

THE COVENANT VISION

Nov./Dec.

1988

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

THE COVENANT VISION.

Editor: Frank W. Dowsett.

In presenting this magazine, it is not our intention to start up another organisation. 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 return and appearing 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 that we can afford to waste it on such unproductive, and indeed destructive exercises. We are concerned ONLY with what 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'

(continued on inside back cover.)

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Editorial

As we write, there are still nearly two months to go in this year of 1988. Obviously, some of our earnest expectations have not as yet been realised. But the fact that our Lord still tarries should in no way deter us from continuing in these earnest expectations. The cry has gone forth, and those who daily seek "the hope of our calling", the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, will yet be rewarded for their patience. I am reminded that the two greatest events of this century did not happen on recognised Feast Days. The freeing of Jerusalem in 1917 by the Anglo-Israel forces occurred in early December, whilst the forced take-over of that troubled land by the enemies of God, and the eviction of the rightful owners, as foretold in Ezek. 11:15, occurred in May 1948. So we can only wait in faith as time passes, knowing that whatever is to happen will be in the Divine plan and purpose of God who knows exactly the moment of Christ's return. Our reasoning may be subject to human error, but the purposes of God are without repentance.

In the meantime, we are swiftly reaching the climax of what Jeremiah refers to as "the time of Jacob's trouble", (Jer. 30:7). The forces of evil, in the hands of God's enemies, the synagogue of Satan, are working at an ever increasing pace to destroy, if it were possible, the very remembrance of Jesus the Christ from the face of the earth. The recently released movie, "The Last Temptation of Christ", is just another in a long line of attacks deliberately contrived to denigrate the name of our Saviour, and all who love and follow Him. In our October issue of our companion magazine, COVENANT WATCH! we reprinted a special in-depth report on this movie which is guaranteed to shock any committed Christian. On pages 24 and 25 of this issue we have reproduced one particular page of that report so that those who do not as yet subscribe to the COVENANT WATCH! can read the depths to which God's enemies

have sunk in their attacks on our Lord's Majesty. And to think that there are ordained ministers of the gospel (?) who have given their support to this blasphemy. It just staggers the mind. But be assured that God is not mocked. Those who give their knowing support to a crime are just as guilty as those who commit the crime. The justice of Almighty God will yet fall with both fury and finality on such as these.

But probably the greatest overall tragedy lies in the fact that most Christians just don't realise the severity of the trouble we are in. How can they, when they are being taught to look ahead to some nebulous time in the future for what they refer to as "The Great Tribulation"? The time of "great tribulation" spoken of by Jesus in Matt. 24:21, - (there is no such statement as "the great tribulation in the entire Bible) - is the period of "Jacob's Trouble" referred to in Jer. 30:7 previously quoted. Today, we are seeing and experiencing every aspect of this period. The political and economic difficulties under which we are now living are not some new development as most people seem to think. Our present position is the result, and almost the final result, of many years and decades of deliberate planning by the enemies of God to destroy His people, both individually and nationally. Just to listen today to the brazen audacity of our politicians, and to see the self-righteous smirks on their faces, makes one sick in the stomach. We are not being governed as free men. We are being governed into slavery. In the last 20 years, according to statistics, our government has passed over 55,000 new laws and regulations. That averages out at two laws and five regulations every day for the last 20 years! I wonder how many you can name? We are now in greater captivity than our forefathers ever were in Egypt, because they knew what was happening. Most people today don't. And so they continue in ignorant bliss. But be reassured. The time has come for the Lord of Hosts to re-enter the sphere of human endeavour. He is about to take the government of His people upon His shoulders, and His enemies, together with their ill-begotten plans, will be forever destroyed. May He come quickly. *

I NEVER KNEW YOU:

Depart From My Presence!

by Howard B. Rand.
Special Alert No. 101.

Who are those to whom Jesus states are thus to depart from His presence, whom He declares are workers of iniquity? From their stated declarations they have preached the gospel of salvation and all that it implies, yet are thus rejected by Jesus in the coming day when the revelation of His presence becomes a reality. The fact that Jesus declared there were many whom He thus condemned, yet preachers of the gospel, raises the question as to what they had done to bring this complete rejection.

To be designated as workers of iniquity, they would have to be associated with the enemies of our Lord, or at least be rendering full support to them in their opposition to our Lord Jesus Christ. Does there exist such opposition of a nature that would be so blasphemous that giving support to those thus involved would lead Jesus to reject them as workers of iniquity?

The identification of the people whom Jesus clearly declared are His perpetual enemies is clearly revealed by Jesus Himself. Such are none other than the Jews who not only rejected Jesus, but in the trial of our Lord, gave testimony that resulted in His being crucified. Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking to the rulers and elders of the Jewish leaders of his day, declared to them that the layman was healed through the name of Jesus Christ, "whom ye (the Jews) crucified" (Acts 4:8-10). Because of the fear of the Jews, ministers of the gospel, and multitudes of Christians today, are afraid to quote this scriptural assertion.

We are making the following letter, which is being mailed to those supporting our activities, available to all our readers in order that they may become aware that, in supporting the enemies of our Lord, they, regardless of their belief in the gospel, are in great danger of Jesus Christ designating them as workers of iniquity, and thus subject to being rejected by Him. That letter follows:

Jesus addressed a special message to Christian leaders and those preaching the gospel. Thus He said to them:

"Many (indicating a multitude) will say to Me in that day, (in the coming day of Assizement), Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works?"
(Matt. 7:22).

Who are these many preachers who will thus speak? Why did the Lord answer them by a statement of complete rejection, though they had been preaching the truth pertaining to the gospel? To a great multitude of preachers Jesus stated:

"Then will I confess unto them, I never knew you. Depart from Me, ye that work iniquity."
(Matt. 7:23).

What type of iniquity could these preachers possibly be supporting? The present outcry on the part of the present-day Christians and their leaders against the play titled "The Last Temptation" supplies the answer we seek. It is well to be in full and righteous indignation against the presentation of this play, which is scripturally completely untrue, as well as making Jesus an unrighteous and most sinful individual. The very Christians so doing are themselves most hypocritical. They who cover up or hide criminal activities are as guilty as those who commit them.

It is because of this hypocrisy that Jesus tells them to depart from Him, labeling them workers of evil, even though they have been correctly presenting the gospel truth. Jesus said of the Jews in their rejection of Him:

"But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, (that is, back to Palestine where Jesus was standing as He thus spoke), and slay them before Me."

(Luke 19:27).

Please note that Jesus stated that these Jews were His enemies because of the position they had taken in their opposition to Him. Multitudes of Christians and their leaders state that Jesus is in error in this denunciation, for they declare the Jews to be His chosen people. To this error, the Jews have emphasised their opposition to Jesus, as published in their own literature. Such publications are far more serious in their implications than that set forth in "The Last Temptation."

For instance, the Jews in their publications state that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was an immoral woman, and that the father of her Son Jesus was none other than a Roman soldier. Their Talmud makes many other derogatory statements not fit to be repeated, which the present-day Christian leaders completely ignore. In their support of the Jews as God's chosen people, rather than His enemies, they are doing their best, with Christian support, to keep from being made public the Jewish opposition to the truth and their derogatory statements regarding our Lord. Those of us telling the truth are stated by the Jews to be anti-Semitic and lying. We hold every Jew who rejects the Talmud declaration and accepts Jesus Christ as the Son of God, who was to come as the Saviour of all who trust Him, as exempt from being the enemies of our Lord.

Who are those whom Jesus condemned as workers of iniquity? Are they the Christian leaders who give full and complete and unreserved support to the enemies of

(continued on page 13.)

THE PARABLES OF BALAAM.

By F. W. DOWSETT.

PART ONE.

INTRODUCTION.

In the book of Numbers, chapters 22, 23 and 24, we read of a very important, and very special incident which occurred in connection with God's people Israel. This incident is referred to as "The Prophecies of Balaam." Personally, I think that is most unfortunate that we do not hear more about these prophecies today, especially as they have such a direct bearing on our own Anglo-Saxon-Celtic nations as the present-day people of Israel. I suppose the reason why they are so little heard of is simply because they are so little understood, and the reason for this lack of understanding is basically caused by people's inability, or in so many cases their deliberate refusal, to accept the plain straight-forward fact that we, the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic peoples of the world are God's people Israel. Because Bible teachers and students alike still persist in identifying the present Jewish people as God's chosen people, and as a result persist in applying the prophecies made to Israel as being fulfilled, or about to be fulfilled in the present state of Israeli, the confusion and diversity of opinion which attends the understanding of God's Word today is not surprising.

