



# THE COVENANT VISION.

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**“Heaven and earth shall pass away:  
But My words shall not pass away.”**



# THE COVENANT VISION.

**EDITOR:** *Pastor Frank W. Dowsett. J.P.*

**I**n presenting this magazine, it is not our intention just to indiscriminately add to the number of Christian journals already available. Our only purpose is to present the Word of God in its fullness as we feel God has revealed it to us, in order that the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob may be glorified.

**It is our firm conviction** that we are living in the very last days prior to the appearing and return of our Great God and Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

**We are also convinced** that never before in the history of our nation and people has there been such a need for the "Watchmen in Israel" to sound the alarm in order to awaken God's people to the urgent need to repent, and to return to God with all their hearts, and with all their minds, and with all their strength.

Denominational doctrines and differences are not our concern, and it is not our intention to enter into such arguments. There is not enough time left to waste it on such unproductive, and indeed, destructive, exercises. We are concerned **ONLY** with what we believe the Word of God says and teaches.

**We proclaim** the absolute necessity for all people to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour, as the only means to Eternal Life.

**We proclaim** the absolute necessity for the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people to recognise their identity, their inheritance, and their responsibility, as the literal descendants of God's people Israel.

**We proclaim** the absolute necessity for all who would faithfully serve God to 'receive the power from on high', which can only

(continued on inside back cover)

# Editorial

## CONSTITUTIONS Vs The Kingdom

A leader amongst men once said " quote "

**"We have no government armed with the power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and true religion...OUR constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."**

Whereas we read in Isaiah ch. 9: 6. Talking about Our **LORD** and Saviour.

**"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder..."**

WHAT has gone wrong, we now are a sinful nation, a Godless society full of sodomites with this evil in our churches and government like a cancer eating away at the very source of Our Christian foundations and constitution. All this is a well planned attack by, as Our Lord and Saviour said in Matthew ch. 13:28.

**"An enemy hath done this"**

Let us look for one moment at what The Lord God of Israel has to say of our leaders of this age in Ezekiel ch.34:2.

**" Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel and say unto them, THUS SAITH THE Lord God unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks?"**

Let us for one moment look here at the word being used, the Hebrew word for Shepard is 7462 in Strong's Concordance it is 'ra'ah' "raw-aw" and let's all read very carefully what it means and where it condemns our leaders right across the board in this day and age, you will find the true meaning of the word makes us see that on the day of judgement if not sooner, these shepherds will pay the price for leading God's sheep astray. . What when some of our false shepherds are members of,

And serve God's enemies, then it relies on all of us God fearing Christians who fear our lord to uphold our faith in His Law.

In the preamble to our very own Constitution it states our own commonwealth is an **Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom at Westminster**, further it states, "**humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God, have agreed to unite in one indissoluble Federal commonwealth under the crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain.**" You see whichever way we turn we cannot get away from it, that we are God's people, under his law and protection, and woe to those leaders who teach to the contrary. Let us all remember that at this present time when we are in one of the worst droughts, certainly that your editor can remember, and the water police are policing a God given blessing. Let us remember what the Lord has to say in the book of **Deuteronomy ch.11:13 – 16.**

**"And it shall come to pass if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul. That I will give you the rain of your landing his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.**

**And I will send (give) grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full."**

What more can one say than close now with a quotation you shall remember as God for warned Israel through Moses toward the end of his life in **Deuteronomy ch.30:19**

**"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore chose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."**

Is it any wonder we were taught to pray for

**- THY KINGDOM COME -**

# WAS RUTH A MOABITESS

CONTINUED...Pt. 2

In the last issue of the Covenant Vision this article was presented to you in part one and some comments were passed on to the editor that it was full of mistakes. At this point I would like to apologize for them and the terrible reading it must have been to all of you. Since then I hope to have corrected all of them and made it somewhat easier for you to peruse and study.

Since then also I have found out who was the originator of the article, the original was written many years ago by a wonderful woman in Israel called "Elizabeth Hill Elder" from England, the article was picked up and reprinted (of which your editor received a copy many years ago) by a very good student of God's word and servant Mrs. Edna Bates of whom her comments are added at the end on Joseph of Arimathea and for this we thank her, now for part two, please read on.

Here is" no story of passion and palpitation, but one of true comprehension of the Will of the Lord, That Ruth was an Israelite of an earlier migration to Moab, is proved by the fact that **BOAZ MARRIED HER.** He was forbidden at law to marry an alien woman. The sceptred line of Judah, into which the Saviour was born was not contaminated by alien blood. Here in her simple virtue was the **MOTHER OF DAVID OF ISRAEL** and of **DAVID'S GREATER SON.** followed not after the young men, but kept the Law of the Lord -- **THE GOD OF THE ISRAEL PEOPLE.**

—

JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA was one of the richest men in all the known Roman world. He was called in Roman financial circles what we would say, the TIN-PLATE KING. This was from the fact that Joseph of Arimathea, uncle of the woman selected by God to bring forth Jesus, had vast holdings in Britain, and that he had virtual control over the mining of tin.

Many writers throughout the Christian era acknowledge that Joseph of Arimathea was the man who started the first known church in all Europe. And this church was built at Glastonbury in England.

The learned men who make mention of him and his connections with early British church history are Irenaeus, Clemens Romanus, Tertullian, Origen, Eusebius, Theodoret, Ussher, Fuller, Sir Henry Spelman, Bishop Godwin, and many others\*

Joseph of Arimathea was a Prince of the House of David and connected through marriage with the priestly House of Levi; and also was connected thereby with the ROYAL HOUSE OF THE BRITISH.

Joseph of Arimathea had a huge fleet at his disposal, plying continuously between the Isles and the Mediterranean lands, carrying his tin products from his mines.

The fact that he was there when needed, and supplied his own sepulchre for his niece, Mary, to lay her crucified Son, reveals that he had already determined to move away from Palestine and make his headquarters somewhere else.

This is revealed, in that he turned over his sepulchre to provide a place for Jesus. Here was one of the richest men in all the world, AN ISRAELITE. He was brought up with a knowledge of Palestine and its place in the heart and plan of God. It was the dream of all Israelites to be buried there, and vast sums were often expended to assure a suitable and fitting place of burial.

This was what Joseph of Arimathea had done. He had assured for himself a sepulchre in the land of God's purpose, and close to the city of Jerusalem. To all intents and purposes, it was an ideal spot. He would be right where he would want to be for the resurrection of the nation of Israel.

But something had changed his whole viewpoint. His niece, Mary, had borne a son who came into the world under miraculous circumstances. This boy had grown up and had entered into a miraculous ministry; and Joseph of Arimathea believed, accepted and became a disciple of the One who was, in the flesh, his grand-nephew. In faith, he took charge of the transportation of the little band of intimates and He surrendered his Israelite dream and gave his tomb for the body of this Jesus. Now, he had something far more precious. With this living faith, he took charge of the transportation of the little band of inmates

and he eventually landed with them in England.

Jesus had entrusted Mary to the keeping of John (John 19:27), and although we do not know just what the circumstances were, there must have been some amicable arrangement made, for Mary accompanied her uncle to Britain and John finally went to Patmos and to receive Jesus revelations (Rev. 1;1-3).

A certain ancient manuscript tells something of the circumstances that caused the little party to leave Palestine and journey to Britain.

An old document in the Vatican, quoted by the Roman Catholic historian, Baronius, has the information that about 38 A.D. Joseph of Arimathea, Mary his niece, Lazarus, Martha, Mary Magdalene and one or two others, were exiled from the Holy Land in a boat without oars.

They finally landed in a small port of Southern France, and which has since then been called SAINTES de la MER, or the SAINT MARIES OF THE SEA, A religious festival is still kept every May there, in honor of their arrival,

Joseph led his party which, by this time, numbered at least eleven, across France and over the channel into Britain, He landed in Somerset by way of the Seven estuary at the invitation of a Druidic Priest of high rank.

No Druid could hold office unless he could prove his descent from nine generations of free parents; and the high offices Were of men who were of noble birth. It was at the invitation of one of the highest priestly men of Britain, that Joseph came and started



the Church of Christ at Glastonbury. He landed in Somerset at a place now called Weary-all-hill, so named from that event, when the weary ones from ancient Palestine finally arrived at the land that was to be their new home.

Joseph was given 12 hides of land by the British king, Aviragus, for the purpose of building a church and this property was made tax free. This was so recorded in the Domesday Book of Old England,

This property may still be seen. There is still to be seen the site of the 12 huts that once stood around the Blood Spring or Holy Well at the foot of Chalice Hill. Close by, are the ruins of the famous abbey Church of Glastonbury, built around the elde Kirche and Chapel of St. Mary, the oldest Church in the whole world.

Within the confines of this old church, built by the party of Joseph, lies buried the lady that the Almighty God chose to bring into this world our beloved Saviour. From this fact, the name given to the oldest church in the world was also called St. Mary's Chapel.

Nearby, lies buried her Uncle, Joseph of Arimathea; and on the stone set upon his grave, may still be seen his initials.

