

## Merneptah and the Seed of Israel.

Merneptah Baenre Hotepirmaat's (or 'Hophra's) reference to Israel, archaeologists frequently remind us, is "the first reference to Israel in an Egyptian inscription". What they do not add is that it also appears to be the last reference to 'Israel' in Egyptian literature. If there are other references, we either have not found them, or our archaeologists and commentators overlooked them in their narratives.

The problem is resolved in two ways. Either 'Israel' was more commonly referred to by some other name (c.f., *Retinue*), or names, or it is possible to infer that Merneptah's reference was aimed not at Israel the nation but at Israel the patriarch. Israel the nation is descended from Israel the Patriarch i.e., Jacob who was renamed 'Israel' after his struggle with God (Genesis 32:28). Israel is also descended from Abraham and Isaac but other nations (Arabia and Edom) can also claim descent from the first two Patriarchs. The Twelve Tribes of Israel were descended from the families that came to Egypt as refugees from famine in 'Canaan'. These families multiplied over four hundred years of sojourn in Egypt and they left their host nation in a blaze of glory (or destruction), claiming to be the Chosen of God, the Seed of Jacob (Israel). This is why Israel is really looked on as the Seed of Jacob (Israel). To connect Merneptah's reference to Israel in this context is not particularly obvious unless it is considered in the context of the word 'Seed' in its theological context with Israel.

Theologically, the 'Seed' referred to the promise given to the wives of Adam, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob then Judah, one of the sons of Jacob (Israel). From the beginning of the 6<sup>th</sup> Century BC (probably 610-586 BC), Nebuchadnezzar began to carry away to Babylon all the 'Chosen' or the brightest and 'royals' of Judah and Jerusalem. This culminated with the complete destruction of Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar's armies despoiled the whole country. It would have seemed to the observer in Egypt, and elsewhere, that Israel's (i.e., Jacob's) Seed or posterity had indeed been exterminated.

Actually, the mere reference to 'Seed' in Merneptah's stele seems enigmatic unless it had somehow been an important concept. A concept of importance can be understood if it is looked at in the Biblical context. Some of this is in a theological context. That theological context would have been understood by Israel's contemporaries for they too had strong (probably contrary) religious beliefs. But looked at from the perspective of modern secular historians the real connections are more likely to be misunderstood. Even so, the secular observer cannot deny the frequency of reference to the concept of the 'Seed' in the Biblical text as the following table seeks to demonstrate.

The following table takes the various Biblical references to the 'Seed' in a chronological sequence beginning from the promise given to Eve, the first woman. Other references will be given to amplify the theme. The Hebrew word for 'Seed' appears more than two hundred times in the Old Testament. It is the same Hebrew word throughout, with about four exceptions, and it applies to both the plural and the singular though context determines which is to be applied. Obviously 'Seed' as in seeds of plants sown for harvesting is plural.

Those references are excluded from the table below. Sometimes 'Seed' is referred to in reference to sexual intercourse where 'Seed' can be contextually singular or plural.

Genesis	3:15	"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy <u>seed</u> and her <u>seed</u> ; it shall bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise his heel."
Genesis	4:25	"God has appointed me another <u>seed</u> instead of Abel".
Genesis	9:9	(To Noah) "I establish my covenant with you, and with your <u>seed</u> after you"
Genesis	12:7	(To Abram) "Unto thy <u>seed</u> will I give this land".
Genesis	13:15	(.. The land ..) "To thee will I give it, and to thy <u>seed</u> for ever"
Genesis	13:16 a	"I will make thy <u>seed</u> as the dust of the earth"
Genesis	13:16 b	" .. if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy <u>seed</u> also be numbered."
Genesis	15:3	(verse 2, "I go childless") .... "Behold, to me thou hast given no <u>seed</u> :"
Genesis	15:5	(alluding to the host of stars in the heavens) "If thou be able to number them, .... So shall thy <u>seed</u> be."
Genesis	15:13	With reference to the slavery in Egypt ".... thy <u>seed</u> shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs,"
Genesis	15:18	"Unto thy <u>seed</u> have I given this land"
Genesis	16:10	(To Hagar, re Ishmael's descendants) "I will multiply thy <u>seed</u> exceedingly"
Genesis Numbers	17:5 17:15 13:8 13:16	Abram (אַבְרָם) renamed Abraham (אַבְרָהָם). Sarai (שָׂרַי) renamed Sarah (שָׂרָה). Oshea (הוֹשֵׁעַ) named. Oshea renamed Jehoshua (יְהוֹשֻׁעַ) [c.f., Acts 7:45].  A word picture where the <u>seed</u> represented by the image of the Hebrew letter <i>yod</i> (י), the equivalent of English's 'i' or 'j', is taken from Sarai and conferred on Oshea.
Genesis	17:7	(To Abraham) "And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy <u>seed</u> after thee."
Genesis	17:8	"And I will give unto thee, and to thy <u>seed</u> after thee, the land ..."
Genesis	17:9	"Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy <u>seed</u> after thee in their generations".
Genesis	17:10	"This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy <u>seed</u> after thee; every man child among you shall be circumcised."