This applies especially in the study of prophecy, because prophecy is nothing more than history foretold. In fact, history and prophecy are exactly the same thing with the exception of the 'time factor'. When speaking of any particular event prior to it coming to pass, it is called 'prophecy'. But when that event actually happens, it becomes 'history'. But most importantly, when God prophecies that a certain event or circumstance will

happen to, or apply to, a certain people or nation in a particular period of time, then that specific people or nation must still be in existence at that time in order for the prophecy to be fulfilled. It would be totally ludicrous for God to prophecy certain things for a particular nation and then allow that nation to become either extinct or incapable of operating within His Divine Will before the prophecy could be fulfilled. God doesn't work that way. We read in Isaiah 55:11;

"So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth. It shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereunto I sent it."

So when God made certain promises and prophecies which would be applicable to His people Israel in the 'last days', those people must exist in the manner and in the circumstances in which God stated they would exist at the specified time. Furthermore, unless we correctly identify just who those particular people are at that particular time, there is no way in the world that we can properly apply the prophecy uttered, and thus no way we can properly understand it.

This is particularly true of our present subject, THE PROPHECIES OF BALAAM, because unless we correctly identify the people of Israel in the world today, it will be impossible to correctly understand this portion of God's Word. As we proceed with our studies, you will recognise the sheer impossibility of applying these prophecies to the modern state of Israel and its inhabitants, or the modern Zionist/Jewish or Israeli people. You will also recognise the striking parallel with the events and statements of that time regarding the Israel people and our own Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people today.

In Numbers 21:34-35 we read where the Israelites under the leadership of Moses defeated the Amorites, a victory which was made possible by the assistance and intervention of the Lord God of Israel.

"And the Lord said unto Moses, Fear him not, for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and all his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon. So they smote him, and his sons, and all his people, until there was none left him alive. And they possessed his land."

As a result of this and Israel's previous victories, the Moabites grew afraid of the strength of the nation of Israel, realising that they possessed supernatural strength and power in time of war. And this is something that has been noticeable in the history of the Anglo-Israel nations right up to our own times. Up until the recent Korean and Vietnam wars which we lost not because of a stronger foe, but because of treacherous leadership within, our invincibility in war was legend. And this was not due to our own efforts or abilities or inherent goodness. It was a part of the very heritage which God gave to us. Little do people realise that this was directly due to God's promise to us as recorded in Isa. 54:17;

"No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of Me, saith the Lord."

Time after time throughout the Bible we read where God had promised His people protection and victory in time of war. As a matter of fact, and despite the views of our present-day peace-at-any-price advocates and the pacifists who try to tell us that as Christians we are forbidden to go to war, even if it does mean making ourselves a doormat for any country that likes to walk right over the top of us, God even gave His Israel people specific instructions and rules regarding how they were to fight wars, with the promise that if they obeyed His instructions, then HE would fight for them and give them the victory. We read of several in-

stances in the Bible where this happened. The interesting thing to note is that the heathen nations, Israel's enemies, recognised that Israel's strength and power came from a higher source, a factor which Israel herself constantly ignored. Times haven't changed much, because even during World War II, when Hitler was contemplating the invasion of Britain, one of his generals advised him very strongly against it on the grounds that the British people seemed to be specially protected, and that such an invasion would consequently bring about Germany's own defeat. How strange that our enemies realise what we ourselves refuse to acknowledge.

And so it was in those early days. After Israel's victory against the Amorites, Balak, the king of the Moabites, realising that they were next on Israel's list, grew quite concerned. And realising that he could not defeat them by ordinary means, he decided to resort to extra-ordinary methods. He suddenly got a brainwave. He decided to have a curse put upon the Israel people which he believed would counteract and nullify the protection of their God. He would employ the supernatural powers of witchcraft and divination available to him against this supernatural power of Israel.

And he knew just the right man for the job. He sent for a man named Balaam, a man well known for his powers. We read in Numbers 22:5-6;

"He sent messengers therefore unto Balaam the son of Beor to Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the children of his people, to call him, saying, Behold, there is a people come out from Egypt. Behold, they cover the face of the earth, and they abide over against me.

Come now therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people; for they are too mighty for me. Peradventure I shall prevail, that we may smite them, and that I may drive them out of the land.

For I understand that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed."

. This man Balaam is rather a mysterious person as far as the Bible account goes, for we are not told much about him. But in "The Antiquities of the Jews" by Josephus, Book IV, Chapter VI, we read;

"Now the Midianites, knowing there was one, Balaam, who lived by Euphrates, and was the greatest of the prophets at that time, and one that was in friendship with them, sent some of their honourable princes along with the ambassadors of Balak, to entreat the prophet to come to them, that he might imprecate curses to the destruction of the Israelites."

Josephus, we are told, never supposes Balaam to be an idolater, nor to seek idolatrous enchantments, or to prophesy falsely, but to be no other than an ill-disposed prophet of the true God.

Whatever be the truth of the matter, his account exactly parallels the account in Numbers 22:7-8 where we read that the elders of Moab and Midian went to Balaam and offered him a fee to carry out Balak's instructions. Balaam told them to lodge there for the night while he consulted God about the matter. After relating to God what he had been asked to do, God replied in these words;

"And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them.

Thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed.

And Balaam rose up in the morning, and said unto the princes of Balak, Get ye into your land; for the Lord refuses to give me leave to go with you.

And the princes of Moab rose up, and they went unto Balak, and said, Balaam refuses to come with us."

But Balak wasn't at all happy with this situation, and he sent more princes, and more gifts to Balaam to entice him to curse the Israel people. Balaam's answer

is one which should be the watchword of every Christian;

*"And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak,
If Balak would give me his house full of silver
and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the
Lord my God, to do less or more."*

So he again enquired of the Lord as to what he should do, and this time the Lord told him that if they asked him to go with them, he could go, but only on the condition that he said only what the Lord told him to say.

We read that in the morning, Balaam saddled his ass and went with the princes of Moab. But in the very next verse we are told that God was angry with Balaam for doing this. Why this apparent contradiction? Why did God give him permission to go, and then get angry with him when he went?

When we read the scriptures carefully, we find the answer. In verse 20 we find that God gave Balaam permission to go, provided that the other men called him. But it is apparent from verse 21 that Balaam didn't wait to be called. He acted presumptuously by deciding to go on his own initiative, instead of waiting to be invited. And that is the problem with so many servants of God today. They approach God for directions, and when He answers them, they get so enthused with their own importance that they interpret God's instructions to suit themselves and race off to do it their way, instead of carefully analysing and understanding the full details of God's commands. Thus they end up doing what would seem to be the right thing, but they do it their way. They get diverted from the proper path that God has laid down for them. And when trouble strikes, they can never understand why.

But when it comes to the safety and security of His people, God never allows His purposes to be thwart-

ed in the least degree. As He states in Malachi 3:6;

*"For I am the Lord, I change not.
Therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."*

Balaam was so intent on what he was doing that he was blind to anything else. Even when his ass started to behave in a most unusual manner, he was too engrossed to realise that something was wrong. He started to beat the poor ass, and didn't even seem at all surprised when at last the ass started to talk to him. He even talked back to the ass. What a peculiar situation. I don't know about you, but I've seen the same situation with people. I don't mean I have seen or heard them actually speaking to animals, (although sometimes they may as well have been), but they have become so totally immersed in their own desires, and so blinded to anything else, that they just don't realise how ridiculous they have become. In fact, they become quite paranoid in the stand they have made. People in this position should take the greatest care lest, like Balaam, the 'ass' makes an 'ass' of them. It was only when the Lord revealed Himself to Balaam in his stupidity that this self-centred prophet at last realised his error. Let us learn from this. Sometimes the 'ass' with which we argue is acting under God's direction, whether knowingly or unknowingly, in order to prevent us from going in a direction that will bring future harm and tragedy. It was only when Balaam repented of his presumption that the Lord allowed him to proceed with what he had to do.

So he went on to meet Balak, who repeated his former promise of much honour and riches if he would pronounce a curse on the people of Israel. But the reply was the same. Balaam reiterated to Balak that whilst he would try to do what he was asked, he had absolutely no power to say anything other than what the Lord God of Israel would allow him to say. And so the scene was set.