This information was presented to the Papal Augustine; and with the information that Jesus Himself had once walked on British soil. It was claimed that Joseph brought Jesus to the land when Jesus was still a youth. Many legends deal with Joseph and the Holy Grail, and also of the Lord Jesus coming with Joseph to visit the British

Isles.

Augustine wrote to the Vatican in 600 A.D. — "IN THE WESTERN ISLES IN THE WESTERN COUNTRIES OF BRITAIN, THERE IS A CERTAIN ROYAL ISLAND OF LARGE EXTENT SURROUNDED BY WATER ABOUNDING IN ALL THE BEAUTIES OF NATURE AND NECESSITIES OF LIFE. In it the first neophytes found a church constructed by no human art; but by the hands of God Himself"

Here, not only did Mary the mother of our Lord find a resting place; and, too, Joseph was buried; but also King Arthur of the Round Table and his wife. Queen Guinevere, lie buried.

From this church, many missionaries went on great preaching campaigns. Among them were Simon Zolotes and Aristobulus. For at Glastonbury they had found new incentive and hope. Here, too, the Apostle Paul rested a while and from here a daughter of the king, Caractacus, Princess Eurgain, went out into Siluria and founded the first British choir at Llan-Llid in Glamorgan.

The first great missionaries of Britain were members of the Royal Family; and from the British Isles there went these royal preacher disciples and carried to Rome the gospel of the Lord Jesus.

IT WAS TO THIS ROYAL GROUP IN ROME THAT PAUL SENT GREETINGS IN THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS - (Romans 16:6-16),

THE END

# **CV** *News*

To all our readers and supporters of THE COVENANT WATCH EXTRA it is with deep regret that we here at The Covenant Vision Ministry must suspend any further editions of The Covenant Watch Extra until further notice or for quite some time at least. At the present time here at the ministry, what with Brother Frank now into semi retirement and myself just starting to take over and, learning the reins, as it is said, and it really does take some learning.

My main aim is of course, at this present time, is The Covenant Vision, I will endeavour to supply and support you loyal people with much more of brother Frank's writings as there is no shortage of his works, but we still will have Covenant Watch in every magazine.

If at any time this change in the format of The Covenant Vision Ministry, which has occurred here, has affected any of you out there, whether financially or otherwise please let us know, and we will reimburse you. One of the great task in taking up the banner as it is said and to keep the flag flying is at times the enormity of the job. What with our present generation in the Identity message now all past their prime and given age of three score years and ten , I would like to think that we, the younger brigade, pray we can serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as well as the present ones have, then we will have achieved in bringing back to God, some sheep that have returned to his fold awakened to the real TRUTH and an awakening of the Israel Identity message.

Also at this present time we are in the process of reprinting an up to date Tape and Book Catalogue, so along with the next Covenant Vision we will be enable all you wonderful people to be able to hear all the latest

CONTINUED P. 54

Part 28 THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY BEFORE THE PASSOVER

24 November 2002

PARABLES OF THE TALENTS AND POUNDS

Matt 25:14-30

14 *For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.*

15 *And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.*

16 *Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.*

17 *And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.*

18 *But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.*

19 *After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.*

20 *And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.*

21 *His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

22 *He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.*

23 *His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.*

24 *Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:*

25 *And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.*

26 *His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:*

27 *Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.*

28 *Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.*

29 *For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.*

30 *And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

**(KJV)**

In Luke 19:11-27 and Matthew 25:14-30 we have the parables of the Talents and the pounds. They are so similar that they are surely based upon the same narrative spoken by our Lord, and so I shall treat them as one. Verse one tells us explicitly that Jesus departed from earth and was crowned in heaven. John was also given a vision of this. From there Jesus returns to earth to take charge of the Kingdom which is His by right. Before He went away, He called his ten servants, and delivered unto them His goods, His Pounds, the treasures of His Kingdom, and said, "Occupy till I come."

In another place He told the Jews that:

*"The Kingdom of God should be taken from them and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."* (Matthew 21:43).

This was the time when the unjust steward was deprived of his stewardship. The new steward must be the nation to whom the Kingdom was given in Matthew 21:43. As the treasures of the Kingdom in the parable of the talents are given are given to the ten servants it is clear that the nation, the new steward and the ten servants are all one and the same.

Then who are the ten servants?



Christ said, "*I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the House of Israel,*" and the House of Israel contained the ten tribes who were to be Jehovah's chosen servants and witnesses to all mankind. The ten servants are the Israel nation, which is to be the new steward of the Kingdom.

Our Lord's words, "*Occupy till I come,*" were spoken to His ten servants at the beginning of the Christian age before He went away, and they hold the goods or treasures of the Kingdom throughout the Christian era until He returns.

At that same time the Jews were deprived of the guardianship of the Kingdom, so that without doubt the Christian age is the time-period of the Parable. At the beginning of this age our Lord committed the goods to the keeping of the House of Israel, and at the end He is coming to reckon with his servants and to take over the control of His Kingdom in person.

Who are the servants placed in charge of the Kingdom until He returns? Who is occupying till He comes? Historically the answer is simple. In Britain the Christian Church was established by the Apostles during the first century AD; from Britain the gospel has gone out to the ends of the earth.

Lest there be any doubt, consider for a moment what the treasures of the Kingdom are.

1. THE LAW OF THE KINGDOM. Our Lord definitely taught that the Law would remain until all the prophets are fulfilled. Christ did not come to deliver us from the law, but from the penalty of death, the curse of the law, due to come on all those who broke the law. The law has never yet had full opportunity, but in the new age it will be the foundation of a perfect national life. It is a part of the heritage of the British Commonwealth of Nations today.

2. THE THRONE OF HIS KINGDOM. This is the Throne of David, established forever in the Israel Kingdom. In **Luke 1:32** Mary was told that:

*"The Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of his father David; and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever."*

Our Royal Family is lineally descended from King David, and we are entrusted with this precious treasure until the Lord returns.

3. THE CITY AND LAND OF THE KINGDOM. Jerusalem and Palestine are far from being a Holy Land today. But who knows what is in front of us in the very near future. Perhaps Britain will shortly regain control of this territory when the dogs of war have had their day. In the meantime we of the Commonwealth still live in God's "Appointed Places" on the earth, although we are in the grip of Jacob's troubles, and our power has been taken away from us.

4. THE BOOK OF THE KINGDOM. The Old and New Testaments contain the story of the Kingdom, from its establishment at Mount Sinai to its restoration and glorious climax under Messiah's reign. It contains the story of the nation to whom the Kingdom is entrusted, and it is natural that the race whose story it is should be the custodians of the record.

5. THE CHURCH OF THE KINGDOM. It is not necessary to prove the origin of Christianity in the world. It all has Anglo-Saxon-Celtic roots.

It must be plain that Britain holds the goods of the Kingdom; she must therefore be the ten servants, or the nation to whom the Kingdom was given when it was taken from the Jews. Let us now look at the sequel described in the parable.

Upon the Lord's return he proceeds to examine the servants, but only three are reported to be interviewed by him, although it is stated that every man received talents according to his several ability. From this it would appear that the nation is divided into three main classes, as represented by the three men who came up for reward or punishment. It is the custom to entirely ignore the Kingdom meaning of the parable, and to

consider only the individual and personal side of its lessons, and of course the personal side should not be ignored. However, I think that people are side-tracked by our Lord's use of the term usury in the story. We know that God did not permit its use among His people, and this reference is sometimes taken as a licence to use usury in our system. But just as God used unclean animals in his vision to Peter, so He used the term here simply for clarity in communicating with the common people, who knew just what he was talking about, without condoning the actual practice. In his vision, Peter knew the animals were unclean, and did not eat, but he needed to learn about some men as not being unclean because they were not Jews: so also here the use of the term usury indicated the profits or results of our actions, not financial methodology. We should note that the punishment was to be cast out into "outer darkness", which, surely, was to be sent out of the Kingdom into other lands without the light of Christ.

## SCENES ON THE JUDGMENT DAY

### Matt 25:31-26:17

31 *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

32 *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

33 *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

34 *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

We note here that it is Kingdoms to which he refers. Perhaps at our present stage in history we are seeing the nations beginning to line up in the way our Lord predicts. It is, indeed, quite confusing. For on the one hand we have the Roman Catholic nations in Europe joined in a confederation which must surely be the representation of the Babylonian image of the ten

toes, which is threatening to engulf Britain & Scandinavia. We know that these nations are only held together by clay. On the other hand we are seeing the rise of the Cainanite forces driven by militant Islam threatening the peace of the world. These Islam nations seem to represent the twelve nations of Ishmael. The future looks ominous indeed.

35 *For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*

36 *Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.*

37 *Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?*

38 *When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?*

39 *Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?*

40 *And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

Whatever may be said against the integrity and truthfulness of the Christian West, it cannot be denied that they have fulfilled the terms of Christ's description in these last few verses.

