



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 H. Dowsett.

In 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 fulness 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 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)

EDITORIAL.

There can be no doubt but that the subject that will increasingly take over the media and public discussion in order to gently and gradually brainwash the people of Australia is that of the intention of our national leaders to turn our country into a Republic by the year 2,000. They are laying their plans very well. This is not going to be a sudden idea thrust upon the people just before it happens in order to catch them off guard. The plan is to gradually condition the minds of the people to such an extent that when the time comes, they will accept it as being not only inevitable, but desirable.

There is also no doubt but that there will be many very sincere people of reputable standing in the community who will leave no stone unturned to fight this plan. That they will become the targets of all the mud-slinging and smear tactics that one could imagine is obvious. It has already started. And in view of the fact that many of the supporters of the Republican movement either own, or at least control every form of the media, then it is not difficult to work out which side will get the most publicity.

Even Christians, in fact particularly Christians, are going to be deluded in this matter. This is not just a matter of being anti-Monarchist. It is not just a matter of being anti-British. It is not even a matter of just being anti-Christian, as obvious as these three areas of antagonism may appear to most people who are against this proposed move. Yet I dare to say that these will be the main platforms of those who vigorously fight the plan to destroy our heritage and turn us into a Republic. Now I'm not for one moment saying that these people will be wrong, or that the basic principles on which they base their opposition are incorrect. What I am saying is that I believe that such tactics will in the long run prove to be absolutely futile.

Before we get all steamed up about the situation, and fly off in all directions supporting every anti-republican move that starts up, let us settle down for a moment and try to find out what the real problem really is. I am by no means a defeatist. I don't want to see Australia turned into a Republic any more than most of you who will be reading this. But I'm blessed if I'm going to waste my time and resources joining and supporting causes which do not address themselves to the correct problem. Let me repeat. The problem is not that we are a monarchy. It is not because

of our national standing. It is not because of our Christian Faith. The problem arises because we are God's people Israel. And until people wake up to this fact, they are never going to understand what is really going on behind the scenes. If they won't believe me, then maybe people will take notice of what God has to say in the matter.

"For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden (protected) ones. They have said, 'Come and let us cut them off from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance' (so as to be recognised). For they have consulted together with one consent (heart): they are confederate against thee."

(Psalm 83:2-5).

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, 'Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.'"

(Psalm 2:1-3).

How is it that Christians, whether committed or just nominal, will accept the above as the Word of God, will recognise its application to the very things that are happening in our very midst, and will still refuse to accept the obvious conclusion. If God said that this attack was going to be planned and made, and He does, and if He said that it was going to be directed against His people Israel whom He specifically nominates as His 'anointed ones', and He has, and if we are the nation that it is happening to, then surely, we must be the nation to which God was referring. Nothing else makes any sense in the situation. And to fail to recognise this basic fact is to become involved in an exercise in futility.

Let's face the fact that God has revealed to us. We are NOT going to get out of our problems by our own endeavours. It is God who is going to '*laugh them to scorn*'. He has made the situation quite clear. *"Thus saith the Lord God. I will yet for this be enquired of by the House of Israel, to do it for them."* (Ezek. 36:37).

The answer is not in the formation of committees or organisations. The ONLY answer is to fervently seek the Lord to do it for us. And He will if we do it according to His formula. We must humble ourselves. We must pray. We must seek His face. And above all, we must turn from our wicked ways. THEN, and only then, will He hear from heaven. Only then will the scattering of our power be terminated. And that, not because of our own righteousness, but for His Holy Name's sake.

THE COMING NEW WORLD

ORDER

According to Christ Jesus

by Rev. J.A.B. Haggart
(U.S.A.)

Only one newspaper in the United States operates with a free hand, reporting the hidden, unknown news to the general public, and that newspaper is THE SPOTLIGHT located in Washington, D.C., the heart of the nation. In the past few years the paper has diligently reported the secret meetings of two organisations: the Trilateral Commission and the Bilderberg group. The membership of these two organisations is made up of bankers, politicians, industrial leaders, both of which groups have secret meetings in places known only to the members. The make-up of the Trilateral Commission is American and the Bilderbergs are western Europe, including England. The two groups are highly organised and united.

The most recent secret meeting was the Bilderberg group which met June 7-9, 1991, in a hotel at Baden-Baden, Germany, at the Badisher Hof (hotel). Guards were placed at all entrances to the hotel and only invited members of the Bilderberg group were allowed to enter and participate. The amazing news, reported only by THE SPOTLIGHT newspaper by James P. Tucker, writer for THE SPOTLIGHT, in the June 24, 1991 issue, was the planning of another war within 5 years.

"While war plans were being outlined in 'Bilderbergese', the air traffic controller at Baden-Baden's private airport reported numerous incoming flights from Brussels where NATO headquarters are based and Secretary of State, James Baker, was, at the moment, promising aid to the Soviet Union. Aboard one of those planes, en-

route to the Bilderberg meeting, was Manfred Woerner, NATO's general secretary. What the Bilderberg group intends is a global army at the disposal of the United Nations, which is to become the world government to which all nations will be subservient by the year 2000. Crucial to making the UN a strong world, by 'osmosis', in the words of many Bilderberg participants is to bestow it with 'enforcement powers'. 'The UN army must be able to act immediately, anywhere in the world without the delays involved in each country making its own decision whether to participate, based on parochial considerations', said Henry Kissinger during one of the forums. Kissinger and others expressed pleasure over the conduct of the Persian Gulf war, stressing that it had been sanctioned by the UN, at the request of President George Bush, himself a Trilateral luminary, before the issue was laid before the U.S. Congress."

(Quote from THE SPOTLIGHT, June 24, 1991).

The fact that the President would make his case in the UN first, when the Constitution empowers only Congress to declare war, was viewed as a significant step to "leading Americans away from nationalism". If Americans can be persuaded to surrender warmaking decisions to the UN, and let their young men die wearing a UN uniform, fighting under a UN flag, "parochial nationalism" in Britain, France and elsewhere will disappear, Bilderberg speakers said at the Baden-Baden meeting. Thus, it can be seen, that George Bush, in submitting his plan to send an army to the Persian Gulf, opened the way for future action taken by the UN. Power is now given to the UN to wage war, with all nations giving up their rights to wage war to the UN. The Bilderberg group is secretly planning another war within the next 5 years.

If these two groups, deciding on such a war in secret meetings succeed in their plans, we can see how this will lead to the final war on planet earth. As the Bible indicates, we have already entered into the 3½-year period of time which could end in the Appearing of the Lord and His intervention within the next few

years. According to events which we see indicated in the Bible, the New World Order that is being planned by the Trilateral Commission and the Bilderberg group will never succeed. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will not allow this to happen. In the United States alone this plan would allow the loss of freedom for which we have fought and struggled to attain for over two hundred years. Such a plan would mean the loss of personal freedom, such as we know today, and submission to a dictatorial group that is presently planning the submitting of all our freedoms to a new world dictatorship and the loss of our freedom now gained. Let us be grateful that THE SPOTLIGHT newspaper has publicly revealed the plans that are being secretly made for THE NEW WORLD ORDER and that these plans will not succeed.

We have seen how the Bible has outlined the new government which will be headed by Jesus Christ, who will personally return to the earth and set up the new government on earth. There is little doubt that Christ will soon come and set up His new government on earth with an Executive Group made up of the Twelve Apostles. We know that there is such a plan because the mother of James and John came to Jesus one day and asked that her sons sit with Him, one on his right and the other on His left, in His Kingdom to be established on earth. She believed His statements about the time when He will come and set up His Kingdom, a day which is now close at hand.

Mary will be glad to be raised from the dead at His coming and we can have little doubt that her two sons, John and James, will have places in the executive part of the new government. We know that there is a definite schedule for the beginning of the new government, which will begin with the Appearing of Jesus Christ and the Ascension of the saints who have died and the saints who will be alive, all of whom will be raised in their new ethereal bodies to His side in the skies. After attending together the Marriage Festival in the banquet halls in heaven, they will spend some time

in heaven in preparation for the setting up of the new Kingdom of God on earth. They heard a voice coming out of the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all ye servants and ye shall fear him, both small and great." And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as a voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints.' And he saith unto me, 'Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he saith unto me, 'These are the true sayings of God.'"

These are the events that lie just ahead of us. The New World Order will not be according to the schemes and ambitions of man, but the fore-ordained plans of God.

John wrote next in his Revelations - "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of God. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.**" (Rev. 20:5-17.)

Thus are written the words of Revelation given to John to write, which have been preserved for us of today to know and to understand. The date for the out-

picturing of this prophecy could be just ahead of us, as March 1, 1994, marks the end of the $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of waiting which we are now in! If we are correct we should be preparing for the greatest Day of the earth's history, the **APPEARING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST** in the heavens, beckoning us to rise and join Him in the skies. We have every reason to believe that we are close to this historic, earth-shaking Day! We know this much for certain: He will not disappoint those who are alive and expecting Him to come!



"A Curiosity in Figures"

The following information was in a letter in "The Courier Mail" dated the 9th January, 1934. A friend has shown me a curiosity in figures. I give them as they were given to me. They, I think, speak for themselves.

