, knowing him is an easy thing: God has given only one command in these latter days (*since the birth of Christ*). He spoke from heaven to tell us to listen to his son. ([Mat 17:5](#)) Jesus then carefully warned us we couldn’t – that is we “*could not*” – listen to other men or women who embolden themselves to assert we need “them” to teach us what is right. ([Mat 7:15](#); [Mat 23:1-15](#)) What you *can do* today, then, is follow God’s command to listen to Christ (*and to him alone*), by reading [Matthew](#), [Mark](#), [Luke](#), and [John](#). When you listen to Jesus, as he still speaks to each one of us out of those four Gospel Books (*each writer being inspired to provide one of four parallel accounts of what Jesus did and said*), you make yourself part of Christ’s family; ([Mark 3:31-35](#)) and, you take in God’s spirit. ([John 6:63](#)) As you compare what Jesus said with what you see happening in the world, you can know what you should do. You also learn such wonderful things as are conveyed herein, about

Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Bathsheba. Hearing the simple truth congealed in the words of Christ is what (*and is all*) every single one of us needs. One reward in learning truth is then being able to direct others to Christ in the Gospels. ([Rev 22:17 of 16-21](#)) With God's help, then, by sharing the truth gleaned through listening to Christ, we can have our part as **יהיה** is helping every single kind hearted person! ([Luke 2:14 of 8-14](#)) We can also hope to be protected through the [tribulation](#) (*ending at or by Armageddon*) as God destroys all wicked people. ([Psa 58](#))

We are now in the midst of a [judgment period](#). ([Eph 1:5-10](#)) As was the case with Noah and Lot and even Rahab, however, it is questionable how much you can “help” the people living around you! Most seem to have [set their heart](#) in support of their chosen religion or sect or race or belief. Your best hope of helping is by warning everyone about the many [wicked individuals and groups](#) who are deceiving them, while each group pretends to be kind and loving. As an example: An elderly woman recently received a letter from a group who embolden themselves to assert they are supporters of Christ. (*Saint Matthews, maybe, all those self-named groups are the same really. – [Acts 11:26](#)*) On the envelope, they wrote she should not open their letter until after sundown; implying some ~~blessing~~ *reward* from God if she obeyed. Then, inside was a request for her to write down and return to them her credit card number, expiration date, and security code, along with a “seed.” (*I didn't waste enough time on their trash ([Php 3:8 of 2-9](#)) to see what that “seed” was or meant.*) Also included in that first letter was a second sealed envelope with a pretty ribbon and seal on the outside; and another note instructing she wait until the yet following day to open that second “blue ribbon” letter. Inside was a generic form letter (*made to look hand written*) promising their prayers in her behalf and God's blessings on her for having followed their directions the day before; and, of course, heaping praise and blessings on her based on the money they knew was coming their way... Gag me with a fork! Please know God is in the process of ~~doing away with~~ *destroying* all false religion. Those who are stealing from vulnerable people by writing such letters should be cringing in the corner! This is the day for dispensing their just reward. ([Heb 2:1-4](#); [Luke 21:22](#); [1 Cor 4:1-5](#)) In our day, then, the best way you can protect or help anyone is by telling them about their need to really “hear” Christ;

including his warnings about false religion and fake Christians. ([Mat 23:1-15](#); [Mat 24:23-28](#); [1 Cor 3:1-11](#)) That knowledge (gained only from Christ) can help them understand both why this [tribulation](#) is happening, and, why they must be very careful they are listening only to Christ. ([JustBibleTruth.com/OpenLetterShortVersion.pdf](#))

Sometimes, though, I just need to encourage myself and enjoy life a bit; for rest and for healing (*spiritual healing I am certain, and physical healing I hope* – [Job 33:18 & 24-25 & 28-29](#)). Last night again, I was unable to sleep and seeking some of that restful relief. So, I started reading Matthew which led me to reflect on the four women considered herein. Reading the account of each from the Bible refreshed my soul and renewed my purpose, and then, led me to write this booklet. Sometimes, I think feelings like these are just too personal to share. It sometimes feels I should just keep them between God and myself, and not tell anyone about them; that I should just enjoy them as a gift and for the relief they bring. But... I really can't do that! Christianity is about love for [יהוה](#) and for other people. ([Mark 12:28-31](#); [Mat 22:35-40](#)) It would seem unloving not to try and share the joy I receive from reading these accounts. The Bible is my happiness of life! This wicked world dictates it can be no other way. Truth should be most important in your life as well. ([JustBibleTruth.com/WhatIsOurFuture.pdf](#))