It's about time that the present enemies of Anglo-Saxon Israel realised the position. Every curse that they

can think of has been placed upon our people by God's enemies. They have destroyed our moral fibre, our family life, our political structure, and our whole economic system, to say nothing of our faith in and obedience to God. We are more slaves today than our forefathers ever were in Egypt. But the Lord has spoken.

*"Thou shalt not curse this people,
for they are blessed."*

And if the Lord tarries, we will see in our future studies the full force of these wonderful blessings that our God has promised us.

(to be continued).



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These Bible Days
Nottingham, England



I NEVER KNEW YOU! continued from page 5.

our Lord Jesus Christ? The answer will be given very soon, for the presence of our Lord is shortly to be revealed. The forty-year existence of the Jewish state demonstrates that the Jews have no intention of repudiating their opposition to Jesus Christ. With the ending of this forty-year period, we are confident that the Lord is going to shortly move in a major way, demonstrating the truth that such are His enemies.

COVENANT WATCH!

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We will be happy to send ONE sample copy on request, but further copies will depend on receipt of the subscription application accompanying the sample copy.

Material contained therein is mostly photo-copied from local and overseas journals to which we subscribe, and is intended for those of our readers who seek extra information about the various issues, political, economic, and religious, which are happening throughout the world, and which are having such an impact on our lives and the overall welfare of our nation.

Some of the material may be contentious, and not everyone will agree with all that is stated. But we present it because of the basic information contained therein, and because we consider that the time for compromise and 'middle-of-the-road' policies and approaches to the evils within our community is over.

The Bible teaches us that "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Our aim, in these very last days of this age, is to try to awaken our people to the vision, not only of the enemy and their machinations, but of the only true remedy as revealed in our Lord Jesus Christ and His soon return to this earth, when He will take the government upon His shoulders, destroy all evil practices, evil forces, and evil men, and rule in righteousness and justice for evermore.

Don't put it off. Send for your copy today.

THE ANGELS OF MONS.

By A. R. Westmacott.
courtesy PARADE.

Stories of the supernatural, of weird and ghostly happenings have, since earliest times, held a strange fascination. They range from the ghost story based on hearsay to the rare but authenticated manifestations of shared supernatural experience. Among the latter is the story of The Angels of Mons.

This phenomenon, which occurred during the early days of World War I, created something of a sensation and received a good deal of publicity.

However, with the passage of time, it has faded into the background of history and few today would remember the old story, although the facts of what actually took place on the battlefields of Mons during that late summer of great battles in 1914 still provide an intriguing mystery.

Something of the events that led up to the historic Battle of Mons will be remembered by some who are still among us, and by all students of military history.

Carrying out their long-devised master stroke known as the Schlieffen Plan, which was to involve a wide turning movement in great strength through Belgium and Northern France and was designed to outflank, roll up and destroy the French armies, the armies of Imperial Germany smashed their way through the Belgian fortress line and poured down through Northern France to attack the weak left flank of the French line.

Had it been possible to carry this great manoeuvre through to ultimate success, there is little doubt that

the whole French position, taken on its flank, would have been fatally turned, Paris captured, and France knocked out of the war before, as the Kaiser put it, "the leaves fell."

Fortunately, events did not move quite this way.

The small but perfectly trained British Expeditionary Force comprising around 150,000 men had been landed in France by August 16 and moved smoothly up to its planned position, reaching this by August 21. Here, its role was to hold up for as long as possible the right flank of the powerful German thrust.

The position chosen for the British lay along the canal which ran between the towns of Mons and Conde, and was about 10 miles long. It was important that this position be held as long as possible to cover strategic movements by the French Fifth Army.

On August 22 came the first of the enemy attacks on the Mons line. At first these attacks were light, and easily dispersed by the rapid rifle-fire of the British, but they swiftly gained weight as huge masses of fresh troops were thrown in.

All through the 23rd - a long hot day - raged one of the fiercest battles of the war. Attack after attack, launched by the German elite units, beat against the weary British only to be blasted back by superior firepower and superb marksmanship. When night fell, however, the defenders had themselves suffered heavily and were short of food, water, and ammunition.

It was then decided that next day the British should be moved back to stronger positions which might allow the men some respite. To carry out this move, it was vital that certain key positions in the original line should be held at all costs.

As darkness closed in, fierce attacks were renewed on the forward British positions. Great masses of

fresh German troops advanced methodically in packed formation, regardless of terrible losses.

Though decimated and dog-weary, the British managed to hold, but it soon became obvious that an end of all possible resistance was approaching and the entire line must soon be overrun. The whole landscape seemed alive with enemy troops. Grasping their hot rifles, the defenders prepared for what must be their final stand before annihilation.

It was at this moment that the miracle of intervention took place - a happening witnessed by numerous British officers and men in quite widely separated places that night.

Along the line of the embankments that formed the British position, there suddenly appeared long ranks of ghostly archers dressed and equipped in the manner of those who, centuries before, had won victory for England on the fields of Agincourt and Crecy.

"They looked like ghosts, but not really like ghosts," said a British soldier later. "They seemed quite solid, but nobody ever got very close to them."

For a moment, these grim apparitions stood upright and motionless. Then, watched by the spellbound defenders, they drew their long bows and sent a volley of missiles into the advancing Germans. Suddenly, the enemy attack faltered and broke.

"They went all to bits," said a private of the Royal West Kents. "One moment they were coming at us in a great wave, and the next they were milling around all over the place in no sort of order at all."

The British were quick to take advantage of this extraordinary development. Fixing their bayonets, they charged the confused enemy who were driven from the field with great losses in casualties and prisoners.

The vital sections were saved and held long enough to allow the main army to withdraw in good order, and it was later to play a leading part in the great victory of the Marne.

Their ghostly rescuers, The Angels of Mons as they came to be known, were vouched for by many at different points of the British line that night.

They were not seen by anyone on the enemy side, but one captured German was to tell his captors of the sudden panic and confusion which, quite unaccountably, overtook their men.

"We were putting in our final attack on what was left of your position when, for no reason at all, the men appeared to go to pieces," he said. "We could do nothing with them. They just broke and ran away."

But there was, among the Germans, one who that night did see what no British soldier did: a mounted man leading the English counter attack.

"We could not place him at all," he explained. "To some he seemed to be a knight in armour from ancient days. Did you have such a man among you?" They did not, but some time later the German was looking at an English sovereign piece. Suddenly he pointed to its reverse side. "That was the man we saw," he cried. "This is his exact likeness."

The gold sovereign of those days carried an embossed likeness of Saint George, patron saint of England.

It is easy to dismiss the whole story as some sort of manifestation of mass hysteria among overstrained and exhausted men, or as the clever fabrication of a good yarn-spinner, but the baffling facts remain. The ghosts were seen by many at various places, and they could not have co-ordinated their imaginative stories of the event.

The enemy attack did break down for no good reason, and the successful stand at Mons by that embattled remnant did contribute in no small way to the delivery of England, France, and civilisation.



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THE 8 MIRACLES of JESUS.

By F. W. DOWSETT.

MIRACLE NUMBER FIVE.

WALKING ON THE SEA.

"And when even was now come, His disciples went down unto the sea, and entered into a ship, and went over the sea towards Capernaum.

And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them.

And the seas rose by reason of a great wind that blew.

So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship: and they were afraid.

But He said unto them, It is I. Be not afraid."
(John 6:16-20)

As we now turn to this, the fifth of the eight miracles of Jesus recorded for us in John's gospel, it is appropriate that we remember the principle of 'pairing' regarding these miracles which was pointed out in a previous study. You may remember that the first four miracles are paired with the second four, only in reverse sequence. That is, the first with the eighth, the second with the seventh, the third with the sixth, and the fourth with the fifth. We also find that the subject matter of each 'pair' has a special similarity or connection. On top of this, we find that the latter sign in each pair, contained in the last four miracles, relates to a more advanced situation than the former sign contained

in the first four miracles. Let me illustrate this in the following groupings.

1. The Marriage in Cana.

8. The Draught of 153 Fishes.

The first of this pair, which used the wine as representative of the shed blood of Christ, portrayed the "wedding supper", where only the invited guests could attend. On the other hand, the eighth miracle, or second of this pair, as we shall see in a future study, not only used the bread representing the body of Christ, thus completing the witness of the bread and wine as the body and blood of our Lord, but in its greater application represented the ingathering of the full number of Israel, God's Elect.

