

Name: _____

Date: _____

THE ISRAELITES' CULTURAL LIFE IN THE BIBLE

“So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey.” (Exodus 3:8a)

Objectives

Knowledge of God's Will	God always gives the best to His chosen people. Receive God's promise by upholding our faith.
Knowledge of God	God is faithful and holy.
Good Works	Give time to God every day. Redeem our time by using it wisely for God.

A. The Promised Land

1. *The Many Names of the Promised Land:* The land came to accumulate many names, each reflecting its historical changes.
2. *Civilization and Trade in the Promised Land:* Due to its location, Canaan served as an important crossroads for trade. Its cities and roads later served as key paths in the spreading of the gospel.

The promised land was a home of hope for a rootless and enslaved nation. But despite its importance, it was still just a physical place. Today, as His spiritual children in a foreign land, God has promised us a home far greater than any on earth; He has promised us a heavenly home in His eternal kingdom.

B. Culture, Politics, and Religion of Israelite Nation

1. *Food:* We must be aware of what we eat, because when we eat food offered to idols, we are taking part with demons (Acts 15:28–29; 1 Cor 10:19–22).
2. *Marriage:* Satan can use many things to sway us from the truth. We must strive to keep ourselves separate from the sin of the world, so that we may remain the bride of Christ that is “holy and without blemish” (Eph 5:27).
3. *Religion:* Like the Levites, we have been tasked with performing His holy tasks within His church, and with the responsibility of teaching God's word to those around us (Acts 26:18).
4. *Political Institutions:* When we serve God acceptably with reverence (Heb 12:28), we make Him the leader in our lives. Then, He will also be our patriarch as our Father in heaven who cares for our needs; our judge as our protector who defeats our enemies for us; and our king as our ruler on heaven and on earth.

C. A Chosen People

When we look at the arrangements God made for His people, we can see His greatness, power, and wisdom, as well as His loving-kindness towards His people. Today, He has taken the same amount of care in arranging a place for us, but like the Israelites in Canaan, we are also in danger of being influenced by the world around us (2 Cor 6:14–18).

Life Application

1. *Give Time to God Every Day:* Just as with any other good friend, we need to spend quality time with God to deepen our relationship with Him. This means talking openly, listening patiently, and learning about and understanding each other.
2. *Redeem Our Time:* We need to ask God to “teach us to number our days” (Ps 90:12), because our time in this world is limited. We need to strive for righteousness at all times (Ps 106:3) so that we may inherit God's heavenly kingdom.

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Lesson 2 Homework Assignment

The Israelites' Cultural Life in the Bible

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Exodus 3:8a):

1. How do we inherit God's promises and blessings?
2. What is the difference between the promised land of the Israelites and God's promise to us?
3. Pick one of the four aspects about the Israelites' lives that we learned. What can we learn from it?
4. As God's chosen people, what makes us different from the world around us?
5. What does it mean to "redeem our time" (Eph 5:16)?
6. Do you give time to God every day? If yes, how? If not, pick a time of day that you can give to God every day this week.