The Zulu War began in 1880. It lasted one year, making 1881: add the separate figures 1, 8, 8, 1 to 1881 and you get 1899, the date of the Boer War, which lasted three years, making 1902. To 1902 add the separate figures 1, 9, 0, 2 and you get 1914, the date of The Great War. That lasted four full years, making 1918, but the Peace Treaty was signed in 1919. Add the separate figures 1, 9, 1, 9 and you get 1939. World War II began in 1939 and lasted until 1945. Add the numbers 1, 9, 4, 5 to 1945 and you get 1964 and the Vietnam War, which lasted until 1973. Again, add 1, 9, 7, 3 to 1973 and you get 1993.

Can anything be done to prevent this war happening?



ATTITUDES.

courtesy: *THE COVENANTER.*

if, if, if ...

Let's face it. If everyone stopped hating; if everyone became unselfish; if everyone became honest; if nobody told lies about anyone else; and if no one coveted the actual things that other people had; well, with all these miraculous changes of attitude, what would be the result?

Husbands faithfully living their wives, wives ditto their husbands, peace and goodwill prevailing everywhere and wars would be no more. No more political unrest, no more fratricidal conflict in South Africa, harmony in the Gulf, co-operation in the Holy Land, tranquillity in the Far East and in the Central Americas, love and understanding in Ireland. In fact, the love of God prevailing everywhere.

It hasn't happened yet. Now, as I write, such a Utopian state, most tragically, appears to be very far away.

A Matter of Attitudes

It is a matter of attitudes. When one talks to people about the Lord's Second Coming, and the start of the Millenium, the thousand years of peace, even some church people evince incredulity. Their attitude will imply that the idea of the actual reality of such an event is quite absurd.

"Assuming that the Lord does come back", they may say, "which we are not sure about, how can He put to rights the bad things of this world?"

The answer is really very simple. When the love of Jesus really enters into a man or woman's heart, then

attitudes DO change, and change dramatically. We all know, or should know, of wonderful cases where this has happened; when marriages have been transformed; when relationships between people, employers and employees, parents and children, pupils and teachers, have changed. We have seen individuals, ordinary people, who have recognised their own failure, their own powerlessness to change, their impotence in the face of consuming vengefulness or jealousy; their inevitable defeat by the seemingly attractive addictions of today, and have SUDDENLY seen that the sacrifice of Jesus was personal for them.

IN THAT RECOGNITION IS EMBODIED
THE PENITENCE, THE PARDON AND THE
POWER TO CHANGE.

Our Fallen Nature

Let us look at the problem. How satisfied are you with your life? Are you unable to let go of something you know you ought? A relationship? A carping criticism of someone? A self-indulgence? Sudden and explosive temper?

If I accept that many a minister of religion has been converted by his own preaching, I have to say that I haven't lived for almost eighty years without learning what moral defeat, animosity, covetousness, and downright laziness can do to a man. Oh yes. When we prate about unity it is well that we understand that in our natural state, the only certain unity which exists for us is that we are united in sin. In almost everything else we are disunited. Politics, jealousies, envies, trying to 'put one over' on someone, showing off, conceit, the list is endless - but we do have unity - we are united in sin.

All of us are sinners and there is nothing that we can do about it on our own. We are stuck with our fallen nature, just as surely as Saddam Hussein is stuck with his. The world, in consequence, is in a mess.

Now let us find the reason. It isn't hard to discover.

God's Code for Living

God has given us a code for wonderful living, and this has to be the basis of every civilised community and nation in the world. *"Thou shalt have none other gods before Me. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not murder. Thou shalt not covet. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not bow down to graven 'images'."* That is, idols. We ignore or defy these basic, God given, laws at our peril. We are in peril, and that is the reason.

If heaven on earth is to be realised, it will not be by the efforts of mankind, because mankind is corrupt. The Trade Unions wont do it. Parliament cannot do it. Not even the Church can do it, because all these institutions are composed of men and women who do not always put first, as their prime duty, obedience to God and His demands. The establishment of a righteous reign upon earth will be by the hand of God in Jesus Christ, the Holy One. I earnestly pray, "Please, God, let me witness this great act of completion, for, as St. Paul said, 'The whole creation waits and groans in travail (which means like a woman in the last stages of pregnancy) awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God'."

What About Nations?

You may have noticed that I have moved from the personal to the collective. How, then, about the nations?

Let me plead for study of the minor prophets. Some of their prophecies are by no means minor, in our accepted sense of the word. Take Habakkuk, for example. He says, *"Write the vision and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak and not lie; though it tarry, wait for it, be-*

cause it will surely come, it will not tarry." Good old Habakkuk! It seems to be a long time coming, but it will surely come.

You and I should be gripped, as was Habakkuk regarding Israel of old, by the overwhelming conviction that Britain today, so blessed by God throughout her history, is speeding towards an extremely severe judgment of God, the like of which she has never before experienced. Like the prophets Habakkuk and Joel, we should heed the warning trumpet, before it is too late.

Our Nation has Forsaken God's Commandments

So we come back once again, to the almost neglected, and even when not entirely ignored, still largely rejected, basic commandments of God, of which the Ten Commandments are the summary and foundation. Collectively, as a nation, we have forsaken God. We are living without Him. In many instances, we have reversed God's laws. As a nation we are doubly guilty, because we have a tradition of knowledge and experience. It was not for nothing that we were known as the 'people of the Book'. May God preserve us, again and again.

Saving Acts of God

As far back as the days of King Alfred the Great, God has intervened to save us. We were preserved when Spain tried to invade us with her 'Invincible Armada'. Both in the First World War and the Second World War, there were a number of amazing incidents which, clearly, were the saving acts of God. Miracles which Prime Minister Winston Churchill described in his "History of the English Speaking Peoples", as direct answers to the National Days of Prayer called by King George the Sixth.

How many of us will remember how Winston Churchill, as Prime Minister announced to a crowded House of Commons on the 8th May, 1945, Victory in

Europe. He turned to the Speaker, and said, "I therefore beg, Sir, with your permission, to move, 'That this House do now attend at the Church of St. Margaret, Westminster, to give humble and reverent thanks to Almighty God for our deliverance from the threat of German domination'."

Divine Judgment

We have come a long way since then. It is no longer a question of **WHETHER** we have departed from God. That we **HAVE** done so is beyond dispute. We have, in fact, sunk pretty low. Divine judgment, I am convinced, is to be visited upon us.

Can we draw a parallel with the days of the prophet Amos? Amos made his journeys from his native Tekoa, travelling north to Jerusalem and on to Samaria and up into the Kingdom of Israel, carrying for sale his wool and sycamore fruit. As he journeyed, he was surrounded by the affluent and self-confident Israelites, and by shrewd observation, he was aware of the great threat of Assyrian invasion. The invasion, one of **THE** great events of history, when it came, took captive those same affluent people who began their great dispersion and subsequent series of migrations throughout Europe.

This was all to be in direct contrast to the tremendous blessings which God had bestowed in the past. Now, for us, it may well be that in contrast to the blessings we have received throughout the centuries, divine judgment in the form of a comparable disaster may befall us.

God's Provision for Us

I feel constrained to conclude by returning to the personal aspect. Let me make this very clear. No individual **NEEDS** to die in his sins. No one **NEEDS** to be confronted with that awful final judgment, because God has made provision for each one of us to be saved from

it. That is what the Good News of the glorious Christian gospel is all about.

The gospel tells us that God took our sins from us, and put them upon the Lord Jesus Christ, His son, as He hung between earth and heaven, nailed to Calvary's Cross. Jesus took all the judgment of that sin and He assumed full responsibility for it. *That is the meaning of Isaiah's words when he says, "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities."*

There is a grand hymn, beloved by all who love the Lord:

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The Vain Order to Search for an Honest Man

Jeremiah Chapter 5.
(Ferrar Fenton).

"Go about the streets of Jerusalem, and search, and examine, and seek in her squares, if you can find a man, -- if there is one who administers justice, seeks truth, -- and I will forgive her! Although they swear by the life of the **Ever-living**, they swear to deceive!

The Prophet's Report

Lord, are not Your eyes upon truth? You caused them to be punished, but their minds were not afflicted! They refused to accept correction. Their faces are harder than a rock. They refuse to alter!

Then I thought, These are the low, -- they are ignorant, -- they cannot know the way of the **Ever-living** -- the decrees of their **God**. I will go to the great, and speak with them. However, they had simultaneously broken the yoke, -- had refused the traces!

The Lord's Answer

"Therefore a lion from the forest shall wound them! An evening wolf shall ravage them! A panther lie in wait against their villages; he will tear all who come out, for they multiply their sins, they are strong for their transgressions.

"Can I pardon you for this? Your children forsake Me, and are satisfied with Sham gods, so I will satisfy them! And they commit adultery, -- and troop to the brothel. They are prancing fed horses, each neighs after his neighbour's wife!

"Shall I not punish for these practices?" the **Ever-living** asks. "Even if among the heathen it were the same, would not My soul punish it?

"Advance to her walls and destroy, and make no repairs! Throw down her battlements, for they are not

the Lord's. For the House of Israel has been falsely false to Me, with the House of Judah," says the Ever-living. "They were false to the Ever-living and said, 'He is nothing! Trouble will not come upon us, and sword or famine will never arrive!' And the Preachers have no spirit and no message came to them, — they invent it for themselves!

