



THE COVENANT VISION

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

THE COVENANT VISION

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

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

The powers that be, in their infinite wisdom, have decided that this year of 1994 will be called "The Year of the Family". One can only wonder just what this will accomplish, considering the One World Government policies regarding the family unit.

Perhaps we should define just what we mean by a "family". In the traditional sense, and certainly in the Biblical sense, it is initially a unit comprising a father, a mother, and their children. In its larger application it includes the grandparents, with the grandchildren, cousins, uncles and aunts, etc.. Whilst most families had their problem children, and even their reprobates, the family unit provided what was probably the most strongly bonded unit in society. They loved each other, and they cared for each other. What is more, they respected each other. In the main, the children obeyed their parents, and the great majority of parents, even though they made many mistakes, tried to bring up their children with a sense of respect and duty. It was something that was in-built into the various members of the group. Those who violated this code soon found themselves severely frowned upon, and the possibility of being ostracised by other members of society was usually enough to make most people conform to respectable and acceptable attitudes and actions.

This type of relationship is exactly as God intended it to be. It is one of the foundations of our Christian Faith. In fact, it derives from the very fact that God Himself operates within this very same principle. God refers to those who love Him as His sons. Adam himself was referred to as a 'son of God'. Conversely, we refer to God as our 'Father'. On the larger national scale the principle is just the same. In fact, His people of Israel enjoy a family relationship with God that is beyond our normal human scope. He refers to us not only as His firstborn son, (Exodus 4:22), but also as His wife, (Jer. 3:14). Thus we see that God's family plan encompasses the entire family relationship.

Now if this type of 'family' is to be the aim of our One World rulers and supporters, then we should have no

need for concern. But as we study the developments of the 'family' over the past few decades, we find a totally different, and even frightening trend. Recognising the importance of the family unit within all religions, not just Christianity, the One Worlders have firstly concentrated on the destruction of these religions, and especially the Christian faith, by merging them together whenever possible into a conglomerate without any recognisable peculiar characteristics other than 'sameness'. Secondly, they have completely re-defined the definition of a 'family'. We now have 'one parent' families, where the presence of both a father and a mother is now optional. Divorce is fast becoming the norm, rather than the exception, and government has enacted laws which makes it as easy as possible for couples to avail themselves of this option. We have what is euphemistically called 'alternative life-style' families, where homosexual couples of either sex can now adopt and raise up children as a 'family' unit. How anyone in their right mind can possibly think that these conditions can benefit the children, and give them a good start in life so that they can eventually raise their own families, is quite beyond the understanding of any reasonable person.

On top of this, we now have an economic system that virtually requires both the father and the mother to work, just in order to buy their own home and the ordinary comforts of life. And whilst this is going on, someone else, who has absolutely no family connection or affinity with those involved, "trains the child in the way it should go." We would do well to remember the second part of that statement which goes on to say, "and he shall not depart from it".

The family of the future, as planned by the One World Government which is already firmly entrenched, has little, if anything to do with the 'family' which most people envisage. So if we wish to really make this year a 'year of the family', let us do everything in our power to retain the Christian principles which once made the family the hallmark of our nation. Let these be the guiding principles by which we train our children, so that in future years they shall not depart from them, and thus assure the survival of the family as God intended it to be. □

THE JEHOVAH TITLES

No. 7.

JEHOVAH - ZIDKENU.

The LORD our Righteousness.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

We come now to the seventh of the Jehovah Titles, that of Jehovah-Zidkenu, meaning, "The LORD our Righteousness."

But because of the fact that these articles are written two months apart, let us firstly be reminded of the three major principles to be adhered to in these studies.

