

**FREE**

*The*  
**TWELVE TRIBES  
FREE PAPER**

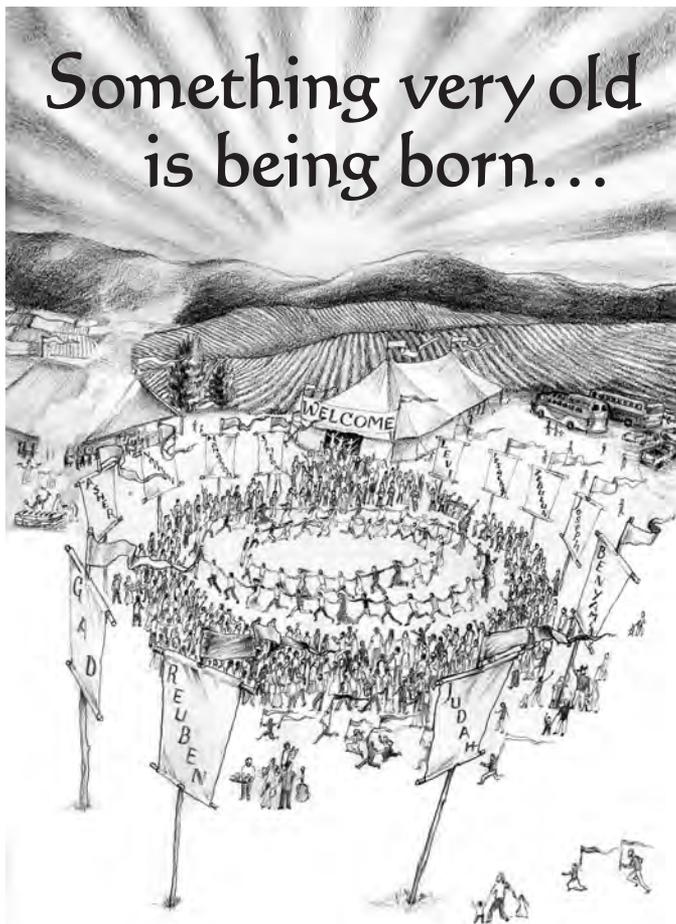
A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet,  
and on her head a crown of twelve stars... Revelation 12:1



Regathering  
of the  
**Tribes**

# T r i b e s

Something very old  
is being born...



**T**he appointed time has come. No longer strangers, no longer rootless — a nation is being gathered. No longer separated, no longer alienated — a commonwealth is being formed.

The ancient writings speak of a mystery: "...Come here, I shall show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb... the holy city, Jerusalem... with twelve gates... the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel..."

Tribes? What are these tribes?

"The tribes of Jacob... the preserved ones of Israel... a light to the nations, so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth..." (Isaiah 49:6).

"...a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars..." (Revelation 12:1).

"...our twelve tribes... they earnestly serve God night and day..." (Acts 26:7).

Twelve tribes?

"...every tribe of the sons of Israel... the tribe of Judah... the tribe of Reuben... the tribe of Gad... the tribe of Asher... the tribe of Naphtali... the tribe of Manasseh... the tribe of Simeon... the tribe of Levi... the tribe of Issachar... the tribe of Zebulun... the tribe of Joseph... the tribe of Benjamin..." (Revelation 7:4-8)

It is a mystery hard to understand, 2000 years after this tribal life vanished from the earth...

"But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known..." (Luke 12:2)

The ancient tribal life of Abraham... a life of hospitality... a life of peace...

Families, clans, and generations together... people with a common character...

In a modern world that has removed the ancient boundaries, the age-old foundations are being restored... the hearts of the fathers and the sons united... brothers dwelling together in unity...

Good and pleasant... like the dew... like oil upon the head... like a watered garden... a place to belong... a place where God dwells... where the lonely have a home... a place that is blessed with life everlasting...

All cultures can trace their ancestry back to tribal living, but they can also trace the downfall of these tribes. Cultures that ignored their conscience fell apart. Selfishness pulled men away from one another. Wars broke out.

But there is no war in our Tribes. Just as we have been forgiven, so we forgive others. We are part of this

people who are returning to the way our Creator intended us to live. Because our sins have been forgiven, we have a new life. "A new life" does not just mean that we have stopped doing bad things — it means that God's love has been poured out into our hearts. We are learning to love as He loves. And just as it always has in the past, this love is producing a life of unity and care in which there are no rich or poor.

It is the same tribal life that was lived by the early disciples of our Master Yahshua,\* the Son of God. We have returned to the same root of faith as his first followers and hope to bear the same fruit.

We live a simple life in community — working together, eating together, sharing all we have. We are not governed by endless lists of outward rules and regulations. Instead, the rules that govern us are being written on our hearts. Our aim is to love each other as our Master loved us, to love our Creator with all our heart, soul, and strength, and to love our neighbors who live around us as we love ourselves. Daily we gather in our households with singing and dancing to give thanks to the One who has saved us from an empty and hopeless existence.