"Therefore," thus says the Ever-living God of Hosts, "Because you speak such things, I will make the words of your mouth fire, and this people wood, and will consume them. I will bring upon you a nation from afar, House of Israel," says the Ever-living. "It is a resolute nation from of old. It is a nation that knows not how to turn back, and will not listen to what you say. Their face is like an open grave. They are all heroes; and will devour your harvests, and your bread, and devour your sons and your daughters. And will eat your sheep, and your cattle. It will eat your vines and your figs. It will break your fortified cities, in which you trust, to pieces with the sword. And also in those days," says the Ever-living. "I will not work for you at all, and under them they will come to ask, 'Why has our Ever-living God done all this to us?' When you shall reply to them, 'Because you have abandoned Him and served foreign gods in your own country, — therefore you shall serve tyrants in a country not your own.'

"Communicate this to the House of Jacob, and let it be reported to Judah, saying:— 'Listen to this, you stupid People, — who have no eyes in your mind, in whom no ear is seen, so they cannot hear.' Could you not see My warning?" asks the Ever-living. "if you had not reeled from My presence? Since I placed the sand as a bound to the sea, by an ancient decree, which it cannot transgress, but its foaming waves approach, and cannot pass beyond? But for this people, their mind is blind, rebellious, degenerate, and wandering.

"Why do they not say to their heart, 'Let us look to our Ever-living God Who gives rain, and sprinkles the latter rain in its season to accomplish the laws of harvest, and He will protect us?'

"Their faults restrain them, and their sins hold back from them those benefits. For the wicked are found in My People; they spread nets, they lay traps, they catch men! As a cage is full of birds, so their houses are full of treachery by which they become rich! They are fat, enriched, -- they deal in false evidence, they regard no right, -- the right of the widow, of the orphan, -- and they administer not protection and justice to the poor. Shall I not punish for these things?" says the Ever-living. "Even if heathen did them, would not My soul avenge them?

"There is a shameful and horrible thing in the country! The Preachers preach falsehood, and the Priests trick with their hands, -- and My People love to have it so, -- and what can be done viler than that?"

The Remedy

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14.



THE KINGDOM MESSAGE.

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DID JESUS FAIL?

Part 1.

By Frank W. Dowsett.

To most people, this title would possibly sound rather strange. Christians particularly would no doubt instantly reply, "Of course not. How on earth could Jesus ever fail?" Now that is a fairly reasonable and predictable response. But I can't help wondering on what basis they make this claim. Just let me ask a few basic questions. What do people really know about Jesus? For instance, do they actually know who He really is? What is more to the point, do Christians actually know what Jesus' plans are? Do they really know what He has actually promised to do? You see, if you don't know what someone has promised to do, then how can you possibly assess whether or not that person has failed. What is the criteria on which you make that final assessment?

Let us look at this another way. Suppose you were to enrol in a college for a particular course in order to obtain professional qualifications. At the end of the course, you sit for an examination involving six subjects. The rules require that in order to pass the entire course you have to pass in all six subjects. Now if you pass in only five subjects, do you gain a pass, or do you fail? Obviously, you fail. Despite passing in five out of the six subjects, the fact that you failed in only one subject makes you a failure for the entire course. Again, if a friend promises to do a certain job for you, and then only completes a portion of that job, has he carried out his promise, or has he failed? Again, we would have no hesitation in concluding that he has failed.

So with the foregoing in mind, let me ask again, 'How can people possibly assess whether or not Jesus has failed when firstly, they don't really know Who He

is, and secondly, it is patently obvious from their whole approach to the Word of God that they have little, if any, real knowledge of what He promised to do in the first place.'

It takes very little investigation for the sincere student of God's Word to discover that the great majority of God's promises, and the foundations of His Divine Plans and Purposes, are recorded in what we refer to as the Old Testament. One of the basic realities we have to face is that the New Testament neither contains nor teaches anything which is not already mentioned or foreshadowed in the Old Testament. It is not a book of new teachings. It is simply an extension of what God has already stated and promised. The difference, if indeed there really is any difference, is that what was promised by God in the Old Testament was ratified and brought to fulfillment in the New Testament by the One Whom we know as Jesus. And this is where the problem begins, because so many Christians just don't realise that the One who made the promises in the Old Testament is the very same One who brought them to fulfillment in the New Testament. If we look at our Lord Jesus Christ simply in relation to the New Testament, then we only apply to Him what we see in the New Testament. But as we have seen in a previous article, "Who is Jesus?", The Jesus of the New Testament is in reality Jehovah, the God of the Old Testament. They are one and the same Person.

Now this introduces an entirely new set of rules. We can no longer assess Jesus' success rate simply on the statements we read in the New Testament. He also made all the promises, and devised and set out all the plans that are contained in the Old Testament.

Now at this juncture, let's be real honest with ourselves. When I posed the question at the beginning of this article about the person who sat for his final examinations and only passed five out of the six subjects instead of the required six, did you agree that he failed, or did you mentally make some excuse for him and give

him a pass? I have no hesitation in assuming that you failed him. When you read of the person who had promised to do certain work for a friend and then only completed a portion of that work, did you conclude that he fulfilled his commitment, or that he failed? Again, I'm sure that you said that he had failed.

With this principle firmly in mind, ask yourself again, "Did Jesus Fail?" Did He completely fulfil and carry out absolutely every promise that He made. Has He, or is He now, working out every detail of His clearly defined plans and purposes as stated in both the Old and the New Testaments? If you are forced to conclude after serious thought that the answer is "No", then as unpallatable as it may seem, you are admitting that Jesus HAS failed. But if on the other hand you conclude that He has NOT failed, then you must ask yourself the question, "How do I know?" The answer to this question is that you can only know whether or not He has failed provided that you know what He is supposed to have done in the first place.

So let us look at what Jesus is supposed to do. Remember, we are looking at what the Bible says He is to do, not necessarily at what people say He is to do. They are all too often very different things. So we will look at two basic questions.

1. Why did Jesus come? and,
2. What are His plans?

You know, the easiest way to understand the Bible is simply to quote the Bible. So much of what we need to know is clearly quoted in the Bible in the simplest of words and expressions. So simple are these statements at times that we human beings think that they are not profound enough, and proceed to add to these simple statements our own complicated explanations and interpretations. Having thus designated ourselves as some form of theological expert, we then proceed to put all our trust in the answer that

we have come up with, completely ignoring all too often the original simple statement of fact that the Lord has made.

So where do we start? Well, for the sake of those who prefer the New Testament, let us start there. The very first mention of Jesus in the New Testament is found in Matthew 1:21 where we read the first reason as to why He came;

"And she (Mary) shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS. For He shall save His people from their sins."

What was the reason for Jesus coming, according to the Bible? It is clearly and simply stated. It is "To save *His people from their sins.*" Note carefully that the Bible distinctly says that He came to save HIS people. It does NOT say in this statement that He came to save all people, or everybody, from their sins. But that is what virtually all Christians believe. And they believe this because they have added their own beliefs to the simple statement of the Bible and have thereby ended up with a statement that this particular verse of the Bible itself does not make. Now before many of my readers start to wonder at my integrity, let me assure you that the conclusion that Jesus can, and will, and does, save everyone from their sins who in repentance come to Him for salvation, is absolutely correct. The statement or conclusion in itself is not wrong. In fact, it is wonderfully right. But it is NOT what this particular verse in the Bible says. The substitution of the conclusion which in itself is correct for the original statement of the Bible, has clouded the original intent of what the Lord is to do. The matter is not one of 'correctness', but one of 'priorities'. Let me illustrate with another excerpt from the Bible. In Matthew 15:24 we read the statement of our Lord Jesus Christ Himself where He said quite categorically,

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

Moffat translates this verse as follows;

"It was only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel that I was sent."

Why did Jesus make this seemingly very restrictive statement? Isn't it true that "*whosoever believeth in Him shall be saved?*" Yes, of course it's true. But again, it is a matter of priorities, not one of exclusiveness. Jesus knew exactly what He meant when He made that statement of coming only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel, because that is one of the promises that He made as Jehovah in the Old Testament. In Ezekiel chapter 34 we read these statements and promises made by Jehovah:

"My sheep (Israel) wandered through all the mountains, and upon every high hill: yea, my flock were scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them." verse 6.

"For thus saith the Lord God; Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out." verse 11.

"As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out My sheep." verse 12.

"I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away." verse 16.

In Matthew 10:6, after instructing His disciples NOT to go to the other non-Israel nations, Jesus specifically commanded;

"But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

In Matthew 18:11 our Lord Himself said;

"For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost."

In Luke 19:10 Jesus said;

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

It should be understood at this point that the word "lost" as used in these references does not refer to something being misplaced and unable to be found in the present sense of the word. The Greek word in the original which is translated into our word "lost" means literally, **"That which is set aside in punishment."** Now if the promise made to Mary regarding her coming child Jesus related to His coming to save everybody, then why all the emphasis placed on the fact, both in the Old and the New Testaments, of Jesus coming to seek and save **His sheep, the people of Israel who were 'lost', or set aside in punishment?** Why is the distinction so clearly marked? It is a certain fact that the only people in the whole Bible who were 'set aside in punishment' and subsequently 'sought out and saved', was Israel. But Jehovah/Jesus' purpose in doing this was not one of exclusiveness, but one of priorities. Israel was the nation whom Jehovah formed for the specific purpose of showing forth His praise, and of being the God-ordained witness to the fact that He is in fact God. It was their God-given destiny and responsibility to become a blessing to all the other nations and people of the earth as clearly stated to Abraham. (Gen. 12:3 and 18:18). This was a part of His plan. Do we honestly believe that He failed to do this? Before you answer too hastily, think for a moment. Do you subscribe to the view that God could not continue with His plans through the literal nation of Israel because of their sinfulness, and subsequently re-assigned His promises to an alternative called 'the church'? If you do, then you are literally saying that God has failed. The sad fact is that millions of Christians today fall into this category. Jehovah

promised on the sacredness of His own name, (Heb. 6:13), that He was going to use the literal nation of Israel to achieve His purposes on this earth, and if He changed His mind and substituted a spiritual Israel for the literal Israel, then to put it quite bluntly, He is a failure. And that is something that I refuse to believe. It is something that thousands of Christians throughout the world refuse to believe. And because of this stand, we are hounded and persecuted, not by the heathens in our midst, but by those who claim to be Christians. We can only pray that a merciful God will open the eyes of His people to the dreadful error into which they have been led by the false prophets and false shepherds of the sheep.