That completes, then, my purpose in writing. The intent was a brief “feel-good” booklet for enjoyment and encouragement. I do feel compelled, however, to mention one other thing... Women are often looked down on in this world. Many men work hard to make women believe they are subservient or even lower class. These scriptures help expose such lies and hypocrisy. Some religions are just blatantly hateful toward women, as they try to keep them hidden and from having any rights at all. Others are sneakier as they try to tell women how wonderful they are, all the while those men make decisions for the women those women can have no say in; and sometimes, don't even know about. Many religious sects keep secret writings for men only, and occasionally even, only for “special” men their sect is taught are specifically elevated and blessed by God to have those secrets. What...? ([Mat 23:1-15](#); [1 Cor 3:1-11](#)) These scriptures should help everyone see through such hateful deceit. Those

who won't stop trying to "keep their women (*and lower caste men*) in line" (*those who won't stop trying to beat others into submission*) will always use the scriptures about women being in submission to their husbands. ([1 Cor 11:3](#); [Eph 5:23](#)) That admonition is only for the sake of family arrangements, where the husband needs to take a loving leadership role for family unity and peace. It "might" also apply to true Christian Bible study meetings, but never to self-proclaimed lords ([Mat 23:1-12](#)) among men. (JustBibleTruth.com/JoinBibleStudy.html) A woman is never in submission to the point of harming her faith (*her spirituality*) or her person. She simply needs to know when she resists, she does take responsibility before God; as do we all! In that event, however, she can remember the words of the Apostle Paul when writing to the Christians in [Galatia, in chapter 3 verse 26-29](#): YOU are all, in fact, sons of God through YOUR faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For all of YOU who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. [*Being baptized into Christ is being drawn to Christ by God's spirit. Being baptized, then, is demonstrated in or by the act of expressing faith in Christ. – John 6:44-47 – Water immersion is just an outward sign by those who wish to do it. – 1 Pet 3:21-22*] ²⁸ **There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor freeman, there is neither male nor female;** for YOU are all one in union with Christ Jesus. ²⁹ Moreover, if YOU belong to Christ, YOU are really Abraham's seed, heirs with reference to a promise. ([Eph 2:11-22](#))

May you have peace! ([Luke 10:5-6](#)) Above all else, however, like these four women (*and many others mentioned in the Bible*), may you be joined to the cloud of persons who have true faith in God's provision of life through Jesus Christ. ([Heb 11:1-40](#))

Addendum: It seems prudent to make clear this is not written in support of Jews, or their Jewish form of worship; or to encourage anyone to think modern Jews might be a spiritual help in any way. Still, it is hard to know Christ Jesus intimately without realizing he was born a Jew from among the Israelite nation. ([Mat 1:1-16](#)) Jesus preached to the Jews first, affording them first opportunity for salvation through faith in him. ([Mat 10:5-6](#); [Acts 13:46](#); [Eph 2:11-22](#)) When the Jewish nation rejected (*and would later kill*) their promised Messiah, ([Isa 9:6-7](#)) however, Jesus told them their house was abandoned to them. ([Mat 23:37-39](#)) Since Jesus uttered those words, being a blood Jew has no merit in approach to

God. (See [Gal 3:28](#) above.) All who would come to God, since Jesus made that statement in [Mat 23:38](#), must do so believing Christ is the son of God. Your faith in the hope of eternal life (or a resurrection) through Jesus is your baptism by spirit: Because it requires your first having been drawn to Christ by God's spirit. ([1 Pet 3:21](#); [John 6:44](#)) The modern "Israel of God," then, are the followers of Jesus Christ. ([Gal 6:12-16](#))

[Please read also: The Bible Book of [Esther](#). Esther is another outstanding woman of Bible fame. Most Old Testament accounts are about (or center around) the people God used in producing the Messiah; as they help us understand our need for him, and then, to have faith in him. ([Gal 3:23-25](#)) The account of Esther and her uncle Mordecai is different. There is no sign either was connected with the lineage of Christ. Still, they convey important knowledge. If you were raised among a group or nation or race of people, who are set on surviving or gaining wealth by taking from others, you should learn from the Book of Esther what danger you place yourself in (by just being among them). A bad man named Haman was central to the Book of Esther; and he was an Amalekite. Haman wanted to plunder the wealth of the Jews and to kill them. The Amalekites were the first nation to attack the Hebrew's after their Jewish nation came up out of Egypt. The Amalekites continued to show a persistent hatred for Israel, such that God told King Saul to exterminate them all. As one of his failures, Saul let some of them escape. That did not change God's judgment they be destroyed. As a nationality or a race of people, then, Haman demonstrated in the Book of Esther how the Amalekites continued in their apparently blood line hatred of God's people (just as the wicked always hate the righteous today – [Mat 10:32-40](#); [Psa 37:12-15](#); [Psa 58](#)). Haman also demonstrated God was right in his judgment the Amalekite nation should be exterminated. The Book of Esther, then, rather than considering the lineage of the Christ, teaches us how God can protect the righteous, while at the same time destroying the wicked. Sometimes, it would seem, destroying even whole races marked (by him – but never by any human) as wicked. ([1 Sam 15](#); [Psa 58](#)) God may exterminate the wicked in our day, then, by using any of the problems making up the [tribulation \(soon to be ended by Armageddon\)](#) currently destroying our

world. ([Psa 91:7-11](#)) Your only safety lies in being protected by your personal faith in Christ Jesus! ([John 3:19 of 16-21](#))] It would seem to require you first know him, and be familiar with what he said, to have real faith... See you, then, in paradise! ([Isa 11:1-12](#))