1. Jehovah, of whom we read and speak, is no other than our Lord Jesus Christ. In most reliable Bibles, such as the Authorised King James Version, the New American Standard Bible, and Smith and Goodspeed, the Hebrew word rendered into English appears in capital letters thus, LORD. It is interesting to note that Dr. Young, the author of Young's Concordance, in his translation of the Bible, uses the actual word 'Jehovah' on each occasion.
2. The initial application and usage of this title was to, and through, the nation of Israel as God's Kingdom on earth. Whilst each revelation was given by God through a chosen individual, it was NOT intended to apply simply to indiscriminate individuals. All of Jehovah's attributes which were to be revealed and exercised through His Kingdom were revealed in the Old Testament, whilst the New Testament constitutes the teachings on how individual people can become acceptable citizens and rulers of this King-

dom, thereby sharing in these tremendous attributes of Jehovah, their King.

3. To fully comprehend the meaning and application of any subject in the Bible, we must adhere to **"The Law of First Mention"**. This will give us the context in which the statement is made, and will reveal the initial meaning and intent of what God is saying.

We also noted in our previous study that the first five Jehovah-Titles which we have studied have all related to what Jehovah DOES, whilst the last five Titles refer more specifically to **Who Jehovah IS**, in relationship to His people.

In the context of this particular study, it is necessary for us to know the meaning of the word 'righteousness' as used here. It means "morally and legally right, equity, prosperity." Thus Jehovah is revealed as being "Morally and legally right, or correct, a God of equity and prosperity" in His relationship to His people Israel.

It should also be remembered that this is not a study of "righteousness" as such, but rather a study of the righteous attributes of Jehovah.

In as far as applying our 'Law of first mention' we have no difficulty here, because the expression itself, "The LORD our Righteousness" is only mentioned twice in the entire scriptures. The two references are Jeremiah 23:6 and Jeremiah 33:16.

JER 23:6 "In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

JER 33:16 "In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness."

This is in quite a contrast to our previous study of "The LORD of Hosts" which occurs over 300 times. We must therefore conclude that the context in which these two references occur must have a very special significance, as we will see from our study.

It is probably pertinent at this stage to also point out that 'unrighteousness' is not the same thing as 'sin' or 'iniquity.' Iniquity is the inherent weakness within each of us that permits us, or even drives us, to commit sin. Sin is thus the expression and outworking of this inherent weakness. It is this weakness put into action. But unrighteousness is not in itself sin. It is the condition in which we find ourselves as a result of sin. When we commit sin we become unrighteous. It is important to note that throughout the entire Bible you will never find one solitary reference to the forgiveness of unrighteousness. Our sins and iniquities are forgiven, but unrighteousness, being a condition as distinct from an action, is always referred to as being 'cleansed'. To quote God's Word, we are "cleansed from all unrighteousness." When we speak of the LORD our Righteousness, we are not speaking of His role in forgiving us, but rather His role in cleansing us from the result of the sin which we have committed, and which He has forgiven. Thus we see the completeness of His love and mercy towards us. He not only forgives us for our sins and iniquities, but also cleans up the mess that these sins caused, and restores us to what He intended us to be in the first place. This is not just some emotional reaction towards us, but a legal requirement. You will recall our definition stated previously. "Jehovah is revealed as being morally and legally right, or correct, a God of equity and prosperity." He does not cleans us just because He likes to, but because He is legally bound to do so. In saying this I am not suggesting for one moment that our Lord does not like to cleanse us, because there is nothing better that He would wish for us. But we have to also consider the fact that unless He cleanses us, He cannot proceed to use us in conformity with the great plans and purposes for which He originally formed us. The great promises which He made to us as His Israel people were made on the sanctity of His own Name, and that fact constitutes a legal

requirement for Him to bring us into the position whereby He can perform the covenants which He promised regarding us to their fullest extent, as well as bringing us in to the required condition so that we can perform the responsibilities which He has placed on us. It is with this aspect in mind that we study His role as "The LORD our Righteousness."

The context in which the first reference is made is actually the entire 23rd. chapter of Jeremiah, but as this constitutes 40 verses, we will only quote the immediately relevant verses.

As we read this chapter, one thing becomes immediately apparent. Jehovah has a real problem with the false pastors and prophets who are supposed to be feeding His people. Anyone who has been given the responsibility of being a pastor or prophet within God's Israel people, or who claims to have been given this responsibility - and there is a difference - should read the following verses from Jeremiah 23 with great fear and trepidation.

