

FAQ

FROM THE MESSIANIC APOLOGETICS ARCHIVES (2000-2018)

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MESSIANIC APOLOGETICS
messianicapologetics.net

Frequently Asked Questions

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Abbreviations and Special Terms

The following is a list of abbreviations for reference works and special terms which are used in publications by Outreach Israel Ministries and Messianic Apologetics. Please familiarize yourself with them as the text may reference a Bible version, i.e., RSV for the Revised Standard Version, or a source such as TWOT for the *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, solely by its abbreviation. Detailed listings of these sources are provided in the Bibliography.

- ABD: *Anchor Bible Dictionary*
AMG: *Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament, New Testament*
ANE: Ancient Near East(ern)
Apostolic Scriptures/Writings: the New Testament
Ara: Aramaic
ASV: American Standard Version (1901)
ATS: ArtScroll Tanach (1996)
b. Babylonian Talmud (*Talmud Bavli*)
B.C.E.: Before Common Era or B.C.
BDAG: *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Bauer, Danker, Arndt, Gingrich)
BDB: *Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*
C.E.: Common Era or A.D.
CGEDNT: *Concise Greek-English Dictionary of New Testament Words* (Barclay M. Newman)
CGL: *Cambridge Greek Lexicon* (2021)
CHALOT: *Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Holladay)
CJB: *Complete Jewish Bible* (1998)
CJSB: *Complete Jewish Study Bible* (2016)
DRA: Douay-Rheims American Edition
DSS: Dead Sea Scrolls
EDB: *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*
EJ: *Encyclopaedia Judaica*
ESV: *English Standard Version* (2001)
Ger: German
GNT: *Greek New Testament*
Grk: Greek
HALOT: *Hebrew & Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Koehler and Baumgartner)
HCSB: *Holman Christian Standard Bible* (2004)
Heb: Hebrew
HNV: *Hebrew Names Version of the World English Bible*
IDB: *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*
IDBSup: *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible Supplement*
ISBE: *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*
IVPBBC: *IVP Bible Background Commentary (Old & New Testament)*
Jastrow: *Dictionary of the Targumim, Talmud Bavli, Talmud Yerushalmi, and Midrashic Literature* (Marcus Jastrow)
JBK: *New Jerusalem Bible-Koren* (2000)
JETS: *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*
KJV: *King James Version*
Lattimore: *The New Testament by Richmond Lattimore* (1996)
LITV: *Literal Translation of the Holy Bible* by Jay P. Green (1986)
LES: *Lexham English Septuagint* (2019)
LS: *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* (Liddell-Scott)
LSJM: *Greek-English Lexicon* (Liddell-Scott-Jones-McKenzie)
LXE: *Septuagint with Apocrypha* by Sir L.C.L. Brenton (1851)
LXX: *Septuagint*
m. Mishnah
MT: *Masoretic Text*
NASB: *New American Standard Bible* (1977)
NASU: *New American Standard Update* (1995)
NBCR: *New Bible Commentary: Revised*
NEB: *New English Bible* (1970)
Nelson: *Nelson's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament Words*
NETS: *New English Translation of the Septuagint* (2007)
NIB: *New Interpreter's Bible*
NIDB: *New International Dictionary of the Bible*
NIV: *New International Version* (1984)
NJB: *New Jerusalem Bible-Catholic* (1985)
NJSB: *Tanakh, A New Translation of the Holy Scriptures* (1999)
NKJV: *New King James Version* (1982)
NRSV: *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)
NLT: *New Living Translation* (1996)
NT: *New Testament*
OT: *Old Testament*
REB: *Revised English Bible* (1989)
RSV: *Revised Standard Version* (1952)
t. Tosefta
Tanach (Tanakh): the Old Testament
Thayer: *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*
TDNT: *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*
TLV: *Messianic Jewish Family Bible—Tree of Life Version* (2014)
TNIV: *Today's New International Version* (2005)
TWOT: *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*
UBSHNT: *United Bible Societies' 1991 Hebrew New Testament revised edition*
v(s). *verse(s)*
Vine: *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*
Vul: *Latin Vulgate*
YLT: *Young's Literal Translation* (1862/1898)
WMB: *World Messianic Bible* (2020)