2. The Healing of the Nobleman's Son.

7. The Raising of Lazarus.

In the first of this pair, as we have seen, Jesus raised the ruler's son who was at the point of death, thus preventing him from actually dying. But when we come to the study of the seventh miracle, or the second of this pair, Jesus actually raises Lazarus after he has died.

3. The Impotent Man.

6. The Man Born Blind.

The first of this pair relates to the healing of the man who though impotent, yet still retained his sight. In other words, although he could see where he wanted to go, he was too weak to get there. On the other hand, the sixth miracle, or second of this pair deals with the more advanced condition of actual blindness,

4. Feeding the 5,000.

5. Walking on the Water.

JESUS vs JEWUS

YOU DECIDE. . .

Following is a comparison between the movie "Last Temptation of Christ", the Babylonian "Talmud, and the Holy Scripture as they each depict our Saviour YeHoshua.

M.C.A.'S JEWUS:

"THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST"

JEWISH TALMUD'S JEWUS:

The Babylonian Talmud, translated into English by Rabbi Dr. I. Epstein, Soncino Press, London

THE SCRIPTURAL YeHoshua:

King James Version, Holy Bible

IS JESUS AN INSANE FOOL?

Mary says to the crowd, "Forgive my son! He's crazy! He doesn't know what he is doing. He has problems. Ever since he was a baby. He's not well in the head."

"He was a fool, and we do not pay attention to what fools do." *Sanhedrin 67a* (uncensored edition)

"And the Word (God) was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory as of The only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." - John 1:14

IS JESUS A DECEIVING SINNER?

'Jesus' to Mary as he is being crucified: "Farewell. Forgive me for being a bad son." 'Jesus' to Mary Magdalene: "I've done a lot of wrong things. I'm going to the desert to be cleansed. The worst things I've done are to you, forgive me."

Jesus was a 'bloody and deceitful' man. *Sanhedrin 106b* (uncensored edition)
He was counted among the 'sinners of Israel,' one of the three greatest enemies Israel has ever known. *Gittin 56b, 57a*

YeHoshua "...was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Heb. 4:15
"And you know that He appeared in order to take away sins and in Him there is no sin." 1 John 3:5

IS JESUS AN APOSTATE?

'Jesus' says to Judas: "No, I don't have any pride. I don't go to

Jesus "...practiced sorcery, and enticed Israel to apostasy." *Sanhedrin 43a*

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not

<p>synagogue, I usually use commandments. I work on the sabbath. Judas: "And who will pay for your sins?"</p> <p>"Jesus": "I don't know, I'm struggling."</p>	<p>Jesus performed his miracles by means of it... <i>Shabb. 106b</i></p>	<p>come to destroy, but to fulfill Matt. 5:17</p> <p>"The Spirit of Yahweh is upon me, (YeHoshua) because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor..." Luke 4:18</p>
IS JESUS IMMORAL?		
<p>In a 'dream' the Jesus character marries Mary Magdalene. 'Jesus' invites his 'guardian angel' to watch as they engage in sex. After Mary Magdalene dies, 'Jesus' moves in with Mary and Martha, sisters of Lazarus, and has children by them.</p>	<p>Jesus was excommunicated for the thought of seducing a woman. In his ensuing grief he fell down and worshipped a brick. <i>Sanhedrin 106a</i> (uncensored edition)</p>	<p>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery; but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.' Matt. 5:27-28</p>
IS JESUS ILLEGITIMATE-MAN?		
<p>"The Last Temptation of Christ" lends credence to the traditional rabbinic view that Christ was not God in carnate. He was not divinely conceived, but was a weak imposter, a misfit to His people and Faith.</p>	<p>Jesus was born out of wedlock; Mary "...who was descendant of princes and governors played the harlot with carpenters." <i>Sanhedrin 106b</i></p> <p>Jesus was killed by "...stoning, burning, decapitation, and strangling..." <i>Sanhedrin 106a-106b</i></p> <p>He is now in hell, "...punished with boiling hot excrement." <i>Gittin 56b-57a</i></p>	<p>"And she shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His Name YeHoshua (Yahweh is Salvation); for He shall save His people from their sins... Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which being interpreted, is God with us." Matt. 1:21-23</p>
IS JESUS A DEVIL?		
<p>"Jesus" 'Lucifer' is inside of me.' In a discussion with his mother 'Jesus' complains of being uncertain whether he is possessed by God or by the Devil. . . .</p>	<p>"Sanhedrin, 106b, Gittin 57a states that 'Balaam (satan) is frequently used in the Talmud to refer to Jesus' Jewish encyclopedia Esh. 114. In Esh. 275 it states that 'the Talmud likens the Gospel Christians and Christ to Baal sex worshippers.' Jewish ency. vol. 10 1905 pg. 172.</p>	<p>YeHoshua answered the Jews "Which of you convicteth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me...? I have not a devil; but I honor my Father, and ye do dishonor me." John 8:46, 49</p>

* The Babylonian Talmud is the most authoritative source of Jewish legends and traditions concerning Christ. The Talmud is a vast compendium of Pharisaic oral law which was written down nearly 1500 years ago. In modern Jews, the Talmud is considered to have greater authority than the Bible itself.

As we saw in our last study, the first of this pair revealed Jesus in the ACT of creation. The second of this pair which we are now about to study however, reveals Jesus, not just as the Creator, but as being in control of His creation, a factor which is all too often not realised, even by Christians.

This 5th miracle, together with its accompanying 4th miracle, are the only two of the eight miracles which are mentioned in other gospels, this one being also recorded in Matthew 14:22-33, and Mark 6:45-52. So before proceeding with our study, let us read the portion of this incident recorded in Matthew's gospel which is not included in the others. In Matt. 14:25 we find that the specific timing of this event was in "the fourth watch of the night", that is between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m. Jerusalem time, or 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. eastern Australian time. But verses 28 to 31 also inform us;

"And Peter answered Him and said, Lord, if it be Thou, bid me come unto Thee on the water. And He said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

Now as in our previous studies, we will firstly look at the details of the incident itself, in this case, from four points of view.

1. Concerning the Disciples.

i. At Christ's command, they boarded their boat to set out across the sea of Galilee towards Bethsaida. Jesus was not with them. This was a deliberate decision of our Lord. They had to learn to live by faith, and not

to depend on the regular physical attendance of the Lord whereby He personally picked them up every time they tripped.

ii. It was night. Their faith was going to be tested under the most difficult circumstances. Little did they realise how very significant this was of the condition which was to surround those who came after them, and who would endeavour to follow the same Lord and Master in the last days.

iii. The wind became boisterous, the seas became rough, they were buffeted by the waves, and became fearful. This condition, without any doubt, was deliberately engineered and controlled by our Lord to illustrate for us the meaning of His later statement regarding conditions on the earth immediately prior to His second advent. Of that time, Luke 21:25-26 tells us;

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity;

the sea and the waves roaring.

Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

iv. Finally, they became terrified when they saw Jesus approaching them, walking on the sea, thinking that it was an apparition. Again we read from Luke 21:27-28;

"And then they shall see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads.

For your redemption draweth nigh."