41 *Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:*

42 *For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:*

43 *I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.*

44 *Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?*

45 *Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.*

46 *And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.*

## THE RULERS CONSPIRE

The Jewish conspiracy reaches a crisis at this point.

**Matt 26:1-6**

1 *And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples,*

2 *Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.*

3 *Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,*

4 *And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him.*

5 *But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.*

6 *Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,*

(KJV)

Matthew, Mark and Luke all record these words. They do not use exactly the same words, but the intention was clear. A special meeting of the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people was called at the palace of the High Priest. It was a specially convened meeting of the highest in the land, presided over by Caiaphas. It was obviously to consider something that they all agreed was of the utmost importance.

What could be of such high importance? Matthew tells us in these words. "They consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty and kill him." They did not fear Jesus, or even his disciples. They were, after all, only thirteen in number, and they had a Roman Legion to call on. But they did fear the people, and especially on a feast day. It has been said that Jerusalem could on high occasions contain a million souls from all over the



close outlying nations. It has also been recognised that Roman troops were a scarce commodity at the time. They would not have been able to handle a full-scale uprising. So, craft and subtility were the order of the day.

### **JESUS PREDICTS HIS CRUCIFIXION TWO DAYS HENCE**

I want to draw your attention to Matthew 26:1-2, because it is only Matthew who notes this incident, although Mark and Luke are recording the same event. Because it seems to me that the men around Jesus did not seem to take very seriously the fact that He was going to die, and be withdrawn from them. It is interesting that the women seem to have accepted this approaching crisis far more readily. Witness the two women who paid a great deal of money for the means of anointing him in life and preserving his body in death, obviously in the sure knowledge that His time with them was very short. Indeed the first occasion was the 4<sup>th</sup> day before, and the second only the 2<sup>nd</sup> day before his death was to take place. But Jesus at this point tells them plainly what is to happen, so that they are not taken unawares.

#### **Matt 26:1-2**

1        *And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples,*

2        *Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.*

### **THE THREE SUPPERS**

But here the story is interrupted. Jesus returns to Bethany, and is present at the second supper in the house of Simon the leper. That there were three suppers, and not only two, at the close of our Lord's ministry will be clear from a comparison of the three Scriptures.

1. There was the supper recorded in John 12:1-9. This was probably in the house of Lazarus, for all the family were present; and "Martha served". It was here that our Lord went on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan. Having slept there on the Friday night (and I am following Bullinger) and spent the last

Sabbath in retirement there, this first supper was made after the Sabbath had ended at 6 pm. At this supper there was an anointing of the Lord by Mary.

2. The second supper, recorded in **Matthew 26:6-13**, took place "two days before the Passover" at the house of Simon the Leper, which was also in Bethany. See **Mark 14:1-9**. At this supper there was also an anointing by a woman unknown.
3. The supper recorded in **John 13:1-20** is the same as that recorded in **Matthew 26:20**, **Mark 14:17**, and **Luke 22:14**. It was "the last supper", "the hour was come", and when supper was begun, the Lord first washed the disciples' feet; and later the events took place as recorded in all four Gospels. John's Gospel adds some antecedents; but gives the same events as a sequel.

### THE TWO ANOINTINGS

There can be no doubt that, during the last week, the Lord was anointed on two separate occasions.

1. The former is recorded in **John 12:3-8**, "six days before the Passover", at Bethany, where the Lord came. The latter is recorded in **Matthew 26:7-13**, and **Mark 14:3-9**, "two days before the Passover", in the house of Simon the Leper, also in Bethany. Thus the times and places are distinct.
2. In the former case it was "a pound of ointment" that was used (**John 12:3**).  
In the latter case it was an alabaster vessel (**Matthew 26:7**)
3. In the former case it was "the feet" of the Lord that were anointed (**John 12:3**).  
In the latter case it was His "head" (**Matt 26:7**).
4. In the former case the term used is "anointed" (**John 12:3**).  
In the later case the term is "poured" (**Matthew 26:7**, **Mark 14:3**)

5. In the former case it was Judas who asked the question why it was not sold, as there was plenty of time to do so during the six days (John 12:4).

In the latter case it was the disciples who "had indignation (Matthew 26:8) "among themselves" (Mark 14:4) and their words (not necessarily spoken aloud at all) seem to refer to what Jesus had said before.

6. In the former the Lord directs the Ointment to be reserved for his burial, and not sold (John 12:7).

In the latter He declared that it had been kept for that purpose (Matt 26:12. Mark 14:8).

7. In the former case the Lord said, "Let her alone," in order that she may keep it (John 12:7).

In the latter He declared that she had well used it (Matthew 26:10-13).

8. In the former case the woman is named "Mary" (John 12:3). In the latter case the woman is unnamed.

Thus on each occasion both the former and the latter particulars are different. Instead of wondering that there be two anointings the wonder should be that there were *only* two, seeing that examples are so easily followed.

## THE DAY BEFORE THE PASSOVER – THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NISAN

It would appear that the incident of Mary anointing our Lord's feet with the pound of ointment of spikenard, very precious, and wiping His feet with her hair, was the spark that set off the event marking the culmination of 4000 years of history. You will remember that Judas bitterly complained that it should have been sold for 300 pence and given to the poor. It is only John who supplies the inner reason for this bitterness of Judas.

**John 12: 6** *This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.*

**7** *Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.*

**8** *For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.*

Judas, stung by the rebuke of Jesus at the feast, left the feast and conspired with the chief priests and captains, how he might deliver Him unto them. You see, Jesus delivered this rebuke in front of everyone present. The record tells us that Lazarus was present at the feast. Indeed, it was at his own home in Bethany that it was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan. John goes on to tell us that many of the Jews were there also. They came not only to see Jesus, but also to see Lazarus. For this reason the chief priests had included Lazarus' name on their death list.

**John 12:9** *Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead.*

**10** *But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;*

**11** *Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.*

And so Judas went away and did the task which condemned him to oblivion.

**Luke 22:3** *Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.*

**4** *And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them.*

**5** *And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money.*

**6** *And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.*

**PREPARATION FOR THE PASSOVER – 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NISAN**

Robertson's Harmony tells us that this was prepared at the home of a friend (possibly that of John Mark's father and mother) but gives no authority for this.

I love this next passage about the provision of a site for the Passover meal.

Don't we wish that all our arrangements could be looked after so easily, and apparently without cost. Notice that our Lord never sent his disciples separately, but only in company with another, so that any responsibilities could be shared. Two heads are always better than one.

**Mark 14:12** *And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover, his disciples said unto him, Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?*

**13** *And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him.*

**14** *And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?*

**15** *And he will shew you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us.*

**16** *And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.*

## THE LAST SUPPER

### John 13:1-30 FF Bruce

**1** *It was before the festival of the Passover. Jesus knew that his hour had come, for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had set his love on his own people who were in the world, and he loved them to the uttermost.*

**2** *Supper was now in progress. The devil had already resolved that Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, should betray Jesus.*



- 3 Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come forth from God and was going to God,
- 4 so he got up from supper, put his outer garments aside, took a towel, and tied it round his waist.
- 5 Then he put water in the basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and wipe them with the towel which was tied round him.
- 6 So he came to Simon Peter. He said to him, 'Lord, are you washing **my** feet?'
- 7 Jesus answered: 'You do not know now what I am doing, but you will understand afterwards.'
- 8 Peter said to him, 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus answered him: 'Unless I wash you. You have no part with me.'
- 9 Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not only my feet; my hands and head too.'
- 10 Jesus said to him, 'He who has bathed has no need to wash [except for his feet]; he is clean all over. Now you (disciples) are clean, but not all of you.'
- 11 He knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, 'Not all of you are clean'.
- 12 So, when he had washed their feet and taken his outer garments and reclined at table again, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you?'
- 13 'You call me "Teacher" and "Lord", and rightly so; that is what I am.
- 14 Therefore if I, your "Lord" and you "teacher", have washed your feet, you in your turn ought to wash one another's feet.
- 15 I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you.
- 16 Indeed and in truth I tell you; a slave is not greater than his lord, nor one who is sent greater than the one who sent him
- 17 'If you know this, you are blessed if you do it.'

This verse relates to a principle which Jesus repeatedly underlines in his ministry: it is not enough to hear, understand

and 'approve what is right; one must do it. 'Not every one who says to me, "Lord, Lord", shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven' (Matthew 7:21)

## THE TRAITOR IN THE CAMP

**John 13:18,19** *'I am not speaking of you all; I know those whom I have chosen. The scripture must be fulfilled: "He who eats my bread has raised his heel against me." I tell you this now before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe that I am He*

The lesson on humble service merges almost imperceptibly into the warning that there was one among them for whom such a lesson had ceased to have any meaning. The warning took the disciples by surprise. John had more than once prepared his readers for the treachery of Judas (cf John 6:71; 12:4; 13:2); and Jesus has already hinted at it on the present occasion by saying 'Not all of you are clean' (John 13:10 f). But now he begins to be more explicit.