"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD."

(verses 1-2).

"Mine heart within me is broken because of the prophets; all my bones shake; I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine hath overcome, because of the LORD, and because of the words of his holiness. For the land is full of adulterers; for because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and

their course is evil, and their force is not right.

For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.

Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation, saith the LORD."

(verses 9-12).

"I have seen also in the prophets of Jerusalem an horrible thing: they commit adultery, and walk in lies: they strengthen also the hands of evildoers, that none doth return from his wickedness; they are all of them unto me as Sodom, and the inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.

Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.

They say still unto them that despise me, The LORD hath said, Ye shall have peace; and they say unto every one that walketh after the imagination of his own heart, No evil shall come upon you.

For who hath stood in the counsel of the LORD, and hath perceived and heard his word? who hath marked his word, and heard it?

Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD is gone forth in fury, even a grievous whirlwind: it

shall fall grievously upon the head of the wicked.

The anger of the LORD shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the thoughts of his heart: in the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly.

I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off?

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed.

How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart;

Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal.

The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour.

Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.

Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD."

(verses 14-32).

As I said before, if you want to be a pastor or prophet in Israel, be very, very careful. The penalty for misusing the Word of God is too great to be ignored. One point to be particularly recognised is the statement which we have underlined above. **"In the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly."** We are not speaking about Old Testament prophets, or those of yesteryear. We are talking about NOW. Our Lord Jesus Christ knew exactly what the position would be in the very last days. In His discourse as recorded in Matthew chapter 24 He said in verse 5;

"For many shall come in My name, saying I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

The word translated 'Christ' is the Greek word 'christos' and literally means 'anointed'. Our Lord was not referring to many who would represent themselves as being 'Jesus Christ' but the many who would represent themselves as being 'anointed'. And anyone that doesn't recognise that particular syndrome today hasn't been around very long.

The false teachings of the false prophets and pastors in our midst today - and they seem to be increasingly coming up out of the woodwork - has caused God's people to grievously sin against Him because of their false teachings whereby they do away with the Law of God, the breaking of which constitutes sin. This sinful action has

then automatically brought about a condition of unrighteousness which now pervades our entire nation. This is totally and completely contrary to what God demands. The only thing, according to the scriptures, which exalts a nation is RIGHTEOUSNESS. Read it in Proverbs 14:34;

"Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

I say this without the slightest hesitation. The present disasters which the Israel nations throughout the world are now suffering are a direct result of our unrighteousness before God. Our sin which caused this condition of unrighteousness has, as promised, become a reproach to us. And whilst this unrighteous condition continues to exist as a result of our continued sinfulness, these disasters will not only continue, but will increase in both severity and number. God is already using what man likes to refer to as 'natural' disasters, but which are in fact the weapons of His own fury which no human can control. We can now only pray and speculate as to how long it will be before we wake up to ourselves and recognise the hand of God in these events, and the necessity for us as both individuals and as a nation to return to complete obedience to God and His righteous Laws. We no longer have alternatives. We no longer have options. The ONLY thing now left for us is the formula which has always been available;

*"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** I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land!"*

(II Chron. 7:14)

Our unrighteousness is thus revealed. We are not morally and legally right, or correct, before God.

It is because of this situation that the righteousness of Jehovah, our God, is revealed. Let us be absolutely assured of this one thing. God does not intend for one moment that we should forever remain in our present unrighteousness.

teous position. Let us read what He has to say in Jer. 23: 3-6;

*"And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.
Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.
In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."*

Thus we see that Jehovah our Righteousness will achieve for us what we could never achieve for ourselves. Not only as individuals, but as an entire nation, we will at last become righteous in His eyes. This will not happen because of anything that we have done, but solely through the love and mercy of our Great God and Saviour, Jehovah/Jesus, who has paid the price of our redemption and cleansed us from all unrighteousness.

The result of this is expressed in the following 7th. and 8th. verses;

"Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land."

This wonderful promise is supported in Jeremiah 31:10-14, and 35-37:

"Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.

For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he.

Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.

Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.

Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD."

