

# Descendants of Judah's Brothers

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We have a reasonable idea of the number of Judah's descendants in today's world, but there is little interest in knowing how many descendants of their ten non-Jewish brothers are alive at this time. These "brothers" are difficult to identify because, unlike the descendants of Judah, they do not observe the weekly Sabbath (on Saturday), or God's other Holy Days. Instead, they have been assimilated into the pagan religious systems, and now observe days like Christmas (Mithras), Easter (Ishtar), Sunday (Sun worship). Therefore, they are unaware of their real ancestry.

Before delving into the approximate number of Judah's modern-day brothers and sisters, it is important to distinguish the difference between Judah and Israel from a Biblical perspective. More often than not, God refers to the ten brothers of Judah and their families as Israel, while the people referred to today as Jews are referred to by the name Judah or Judeans. We see this distinction numerous times in scripture. Following is just one example:

**And the Lord said, "I will also remove Judah (approx. 585 BCE) from My sight, as I have removed Israel (Judah's 10 brothers in 723-721 BCE), and will cast off this city Jerusalem (ultimately in 70CE) which I have chosen, and the house (Temple) of which I said, 'My name shall be there'"** (2Kings 23:27; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted; Ed. notes in parentheses).

Historically, the family of Judah and Benjamin had their capital city in Jerusalem, while the remaining ten families had their capital to the north in Samaria. Jumping ahead to a future scenario, God revealed that this separation between Israel and Judah will be healed, and the twelve sons of Jacob restored:

**Thus says the Lord: "Surely I will take the stick of Joseph (one of Judah's brothers), which is in the hand of Ephraim (Joseph's son) and the (nine remaining) tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will join them with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand"** (Ezekiel 37:19; Ed. notes in parentheses).

It makes sense that God would refer to the descendants of Jacob's ten sons by the name Israel, as they are far greater in number, while the remaining sons of Judah and Benjamin are known as Judah, Judeans, Jewish, or Hebrews based on their retention of the original family's language. The descendants of Judah's ten brothers did not retain the Hebrew language because they adopted the various languages of their captors.

**In the written Law it says: "Through men speaking strange languages and through the lips of foreigners I (God) shall talk to the nation (of Israel), and still they will not listen to me, says the Lord"** (1Corinthians 14:21; Ed. notes in parentheses; The Jerusalem Bible).

Suffice it to say, all Judeans and Benjaminites are Israelites, because they are descendants of their father Jacob (whose name was changed to Israel; cf. Genesis 32:28), but not all Israelites (the remaining ten

families) are Jewish. The following example has been used before to illustrate this point: "All Texans are Americans, but not all Americans are Texans."

Therefore, the modern nation called Israel today, should have been named Judea as it does not consist of the majority of Jacob's descendants. This reality should become clear as we examine an ancient census, and project the numbers to our present time.

Although we have little to go on regarding the worldwide population of Jacob's ten families in this day and age, we do know that the family of Judah reached its historical peak of 17 million in 1939. As of 2023, the world's "core" Jewish population was estimated at 16.1 million, which is 0.2% of the 8 billion worldwide population ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish\\_population\\_by\\_country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_population_by_country)).

By comparing the population of this ancient family with the populations of their ten brothers as recorded in Scripture, we should be able to arrive at a ballpark figure because a nation's population fluctuates from century to century, but a pattern emerges when they continue over an extended period of time, which Jacobs's twelve families have done. God confirmed that these families would continue throughout the ages, even though they would persistently engage in lawless behavior,

**For surely I (God) will command, and will sift the house of Israel among all nations, as a grain is sifted in a sieve; yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground (without God knowing about it).<sup>10</sup> All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword who say, 'The calamity shall not overtake us nor confront us' (Amos 9:9-10; Ed. notes in parentheses).**

God commanded that two censuses be conducted between the time of Israel's exodus from Egypt, and their inheritance of the land that God promised to give them. The total number of males from twenty years of age was 603,550, as confirmed in Numbers 2:32, followed by the second census that totaled 601,730 (cf. Numbers 26:51). Therefore, the nation only experienced a change of 1,820 over this period of time. Again, this confirms a consistency in a nation's population, even though there may be diseases, famines, and wars that cause the population to fluctuate. Because the family of Judah consistently had the largest number of family members, the remaining families have a lower percentage as the following statistics confirm:

Numbers 2:4 – Judah =	74,600	
Numbers 2:6 – Issachar =	54,400 = .73 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 11,753,000
Numbers 2:8 – Zebulun =	57,400 = .77 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 12,397,000
Numbers 2:11–Reuben =	46,500 = .62 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 9,982,000
Numbers 2:13- Simeon =	59,300 = .80 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 12,880,000
Numbers 2:15- Gad =	45,650 = .61 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 9,821,000
Numbers 2:19- Ephraim=	40,500 = .54 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 8,694,000
Numbers 2:21-Manasseh=	32,200 = .43 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 6,923,000
Numbers 2:23-Benjamin=	35,400 = .48 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 7,728,000
Numbers 2:26- Dan =	62,700 = .84 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 13,524,000
Numbers 2:28 – Asher=	41,500 = .56 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 9,016,000
Numbers 2:30 – Naphtali=	53,400 = .72 of Judah's	x 16.1M present-day descendants = 11,592,000
<b>Total = 603,550</b>		<b>Total = 114,310,000</b>

Note: Per Numbers 2:33 the family of Levitical Priests was not to be numbered.

To summarize so far, the worldwide population of Judah's modern-day descendants in 2023 is estimated to be 16.1M, while the collective number of their non-Jewish brothers is approximately 114,310,000, based on the percentage of difference between the families as recorded in the book of Numbers.

As the figure of 114,310,000 represents males twenty years of age and above, that amount would double to 228,620,000 if they each had a wife, although the likelihood is that not everyone would get married. As it was normal in ancient times to have large families, it would not be unusual to have approximately +3 children per nuclear family, which would add another 342,930 to the total number of adult men and women, bringing the sub-total to 571,550,000. If we add the 16.1M Judeans, the grand total for all twelve families would be 587,650,000, which is very close to a blessing made by Moses regarding the future of this nation,

**"May the Lord God of your fathers make you a thousand times more numerous than you are (601,730 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> census), and bless you as He has promised you!" (Deuteronomy 1:11; Ed. note in parenthesis).**

By multiplying the population at the time of the second census by 1,000, it would mean that this nation of twelve families would eventually grow to the point it would reach 601,730,000, which is just shy of the rough calculation of 587,650,000. To get an idea of how large this group would be, the following population numbers from the following 16 countries between 2012-2014 approximates the second census number when multiplied by 1000:

United States	319,395,000
Great Britain	63,742,977
Canada	34,834,841
Australia	22,507,617
France	66,259,012
Norway	5,051,275
Denmark	5,569,077
Sweden	9,723,809
Ireland	4,832,765
Switzerland	8,020,000
Israel	7,821,850
Belgium	10,449,361
New Zealand	4,401,916
Netherlands	16,805,037
Finland	5,268,799
South Africa	48,375,645
<b>Total</b>	<b>601,707,621</b>

There are numerous Biblical prophecies pertaining to future calamities affecting the descendants of this family, but the final effect will be the reconciliation of this entire family that has been divided and, for the most part, unaware of their true identity. This brief article highlights the differences in this brotherhood as well as the approximate number of Jacob's modern-day descendants. The concluding section of scripture

confirms there will be an awakening of this family, including an awareness of their failure to honor/respect/obey their Creator in accordance with His law and commandments:

**But if they confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers, with their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to Me, and that they have walked contrary to Me, <sup>41</sup>and that I also have walked contrary to them and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if their uncircumcised hearts are humbled, and they accept their guilt – <sup>42</sup>then I will remember My covenant with Jacob, and My covenant with Isaac and My covenant with Abraham (*Leviticus 26: 40-42*).**

Part of God's corrective action will include removing the surviving members of these twelve families from the countries they currently inhabit:

**The land also shall be left empty by them, and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them; they will accept their guilt, because they despised My judgments and because their soul abhorred My statutes. <sup>44</sup>Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, nor shall I abhor them, to utterly destroy them and break My covenant with them; for I am the Lord their God. <sup>45</sup>But for their sake I will remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their God: I am the Lord (*Leviticus 26:43-45; cf. Isaiah 66:20-24; Jeremiah 30:5-11*).**

Following their rehabilitation, this reunified nation will be the instrument through which all nations will be taught the wisdom of God's law and commandments (cf. Isaiah 2:2-4). This will occur in conjunction with the return of Christ when every human government and agency will be removed. This transition from man's systems of government, to the government of God, will result in the greatest blessings ever experienced in human history (see article:

[https://www.onetruthonelaw.com/uploads/4/2/3/5/42356753/all\\_families\\_will\\_be\\_blessed.pdf](https://www.onetruthonelaw.com/uploads/4/2/3/5/42356753/all_families_will_be_blessed.pdf)).

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