That Judas' treachery was foretold in OT prophecy is affirmed by a number of NT writers. In Acts 1:16 ff Peter expresses his conviction that 'the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David, concerning Judas', and recalls two passages from the Psalms (Ps 69:25; 109:8) in confirmation of his words. Matthew (26:15; 27:3-10) sees in the payment and return of 'the thirty pieces of silver' (an exact sum of money specified by him alone among the Evangelists) the interpretation of Zechariah 11:12 f. Here the Lord himself states that the scripture had to be fulfilled in Judas's action. This does not mean that Judas in particular was driven to his act of treachery by a decree of fate against which it would have been fruitless to struggle. Even if Jesus' betrayal by one of his intimate companions was foreseen, it was by Judas's personal choice that he, rather than any one else, eventually filled that role.

John 13:20 *Indeed and in truth I tell you, he who receives anyone whom I send, receives me; and he who receives me, receives one who sent me.'*

And so on this more pleasant note we shall leave the story until our next talk.

\*\*\*\*\*

## WATCHMEN IN ISRAEL.

By - F.W.DOWSETT

For many years, teachers associated with the Israel-Identity message have been warning to the political, financial, and ecclesiastical apostasy, as well as the national disasters, which would fall upon the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people of the world. These warnings have not been the ravings of religious fanatics or radicals, as many would like to believe. They have been given earnest and humble believers in God, and in the total infallibility of His word. The tragedy is, that numbered among these "Watchmen" are very few political or recognised religious leaders. It is a sad commentary on our present position that so many of our religious leaders who are supposed to warn God's people, very rarely, if ever, teach or even understand the prophetic Word of God which is the very basis of the warnings which they should be giving. But such are the ways of Satan.

It is because of this dereliction of duty generally in the area of national warning and exhortation that the comparative few, who have been so immeasurably blessed with a deeper knowledge and understanding of God's Divine plans and purposes, have found it necessary to rise fearlessly and stand together in the Gaps as "Watchmen in Israel".

But first of all, let us be quite clear as to what a "Watchman" really is. By definition he is one who observes current events and by diligent and careful understanding of

them, warns the people of their probable outcome and effect upon them. But more than this, they are those to whom the people should automatically look for guidance and direction in these matters. You will no doubt recall the question ask in God's Word, "*Watchman, what of the night?*"

Most Christians today seem to have the impression, judging by the way they act, that 'watching' is comprised of looking Lovingly into each others eyes, possibly to make sure that the other person is looking just as lovingly back, with virtually a complete indifference to the national disasters and calamities which are thundering around them, or to their meaning or relationship to the Word of God. The principle duty of any soldier is to face the enemy, not each other, and I would not consider that it should be any different for a soldier of Christ. The requirements for Christian service will never change. **We must have our mind firmly fixed upon our Leader, the Lord Jesus Christ, and our faces set resolutely toward the enemy. We must advance shoulder to shoulder in the strength of the Lord, and with the assurance and support of our fellow soldiers.**

But the point is, how do we face the enemy if we really don't know who the enemy is? In past generations this matter of identification has not been easy, particularly on the national scale. The enemy has been well hidden, operating, (except in the ecclesiastical field), secretly and patiently behind scenes. But no longer is this the case. God's Word tells us quite plainly that in these last days Satan would be abroad as a raging lion, destroying everyone whom he could. In doing this, he has automatically declared his hand, revealing those who are '**the synagogue of Satan**' as opposed to those who are '**the Temple of God**.'" This disquieting, and indeed the terrifying aspect about this revelation is that Satan now considers that the recognition of his forces is of now no longer of any importance, because he knows that his plans are so close to final victory that no human

plan or counteractively can now stop him.

**But he has reckoned without God, as have all those who have allied themselves with him.**

Babylon the Great, the Baal/Roman Church, the Synagogue of Satan, the Beast, Anti-Christ, the Man of Sin, Esau/Edom, are all various names and titles and aspects of the one great system or kingdom of Satan which he has quite deliberately set up in opposition to, and for the sole purpose of destroying, the Kingdom of God on the earth. These are all headed up in the easily recognised One World Government movement whose lifeblood and controlling force is international Zionism. Their objectives are quite clearly and openly stated as being:-

1. The setting up of a one world government under the Control and supremacy of the United Nations Organization .
2. The control and domination of all people of all races Under a socialist welfare state.
3. The destruction of **Christianity**.
4. The destruction of the family unit.
5. The dissolution of colonial empires.
6. The destruction of all monarchies, especially the **British Monarchy**, and their replacement by so-called Republics.
7. The promotion of supra-national and international Controls by standardisation, as for instance the metric system.

8. The complete destruction, by integration, subversion, perversion, and all other means possible, of the white race, whom Satan recognises as the race specially formed by God to show forth His praise, **and as being the greatest existing obstacle to the success of his own plans.**

As "Watchmen is Israel" it is our sacred duty to fully understand and proclaim these facts. There can be no excuse whatsoever for those who have this knowledge to sit back and do nothing. I repeat – **NO EXCUSE AT ALL.** Let me give you an example of what I mean. The Gospel of John was written by just one man. **But its electrifying effect has blessed countless millions of people all over the entire globe for nearly 2,000 years.** Yet it cannot be claimed, on the human level, that the Apostle John was entirely responsible for this. The result was due to the efforts of millions of people since then who have devoted themselves to its financial support, its printing, and its distribution. All of these people have dedicated themselves to overcoming whatever physical or financial obstacle applied to them, and thereby discovered avenues of service and the strength and courage to carry out these activities which they had never before suspected existed within them.

This is the calling, the duty and yes, the responsibility of a **"WATCHMAN IN ISRAEL"**. This is the challenge which we issue. The night is far spent. The Glorious Dawn is at hand when the Son of Righteousness, even our Lord Jesus Christ, will appear in all His glory,

How will you account for the talents which He has given you to use on His behalf whilst He has been away?

Will you be counted among the **"WISE"** who will understand, watch, and warn, or among the **"FALSE SHEPHERDS"** who feed only themselves and allow the 'sheep of God's pasture' to be destroyed for lack of knowledge and

warning regarding the things that are coming upon the earth?

**WATCHMAN,**

**WHAT OF THE NIGHT!**

\*\*\*\*\*

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pressed back. On the seas, the U-boat menace was being conquered. With the occupation of the near Italian islands, Malta's three-year siege had, at last, been raised. Thus for the Allies in every theatre of war came success and deliverance.

## **EL ALAMEIN.**

It was in August 1940, during the height of the Battle of Britain, that opportunistic Italian forces had pushed northeastward from Ethiopia and overran British Somaliland. Then in September, Italian troops in Libya marched eastward into Egypt. But, in February 1941, General Sir Archibald Wavell's Eighth Army forced the Italians back into Benghazi in Libya, capturing over 130,000 prisoners!

An alarmed and thoroughly disgusted Hitler sent his elite African Corps, a highly motorised, Armoured force under command of Erwin Rommel, to save Mussolini's army from total defeat. On May 26 1942, Rommel's Africa Corps began a powerful drive toward the Suez Canal, capturing Tobruk during June 11 - 21. The British Army retreated back to the Nile Delta, abandoning to Rommel a rich haul of armour, food and military supplies: 5000 tons of provisions, 500,000 gallons of petrol, and over 2000 captured Allied vehicles. Rommel's quick victories prompted a jubilant Hitler to make him Germany's youngest Field Marshal on June 21.

So sure were the Axis powers that they would soon capture Egypt, that on June 29, Benito Mussolini mounted his white charger and rode through the streets of Derna in Libya. It was to be a dress rehearsal for what Field Marshal Rommel had promised him would be his triumphal ride through the streets of Cairo. Ominously, by June 30, Rommel's Africa Corps had reached El Alamein, just 60 miles west of Alexandria.



As the moment for the opening of one of the great battles of history drew near, flights of British bombers surged across the night sky, but the sounds soon faded. Then at exactly 9.40 pm the whole wide arc of the battlefield was rimmed with flickering yellow light as 900 medium and field guns opened up against the enemy gun lines. Seconds elapsed before the first detonations reached the troops waiting on their start lines. They could have believed they were watching a silent display of summer lightning, until the thunder burst upon their eardrums in a swiftly mounting crescendo. For fifteen minutes this counter-battery bombardment continued, then stopped as suddenly as it had started.

There followed five minutes of eerie silence while the men of the Eighth Army awaited the signal to advance. At 10 pm it came. Two parallel searchlight beams reaching high into the moonlit vault of the sky swung inwards and crossed. Instantly the guns belched fire again with a barrage of unbelievable intensity. The floor of the desert shook, vehicles shuddered without pause, men's bodies and their very voices quivered under the mighty shock waves. This time the barrage crept forward ahead of the infantry to assist them on to their objectives.

