

The Scots are Israelites!

by Mikkel S. Kragh

In the Scottish town of Scone there used to be a stone where the kings of Scotland were crowned upon. It's called the Stone of Destiny or the Stone of Scone. In 1296 the English invaded Scotland and brought the Stone of Destiny to London. Since then, all English and British monarchs, including King Charles III in 2022, have been crowned upon the Stone of Destiny.

The reason why the Stone of Destiny is considered of such importance is because it is said to be the very stone on which the patriarch Jacob-Israel slept upon when he dreamed a dream about angels going up and down to Heaven on a ladder, recorded in Genesis chapter 28. When I visited Scotland in early September 2025, the video which tourists were shown at Scone Palace also mentioned this theory, although whoever made the video did not believe in this theory.

Many have believed, and many still do, that the Scots, Brits and related peoples are descended from the so-called Lost 10 Tribes of Israel that were deported out of the land of Israel around 721 BC by the Assyrian Empire. Among those which have believed in theory is King George VI of the United Kingdom (reigned 1936-1952), who also was crowned on the Stone of Destiny in Westminster Abbey in London, as well as many of the leading pioneers of the Pentecostal Movement.

This theory was made popular through the ministry of the Scottish Presbyterian clergyman John Wilson, who held lectures on the subject across the British Isles in the 1830s and published the book *Our Israelitish Origin* in 1840. John Wilson's ministry gave birth to the British-Israel Movement, which is believed to have had app. 2 million followers in the first half of the 20th century.

The Scots are from Ireland

Until the 9th century AD the Gaelic-speaking peoples of Ireland were known as Scots, or Scotti, and the name of the island today known as Ireland was Scotia. The Scots expanded into the northern part of the island of Great Britain, which was inhabited by the Picts, and in AD 843 the Scottish Kenneth MacAlpin was crowned King of the Picts on the Stone of Destiny in Scone. By 850 King Kenneth MacAlpin had conquered the remainder of the Picts. This is considered to be the beginning of the modern nation of Scotland.

The Irish are from the Middle East

The origin of the Scots does not, however, start in Ireland. According to Medieval Scottish and Irish legends, the Scots descended from an Egyptian Princess Scota, who travelled from Egypt to Ireland and gave birth to Goidel Glas, the eponymous ancestor of the Gaels. Sometimes such folk legends

are pure inventions, and sometimes they are based on actual events. What about this legend of the Egyptian Princess Scota? Is it invented out of thin air or is there some truth to it?

According to some of the oldest Irish historical writings, such as Geoffrey Keatinge's *History of Ireland* (1634) and the *Annals of Ireland by the Four Masters* (1636), a work based on much older material, Ireland was conquered around 1200 BC by a people called Tuatha de Danaan – meaning the Tribe of Danaan, or the Tribe of Dan – but then around 1000 BC Ireland was conquered by yet another people called the Milesians. The Tuatha de Danaan and the Milesians were apparently of the same people, because they were able to communicate with each other in their native languages. According to the *Annals of Ireland by the Four Masters*, before both the Tuatha de Danaan and the Milesians arrived in Ireland, they had lived in Greece and had been working closely with the Phoenicians.

The Tuatha de Danaan and the Milesians were, in fact, Israelites of the Tribe of Dan. The noted Irish historian A.M. Sullivan, in *The Story of Ireland*, showed the connections between the Milesians and the Israelites:

“The Milesian colony reached Ireland from Spain, but they were not Spaniards. They were an eastern people who had tarried in that country on their way westward, seeking, they said, an island promised to the posterity of their ancestor, Gadelius. Moved by this mysterious purpose to fulfil their destiny, they had passed from land to land, from the shores of Asia across the wide expanse of southern Europe, bearing aloft through all their wanderings the Sacred Banner, which symbolized to them at once their origin and their mission, the blessing and the promise given to their race. This celebrated standard, the 'Sacred Banner of the Milesians', was a flag on which was represented a dead serpent and the rod of Moses...” (A.M. Sullivan: *The Story of Ireland* (1909), p. 12)

Sullivan continues and explains that their ancestor Gadelius, who was the grandson of the King of the Scythians, had been bitten by a snake. The Scythians were living close to the Israelites, and Gadelius's father went to Moses and asked him to heal his son, which Moses did (*ibid.*, pp. 12-13).