Genesis	17:19 - 21	(19) "And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant and with his <b>seed</b> after him.  (20) And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.  (21) But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year."
Genesis	19:32	(re Lot and his daughters) " ... That we may preserve the <b>seed</b> of our father."
Genesis	19:34	(Lot's daughters) " ... That we may preserve the <b>seed</b> of our father."
Genesis	21:12	" .. for in Isaac shall thy <b>seed</b> be called."
Genesis	21:13	(re Hagar) " And also of the son of the bondwoman will I make a nation, because he is thy <b>seed</b> ".
Genesis	22:17	" ... I will multiply thy <b>seed</b> as the stars of the heaven .... ; and thy <b>seed</b> shall possess the gate of his enemies;"
Genesis	22:18	(To Abraham) "in thy <b>seed</b> shall all the nations of the earth be blessed because thou hast obeyed my voice"
Genesis	24:7	".. Unto thy <b>seed</b> will I give this land; ..."
Genesis	24:60	(Rebecca's family blessing Rebecca) "let thy <b>seed</b> possess the gates of those that hate them."
Genesis	26:3	(To Isaac in Canaan) "Sojourn in this land ... for unto thee, and unto thy <b>seed</b> , I will give all these countries ..."
Genesis	26:4	(To Isaac) "And I will make thy <b>seed</b> to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy <b>seed</b> all these countries, and in thy <b>seed</b> shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."
Genesis	26:24	(To Isaac) "I am the God of Abraham thy father, ... (I will) ... multiply thy <b>seed</b> for my servant Abraham's sake."
Genesis	28:4	(Isaac blessing Jacob) " .. and give thee the blessing of Abraham, to thee, and to thy <b>seed</b> with thee ..."
Genesis	28:13	(At the scene where Jacob dreamed of the ladder going to heaven) " ... the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy <b>seed</b> ."
Genesis	28:14	(To Jacob) "... thy <b>seed</b> shall be as the dust of the earth, .... and in thy <b>seed</b> shall all the families of the earth be blessed."
Genesis	32 :12	(Jacob asking God for protection from Esau) "I will surely do thee good, and make thy <b>seed</b> as the sand of the sea."