Many households make up a clan. Many clans make up a tribe. The tribes are united across national boundaries by their love for one another. This love is not just a feeling. It is a lifelong commitment, knitting us together like a child is knit together in the mother's womb. The tribes are being formed... And then, not far off, a Nation will be born in a day... Israel... It's forming... It's coming! The day is about to dawn! You can be part of what God is doing on the earth. 🌿

# The Twelve Tribes

**W**E ARE A TRIBAL PEOPLE. Our life is expressed through living together in community. We love working with each other in our houses, on our farms, and in our cottage industries; doing folk dances and playing music; building, teaching our children at home, and caring for one another. Our desire is to live as naturally as possible by being close to Creation and to people. Our vision: not a lifestyle, but the forming of a *new* nation – the twelve tribe nation of Israel. We want to be restored back to what we were created to be.

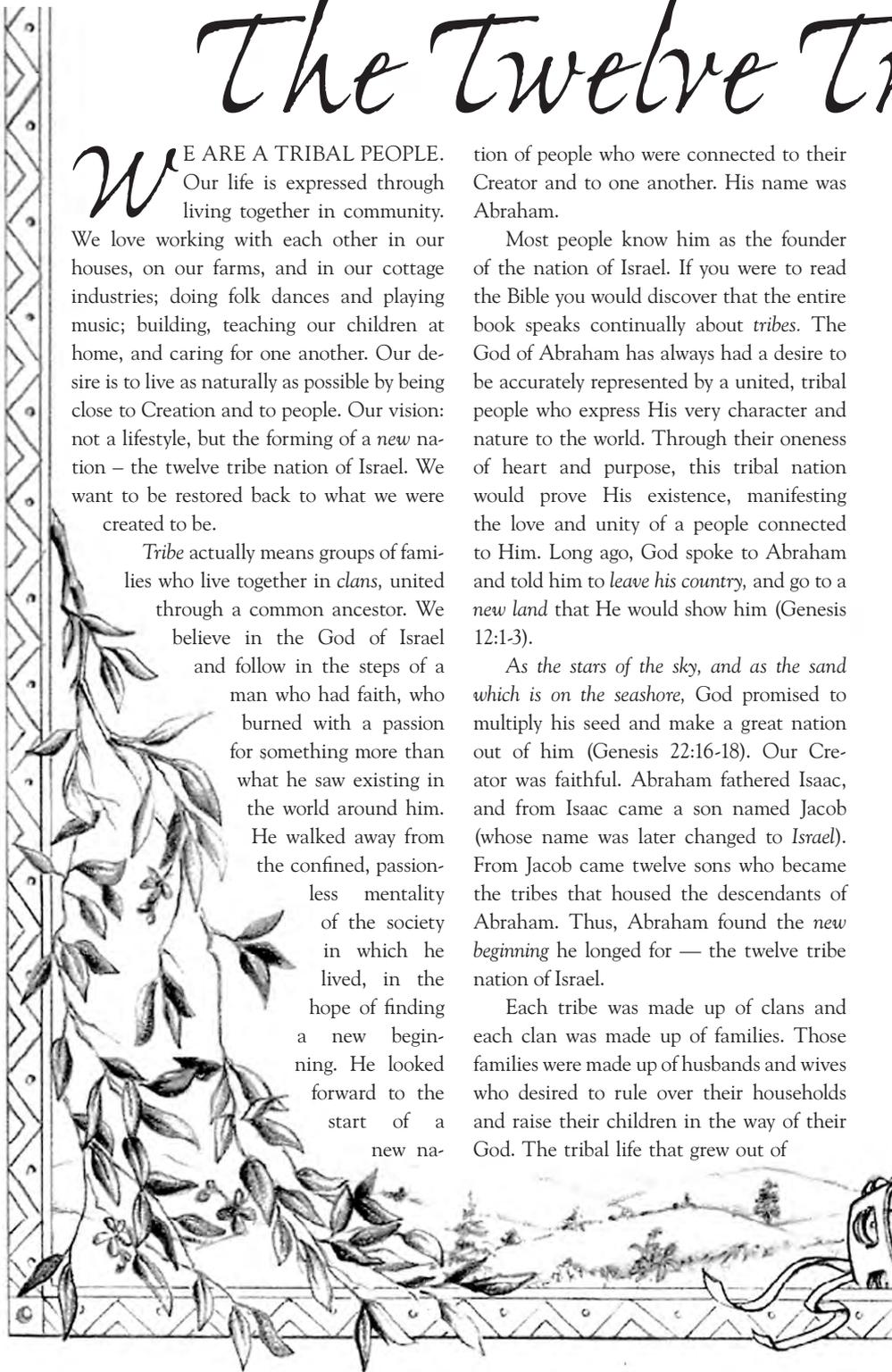
*Tribe* actually means groups of families who live together in *clans*, united through a common ancestor. We believe in the God of Israel and follow in the steps of a man who had faith, who burned with a passion for something more than what he saw existing in the world around him. He walked away from the confined, passionless mentality of the society in which he lived, in the hope of finding a new beginning. He looked forward to the start of a new na-

tion of people who were connected to their Creator and to one another. His name was Abraham.

