

The

Covenant Nations



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1, 2020

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▲ In the early twentieth century growers watched helplessly as their daffodils' leaves twisted, the bulbs discoloured and the plants withered and died. By 1916 concern had reached panic levels. After painstaking research James Kirkham Ramsbottom saved the daffodils and the growers from a devastating parasite, the stem eelworm, by devising a heat treatment which left the bulbs unharmed and parasite-free. This treatment is still used today.

◀ COVER PICTURE:

The Lord Jesus Christ said *"I am the light of the world"* in the Gospel of *John*, chapter 8 verse 12. The scripture in *Isaiah* 49:6 speaks of the servant people, *"I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth."*

*Join us in the Great Cause
to Wake Up God's
Covenant Nations!*

The Covenant Nations

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Michael A Clark Philippa M Clark
Ernest S Gage Kathleen D Gage
David J Aimer

HEAD OFFICE

The British-Israel-World Federation
Telephone: 01388 834395
E-mail: admin@britishisrael.co.uk
Web: www.britishisrael.co.uk

The Covenant Publishing Co Ltd
Telephone: 01388 835753
E-mail: admin@covpub.co.uk
Web: www.covpub.co.uk

The National Bible College
Telephone: 01388 834395
Email: admin@tnbc.org.uk
Web: www.tnbc.org.uk

121 Low Etherley, Bishop Auckland DL14 0HA
United Kingdom

OVERSEAS OFFICES

Australia

BIWF (Queensland) Inc., 41 Kirikee Street, Ferny Grove,
Queensland, 4055
Telephone: +61 (0) 3851 2697
E-mail: micdor1@optusnet.com.au
Web: www.britishisrael.org.au/qld

BIWF Victoria, P.O. Box 274, Wonthaggi, Victoria, 3995
Telephone: +61 (3) 5672 1255
Email: vic@britishisrael.org.au
Web: www.britishisrael.org.au/vic

New Zealand

BIWF (NZ) Auckland Inc., PO Box 56-142, Dominion Road,
Mount Eden, Auckland, 1024

Canada

BIWF (Canada) Inc., 313 Sherbourne Street, Toronto,
Ontario, M5A 2S3
Telephone: (416) 921 5996
E-mail: british-israel@bellnet.ca
Web: www.britishisrael.ca

Canadian British-Israel Association, 500 Tecumseh Rd. E.,
Box 28047, Windsor, Ontario, N8X 5E4
Telephone: 1-800-919-8819
E-mail: staff@israelite.ca
Web: www.israelite.ca

The Netherlands

Netherlands Israel Foundation
Oudelandseweg 40-D, 3443 AC Woerden,
The Netherlands
Telephone: 06 281 73 724

South Africa

South African Office - Pastor Brenton Boshoff
P.O. Box 198, Seadoone, 4141 South Africa
Telephone: +27 (0) 82 500 5205

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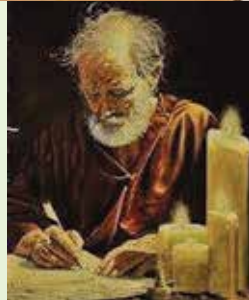
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DECLARATION OF ARBROATH

700



This important document is going to be on show at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh from 27 March to April 26 this year to mark the 700th anniversary from when it was signed on 6 April, 1320. There will be a programme of events to mark its significance to the people of Scotland today.

It is a letter written to Pope John XXII by Robert the Bruce asserting the independence of Scotland from papal rule. Here is part of the text, as published in *London: A New Jerusalem*, which is of great importance and interest to all those who study the history of our people and the migrations which brought us all together:

“ We know, Most Holy Father and Lord, and from the chronicles and books of the ancients, that among other illustrious nations, ours, to wit the nation of the Scots, has been distinguished by many honours; which passing from the Greater Scythia [i.e. Southern Russia] through the Mediterranean Sea and the Pillars of Hercules, and sojourning in Spain among the most savage tribes through a long course of time, could nowhere be subjugated by any people however barbarous; and coming thence **one thousand two hundred years after the outgoing of the people of Israel**, they, by many victories and infinite toil, acquired for themselves the possessions of the West which they now hold . . . In their kingdom one hundred and thirteen kings of their own royal stock, no stranger intervening, have reigned.’

“The allusion to the migration of a Scythian or Scottish horde from Egypt to the Mediterranean and thence to Britain by way of Spain and Ireland, was well-known at this time as it is contained in the History of Nennius. . . . The unstated implication of the Declaration of Arbroath is that the Egyptian ‘Scythians,’ from whom the Irish and Scots believed themselves to be descended, were in some way related to the Israelites who crossed the Red Sea with Moses.”

London: A New Jerusalem by Adrian Gilbert
Covenant Publishing 2010; pages 66-7

EDITORIAL

BRITAIN RETURNS TO ITS NATURAL STATE –

The Divine Commission of leading the Nations in Peace

As of 11.00 pm GMT – the ‘Midnight Hour,’ in Brussels – on 31 January, 2020, the United Kingdom returned to its prophetic destiny. This release came 50 days precisely after the decisive General Election of 12 December, 2019, when the Government was returned with an 80 seat majority – 8 is the number of resurrection and regeneration.

The final 50 days to Brexit were also highly symbolic, it being the jubilee number for release for Israel-Britain from bondage and deliverance after being increasingly ruled by the *pagan* European Project. Under the Divine Law in the fiftieth year all debts are cancelled and land is returned to the original owner. It points to cessation and rest, following on as the result of the perfect consummation of events. **It is now time for Project Hope in the United Kingdom.**

Britain’s membership of the European Union lasted 47 years and 31 days from our entry date of 1 January, 1973. In chronological terms these 47 years are evidenced as a highly significant 60 displacement cycle* linked to *the literal* politico-economic Kingdom of God upon earth, which is under continuous construction through God’s Servant People. While thirty-one is the Hebrew expression of *El*, the Name of God. However, it may well be 2023, *fifty years from 1973*, before we are finally delivered from the transition period after our ‘Brexodus’ journey out of *prophetic* EU-Egypt.

The historian Andrew Roberts, in the special 12-page *Daily Telegraph* supplement dated

1 February, 2020, wrote that Britain is reconnecting with “440 years of sovereign independence and that the immediate past 47 years of EU membership will seem more and more like a strange and rather sad aberration in our history, a moment when we lost our self-confidence in the early Seventies due to a lack of leadership . . . along with a sense of losing an empire and not finding one.” 100 years from now, Roberts writes, the 1972-2020 period will be seen by history pupils as “a weird moment of doubt and weakness in Britain, not at all indicative of the true nation as she really is. By contrast, they will recognise a proud, successful, self-governing nation state from 1533 to 1973, and then again from 2020 onwards . . . A glorious new phase of British history has just begun.”

After the delay and obstruction of the past three and a half years, or 1260 *solar* days, by the pre-Christmas weekend of 20-23 December, 2019, Parliament at Westminster finally obeyed the EU Referendum result of 23 June, 2016. These overruling factors prove beyond all doubt that a Divine Providence is at work in the national life of the family and company of British nations spread around the globe. Big Ben bongos were not able to sound due to the reconstruction of the Elizabeth Tower – which was illustrative in itself of what is now taking place nationally to restore and repair our unique Constitution under God.

Jonah-Britain is emerging from the ‘belly of hell’ in the ‘great fish’ of the EU, looking pale and somewhat disorientated, but the future will be

bright in the restored sunlight of our Sovereignty which belongs to the United Kingdom and its people. It will no longer be ‘pooled’ or ‘shared’ and handed over to unelected commissions and unaccountable courts, as Robert Tombs, emeritus professor of French history, Cambridge, wrote under the headline in the *Mail on Sunday* 26 January, 2020:

“Finally our future can match our past – a self-governing island nation with a global horizon;” he concluded his visionary article that The Queen’s Government, under Prime Minister Boris Johnson, has “a huge opportunity and responsibility . . . leading us out of a strange episode in our history. For the first time ever, we joined – without quite realizing it – a utopian experiment to create a ‘Europe’ aimed to replace the nation states and make itself into a superstate. We joined because those who then ruled us had lost confidence in themselves and in this country (‘the sinking Titanic’). They persuaded us we had no choice. Some still repeat the same refrain. But that time is past . . . Our future now matches our past. A self-governing island nation with a global horizon.”

Most of all of it is going to require *spiritual vision* – this can only truly come about through the proclamation of the biblical revelation that **“The Kingdom Message alone can save the Nations.”**

*47 *solar* years equal exactly 60 displacement cycles of 286.1022 days – the Great Pyramid’s divinely intentioned error, linked also to the Danites that were “experts in war” numbering 286,000 (I *Chronicles* 12:35) and who were to judge God’s people (*Genesis* 49:16).

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN THE GOSPELS OF CHRIST

“... Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God and saying, The time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel” (Mark 1:14-15).

The word Church occurs only three times in the Gospels. Yet the terms *Kingdom* and *Kingdom of God* occur over 120 times in the Gospels. The overwhelming emphasis of the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ was a Kingdom message. We read that our Lord Jesus Christ preached the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, yet today it is generally the Gospel of Salvation which is preached.

The Gospel of Salvation, as preached in all too many churches and through much of the main stream Christian media, is mostly about me and how I can be blessed, healed, prospered, enriched, improved, saved from all the negative consequences of my bad choices and ultimately end up in Heaven. The way the Gospel is

preached by all too many today is something of a therapeutic self-help message where the emphasis is on me, with God playing a supporting role in how I can fulfill my dreams and attain my desires.

The Message of the Kingdom of God

However, the Gospel of the Kingdom of God is all about the King of kings and the Lord of lords: His Crown, His Coming, His Cross, His Great Commission, His plan and purpose for the nations and what we can do to be faithful subjects, servants and soldiers of His eternal Kingdom.

Christ-Centred

Our Lord Jesus Christ personified the Kingdom He proclaimed. He is the King of kings and the Lord of

lords. He is the living embodiment of all that He enunciated. The person and proclamations of our King are inseparable. His life and His lips are always in unison. His counsels must determine our conduct. His person and His proclamations were as seamless as the robe He wore. The words He declared were confirmed by His deeds, bringing sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, speech to the mute, cleansing the lepers, making the crippled to walk and raising the dead to life. *“But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the Kingdom of God has come upon you” (Matthew 12:28).*

Behold Your King

Our Lord Jesus was born King (Matthew 2:2), acclaimed King by God the Father (Psalm 2:6) and He



affirmed His Kingship before the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate (Luke 23:3). In Luke 17:20-21, we read our Lord's answer to the Pharisees, where He said: *"The Kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the Kingdom of God is within you."* The words 'within you' should read 'in the midst of you.' Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ was in the midst of the Pharisees and He, the King, is the epitome of the Kingdom.