This episode with serpents biting the Israelites and the Israelites getting healed by looking at the bronze serpent which Moses built is recorded in the Book of Numbers chapter 21 in the Old Testament. According the Book of Numbers it was only Israelites that were involved in this event. According to secular history, the Scythians were a people, or more probably a group of peoples, that lived in southern Russia and south of the Caucasus Mountains between the 9th century BC and 1st century AD. Scythians are even mentioned in the New Testament in the Epistle to the Colossians chapter 3.

The ancient historians of Ireland and Scotland, thus, seem to suggest that the Israelites of the Old Testament and the Scythians were one and the same people. Did they get it all wrong, or might this actually be the truth?

The Lost 10 Tribes of Israel

This brings us to the subject of the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel. The ancient nation of Israel consisted of 12 Tribes. The 12 Tribes of Israel left Egypt in the Exodus and settled in the land of Canaan, which became known as the land of Israel. The 12 Tribes of Israel united under the kings Saul, David and Solomon, but during the reign of Solomon's son, King Rehoboam, the northern 10 Tribes of Israel seceded from Rehoboam's royal house in Jerusalem and formed their own kingdom called the Kingdom of Israel, which consisted of 10 Israelite tribes. King Rehoboam's rump kingdom around Jerusalem became known as the Kingdom of Judah, or the House of Judah.

The Kingdom of the 10 Tribes of Israel continued to worship pagan gods, and therefore the God of Israel let the Assyrian Empire invade and deport the vast majority of the 10 Tribes of Israel out of the land of Israel and settled them in northern areas of the Assyrian Empire. From there, the 10 Tribes of Israel vanished and became known to world history as the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel. The remaining two

tribes in the Kingdom of Judah became known as Jews – Jew simply means ‘Judahite’ or a ‘man of Judah’ – and Jewish rabbis have continued to search for the whereabouts of the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel. Even in the Talmud, the foundational text of Judaism composed between the 3rd and 6th centuries AD, the rabbis all take it for granted that the 10 Tribes of Israel are NOT a part of the Jewish people but are somewhere out among the Gentiles, even though they are Israelites.

The Israelite-Scythian connection

The American archaeologist E. Raymond Capt showed in his book *Missing Links Discovered in Assyrian Tablets* (1985) that the Media-Persians called the exiled Israelites Scythians and Cimmerians. The Scythians were, as we have mentioned, a group of peoples that lived close to where the exiled Israelites were settled by the Assyrians.

The Danish archaeologist Anne K.G. Kristensen showed in her work *Who Were the Cimmerians, and Where Did They Come From?* (1988) – published by the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, the most prestigious scientific society in Denmark which is regularly attended by the King of Denmark – that the ancient Cimmerians were, in fact, none other than exiled Israelites of the 10 Tribes.

Many Scythians migrated into Europe and assimilated with Germanic-speaking, Celtic-speaking and Finnish-speaking tribes. According to the leading Danish historian of the 18th century Peter Frederik Suhm, the Cimbrians of northern Jutland were, in fact, Cimmerians that had migrated to Jutland from the Black Sea Region.

The Icelandic historian Snorri Sturlason (1179-1241) wrote in his two books *The Younger Edda* (1220) and *Heimskringla* (a.k.a. *The Chronicles of the Kings of Norway*, 1230) that the ancestors of the Norsemen – the Icelanders, Norwegians, Danes and Swedes – had migrated to the Nordic countries from the Black Sea region led by one or several chieftain-priests called Odin beginning in the 1st century BC during the wars of the Roman general Pompey the Great.

Thus, the 10 Tribes of Israel assimilated with Germanic and Celtic tribes, and these tribes became the ancestors of the Celts of the British Isles and also of the Germanic speaking tribes of the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes, Norwegians and Normans that fathered the nation of England, and to a lesser extent contributed to the gene pool of the nations of Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland. These historical connections between the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel and the peoples of north-western Europe are only the tip of the iceberg. In themselves, these historical accounts are only circumstantial evidence for the Israelite origin of the peoples of north-western Europe. But combined with numerous other circumstantial pieces of evidence, and the direct evidence of Bible prophecies about Israel that are only fulfilled in the peoples of north-western European origin, they do provide enough evidence for the unbiased observer to conclude that the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel are, indeed, found in north-western Europe.