Genesis	35:12	(God to Jacob) "And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee will I give it, and to thy <b>seed</b> after thee will I give the land".
Genesis	38: 8-9, 29	"And Judah said to Onan, Go in unto thy [late] brother's wife, and marry her, and raise up <b>seed</b> to thy brother. And Onan knew that the seed should not be his, and it came to pass, when he went in unto his brother's wife, that he spilled it on the ground, lest that he should give <b>seed</b> to his brother."  (Judah then impregnates Tamar, believing her to be a prostitute, and Pharez is born, verse 29. Refer next to Ruth 4:12.)
Genesis	46: 6-7	(Jacob leaves Beersheba for Egypt) "And they took their cattle, and their goods, which they had gotten in the land of Canaan, and came into Egypt, Jacob, and all his <b>seed</b> with him: His sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters, and all his <b>seed</b> brought he with him into Egypt."
Genesis	48:4	(Jacob telling Joseph, his son, what God had told him regarding his seed) " ... and will give this land (i.e., Canaan) to thy <b>seed</b> after thee for an everlasting possession."
Genesis	48:11	(At Jacob's reunion with Joseph) "And <b>Israel</b> (i.e., Jacob, c.f. <b>Gen 35:10</b> ) said to Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath showed me also thy <b>seed</b> ."
Genesis	48:19	(Re Ephraim the younger son of Joseph) " ... and his <b>seed</b> shall become a multitude of nations."
Exodus	28:43	(Re Aaron's priestly office and his descendants) " ... it shall be a statute for ever unto him and his <b>seed</b> after him."
Exodus	30:21	(Re Aaron's priestly office) " ... it shall be a statute ... To them ... and to his <b>seed</b> throughout their generations."
Exodus	32:13	(Moses interceding on behalf of Israel about to be destroyed by an angry God) "Remember Abraham, Isaac and <b>Israel</b> , thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thy own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your <b>seed</b> as the stars of the heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your <b>seed</b> , and they shall inherit it for ever."
Exodus	33:1	(God angry with Israel again says to Moses) " .... (instead) Unto thy <b>seed</b> (i.e., Moses') will I give it (i.e., the land)."
Leviticus	21:15	(Rules for priests) "... neither shall he profane his <b>seed</b> among his people."
Leviticus	21:17	(to Aaron) "Whosoever he be of thy <b>seed</b> in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God."
Leviticus	21:21	"No man that hath a blemish of the <b>seed</b> of Aaron ... shall come nigh ... to the Lord ..."
Leviticus	22:3-4	Further statutes regarding the <b>seed</b> of the priestly office.
Numbers	14:24	(Re Caleb, Joshua's faithful supporter) "... and his <b>seed</b> shall possess it." (Promising that Caleb would survive to enter Canaan, whereas all others of his generation, Joshua excepted, would die in the desert.)

Numbers	16:40	(After Korah's rebellion) "To be a memorial unto the <b>children of Israel</b> , that no stranger, which is not of the <b>seed</b> of Aaron, (shall) come near to offer incense before the Lord ..."
Numbers	18:19	"All the heave offerings ... , which the <b>children of Israel</b> offer unto the Lord .... is a covenant .... to thy <b>seed</b> with thee."
Numbers	23:21-23	(God turns Balaam's attempts to curse Israel into a blessing. This is interesting for the clear identification of ' <b>Jacob</b> ' as ' <b>Israel</b> '):  "He hath not beheld iniquity in <b>Jacob</b> , neither hath he seen perverseness in <b>Israel</b> : the Lord his God is with him and the shout of a king is among them. God brought them out of Egypt; he hath as it were the strength of an unicorn. Surely there is no enchantment against <b>Jacob</b> , neither is there any divination against <b>Israel</b> : according to this time it shall be said of <b>Jacob and of Israel</b> , What hath God wrought!"
Numbers	24:7	(Another curse by Balaam turns into a blessing) "He shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his <b>seed</b> shall be in many waters, and his king shall be higher than Agag (of 'Amalek'), and his kingdom shall be exalted." [c.f., Numbers 24:20: "Amalek was the first ( <i>Roshit</i> , ראשית, or 'chief') of the nations; but his latter end <i>shall be</i> that he perish for ever." (c.f., Esther 6:13.)]
Numbers	25:12-13	(God's covenant with Phineas because he stopped the <b>Children of Israel</b> , c.f., verses 6, 8 and 11 in the same chapter, from sinning against God) "... I give unto him my covenant of peace: And he shall have it, and his <b>seed</b> after him .."
Deuteronomy	1:8	"Behold, I have set the land before you, go in and possess the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give unto them and to their <b>seed</b> after them."
Deuteronomy	4:37	"Because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their <b>seed</b> after them, and brought thee out in his sight with mighty power out of Egypt."
Deuteronomy	10:15	"Only the Lord had a delight in thy fathers to love them, and he chose their <b>seed</b> after them, even you above all people, as it is this day."
Deuteronomy	11:9	"and that ye may prolong your days in the land, which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give unto them and to their <b>seed</b> , a land that floweth with milk and honey." (I.e., Israel/Canaan.)
Deuteronomy	28:46	(When Israel did not obey God's law, or while they were in disobedience, curses would "pursue" them in contrast to the situation with Balaam's attempt to curse Israel. Thus:)  "And they shall be upon thee for a <b>sign</b> and for a wonder, and upon thy <b>seed</b> for ever".
Deuteronomy	30:6	"And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy <b>seed</b> , to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live." (c.f., Jeremiah 31:33).
Deuteronomy	30:19	"... Therefore choose life, that both thou and thy <b>seed</b> may live."