He had a humble entry into this world, born in a stable, but the angels sang. In time, His Kingdom has been displayed with outward glory. But in the person of the King, walking the dusty paths of Galilee, the Kingdom of God was present. The kingdom does not make the king. The king makes the kingdom. The nature of the king determines the character of his kingdom. The fact that the Jewish religious leaders failed to recognise the fulfilment of all Old Testament Messianic prophecies in our Lord Jesus Christ, is to their eternal shame, but it does not, in any way, negate His sovereign power. The fickle mob in Jerusalem went from crying: *"Hosanna!"* to *"Crucify Him!"* within less than a week.

The Kingdom of God Requires Repentance, Discipleship and Evangelism

Jesus said: *"...Follow Me and I will make you become fishers of men"* (Mark 1:17).

The Kingdom of God is a mystery to most

"And He said to them, 'To you it has been given to know the mystery of the Kingdom of God'..." (Mark 4:11).

The Parables of the Kingdom

Five of our Lord's parables describe the beginnings of His Kingdom,

whose value justifies any sacrifice. In five parables the growth and principles of His Kingdom are outlined. Seven of the parables of Christ forecast the consummation of His Kingdom. Other parables emphasise the personal experience of the subjects of the Kingdom.



"And He said, The Kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground... and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how... It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown... is smaller than all the seeds on earth; but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs and shoots out large branches..." (Mark 4:26-32)

"...Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the Kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it" (Mark 10:14-15).

Jesus said to His disciples: *"...How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the Kingdom of God!... With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible"* (Mark 10:23,27).

When Jesus taught the parable of the Wicked Vinedressers in the Temple, the Jewish scribes and Pharisees: *"...knew He had spoken the parable against them..."* (Mark 12:12). *"So they took him and killed him and cast him out of the vineyard. Therefore what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and*

destroy the vinedressers and give the vineyard to others. Have you not even read this Scripture: 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone'" (Mark 12:8-10).

Jesus introduced the Kingdom of God on Earth

John the Baptist began his ministry declaring: *"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!"* Our Lord Jesus began His earthly ministry with the message: *"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand"* (Matthew 4:17).

The Sermon on the Mount details the required conduct of subjects of the Kingdom of God. *"But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you"* (Matthew 6:33).

The Lord's Prayer is centred on the Kingdom of Heaven

"Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.... For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever" (Matthew 6:9-13). For God's Kingdom to come, Satan's kingdoms must be defeated. For God's will to be done, Satan's plans and schemes must be exposed and defeated.

Jesus Christ is the King over the Kingdom of God

"Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His Kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:7). *"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David"* (Luke 1:32).

The Kingdom of God requires obedience, regeneration and

perseverance

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven” (Matthew 7:21). A simple profession of faith is not enough. Practical obedience, applying the Lordship of Christ to all areas of life is essential. What you say is not as important as what you do. **“For the Kingdom of God is not in word but in power”** (I Corinthians 4:20).

Jesus said: **“...Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God”** (John 3:3).

Jesus said: **“No one, having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God”** (Luke 9:62). Lot’s wife was warned not to look back as the angels rescued her family from Sodom. God had condemned that wicked city to destruction. Yet Lot’s wife still desired Sodom. Her disobedience to a clear command brought severe judgment. Many of the Hebrews, having been delivered from slavery in Egypt, yet wanted to go back to Egypt. They were condemned to wander in the wilderness and all die there before God raised up a new generation, a faithful generation, to enter and take the Promised Land.

Be counted Worthy of the Kingdom of God by being willing to Suffer for Christ

“...that you may be counted worthy of the Kingdom of God, for which you also suffer” (II Thessalonians 1:5). John has promised the Kingdom of God **“...to those who love Him”** (James 2:5). True love is measured by sacrifice. Jesus said that those who love Him obey His commandments. **“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven”** (Matthew 5:10). **“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God and if children, then heirs**

- heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together” (Romans 8:16-17).

“For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps” (I Peter 2:21).

Endurance is Essential

“...We must through many tribulations enter the Kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22).

“Yes and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution” (II Timothy 3:12; John 16:33).

Jesus said: **“...In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”** (John 16:33).

Babylon, the Beast and the Harlot wage war against the Kingdom of God

In *Revelation 17*, we read that Babylon and the Beast, the false church, the great harlot and the rulers and inhabitants of the earth who **“...were made drunk with the wine of her fornication”** (*Revelation 17:2*); the blasphemous religious leaders **“...arrayed in purple and scarlet and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.... MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.... drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus... These will make war with the Lamb and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen and faithful”** (*Revelation 17:4-14*).

We see all the evidences of this hostility to God and hatred of the Kingdom of God in the blasphemy industry of Hollywood; the Christophobia of the main stream

mass media; the apostasy of the World Council of Churches; the Roman papacy; the anti-Christian agenda of the United Nations and the violent persecution of Christians by so many member states of the UN, including members of their so called **“Human Rights Commission”** which includes Red China and Sudan.

The inevitable ultimate Victory of Christ

The Lamb of God will utterly defeat the Beast and his apostate, blasphemous religious leaders, the arrogant political leaders, Babylon, the harlot, those guilty of abominations and drunk with the blood of the saints, guilty of murdering babies in the womb and massacring the martyrs of Christ. Our Lord Jesus Christ came into this world to destroy the works of the devil. Our Lord Jesus Christ is **“...the Faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead and the Ruler over the kings of the earth...”** (*Revelation 1:5*); **“...He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords”** (I Timothy 6:15). **“...on His robe... a Name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS”** (*Revelation 19:16*).

The Statue and the Stone

Sin in a single soul had brought the entire human race and all societies to collective ruin. The promised Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ, came to destroy the empire of sin as described by the Prophet Daniel. The prophetic vision given to King Nebuchadnezzar and revealed to Daniel, was of a great statue with a head of gold, the chest and arms of silver, the stomach of bronze, the legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. Then a stone struck the statue and broke it in pieces (*Daniel 2:28-35*).

“And in the days of these kings the God of Heaven will set up a Kingdom which shall never be

destroyed; and the Kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these Kingdoms and it shall stand forever” (Daniel 2:44).

The Everlasting Kingdom

“How great are His signs and how mighty His wonders! His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom and His dominion is from generation to generation.... For His dominion is an everlasting dominion and His Kingdom is from generation to generation” (Daniel 4:3, 34). *“I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the Living God and steadfast forever; His Kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed and His dominion shall endure to the end”* (Daniel 6:26).

“Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a Kingdom, that all peoples, nations and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away and His Kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed” (Daniel 7:14).

“Then the Kingdom and dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole Heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom and all dominions shall serve and obey Him” (Daniel 7:27).

The Glorious Fruit of the Kingdom

The Kingdom of God is seen where men and women submit to our Lord Jesus Christ as King of kings. The fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control are seen in the lives of subjects of the Kingdom. Excellence is seen in the art, architecture and music of the Kingdom of God. The great cathedrals of Britain proclaim the Kingdom of God. Great musical

compositions such as Handel’s *Messiah*, proclaim the Kingdom of God.

When King George II stood during the *Hallelujah* chorus, he initiated a tradition that endures to this day. Even to the ends of the earth, in Cape Town, at the southernmost tip of the African continent, every time Handel’s *Messiah* is performed, we all stand to our feet at attention. As King George II declared: *“It is impossible to remain seated for the anthem of the King of kings!”*

Kings and Queens bow to Christ

When Queen Victoria was very old and attending a performance of Handel’s *Messiah*, she was informed by the organisers, that in view of her great age, she should please remain seated and everyone else would stand for the duration of the *Hallelujah* chorus. When the *Hallelujah* chorus began, Queen Victoria, Empress of the greatest Empire the world had ever known, stood and bowed, with tears in her eyes, her lips trembling and her body shaking.

When Queen Victoria was asked by a visiting African prince: *“What is the secret of Britain’s greatness?”*

she handed him a Bible and stated: *“The Bible is the source of Britain’s greatness.” “He will not fail nor be discouraged, till He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands shall wait for His Law”* (Isaiah 42:4).

The Duty and Destiny of Queen Victoria

Dean Farrar reported that Queen Victoria declared to him that she wished that the Lord would return while she was alive, *“Because nothing would give me more joy than to pass on the crown of Great Britain and India to Him with my own hands.”* Queen Victoria recognised her duty and destiny to rule and reign in His Kingdom, faithful to the Scriptures and to the Laws of God in order to hand on the crown and sceptre to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

The Servant Queen and the King She Serves

In 2016, in celebration of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II’s 90th birthday, the Bible Society published the book *The Servant Queen and the King She Serves* using the Queen’s own words to draw out the central role of her Christian Faith and the Bible.



National Portrait Gallery, London

The Coronation Oath

In the Coronation ceremony of 2 June 1953, one of the highlights was when Queen Elizabeth II made the Coronation Oath. The Archbishop asked: *“Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God with true profession of the Gospel? Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom, a Protestant Reformed Religion established by Law? Will you maintain and preserve the settlement of the Church of England and the Doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof, as by Law established in England?”* To this, the Queen responded: *“All this I promise to do.”* The Archbishop asked: *“Will you to your power cause Law and Justice, in mercy, to be executed in all your judgements?”* The Queen responded: *“I will.”*

The Great Bible

With the sword of State carried before her, the Queen arose from her chair, went to the altar, made the solemn oath in the sight of all the people, laying her right hand on the Holy Gospel in the Great Bible and declaring: *“The things which I have heretofore promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God.”* The Queen then kissed the Bible and signed the Oath.

“Thine is the Kingdom”

Most of the kings and queens of the British Isles have recognised that ours is a Kingdom belonging to God and under the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords. The throne is His throne and the realm is His realm. As we declare in the Lord’s Prayer: *“Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven... for Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.”*

The Kingdom, instituted by Christ, almost 2,000 years ago, has led to the greatest creativity and the

noblest expressions of duty, honour, charity, mercy, art, architecture and music. It pioneered hospitals, schools and churches, ministering to body, mind and spirit throughout the world, to the remotest shores, converting cannibals in the Pacific, bringing respect for life, liberty and law to the wilderness regions. It ended the slave trade, ended widow burning in India, cannibalism in the Pacific Isles, inter-tribal genocide, incessant warfare and Islamic slavery throughout Africa. It lifted industry, arts and sciences to the pinnacles of human achievement. *“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea”* (Habakkuk 2:14).