Thus we find that the first mention of the title "The **LORD our Righteousness**" is associated with the guarantee of the fulfilment of the covenant pertaining to the 'DOMINION' as expressed in Psalm 114:1-2;

"When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language; Judah was his sanctuary, and Israel his dominion."

This is the initial application of the New Covenant which we read in Jeremiah 31: 31-34;

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

As can be seen by the phrase which we have highlighted, this covenant is a LAW covenant, the full implementation of which will bring about the much longed for condition of righteousness within our nation. We will then be morally and legally right, or correct, before God.

The second mention of this title, "Jehovah our Righteousness" is found, as we mentioned previously, in Jeremiah 33:16. In order that we might more fully understand its application we will quote the whole of the context as found in verses 14 to 26;

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.

And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying,

Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season;

Then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

*Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,
Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.*

Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them."

Thus we see that the second mention of this particular Jehovah Title is the guarantee of the fulfilment of the covenant which God made regarding the Sanctuary of Psalm 114 quoted previously. This is the assurance of the Davidic Covenant which relates to the Throne. The continuity and perpetuity of this throne is as certain as the perpetuity of God Himself. We, who know this fact, and accept without question the unbreakable promise and covenant of Jehovah God relating to this throne, realise that all the present-day attempts to discredit and destroy this throne, presently occupied by Queen Elizabeth, the direct descendant of King David of Israel, will be absolutely futile. We can, with every justification, sit back and laugh at the antics of the critics and destroyers in our midst. If the LORD is going to laugh them to scorn, then I don't see any reason why we can't join in the celebrations with Him.

As with the first mentioned application of Jehovah's title of Righteousness, this also is morally and legally right, or correct, being based entirely on the Righteousness of Jehovah. Jeremiah 33:23-26 puts it all together for us, and we restate the words so that they may be indelibly impressed on our minds.

"Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying, Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two families which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them.

Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them."

What then is the importance of these two references?

Firstly, the people, in their unrighteous condition, and aided and abetted by the false pastors and prophets in their midst, have contributed to the 'death' of these Two Witnesses' or families of God.

But secondly, the righteousness of Jehovah will bring about their 'resurrection'. The accounts as recorded in both Ezekiel 37:11-14, and Revelation 11:11-12, give very graphic illustration of this fact;

"Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the LORD God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel.

And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up out of your graves, And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD."

"And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them."

The result of this will be as life from the dead. We read a description of this wonderful difference in Ezek. 36:22-27;

"Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the LORD God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the LORD God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take

*away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."*

This is indeed 'good news'. No wonder God's Word refers to 'the gospel - good news - of the Kingdom'. It was all Jesus preached about. And He not only talked about it, but demonstrated its power in and through the lives of those who accepted it. Today, we have no less a responsibility to preach and demonstrate this Righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Jehovah. Let us note what the scriptures say;

*"I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.
I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation."*

(Psalm 40:9-10).

"My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt."

(Psalm 71:24).

Can we in all honesty repeat these words of ourselves? Do we constantly preach the righteousness of the LORD to His people, the great congregation? Do we continually obey the injunction of Isaiah 58:1;

"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgressions, and the House of Jacob their sins."

Because if we do, we will find ourselves under the blessing of Jehovah as written in Deut. 6:25;

"And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us."

Our Lord Jesus Christ put His seal on this requirement in Matthew 5:17-19; (Today's English Version).

"Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I have not come to do away with them, but to make their teachings come true.

Remember this! As long as heaven and earth last, the least point or the smallest detail of the Law will not be done away with - not until the end of all things.

So then, whosoever disobeys even the smallest of the commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be least in the Kingdom of Heaven. On the other hand, whoever obeys the Law, and teaches others to do the same, will be great in the Kingdom of Heaven."

The instruction was not put there for us to argue about. It was put there for us to obey. If we wish to experience the full blessings of righteousness, then we will attain it only by following the instructions and example of the only Righteous One;

The LORD Who is Our Righteousness.

JEHOVAH - ZIDKENU.



RECOMMENDED READING.