The first to cross the Australian start lines were the 2/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion of Brigadier D.A. Whitehead's 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade on the right and the 2/17<sup>th</sup> and 2/15<sup>th</sup> Battalions of Brigadier W.J.D. Windeyer's 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade on the left. Almost immediately they ran into machine-gun and mortar fire as they threaded their way through mines and booby traps. At the enemy wire the men were held up for a few minutes until the barrage lifted and moved on ahead of them through the enemy minefields. Where the barrage had failed to smash down the wire, engineers blew gaps through it with bangalore torpedoes, and the infantry passed through and started methodically mopping up the

enemy posts. In the smoke and dust raised by the bombardment, visibility was limited to a few yards, but lines of tracer shells fired from the rear as guides helped to keep the attackers on their correct line of advance. Shortly after midnight the three battalions had reached their objective and dug in. They had achieved a considerable success at a total cost of 24 dead and 140 wounded or unaccounted for. Indeed, along the whole line of the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps' front the first objectives had been taken in about two hours without great opposition. The second phase of this opening night's attack was to prove more difficult. The assaulting divisions were soon to discover that the first line of defence, which on the British maps had been shown as bristling with obstacles and weapons of every kind, was in fact comparatively lightly held. It was an outer line to cover the main line of defence sited at the rear at considerable depth.

As the battalions assigned the task of achieving the second - and final - phase of the night's attack were moving up to pass through the foremost battalions, the artillery continued pounding the advanced enemy positions. An hour was allowed for the second wave of attackers to move into position. In the 9<sup>th</sup> Division's sector only one battalion in each brigade was employed in the final phase - the 2/28<sup>th</sup> Battalion on the right and the 2/13<sup>th</sup> on the left.

In the face of stiff opposition the 2/48<sup>th</sup> (Lieutenant-Colonel H.H.Hammer) fought its way to its objective, which it reached at 3.45 am. During this advance, Sergeant W.H.Kibby attacked an enemy post, which was holding up the advance, killing three with his Tommy gun and accepting the surrender of twelve others.

Having penetrated 3.5 kilometres into enemy territory from the Brigade start line the 2/48<sup>th</sup> Battalion, like the 2/24<sup>th</sup> in its rear, had an open right flank that had to be protected as well as the front. Both battalions stationed companies

facing north to protect this flank and lined up on the right with a composite force, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel E. Macarthur-Onslow, which was in turn linked with the 24<sup>th</sup> Brigade to extend the northern flank to the coast.

On the left of the advance the 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, having no open flank to protect, had to advance on a front three times as wide as the 2/48<sup>th</sup>s - 2200 metres as against 730 metres - and to the same depth. The strength of the enemy defences made the task beyond the capacity of the infantry, but the attack was to have been made with the 40<sup>th</sup> Royal Tank Regiment in support. The main enemy minefield in that area was expected to be about 230 metres deep, but it proved to be almost 1460 metres. Despite herculean efforts, the engineers were unable to clear lanes through in time for the tanks so the 2/13<sup>th</sup> attacked on time without their support. As the companies fought their way deeper into enemy territory, opposition stiffened and soon they were taking very heavy casualties. Wounded officers and NCOs continued leading their men until they were killed or severely wounded and put out of the battle. In one company, the few survivors were forced back under their only remaining leader to the intermediate objective, where they were absorbed into another company. Dawn approached before the 2/13<sup>th</sup> could reach its final objective and the companies were ordered to dig in where they were. At daylight the tanks finally got through and destroyed some posts threatening the 2/13<sup>th</sup>'s positions.

On the Australian front soon after sunrise on 24<sup>th</sup> October, the German 15<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division moved in to stage the first counterattack on the bridgehead. Three Australian Field Regiments, the 7<sup>th</sup> Medium Regiment and some British Sherman tanks engaged them. German lorry infantry entered the battle but the enemy finally fell back, leaving several tanks burning. Some Shermans were also knocked out. The 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, still short of its final

objective, was practically without officers. At 4 pm that day its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R.W.N.Turner, was mortally wounded and his adjutant seriously wounded. Major G.E.Colvin was sent forward to take command and he then obtained permission for the other left-out-of-battle officers of the battalion to join him. Starting at 2 am on the 25<sup>th</sup>, the 2/13<sup>th</sup> and 2/17<sup>th</sup> Battalions, supported by the 40<sup>th</sup> Royal Tank Regiment, completed the 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade's task by fighting their way forward to the final objective and digging in.

The task now given to the Australians was the tentative portion of the original El Alamein battle plan of cutting off and capturing the enemy between the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps's northern flank and the sea. To open the attack the 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade, already facing north as well as west, was to drive 1.2 kilometres northwards into the enemy salient to capture Trig 29, the highest ground in the area, and the slope that ran north-east from the Trig down to a feature called the Fig Orchard. Across part of the ground to be captured ran a switch defence line leading through the Fig Orchard to Thompson's Post, the scene of bitter fighting in the days to come. The attack on Trig 29 was to be carried out by the 2/48<sup>th</sup>, that on the Fig Orchard by the 2/24<sup>th</sup>.

The attack opened at midnight by an artillery barrage. Pressing forward through heavy defensive fire two companies of the 2/48<sup>th</sup> stopped as planned 200 metres short of Trig 29 while carriers with another company aboard charged through to the dusty smoke-shrouded objectives, where the infantry leaped among the enemy with bayonets, grenades and small-arms fire. Advancing with the left-hand company, Private P.E.Gratwick, a 40-year-old West Australian prospector, charged an enemy post with a rifle and bayonet in one hand and a grenade in the other. Throwing one grenade into the post, then another, he jumped in among the surviving defenders with

his bayonet and killed them all, including a complete mortar crew. He then charged a second post but was killed by machine-gun fire as he reached it. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross.

The 2/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion had the difficult task of advancing 2.7 kilometres along a line of enemy posts, one of the advanced companies moving down the left of the enemy and the other to the right of it. They captured the Fig Orchard post after heavy fighting, with severe losses on both sides; one company, overshooting its objective, reached the perimeter of Thompson's Post before the fourteen survivors of the 63 who had started out were withdrawn to the Fig Orchard position. Lieutenant-Colonel C.G.Weir, commanding the 2/24<sup>th</sup>, found the forward companies surrounded by German dead, but at 4 am decided the battalion was too depleted to hold such an extended front and withdrew.

During the previous night of violent action the 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade, which had taken over the 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade's front, was attacked by tanks and infantry. Against the 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Germans followed up by dark the daylight attack that had failed earlier, but they were again routed, this time losing three tanks and tow-tracked troop carriers when they were within 55 metres of the Australians. Artillery and infantry-weapon fire broke up the attack. On the 2/17<sup>th</sup> Battalion's front, twelve enemy tanks appeared at dawn on a ridge to the north-west where they remained all day harassing the Australians.

The day of 27 October was also marked by very fierce fighting. A pre-dawn attack on the 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion by infantry assisted by fifteen tanks was dispersed by a concentrated artillery bombardment with an infantry fire curtain in front of it. A second attack was also dispersed. But it was on the Australian's new northern front that

Rommel threw the main weight of his armour, artillery and infantry that day. While forming up for the attack near the Sidi Rahman mosque on the coast road in the afternoon, the enemy concentration was pounded by British bombers, but an attack by an enemy infantry battalion supported by a heavy German artillery barrage was launched against the 2/48<sup>th</sup> Battalion and Trig 29. The artillery supporting the 2/48<sup>th</sup> put down a wall of fire and the battalion joined in with mortars, machine-guns and rifles.

The enemy was driven back with very heavy losses. The German left wing came up against the 2/24<sup>th</sup> with tanks and infantry, but there too the attackers were dispersed with heavy losses. An attack on the 2/17<sup>th</sup> was also beaten off. Rommel later wrote of the attacks on the Trig 29 positions: 'Attacks were launched by elements of the 15<sup>th</sup> Armoured Littorio Division and a Bersaglieri Battalion, supported by all the local artillery and anti-aircraft. The British resisted desperately. Rivers of blood were poured out over miserable strips of land.'

On 28 October the British stood on the defensive during the day while regrouping, but at 10 pm the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division again struck northwards on the right flank towards the coast road. Brigadier Windeyer's 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade opened the attack with the 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion driving along the switch line through the Fig Orchard to the outskirts of Thompson's Post - the area from which the 2/24<sup>th</sup> had been withdrawn on the morning of 26 October - and the 2/15<sup>th</sup> Battalion taking over from the 2/48<sup>th</sup> and striking north from Trig 29.

The 2/13<sup>th</sup> was an exhausted and depleted unit, with its rifle companies down to 35 of all ranks. It had been attacking and beating off counterattacks for five sleepless nights and had been on the march throughout the preceding night. Forced to advance on a narrow front because of its reduced numbers, the battalion inevitably left unsubdued

enemy posts on the left flank, which caused casualties among the Australians after they had advanced to their objective - across ground strewn with anti-personnel mines. A patrol of ten men led by Lieutenant S.C.F.North was hit by a mortar bomb that killed or seriously wounded all except Lieutenant North, who returned and organised another patrol which brought back the casualties while a patrol under Corporal R.V.MacKellar moved through a minefield and attacked with grenades two machine-gun crews who were covering the troublesome mortar crew. This patrol then rushed the mortar crew, overcame them and returned with the weapons.