“The kingdom of God
is at hand”

Mark 1:15

We Must Return to the Kingdom Message

It is only by returning to the Kingdom message that the company of nations can be saved from the disastrous consequences of violating God’s Laws, forgetting our covenants and allowing those who hate God to hijack so much of the culture through secular humanist *“education”* indoctrination and defilement of debased, blasphemous and vile *“entertainment”* from Hollywood.

Ultimate Victory for the Kingdom of God is Inevitable

“Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in Heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever!” (Revelation 11:15). Every knee will bow. Every tongue confess. The earth shall be full of

the knowledge of the Lord.

“Then I heard a loud voice saying in Heaven, Now salvation and strength and the Kingdom of our God and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down” (Revelation 12:10).

We Must Proclaim the Rule and Reign of God Above All

“And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!” (Revelation 19:6).

Every Knee Will Bow

The question is not: Will you bow to Christ? But: When will you bow to Christ as your rightful King of kings and Lord of lords? Each one of us may bow to Him now, in the day of grace, while forgiveness is freely offered; or we will be forced to bow on the Day of Judgement. When the day of grace has ended. When the door to Heaven is firmly closed. The fact is that every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

Do you understand what the Bible teaches on the Kingdom of God?

Do you acknowledge your responsibility to be a faithful **subject, servant and soldier** in the Kingdom of God?

What a privilege to be one of the called, chosen and faithful of the greatest King and Kingdom in all eternity (Revelation 17:14).

DR PETER HAMMOND

Frontline Fellowship
P.O. Box 74 Newlands 7725
Cape Town South Africa
Email: mission@frontline.org.za
www.FrontlineMissionSA.org

BIG BEN MINUTE

These inspiring words were given as a Postscript to the 6 o'clock BBC News, 15 September 1941.

They were originally reproduced in The National Message, 1 October 1941.

This reprint is a reminder that Prayer for the nation is an essential part of our daily lives.

In December last the Board of Admiralty issued a 'General Fleet Order' on Religion in the Navy, of which the following is the substance:

"In the conviction that the present war is a struggle between good and evil, and that in the practice of the Christian Religion may be found today the same support experienced by our Forefathers, in establishing in the Royal Navy those Ideals of Service and Sacrifice which we have inherited, their Lordships ... emphasise the need for observing the Instructions for the holding of Divine Service and Daily Prayers. They further direct that in Battleships and Cruisers all possible steps should be taken to provide a space set apart for the worship of God."

I doubt if many of the public heard of this Fleet order at the time, but it is surely an inspiration, not only to the Navy but to the whole Nation as well.

One hears much today of the part played by Weapons – the Power of the Military Weapon – the Economic Weapon – the Propaganda Weapon – but the greatest Power of all is the Spiritual Weapon, and to this alone Hitler has no answer. On the Spiritual Front he is beaten.

Here, too, is a challenge to Democracy, for in the words of a former Master of Balliol, "Democracy is not merely a way of life for a nation, but a moral and spiritual achievement, and only where moral and spiritual qualities are present can it ever succeed."

Have we got these qualities? The test will be found in Service and Sacrifice. We rightly cherish Liberty and Freedom, but not Freedom to do just what we like. That is mere Self

interest, whether of the Individual, or of Class or of Party, much talk of our Rights, but little of our Obligations, and if Democracy stands merely for this sort of Freedom it is bound to go down. Just as a ship would soon be a wreck if each one on board thought only of his own interests.

The Glory of the Navy has been established on the Ideals of Service and Sacrifice, and similarly the Glory of the Nation must also be so established. Today each one of us has the opportunity to contribute to this end.

Finally the Fleet Order calls attention to Prayer. There is an old Spanish proverb, "Let him who knows not how to pray go to sea." Those who go down to the sea in ships and have their business in the great waters, these men know there is a God. Read of the great Sea Captains of the past – Drake's prayer off Cadiz, Nelson on his knees before Trafalgar, Beatty's message to the Nation in 1917. "When England can look on the future with a prayer on her lips – when Religious Revival takes place at Home, then we can begin to count the days towards the end of the war. There will be no victory till the people are on their knees." These words challenge us today.

The Prime Minister in a recent broadcast declared, "There are times when all pray." I believe many more are praying today than before, for prayer seems natural in times of danger, and our National Days of Prayer should be welcomed by all.

You will notice the Fleet Orders refers to the need for prayer daily. Difficult perhaps to find opportunities under war conditions, yet the Navy usually finds the opportunity,

and the BBC offers it daily to all. I would specially mention the Minute when Big Ben strikes at 9pm, a Dedicated Moment at the end of the day for the whole nation and Empire. Very many thousands must have read, and many more I hope will read the pamphlet *The Spiritual Front* which describes the origin of this movement, the importance and observance of which can scarcely be exaggerated, as a step towards the Spiritual Revival which must surely be the prelude to a new world order.

One last word. The greatest enemy to such a Revival is 'Indifference,' and in support of this I would ask you to listen to the words of the late Lord Tweedsmuir, in the final page of his autobiography.

"Our greatest peril," he wrote, "is indifference to Religion, and this is a very grave peril, for rust will corrupt metal where hammer blows will only harden it. I believe, and this is my crowning optimism, that the challenge with which we are now faced may restore to us that manly humility which alone gives Power. It may bring us back to God, and in that case our Victory is assured." ... Victory assured through a Nation inspired; inspired to Service and Sacrifice in the cause of God and Freedom.

VICE-ADMIRAL S.R. DRURY-LOWE, C.M.G.

Big Ben Silent Minute – The New Zealand Government through its High Commissioner in London advises ... since 9 April 1941 every Radio Station in New Zealand has been instructed to signal the 'Silent Minute' at 9 pm (local time) by the playing of the recording of the Big Ben Chimes which was sent over from London for this purpose.

VE DAY 75

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

It was at 3.00pm on 8 May 1945 that Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that the war was over. There was great celebration at that time with crowds of thousands filling the streets of the towns and cities of the nation. This year marks the 75th anniversary of that joyous day and the government has moved the May Bank Holiday to the 8th of the month so that there can be a national day of parties and events; not just in the United Kingdom (UK) but around the world too.

The programme* begins on Friday 8 May at 2.55pm when the Last Post will be played around the UK followed by thousands of pipers around the world at 3.00pm who will play *Battle's O'er*, a traditional air performed on the bagpipes at the end of a battle, and the specially composed tune *VE 75 Years*. To coincide with the playing of *Battle's O'er* thousands of pubs throughout the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man will take part in The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of World War 2.

Town criers and other people around the world will be undertaking a special international Cry for Peace Around the World starting off in New Zealand at 6.55pm (local time). At 7.00pm bells in cathedrals, churches and other locations will ring

out. The sound of bells is deeply rooted in British culture, providing the soundtrack to historic moments – calling us to pray, to work, to arms, to celebrate and, in times of crisis, to come together. Town and parish councils and local communities are being encouraged to organise street parties and celebrations for the evening.

Saturday 9 May is another day for more events and parties then on Sunday 10 May at 10.30am church services will take place in cathedrals and churches to remember those who lost their lives or returned home dreadfully wounded and to pay tribute to those who put their lives on hold at home to keep the

nation fed and the factories, mines and hospitals working, many of them not knowing if their loved ones would return home safely.

*Information from <https://www.veday75.org/programme/>

In 1945, under the title "Britain's Heritage and Trust," the BIWF held its May Meetings of that year from Tuesday to Thursday, 15-17 May; there were two meetings each day at 3 and 6.30pm with over 18 speakers. These meetings were held annually at Caxton Hall in Westminster, London, for many years. That year among the speakers were Rev John Shenton, Harold Stough and Rev Jack Wintersgill who many readers will remember.



As reported in *The National Message*, 6 June 1945, the then President, Mr R Llewelyn Williams spoke first, "Once more it is my proud privilege and pleasure to open the May Meetings of the British-Israel-World Federation, and I could hardly do so under happier auspices. For as we meet together this afternoon our hearts are full of thankfulness and praise to Almighty God for the overwhelming victory which He has granted to our arms and to those of our Allies." His emphasis was on thanksgiving and praise. He quoted from the Psalms, "Now, indeed may Israel say, If the Lord himself had not been on our side, when

men rose up against us, they had swallowed us up alive, when their wrath was kindled against us. . . . Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things; and blessed be the name of His majesty for ever. Let the whole earth be filled with His glory.”

But he also reminded them, and us today, that with blessing comes responsibility and duty, “Truly the portion of our inheritance has fallen to us in pleasant places; we have indeed a goodly heritage. But this heritage is a sacred trust which brings with it vast responsibility.” He said that, “Despite all her faults Britain is already discharging no small part of that great task for which she was created and set apart. But more, much more, remains to be accomplished; and this she cannot be expected to undertake without the knowledge of her identity.”

That continues to be our task – to teach from the scriptures who we are and why it matters. To teach that Almighty God has a plan and a purpose for His people that is unchanging. In the Editorial of *The National Message*, 23 May 1945, the title was ‘National Rededication’ and the following extract is as applicable to us today as it was to the readers then.

“The Divine declaration was: *“Ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me, above all people; for the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto Me a Kingdom of priests and an holy nation”* (Exodus 19:5-6). At the opening of the Christian Dispensation, St Peter, addressing the dispersed of Israel, quoted this passage, and reminded them that they were *‘a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a people for God’s own possession that they might show forth the excellencies of Him Who called them out of darkness into His most marvellous light.’*

“Today, the Anglo-Saxon people, as

the descendants of ancient Israel and the inheritors of her responsibilities and privileges, are dedicated to God’s service. They occupy this position solely because they were redeemed by Christ. *‘Thou art my servant O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me. I have blotted out thy transgressions, as a thick cloud, and as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.’”*

The final paragraph is “The tasks before the British Commonwealth and Empire and the United States of America are onerous in the extreme. The problems and responsibilities facing the leaders of the nation and each individual citizen are

complex and it is only through wisdom and strength from on High that our mission of being a blessing to all nations of the earth will be accomplished. Let us each one rededicate ourselves, asking that the Holy Spirit may sanctify completely our individual lives in order that through us the nation may be consecrated to the service of God.”