Deuteronomy	31:21	(Re the song that Moses is about to give before he dies:)  "And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness, for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their <b>seed</b> : ..." (The song appears in chapter 32.)
Deuteronomy	34:4	(God shows Moses the land he promised to Israel.) "This is the land which I swear unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy <b>seed</b> : ..."

Joshua	24:3	(Joshua giving a short history of Israel before he dies.) "And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his <b>seed</b> , and gave him Isaac."
Ruth	4:11-12	(Boaz, Ruth's second husband, was descended from Judah and Tamar; c.f., Genesis 38: 8-9, 29.)  "The Lord make the woman (i.e., Ruth) that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah (the wives of Jacob/Israel) which two did build the <b>house of Israel</b> : and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem. And let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the <b>seed</b> which the Lord shall give thee of this young woman"
I Samuel	20:42	(Jonathan to David re his pact with David.) "The Lord be between me and thee, and between my <b>seed</b> and thy <b>seed</b> for ever."
I Samuel	24:21	(King Saul to David, once he realises David's <b>seed</b> will inherit the throne of Israel.) "Swear .... that thou wilt not cut off my <b>seed</b> after me ...."
II Samuel	4:8	" ... Behold the head of Ish-bosheth the son of Saul thine enemy, which sought thy life ... the Lord hath avenged my lord the king this day of Saul, and of his <b>seed</b> ." (David had these murderers executed.)
II Samuel	7:12	(The word of the Lord, via Nathan, to David.) "And when thy days be fulfilled, ... I will set up thy <b>seed</b> after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom." (c.f., I Chronicles 17:11 ff.)
II Samuel	22:51	(Note: c.f., Psalm 18:50.) "He is the tower of salvation for his king: and sheweth mercy to his anointed, unto David, and to his <b>seed</b> for evermore."
I Kings	2:33	"... but upon David, and upon his <b>seed</b> , and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace for ever from the Lord."
I Kings	11:14	"And the lord stirred up an adversary to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's <b>seed</b> in Edom."
I Kings	11:39	(The kingdom is divided because of Solomon's hedonism, and God gives ten of the tribes of Israel to Jeroboam the son of Nebat who later proves to be no better king.)  "And I will for this afflict the <b>seed</b> of David, but not for ever."

II Kings	5:27	"The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy <b>seed</b> for ever."
II Kings	11:1	"... she (Athalia) arose and destroyed all the <b>seed</b> royal." (The context shows that she did not quite succeed.)
II Kings	17:20	"And the Lord rejected all the <b>seed</b> of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hands of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight."
II Kings	25:25	"... Ishmael, the son of Nethaniah, the son of Elishama, of the <b>seed</b> royal ..." (c.f., Jeremiah 41:1)
I Chronicles	16:13-19	"O ye <b>seed of Israel</b> his servant, ye <b>children of Jacob</b> , his chosen ones ... be ye mindful always of his covenant ... <i>even of the covenant</i> which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac; and hath confirmed the same to <b>Jacob</b> for a law, <i>and to Israel</i> for an everlasting covenant, Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance, when ye were but few, even a few, and strangers in it."
I Chronicles	17:11	"And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go <i>to be</i> with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy <b>seed</b> after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom." (c.f., II Samuel 7:12 ff. In this case, there is no reference to a need to 'chasten' the son as in II Samuel 7:14. The 'seed' here is assumed to be sinless Messiah Jesus.)
II Chronicles	20:7	(A prayer of Jehoshaphat, facing a coalition of Ammonites, Moabites and Syrians, and seeking God's help). " <i>Art</i> not thou our God, <i>who</i> didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the <b>seed</b> of Abraham thy friend for ever?"
II Chronicles	22:10	"... she (Athalia) arose and destroyed all the <b>seed royal</b> of the house of Judah." (The context shows that she did not quite succeed, c.f., II Kings 11:2.)
Ezra	2:59	"... but they could not show (presumably from records or archives) their father's house, and their <b>seed</b> , whether they <i>were</i> of Israel."
Ezra	9:2	"... so that the <b>holy seed</b> have mingled themselves with the people (settlers) of <i>those</i> lands: ..."
Nehemiah	7:61	"but they could not show their father's house, nor their <b>seed</b> , whether they <i>were</i> of Israel."
Nehemiah	9:2 7-8	"And the <b>seed of Israel</b> separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers."  "Thou <i>art</i> the Lord God, who didst choose Abram, and brought him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the name of Abraham; And foundest his heart faithful before thee, and madest a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanites ..... to give <i>it</i> , <i>I say</i> , to his <b>seed</b> , and hast performed thy words, for thou <i>art</i> righteous."