As the 2/15<sup>th</sup> was forming up for its attack on the left it was heavily shelled and its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C.K.M.Magno and his adjutant were wounded, Magno mortally. Advancing through heavy machine-gun and mortar fire the battalion secured its objectives. In the attack the counted Italian dead numbered 89 and 130 German and Italian prisoners were taken.

At dawn on 29 October the 2/13<sup>th</sup> Battalion was heavily shelled in its isolated position. Three shells penetrated dugouts of battalion headquarters, wounding Major Colvin, killing his adjutant and wounding his anti-tank officer. But it was on the 2/15<sup>th</sup> and 2/17<sup>th</sup> that the enemy's main efforts were directed that day. Fourteen enemy tanks stood on a hill near Trig 29 and poured heavy fire into the Australian positions all day. But repeated attacks on the Australians by tanks and infantry were repelled by artillery and infantry fire that inflicted severe losses on the enemy.

These operations caused Rommel to concentrate even more forces in the north, and in the next four days the Australian sector became the focal area of the battle. The 9<sup>th</sup> Division was called on to maintain the relentless

pressure on the enemy 'to eat the guts out of them', as Montgomery had expressed it, and open the way for the British armoured break-out farther to the south. In London Churchill was becoming highly critical of Montgomery's apparent inactivity.

The Australian commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Leslie Morshead, attacked again on the night of 30 October, employing four battalions under the command of Brigadier Whitehead, with the intention of cutting the coastal road. By sending two battalions eastwards along it to break through the enemy front line from the rear, and then having another battalion turn north and drive to the coast, he would thus be penning in the enemy between it and the 24<sup>th</sup> Brigade, which was still holding the coastal sector.

The 2/32<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (Lieutenant-Colonel J.W.Balfe) opened the attack, covered by a heavy barrage, at 10 pm and reached the railway (the intermediate objective) in good time, capturing 175 prisoners, mostly Germans, in the course of its advance. The Battalion then moved on to the road in the face of stronger opposition but left two companies south of the railway to guard the left flank while engineers made a gap through the 3.6 metre-high railway embankment to enable supply vehicles to pass through.

The 2/3rd Pioneer Battalion (Lieutenant-Colonel A.V.Gallasch), the 2/48<sup>th</sup> and the 2/24<sup>th</sup> moved off at intervals and fought their way to positions near the 2/32<sup>nd</sup>, where they dug in shortly after midnight while preparing to move forward to complete their respective tasks. The area in which the battalions had gathered was a wide depression that the troops quickly named the Saucer. In the two days to follow the Saucer was to become the focal point in the bloody struggle between the two armies. The enemy had begun closing in by midnight and casualties were mounting among the Australians as the Pioneers toiled to complete the gap in the railway embankment.



At 1 am the 2/48<sup>th</sup> and 2/24<sup>th</sup> Battalions left their start lines. They were charged with the desperate task of fighting their way eastwards down the road and railway for two kilometres through the rear of the recently reinforced enemy positions. They advanced into a receding British barrage laid down by guns massed farther east. After a week of almost continuous fighting the combined strength of these two battalions had been reduced from a total of 1300 officers and men to a meagre 450 between them. Now they became involved in some of the most bitter fighting of the battle. They stormed through machine-gun, mortar and 88-mm gunfire to subdue post after post, all of them stoutly defended. Companies were reduced to a few men without officers, but they were rallied by NCOs to join with other groups to continue the fight. On the left of the attack, the 2/48<sup>th</sup> reached its final objective, where Sergeant Kibby, whose gallantry in this and earlier fighting could not have been surpassed, was killed attacking the last enemy post blocking the advance.

On the right the 2/24<sup>th</sup> found its final objective, Thompson's Post, strongly held, contrary to intelligence reports. The depleted battalion, now deprived of artillery support, was unable to press on with the attack. Independently, the two battalions had to retire to the Saucer as the last day of October dawned. Captain E.P.Harty led back the 54 survivors of the 2/24<sup>th</sup> and Lieutenant-Colonel Hammer, himself wounded, brought back the 41 men of the 2/48<sup>th</sup> still on their feet. Territorially their mission had failed but the division had captured 544 prisoners and a formidable array of weapons.

The 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Pioneer Battalion in its drive to the coast before dawn on the 31<sup>st</sup> was halted one kilometre from its objective. Later in the day its positions were overrun by enemy tanks and the survivors had to retire to the Saucer.

At Dawn, the newcomers to the Saucer, who had taken up improvised positions in the darkness, found numerous enemy positions sited all round them at distances of between 700 metres and one kilometre. The enemy opened up with small arms, mortars, 88-mm guns firing air-burst shells and a variety of field guns. At 10 am, British intelligence intercepted a message from Rommel ordering his 21<sup>st</sup> Armoured and 90<sup>th</sup> Light Divisions to attack down the road and railway and capture the Australian position. At midday the attack began through clouds of dust and smoke raised by the shelling, aerial bombing and movement of tanks. Enemy assaults were maintained throughout the afternoon and well into the night, but every attack crumpled in the face of the spirited defence of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division. That evening, after about a half hour of continuous fire, an enemy shell scored a direct hit on the 24<sup>th</sup> Brigade's tactical headquarters, mortally wounding Brigadier Godfrey and killing three other officers.

Late that night all the divisional line communications were cut by British tanks moving through the area, but the battle continued to rage. It died down at 2.30 am on 2 November. An intense British barrage had started farther south signalling the beginning of Operation Supercharge. The long awaited break-out was under way. The 9<sup>th</sup> Division had completed its vital 'crumbling' mandate of drawing upon itself as much of the enemy's fighting strength as possible and destroying what it could.

I hope this rather long description has not been too tedious. But I have taken the words from an excellent book published by *The Australian* newspaper as a collection of Anniversary Essays, and called *The Battles that Shaped Australia*. Colonel David Horner was commissioned as the editor. The description of the battle was made by David Long and the concluding section by the editor himself. I

thought they were too good to abridge.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF AUSTRALIA'S ROLE

The battle of El Alamein was the Australian Army's last engagement in the Middle East in the Second World War. Since arriving in early 1940 Australian units had fought with distinction in the first Libyan Campaign, in Greece, Crete, Syria and Tobruk. Sometimes the Australians formed the majority of the forces involved; their role was usually crucial, and in all cases substantial.

At El Alamein, however, the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division had a different role. The British Commander, Lieutenant-General Montgomery, had four armoured and seven infantry divisions, more than 220,000 men, over 900 tanks and 900 field and medium guns. For the first time in a major battle the Australians provided only a fraction of the force employed.

Montgomery's original plan did not envisage that the Australians would play a greater role than any of his other infantry divisions. On the night of 23 October four infantry divisions, the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian, the 51<sup>st</sup> Highland, the 2<sup>nd</sup> New Zealand and the 1<sup>st</sup> South African, would attack side by side in order from the north to south across a twelve-kilometre front in the northern sector of the Alamein line. These four divisions, forming the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps under Lieutenant-General Oliver Leese, were to force their way through the German minefield, clearing corridors for the advance of two armoured divisions in the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps. After that, the British tanks would hold off the German tanks while the British infantry destroyed the Axis infantry in what Montgomery called 'crumbling operations' or the 'dog-fight'.

On the first day of the attack the infantry, including the Australians, achieved about 80 per cent of their objectives,

but the German defences were stronger than expected and the armoured thrust did not begin until the night of 24 October. Then Montgomery's plan began to unravel. The tanks came up against strong German resistance, and the idea of superimposing the tanks of one corps on the infantry of another led to problems of command and control.

Fighting continued through 25 October, but it became clear that the crumbling operations would be costly. Already the Highlanders, New Zealanders and South Africans had taken considerable casualties. The 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Australian Brigades had also suffered casualties, although slightly less than the others, but their exposed position offered the possibility of changing the direction of the attack. In their initial assault the Australians' line of attack had been some six kilometres from the coast, and they had left a large pocket of enemy defences around Thompson's Post to the north of their positions. The Australians also had more reinforcements than the New Zealanders and South Africans, and they were a well-trained and highly experienced force. The Australian Commander, Lieutenant-General Morshead, was a demanding taskmaster who had trained his men well; a tough, even ruthless tactician, he could be relied upon to achieve his tasks. Seeking to surprise the enemy, Montgomery therefore ordered the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division to attack northwards towards the coast, while the 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division continued the offensive to the west along the original axis.

The attacks began on the night of 25 October. The 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division failed to make progress, but the attack by the 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade succeeded brilliantly. Supported by a huge concentration of artillery, it was pressed home with courage and initiative. A high point, known as Trig 29, was taken and 300 Germans were captured.

The Australian attack had a crucial effect on the final outcome of the battle. Thwarted across the remainder of his front, Montgomery now turned to the Australians to maintain the momentum of his advance, while he withdrew the New Zealanders and the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps from operations to prepare for a later thrust. The other infantry divisions shuffled to the right to fill the gaps left by the New Zealanders and the 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Brigade, which was to make the next attack. Montgomery prepared to launch his armoured forces north once the Australians had cleared the way.