Declaration of Arbroath

Secular history, therefore, does provide evidence that the Scots are the literal genetic descendants of the ancient Israelites.

Most people know of Mel Gibson’s blockbuster movie *Braveheart* (1995), where Gibson played William Wallace, the Scottish knight in the First Scottish War of Independence, which started with the English invasion of Scotland in 1296 and ended in 1328.

England succeeded in gaining the mastery over Scotland, but in 1320 the nobility of Scotland wrote the Declaration of Arbroath, which they sent to the Pope in Rome, in order to advance the cause of Scottish independence. In this declaration, the noblemen of Scotland wrote that the Scots had originally come from Scythia and Greece and travelled through the Mediterranean Sea before they

ended up on the British Isles. They do not write explicitly that the Scots were Israelites, but almost: “Most Holy Father and Lord, we know and from the chronicles and books of the ancients we find that among other famous nations our own, the Scots, has been graced with widespread renown.

They journeyed from Greater Scythia by way of the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Pillars of Hercules, and dwelt for a long course of time in Iberia among the most savage tribes, but nowhere could they be subdued by any race, however barbarous.

Thence they came, twelve hundred years after the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea, to their home in the west where they still live today.

The Britons they first drove out, the Picts they utterly destroyed, and, even though very often assailed by the Norwegians, the Danes and the English, they took possession of that home with many victories and untold efforts; and, as the historians of old time bear witness, they have held it free of all bondage ever since.”

The Scots of old were convinced that they had come from the East, and the ancient historical accounts of Ireland of Scotland trace the ancestors of the Scots to Scythia and the Middle East. Is there more that can back up these claims?

Traces of Hebrew in Celtic and Germanic languages

A number of acclaimed linguists have shown that there is a significant influence of Hebrew on the ancient Germanic languages. This includes:

- 1) Dr. Isaac Mozeson, a Canadian Jew, who wrote the book *The Word: The Dictionary That Reveals the Hebrew Source of English* (1989), where he showed that 22,000 English words were of Hebrew origin,
- 2) Terry Marvin Blodgett of the University of Utah, who in his doctoral thesis *Phonological Similarities in Germanic and Hebrew* (1981) showed that there are phonological similarities between Germanic languages and Hebrew, and that this probably is because of Hebraic migrations into Germanic areas as early as 700 BC and the following centuries,
- 3) The Polish linguist Grzegorz Jagodzinski who in 2005 concluded that there is a lot of convergence between Hebrew and the Germanic branch of the Indo-European languages,
- 4) The highly respected Danish linguist Louis Møller in his seminal work *Language: An Introduction* (1963) where he showed that Hamito-Semitic languages and Indo-European languages had a “genetic relationship”, in other words, a common origin.

Another large number of linguists have shown that the Celtic languages of the British Isles also have a major impact from Hebrew, Phoenicians and other Semitic languages. This includes:

- 1) Professor William H. Ferrell of Near Eastern Languages at the University of Michigan in his book *A Study of Races in the Ancient Near East* (1927) wrote that the Celtic languages of the British Isles, and especially colloquial Welsh, show certain peculiarities also found in Hamito-Semitic languages, and that they are unparalleled in other Aryan languages,
- 2) The Swiss linguist and Celtologist Heinrich Wagner wrote in *Studies in the Origins of the Celts and of early Celtic Civilization* (1973) that Celtic Irish has as many features in common with Hamito-Semitic languages as with other Indo-European languages,
- 3) The Welsh grammarian, academic and poet Sir John Morris Jones (1864-1929) believed that the “pre-Aryan idioms which still live in Welsh and Irish were derived from a language allied to Egyptian tongues.”
- 4) The English Lieutenant Colonel Charles Vallencey, who was sent by the English government as the military surveyor of Ireland, wrote in his work *Essay on the Antiquity of the Irish Language, Being a Collation of the Irish with the Punic Language* (1772) that the Irish were

descendants of Phoenicians and Hebrews and that the Celtic-Irish language was a “Punic-Celtic compound” derived from Phoenician and Hebrew.

