

BIBLE STUDY GUIDE

"Rightly dividing" the Word of God as we study (2 Timothy 2:15). All of the Bible is written **for** us, but not all is directed specifically **to** us. God's plan is to bless **all peoples**, and God Himself is unchanging ... but that does not mean He acts in the same way in all ages, and with all nations, as He moves with great purpose toward accomplishing His will.

OLD TESTAMENT	GOSPELS (Matthew - John)	ACTS	CIRCUMCISION EPISTLES Hebrews - Jude	UNCIRCUMCISION EPISTLES Romans - Philemon	REVELATION	AFTER REVELATION
Beginning of our world/mankind (Gen 1). Sin enters thru Adam, bringing death (Gen 2).	Israel is in its own land, but under Roman rule	Same message: "The Kingdom evangel." If you repent, the King will return (Acts 3:19-21)	Directed to the Jews as they await the coming of the Lord to establish the Kingdom upon the earth.	Directed to Gentile/Jew alike; no barriers or preference.	Judgment comes upon the earth (as foretold by the Prophets)	1 Cor 15:25 Christ reigns until all enemies under His feet & all are subjected, whereupon He surrenders the throne to God.
One man chosen (Abram) thru whom all peoples will be blessed (Gen 12)	The Messiah/King (Jesus) comes, as was promised to Israel	Again the King (Jesus) is rejected by the Jews.	Ministry of the 12 apostles always contained within Israel, and always directed exclusively to the Jews.	Ministry of Paul is outside of Israel. Unlike the 12, he goes directly to the Gentiles (in addition to the Jews)	The King returns.	1 Cor 15:24 All sovereignty, authority & power are nullified.
Promise passes to Jacob (Gen 28). Jacob is re-named "Israel" (Gen 32).	"The Kingdom is near"	Those who do believe & form the ecclesia (church) are Jews. The Apostles go strictly to the Jews, and God-fearing Gentiles attached to the Jews (e.g. Cornelius)	The "ecclesia" (church) is made up of Jewish believers.	The "ecclesia" (church) is made up of Gentile/Jewish believers.	The Kingdom comes upon the earth as foretold by the Prophets	1 Cor 15:27 Last enemy (death) abolished
Israel's descendants become the "Israelites" (Exod 1:6)	The King is rejected & crucified	Paul is chosen as God's instrument to go to the nations (Gentiles) besides the Jews (Acts 9:15)	The requirement for salvation: Faith plus obedience.	The requirement for salvation: Faith alone (which should lead to obedience)		1 Cor 15:42-44 Incorruptible, spiritual bodies
Israelites come into their land; become a nation (Joshua)	The Kingdom does not, therefore, return to Israel as promised by the Prophets	Paul goes first to the Jews, proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues, and also to the Gentiles.	The expectation: Resurrection. Life within the Kingdom when it comes upon the earth, under the reign of Jesus the Christ.	The expectation: The Lord's call when we will meet Him in the air, to go and be with Him in the heavenlies - not upon the earth (1 Thes 4:13-18)		
David becomes King; the nation of Israel at its peak (2 Samuel)	Jesus is resurrected, and ascended into heaven.	A final rejection by the Jews is recorded in Acts 28:23-28, and "to the nations was dispatched this salvation of God."		To Paul was given the "evangel of the Uncircumcision," while to Peter was given the evangel "of the Circumcision" (Galatians 2:7)		
After Solomon, the Kingdom is divided (1 Kings). Judgment & exile for Israel (2 Kings).		"This callousness, in part, on Israel has come, until the complement of the nations may be entering. And thus all Israel shall be saved." (Romans 11:25)		Paul's evangel was not just an extension of the evangel being proclaimed by the 12; it was revealed to Him directly by Jesus Christ (Gal 1:11)		
The Prophets: "Return to God/Repent." ... Promise to restore Kingdom to Israel . Messiah/King promised to Israel .				Paul revealed things ("secrets") not previously foretold by anyone preceding him (Eph 3:3-5)		
Israelites return to land, but under the rule of others (Nehemiah, Ezra)				To Paul it was given to "complete" the word of God (Colossians 1:25)		
God working with Israel (but remember the promise in Genesis 12 to bless all peoples)	Directed to the Jews, announcing the coming of the Kingdom upon the earth. Rejection of the King/Kingdom.	A transition. Same message (coming Kingdom/return of the King), and still proclaimed to the Jews, until rejection; whereupon Paul goes to the Gentiles.	Letters to encourage & instruct the primarily Jewish believers as they await the Lord's return to restore the Kingdom.	Letters to encourage & instruct the Body of Christ (Gentile & Jew alike, with no barrier) of the evangel that was given to Paul.	God saves the Jews, judges the nations. The King returns, and the Kingdom is set up on the earth.	The eons have accomplished God's purposes. All are saved. The entire universe is reconciled. God is All in all.