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OUR ROYALTY IS ONE

WITH OUR PEOPLE

THERE ARE INDISSOLUBLE TIES WHICH BIND US

L.G. Pine, B.A.

IN THE first *Book of Chronicles*, the genealogy of David, king of Israel, is given. It is very clear that he sprang from no earlier royal stock. The popular choice of the people of Israel had been Saul, of the tribe of Benjamin, of whom St. Paul said: 'And when He had removed him, He raised up into them David to be their king', adding 'of this man's seed hath God according to His promise raised unto Israel, a Saviour, Jesus'. Thus was fulfilled Jacob's prophecy about his son Judah, 'the sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a law-giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come'. Shiloh was the Messiah, to Whom should be given 'the Throne of His father David' so that He shall 'reign over the house of Jacob for ever and of His Kingdom there shall be no end'.

Disappearance of Monarchy

Our LORD is Prophet, Priest and King. No other human being can combine these characters. Belief in the derivation of the British Royal House from the Davidic means that the latter-day occupants of the Throne are *regents* who act -- or should act -- on behalf of the Unseen King.

All over Europe, monarchy has disappeared except in the three Scandinavian lands, in Belgium and Holland, Spain, Liechtenstein and Luxembourg. None of these royal lines have any comparison with the British either in age or ceremonial splendour nor, be it added, in religious sanctification.

Sanctification of the Sovereign

It has been left to a German to analyse the profound significance of the Coronation of our Sovereigns. In his splendid, scholarly work, *A History of the English Coronation*, P.E. Schramm, Prof. of History in the University of Göttingen, wrote decisively: 'Everything at Westminster remains as of yore, while Aachen and Rheims are desolate. There is no longer an *Imperator Romanorum*. Even the Hapsburgs and Hohenzollerns have had to lay aside their Imperial titles, and the crown, sceptre and robes of the old Imperial treasury are gazed at as exhibits in a museum. In France, not even this memory of the past survives, for the French, even more rudely than the English of the Commonwealth, destroyed every trace of their monarchy and all attempts, from Napoleon I to Napoleon III, to bring French history back to the road from which it swerved in 1789 have completely failed. If we look more widely about us, we shall see on every side old state traditions flung on the rubbish heap'. What a wonderful tribute, written as recently as 1937, not by a Briton but by a great Teutonic scholar. Even more, he grasped very clearly the significance of the anointing with oil. 'Everyone familiar with the Old Testament had some knowledge of this practice, for it is recorded more than once how priests from the days of Samuel onwards, consecrated the *Jewish kings with oil. The reader who did not understand the magic originally implied in this oriental rite must have been impressed by a sense of consecration'.

Again, Schramm links the Celtic kings with this practice: 'It is possible that these Celts (he is referring to Irish kings of the 8th century) were the first people to take the great and decisive step of anointing the new king with holy oil. There are traces of this in a passage in Gildas, which must refer to the British Celts and in an account taken from the life of St. Columba of Iona, of the "ordination" of Aidan as King of Scotland'. Such linkage is very important because Elizabeth II has a genealogical connection with Irish, Scottish and Welsh royal lines as well as the Old English. She is the 63rd successor of Egbert of Wessex, who was 'Woden-born', i.e. descended

from Woden (Odin) the mighty leader who brought the scattered Israel people from Asia to western Europe.

English Royal Arms

This is a character of our monarchy which cannot be found in e.g., the royal houses of Denmark and Sweden. The first English sovereign to use a coat of arms was Richard I (1189-99). The three lions have been used by every sovereign since, because they are descended in blood from all the preceding dynasties, as was Richard. The only rulers of Britain not connected with our House of Windsor were the Danish or Viking monarchs from 1014-42. Of these four--Sweyn, Canute, Harold I (Harefoot) and Hardicanute--only one deserves the title of king--Canute. Sweyn was a blood-thirsty barbarian who died suddenly on his way to destroy Bury St. Edmunds. Harold I and Hardicanute were drunken sots.

Turning to Sweden and Denmark, the present royal houses use the arms of their predecessors, but place in the middle of the royal shield, a small shield (an escutcheon of pretence in heraldic language). This inescutcheon shows the arms of the present monarchs; the rest of the shield is merely historical, as the reigning sovereigns do not descend from the original owners of the arms.