Inheritance in the Holy Land, Non-Jews

Throughout the One Law/One Torah movement, and especially in the Hebrew/Hebraic Roots movement, I have heard that non-Jewish Believers in Israel's Messiah will (all) be granted permanent residence in the Holy Land when Yeshua returns. Is this true or not?

Ezekiel 47:13-20 details various tribal boundaries for the Land of Israel in the Millennial Kingdom, which are altered from those seen previously in Tanach Scriptures.¹ It is first summarized, "So you shall divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel" (Ezekiel 47:21, NASU). This is then followed by the statement,

"You shall divide it by lot for an inheritance among yourselves and among the aliens who stay in your midst, who bring forth sons in your midst. And they shall be to you as the native-born among the sons of Israel; they shall be allotted an inheritance with you among the tribes of Israel. And in the tribe with which the alien stays, there you shall give *him* his inheritance" (Ezekiel 47:22-23, NASU).

It is, of course, fair to recognize that there will be various *gerim* or sojourners who have decisively entered into the community of Israel, and are granted permanent residence and territory in this Land of Israel. While in the Torah, outsiders were always welcome to join the community of Israel and worship Israel's God (Leviticus 19:34), they had no allotment of tribal lands. What is witnessed in Ezekiel 47:22 is different.

Is it appropriate to conclude that *all* non-Jewish Believers in Israel's Messiah, classify as being among those granted tribal territories in the Land of Israel, and that when Yeshua returns *all* non-Jewish Believers in Israel's Messiah will be granted permanent residence in the Promised Land? **No**. While non-Jewish Believers are to be active participants and co-laborers in the restoration of Israel, with their fellow Jewish Believers, heralding the return of King Messiah—and **must** be active in seeing Jewish people come to faith in the Messiah (Romans 11:11)—the promised return of the descendants of Israel to the Promised Land will not directly involve most of today's non-Jewish Messianic Believers. This is because the tribal territories in the Holy Land (Joshua chs. 15-21; Ezekiel 47:13-48:35) are very specific to the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

It would be fair to deduce that the sojourners mentioned in Ezekiel 47:22-23, who are given an allotment of territory formally promised to the Twelve Tribes of Israel, are limited to a specific and limited number of non-Jewish people who have been very closely aligned with Israel's restoration. Non-Jewish Believers may be regarded as a part of a Kingdom of Israel with a restored Twelve Tribes at its center (cf. James 1:1), whose borders have widened themselves (Amos 9:11-12; Acts 15:15-18), but they are nonetheless not ethnic Israelites and are not entitled to permanent habitation in a rather small Land of Israel. Furthermore, there is no Biblical evidence, at all, that all people living on Planet Earth during the Millennial Kingdom will live in the Land of Israel.

¹ Kenneth L. Barker, ed., et. al., *NIV Study Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002), 1315; Wayne Grudem, ed., *ESV Study Bible* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008), 1578; Kent Dobson, *NIV First-Century Study Bible: Explore Scripture in Its Jewish and Early Christian Context*, 2011 NIV (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014), 1050; Michael Rydelnik and Michael Vanlaningham, eds., *The Moody Bible Commentary* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2014), 1276; Craig S. Keener and John H. Walton, eds., *NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016), 1410 all offer a map of these boundaries.

Inheritance in the Holy Land, Non-Jews

While Jewish and non-Jewish Believers in Israel's Messiah have far more in common than not as fellow members of the Commonwealth of Israel (Ephesians 2:11-13)—tribal inheritance in the Land of Israel is something almost exclusively reserved for ethnic Israelites and not those of the nations.