The Old Testament is full of statements by Jehovah to the effect that He intended to save His people Israel. And as Jesus, the Son of man, that is exactly what He did. The word 'salvation' means literally, 'to be placed into a position of safety'. Jesus promised to do it for the individual, and He has promised to do it for the nation. He has not deviated one iota from His original intentions. His word has not returned to Him void, or empty. It has accomplished that for which He sent it.

Jesus certainly has not failed!

(to be continued).



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Cruden's Dedication.

The memory of *Hezekiah*, the religious king of *Judah*, is precious: he hath been celebrated in all ages of the Church for his pious zeal in the reformation of his people at the beginning of his reign; for "God honours those that honour Him, and they who despise Him shall be lightly esteemed."

It is said of that pious king, that "he trusted in the Lord God of *Israel*, so that after him there was none like him among all the kings of *Judah*, nor any that were before him: for he clave to the Lord, and departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the Lord commanded *Moses*."

Hezekiah, like your Majesty, began his reign in his youth, yet his zeal for the worship of God, and for promoting religion among his subjects, carried him through the great difficulties of reforming a people, who had so much degenerated into gross idolatry. May the great God be the guide of your life, and direct and prosper you, that it may be said by the present and future ages, that KING GEORGE THE THIRD hath been an *HEZEKIAH* to our *British Israel*.

From the Concordance by
Alexander Cruden.
London, June 11, 1761.



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If you already have, or wish to form, a local Bible Study Group in your home, but haven't the leadership, why not join our Tape Club? For just \$5 per month we will send on loan four/five tapes per month of the studies we are conducting at our own meetings.

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COVENANT WATCH!

Banks Show Thick Hides

Courtesy *Sunday Telegraph*
July 28, 1991

LEGISLATION to bail out banks and life insurance companies from their greedy excesses in the property market leaves a decidedly bad taste in the mouth.

During the 1980s these institutions chased every last dollar for their unlisted property trusts, spurred on by the huge profits provided by the up-front fees of five and six per cent.

Having pocketed the \$500 million or so from these commissions, the banks and insurance companies found the property boom ended. More investors began wanting their money back than were putting money in. So off to the Government they raced for help in avoiding the consequences.

What an example Westpac, ANZ, AMP and National Mutual have set! Give us the profits of deregulation and then regulate to stop the losses. No wonder the Government took its time before agreeing to the bail-out.

In the end there was unfortunately no practical alternative. The greedy institutions were in danger of not being able to meet their obligations to investors and that could have started a real financial panic.

Now the Commonwealth will legislate to abolish the dangerous creature that is an unlisted property trust.

* * * * *

Farewell Father

(Source as above.)

BID farewell to 'Our Father Who Art In Heaven'. The Lord's Prayer is about to undergo a feminist face-lift. Starting in October, Church of England congregations in Britain will be invited to pray to a woman God who "gave birth" to Heaven and Earth. The change comes in an Anglican prayer book from Britain's oldest religious publisher. The revised Lord's Prayer opens: "Beloved, our Father and Mother, in whom is Heaven, hallowed be your name."

* * * * *

ANC Aim is Economic Chaos

Courtesy "*On Target*"
from Port Lincoln Times, S.A.
June 27, 1991

"I am British and neutral as between Australia and South Africa ... Unfortunately Australians are completely brainwashed by decades of Communist propaganda, which explains Gareth Evans' foolish and arrogant behaviour in South Africa. Bob Hawke should stay away from South Africa and attend to Australia's problems, instead of posturing publicly at taxpayers' expense like Evans.

"Lenin predicted that 'useful idiots' would enable Communism to prevail, and Senator Evans is a good example. Here are a few facts for Australians to consider very carefully.

"There is no such thing as a political prisoner in South Africa, a legalistic country with a fearlessly independent judiciary. So-called 'political prisoners' are murderers, terrorists, torturers, arsonists, etc., who claim a political motive for their crimes.

"Because of intense pressure from foreign politicians who know nothing about South Africa, these prisoners are being released, and even rapists are demanding indemnity, claiming political motivation for their crimes.

"Mandela is a Communist/terrorist. He wrote the book, 'How To Be A Good Communist', and he launched, organised and was the first commander of 'Umkhonto We Sizwe', the terror wing of the ANC. This organised thousands of murders, tortures and robberies, and the burning of people and houses, to such an extent that the blacks are totally intimidated, obeying ANC orders to demonstrate, stay away from work, refuse to pay rent or rates or electricity and water bills, and so on. The ANC objective is economic chaos.

"Hundreds of local black political leaders have been brutally murdered, and even larger numbers have resigned under threat of death. Evans' statement that the ANC is the only representative of the blacks is ludicrous.

"Only the Zulus have had the courage to stand against the bombs and AK47s of the ANC, which is closely connected to, and in fact dominated by, the South African Communist Party. An offshoot of this evil alliance is COSATU, helping to make SA ungovernable. COSATU is creating vast unemployment, disruption and bankruptcies by trade union strife.

"This, with ANC-inspired sanctions, boycotts and disinvestment, has made millions of blacks unemployed - even 20 gold mines are closing down. Mass poverty and economic chaos are necessary for the bloody revolution the ANC has always planned, and for which it has many arms caches in South Africa and training camps in foreign countries.

"Australians really need to wake up, and demand that no more taxpayers' money be wasted on achieving

a murderous Marxist dictatorship in South Africa. If taxpayers' money must be sent, it should go to Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party, the largest political party on the African continent, which opposes Communist dictatorship and seeks to establish a free-market democracy in South Africa.

"This would offset to a small extent the hundreds of millions which have been given so unfairly to the ANC by useful idiots world-wide, plus unlimited supplies of weapons from Communist countries."

* * * * *

GRINDING DOWN THE OPPOSITION

Israeli Policy Makes Life Impossible for Palestinians

Courtesy *New American View*
July 15, 1991

A battle royal shaping up over Israel's demand for \$10 billion in U.S. taxpayer-backed loan guarantees to fund housing and resettlement costs for Soviet Jews in Israel, promises to test the Bush administration's oft-stated opposition to the construction of new Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

The Israelis have firmly and repeatedly stated that the construction of new housing projects for Jewish settlers will continue, and that their demand for \$10 billion from the U.S. should not be linked in any way to the settlements. In fact, Israeli leaders, particularly Ariel Sharon, now in charge of the resettlement project, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, have defiantly stated time and time again that the West Bank and Gaza will be settled by Jews, and that if the administration objects, they will get the money from their friends in Congress.

Overlooked in the attention being paid to the gathering storm clouds is the ongoing Israeli campaign

to crush the will of the Palestinians, in the hope that they will eventually just give up and move out of their homelands. The Israelis have been harassing, intimidating and generally making life impossible for the Palestinians, a campaign which has accelerated in recent months as the issue of the settlements has heated up. In addition to the tried and true tactics of shooting demonstrators and blowing up the houses of protestors, the Israeli government has also cut off water to Arab villages, destroyed their orchards and farms, moved them *en masse* to make room for new settlements, and shut down schools for long periods.

The latest weapon employed by Israel against the Palestinians is a peculiarly aggressive sort of tax collection. Palestinian merchants, already squeezed by forced closings resulting from the intifada and the increasingly desperate economic straits suffered by most Palestinians as a result of punitive measures taken by Israeli occupation authorities, now live in fear of military-type raids conducted by Israeli tax authorities. Israeli taxation of West Bank and Gaza residents and business people has always been capricious and punitive, but the latest wrinkle is positively bizarre. The tax collector arrives at a shop or business in an armoured jeep, complete with a military escort, and demands payment in full of an exorbitant "back tax" bill, often in six figures. When the victim cannot pay, his merchandise and personal possessions are seized.

There is no warning given of these raids, or even of the fact that taxes are allegedly owed. Ibrahim Far, chairman of the Ramallah Chamber of Commerce, complained that his people have "been devastated by high taxes. People have been made poor by the high taxation." Worse, there is no set tax structure for Palestinians. They are simply assessed on the spot. "We are not against paying taxes," said Far. "We just want to pay according to the law."

A wholesale grocer in Bethlehem named Numan Khudarai received a tax bill for \$107,000 in value added

taxes from the period 1986-89. His entire stock is worth less than half that amount. Another grocery wholesaler, Adnan Barakeh, whose store in the Gaza Strip has been closed for 42 months, was told he had to pay \$120,000 in back taxes. Unable to pay, Israeli tax officials raided his house and took his car.