This May we too can come before Almighty God with thanksgiving and praise for all His wondrous works and humbly rededicate ourselves to His service in all that we do.

Editorial Team



THE LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

And Its Consequences: *“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do”*

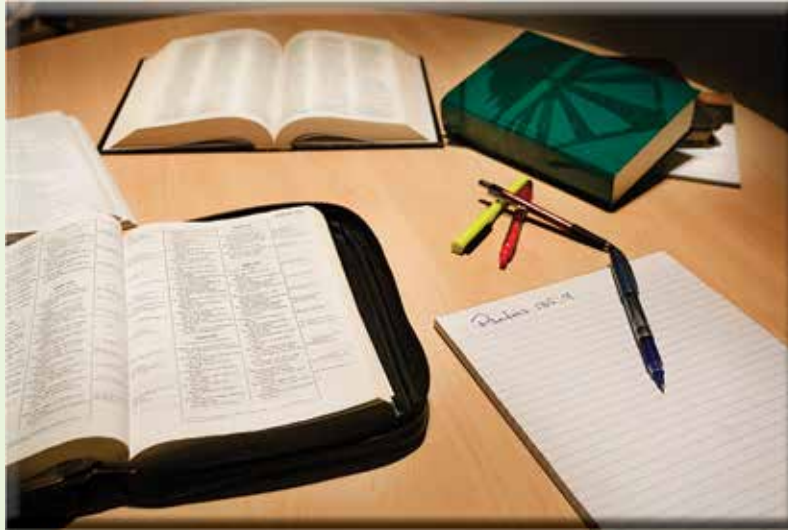
These words above were almost the last words of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, moments before His earthly life came to an end; an end which He brought about at His own hand so that it could not be by the hand of man, even though men at the time intended it to be so.

Jesus had foretold His early death, as we read in John’s gospel, where His words are recorded, saying: *“Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself”* (John 10:17, 18).

When we think about this death of Jesus it becomes clear that it had to be at His own hand for only then was it truly ‘given,’ voluntarily, in full compliance with the age-old laws regarding sacrifice (*Leviticus* 1:3-5). And in that 17th verse of the Gospel the Lord foretells His resurrection: “. . . that I might take it [back] again.”

Saying He died ‘at His own hand’ is normally a term used to describe suicide. But this requires some extraneous instrument to achieve the objective, such as a gun, piece of rope or poison. Jesus had no need of such means: *“I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it again”* He said. Suicide is, sadly, a conscious, negative choice, born of despair and is irrevocable. But the Lord’s death had a positive intent and, for Him, it was not suicide nor was it irrevocable. Thus He paid the price for the redemption of the

Kingdom as required by the law, in human terms, but, as the Son of God, death had no power over Him so He rose from the grave in His Divine personage.



It was in this latter state that Jesus met the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and listened to their tale of woe, their distress at the seeming loss of the man they had grown to worship. They did not recognize Him at this point, regarding Him as being just some stranger. However, He remonstrated with them on their lack of understanding, saying: *“O fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken.”* He then refers to all the prophetic Scriptures (of the Old Testament) which foretold His first advent and their significance regarding His earthly life and ministry.

“Ought not Christ to have suffered these things and entered into His glory?” He said (*Luke* 24:25, 26). But even after that the disciples were still unsure of the reality of the Lord’s resurrection until He joined them for a meal and at this scene of hospitality He took some bread, blessed it and broke it and handed it to them. Only then were their eyes opened, the Gospel states, and they then recognized Him and full

understanding came to them.

These words of condemnation for lack of belief in the words of the prophets surely ring on down the centuries and generations of the past two millennia. It is borne out in the near total blindness as to our identity today as the continuing Kingdom of God on earth in fulfilment of the words of the prophets. Jesus expounded to the disciples on the Emmaus road all the prophecies concerning Himself. The same

prophets were also inspired to foretell future events and situations pertaining to the Kingdom in these latter days and they, too, have been ignored or misinterpreted by those given charge of the spiritual and material life of the Kingdom. Thus the nation has been led in ways which are contrary to the righteous laws of God and we are reaping the consequent disruption to the family, business and national life of the Kingdom.

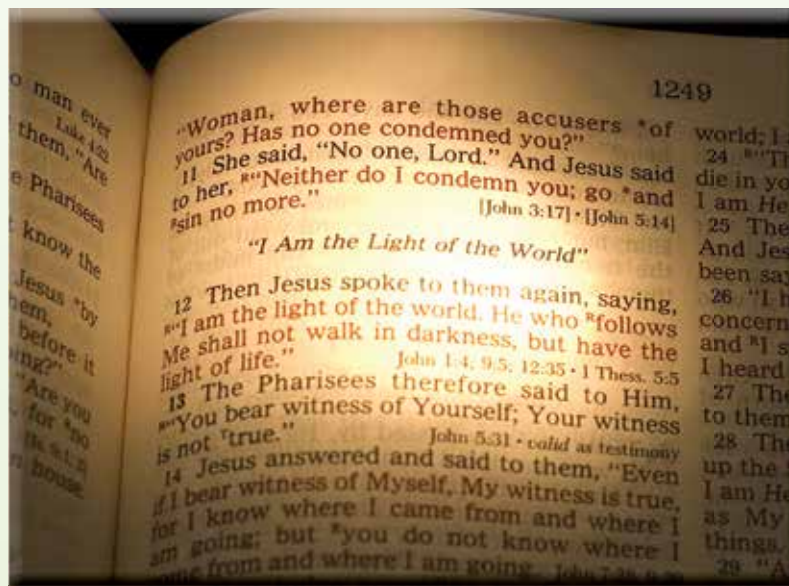
Would Christ look down upon the Kingdom today, with its deep apostasy and unrighteousness so much in evidence, and repeat those words *“Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”*? The situation now is not the same as it was two millennia ago, but there are similarities. The Lord has not been totally rejected but much of the worship He does receive centres on individual salvation yet omits any mention of His national redemption, that equally important aspect of His Calvary mission. While salvation is rightly proclaimed as

obtained only through personal commitment of the faithful to the Lord Jesus Christ, redemption is regarded as a similar personal matter.

Yet redemption is, in reality, God's commitment to the enduring life of His Kingdom, which He chose to be His witnesses. "Ye are My witnesses that I am

God" He told Israel (*Isaiah 43:12*). The continued existence of the kingdom of Israel is for the glory of God, not as a special favour to them. "I do not this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My Holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the heathen whither ye went" (*Ezekiel 36:22 & 32*). God made unconditional promises to the faithful Patriarchs concerning their posterity and He must, and will, honour them.

So, the nation just blunders on blindly, not knowing what it is doing, having no knowledge of its true identity and the obligations and the benefits this knowledge would bring to it. Had we known who we are and been obedient to the Divine laws of the Kingdom we would never have been a subservient member of the EU for 47 years; the law being that the Kingdom should never make any covenant or agreement with a foreign power. This principle was established at the beginning of Israel's occupation of the Promised Land and it has never been revoked. (*Exodus 23:32 & Deuteronomy 7:2*). It is necessary because Israel's world-mission of witness is only possible while it is in a state of detachment. (*I Kings 8:53 & II Corinthians 6:17*). How true are the words of Scripture: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (*Hosea 4:6*). For our EU membership resulted in the un-



precedented situation of our nation suffering the loss of its freedom and sovereign independence for the first time in its long history.

Had we known who we are and from whence we came we would not have been bewitched and beguiled by the evolution hypothesis. For this false ideology denies the fact of Creation and misinterprets all the evidence of intelligent thought, design, planning and law which ensures the sustainability of all forms of life on this planet. It facilitates irresponsibility by denying the existence of God and His power and authority, to which we are all subject. It deprives mankind of the knowledge, comfort and assurance that we are here because we are wanted and are loved and have a purpose in reflecting that love in as much as we are able.

Much else in the Kingdom gives us cause for concern, particularly in the liberalisation of its moral standards and attitudes which are increasingly divergent from the biblical code. Under the guise of 'enlightenment' and 'human rights legislation' we allow, and even encourage, the worship of strange gods in the Kingdom, in complete contravention of the first Commandment. All this and much more is basically due to lack of knowledge, knowledge of our identity, its implications and its requirements. Because of this lack of

knowledge we miss out on all the blessings that are available to us, as are listed in the first 14 verses of *Deuteronomy 28*. Instead we have to endure all the problems and vicissitudes of our individual and national lives, as forewarned in the remaining verses of that chapter of God's Word.

Can we be forgiven for this rebellious attitude

to Divine authority? The answer is clearly in the affirmative, and is given in the timeless promise made to King Solomon following his wonderful prayer of dedication of the Temple: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and forgive their sin and will heal their land" (*II Chronicles 7:14*).

In these last days of this age we are experiencing a time of great confusion and turmoil, a time of great tribulation as Jesus Himself foretold, affecting every aspect of human life. Even the natural environment seems to be in a state of distress which affects all living creatures. All human efforts to remedy this situation are now insufficient to combat the vast scale of the problem and we must surely come soon to realise the need for superior assistance. The seriousness of the situation is both confirmed and addressed in *Matthew 24:22*. How, then, will we be delivered out of this predicament? Scripture alone provides the answer, seen in the expectation declared by the Lord in the words: "I will yet be enquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them" (*Ezekiel 37:36*). For a recalcitrant people in extremis there is no other solution.

ALFRED BROWN

LEADERSHIP IN THE COVENANT NATIONS

Great Britain and Australia's Constitutional Positions

I read with great interest The Christmas Editorial 2019¹ and totally agree and believe that the Queen, indeed the Crown in Parliament under God, was deceived in 1972 and 1993. Not many subjects at those times, and today, seemed to care or truly understand the spiritual disobedience caused by the Heath Administration and John Major's evil announcement in the House of Commons on 11 February 1993. I agree with the Editorial quote that: "Britain has been in a state of national unfaithfulness to its lawful husband – 'the Queen-in-Parliament under God'. Treason by instalments..."

I wish to gratefully address this unfaithfulness in another context which in a sense parallels the godless evil in Britain. This concerns the indifference to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia. Australia a covenant nation!