Across the whole northern part of the front the British forces were facing constant attacks by German tanks, supported by artillery and infantry, but it was the Australian thrust which worried Field Marshal Rommel. If the Australians broke through to the coast they would get behind his main defences and would also cut off the 164<sup>th</sup> German Division around Thompson's Post. He therefore launched the 90<sup>th</sup> Light Division against the exposed Australians and ordered the 21<sup>st</sup> Panzer Division north from the southern front.

Despite the German counterattacks, on the night of 28 October the 20<sup>th</sup> Australian Brigade struck north from the area of Trig 29. One of the battalions, the 2/13<sup>th</sup>, had been fighting for five days and nights and its companies had been reduced from 120 to barely 35 men. Again the Australians seized important German positions. Morshead kept up the pressure and passed the tired, understrength 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade through the 20<sup>th</sup> Brigade for another attack on the night of 30 October.

Montgomery's chief of staff, Brigadier Freddy de Guingand, wrote later:

*[in] this area the enemy's defences were very strong, and their garrison predominantly German. I think this area saw the most determined and savage fighting of the campaign. No quarter was given, and the Australians fought some of the finest German troops to a standstill, and by their action did a great deal to win the battle of El Alamein.*

The Australian attack with tired troops on 30 October was over-ambitious. Important ground was taken, but casualties were heavy. By the following night the 2/48<sup>th</sup> Battalion was down to 41 men, having begun the battle on 23 October with 30 officers and 656 other ranks. The brigade then consolidated its position as it held off determined heavy German counterattacks.

That night Morshead ordered the 24<sup>th</sup> Brigade, which had been holding the area next to the coast, to relieve the 26<sup>th</sup> Brigade. Relief-in-place, at night, in the face of the enemy is one of the hardest military operations, but when dawn came fresh battalions were waiting to meet the German assault. It was a tribute to the excellent staff work within the division and the training of the battalions. That day the full might of the German Afrika Korps hit the Brigade. The Brigadier was killed but the position held.

By now the Australians had achieved their mission. They had drawn onto themselves the full force of the German reserves of tanks and mechanised infantry. Rommel had expended valuable fuel and tanks against the Australians. The way was clear for the major British armoured offensive which Montgomery ordered to be mounted further south. Within days the British had broken through and the Germans were in retreat.

On 4 November, when victory was assured, Montgomery

went straight to the headquarters of the 9<sup>th</sup> Division to thank Morshead. Later Montgomery wrote: 'We could not have won the battle in 12 days without the magnificent Australian Division'.

The total Eighth Army casualties were 13,650. The 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division alone accounted for 2694. The 51<sup>st</sup> Division was next with 2495 casualties. Providing perhaps, one-tenth of the attacking force, the Australians suffered 22 per cent of the casualties. The 2/24th Battalion had lost 369 officers and men; the 2/24<sup>th</sup> had lost 346.

On average, during the battle each gun of the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps fired more than 1900 rounds. The artillery regiments of the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division fired over 50 per cent more than the corps average, reflecting the Australians' big share of the fighting.

The Commander of the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps, General Leese, was quick to recognise the Australians' achievement and later wrote:

*The Australians...established a very difficult salient beyond Point 29 which they held against continuous Panzer counter-attack. If the front of that division had been penetrated during their four-days' ordeal, the whole success of the 8<sup>th</sup> Army plan could have been prejudiced. As it was they suffered over 5000 casualties, but they beat off all enemy attacks, withstood intense hostile shelling and maintained a firm base for subsequent operations by the 8<sup>th</sup> Army. They drew on their front most of the Panzer Corps of which they destroyed a great part by their anti-tank guns. It was a magnificent piece of fighting by a great Division, led by an indomitable character, Leslie Morshead.*

The Germans also recognised the quality of the Australians. The Panzer Army Afrika intelligence summary

of 22 August 1942 noted that out of the enemy divisions, the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division could be considered the best. As a German intelligence officer observed: 'a not undeserved accolade in view of our experience with the Australians'.

General Horrocks, the Commander of the British 13<sup>th</sup> Corps, which fought south of the 30<sup>th</sup> Corps, thought that the success of the final break-out was 'largely due to the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Division'. After the battle he hurried to congratulate Morshead on the work of his division. Morshead's reply was a classic understatement. 'Thank you General. The boys were interested.'

It would be absurd to claim that the Australians alone won the battle of El Alamein. A range of factors contributed to victory, including British predominance in men, equipment and supplies. Rommel could never make up for his shortage of fuel. Nevertheless with all these advantages, the Eighth Army had to win the battle. And it was here that the Australian role was critical. They were the fulcrum on which turned the whole successful breakthrough. By their dash and courage in attack they gave Montgomery the initiative. By their resolution in defence they gave him victory.

Let me close with this portion of Solomon's speech that he made at the dedication of his wonderful temple.

#### **I King 8: 44-45**

**44** *If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name:*

**45** *Then hear thou in heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause.*

**(KJV)**

The LORD has indeed proved faithful to His part of the Prayer.



# CREMATION OR BURIAL

*By F.W.Dowsett*

The subject of **CREMATION** versus **BURIAL** is a subject which I'm sure must exercise the minds of many Christians, and so I decided that I would share my thoughts with all our readers.

To start with, I cannot remember any reference in the Bible to Israelites being cremated when they died. Our early fore-fathers were interred in caves, as witness the purchase of the cave by Abraham to bury his beloved Sarah and even the burial of our Lord. Others are referred to as having been buried in the ground. There is obviously a difference here, but it was apparently not considered to be of any specific importance. Some claim that cremation is a heathen custom, and that as Christians, and especially as Israelites, we should not use this method after death, I think the point is well made. But when you stop to think about it, the heathen also bury their dead in the ground or inter them in caves just the same. Some Christians who can afford it even inter their loved ones in Mausoleums, which when all is said and done, are only expensive man-made caves. I don't see that we can reject either of these methods simply on the grounds that the heathen also employ them. So the question doesn't turn out to be quite as straightforward as it might seem.

Perhaps we should consider the subject of death itself. What actually happens when a person dies? As human beings, we have, I believe three basic parts to our overall being. Firstly there is the spirit, which the Bible clearly tells us comes from God. Without that life from God, nothing can live. Secondly there is the soul, which is the actual "us". It is that feature which makes us separate from every other human being. It is that part of us

which contains the spiritual element as distinct from just the human form. And thirdly, there is the body which is the physical being that is seen, and which moves and breathes. The inter-connection of these three elements is absolutely vital. The body is that part of our being which actually houses the real us. It is the residence, if you will, where our soul resides, and through which it is given shape and substance. The soul is the spiritual part of us which has the capacity to contact God. We read, for instance, that it is the **SOUL** that dies as a result of sin, not just the body. The body will wear out through illness of one sort or another and will ultimately die. But it is the soul that is primarily given the opportunity for eternal life, even though it will be clothed with a new body. Now between them, neither the soul or the body either separately or together. Can do anything without the motivating life force which comes only from God – the spirit. So that when we die, it is simply the result of that force of spirit leaving the body and returning to its source, God, just as the Bible tells us. But the soul, being a spiritual element, cannot also die at that time without the direct command of God. And we are clearly told that this command will not be given until the time of either the First or Second resurrection. Thus the soul is taken out from the body as soon as the spirit of life leaves it, and taken into the presence of the Lord where it rest, or sleeps, as the Bible continually states, until it is time for it to be reunite with a fresh and perfect body at the time of the resurrection. So in reality, what is left is only the shell, and that has to be disposed of. There is no feeling left in it. From the instant of death it cease to have any importance either to the person who once inhabited it, or to God. It is no more than a moulded form of dust from which it was first made, as the elements which go to make up our bodies are directly proportionate to the chemicals of the ground. It immediately begins to decay. If it is buried, it takes months. If it is cremated, it takes only minutes Either way it returns to dust. One final thought. If cremation is anti Christian and affects our eternal future, what about all al those people over the centuries who have been burnt to death for there witness to Christ? Was

there sacrifice In vain" I think not. But the decision is a personal one, and I don't think that there is any reason for any one to unduly to worry about someone else's decision just because it may be different from the one we might make. Our main concern has to be what happens to our soul, not the body which is left.

**the End**

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## *ISRAEL.*

By F.W.DOWSETT

Let it be said from the start, that the importance of understanding **ISRAEL**, and her position in the plan and will of Almighty God, is paramount to a clear and proper understanding of the Word of God.

The Bible is **THE HISTORY BOOK OF ISRAEL!**

It was written BY Israelites, TO Israelites, FOR Israelites, and ABOUT Israelites. **The only other nations mentioned in the Bible are those who came in contact with Israel.** No other nation is ever mentioned.