Sad End of Continental Thrones

In passing, while we rejoice in the continuance of our God bestowed monarchy, we should be sorry for the overthrow of the Continental thrones. Wilhelm II of Germany was not the sort of man to set up concentration camps or sacrifice Jews in gas chambers. From a vile creature, a spawn of the gutter, such horrors emanated. And when we refer to the Holy Roman Empire, to equate it with the world powers of Daniel's visions is to say, in effect, that it was no better than its medieval contemporaries in Mongol or Turkish lands. To anyone familiar with Bryce, such language is not offensive but indescribably ridiculous. Anyone who has read Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire* knows that no sovereign of our land ever admitted the claim of overlordship by the *Imperator Romanorum*.

Offa, the great king of Mercia who died in 799, treated the mighty Charlemagne, the first of the line, completely as an equal. Over 600 years later the Emperor Sigismund was put firmly in his place by Henry V, nor was he allowed to land in England until he had agreed that he had no claim to overlordship over Henry. But the continental rulers were not Mongols or Turks, but Christians.

Crown and People are United

Sanctified though was the Davidic line, and set apart by Divine decree, yet the family of David, in his nephews and in his numerous sons, was connected by blood with the whole Israel people. So it is now and almost always has been in Britain. The sole exception to the mingling in blood of monarch and people, was when kings of German speech and ancestry came to rule. The House of Hanover which began in 1714, was descended from James I (James VI of Scotland). This was the justification of its claim to the throne when the folly of the Stuarts had thrown away the British Crown. But 100 years had elapsed since the marriage (1613) of Elizabeth, elder daughter of James I to the Count Palatine of the Rhine. In those three generations the descendants of the union had become thoroughly German.

While the Germanic practice of marriage only with royalty persisted, our royal house did stand apart from its subjects. It may be noticed that this was the only period in our history when our royalty was unpopular. Charles Bradlaugh who combined atheism with his own version of democracy, produced an outrageous work, *The House of Brunswick*, in which the four Georges were accused of almost everything bad.

Reversion to Good Custom

Queen Victoria's character redeemed the situation and killed republicanism but it was not until after the First World War that British royalty reverted to the ways of all its dynasties before 1714. Our present Queen, has through her mother, the former Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, a very large number of untitled relatives among the ordinary rank

and file of our people. Indeed so much is this the case that when Prince Andrew was born, a circular pedigree was produced in which the new Prince was shown as more royal on his father's side! Prince Philip is the descendant of the continental system of alliances, a kind of royal trade union. It was a rigid system, breached only by the very undesirable practice of the morganatic marriage. Its separation from its people has wiped European monarchy off the map of the great states.

By contrast the British monarchy has its connections throughout the whole people. Those conversant with genealogy are always inclined to be bored and somewhat blasé with claims to descent from our royalty. Not that the claims are not genuine, but they are so common that one tires of inserting them in works, e.g. *Burke's Peerage* or *Burke's Landed Gentry*. Nor is there any need to be nasty-minded by dragging in King Charles' head. True, Charles II was responsible for four of our present dukedoms and William IV for the earldom of Munster. Those who use this to discredit titles and aristocracy, might like to remember that the sovereign who left most illegitimate offspring was Henry I (1100-35). Scholars are not quite agreed as to the number 21 or 22, but not less than 20. Of these hardly more than one--the famous Robert, Earl of Gloucester (Matilda's half-brother) received a title. The rest of Henry's bastards were allowed to melt into the population. It follows that many of those who agitate most vociferously against Crown and Lords may be descended from those royal scions.