Firstly, I am thankful and humbled that the covenant nations were able to share in my Christmas message 'Remembering Jesus' Birthday.'² Further to those truths of Old Covenant Scripture I now share how the Lord Jesus in His earthly mission and ministry had similar sorrows, frustrations and distress by people who should have realised His Authority. His authority was ignored just as the Queen's authority

was being made subject to a foreign union through unrighteous actions. The Apostle Paul recorded: *Romans 3:10-12* as it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

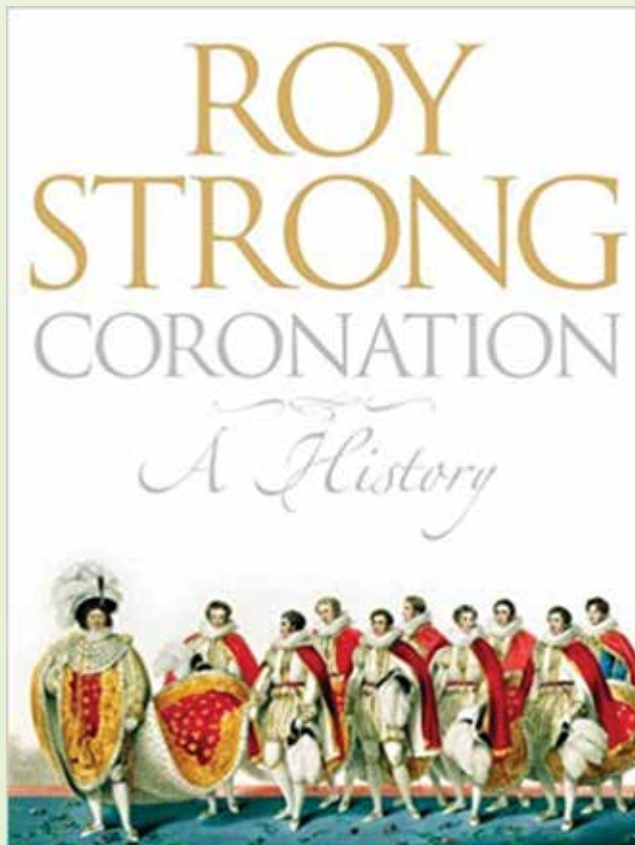
he healed the man, they plotted to kill Him (*Mark 3:6*).

The Pharisees were not 'seeing' His deeds or 'hearing' His words. I believe that the House of Commons since 1972, until Boris Johnson's re-election, did not spiritually see, hear or understand the position in which the Queen was placed in being subject to external foreign authority. Brexit will now occur [and did, on 31 January, 2020. Ed. Team].

I wish to comment on similar unfaithfulness in Australia – a covenant nation.

The leader, the Monarch, heeded the Words that God – the One True God of the Holy Bible – spoke through the prophets inasmuch that it became established forever in the nation.

I am thankful to share some research by Richard Eason, BEc (Hons) jssc, on the principles of leadership and good government in our Westminster System³:



Our Lord's distress is clearly seen from *Mark 2:1-3:6* where the conflict between the Lord and the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law began. In the truth of the healing of the man with the shrivelled hand they were waiting for Jesus to heal on the Sabbath (*Mark 3:1-12*). Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath but when

"For over a thousand years the framework of the Coronation service has hardly changed, yet its details and central message are today kept well hidden from popular view. The service used for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, for example, descends directly from the service by Archbishop Dunstan at the

Coronation of King Edgar at Bath in AD 973.

“This means that long before the advent of the Church of England as a denomination, and long before Henry VIII, the Church in England had so inspired and elevated politics that the nation adopted this unique, indeed, sublime approach to Christian government and leadership. Its relevance still challenges us. Conceiving this enduring approach to Christian leadership and government is one of the most outstanding achievements in the history of the Church anywhere in the world. The Coronation service of itself cannot turn Monarchs or their advisers into perfect people, but it does reveal clearly the standard. And the standard for Australia is shown by the Coronation service to be nothing less than complete submission of our government, its institutions and leaders, to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and His Word.”

I give thanks for antidisestablishmentarianism!

Eason continues: “Ungodly kings, corrupt judges, malevolent Ministers of the Crown and bad bureaucrats will be seen by the people for what they are. In the system of government that God has given us, with its strong emphasis on loyalty and servant-hood, the wicked have an Achilles heel: they can never fully implement their policies without grabbing for more power than is legitimately available to loyal servants.”

I simply want to add here that many Australian politicians are gradually changing our Federal Constitution by stealth.

It was called the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia – but now Australian Constitution. I also add that it is a disgrace that

politicians push for a republic – **after giving an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Queen!** Perhaps I am old fashioned but isn't this actually treason? Demagogues and potential dictators are frustrated and even infuriated by our quaint “old fashioned” loyalty to the Crown. I often smile, for example, as I hear a Prime Minister use the phrase “my Government.” Prime Ministers really do know better than to refer to the government as their own, but it frustrates some of them that Section 61 of our Constitution says “The executive power (i.e. government) of the Commonwealth is vested in the Queen ...” and she says it is all subject to the Power and Empire of Christ!

“Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season”

II Timothy 4:2

Ambitious politicians and most of the power lusting media barons would love us to believe that the Prime Minister is the one who holds authority. But the Federal Constitution does not even mention either the Prime Minister or the Cabinet. No wonder humanists and ambitious unbelievers in the media and in politics have worked so hard to convince our people that our Monarchy is out of date, purely ceremonial and has no real power or authority. If that were true, why would they want to get rid of it?

Eason further notes: “We in Australia have the good fortune to remain under an authority clearly appointed, and anointed, by the Lord of Hosts. Far from giving offence to new settlers, the Monarchy is one of the clearest examples of the blessings of Abraham coming upon the gentiles (*Galatians* 3:14);

a blessing to all the families of the earth (*Genesis* 12:3); and a signal example of Church revealing to the principalities and powers, the manifold wisdom of God (*Ephesians* 3:10-12). Most countries in today's world, have rejected their God-appointed head and adopted some secular humanistic form of government. Having thus removed themselves from the Godly protection of *Romans* 13:1-4 they and their descendants have been plunged into humanistic darkness and subjected to a succession of ungodly tyrants. *Romans* 3:10-12.”

Our forefathers under Almighty God and with their loyalty, courage, sacrifice and endurance secured our freedom. May we be truly thankful for them and our Lord Jesus. “*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage-with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry*” (II Timothy 4:1-5).

We pray Britain will return to a new golden age.

DR. GRAHAM WHELAN

Minister Emeritus
Australian Christian Churches

1. Volume 4 Number 5, 2019

2. Ibid

3. *Australian Sovereignty and Unfaithful Governance*

by Rev Dr Graham Whelan OAM, p. 58-62

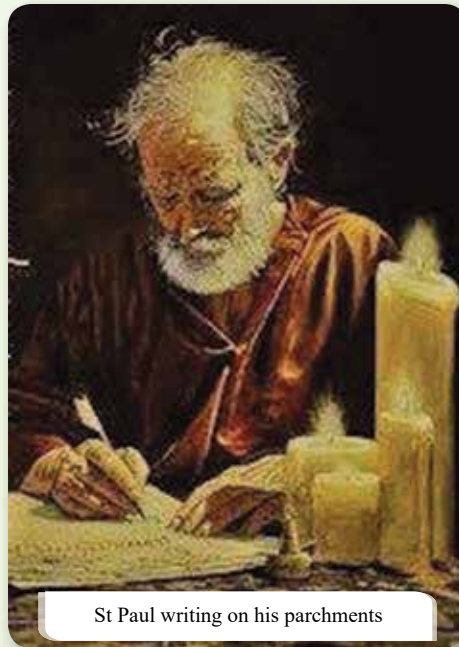
‘BRING ME MY BOOKS & PARCHMENTS’

In Rome, isolated and alone, with his death at the hands of Roman Emperor Nero imminent St Paul suffers two extreme emotions, betrayal and loneliness, with the words, “*Demas has forsaken me, only Luke is with me*” (II Timothy 4:10-11).

St Paul was reflecting on his last days after describing to Timothy what the last days of God’s Kingdom on earth would be like:

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God” (II Timothy 3:1-4).

St Paul was therefore anxious to pen these truths to the Christian faithful so that they might have the teachings from his writings when he was gone, especially the parchments containing, perhaps, some of his inspired epistles. Yes, this scripture describes the last days in the “*Kingdom of God*” that we live in but Rome’s world was a tyrannical dictatorship ruled by cruelty and punishment where the “*Kingdom of God*” was suffering violence and every dictum of pagan Rome codified in law was being tested. Surely the time was ripe for the violent to take it by force or as one writer puts it “**when dictatorship is a fact, then revolution is a duty.**” But this was not in St Paul’s mind as he reminded his Christian readers of the “*Kingdom of God*” on earth and what peoples should be chosen to rule it. Did St Paul, in summary, identify, as he did in his *epistles*, the great nations and their peoples



St Paul writing on his parchments

that were to be dominant in the last days of God’s continuing kingdom on earth and that “*Judah was his sanctuary and Israel his dominion*”?

Those of us who believe in these mighty truths must teach others from Scripture that Jacob (later renamed ‘Israel’) had twelve sons. Two of these sons were specifically singled out to be channels through which the great purpose of God in personal, as well as world-wide salvation, was to be fulfilled. The **first of these was Judah**, from whom the Messiah would be descended; and by Him, God has extended the offer of full salvation and eternal life to every man who will believe. The **second was Joseph**, represented by his two sons Ephraim and Manasseh, who became the leading tribes in the ‘*House of Israel.*’ These were distinctively chosen to be the means through which the Lord God would establish his world-wide kingdom. To **Judah** was given the tremendous privilege of giving birth to Christ, the Saviour of

mankind, and the soon returning King of kings and Lord of lords; and within Judah the church was first established. To **Israel** was given the right to be the foundation on which the earthly Kingdom of God will be built. This distinction is clearly seen in *Psalm 114:2*: “*Judah was his sanctuary and Israel his dominion.*”

In the turbulent history of **Israel** and **Judah** and their deportation into the Assyrian (721-677 BC) and the Babylonian Empires (602-579 BC) a small remnant of those from Judah who had been taken to Babylon were allowed to return to Palestine to rebuild Jerusalem where their descendants continued to live until after the coming of Christ. Then as Jesus foretold, Jerusalem was destroyed and the Jews were scattered by the Romans in AD 70 (*Matthew 24:2, 15-21*). From that day to this the Jews have been hated, persecuted, and scattered throughout the earth (*Jeremiah 24:9* and *Luke 21:24*). It is part of this small remnant of the *House of Judah* plus a large admixture of non-Israelite religious proselytes whose descendants today are known as Jews. It is estimated that between 85% and 95% of Jews in the modern Israeli state are of *Ashkenazic* origin.