2. Concerning Peter.

This little incident, recorded only by Matthew, is of the greatest significance, and we need to fully understand it. "Peter walking on the water" has become the basis for countless so-called jokes, and is probably one of the most used incidents in the Bible quoted by those who wish to 'sling off' at God's Word. But sadly, this very attitude has been brought about, to a great extent at least, by the ignorance of so many Christians as to what actually happened. Certainly, the miraculous was evident, but this wasn't the real teaching which the Lord intended. Let us look quickly at the details.

i. Jesus said to the disciples, 'Don't be afraid, It's Me, Jesus'.

ii. Peter, always the practical man, (and remember, they thought that they had seen a spirit or ghost), wanted some proof of who was there, and replied, 'If it is really you Lord, then prove it by letting me come to you by walking on the water.' When you come to think of it, that was really quite a request to make of the Lord. He really wanted the matter proved beyond any doubt.

iii. So when Christ said, Come, Peter jumped down out of the boat and started to actually walk on the water towards Christ. This was an almost unbelievable act of faith. If you really want to test it for yourself, then get into a small open boat and row out into the middle of your closest bay or harbour in the middle of the night and in the middle of a storm, and then stand up and consider what it would take to convince you to step out of that boat and to start walking on the surface of the water. And may I wish you the best of British luck.

iv. But what happened next was not just restricted to Peter. It happens to most, if not all of us at some time or other. We jump in with all the apparent faith in the world. The sacred record tells us "that when Peter SAW

the wind was strong", that is, when he saw what was really going on around him, he started to falter, and immediately he did that, he started to sink. None of us can throw stones at Peter. We have all done it, or at least have been sorely tempted to do it. So many start off so strong, and so committed, but when they come face to face with the actual storm, and its effects become so personally directed at them, they become like the seed of Christ's parable which was sown among the thorns. They become choked with the things and cares of the world. Out come all the excuses which to them seem perfectly legitimate. They even seem to be, to them, Bible based and supported. But friends, I don't care how sincere and good and Bible oriented the thing is. If it takes you from your first love, and your first commitment to the Lord, it is a patch of thorns. Your walk on the water will start to turn into possible tragedy the moment you look away from your first and primary commitment and calling in the Lord. You see, Peter primarily wanted the Lord just to prove it was Him, and this is exactly what the Lord was doing. But Peter soon became more concerned about his own immediate problems, and the moment he did that, he was gone. He started to sink.

v. And at that point, Peter did the only thing possible. He called for HELP! And if any of you reading this are in a similar position where you can feel the water already around your ankles, that is, if things are not going as you had anticipated or planned, having changed your course from that to which you were committed, then please follow Peter's example. Reach out to God and yell "HELP".

vi. We are told that immediately, Jesus reached out His hand, and caught Peter, and saved him from almost certain death. And the Lord will do no less for us today if we would only follow this example.

Now what was the secret of this incident? ^{Why} did Peter falter? What was the difference between his position and that of our Lord?

The difference lay in the use of just two words in this account. We need to understand them. You see, Jesus was walking on "the SEA". But Peter was walking on "the WATER". There is a very vast difference. You will understand this difference if you just visualise the scene. Peter was actually walking on the surface of the water, following the waves up one side and down the other, and being whipped by the spray and wind. Jesus, on the other hand was walking on the 'sea', that is, He wasn't touching the water. He was above its surface, and thus not affected in any way by what was happening to the water itself.

And that is where we need to be. So many Christians, in fact too many Christians, are living a life of 'walking on the water'. True, they try to keep their eyes on Jesus. They pray and read their Bible every day, and go to church every Sunday, but they still quite unnecessarily suffer all the ups and downs of life and wonder why, despite the degree of faith they feel they have, that they never seem to really overcome their personal problems. All this would change if only they would recognise that they have to rise above the water and 'walk on the sea'. They have to be where Jesus is, above all the problems. Jesus didn't calm down the water so that He could walk on it. He stayed above it. The undulating waves were still there. The stinging spray was still there. And only those who truly overcome will be able to share this position and experience with Him.

3. Concerning Jesus.

i. Immediately after the fourth miracle, when He fed the multitude, Jesus dismissed the crowd and went up into the mountain alone, to pray. This wonderfully pre-figured what He was about to do. After giving His disciples and the people the 'bread of life', and sealing it in His own body on Calvary, He alone went up to the Father where He still awaits in full communion with Him, waiting for "the time for the restitution of all things as spoken by the prophets." (Acts 3:19-21).

ii. Being fully aware of His disciples' distress, He set out to meet and rescue them, overtaking them before destruction could come upon them.

iii. He announced His presence, comforted their fear, and entered the boat with them.

And it was THE FOURTH WATCH of the night.

4. Concerning the Results.

i. The storm, which was not affecting Jesus, only the disciples, immediately ceased. Jesus took total control of the very elements which He Himself had created.

ii. The disciples worshipped Jesus as THE SON OF GOD. At last they really knew who He was, even if they didn't fully understand it.

Now what did all this signify? We remember that Jesus performed these miracles, or signs, in order to "manifest His glory". It had nothing to do with shewing how clever He was. It wasn't a show-off of power. It was, as were all the other miracles, a demonstration of what was in store for His servants. It was a demonstration of the glory and power of the Kingdom of God.

This miracle, as were the others, was a pre-enactment in prophetic terms of what the future held for His people. We have already seen in previous studies how the first four miracles represented a certain time factor in the life and history of His people and Kingdom. This one is no exception. Just as the preceeding miracle represented the last days in which there was to be a famine of the Word of God, but during which there would still be enough 'food' for those who sought it, this miracle represents that which was to immediately follow those days. Here we have represented the time of the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, when He will rescue the elect among His people from the raging of the nations round about. Here is enacted the beginning of "the times of restitution", when the raging and the strife

within our Israel peoples will be calmed by the very presence of their Redeemer and King. Here is enacted for us the resurrection of the "Overcomers" who will rule and reign with Him.

Here is represented the time when Jesus Christ Himself will take the government upon His own shoulders, when He will reign in righteousness and justice for evermore.

Truly, the words of the prophet Isaiah will be fulfilled. He will truly be

THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

Truly will we experience in all its fullness and glory the promise of the New Covenant.

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the House of Israel after those days, saith the Lord.

I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts.

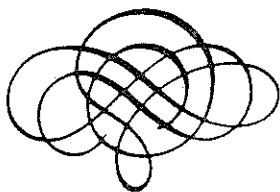
And I will be to them a God, and they will be to Me a people.

And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord. For all shall know Me, from the least to the greatest.

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more."

(Heb. 8:10-12).

(to be continued).



Our National Interest.

courtesy ON TARGET.

As the immigration debate continues, there are numerous references to Australia's 'national interest', with little or no attempt to define what is meant by this term. It is a fact of history that the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people have, as the result of a combination of factors - geography, a long continuity of breeding, or ancestry and religion - been in the forefront of developing social systems designed to preserve individual rights and freedoms. The development of English Common Law was an expression of practical Christianity, incarnating the Christian revelation of the uniqueness - not the sameness - of every individual. There was a time when other people admired the British political and constitutional systems. As the British Empire developed, people from other than British countries came to join in what was an on-going growth with its roots deep in two thousand years of history in the British Isles. Australia is a highly independent variant of what is a distinctive culture.

Those who keep claiming that Australia "is part of Asia" are manifesting either their shallow and materialistic approach to life, or are consciously involved in a campaign to tear traditional Australia from its roots, thus assisting in the killing of the Australian soul.

Australia is NOT "part of Asia", but an island continent situated in Oceania. Eastern Europe is closer to Asia than is Australia. But the question of distance is relatively unimportant. A true nation, with its own ethos, lives in terms of time and history, not geography. The growth of the Australian nation owes nothing to Asia. Language, political, constitutional and legal systems have all been derived from the British tradition.

Even the Federal system is modelled to a degree upon the American Federal system, this a product of the Anglo-Saxons who pioneered the U.S.A., and who grew from the same roots as Australia.

C.H.Douglas, author of Social Credit, observed that the British character and British culture were the greatest obstacle to the establishment of the Monopoly State, and that every effort was being made to remove that obstacle. The old British Empire had to go. The traditional associations between the Crown Commonwealth nations also had to be broken, thus the long campaign to submerge the United Kingdom into a United States of Europe. Only Margaret Thatcher now stands between the final act of destruction, the establishment of a European Central Bank with a common European currency. The British Prime Minister says that such a step would mean the virtual dissolution of the British House of Commons. If what was once known as "the Mother of Parliaments" is killed, what of the future of "the children" of that Mother?

Probably more than any other development of the British and Christian stream of history, Australia still possesses sufficient of its traditional character to move off the present disaster course, setting an example to the rest of the world. The "national interest" will not be served by maintaining the monstrous lie that the Australian economy requires investments from Asia; that Australia needs Asia more than Asia needs Australia. The whole of Asia could disappear tomorrow and 16 million Australians would be left with all the natural resources, skills and technology to provide all the physical requirements for a high standard of civilised living. The major requirements would be a change in the rules of the nation's financial bookkeeping.

In campaigning for the 1996 Olympic Games to be held in Greece, the Greek Olympic representatives are making the strong point that it would be an appropriate time to return to the roots of the Games. The time has come for Australians to make every effort to return to

(continued on page 38.)

“God’s Obvious Design”

The Defeat Of The Spanish Armada

W. F. FINLAYSON

WAKE UP!