The fact the linguistic influences from Hebrew and other Semitic languages are found both in proto-Germanic languages in general, but also in the Celtic languages of the British Isles, confirms our view that Hebrews migrated to the ancestral lands of the proto-Germanic tribes in Scandinavia and northern Germany as well as to the Celtic-speaking British Isles.

Smoking gun evidence: Bible prophecy

All these pieces of circumstantial evidence of the Scots-Israelite connections can be interpreted to mean that the Scots and related peoples are, indeed, descended from Israelites. But they can also be interpreted to simply be coincidences. There is, however, one piece of evidence that is a direct “smoking gun” piece of evidence that the Scots and related peoples are, in fact, the descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel. And that is the Biblical prophecies about Israel.

The Biblical prophecies about the 12 Tribes of Israel are, in no wise, fulfilled in the people of the Jews, although the prophecies about the tribe of Judah are fulfilled in the Jews, because the Jews are descended primarily from the tribe of Judah, as the name Jew also implies.

For example, Israel was prophesied to be “as numerous as the sand of sea”:

“Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.” (Hosea 1:10)

Can that be said to be fulfilled in the 15 million Jews? Certainly not! Can it be said to be fulfilled in the nations of north-western Europe and their daughter nations, including the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and white South Africans? Most certainly!

Israel was also prophesied to be ruled by kings:

“And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.” (Genesis 17:6)

Does the Jewish State of Israel have a king? No, it has a president and a prime minister. Do the nations of north-western Europe have kings and queens? They certainly do! The United Kingdom is, of course, a kingdom, and so is the Kingdom of Denmark, the Kingdom of Norway, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Kingdom of Belgium, and so is the Kingdom of Spain.

Several nations that we identify as mainly Israelitish are republics, but that does not mean they are not mainly Israelitish. The United States of America does not have a king, and neither does Germany nor France nor the Jewish State of Israel. But that does not mean they are not predominantly Israelitish, because there are several kings in the other Israelite nations, and therefore the prophecy that Israel was to be ruled by kings is fulfilled.

Zionists claim that the Jews were prophesied to be a ***“light to the nations”*** (Isaiah 49:6), and that the State of Israel fulfills this prophecy. This prophecy is actually about the Messiah, Jesus, which is obvious when you read the entire verse: ***“And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my***

servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.” (Isaiah 49:6)

Even though this prophecy is about the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ, and not about Israel, we can still examine if it has been fulfilled in the Jewish State or if it has, at least in part, been fulfilled in the Christian Western nations.

Which is the best way to be a “light to the nations”? In a material sense it could be to raise the living standards and happiness of the nations of the world. In a humanitarian sense it could be to spread democracy. But the most significant way to be a “light to the nations” would be to spread the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Have the Jews fulfilled that prophecy? Yes and no, because all of the 12 apostles were Jews, and the earliest church was 100% Jewish. But after the crucifixion, the Jews, as a nation, rejected the Gospel entirely and became the “synagogue of Satan” (Rev 2:9 and 3:9, simply meaning the synagogue that rejects Christ).

Do the nations of the world think of the Jewish State of Israel as a “light”, and example to emulate? Certainly not! Especially after the horrendous Hamas attack on 7 October, 2023 and the following Israeli invasion of Gaza, the world considers the Jewish State a “darkness to the nations”, an example of what NOT to be like.

Has Scotland and the nations of north-western Europe fulfilled that prophecy and been a “light to the Gentiles”? Most certainly! After Scotland and the nations of north-western Europe converted to Roman-Catholic Christianity between the 5th and 11th centuries, they were the very nations that spearheaded the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century.

Unsuccessful attempts of bringing the Roman-Catholic Church back to the Bible were launched by the Englishman John Wicliffe (14th century), the Czech Jan Hus (15th century) and another Englishman William Tyndale, who was strangled and burned at the stake by the Catholics in 1536 for being a Lutheran. At his death, Wycliffe prayed: “Lord! Open the eyes of the King of England!” which prayer God did answer when King Henry VIII broke away from the Roman-Catholic Church 1531-36.