Other means of economic warfare being conducted by the Israelis include the stifling of Palestinian industry and other forms of economic development, aimed at protecting Israeli industries from competition. Since the lands were seized 24 years ago during the Six-Day War, the Israelis have regularly tied the issuance of permits for new industry to the payment of high taxes, putting such projects beyond the reach of most Palestinian businessmen.

The tax on individuals in the occupied territories is also punitive. An Arab family of four starts paying taxes at \$140 of income, while Israeli families begin to be assessed after \$660.

Since the beginning of the Palestinian uprising, economic oppression has increased dramatically. In response to criticism from the world community, Maj. Gen. Danny Rothschild, the Israel policy chief in the occupied territories, said that new Palestinian businesses will receive three year tax breaks and that more licenses will be issued. However, no old businesses will receive tax breaks, driving into bankruptcy many more than will be started up under the new plan. Israeli television recently broadcast footage of authorities handing out 40 licenses for new factories in the West Bank, but did not mention that many of the would-be industrialists had waited years for the permits to come through. Palestinian economists cynically note that this is just the latest in a long line of similar announcements, none of which were made good.

Even when new businesses are given the go-ahead, they are strangled by a host of other regulations imposed by the Israeli government. "I know of

businessmen who received licenses for factories but were barred from importing machines so as to force them to buy used equipment from Israeli factories," said Abu Shakor, a Palestinian economist. Before licenses are issued, certification must be obtained from potential Israeli competitors that their businesses will not suffer as a result.

Additionally, recent moves to "Judaize" the Israeli work force, to provide jobs for incoming Soviet Jews, have also had a severe impact on the Palestinian economy. Residents of the West Bank and Gaza who would regularly commute to jobs in Israel proper have had their travel permits revoked, and the total number of permits issued has dropped from a pre-Gulf War high of 120,000 to less than 25,000. Arab workers are no longer allowed to drive their cars through Israeli checkpoints, thus depriving them of transportation to job sites. And Israeli employers have been exhorted to do their patriotic duty and fire Arabs and hire Jewish workers.

This disgraceful treatment of the Palestinians is matched only by the shameful complicity of the U.S. government by funding Israel while it continues these policies. The Israelis are actively pursuing--with U.S. tax dollars and no U.S. political opposition--policies which fit the classic definition of genocide.



5% of people think.

10% Of people think they think.

85% of people want enough rules and regulations
so that they don't have to think.

THINK ABOUT IT!

UNPREVAILING PRAYER

Its Cause and Remedy

by Howard B. Rand.
courtesy: DESTINY *Special Alert*

[Whilst this article was originally addressed to the people of the U.S.A., it is just as pertinent to the rest of the Anglo-Israel nations of the world today. Ed., Covenant Vision.]

WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL is in acute distress, or when a major disaster befalls a nation, there is an immediate resort to prayer to God. The United States of America is deeply afflicted today because of governmental maladministration, with increasing economic difficulties and with steadily mounting unemployment. The moral standards of past years have given way to a permissive society and that which was formerly considered sinful has become, more or less, the norm of the present generation. Indeed, the indecent behaviour of groups of Sodomite individuals is countenanced to an appalling degree.

Inviting Trouble

Grave concern for the future is frequently expressed by God-fearing leaders, some of whom are calling upon the people to earnestly pray that the United States of America may be blessed of God. It is well to reiterate that there is a time to pray and there is a time to act, for praying, without proper action, is an exercise in futility. There are Biblical requirements to be met if relief is to come, for only by complying with Scriptural directives will surcease from turmoil and desperation be found. God will not -- indeed, He cannot -- bless an individual, or a nation, where there is a refusal to turn away from unrighteous practices.

Nevertheless, there is every reason to believe that God is taking note of the sincere desire on the part of those who are seeking blessings for our nation. It is unfortunate that, at this time, there must be a negative response to these petitions because there is "sin in the camp." Just as Joshua was required to remove the evil in the midst of the camp of Israel before God could answer his prayer for the nation (Joshua, 7th chapter), equally so, our governmental leaders today must do likewise.

Under present conditions, we are only praying ourselves into trouble. The prayers of an unrepentant people, who ignore the fact that the Bible is the Divine Formulary for prevailing prayer, are courting disaster. The thought has been expressed that the eruptions of the Mount St. Helens volcano, within the very borders of the United States, are a sign of impending Divine wrath.

Apparently, those who are sponsoring prayer campaigns are not taking into consideration the fact that there is only one course for God to pursue to ultimately compel His people to do that which will enable Him to bestow the blessings they are praying for. The Prophet Jeremiah points out that it is through an increase in the pressure of trouble, as God's hand rests heavily upon His people, that the desired end will be accomplished:

"Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know; I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is THE LORD [that is, Jehovah, the God of Israel]."

(Jer. 16:21.)

The Elijah Syndrome

The Prophet Malachi preindicated the course we must pursue in order that God may bless our nation. It

is to heed the requirements embodied in what may be called the Elijah Message. Three distinct periods of activity were to be carried on during the Christian Era. Two phases are mentioned by the Prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 16:16) and the final phase by the Prophet Ezekiel (Ez. 3:17-19). They are as follows:

- 1) The Fishing Period, covering centuries of proclaiming the Gospel of personal salvation.
- 2) The Hunting Period, seeking out the latter-day identity of the House of Israel.
- 3) The Watchmen Period, warning that the time is at hand for Divine judgment.

It is well to bear in mind that these periods all interact upon one another and they may overlap. Nevertheless, in each case, as the *emphasis* on one type of activity diminishes, the phase to follow commences to come to the forefront.

Our Lord Jesus constituted His disciples fishers of men, with the proclamation of the Gospel of personal salvation being emphasised from that generation to the 20th century. By 1844, the Hunting Period began to manifest itself in an awakening of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic and kindred peoples to their identity as modern Israel in the world today. The years 1914-1917 being a turning point in history, the Watchmen Period commenced, for watchmen began to become active following the taking of peace from the earth after World War I. Their commission is to warn of the coming of the sword, eventuating in the judgment of the Great and Terrible Day of Divine Wrath.

The last two phases of activity - the hunters and the watchmen - occupy the period during which the fullness of the Elijah Message is to be proclaimed. That same period is also designated as the Tarrying Time; that is, the epoch following Second Advent expectations in the year 1844.

The Elijah Message is a call to remember the Law of the Lord, including the Commandments, Statutes and Judgments, as well as a call to awaken to the knowledge of our origin and identity, thus turning the hearts of the children to acknowledge their forefathers. In the phrase, "I will send you Elijah", the Hebrew word, translated *send*, can also be rendered "appoint", "bring in the way", "spread", "shoot forth". The Hebrew word, translated *turn* the hearts of the children to their fathers, can also be rendered "slide back", "return to the starting place", "recall to mind", "restore", "back home again", "to turn back" (Mal. 4:4-6).

The Hunting Period - of 70 years (1844-1914) - was devoted to recalling to mind our origin, acknowledging Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as our forefathers (Isa. 51:1-2).

The Watchmen Period from 1914 on, has been devoted to warning of war and the coming of the Great and Terrible Day of Divine Wrath.

Confirming the Law of the Lord

The final two periods under consideration were to be active during the Latter Days, when the Gospel of the Kingdom began to be concentratedly promulgated, although proclaimed as a witness only (Matt. 24:14). Again, this involved the necessity to acknowledge our identity and responsibility as the latter-day House of Israel and, coupled with this, there is the express command to restore the administration of the Law of the Lord. The Prophet Malachi recorded the pronouncement of the Lord:

"Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments."

(Mal. 4:4.)

Our Lord Jesus confirmed these laws, even the least of them, declaring they had not been abrogated, when He stated categorically:

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy [the law], but to fulfil [prophecy]. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all [prophecy] be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 5:17-19.)

The dictionary defines "righteousness" as conformity with a standard of what is right in order to be blameless or guiltless. The Scriptures show that the standard of righteousness is the Law of the Lord. The Psalmist proclaimed:

"The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honey-comb. Moreover, by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."

(Ps. 19:7-11.)

On one occasion, Jesus indicated a difference in the practice of the Christian attribute of righteousness:

"For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

(Matt. 5:20.)

While Jesus Christ is "the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" (Rom. 10:4), this verity, as the Apostle Paul expressed it, does not, by any means, set aside the Commandments, Statutes and Judgments of the Law of the Lord. Among the meanings of the word "end", both "termination" and "purpose" are found, referring to what our Lord Jesus accomplished for the believer by the finished work of His death on the cross and His resurrection from among the dead. Writing to the Galatians, Paul explained that the laws contained in ordinances were "our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal. 3:24). The Apostle pointed out:

"But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." (Gal. 3:25.)

This Christian instruction is related to the justification of the believer by faith upon the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Saviour. After conversion, the Christian's attitude toward the Law of the Lord is expressed in Psalm 119, where it is stated:

"Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord." (Ps. 119:1.)

The Christian affirms:

"I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments Let thy mercies come unto me, O Lord, even thy salvation, according to thy word And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved."

(Ps. 119:7,41,47.)

The Psalmist testified that "*great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them*" (Ps. 119:165). It is of interest to discover that the marginal rendering of the latter phrase is "*they shall have no stumblingblock*". The great stumblingblock to answers to prayer today is the penchant on the part of Christians to scorn the Law of the Lord, prompted to do so largely by erroneous instructions from church leaders.