Most people know him as the founder of the nation of Israel. If you were to read the Bible you would discover that the entire book speaks continually about *tribes*. The God of Abraham has always had a desire to be accurately represented by a united, tribal people who express His very character and nature to the world. Through their oneness of heart and purpose, this tribal nation would prove His existence, manifesting the love and unity of a people connected to Him. Long ago, God spoke to Abraham and told him to *leave his country*, and go to a *new land* that He would show him (Genesis 12:1-3).

*As the stars of the sky, and as the sand which is on the seashore*, God promised to multiply his seed and make a great nation out of him (Genesis 22:16-18). Our Creator was faithful. Abraham fathered Isaac, and from Isaac came a son named Jacob (whose name was later changed to *Israel*). From Jacob came twelve sons who became the tribes that housed the descendants of Abraham. Thus, Abraham found the *new beginning* he longed for — the twelve tribe nation of Israel.

Each tribe was made up of clans and each clan was made up of families. Those families were made up of husbands and wives who desired to rule over their households and raise their children in the way of their God. The tribal life that grew out of



# tribes of Israel!

these families was the *corporate* life that our Creator desired for man to have from the very beginning (*corporate* means *united; collectively one*). He wanted a people who would be joined together for a common purpose, who would live at peace with one another, and in absolute unity.

However, this unity and peace didn't last long. Like every other nation that has been on this earth, it ended up broken and divided. Thousands of years after God had spoken to Abraham, another man walked the earth with the same heart and desire as Abraham. He, too, longed for that twelve tribe nation to fulfill all that it was meant to. His name was Yahshua,\* the Messiah. You might have heard of him as *Jesus*, but we call him by his Hebrew name, which means *Yahweh's salvation*. He had the power to *save* men from their sins and to remedy the very things that caused them to be separated and divided from one another. He spoke a clear message as he walked the earth. This message called people out of the *evil* society they were a part of, compelling them to leave their *old* life and sins behind them, and to become part of a whole *new* social order within community. Yahshua

saw that *natural* Israel was not fit to represent God to the world, nor could they maintain unity among themselves. He recognized the need for a *spiritual* twelve tribe Israel to emerge.

He spoke the same message to all men because he knew in the heart of every person there was *common ground*. No matter what religion you are a part of, what country or social class or period of history you live in, or whether you are a man, a woman, or a child, the common ground among us all is the *conscience*. Our Creator gave everyone a conscience, the instinctive knowledge of right and wrong. In that knowledge we know that a loving Creator *does* exist and that we owe our very life to Him.

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We understand that there is an inward law that governs our behavior. This inner law is meant to be an expression of everything that is good. It is meant to be immovable and unchanging like the stars of the heavens in order to *keep us on course*.

The more a person silences that voice within him, the more evil he becomes and the more guilt he accumulates. No matter how you try to cover it all up – therapy courses, philosophies, and positive affirmations – nothing really erases the guilt. You end up deceiving yourself into thinking you're a good person, especially when you compare your life to others' lives which seem more evil than yours. Yet, deep down inside, your conscience knows everything you've ever done (no matter what you do to try to hide it). Religions and philosophies can mask it over or put a nice veneer on it, but the grass roots reality is: your guilt remains.

The faith we live by has caused us to leave everything behind – our possessions, our ambitions, our relationships, yes, even our own lives – in order to follow Yahshua and participate in the forming of this new nation. Those who are a part of this new society have given up their self-satisfied, self-seeking pursuits and have entered into a tribal life of caring for others, sharing what they have, and loving one another more than they love themselves, true freedom!

Can you picture how life would be if

we all had this kind of love? We would all care for each other and truly appreciate one another deeply. There would be no wars or violence to plague mankind ever again. We would all live in peace and harmony and this would only be the beginning. Your imagination can fill in the rest. For those of us already gathered, we no longer need to just *imagine*. We listened to the voice of hope and saw the condition of our dirty conscience. We saw our need for *forgiveness*. Now we stand together with others who saw their same need and as a people we are experiencing the reality of what we once only dreamed of. It's the new land where people from every nation – the rich and poor, male and female – can live together in complete peace and trust for one another. Yahshua called this life we have in common the *light of the world*. It is the witness of His kingdom. It stands in bold contrast to the darkness of the world's societies.