Esther	6:13	"... then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him (Haman the Aagagite/Amalekite), if Mordecai be of the <b>seed</b> of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him." (c.f. Numbers 24:7)
Esther	9:27	(Re the keeping of the 2-day feast of Purim.) "The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their <b>seed</b> ... that they would keep these two days according to their writing ..."
Esther	9:28	"And that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their <b>seed</b> ."
Esther	9:31	"To confirm these days of Purim in their times <i>appointed</i> , according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their <b>seed</b> , the matters of the fastings and their cry."
Esther	10:3	"For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his <b>seed</b> ."
Psalms	18:50	c.f., II Samuel 22:51
Psalms	22:23	"Ye that fear the Lord, praise him; all ye the <b>seed of Jacob</b> , glorify him; and fear him, all ye the <b>seed of Israel</b> ."
Psalms	22:30	"A <b>seed</b> shall serve him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation."

Psalms	37:25-28	"... I (have) not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his <b>seed</b> begging bread, ... He is ever merciful ... and His <b>seed</b> is blessed ... for the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not His saints, ... but the <b>seed</b> of the wicked shall be cut off."
Psalms	69:35-36	"For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there ... The <b>seed</b> also of his servants shall inherit it ...."
Psalms	89:3-4	"I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy <b>seed</b> will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah."
Psalms	89:29, 30 32 33-37	(Re "David my servant" from verse 20.) "His <b>seed</b> also will I make <i>to endure</i> for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven ... ... If his children forsake my law ... ... then will I visit their transgression with the rod ... ... nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him ... my covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips, Once I have sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. His <b>seed</b> shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah."



Psalm	105:5-6	“Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth; O ye <b>seed of Abraham</b> his servant, ye <b>children of Jacob</b> his chosen.”
Psalm	106:23  26 & 27	“Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him ...  ... Therefore he lifted up his hand against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness: To overthrow their <b>seed</b> also among the nations, and to scatter them in the lands.”
Psalm	126:4-6	“Turn again our captivity ... he that goeth forth and weeping, bearing precious <b>seed</b> , shall doubtless come again with rejoicing ...”
Proverbs	11:21	“... the wicked shall not be unpunished: but the <b>seed</b> of the righteous shall be delivered.”
Isaiah	1:4	“Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a <b>seed</b> of evildoers ... they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger.” (Note: verse 7: “Your country is desolate”. Presumably this relates more to the northern kingdom for Judah under Hezekiah still obeyed the Law.)
Isaiah	6:10  11  12  13	“Make the heart of this people fat .... shut their eyes; lest they see .. and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed  Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, until the cities be wasted without inhabitant ... and the land be utterly desolate,  And the Lord have removed men far away ...  ... but yet ... it shall return ... so the <b>holy seed</b> shall be the substance thereof.”
Isaiah	41:8	“But thou, <b>Israel</b> , <i>art</i> my servant, <b>Jacob</b> whom I have chosen, the <b>seed</b> of Abraham my friend.”
Isaiah	43:1  5	“But now, thus saith the Lord that created (בראך) thee, O <b>Jacob</b> , and he that formed (יצרך) thee, O <b>Israel</b> , Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called <i>thee</i> by thy name, thou <i>art</i> mine.  Fear not: for I <i>am</i> with thee: I will bring thy <b>seed</b> from the east, and gather thee from the west;”
Isaiah	44:1-3	“Yet now hear, O <b>Jacob</b> my servant; and <b>Israel</b> , whom I have chosen: Thus saith the Lord that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, <i>which</i> will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.  For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy <b>seed</b> , and my blessing upon thy offspring.”