The Reformation and the final secession from Roman-Catholicism was accomplished by the German monk Martin Luther (1483-1543) when he nailed his 95 Thesis to the door of the church in Wittenberg. From Wittenberg in Germany the Reformation spread like a wildfire across Europe. Two of the most notable Reformers who followed in the steps of Martin Luther were the Frenchman Jean Calvin (1509-1564) and the Scotsman John Knox (1514-1572).

During my trip to Scotland, I visited the so-called John Knox House in Edinburgh, where John Knox lived for a while. Knox’ main opponent was the Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots. Although John Knox is widely regarded as the father of the Scottish Reformation, the people who run the John Knox House have unfortunately presented the Protestant views of John Knox and the Catholic views of Mary Queen of Scots as equal.

Ephraim and Manasseh

Almost all students of the Lost Tribes of Israel view the United Kingdom as the Tribe of Ephraim and the United States as the Tribe of Manasseh.

The patriarch Joseph blessed his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, and he gave the greater blessing to his younger son, Ephraim:

“he [i.e., Manasseh] also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother [i.e., Ephraim] shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations. And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.” (Genesis 48:19-20)

In the Old Testament, Ephraim was made great by great individuals, such as Joshua the son of Nun and Jeroboam the son of Nebat. But still, the territory of Ephraim was rather limited to the area between Jerusalem and Samaria.

Manasseh, on the other hand, was blessed by great territories. Manasseh had, unlike the other tribes, two territories. One on the western side of the Jordan River, just north of the territory of Ephraim, and one on the eastern side of the Jordan River, in what today is the Golan Heights, southern Syria and north-western Jordan. Like Manasseh in the time of the Old Testament had vast territories, so does the Tribe of Manasseh today. The United States is a huge nation, the 3rd or 4th largest nation in the world. (The U.S. and China are almost the same size. If lakes are counted as a part of the size of the nation, the U.S. is larger, but if they are not, China is larger.) Scotland and Wales are also large nations in square kilometers and have a low population density, much like the United States, but unlike England, which has a high population density, just like the ancient tribe of Ephraim.

Therefore, we see that Ephraim was blessed by great individuals, while Manasseh was blessed by great quantity of everything. Another way of saying it is that Ephraim was blessed by quality and Manasseh was blessed by quantity.

Yair Davidiy is a Jewish-Israeli expert on the Lost Tribes of Israel and has written many books on the subject. Yair Davidiy has shown that the vast majority of British emigration to the United States was from the Celtic areas of Britain, i.e. Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and north-western England. Most of England, with the exception of the north-west of England, was vastly under-represented in emigration to the United States.

Is this a coincidence? No.

England is primarily Ephraim, and the Celtic nations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are partly Ephraim and partly Manasseh. America is primarily Manasseh, and the majority of British immigrants to America have come from the Celtic areas of Britain. From this we can therefore conclude that the Celtic areas of Britain – i.e., Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – were primarily of Manasseh, while most of England is primarily of Ephraim.

Since America is primarily of Manasseh, we can also conclude that most of the Scots that remain in Scotland today are primarily of Ephraim and not of Manasseh. Most Scots of Manassite ancestry have already have emigrated to America.

Conclusion: The Scots ARE Israelites!

Numerous secular pieces of evidence support our belief that the Scots and related peoples are descendants of the ancient Israelites. These pieces of evidence are, however, circumstantial evidence. They could be interpreted to support our view that the Scots and related peoples are Israelites, but they could also be interpreted to mean that they are simply coincidences.

There is, however, one piece of direct, or “smoking gun”, evidence that conclusively settles the questions whether Scots and related peoples are Israelites or not. And that is the numerous Biblical prophecies about the 10 Tribes of the House of Israel, which is completely fulfilled in the Scots and related peoples, but is absolutely not fulfilled in the Jewish people, nor in the Church in general.

The direct evidence of Bible prophecy supported by the indirect evidence of history, archaeology, genetics, linguistics, etc., therefore confirms that the Scots and related peoples of north-western European ancestry are the descendants of the Lost 10 Tribes of Israel.

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