The Law For the Nation

Many examples could be cited concerning the operation of the Law of the Lord in national administration, but one example will suffice. The Commandments of the Law of the Lord govern personal conduct; the Statutes of the Law of the Lord are for the nation to administer; the Judgments of the Law of the Lord are decisions rendered for the equitable administration of justice in accordance with the requirements set forth under both the Commandments and the Statutes. For instance, the following Commandment enjoins the individual not to murder:

***"Thou shalt not kill* [the Hebrew word is more accurately translated 'murder'].**

(Ex. 20:13.)

The Statute instructs those who administer the affairs of state how to deal with a murderer:

"Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death." (Num. 35:30.)

A Judgment is rendered condemning any other type of punishment, other than death, for a murderer:

"Moreover, ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death." (Num. 35:31.)

The failure to execute the murderer pollutes the land, as it is stated:

"So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it" (Num. 35:33.)

Actually, under present circumstances, it is an affront to God to petition Him to bless America, citing II Chronicles 7:14, which contains the Divine invitation:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

There can be no expectation that God will hear from heaven *and heal our land* while it is a land defiled by the blood of countless numbers of innocent victims of murderers who are not put to death. The Lord has stated emphatically that "the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein but by the blood of him that shed it." Therefore, all criminals who have been convicted of committing murder must be put to death. The death penalty must also operate under the Law of the Lord in many other cases; for instance, where the degrading sin of Sodomy is practiced (Lev. 18:22; Lev. 20:13).

The Covenant People

To cite a verse of the Scriptures and disregard, or misapply, the context, invariable leads to a distortion of its meaning. For example, in the invitation given in II Chronicles 7:14, the Lord specifically names those to whom He is speaking: "If my people, which are called by my name." These are the people of the covenant who made everlasting commitments to the Lord, as pointed out in the booklet, *The Bond of the Covenant*.

"A covenant of nationhood was made with our forefathers at Mount Sinai when the Lord instructed Moses to convey the following message to the House of Jacob:

" Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine. And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests [ministers of state], and an holy [set apart] nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel' (Ex. 19:5-6.)

"Moses came down from the Mount and called for the Elders of the people, before whom he presented God's proposal. The Elders evidently laid the matter before the entire congregation of Israel and their thrice-given response is recorded:

" 'All the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the Lord.' (Ex. 19:8; 24:3 & 7.)

"From that day and forward, the people of Israel, and their posterity - the present-day Anglo-Saxon-Celtic nations of the House of Israel which have devolved from the House of Jacob - have been bound by this vow to abide by the terms of the National Covenant. The Lord accepted the word of our forefathers to this end and, throughout all succeeding generations, the people have been held accountable for the oath taken at Mount Sinai." (Pages 6-7.)

Today our nation is suffering under the curses written into the National Covenant (Lev. 26:14-20 & Deut. 28:58-68), having failed to heed the instructions of Moses:

"Therefore, thou shalt love the Lord thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, always." (Deut. 11:1.)

A Bitter Pill

God will answer the prayers for national blessings when our nation makes an open avowal of its heritage as the latter-day House of Israel, accompanied by a public declaration that the terms of the covenant God made with our forefathers at Mount Sinai will be honoured. This will be the bitterest of all pills to be swallowed by those who have been in outspoken opposition to the great Biblical truths pertaining to the identification of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic and kindred peoples with the modern Israel of God. The Scriptural, historical and prophetic evidence establishes this fact beyond refutation and coming events will confirm what is asserted here. When Soviet Russia, who is Gog, at the head of the Great Confederacy, strikes out, upon the command of the Kremlin masters, to implement their long-planned aggression to obtain world control, all the people, including both church and civil leaders, will willingly heed the admonition of the Prophet Joel, for it will be only through Divine intervention that God's people can escape annihilation. All the nations of the present-day House of Israel will respond to the call for prayer:

"Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breast: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?"

(Joel 2:16-17.)

This is the prayer that will bring about Divine deliverance, for the Prophet Ezekiel declares:

"So the house of Israel shall know that I am the Lord their God from that day and forward. And the heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity: because they trespassed against me." (Ez. 39:22-23.)

The Strong Deliverer

Through the Prophet Isaiah we are prophetically informed that "when the enemy shall come in like a flood", the Spirit of the Lord shall, according to the marginal rendering, "put him to flight" (Isa. 59:19). The King James Version states that the Spirit of the Lord shall "lift up a standard" that will repel the foes of His Kingdom. For many years there has been a question concerning the nature of that "standard" and only now has this been clarified by a penetrating analysis of the whole context of this prophecy. Knowing that punctuation and paragraphing are features which are added to the ancient text of the Bible manuscripts, we have become aware that Isaiah 59:19-20 would be more accurately translated:

"So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun when the enemy shall come in like a flood. The Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him [and put him to flight], and the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the Lord."

The meaning of this is that the revelation of "the Glory of the Lord" will be manifested by the appearing - that is, the shining forth - of the Sign of the Son of man in heaven (Matt. 24:30). This new comprehension of the order of climatic developments gives us a firm clue concerning the timing of the Divine act of intervention and what will be involved in relation to other spectacular events to take place at that juncture.

It should be stressed that when the Redeemer comes to Zion, He will come to those who "turn from transgression in Jacob." In the very next verse, the Lord declares: "As for me, this is my covenant with them" (Isa. 59:21) and, addressing His people through the Prophet Ezekiel, the Lord states plainly what He will do:

"I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me." (Ez. 20:37-38.)

The reason for such drastic action is stated:

"Because they had not executed my judgments, but had despised my statutes, and had polluted my sabbaths."

(Ez. 20:24.)

A Time of Trouble

The Prophet Daniel was given to understand that there would be a time of trouble unlike any previous period in history and "at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people" (Dan. 12:1). All of these happenings are for the "wise" to understand (Dan. 12:3 & 10), for the Prophetic Word is comprised of marvels of that which reveals, and yet conceals, the order of events soon to transpire. Those who are not "wise" will remain in a quandary to the very climax, being numbered among those who are in the category of "enemies" (see Rev. 11:11-12).

Eventually the deepening confusion of the passing of the old order will be terminated. This will give way to the inauguration of Divine rule, as it was pointed out to Daniel:

"And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him."

(Dan. 7:27.)

It is stated in *Study in Daniel*:

"The statement, 'shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High,' can be rendered literally, 'But the righteous ones of the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom.' This is important, for the holy ones, or set-apart-ones, are Israel and the Kingdom is the House of Jacob over which Jesus Christ is to reign forever The Israel peoples are holy to the Lord because the Israel race was called, chosen and *set apart* to serve Him and be used to accomplish His purpose. But rulership in that Kingdom is to be given only to the *righteous ones* among the holy ones, who alone qualify for positions of authority and power in the Kingdom by virtue of having become 'overcomers'. " (*Study in Daniel*, pp. 189-190, by Howard B. Rand.)

Guests of the Bridegroom

The "righteous ones among the holy ones" are the overcomers who are not appointed to endure the coming period of Divine wrath (I Thess. 5:9). Of them it is proclaimed through the Prophet Malachi:

"They shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him."

(Mal. 3:17.)

It was pointed out in NEWS IN BRIEF No. 31 that, before the final phase of judgment completely destroys the world economy, the overcomers are counseled:

"Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord God: for the day of the Lord is at hand: for the Lord hath prepared a sacrifice [a feast]; he hath bid [marginal rendering: 'sanctified' or 'prepared'] his guests." (Zeph. 1:7.)

Matthew's Gospel in the New Testament states that the revelation of the Lord's presence will follow the appearing of the Sign of the Son of man in heaven (Matt. 24:30), which will be a special alert that the time will have come for those receiving invitations to the Marriage Supper to enter that Festival as guests of the Bridegroom, who is our Lord Jesus Christ. It is stated:

"He shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds [the winds of war], from one end of heaven to the other." (Matt. 24:31.)

It is of intriguing interest to note that the Prophet Zephaniah states the Lord will punish "all such as are clothed with strange apparel" (Zeph. 1:8). In the Scriptures, white, or brightness, is associated with righteousness. In early times, white garments were worn on festal occasions to indicate both purity and rejoicing. In the New Testament, we are told that those who overcome will be clothed in white raiment (Rev. 3:5), for a garment of white, or brightness, is analogous to the robe of righteousness which must be worn by each guest at the Marriage Supper. Otherwise, the intruder will be found guilty of being clothed in "strange apparel" and will be dealt with accordingly (Matt. 22:10-13).

The Apostle Paul used stern language in writing to those whom he called "dull of hearing", stating:

"For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as

have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness [that is, the precepts of the Law of the Lord] for he is a babe." (Heb. 5:12-13.)

While righteousness is imputed, by faith, to all who accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, yet Christians must, by their works, *put on* the robe of righteousness or remain but a babe in Christ. The determination to follow in the way of righteousness will become evident in personal behaviour that manifests the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-26). There will be growth in grace, progressing toward maturity, by "those who, by reason of use [habit], have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Heb. 5:14). To refuse to be thus attired is to fall short of the spiritual measurements required in order to be fitted with the robe of righteousness which will be provided, at the behest of Jesus Christ, for all those in attendance at the Marriage Supper.