Isaiah	45:18-19	<p>“For thus saith the Lord that created (בּוֹרָא) the heavens; God himself that formed (יִצַר) the earth and made (וּעִשָּׂה) it; he hath established it, he created (בְּרָאָה) it, not in vain, he formed (יִצְרָה) it to be inhabited: I <i>am</i> the Lord; and <i>there is none else</i>.</p> <p>I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the <b>seed of Jacob</b>, Seek ye me in vain: I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.”</p>
Isaiah	45:25	“In the Lord shall all the <b>seed of Israel</b> be justified, and shall glory.”
Isaiah	48:17, 19	<p>“Thus saith the Lord, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; I <i>am</i> the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way <i>that</i> thou shouldest go .....</p> <p>... O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments ...</p> <p>... Thy <b>seed</b> also had been as the sand ...</p> <p>... his name should not have been cut off nor destroyed from before me.”</p>
Isaiah	53:10	“Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put <i>him</i> to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see <i>his seed</i> , he shall prolong <i>his</i> days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.”
Isaiah	54:3	“ ... and thy <b>seed</b> shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolated cities to be inhabited.”
Isaiah	57:3-4	“But draw near hither, ye sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the whore. Against whom do ye sport yourselves? Against whom make ye a wide mouth, <i>and</i> draw out the tongue? <i>Are</i> ye not children of transgression, a <b>seed</b> of falsehood?”
Isaiah	59:21	“As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord; My spirit that <i>is</i> upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy <b>seed</b> , nor out of the mouth of thy <b>seed’s seed</b> , saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.”
Isaiah	61:9	(Speaking of Zion/Israel:) “And their <b>seed</b> shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people: all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they <i>are</i> the <b>seed</b> <i>which</i> the Lord hath blessed.”
Isaiah	65:9	“And I will bring forth a <b>seed</b> out of <b>Jacob</b> , and out of <b>Judah</b> and inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.”
Isaiah	65:23	“ ... for they <i>are</i> the <b>seed</b> of the blessed of the Lord, and their offspring with them.”
Isaiah	66:22	“For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make (וּעִשָּׂה), shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your <b>seed</b> and your name remain.”
Jeremiah	2:21	“Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right <b>seed</b> : how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?”

Jeremiah	7:15	(Referring to Judah. More than one hundred years previously, the northern kingdom, sometimes referred to as Ephraim, had been driven out by the Assyrians.) "And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, <i>even</i> the whole <b>seed</b> of Ephraim."
Jeremiah	22:28	" <i>Is</i> this man Coniah a despised broken idol? <i>Is he</i> a vessel wherein <i>is</i> no pleasure? wherefore are they cast out, he and his <b>seed</b> , and are cast into a land which they know not? ....
Jeremiah	22:30	.... for no man of his <b>seed</b> (i.e., Coniah's) shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, ruling any more in Judah." (Matthew 1:12. Joseph, Mary's husband was descended from 'Coniah'. But Jesus is eligible to rule because He is not of Joseph's seed but "born of a Virgin".)
Jeremiah	23:8	"But, the Lord liveth, which brought up and which led the <b>seed</b> of the <b>house of Israel</b> out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land."
Jeremiah	30:10	"Therefore fear thou not, O my servant <b>Jacob</b> , saith the Lord; neither be dismayed, <b>O Israel</b> : for, lo, I will save thee from afar, and thy <b>seed</b> from the land of their captivity, and <b>Jacob</b> shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make <i>him</i> afraid."
Jeremiah	31:27	"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will sow the house of <b>Israel</b> and the house of <b>Judah</b> with the <b>seed</b> of man, and with the <b>seed</b> of beast."
Jeremiah	31:31	"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:
Jeremiah	31:32	Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day <i>that</i> I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: (c.f., Hosea 2:2,7 or Lamentations 1:1).
Jeremiah	31:33	But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts, and will be their God, and they shall be my people .... (c.f., Deuteronomy 30:6.)
Jeremiah	31:34	.... and they shall teach no more ... Know (ye) the Lord (?) ... for they shall all know me ... for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more ....
Jeremiah	31:35	Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, <i>and</i> the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night ....
Jeremiah	31:36	... if those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, <i>then</i> the <b>seed</b> of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.
Jeremiah	31:37	Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth be searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the <b>seed</b> of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord."
Jeremiah	33:22	"As the host of heaven cannot be numbered ... so I will multiply the <b>seed of David</b> my servant ...

