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GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What Was the Mixed Multitude?

TEACHING SUMMARY

This teaching examines the "mixed multitude" that left Egypt alongside the Israelites during the Exodus. Many believe God's Law was given only to the physical descendants of Jacob, but the Scriptures reveal that a large group of Gentiles also left Egypt and stood with Israel at Mount Sinai when YHWH established His covenant. The teaching argues that God's covenant and His Torah were never intended exclusively for one ethnic group but for all who willingly joined themselves to Him.

The lesson shows that the mixed multitude joined Israel in agreeing to obey everything YHWH commanded. Throughout the Torah, God repeatedly declares that there is one law for the native-born Israelite and the sojourner who worships alongside them. Whether discussing Passover, covenant responsibilities, or the reading of the Torah, Scripture consistently teaches that both Israelites and Gentiles were expected to live by the same standard.

The teaching then connects this Old Testament pattern with Paul's writings. Romans 11 describes Gentile believers as branches grafted into Israel's olive tree rather than forming a separate people of God. Ephesians 2 likewise teaches that Gentiles who were once strangers to the covenants have now been brought near through Messiah and become fellow citizens of the commonwealth of Israel. The lesson emphasizes that believers are not replacing Israel but becoming part of the people God established long ago.

Finally, the teaching looks ahead to Ezekiel's prophecy of the coming Messianic Kingdom. During Messiah's reign, believing sojourners will receive an inheritance among the tribes of Israel just as native-born Israelites do. The lesson concludes that God's people have always consisted of all who trust Him and follow His ways. The mixed multitude serves as an early picture of God's plan to unite believing Jews and Gentiles into one covenant people under His authority.

SUMMARY POINTS

- A mixed multitude left Egypt with Israel.
- Gentiles stood at Mount Sinai when God gave His covenant.
- The mixed multitude agreed to obey YHWH's commands.
- Scripture repeatedly teaches there is one law for the native-born and the sojourner.
- The Torah applies to all who join themselves to YHWH.
- Gentile believers are grafted into Israel's olive tree.
- Believers become part of the commonwealth of Israel through Messiah.
- Ezekiel prophesies that sojourners will inherit land alongside Israel's tribes.
- God's people consist of all who faithfully follow Him.
- The mixed multitude foreshadows the unity of Jews and Gentiles in Messiah.

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Basic

1. A _____ multitude left Egypt with Israel.
2. The mixed multitude stood with Israel at Mount _____.
3. God declared there is one _____ for the native-born and the sojourner.
4. Gentile believers are grafted into Israel's _____ tree.
5. Through Messiah, believers become part of the _____ of Israel.
6. Ezekiel says believing sojourners will receive an _____ among the tribes of Israel.

Challenging

1. Exodus _____ records the mixed multitude leaving Egypt with Israel.
2. Deuteronomy 31 commands that the _____ hear the reading of God's Law.
3. Romans 11 compares Israel to a cultivated _____ tree.

4. Ezekiel _____ describes the future inheritance of believing sojourners.
5. Ephesians 2 says Gentiles were once strangers to the covenants of _____.
6. The teaching concludes that God's people are identified by covenant _____ rather than ethnicity alone.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why is the mixed multitude significant in understanding who God's covenant was given to?
- What does the repeated phrase "one law for the native-born and the sojourner" teach about God's character?
- How does Romans 11 help explain the relationship between Gentile believers and Israel?
- Why is it important to understand that believers are grafted into Israel rather than replacing Israel?
- What does Ezekiel's prophecy teach about God's future Kingdom?
- How should this teaching affect the way believers understand their identity in Messiah?

ANSWER KEY – GROUP GUIDE

Basic

1. Mixed
2. Sinai
3. Law
4. Olive
5. Commonwealth
6. Inheritance

Challenging

1. 12
2. Sojourner
3. Olive
4. 47
5. Promise
6. Faithfulness