Garmented in Righteousness

As for the nations of modern Israel, to be restored as the Kingdom of God upon the earth, the Apostle John envisioned the day to come when, having endured great tribulation, they will elect to keep the terms of the National Covenant made with their forefathers at Mount Sinai. They will then reaffirm their willingness to administer the Law of the Lord as the law of the land and, thereupon, they will be brought into full favour with God as His people; that is, as the "wife" who "hath made herself ready" (Rev. 19:7). John prophesied:

"To her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

(Rev 19:8.)

John beheld the recovenanted "wife", whom the Lord Himself had married (Jer. 3:11 & 14), garmented in righteousness and presented to Him when He returns in triumph to the earth, following the close of the Marriage Supper (Rev. 19:11-14). Isaiah foretold the wondrous future fact to follow: "Thy people also shall be all righteous" (Isa. 60:21). The effect of this will be that "violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders" (Isa. 60:18). Thereafter, according to the prophet (Isa. 62:12): "They shall call them, the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord."



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STUDY IN REVELATION.

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PART NINETEEN.

THE BEAST SYSTEM. (Continued).

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,

And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six."

(Rev. 13:1-18).

In our previous study, we referred to the beast which rose up out of the sea. This beast, as we saw, was the manifestation of the fourth beast of Daniel's prophecy. His main weapon against God's people was clearly shown to be "Blasphemy."

But now we have portrayed a further beast. This did not come up out of the sea, as did the former beast. This beast, we are told, came up out of the earth. The distinction should be carefully noted. It was not put there for nothing. In its prophetic application 'the sea' usually represents people generally. As an example we remember that our Lord referred to one of the signs of the end of the age as being 'the sea and the waves roaring'. (Luke 21:25). In its prophetic interpretation, this referred to the condition of turmoil and agitation which would be evident among people generally in the last days. Thus it was that the first of these two beasts came to prominence over a period of time, and not from any one particular period or kingdom. But when we see the identification 'the earth' used, this refers to the particular nation that was in power at the time, which in this case was the Roman Empire, and thus sets the timing of the commencement of the operation of this second beast as being during the period of the Roman Empire. As we read the second portion of the 13th chapter as quoted above, we realise that this second beast is not a separate entity of itself, but is a further development of the first beast, and represents the ongoing power and activity of the first beast.

It is clear that the most obvious development that came out of the Roman Empire was the Holy Roman Empire, headed by the Papacy. And there can be no doubt that this second beast has a real application to this false system. But to restrict the application merely

to the Church of Rome is, I believe, to miss the far wider application of what this second beast represented. Let us never lose sight of the fact that the main enemy against the Anglo-Israel people is not just Roman Catholicism, as bad as this is. The main enemy of the Kingdom of God is the kingdom of Satan. And just as the Kingdom of God is directed by its King, the Lord Jesus Christ, so the kingdom of Satan is directed by its king, Satan. We know from our studies that the Kingdom of God was established, and is being developed through, the nation of Israel. And just as God is using an earthly nation as His instrument, so Satan is using earthly nations and systems as his instrument. The Church of Rome is only the religious portion of Satan's system. It is not the entire system. By far the greater portion of this anti-God system is the political and economic aspect. All of these aspects are referred to in God's Word under the general title of 'Babylon the Great', or 'the great city Babylon'. Rev. 16:19 even refers to these three aspects of this 'great city' in forecasting its downfall.

The specific description of this second beast is given in verse 11 of chapter 13 where we read;

"He had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon."

It is absolutely essential that we clearly understand exactly what this description represents. There are two distinct identification features stated.

Firstly, 'he had two horns like a lamb.' Now throughout the Bible, God consistently uses animals and trees and mountains etc. to represent nations and peoples. For instance, Jesus referred to the bad section of Jewry as 'the seed of the serpent'. Elsewhere He refers to non-Israel people as 'dogs', a term which originated from the perverted sexual practices related to these peoples' religious rites and customs. On other occasions the term 'beast' is used. These terms are not used for the purpose of offending people, but purely for identifi-

cation purposes. I realise that some people become offended at such a suggestion. But why should we? The people about which the entire Bible is written, and of which it is the history, were also called by the name of an animal. They are referred to as 'sheep'. So why should we be offended by one such usage, and automatically accept another? If the word 'dogs' always and only refers to our four-footed friends, "mans' best friend", as they are called, then what are we to make of the following references?

"Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the Lord thy God for any vow."

(Deut. 23:18).

God was not talking about selling your pet poodle and offering the proceeds of the sale to Him. 'The price of a dog' was the 'hire of a homosexual'.

Then in Psalm 22:16 and 20 we read;

"For dogs have encompassed me: ... deliver my soul from the power of the dog."

In Matthew 7:6 we are told;

"Give not that which is holy unto the dogs."

In Philippians 3:2 we read;

"Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers

Serious students of God's Word might like to re-study the passage in Matthew 15:21-28, the account of His discussion with the 'Woman of Canaan', in the light of the above.

These warnings do not apply to the local Alsatians. God is referring to the godless heathen and their evil customs.

So in like manner, when we find this second beast likened to a lamb with two horns, it is not describing the beast as actually appearing in the form of a lamb, or sheep. The sheep is always used symbolically of God's people Israel. Israel is '*the sheep of His pasture*'. They are '*sheep*' because they follow '*the Shepherd*'. And He is '*the Shepherd*' because He leads '*the sheep*'. The secret of the identity of this second beast is that he assumes the identity of a lamb, or sheep. In other words, he represents himself as God's people Israel when in fact he is not. Secondly, the account specifically states that he 'speaks as a dragon'. We know from God's Word that the 'dragon' is Satan. Thus we identify this second beast as an entity which falsely assumes the identity of Israel, but is in fact actuated and controlled by Satan. Our Lord did not mince matters when He Himself identified them as those who "*say they are Jews (Judeans), and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.*" (Rev. 2:9, and 3:9).

Now it is this further manifestation of the beast to whom is given all the power of the first beast, and causes all that dwell on the earth to worship the first beast and his evil system of Babylon. It is interesting to note that the word 'worship' as used here means, 'to crouch, crawl or fawn like a dog at his master's feet.' If this is not an exact description of our present position with everyone fawning at the feet of our present economic system and those who control it, then I have never read one. This second beast has given new life to the Beast of Babylon under the full direction and authority of Satan, whom John refers to as the prince of this world.

Now what is the major attribute and sphere of operation of this beast? Verse 14 tells us that it is **DECEIT**. He "*deceives them that dwell on the earth.*" And he accomplishes this **DECEIT** by several means.

Firstly "*he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.*" What does this represent? We have said over and over again that the only

way to understand the symbology of this Book of the Revelation is to go back to the Scriptures, that is, the Old Testament. We have here another example of that immutable **"Law of the First Mention."** It takes us right back to Leviticus 9:24. Aaron had prepared the wave offering and presented it before the Lord. He did not light any fire under it. Both he and Moses blessed the people, and it is recorded that;

"There came a fire out from before the Lord, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat."

'The fire coming down from heaven' was a visible expression of God's acceptance of what had been offered. So that when the second beast 'did great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven', what he was actually doing was claiming the full approbation of God on whatever he was doing. In other words, he claimed that he was acting under the full power and authority of God.

Secondly, he deceived the people by the miracles which he had power to do under the authority of the first beast. The word 'miracle' as used here means, 'A sign by which anything is designated, authenticating the mission of the doer, as distinct from his capability to actually DO the miracle.' In other words, the miracles authenticate his authority rather than his capability. The apostle Paul refers to this same situation when referring to what he calls 'the man of sin' or 'that wicked one'. In II Thess. 2:9-10 we read;

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish."

And what constituted these 'miracles' which authenticated his authority? Are they not found in the manipulation of the whole of world politics and eco-

nomics, not to mention the religious deception that abounds? Are we not being inexorably drawn into the supposed benefits and blessings of a One World society and government? Does not the whole earth stand in awe at the present economic system and those that manipulate and support it? Everything that is being foisted upon us, especially in the economic field, is a 'miracle' of intrigue and deception. I well remember many years ago when I was ministering at a certain church, a very sincere lady told me how wonderful the present financial system was and how much we owed to the Jews (her words) for giving us this wonderful system. It makes you wonder, doesn't it.

Thus this second beast, by the cunning use of deception, has made an image to the first beast, Great Babylon, the city and kingdom of Satan.

Now this clearly has a twofold application. It certainly applies to the Papacy who claim that they are the true church. Their outlandish claims over the centuries are legend. They not only claim exclusive rights to Divine Authority, but have been one of the most prolific purveyors of DECEIT that the world has ever seen. Their entire system is presumptuous and destructive. The details of their activities have been very well covered by other very competent writers, so that I need not repeat them here. But if we think that all we have to worry about is the Church of Rome, then I'm afraid that we are seriously mistaken. The evil of this false religious system is not in question. Nor do we detract from the necessity of exposing this evil. But Satan is a most cunning adversary. He could not prevent the recognition of the Church of Rome as the false religious system, nor could he prevent the opposition which grew as a result of such recognition. So he has fostered among the great majority of Christians the belief that they are the complete enemy. So today we have the spectacle of very devout Protestant Christians fighting courageously and unselfishly against this evil system, with little if any realisation that Satan is using this enemy as a diversionary force in order to keep our atten-

tion from the main body of the enemy, the anti-God, and anti-Christ forces of Zionism. And whilst we are all committing our resources to the fight against what I believe has become the diversionary force, the main forces of the enemy are marching on against us virtually unheeded and unchecked. The tragedy of the situation is that most Christians are convinced that this enemy is actually on God's side. They teach and believe that the anti-Christ forces are God's people, and that the Christian nations are a part of the anti-Christ forces. You just read any of the literature of these futurist teachers and you will find that they teach that we, the Western Christian Anglo-Saxon nations, are a part of the 'Gentile' or non-Israel nations, and that accordingly, we are to be ultimately destroyed in order that the Jews can carry out God's purposes. If that doesn't prove to you the extent of Satan's DECEIT, then nothing will.