Jeremiah	33:25	... if my covenant <i>be</i> not with day and night, <i>and</i> if I have not appointed the ordinances of the heaven and the earth;
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Jeremiah	33:20	..If ye can break my covenant of the day .. and of the night..
Jeremiah	33:21	... Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant ...
Jeremiah	33:26	Then will I cast away the <b>seed of Jacob</b> , and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his <b>seed</b> to be rulers over the <b>seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob</b> : for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.”
Jeremiah	36:30	“Therefore thus saith the Lord of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: ....
Jeremiah	36:31	And I will punish him and his <b>seed</b> and his servants for their iniquity ....” (c.f., Matthew 1:12 where Joseph, the husband of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is a descendant of ‘Jeconias’ of whom this curse was said by Jeremiah. )
Jeremiah	41:1	“ ... Nethaniah the son of Elishama, of the <b>seed royal</b> , ....” (c.f., II Kings 25:25).
Jeremiah	44:30	“Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will give Pharaoh-Hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies ... as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar ( <i>sic</i> ) king of Babylon, ...” (c.f., Lamentations 1:21)
Jeremiah	46:27	“But fear thou not, O my servant <b>Jacob</b> , and be not dismayed, O <b>Israel</b> : for, behold, I will save thee from afar off, and thy <b>seed</b> from the land of their captivity; and <b>Jacob</b> shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make <i>him</i> afraid.
Jeremiah	46:28	Fear thou not, O <b>Jacob my servant</b> , saith the Lord: for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee: but <b>I will not make a full end of thee</b> , but correct thee in measure; <b>yet I will not leave thee wholly unpunished.</b> ”
Jeremiah	49:10	“ ... I have made Esau bare ... his <b>seed</b> is spoiled ... and he is not.”

And the following statements from the “Lamentations of Jeremiah”:

Lamentations 1:1	“How doth the city sit solitary, <i>that was</i> full of people! <i>how</i> is she become as a <b>widow</b> ! she <i>that was</i> great among the nations ...
Lamentations 1:3	... Judah is gone into captivity ....
Lamentations 1:16	... my children are <b>desolate</b> , because the enemy prevailed
Lamentations 1:18	... my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity ...
Lamentations 1:21	... all mine enemies have heard of my trouble (*) ; they are glad that thou hast done <i>it</i> : ...  [* Note: especially Merneptah Baenre Hotepirmaat (Hophra) c.f., Jeremiah 44:30)

Lamentations 1:22		Let all their wickedness come before thee; and do unto them, as thou hast done unto me for all my transgressions:"
Lamentations 2:1		"How hath the Lord ..... cast down from heaven unto the earth the beauty of <b>Israel</b> , and remembered not his footstool in the day of his anger.
Lamentations 2:2		The Lord hath swallowed up all the <b>habitations of Jacob</b> , and hath not pitied ... he hath polluted the kingdom and the princes thereof ...
Lamentations 2:3		... and he burned against <b>Jacob</b> like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about ..
Lamentations 2:5		... the Lord was as an enemy, he hath swallowed up <b>Israel</b> ...he hath destroyed his strongholds ...
Lamentations 2:6		... he hath destroyed his places of the assembly ...
Lamentations 2:13		... What thing shall I take to witness for thee? ... for thy breach <i>is</i> great like the sea: who can heal thee?"
Ezekiel	17:12-13	"... Behold, the king of Babylon is come to Jerusalem, and hath taken the king thereof, ... and hath taken of the king's <b>seed</b> ..."
Ezekiel	20:5-6	" .... In the day when I chose Israel, and lifted up mine hand unto the <b>seed of the house of Jacob</b> , and made myself known unto them in the land of Egypt ... In the day <i>that</i> I lifted up mine hand unto them, to bring them forth of the land of Egypt into a land ..flowing with milk and honey, which <i>is</i> the glory of all lands ..."
Ezekiel	43:19	"... the Levites that be the <b>seed</b> of Zadok ..."
Ezekiel	44:22	"... but they shall take maidens of the <b>seed of the house of Israel</b> ..."
Daniel	1:3	"And the king ( <i>of Babylon</i> ) spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring <i>certain</i> of the <b>children of Israel</b> , and of the <b>king's seed</b> , and of the princes;"
Daniel	2:43	(Daniel explaining to king Nebuchadnezzar the meaning of a dream the king had:) "... thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the <b>seed of men</b> ..."
Daniel	9:1	"In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the <b>seed of the Medes</b> , ..."
Malachi	2:3	"Behold, I will corrupt your <b>seed</b> , and spread dung upon your faces ..."
Malachi	2:14-15	"because the Lord hath been a witness between thee and the wife of thy youth .... yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. And did not he make one? ... That he might seek a Godly <b>seed</b> ."