Any thinking student of the Bible must surely ask the question, **"WHY!!"**

What do we make of the words of our Lord Jesus Christ where He said in Matthew 15:24;

**"I am not sent but unto the lost  
sheep of the House of Israel."**

Or as the New English Bible expresses the same verse;

**"I was sent unto the lost sheep of  
the house of Israel, AND TO THEM  
ALONE." (Emphasis added).**

➤ The importance of Israel's position in the mind and will of God can be judged by the following statements from God's Word:

**"For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God. The Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set His love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:  
But because the Lord loved you, and because He would keep the oath which He had sworn unto your fathers..."** (Deut.7:6-S).

**"He sheweth His word unto Jacob, His statutes and His judgments unto Israel.**

**He hath not dealt so with any nation. And as for His judgments, they have not known them."** (Ps.147:19-20).

**"You only have I known of all the families of the earth." (Amos 3:2).**

Clearly, Israel occupies a very special place in the mind and will of God. Again, we ask, **WHY!!**

The secret lies in the fact that **God formed Israel**

to be His Kingdom here on earth. When we speak of the kingdom of God on earth, we are not talking about (or at least we **SHOULDN'T** be talking about), some spiritual kingdom, or spiritual condition. We are talking about a real kingdom. **WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A KINGDOM AS REAL AS ANY KINGDOM THAT HAS EVER EXISTED ON THIS EARTH.** We are talking about a kingdom which has people or citizens; a kingdom which has a country or territory in which those people live; a kingdom which has a king; a kingdom which has a complete system of law. We are talking about a kingdom which contains both good and bad. If that surprises you, then read Matthew 13:24-30, where the kingdom of heaven is portrayed as having both 'wheat' and 'tares.' In verses 36 to 42, our Lord identifies those whom the 'wheat' and 'tares' represent. The 'wheat,' we are told, are the children of 'the kingdom,' whilst the 'tares' are the children of 'the wicked one.'

The fact that Israel is identified as this literal kingdom is clear from Exodus 19:6, where God tells Israel;

**"And ye shall be unto -Me a Kingdom of priests, and an holy nation."**

In confirmation of this, we read in Luke 1:31-33;

**"And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS.**

**He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David:**

**"And He shall rule over the HOUSE OF JACOB (Israel) for ever. And of His Kingdom (i.e. Israel), there shall be no end,"**

Words could not be clearer in identifying Israel as God's Kingdom here on earth.

Israel is mentioned in the Bible by several different names or titles. For instance, it is called Israel, all Israel, the House of Israel, the House of Jacob, Ephraim, and Joseph, to mention the main ones. Israel is never, **NEVER, NEVER, NEVER** referred to in its entirety as JEWS. As we saw In our previous STUDY, the name JEW can only be applied at its best, to a very small portion of the Southern House of Judah, which itself was only a portion of the whole House of Israel.

The failure by Bible students to recognise this basic fact is the MAJOR cause of all the confusion and differences of opinions which exist today regarding the prophetic word of God.

The understanding and knowledge of the identity of **ISRAEL**, and her special relationship to God, is the **KEY which unlocks the Bible.**

But knowing who and where Israel is, is not enough. We need to know "**WHY**" Israel is. Three passages from God's Word should suffice to settle this question. The first is found in Genesis 12:2-3 where we read;

**"And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.**

**And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."**

The second is found in Genesis 18: 18, where we read;

**"Seeing that Abraham shall surely  
become a great and mighty nation,  
and all the nations of the earth shall  
be blessed in him."**

The third passage is found in Isaiah 43:10-12;

**"Ye are my witnesses saith the Lord,  
and my servant whom I have chosen:  
that ye may know and believe me,  
and understand that I am He. Before  
Me there was no god formed, neither  
shall there be after Me.  
I, even I, am the Lord, and beside  
Me there is no saviour.  
I have declared, and have saved, and  
I have shewed, when there was no  
strange god among you. Therefore,  
**YE ARE MY WITNESSES, SAITH THE  
LORD, THAT I AM GOD.**"**

So we see that God's purpose in forming Israel was twofold. Firstly, she was to be a blessing in God's hands to all the nations and families of the earth. Secondly, she was to be God's witness to the very fact that **HE IS GOD**.

Israel was **FORMED** in Abraham. She was **CALLED** in Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. She was **JUSTIFIED** in Jesus Christ, who paid the price on Calvary for her redemption. She will be **GLORIFIED** in Christ Jesus when He returns to reign over her as His Kingdom here on earth.

.....  
**Then I will tell my fellow Israelites about you;  
I will praise you in the public meeting.**

**Praise the Lord, all you who respect him.  
All you descendants of Jacob, honour him;  
( New Century Version) Ps.22:22-23**

# **THE SHORTENING OF THE DAYS!**

By F.W.Dowsett

In Matt 24:22 and Mark 13:20 we read an oft quoted statement regarding these last days;

**"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved. But for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."**

I sometimes wonder whether many Christians understand the full import of this statement. The impression that I get is that they are expecting the tribulations of the last days to reach such a serious condition that God suddenly wakes up to the fact that if He doesn't do something quickly, then everything and everybody will be wiped out. Thus He steps in and shortens or reduces the time of tribulation in order that the elect will be preserved.

But somehow, I don't think that this application entirely explains God's intentions. It is no doubt comforting to recognise the fact that God is going to step into world events in order to prevent total destruction. But it can still leave us with some degree of uncertainty in that it leaves the timing of this deliverance somewhat open ended.

The fact that we should be aware of is that God is not going to take action as some form of last resort, but that the action that He takes is going to be fully in accordance with His own predetermined time-table which has operated right on time since before the very foundations of the earth were laid.

The word 'shortened' means 'to mutilate, or cut short.' In the context of these verses, I'm sure that it is not used in the same



way in which we would refer to a doctor 'mutilating' or 'cutting off a limb in order to save the rest of the body. What the Lord is impressing upon us is that in accordance with His Divine Plans, this time of

tribulation is not going to continue endlessly, but is rather to be cut short, or shortened, to a specific time limit already determined by God Himself. To illustrate the point, stand up and start walking towards the wall. You will obviously note that the wall is not moving closer to you, but that you are moving closer to the wall. The wall re-mains in its predetermined position. In other words, the wall forms a barrier preventing you from going beyond the limits set by the wall, and shortens the distance which you can travel. So it is with these last days. God has set a time limit on our present troublesome world events beyond which they shall not proceed. Daniel 8:19 puts the matter quite clearly;

**"Behold, I will make thee know what shall  
be in the last end of the indignation: for  
at the time appointed the end shall be."**

Truly, our times are in His hands. All we have to do is to continue steadfast in the 'Faith Once Delivered to the Saints,' and to stand still and see the salvation of our Lord.

### **THE END**

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CONTINUED FROM P. 9

tapes from Ps. Allan Campbell and Ps. Eric Briggs also all of brother Frank's collection. I hope your approval is given for this change and look forward to reading The covenant Vision as much as I have had preparing it.

# THE COVENANT VISION MINISTRY.

Our Ministry is essentially one of Bible-teaching,  
operating in the following areas of ministry:-

## COVENANT VISION FELLOWSHIP

**Pastor Frank W. Dowsett. J.P.**

You are cordially invited to join us in fellowship and worship at  
our Home Chapel

at  
97 Brisbane St., St. Marys, N.S.W.

Sunday Morning at 10.00.  
Wednesday Evenings at 7.45.

Praise and Worship.  
Prayer and Bible Study.

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come through the infilling, baptism, and ministry of the Holy Spirit within us.

**We proclaim** the absolute necessity for our nation to return to full obedience to the Law of God as the only way by which we can receive the full blessings of God.

**We proclaim** the absolute necessity for each and every individual Christian to prepare themselves for the greatest event yet to be witnessed on this earth, namely,

## **THE RETURN OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

Whilst the production, publication and distribution of this magazine is undertaken as a faith ministry, it is totally dependant on the tithes and offerings of our readers. We are happy to continue sending it freely to all who wish to receive it but genuinely cannot afford to contribute in any way. **However, we do request an offering to at least cover the cost of postage, especially for overseas readers.** But in order to be faithful stewards of the offerings sent to us, at the end of each year we will be obliged to remove the name from our mailing list of anyone who has not contributed or contacted us within the past year. The financial assistance and prayers of those who read it, and are blessed by it, are therefore vitally necessary for its continuance and growth.

We also invite our readers to send us the names and addresses of any whom they think would be genuinely interested in receiving a sample copy. In this way you can share in the proclamation of the Gospel of the Kingdom, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified.

It is our fervent prayer that you will be blessed and lifted to higher planes of joy and blessing as you study and learn of the wonders of God's Word, and of His boundless and merciful love for each of us.

With our Christian love,

*Frank and Betty Dowsett.*

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**"Let the heavens be glad,  
and let the earth rejoice:  
and let men say among the nations,  
The LORD reigneth.  
Let the sea roar, and the fulness thereof:  
let the fields rejoice, and all that is therein.  
Then shall the trees of the wood sing out  
at the presence of the LORD,  
because he cometh to judge the earth.  
O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good;  
for his mercy endureth for ever."**

**1 Chronicles 16:31-34.**

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