Replica of the Sceptre

On the other hand, all of Israel and most of Judah were taken into captivity by the Assyrians. But it was prophesied that in the last days they would be found “*in the midst of the earth,*” “*a great nation,*” and “*a company of nations*” (*Genesis 48:19-20*) powerful and honoured; a Christian people (*Hosea 1:10* & *Romans 9:26*). St Paul standing before King Agrippa gives a clue as to the existence of twelve tribes:

“And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God, unto our fathers: Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope’s sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews” (Acts 26:6-7); and James writing in his epistle to the twelve tribes reaffirms Paul’s affirmation **“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting”** (James 1:1).

In *Genesis* 49:10 God’s unconditional promise to the patriarch Judah was that the Sceptre would never depart from his descendants: **“The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.”**

But where are the twelve tribes today? Certainly, the unconditional promise that God gave to Judah that the sceptre should never depart from his descendants can be traced today to the United Kingdom. It was replicated in the Coronation service of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 2 June, 1953, at Westminster Abbey when the Dean of Westminster brings the Sceptre to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who then places the Royal Sceptre into the Queen’s right hand saying:

“Receive the Royal Sceptre, the ensign of kingly power and justice.”

After she has received all the regalia and finally been crowned the instruction is “At the sight, the people, with loud and repeated shouts, shall cry, **“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.”**”

St Paul finally reflects on the many years he spent in Britain and his connection to the British Royal Family in Rome and the first British church established by his half-brother Rufus Pudens:

“Do thy diligence to come before

winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren” (II Timothy 4:21); **“Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine”** (Romans 16:13).

These scriptures show that Rufus Pudens and St Paul are half-brothers with the same mother but different fathers, **“his mother and mine.”** She thus appears to have been the mother of an elder son Paul by a Hebrew husband, and a younger son, Rufus, by a second marriage with a Roman Christian. Both Paul’s and Pudens’s Jewish mother is called Priscilla. Her memory today is preserved in Rome’s catacomb of St. Priscilla.



The Palatium Britannicum



Rampant British Lion mosaic on the tiled floor of Basilica Di Santa Pudenziana at Rome

Rufus Pudens was Aulus Plautius’ personal aide-de-camp during the Claudian campaign AD 43-52 and it was Aulus Plautius who brought about the ultimate defeat of Caractacus (or Caradoc). Rufus Pudens established the first Christian church in Rome called the Palace of the British, *The Palatium Britannicum*, and it was here that St Paul laid down the foundation stone of Christianity in Rome.

“We now see residing at the Palatium Britannicum the High Priest Bran, King Caractacus and the Queen, his wife; his daughter, the Princess Eurgain and her husband, Salog, Lord of Salisbury; her brother, the immortal Prince Linus, now a Christian priest; the Emperor’s adopted daughter, Claudia, and her husband the Senator Pudens; his mother, Priscilla; Pastor Hermas, kinsman of Pudens. The talented sister of Caractacus, the ex-Princess Pomponia Graecina, and her influential husband Aulus Plautius, resided nearby.” *The Drama of the Lost Disciples* by G. F. Jowett, Covenant Publishing, page 120.

Conclusion

The thin red line in British history refers to Britain and its dogged resistance in war. But as I take another thin red line from the Bible I have found it leading from the promise to Judah with the seat of its Sceptre in *Genesis* 49:10 to the British Royal Family at its church in Rome. Then finally leading to the Coronation service of Queen Elizabeth II identifying Judah as one of the twelve tribes of Israel in Britain. If we as a people of the Bible believe these truths then the writings of St Paul have not been lost to history.

PAUL L OWENS JP

Acknowledgements

Christian Revival Crusade

“What we Believe,” Page 164

Photo of The Palatium Britannicum taken

by David Owens

Photo of the rampant British lion taken

by John Smith

Edited by teacher and historian

Bob Burton

‘ALTOGETHER JUST’

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ran from 18 to 25 January 2019. The theme this year was ‘Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue,’ taken from *Deuteronomy* 16:18-20. Those denominations and congregations that are influenced by the ecumenical movement are usually supportive of the Week. The ecumenical aim was given prominence on the Vatican News website as it quoted the Bishop of Rome. ‘Again, this year we are called to pray so that all Christians may once again be a single family, according to God’s will “so that they may all be one”.’ The Week ‘aims “to develop a common and consistent witness that promotes true justice and support for the weakest through responses that are concrete, appropriate and effective”.’ (<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2019-01/pope-francis-christian-unity-general-audience-appeal.html>)

What is the connection, one might ask, between the words of *Deuteronomy* 16:18-20 and the theme outlined by the Pope? The passage reads, in the Authorised Version, “*Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment. Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous. That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.*” This is, without doubt, a call to justice, to the upholding of justice, and to the administration of justice in the place where justice is to be

sought. Here are warnings against twisting judgment, and against any type of favouritism. Gifts are not to be received, for even the wise and righteous will be corrupted by bribes. Only true justice is to be administered.



The Old Bailey, London

Many will be inclined to voice wholeheartedly in support for such instruction, and no doubt the courts of many nations would be greatly improved by the implementation of true standards of justice. This, however, brings us to the crux of the issue. By what standard is the appointed judge or officer to administer the justice that lies in his hand? Consider the title of the biblical book in which these words appear – *Deuteronomy*, the Second Law. This book records the summary of Israel’s history, with the details

of her law. The period of history under review is what followed the exodus, and it leaves the Israelites in the wilderness but about to enter Canaan. The law reviewed in this book is the whole of the law as given by the Lord God on Sinai. It is the Ten Commandments (5:6-21) with examples and cases given to illustrate the interpretation and application of that law.

On this basis, true justice – what the judges and officers were commanded to administer impartially and without personal profit – is what God Himself has revealed. True justice is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our might (*Deuteronomy* 6:5). True justice is to teach this to our children, and to remember it even in the midst of wealth and blessing. True justice is to admit that such good laws are a part of our salvation. All of this is taught in *Deuteronomy* 6.

True justice is the avoiding of ‘mixed marriages,’ the refusing to countenance false religion, and the placing of complete trust in our God, and in His power and readiness to deliver. All of this is taught in *Deuteronomy* 7.

True justice is to be humble under the Lord, knowing that our salvation is of Him. True justice is to confess that we have all our blessings, including our daily bread, from the Lord. True justice is to remember this when the degree of blessing we enjoy might otherwise permit us to think that we have received all this by our own might. So chapter 8.

True justice is to confess that all our deliverances have been from the Lord’s hand, and that our tendency is to rebel against Him – and that

He spares because He abides by the terms of His covenant. The more we learn to see the Lord's hand on us for good, the more readily we see that our duty, as well as our love, requires us to serve the Lord according to His word. This is just.

By the time we read chapter 12 we have been reminded of the Lord's power to deal with rebels, as well as of His mercy in dealing with the righteous. When the Lord God is worshipped aright, and when His laws and statutes are observed with a sincere heart and a right understanding, the effect will be divine blessing on us. The treatment of strangers, the fatherless and the widows, the laws regarding servants (chapters 15, 23 and 24), and many other matters arise from the fact that God has revealed Himself to be just, and that true justice is to be obedient to His laws. Read on in this book, and see how this principle applies over and over again.

As to the modern attitude of agitating to change laws, or to protest against things we consider to be improper, remember the words of 32:35, "*To me belongeth vengeance, and recompense.*" The Lord has stored up a treasure house full of judgments for those who oppose him, and who

persecute His people. Job speaks to this point, *Job 38:22-23*, regarding the Lord's power over the weather.

“And thou shalt love the
LORD thy God with all thine
heart, and with all thy soul,
and with all thy might”
Deuteronomy 6:5

All of this gives the lie to the much-vaunted claim that scriptural calls to justice are about political and social matters. It is true that, where the gospel flourishes, the conditions in which people live tend to be greatly improved. However, it is not true that the task of Christians is to stand up for social justice. The Apostle Paul is taken to task by some today for failing to speak out against the slavery of the Roman world, and for supporting the patriarchal society of his day. This is to completely miss Paul's point. The Christian gospel is not given to change our situation on earth before men, but our eternal state before God. Paul taught husbands and wives to behave towards each other in a way that glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ and not by the standards of pride

and selfishness that can so easily overtake us.

Above all, true justice is to give God His place. This means having no other God before Him, of avoiding even the semblance of idols, of worshipping Him from the heart and not in word only, and of using aright the day of rest He has so graciously given us. True justice is to honour our parents, to recognize the sanctity of life, to deal honestly with all in material things and in what we say, and to be utterly content with whatever the Lord provides. True justice, after all, is not measured by our standard, but by the Lord's. No amount of social agitation or political activism will bring about true justice. Only repentance towards God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ will bring about true justice. Of course, the Scripture is abundantly plain that any who refuse this will face true justice – the awful, eternal wrath of God, pronounced on all who will not repent. Let us seek true justice, and that true Christian unity that belongs to all who are new creatures in our Lord Jesus Christ.