In 1493, the infamous Pope Alexander VI drew a line of demarcation a hundred leagues west of the Azores between Spanish and Portuguese zones of exploration in the new world; as it favoured Spain, it was modified by the Treaty of Tordesillas of 7th June, 1494. The Pope sought to apportion the world between the Holy Catholic nations of Spain and Portugal. Divine Providence, however, decreed otherwise in allowing the heretical British to control one quarter of the world. Why? In 1988 we are commemorating the 400th anniversary of a great historic event which shattered completely the Satan inspired pretensions of the Papacy: the defeat of the Spanish Armada.

THE English had always been noted for their “sluggish security,” but in the Reformation period, a complete transformation took place in the national character. To find the reason for this we actually have to go back 2,520 years to 975-922 B.C. In that period, as a direct consequence of King Solomon’s idolatry, the people of Israel divided into two nations. Ten tribes rebelled against the Davidic Throne and set up a rival kingdom of Israel in the north, called the House of Israel. The two tribes and their Levites remaining at Jerusalem continued under the Throne of the Lord (I *Chronicles* 29:23) as the kingdom or House of Judah.

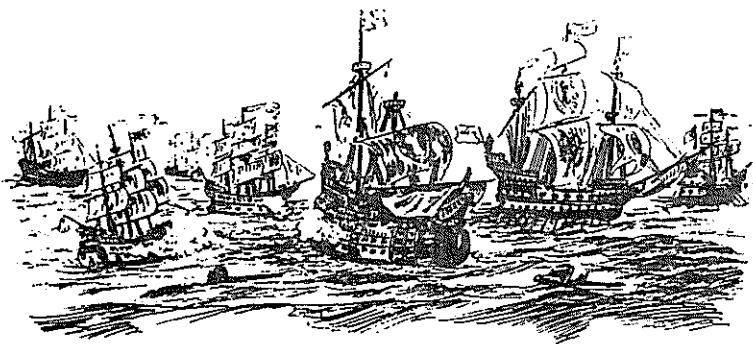
The northern ten tribes found a leader and a spokesman in Jeroboam. But negotiations broke down in the face of King Rehoboam’s strong-arm tactics and then, surprisingly, God forbade him from taking military action to force the return of the rebel tribes to his rule, informing him through the prophet Shemaiah that “*this thing is from Me*” (I *Kings* 12:24).

That which was from God was a commencement of the “Seven Times” chastisement of God’s Israel people because of their disobedience. It was a period that

would last 7×360 or 2,520 years. By the time Elizabeth I came to the throne (of David) in 1558, the great chastisement period had begun to expire. From that time we see the Israel people in the Appointed Isles progressively fulfilling the role ordained by God for His servant people in the world. Now they would expand to become a great maritime, martial and missionary people and eventually, a great company of Protestant Christian nations.

When that Israelite indeed, Sir Francis Drake, circumnavigated the globe (1577-1580) he was, prophetically, heralding Israel-Britain’s coming dominion over the oceans: the promise of God to His servant people that they would possess the “gate” of their enemies (*Genesis* 22:17) and the “blessings of the deep” (*Genesis* 49:25).

In 1582, Richard Hakluyt, the English geographer known to historians as the “Apostle of Empire,” published his first book *Divers Voyages touching the Discovery of America* to inspire his fellow countrymen to colonize. He received his vision as a schoolboy when he read *Psalms* 107: 23-24:



"They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep."

It was the unconditional promise to the seed of Israel that they would become a multitude of people in the earth and colonize on a global basis (*Genesis 28*). As such, the Divine mandate was that Israel would obey the Purpose of God upon the high seas to dominate and be victorious in His Name and for the extension of His Kingdom upon earth (*Psalms 89:25; Numbers 24:7*).

The Gentile forces and the great power of paganized Christianity in Roman Catholicism have always sought to overcome and destroy the destiny of the servant people and in 1587, an important part of the Papal strategy to regain Britain finally failed with the beheading of Mary, Queen of Scots. For 19 years, Elizabeth had shown incredible patience with the woman who was determined to usurp her throne, backed as she was by the Pope. Mary's death signalled a further part of Papal strategy into operation: "God's obvious design"—the Spanish Armada.

Philip II of Spain, "the acknowledged leader of a resurgent Catholicism bent on destroying the monster of heresy, began to devote all his time to destroying England—the Kingdom of Heretics." However, all through the preparations for this assault on the Appointed Isles, a succes-

sion of foreboding events should have signalled to its perpetrators that God's blessings were obviously not with them. The sudden death of the Marquis of Santa Cruz, the Captain General of the Ocean, was a terrible blow to Spanish morale. In place of Spain's greatest admiral and naval hero, Philip gave the command of his Invincible Armada to the Duke of Medina Sidonia, a grandee without experience afloat. To give due credit, he did prove himself to be brave and level-headed, even in the face of persistent sea sickness.

In the belief that the heretics could not win, Philip was confident that God would overrule all human deficiencies to bring about the return of England to the Papal fold. Yet, when Medina Sidonia held his first review, he found that five thousand of his soldiers were dead, sick or had deserted! Then in the Spring of 1587, Drake led a devastating raid on Cadiz and the Armada preparations, destroying 65 ships and taking much treasure. The "singeing of the King of Spain's beard" meant that the sailing of the Armada was postponed enabling England to increase her preparations.

It is not unusual for the enemies of Israel to claim that God will fight for them. The participants on the Spanish side took the sacrament at mass which they all attended. Gambling, swearing and prostitution were forbidden. Medina Sidonia himself carried the holy standard of the fleet from the altar of Lisbon

Cathedral. "They were sailing against England in the confident hope of a private miracle which will send some strange freak of weather or deprive the English of their wits!"

After several false starts, the greatest fleet ever assembled sailed from Lisbon on 28th May, 1588 (interestingly *the same day* in 1982 when Pope John-Paul II arrived in Britain and was received in audience by Elizabeth II, the first time in modern history that a Pope had set foot in the Kingdom and which in constitutional terms produced a conflict of sovereignty). The Royal Navy of England then consisted of only 36 ships and these were of small size. But nobles, merchants and citizens came with their money to the Queen and equipped vessels at their own expense.

At once the ecclesiastical origin of the conflict was forgotten. English Roman Catholics united cordially with English Protestants in preparing to defend their shores. A fleet of 191 ships soon rode on the English waters, with Lord Howard of Effingham, the Queen's cousin, the admiral. Under him served Drake, Hawkins and Frobisher.

A storm had played havoc with many vessels in the Spanish fleet between Lisbon and Corunna, but Philip insisted there could be no further delays while shipwrights worked to repair the damage. The Armada left Corunna on 22nd July and a week later sighted the Lizard. Fire beacons—a system unique to England—were lit, announcing the sighting of the Spanish fleet in the Channel. By this early warning system England could bring together 25 or 30 thousand men in two hours.

On the night of 6th–7th August, the nervous Spaniards saw eight blazing fire-ships drifting, lashed together, across to their anchorage off Calais. Their nerves snapped and against order the captains cut their cables and sailed out to sea to their fate. The English delivered terrible

broad-sides at the scattering ships until they could be seen, literally, running red with blood. As the stricken Invincible Armada struggled northwards to escape, it grew steadily smaller—many vessels were pounded to pieces on rocks by severe storms off the coast of Ireland whose coastal sands became littered with Spanish corpses. Some 65 shattered hulks only returned to Spain and when Medina Sidonia reached Santander on 23rd September, he was delirious with dysentery and two thirds of his men who survived were dead within a month from disease and starvation. It had been a fated enterprise from the start, but a formidable and terrible threat to Protestant England nevertheless.

One of the Spanish galleons carried the horrific instruments of torture, used in the inquisition. If England had been invaded, no true Protestant would have been safe. The stench of the Smithfield Martyrs' fires was still fresh in the people's minds and they knew full well that the iron hand of Romanism would show them no mercy. The Israel nation of the reformation held its breath and prayed, as the enemy sailed into English waters. But the God of Jacob heard and delivered. The forces of paganism were scattered and the Appointed Isles were safe. Soon there was rejoicing in the land with thanksgiving services, medals and paintings all in recognition of the "Protestant Wind." Indeed, throughout Europe, the English victory was ascribed to divine intervention. The defeat of the Armada was a decisive event in that it checked the colossus of the Holy Catholic nation of Spain, which had grown enormous from Lepanto, the conquest of Portugal and the successes of Parma in the Netherlands and accordingly the Protestant cause found a new heart; the world had not ended after all, with the Massacre of St. Bartholomew or the murder of William of Orange.