Thus we come to what I believe to be one of the most argued about passages of Scripture. In chapter 13 and verses 16 and 17 we read;

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

Now the question at this stage surely must be, 'What is the nature of this mark that is intended to be placed either on the right hand or on the forehead of all people?' Almost without exception, present-day Bible teachers will give us the following explanation, with slight variations. They tell us;

'The day is soon coming when everyone in the entire world will be required to receive a mark, probably a form of tattoo, either on their right hand, or on their forehead. The presence of this mark will then enable that person to legally buy and sell produce. It will

mean that if you are a provider or manufacturer of any form of goods or food, then you will not be able to sell your goods unless you first have this mark upon you. Likewise, unless you have this mark, you will not be able to buy anything, including food. It simply means that anyone without this mark will very quickly starve to death. [And as only those who are really prepared to deliberately lay down their lives in order to become acceptable to God in those days will be affected by this arrangement, it make one wonder why all the talk of having to be beheaded. Starvation is much cheaper and would automatically achieve the desired result without any policing. Of course, never let us forget that under this school of teaching, all the Christians will have by this time been "secretly raptured" up to some unknown place in the sky in order to escape all these dreadful things.] We are told that the great computers which will be used in this exercise are already installed in Brussels. Everyone is already recorded on this computer, through such things as credit cards, I.D. cards, and the like. The process is virtually ready to be implemented.'

Now I don't for one moment argue that the computers are there. I don't argue for a moment that this might be the plan that has been devised. But I don't believe that this is basically what the Lord is telling John in His revelation. Here we have an outstanding example of the different conclusions that are reached as a result of the different approaches used in understanding this wonderful Book. If we base our understanding on the theory that we take the statements of the Book of the Revelation literally, as do those of the 'futurist' persuasion, then the above explanation is what we end up with. But I submit that this approach totally disregards the two basic rules which we have already mentioned. The first of these rules is clearly set out in the revelation itself. You will remember that in the very first chapter Jesus Christ Himself records that He revealed this Revelation in "signs and symbols". We must repeat here what we have insisted upon so many times throughout this study. That although there can in some instances be a literal application to what is said, the primary intent is that of its symbolism. And when

there are the two applications, then the symbolical takes precedence over the literal. It is therefore necessary for us to examine God's Word to find out just what the symbolical application of this 'mark on the right hand or the forehead' really means. And here we come to the second necessity. That is, as we have said before, "**the law of first mention**". I'm absolutely sure that most Christians have no idea that this particular aspect of the hand and forehead is mentioned in the Old Testament, but it is. It is first mentioned in Exodus 13:16, then in Deuteronomy 6:8, and repeated in Deut. 11:13-21 from which we quote as follows;

"And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto My commandments which I command you this day, 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 land in 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 grass in thy fields for thy cattle, that thou mayest eat and be full.

Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods. and worship them;

And then the Lord's wrath be kindled against you, and He shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the Lord giveth you.

Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul,

and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest in the way, when thou liest down, and when thou riseth up.

And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thy house, and upon thy gates.

That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the Lord sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth."

I have emphasised the statement relevant to our study. The phrase 'frontlets between your eyes' simply means in the Hebrew language, 'the forehead'. So with the foregoing in mind, what then is the symbolism of the 'mark on the right hand or the forehead'? Perhaps we should first of all determine the significance of 'the right hand' and 'the forehead'. The right hand is always used as a symbol of our strength or labour. The forehead, on the other hand, is always a symbol of our intellect or mental capacity. Thus, whatever the 'mark' refers to, it relates to both our capacity to labour, and our capacity to think or reason.

So let us repeat our earlier question. What does the symbology of 'the mark in the right hand and the forehead' mean, or refer to? Even the most casual reading of the scriptures quoted above reveals without any question of doubt that it is associated with the absolute necessity of both keeping and teaching GOD'S LAWS! It is the keeping and teaching of these Laws which results in the fulness of the abundant blessings which a loving and mighty God purposed for His people. It is the disregard of, and disobedience to, these Laws that brings about every curse from which we suffer to-day. Don't just take my word for this. Just read the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy and the 26th. chapter of Leviticus. You will find therein a list of all the curses which God promised would automatically follow the dis-

regard and breaking of His Holy Laws. But furthermore, the astute student will not fail to note that every one of these curses is evident in our national life today. Surely it must be evident, even to the most simple minded, that if we are suffering from the results, then we must have set in motion the causes. But somehow, this simple equation does not seem to fit in with modern theology.

Never forget that we have in operation two diametrically opposed kingdoms in the world today. On the one side we have the Kingdom of God, Israel, together with its perfect system of justice, and on the other side we have the kingdom of Satan, referred to as Babylon, replete with its system of deception. The system of God's Kingdom requires acceptance of, and obedience to, the Laws, Commandments, and Statutes of God. The system of Satan's kingdom, requires acceptance of, and obedience to, the laws of Babylon. Thus it becomes apparent that the 'mark' of Revelation 13:16 is fundamentally the requirement to totally commit our physical strength and our intellectual resources to Satan's Babylonian system as opposed to committing them to God's perfect system. And in a world that is virtually sold out to, and controlled by, this Satanic Babylonian system, it becomes almost, if not completely, impossible to live by the perfect Law of God. There is not one aspect of our present-day living which is not now fashioned around the false system of Babylon, be it religious, political, or economic. The sad truth is that even those who recognise this fact, and do everything in their power not to conform to it, still find it impossible to escape doing so in some form or other. The secret, of course, lies in the fact that we do not **worship** this image of the beast. We are in the system, but not of it. Even in our knowledge and awareness, we are still forced to render unto Caesar the things of Caesar.

And how do we recognise the mark and name of this beast? We are told that it has a certain number. That number is 666. How many weird and wonderful books have been written, and stories told, about this

magical number. But why all the mystery? The number is not new to the Bible, only to those who will not read and understand God's Word as He gave it and intended it to be understood. But then, God said that there would not be many wise, and the understanding of the number of this beast is specifically referred to as being "wisdom". The number is clearly stated to be the 'number of a man', or symbolically, the number of man's system as opposed to God's system. For many years, students of prophecy have realised and taught the application of this number to the false ecclesiastical system of Rome, and there is no doubting the truth of this application. But again, I repeat my previous statement that to apply this solely to the Church of Rome is to miss out on the greater application to the whole Babylonian system, and especially its economic aspect. The whole of the Babylonian system of economics is based on the worship of gold. This 'gold standard' was set up on the Plains of Dura by King Nebuchadnezzar, and was always associated with the number '6'. Even the image which he set up was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits wide. Its association with commerce is clearly defined in I Kings 10:14 where we read;

"The weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was six hundred and sixty six talents of gold."

Thus, the wisdom that the Lord promised lies not in trying to apply man's standards and desires, but in understanding the purposes of God through all this time of trouble. When we understand the true identity of the beast of Babylon, and the second beast that revitalised it and gives it life, that is the 'gold', or financially motivated forces of anti-Christ who today falsely represent themselves as God's Chosen People Israel, then we truly have wisdom. It starts with the reverence of God. It continues only as we fully reverence His Word and accept the truth of everything that He has promised. Our assurance lies in **"Believing God."** And He has promised, as we shall discover in future studies, that He is going to absolutely destroy not only this wicked and

evil system, but also those who operate it as a means of destroying both God and His everlasting Kingdom. Only then can we fully appreciate His gracious words as recorded 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 whereto I sent it."

(To be continued).



Little Time Left?

How the days flash by - and the weeks. Sunday comes as a rest and refreshment, a quiet pause in the rush of busy days. We have only to 'snooze' for an hour in the afternoon and, suddenly, it is Wednesday, dust-bin day, and - whatever happened to Monday?!

The great divine events towards which we are all inexorably moving, may be leaving us little time. That time will have been reduced by the number of days since these words were written, and the day they are read by you. Our souls' remedy is immediately to hand and the sensitive conscience will prompt penitence, seeking God's pardon for all wrong-doing.

The corollary to God's wonderful, healing, forgiveness must be obedience, keeping His holy laws and loving the Lord Thy God with all thy heart and with all thy mind and with all thy strength.

This can also be our experience nationally, when, as a people, we turn back to our God.



which can only 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 genuinely wish to receive it but cannot afford to contribute in any way. 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.
Phone: (02) 623-4691.

So shall they fear the name of the LORD
from the west,
and his glory from the rising of the sun.

When the enemy shall come in like a flood,
the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard
against him.

And the redeemer shall come to Zion,
and unto them that turn from transgression in
Jacob,
saith the LORD.

As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the
LORD;

My spirit that is upon thee,
and my words which I have put
in thy mouth,
shall not depart out of thy mouth,
nor out of the mouth of thy seed,
nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the
LORD,
from henceforth and for ever.

(Isa. 59:19-21).

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