EDWARD MALCOLM

First published in *Protestant Truth*,
March-April 2019, Vol 25, No 2

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

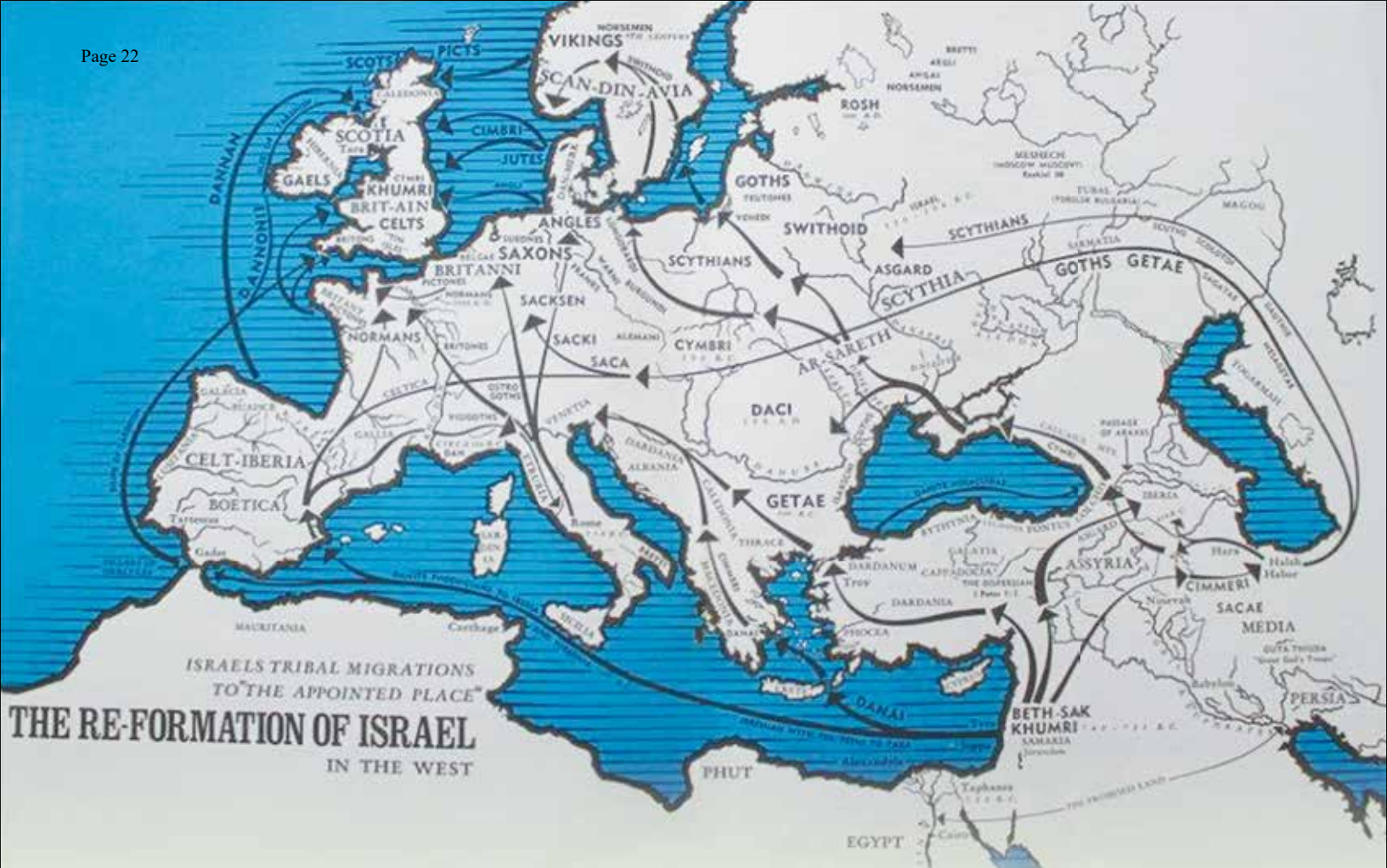
In the Scriptures our Lord makes the point that events are noticed even if insignificant to us:

“Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father?” (Matthew 10:29).

The words of Benjamin Franklin were quoted in the February 2020 issue of *Thy Kingdom Come* magazine from the Association of Covenant People in Canada: “And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?”

Our Lord continues in the next verse: “*But the very hairs of your head are all numbered*” (v. 30). Is it probable that the hairs on our heads are numbered but the events of history occur at random?

Editorial Team



THE 'GENTILES' IN GOD'S PLAN

It is a widely popular view today that the word, 'Gentile,' in our English Bible translations can only refer to non-Israelites, yet the facts prove conclusively otherwise. The following information from leading Bible reference works proves that this word refers instead to 'nations,' representing sometimes the dispersed house of Israel, sometimes non-Israelites, and sometimes both, as in 'all nations.' The word, 'Gentile,' is an English language substitution for the original New Testament Greek words, '*ethne*,' (singular) or '*ethnos*,' (plural) and the Old Testament Hebrew words, '*goy*' (singular) and '*goyim*' (plural).

In *Exodus* 33:13, Moses interceded with the Lord for Israel, saying, "Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation [goy] is thy people [am]." Many people

would be shocked to find that Moses referred to the nation of Israel as 'goy' (plural, 'goyim'), but that is exactly the case. Israel is certainly God's *people*, the Hebrew 'am,' meaning "a people...specifically a tribe (as those of Israel)," but they are also 'goy,' a word usually interpreted as non-Israelite Gentiles.

In teaching that Gentiles can only be non-Israelites, it is held by some that Christ in *Matthew* 10:6 ("Go not into the way of the Gentiles") was commanding against witnessing to non-Israelites! But in so doing, this makes the Bible contradict itself, for in *Matthew* 24:14, Christ said the exact opposite: "***This gospel of the kingdom must be preached in all the world as a witness unto all nations...*** [ethnos/Gentiles]." Which is it? Are the 'ethnos,' or 'Gentiles' to hear the Gospel or are they not?

The answer is provided by Messianic Jewish Bible scholar,

David H. Stern, in the *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, which points out that the word *Gentile* has two meanings (page 531). It was used in a 'neutral' sense of any particular nation or nations (which ones to be determined by context), or a 'pejorative overtone' as 'pagan, heathen.' Therefore, it can sometimes refer to 'non-Israelites,' but not exclusively. Sometimes the singular form, *ethne*, meant the Jewish nation, and the plural form, *ethnos*, was used to refer to non-Jewish nations, but again not exclusively. The Jewish nation of Christ's day included large numbers of Israelites, so if the Greek, *ethne*, and Hebrew, *goy*, ever refer to the Israelite tribe of Judah, one cannot say that it means non-Israelites.

Kittel's Theological Dictionary of The New Testament, says, "There are 64 passages in the New Testament where we have *ethnos* or *ethne* without any special sense or characteristics ... About 60

refer to a people or peoples in the general sense, and **of these the following have in view the Jewish [Hebrew] people:** *Luke* 7:5, 23:2; *John* 11:48, 50, 51, 52; 18:35; *Acts* 10:22; 24:2, 10, 17; 26:4; 28:19; *I Peter* 2:9...That the expression *ethne* refers to **all nations** may be seen from the addition of ‘panta’ [Greek word for ‘all’] in *Matthew* 24:9, 14; 25:32; 28:19; *Mark* 11:17; 13:10; *Luke* 21:24, 24:47; *Romans* 15:11; *Galatians* 3:8.” (vol 2, p. 369). Again, there is no basis for the supposition that the *ethnos*, or *Gentiles*, refers only to non-Israelite peoples. To take one example given by Dr. Kittel, *I Peter* 2:9 speaks to Israelites saying, “*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation [ethnos], a peculiar people [laos]; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.*” Peter addresses this letter to Israelites of the ‘diaspora’ (Greek word used in *I Peter* 1:1), “the chosen strangers of the dispersion” (*I Peter* 1:1, Fenton Translation). This is a prophecy of the House of Israel becoming Christian in the New Testament era, and they are referred to as both **ethnos** and **laos**, words usually translated into English as, ‘Gentiles.’

Yet another example of ‘ethnos’ or ‘gentiles’ referring to Israelites is found in *Romans* 11:25, where the Apostle Paul spoke of “**The Fullness of the Gentiles.**” The *Speaker’s Commentary* states, “**Ephraim** [a prophetic name of the House of Israel] **was to be cut off ‘from being a people’ (Isaiah 7:8). It should lose the name, and be scattered across the world; not, however, to perish, but, in accordance with that mysterious oracle, Genesis 48:16-19, to ‘multiply like fish in the midst of the earth.’ And to ‘become The Fullness of the Nations’.**” (vol. 5, p. 106). A note in *Calvin’s Commentary to Genesis* 48 says, “*The Hebrew word for fish is from the above root, because*

of their prolific property; and consequently the use of such a term naturally suggests the notion of an extraordinary increase.” Through this prophesied great increase, Israel grew into a fullness of nations.

The learned Dr. Henry Aldersmith stated, “*Both Dr. Delitzsch’s translation of the New Testament into Hebrew, and Ginzburg-Salkinson’s Hebrew New Testament, have absolutely the same Hebrew words in Romans 11:25, that we find in Genesis 48:19 in the Hebrew Old Testament, and in these two verses only in the whole Bible. ... When the ‘fullness of the Gentiles’ had to be rendered into Hebrew, the most eminent scholars naturally employed the phrase used in the promised birthright blessing given to Ephraim-Israel in Genesis 49!*” (*Fullness of the Nations*, p. 72-73). In other words, the ‘Gentiles’ who were promised to become a ‘fullness of nations’ in the latter days were Ephraim, the ten lost tribes of Israel!

Dr. Aldersmith also says, “*It is most important to understand... that ‘Gentiles’ is not a translation at all, but a misuse of a Latin word which simply means ‘persons belonging to the same family.’ The Greek word, ethne, commonly translated ‘Gentiles,’ is more strictly rendered ‘nations’ as we find it done in the margin of the authorized Bible in Matthew 4:15, the place where it first occurs.*” (Ibid. p. 67). It should be obvious that the neutral rendering, ‘nations,’ could apply to any nation, including Israelite; and as we have seen, a number of specific prophecies clearly apply to the lost and dispersed House of Israel.

We read of gentilised Israel in the blessings to the patriarchs. In *Genesis* 35:11, the Greek *Septuagint Translation* of 300 BC says, “**And God said to him [Jacob], I am thy God; increase and multiply; for nations [ethne] and gatherings of nations [ethnon] shall be of thee...**”

To render *ethne/ethnon* as ‘non-Israelites’ would make God speak the following nonsense to Jacob: “‘non-Israelites’ and gatherings of ‘non-Israelites’ shall be of thee.” We read a similar prophecy in *Genesis* 17:6 to Abraham, “**And I will increase thee very exceedingly, and I will make nations [ethne] of thee...**” It is again clear that the *ethne* or *Gentiles* of this prophecy were Israelites.

The claim by some today that the House of Israel was not divorced, and did not become ‘**lo-ammi,**’ ‘not my people,’ or gentilised, is strange in light of the clear teaching to that effect in *Hosea* chapter 1, verses 7 to 9, “**...for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel...Call his name, Not My People** [Hebrew, ‘Lo-Ammi’]: **for ye are not my people** [laos]...” The *Septuagint translation* quoted here uses the Greek word, ‘*Laos,*’ for these ‘people’ of the House of Israel. *Kittel’s Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, says, “*Ethnos and Laos are used interchangeably.*” (vol. 2, p. 369; see above comments on *I Peter* 2:9, where both terms refer to Israel). Therefore, the House of Israel was to become *ethnos* or *laos*, that is, ‘gentilised.’