The Elizabethans held a most solemn thanksgiving in St. Paul's on 4th Dec-

ember, 1588, which was attended by the Queen. Amid the rejoicing, there was also a conscious understanding of the Papal "obvious design" and confirmation of

their confident belief, that they represented the Israel of God and that their enemies were Antichrist and Babylon.

OUR NATIONAL INTEREST. Continued from page 34.

the roots of traditional Australia. As demonstrated by the Germans, who this year are celebrating the anniversary of the German settlement in South Australia, peoples of non-British background have had no difficulty in grafting their contribution on to the basic roots of the nation.

But, when the last word has been said, the best contribution to the national interest will be made when Australia's internal financial and economic policies are changed in order that young families can grow in numbers without fear of the economic circumstances. And those young Australians require access to the nation's real traditions. None of these come from Asia.



LUTHER AND THE BIBLE

Luther said that he studied the Bible as he gathered apples. First, he shook the whole tree, that the ripest might fall. Then he climbed the tree and shook each limb, and when he had shaken each limb, he shook each branch, and after each branch every twig, and then looked under each leaf. Let us search the Bible as a whole — shake the whole tree, read it as rapidly as you would any other book, then shake every limb, studying Book after Book. Then shake every branch, giving attention to the chapters when they do not break the sense. Then shake each twig by careful study of the paragraphs and sentences, and you will be rewarded, if you will look under every leaf, by searching the meaning of words.

— A. C. Dixon

STUDY IN REVELATIONS.

By F. W. DOWSETT.

PART FIVE.

THE THRONE OF GOD.

Having completed our study of the 'religious cycle or aspect' of God's Israel people during the period between our Lord's first and second advents, as recorded in Revelation chapters 1 to 3, which records Israel's progressive spiritual relationship with God during that period, we now turn to a study of the physical or political development of this same people during the same period of time. As pointed out in a previous study, this is recorded in the fourth to the eleventh chapters of this wonderful book, and begins in the fourth and fifth chapters with what must be the most wonderful record we are given in the entire Bible of the Throne of God. This is too long a passage to reprint here, and the reader is urged to put this book down at this point and to read the actual account straight out of God's Word.

Now let us summarize what you have just read. The beloved disciple John again heard the voice of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the spirit was shown this awesome sight. The Throne itself was virtually beyond description. It shone and glittered like the finest jewels. It was one glorious blaze of indescribable light. From it proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices. The overall effect was exactly the same as what the children of Israel had experienced so many centuries previously when Moses brought them out of the camp to meet their God. We read in Exodus 19:16;

"And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and

the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that were in the camp trembled."

And surrounding all this, there was that glorious rainbow. Many have taken this to represent the covenant that God made with Noah, in which He promised never to again destroy the earth with water. But this explanation, I believe, misses the entire point. The presence of the rainbow was the proof of the fact that **GOD IS LIGHT**, as recorded in I John 1:5. The rainbow consists of the seven colours of the spectrum - red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet - which when mixed in their correct proportions give white light. You can only derive these colours from pure white light, and the presence of this rainbow was the seal of God's very existence and nature as **LIGHT**. Thus John had no hesitation whatsoever in recognising the occupant of the Throne as God the Father Himself.

Situated around this Throne were twenty four seats, or thrones, each occupied by an elder. They were clothed in white raiment, and were wearing crowns of gold. Now what did they represent? Chapter 5 verse 10 gives us the clue. They are "priests and kings unto God", and their duty was to "reign on the earth." The number is not necessarily literal. It is symbolic, as is everything else in this marvelous Book. These 24 elders represent those who have been raised or translated in the First Resurrection, as spoken of in Rev. 20:4-6, and who, as the governing body, will reign with our Lord Jesus Christ over His Kingdom here on earth. They will include the twelve disciples to whom Christ promised, as recorded in Matthew 19:28;

"And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, that ye which have followed Me, in the regeneraton when the Son of Man shall sit in the Throne of His glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

In front of the Throne we see seven lamps, representing the seven Spirits of God. Where have we heard of this before? We read in Exodus 25:31-37 God's instructions to Moses for the making of the seven-lamp candlestick. Verse 37 reads;

*"And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof.
And they shall light the lamps thereof, that
they may give light over against it."*

Now what was the specific purpose for the light of the seven lamps of the candlestick? When we turn to Exodus 40, verses 22-25 we read that Moses was instructed to place the table against the north side of the tabernacle, and to place the candlestick opposite it on the south side. When Moses lit the seven candlesticks, they complimented, or highlighted what was on that table. It was the shewbread, representing the Bread of Life, even our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. And just as we are told that the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth, so these seven lamps before the Throne, the seven spirits of God, reveal the source of all truth relating to our Lord Jesus Christ.

The next thing brought to our attention is "a sea of glass, like unto crystal." Again we ask, what does this represent? And again, we go back to the Old Testament. In Exodus 30:18-21 we read of God's instructions to Moses to make a laver, or bowl, which was to be filled with water. It was absolutely essential for Aaron and his sons to wash in this bowl prior to offering the sacrifice. Failure to do so would result in death. In later years when King Solomon built the temple, this was replaced by a much larger vessel referred to as "the sea", but its purpose was the same. In Leviticus 16:4 we read how Aaron, before entering the Holy Place within the veil, into the presence of the Mercy Seat, must "wash his flesh in water." This whole ritual looked forward to our Lord Jesus Christ, and is the reason why our Lord insisted that He be baptised prior to His sacrifice on Calvary. The pattern had been set, and must be followed to the letter. He could not enter the Holy Place be-

fore the Father with the blood of the sacrifice, which in this case was His own, without first washing Himself.

In Matthew 14:22-33 we read the account of Christ's miracle when He calmed the raging sea during the storm. We have dealt in detail with this in our article on "The 8 Miracles of Jesus". Whilst Jesus was outside the boat, the wind was boistrous and the sea was very rough. But when He entered the boat the wind ceased, and we can conclude that the sea became calm. But the sea described as being in front of the Throne of God was not only calm, it was like glass. There is no trouble or upheaval at the Throne of God. That is the place of perfect peace, and that is exactly how John saw it.

The next thing to which our attention is directed is to the "four living creatures". The King James Bible refers to them as "beasts", but this is a misleading translation. Their specific description is given in verse 7 thus;

"The first living creature was like a lion, and the second living creature like a calf, and the third living creature had a face as a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle."

Many and varied have been the attempts to identify these 'living creatures.' But as always, we must remember the ground rules. Firstly, they are SYMBOLIC, and secondly, the key to their meaning and application is contained in the Old Testament.

We go right back to Numbers chapter 2 where we read of the disposition of the tribes of Israel around the Tabernacle. Verses 2 and 34 read as follows;

"Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house. Far off about the Tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch. . . .

And the children of Israel did according to all that the Lord commanded Moses. So they pitched by their standards, and so they set forward, every one after their families, according to the house of their fathers."

We read that on the east side was to be the tribe of JUDAH in the centre, with the tribes of Issachar and Zebulun, one on either side. Their ensign or emblem was the LION.

On the south side was the tribe of REUBEN in the centre, with the tribes of Simeon and Gad, one on either side. Their ensign or emblem was THE FACE OF A MAN.

On the west side was the tribe of EPHRAIM in the centre, with the tribes of Manasseh and Benjamin, one on either side. Their ensign or emblem was the CALF OR BULL.

And on the north side was the tribe of DAN in the centre, with the tribes of Naphtali and Asher, one on either side. Their ensign or emblem was THE FLYING EAGLE.

We have reproduced the illustrations of this disposition of the tribes, together with their ensigns or emblems from the excellent book "Symbols of Our Celto-Saxon Heritage" by W. H. Bennett, and published by Covenant Books, of 6 Buckingham Gate, London.