We are so thankful that we can share with you the longing of our Creator's heart: a nation of twelve tribes living together in unity. He is the Creator of the universe, the same One who created the radiance of the sun and the wing of a butterfly, who washed the sky blue and put music in the heart of a bird, the One who gave us the freedom to love one another and live in unity... Who would have thought that this God was the God of Tribes? 



**H**e was a simple man. Children loved him. Everywhere he went, he told the most interesting stories. Amazingly enough, people listened to him.

He wasn't a very handsome man or very noble-looking. His hands bore the signs of hard work and his face the marks of sorrow. There was nothing in his dress, his hair, or his manner of speech to call attention to him. If you ever met him, you'd

hardly be able to remember what he looked like. He had the same dark, sun-baked skin as the rest of his people, the same roughly musical speech. Perhaps all you would remember of your encounter with him would be how he loved you.

For some reason, crowds started following him. Many came seeking healing from their physical ailments. A few others came because they were at the end of their rope. Some came to listen. Most just came to watch.

One time, some soldiers were ordered to arrest him. They went to the place where he was speaking. The crowd was all stirred up. The soldiers stood in the crowd listening and waiting for an opportunity to quietly take him into custody. After a while, they went back empty-handed. When their superiors questioned them as to why they had failed to seize him, all they could say was, “No man ever spoke the way this man speaks.”

The words he spoke had an amazing effect on people. When he spoke, some people totally abandoned their homes, families, jobs, and properties to follow him from town to town, doing whatever he told them to do. Others heard his words and turned their backs on him, or called him a devil, or plotted to kill him.

What did this man talk about that caused such a stir? What was it that polarized all of humanity, causing some to adore him and others to grind their teeth at him? It was something so wonderful that if you heard it, you could hardly take it in. Basically, what he said this: *Junk your whole life and start over. The one who rules heaven is beginning to rule on the earth. He is preparing to judge and punish all the evil that is done here. But first, He wants to purge away the evil that is in your life. He doesn't want you to be destroyed. He is passionately in love with you. He wants to be your Father. Be His sons!*

There were so many wonderful things that this man said and did, that all the books in the whole world could not contain them all. He told of a treasure that was worth more than all the riches and fame that the world could offer. That treasure was to know God as your Father and to do His will. There was only one way to get this treasure. He was the only one who had it. The treasure was hidden right there in him. Right there in this man — *the man*. He said, “I am the way, I am the truth, I am the life. If you want to get to the Father, you have to come through me.” Ah, the treasure! But, O the cost! Many people considered that cost: *In order to know the Father, you have to follow a man. And this man requires you to totally abandon everything to follow him. Any “truth” of life from any other source has to die. You have to totally trust him.* What a decision!

Not many chose to follow him. For those who were the least bit satisfied with their own existing life, the cost was too high. He might as well have told them to put a hangman's noose around their neck and follow him to the gallows. But those who chose to follow found in him the power to overcome all fear, even the fear of death. He overcame death, you know. Not only did he not fear death, but also he abolished its power.

Those who plotted to kill him finally got an opportunity to carry out their plan. But after they had their way, this *man* got up out of the tomb where they laid his corpse, and he never went back. His corpse is no longer a corpse, but a living human body that now sits on the throne in heaven. This simple man's name is *Yahshua*.<sup>\*</sup> There is no Messiah and no Sovereign but this *man*. One day soon, he will leave his Father's throne in heaven and come to take his rightful throne on earth. Whoever hopes for that day is getting ready now. He will only come back for those who long for his return. 🌿

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<sup>\*</sup>We call our Master by His Hebrew name, *Yahshua*, which means *Yahweh* [the name of God] is mighty and powerful to save. This is what his mother Miriam (Mary) and his Foster father Yowceph (Joseph) called him. This is also what he called himself when addressing Saul (Paul), on the road to Damascus, he spoke not in the Greek, but in the Hebrew language (Acts 26:14-15). John 5:43. His Father's name is *Yah* (Psalm 68:4). His son's name is *Yahshua* (Yahweh saves). (John 17:11-12 in the NIV is very clear.)

**THERE IS A PEOPLE** who woke up this morning with one thing on their minds — to love their Creator with all their heart, mind, and strength, and to love one another just as He loved them. Being just ordinary human beings, we are far from perfect in our love, yet, in hope, we persevere. Our goal? That the kingdom of God would come on earth as it is in heaven, so that love and justice can rule on the earth. Sound impossible? It would be, were it not that the Son of God came to earth to redeem mankind, to set us free from the curse of sin, and to enable us to love. Because we have come to see His worth and our own desperate need, we have surrendered everything in order to follow Him. Our hearts and our homes are open night and day to any who are interested in our life or are weary of their sin and want to know the purpose for which they were created.

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