

**B. The Principle of PEOPLE GROUPS: The Bible is written to \_\_\_\_\_ groups of people.**

- When studying a passage or just reading, one of the first steps to take to determine the context is to ask, “to whom is it written?”
- All of the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ us, but not all of it was written \_\_\_\_\_ us (the church).

- Jer 22:29
- John 19:20
- 1 Cor 10:32

**1. Part of the Bible was written to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Jews are the physical descendants of Abraham through Isaac (Hebrews)
- Ex 12:1-3
- Acts 2:14, 22, 36
- James 1:1

**2. Part of the Bible was written to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Non-Jews
- Dan 2:1-4, 27; 4:1-2
- Obadiah - Edomites

**3. Part of the Bible was written to The \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Church of God (believers sealed with the Holy Spirit of God) which started out as either a Jew or Gentile but are not a part of the bride of Christ -Eph.2
  - Rom 1:7
  - 1 Cor 1:2
  - Gal 1:2
  - Romans through Philemon are written directly to the church of God. Any doctrine we hold key or central to our core beliefs can be found in Romans through Philemon.
- **WARNING**: God warns of religious sects who believe that they have replaced Israel and who misapply Bible doctrine which God specifically gave to the Jew
    - **Rev. 2:8-9** ... I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.
    - **Rev. 3:7-9** ...Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie...
  - **Examples of violating this Principle**:
    - **Roman Catholic Church** - has imitated the priest class and temple practices.
    - **Mormons** - have taken place of Israel with a temple, sacrifices and polygamy.
    - **Jehovah Witnesses'** - have taken place of Israel by claiming to be the chosen saints during the Tribulation Period.
    - Abraham's relationship with God has valuable application for our lives. But God gave a LITERAL parcel of land to the Hebrews, not to those of us in the Church.

- **An Example of the Importance of this Principle: Matthew 24 and 25**

- **Matt. 24:13** But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

- **The Context of Matthew:**

- Matthew was written by a Jew to Jews...presents Jesus as the Jewish Messiah
- Quotes the OT prophets... "that it might be fulfilled"
- Matthew is written during a time of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Matthew is written \_\_\_\_\_ the death of Christ (an Old Testament context).
- Matthew's gospel is \_\_\_\_\_ in nature – presenting Jesus as the King of the Jews.
  - **Ch 1** - The Genealogy of the King – starts w/ Abraham – kings are BORN
  - **Ch 2** - The Royal Reception of the King – the Magi – only recorded here. In Matthew, we find the wise men searching for he that is born "King of the Jews"; 2:1-2
  - **Ch 3** - The Herald of the King – John the Baptist...Elijah – Matthew 17:10
  - **Ch 4** - The Test of Worthiness of the King – tempted of Devil
  - **Ch 5-7** - The Constitution of the Kingdom – sermon on the mount...can apply the principles but better be careful about WHO you apply the doctrine TO...look at Matt. 5:22...
  - **Ch 8-9** - The King Confirms His Identity – confirms through miracles... never just does a miracle...always to fulfill scripture..
  - **Ch 10** - The Official Offer of the Kingdom – sends disciples out to offer the kingdom of heaven – go only to JEWS – only to the house of Israel
  - **Ch 11-12** - The Rejection of the Kingdom...Jewish leaders reject the offer of the kingdom...the unpardonable sin...rejection of the Messiah by Jews...knowing exactly who Jesus is
  - **Ch 13** - Jesus begins speaking in parables...kingdom goes into mystery form

- **The Context of Matthew 24 and 25:**

- **Matthew 24:1-3** And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?
- The context of Matthew 24 is the time of \_\_\_\_\_ prophesied for the \_\_\_\_\_!
- **Matthew 24:8** *All these are the **beginning of sorrows**.*
  - The Jews were prophesied a time of tribulation, the time of Jacobs trouble; Daniel 9, etc.
- **Read Matthew 24:9-13**
  - The enduring to the end isn't the end of your \_\_\_\_\_...it's the end

of the \_\_\_\_\_...**THE END of the TRIBULATION** that Daniel spoke of

- **Matthew 24:14**- And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and **then** shall the end come.
- **Matthew 24:15-16**- When ye therefore shall see the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by **Daniel** (Daniel 8 & 11) the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in **Judaea** flee into the mountains:
- **Read Matthew 24:17-20**
  - **Matthew 24:21**- For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.
  - **Matthew 24:22**- And except **those days** should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for **the elect's sake** those days shall be shortened.
- “the elect” = Israel, the “elect nation” (*Isaiah 45:4; 65:9*)
  - “The elect” is **NOT** the church – according to the context in Matt. 24.
    - Church is called Elect by Paul and Peter but **context** determines usage
    - If you try to make the “elect” in Matt. 24 the church - then the church goes thru the tribulation period!
- **Matthew 25:1-13**- The Parable of the 10 Virgins
  - This is NOT a picture of the church of Jesus Christ.
- **Considerations:**
  - This corresponds with a popular movement (often called Covenant or Kingdom Theology) that teaches that the \_\_\_\_\_ has replaced the Jews, and the promises to the Jewish people now apply to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Jesus identifies this as blasphemy and tells you its source. Doesn't make these people evil...a lot of good people who have just been taught wrong theology.
  - Part of the reason it was taught is because it seemed so impossible that Israel would ever go back to their homeland. It seemed impossible so rather than just believing the Bible they tried to make it fit.