Now the obvious question must surely be, Why did our Lord use the insignias of the four leading tribes of Israel to describe the living creatures positioned around the Throne of God? What was their significance? We must again remember, they are symbolic, not literal. It is the understanding of their significance which opens up the full meaning of the entire scene which was revealed to John. What he was shown was a symbolic view of the structure and the glory of the completed and perfected Kingdom of God on earth as the ultimate de-

velopment of the nation of Israel. Let us never forget that the Kingdom of God on earth is NOT just a spiritual kingdom, although it obviously has its spiritual aspects. The Kingdom of God on earth was, is, and always will be, a literal kingdom. It was commenced with one man, Abraham, and was subsequently named ISRAEL. The encampment of Israel was originally based on the pattern in the heavens as revealed to Moses, as the Divine Pattern for God's Kingdom here on earth. This is the Kingdom over which our Lord Jesus Christ will reign in justice and righteousness when He returns in the very near future. As the angel said to Mary at the annunciation;

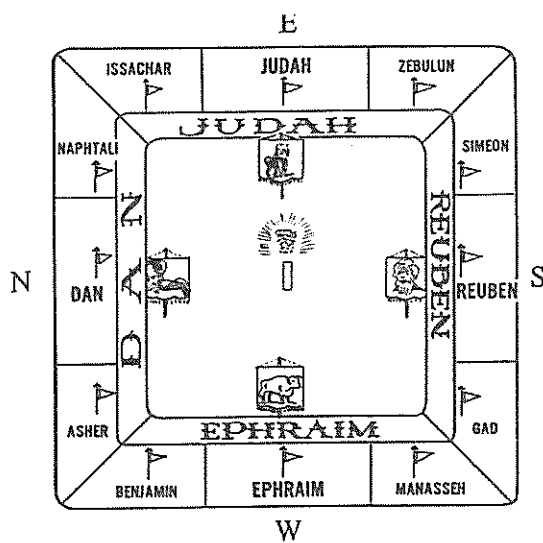
"Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS.

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:

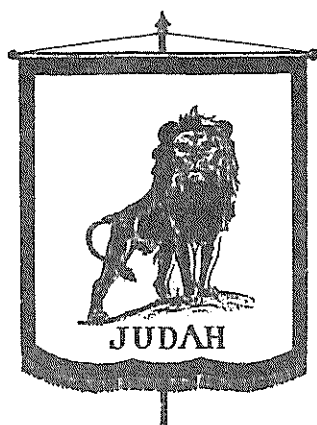
And He shall reign over the House of Jacob (Israel) for ever; and of His Kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:31-33).

Here is this wonderful description of the culmination of God's Plans for His people. At the centre of everything is the Throne of God. Around Him is His governing body, the Elders. It is the source of all truth and peace. It is established within the bounds of the perfected nation of Israel, symbolised by the four living creatures. The whole scene was completely overshadowed by the brilliance and splendor and glory of the presence of God. And round about all this were ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of the citizens of this Kingdom.

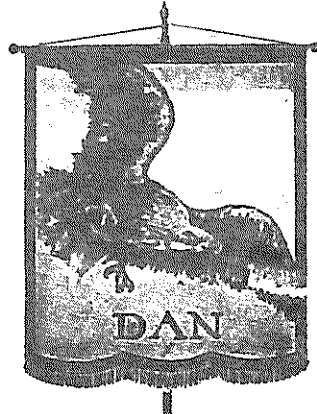
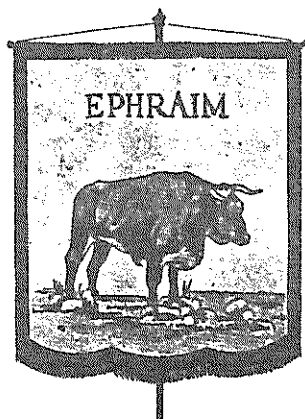
What a truly wonderful and glorious sight. No wonder John had to be in the spirit to see it and look upon it. No wonder that on several occasions we are told that John fell on his face as if he were dead.



The Israel Encampment with Standards



The Brigade Emblems



But there was something else of this scene which was of the greatest importance. What John was seeing was, as we have said, the culmination of God's Plans. This culmination could never be achieved unless one other very specific qualification was met. We read about it in chapter five.

As John looked, he saw that God, as He sat on His Throne, was holding out a book, or scroll, written on both sides, and sealed with seven seals. As he watched, a strong, or great, angel started to cry out, "Who is worthy to open the book and to undo the seals thereof?" And the amazing fact, simply stated, is that not one person could be found in heaven or in earth who was worthy to fulfil this task. When he realised this, John broke down and cried. Why did he do that? Here was the vision of the entire perfection of God's Kingdom spread before him, and yet he broke down, tearful and grief-stricken because no one could be found to open a book and to break its seals. What was so important about the opening of this book that it should cause such a reaction?

The secret lay in the fact that this book contained the pre-written history of Israel, the Kingdom of God on earth, from that time onward to the second advent of our Lord Jesus Christ and beyond. The astounding fact was this.

Unless this book was opened, and the pre-written history contained therein allowed to come to pass, the vision of the perfected Kingdom which John had seen would never be able to come to fruition.

Let me paint a picture for you. We have two cameras. One is on earth, and the other is in heaven. Camera 1 is recording a scene described in Acts 1:8-9;

"(And Jesus said unto them) . . . But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you. And ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in

Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight."

We immediately cut to Camera 2 as it records the scene described in Rev. 5:5-7 as the continuation of the scene from Camera 1;

"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not. Behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the Throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him that sat upon the Throne."

You see friends, without the sacrifice of the Lamb of God slain, there would have been no salvation for you and me. There would have been no redemption for Israel. And there would have been no Kingdom of God on this earth. The perfection which John had seen would never have developed beyond a mere vision. Do you wonder that he wept? But the Lion of the tribe of Judah, our Lord Jesus Christ, had wonderfully prevailed, and by His death and resurrection, history could now continue as God had intended from the very foundations of the world. All His covenants and His promises could now be put into operation just as He had said. The final righteousness and glory which He had promised was now on its way to fulfillment. The Word of God had been justified. No wonder the four living creatures, and the elders, and the angels, and the countless thousands of

the redeemed could now sing the new song which is recorded for us.

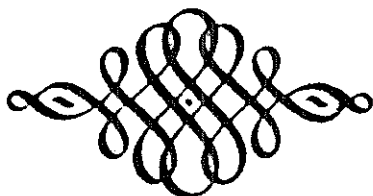
"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof. For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests. And we shall reign on the earth.

And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the Throne, and the living creatures and the elders. And the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying with a loud voice,

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

And the four living creatures said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped Him that liveth for ever and ever."



which can only come through the infilling 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.

The production, publication, and distribution of this magazine, THE COVENANT VISION, is being undertaken as a faith ministry. It is sent out without any charge to all who wish to receive it. Naturally, it costs money to do this, and whilst we have dedicated our own personal resources to the continuation of this ministry, the support of those who read it, and are blessed by it, is necessary for its continuance and growth. To this we invite your prayerful consideration and support.

We invite you, our readers, to send us the names and addresses of any whom you think could be blessed by receiving a free copy. In this way you can share in the proclaiming of the Gospel of the Kingdom, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified.

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

With Christian love, Frank and Betty Dowsett.

Any correspondence should be addressed to:

COVENANT VISION MINISTRY.
97 Brisbane St.,
St. Marys. 2760.
N.S.W. AUSTRALIA.
Phone: 02/623-4691.

"THEREFORE WILL THE LORD WAIT, THAT HE
MAY BE GRACIOUS UNTO YOU,
AND THEREFORE WILL HE BE EXALTED, THAT HE
MAY HAVE MERCY UPON YOU.

FOR THE LORD IS A GOD OF JUDGMENT.
BLESSED ARE ALL THEY THAT WAIT FOR HIM.
FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL DWELL IN ZION AT
JERUSALEM. THOU SHALT WEEP NO MORE.

HE WILL BE VERY GRACIOUS UNTO THEE AT THE
VOICE OF THY CRY;
WHEN HE SHALL HEAR IT, HE WILL ANSWER THEE.
AND THOUGH THE LORD GIVE YOU THE BREAD OF
ADVERSITY, AND THE WATER OF AFFLICTION,
YET SHALL NOT THY TEACHERS BE REMOVED
INTO A CORNER ANY MORE, BUT THINE EYES
SHALL SEE THY TEACHERS.

AND THINE EARS SHALL HEAR A WORD BEHIND
THEE, SAYING,
THIS IS THE WAY, WALK YE IN IT,
WHEN YE TURN TO THE RIGHT HAND,
AND WHEN YE TURN TO THE LEFT."

(Isa. 30:18-21).

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