Royal Caste Unknown in Britain

Turning away from this unpleasantness, we may indicate that in medieval days and up to 1714, and again now, Britain knew no royal caste. Sovereigns and sovereigns' children married with nobility and gentry, the latter with the yeomanry and burghers. Sir Bernard Burke brought out in 1851 two large volumes entitled, *The Royal Families of England, Scotland and Wales, with their Descendants, Sovereigns and Subjects*. The second volume alone contains 114 pedigrees, the majority of which were represented in 1851 by commoners. Burke had a penchant

for these royal descents, but his work was surpassed in the early years of this century by the Marquis de Ruvigny. He published six large volumes under the heading, *The Blood Royal of the Plantagenets*. These works contained the descents of at least 40,000 people from our medieval kings. Obviously the number has vastly increased since about 1910, partly by natural means, but also because the fashion of tracing royal descents has gained a great vogue. When Dean Inge was at St. Paul's Cathedral it was remarked that in one year the Lord Mayor, the temporal head of the City, and the Dean as spiritual head were both descended from Edward III. In a sense they were cousins! Jocularly, Edward III was called the ancestor of the middle class Englishman. A simple explanation was that Edward's large family survived the grim horrors of medieval nursing.

Royal Ancestry in Wales and Scotland

When we turn to Wales and Scotland, we find much the same position. The Welsh prided themselves on being free-men. It was Welsh customary law which required a father to divide his land equally among his sons. In the course of a few generations this weakened Wales politically and economically but it did mean that princely descents were numerous.

In Scotland the lines of the Stuarts have brought the blood royal into every section of the nation. Scotland had an elaborate clan and family system, clans in the Highlands, families of the name in the Lowlands, with an absorption with degrees of cousinship. The fact is that, throughout Britain, monarchy is bound up with all sections of the community, just as it was in the Davidic kingdoms of old.

**Editor's Note:* Schramm uses the term 'Jewish' erroneously here. There were no 'Jews' in Samuel's day--only *Israelites*.



The Second Advent.

PART 7.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

The Signs of Noah and Lot. Part 1.

We now come to the final aspect of the National and International signs relating to the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, that of the signs of Noah and Lot. That these are signs of the utmost significance is obvious from the fact that our Lord Himself quoted them as such. So let us read and study His words in regard to these signs. Firstly we will look at the Sign of Noah, as recorded in Matthew 24:37-41;

"But as the days of Noe (Noah) were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken and the other left. Watch therefore: for ye not what hour your Lord shall come."

Now it must be pretty obvious that if the conditions leading up to the return of our Lord are to be the same as

those which existed at the time of Noah, that in order to recognise this period of time, all we have to do is to find out what the conditions were like in Noah's days. Our first source of enquiry, naturally enough, will be the account given in Genesis chapter six, verses 1-8;

*"And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,
That the sons of God saw that the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.*

And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh. Yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

There were giants in the earth in those days: and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."

In addition to this, we read in verses 11 to 13 that the people had become corrupt and that the earth was filled with violence.

But before we comment further, I wish to quote from two other sources regarding the conditions of the 'days of Noah'. The first quote is from "The Antiquities of the Jews" by Josephus, chapter 3, verse 1.

"Now the posterity of Seth continued to esteem God as the Lord of the universe, and to have an entire regard to virtue, for seven generations. But in process of time they were perverted, and forsook the practices of their fathers; and did neither pay those honours to God which were appointed them, not had they any concern to do justice towards men. But for what degree of zeal they had formerly shown for virtue, they now showed by their actions a double degree of wickedness, whereby they made God to be their enemy. For many angels of God* accompanied with women, and begat sons that proved unjust, and despisers of all that was good, on account of the confidence they had in their own strength. For the tradition is, that these men did what resembled the acts of those whom the Grecians called giants. But Noah was very uneasy at what they did; and being displeased at their conduct, persuaded them to change their disposition and their acts for the better. But seeing that they did not yield to them, but were slaves to their wicked pleasures, he was afraid they would kill him, together with his wife and children, and those they had married. So he departed out of that land. *(This notion, that the fallen angels were, in some sense, the fathers of the old giants, was the constant opinion of antiquity.)" End of quote. The final comment is in the original.

The second source from which I would like to quote is the "Book of Jasher", where we read in chapter 4, verses 16-19;

"And all the sons of men departed from the ways of the Lord in those days as they multiplied upon the face of the earth with sons and daughters, and they taught one another their evil practices, and they continued sinning against the Lord.