This ten-tribe House of Israel must not be confused with the 42,360 (*Ezra* 2:64) of the House of Judah, which returned to Palestine after a 70-year Babylonian captivity, and from which the Israelites of Christ’s day were descended. In contrast, Bible history and prophecy provide evidence that the House of Israel and most of the House of Judah taken into Assyrian dispersion and lost to history, in ancient times became gentilised. That is, they forgot their identity as God’s people and reappeared under other new names. It is no coincidence that millions of Israelites suddenly ‘disappeared’ in northern Assyria just south of the Caucasus Mountains, at the same time in history as millions of

'Caucasians' suddenly streamed northward out of that same mountain region.

The *Pulpit Commentary* on *Hosea* chapter 1 quotes the noted early Christian theologian, Jerome, as saying, "**Out of Israel is taken typically by Hosea a wife [Gomer]...**" Likewise, *Thomas Scott's Bible Commentary* says, "**Gomer was an Israelite.**" Therefore, the Bible 'Gomer' is a prophetic symbol for the House of Israel. Scholars have also positively identified the name, *Gomer*, with the early 'Caucasian' tribes who entered Europe through the Caucasus in the fifth to seventh centuries BC, the identical time when the House of Israel was lost in the Assyrian diaspora. These then, are *Gentiles*, called the *Ethnos, Goyim, or Lo-Ammi* of the Scriptures.

In *Acts* 28:28 we read, "**Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles [ethne], and that they will hear it.**" (KJV). A literal rendering says, "**This salvation of God has**

been sent to the Goyim and they will listen!" (*Jewish New Testament Translation*). Who were these *Gentiles/ethne/goyim* who would fulfill this prophecy in the early Christian centuries by hearing the gospel and becoming Christendom? As the reader should know by now, they were the House of Israel!

We previously quoted God's promise to Abraham in *Genesis* 35:11, a part of the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant. Here God says that Israel will become "*nations and gatherings of nations.*" The Greek word translated 'gatherings' is '*sunagogai*,' from which we get the word, 'Synagogue.' A Synagogue is a place where Hebrews gather, and Israel was to become a cluster or gathering of Hebrew nations. (The King James Version says, "*company of nations*," which expresses the same thought.) Where has this unconditional prophecy been fulfilled? The descendants of the lost and dispersed House of Israel spread northwestward to become the many nations of Europe, as shown in our tract, *The*

Real Diaspora. These descendants of Abraham were prophesied to become Christians (*Isaiah* 9:6-8; *Jeremiah* 3:14-15; 31:33; *I Peter* 2:9-10) and to carry the knowledge of salvation to the ends of the earth (*Isaiah* 49:6). The House of Israel has indeed multiplied in the earth and become a multitude of Christian nations, fulfilling their role in God's Plan by evangelizing the world. Praise God for fulfilled promises!

In conclusion, there is no basis for the supposition that the 'Gentiles' of the Scriptures can only be non-Israelites. In fact, there are numerous examples where it is applied to the majority of Israelites, from both houses of Israel, who became gentilised when they were divorced, scattered, and lost their identity as God's people (*Hosea* 1).

JORY STEVEN BROOKS

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Map from *The Reformation of Israel*
by Norman Saxon
Destiny Publishers, 1987



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VISIT TO SAINTE-MARIES-DE-LA-MER

This report and photographs first appeared in the *BIWF Newsletter* January 2020. There is a wealth of evidence around Europe and the British Isles which has been researched and documented over more than 100 years. This was a very interesting trip which revisited many of the sites seen and written about by J W Taylor in his book *The Coming of the Saints*.

On 12 September a small group met up in Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, in the Camargue, France, to investigate the evidence referring to some of the early disciples arriving from the Holy Land in a boat and landing

there. Martin and Sue Lightfoot had previously visited and explored the sites so were able to lead the group.

We started off by the beach where a cross, made of wood from Jerusalem was set up in 1899 to commemorate this landing, and has an inscription “Croix de Jerusalem – en souvenir des Saintes Maries.” Mary Salome and Mary Jacobe are particularly celebrated there.

We then walked to the nearby fortified Church. Instead of a cross or a cockerel on the roof it has a boat with people figures. The remains of Mary Jacobe and Mary Salome are held there. Records tell of a very early church on the site, built around an ancient well (still remaining) which is mentioned by St Cesaire, Bishop of Arles in his will in the year 543 according to the pamphlet available in the Church.

There are leaflets and information boards in the church (the latter

unfortunately not in English) telling the story of the boat arriving, and many paintings and models depicting the event. Re-enactments still take place every year, and a boat with figures is taken into the sea and pulled back in to be paraded through the streets.

The next day we took the bus to Tarascon where we learned that Martha had lived, preaching the Gospel, and eventually died. There is a Church dedicated to her there. Leaflets and displays in the church tell that, according to Provençal Christian tradition, Martha, Mary Magdalene, Lazarus and other Saints (as well as 14 Bishops) cast adrift in a boat in Palestine, landed on the southern shores of France around AD 48, Martha then sailing up the Rhine to Tarascon. There are



The cross marking the boat's landing place



The landing place on the beach



St Trophimus, Arles

many paintings and information boards telling her story, and her tomb lies in the Crypt.

Mary Magdalene went to St Maximum-la-Baume which is near Marseilles, where there is a cave in which she is reputed to have lived for the last 30 years of her life, now containing a shrine to her. We did

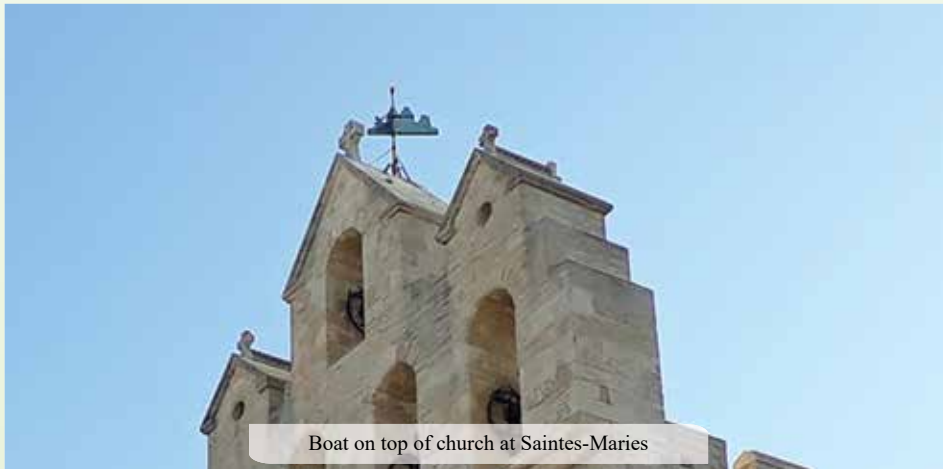
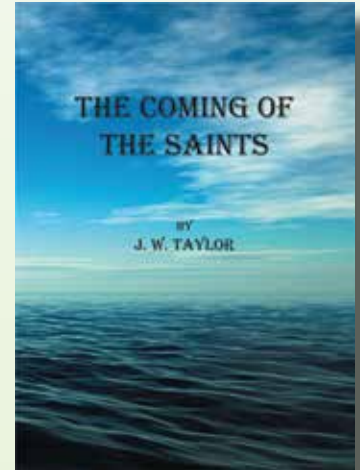
not manage to get there as it was some distance away, but we found the whole trip very interesting and felt blessed to have been able to visit.

According to Caesar Baronius, (a Vatican librarian), Joseph of Arimathea was also on the boat. He and a number of disciples then

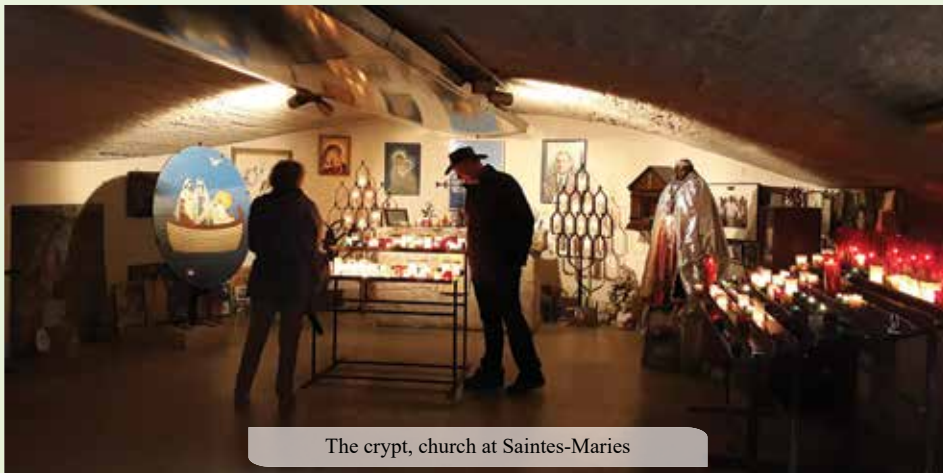
travelled north to Britain taking with them the Christian Gospel.

MARTIN AND SUE LIGHTFOOT

The Coming of the Saints
by J W Taylor
Covenant Publishing



Boat on top of church at Saintes-Maries



The crypt, church at Saintes-Maries



Figures like the ones carried in procession



Church at Saintes-Maries



Front of St Martha's Church, Tarascon



St Martha's tomb

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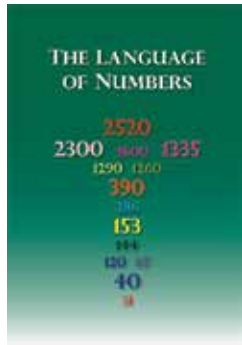
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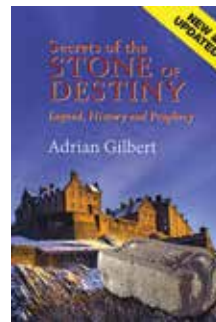
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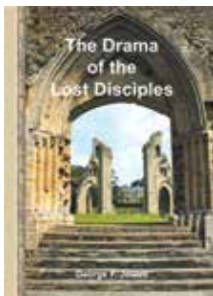
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“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”

Matthew 24:14



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