The following Bible translations may have been quoted in this document:

ALT – 1999 Analytical Literal Translation (Gary F. Zeolla)
ASV - 1897 American Standard Version (American Revision Committee)
BBE - 1949, 1964 Bible in Basic English (Cambridge Press)
Calvin – 1856 (Calvin Translation Society)
Coverdale – 1535 James Coverdale
CEV – 1995 Contemporary English Version (American Bible Society)
Darby - 1884, 1889 Darby Bible (John Nelson Darby)
DRB - 1899 Douay-Rheims Bible
ESV – 2001 English Standard Version (Crossway Bibles)
GNB – 1992 Good News Bible (American Bible Society)
GW – 1995 God’s Word Bible (GOD’S WORD to the Nations Bible Society)
IHOT+ - Interlinear Hebrew Old Testament with Strong’s numbers
ISV – 1996 International Standard Version (The ISV Foundation)
KJV - King James Version (1611)
LITV - Literal Translation of the Holy Bible (1976-2000 by J. P. Green)
MKJV - Modern King James Version (1962-1998 by J. P. Green Sr.)
Murdock – James Murdock (1851)
MWT - Modern World Translation (JustBibleTruth.com)
NWT – New World Translation (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society)
RV – 1769 Revised Version (King James Revised Version)
Webster - 1833 Webster Bible (Noah Webster)
WTNT – 1525 William Tyndale New Testament (William Tyndale)
Wycliffe – 1394 Wycliffe (Purvey Revision)
YLT – 1862 Young’s Literal Translation (J.N. Young)

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Do you know one thing shared by all modern religion? They all

depend on humanity's sheep-like quality (to keep their followers in

line). Unless we are wicked, you see, we are followers. It's our nature. That's how God made us. It's why the Bible often refers to Christians as sheep.

([John 10:1-18](#)) It will be a real protection if you remember always, that herd inclination is what religion preys on to mislead ~~us~~ you. So... It's not surprising most people wind up following some [religious sect](#) (or some political cause or racial movement or just some gang). It's understandable really. Following human leaders was at one time approved by God. Faithful Noah and Lot and Rahab, you remember, all had families who follow them; and, they were (all who did follow) preserved alive for having done so. Jesus made a change when he brought Christianity to birth. ([John 4:23 of 5-26](#)) That change has become more pronounced and clear as Christianity matured. ([1 Cor 3:1-9](#)) **Christians now worship God as "individuals," through spirit and truth. We can only do that by consuming God's spirit.** ([John 6:52-58](#)) **We have access to God's spirit as it lives or resides within the words of Christ.** ([John 6:63](#); [Heb 4:12-13](#))

Christians are still followers, of course, but Jesus warned we must be very careful who we follow. It must be, and can only be, God's son. ([Mat 7:15-23](#); [Mat 23:1-15](#)) It really is simple: If you are part of some religious sect that ties (or judges) your pleasing God requires being an approved member of their group, you have been misled. (Judgment of others is one way you can identify religion as *different* from Christianity. - [Hos 10:4](#)) You can't buy, steal, force or connive God's approval; nor can you be granted it by any human or sect. No person can judge or even know whether you are approved. Many of them imagine, however, it is "they" who are your judges; and they try to persuade you. ([Luke 10:20 of 17-20](#)) Human memberships and approvals are a deception. All Christians must simply open the Gospels recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; and then read and reread the words of Christ to familiarity. That's the simple way we put on the mind of Christ ([1 Cor 2:9-16](#)) and take up our suit of armor from God. ([Eph 6:10-20](#)) It's how you are set free of religious deception. ([John 8:31-32](#)) Familiarity with Jesus's words gives you a new birth by the spirit: ([John 3:1-8](#)) You must be led to listen to Christ by God's spirit. ([John 6:44](#)) Don't be deceived to follow religion! Guard your heart, then, that you listen carefully to Christ and to him alone. ([Luke 8:18 of 15-18](#)) I suspect every single one of us is special in our own way. Christ's words magnify that.

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"All who come to God believe he exists and is good." Heb 11:6

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