And every man made unto himself a god, and they robbed and plundered every man his neighbour as well as his rela-

tive, and they corrupted the earth, and the earth was filled with violence.

And their judges and rulers went to the daughters of men and took their wives by force from their husbands according to their choice, and the sons of men in those days took from the cattle of the earth, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air, and taught the mixture of animals of one species with the other, in order therewith to provoke the Lord. And God saw the whole earth and it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth, all men and all animals.

And the Lord said, I will blot out man that I have created from the face of the earth, yea, from man to the birds of the air, together with cattle and beasts that are in the field, for I repent that I have made them."

Now whilst everyone may not accept the authority of the last two source references, the accuracy of what has been recorded therein cannot for one moment be denied. I personally believe that both these books should be in every Bible student's library and are well worth studying, even if only from an historical point of view, as they fill in a lot of detail which is not included in the Bible without in any way contradicting the basic truths of the Sacred record.

So based on the above statements, what in fact were the conditions in the time of Noah?

Firstly we look at the statement in Gen. 6:2;

"That the sons of God saw that the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose."

The identity of 'the sons of God' as used here has been the source of debate for many years. Many claim that this expression refers to angels who came down from heaven and cohabited with human women who subsequently gave birth to children who became giants, being half angelic and half human. It is clear from the account by Josephus quoted above that he supported this conclu-

sion. Others claim that these 'sons of God' were the descendants of the Adam of Genesis chapter two, who was referred to in Luke 3:38 as a 'son of God.' It is not the purpose of this writing to go into a detailed study of the merits of either of these theories, but I feel that we should at least have a general idea of both sides of the matter.

Let me state from the outset that I personally believe the latter conclusion, that is, that the 'sons of God' referred to in Genesis 6 is a reference to the descendants of the Adam of Genesis 2. My reasons for this conclusion are based on the following.

1. In Matthew 22:29-30, in reply to the disciple's question about the woman who had been married seven times, and had asked whose wife she would be of the seven in the resurrection, Jesus stated;

"You do err, not knowing the scriptures or the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven."

From this remark, and its parallel account in Luke 20:33-36, it is obvious that the angels do not marry and are not given in marriage. Dr. C.J. Ellicot, in his exhaustive Bible Commentary for English Readers makes this point in reference to the above readings; "His words teach absolutely the absence from the resurrection life of the definite relations on which marriage rests." Thus we conclude that the angels do not partake of what Dr. Ellicott refers to as 'the definite relations on which marriage rests.'

2. If the 'sons of God' referred to here were actually angels, then why is this definition not continued as a constant throughout God's Word? For example, we read in John 1:12;

"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power (or authority) to become the sons of God."

We read also in I John 3:1-2;

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God. . . .

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

If words mean anything, then it is clear that we are not going to be angels, simply because our Lord is not an angel, having been made so much better than the angels as stated in Hebrews 1:4. And we are going to be like Him. The truth of the matter is that whilst we were made lower than the angels, we are finally to have charge over them.

3. The statement in Gen. 6:2 that the 'sons of God took wives of the daughters of men' is one of the major conditions which existed in the days of Noah. If these 'sons of God' were angels, then in order for this condition to be fulfilled as a sign of the last days, **the same thing must happen just prior to our Lord's return**, that is, we will have to experience angels coming down to earth to marry human women, and until this happens, then we cannot look for the soon coming of our Lord!

But if we realise that the 'sons of God' referred to were the descendants of the Adam of Genesis 2, who was a son of God, then the application to our present day is immediately apparent.

Thus we recognise the first condition that existed in Noah's day. It exists today, in that we have the descendants of the Adamic race intermarrying with the descendants of God's earlier human creation as set forth in Genesis chapter 1. We refer to it as miscegenation or racial intermarriage. Whatever name we give it, it is entirely against the Law of God, and contrary to His initial plans and purposes. There is absolutely nothing wrong with any race. Genesis chapter 1 tells us that when God completed the creation of all the races, He looked upon it and saw

that it was "very good". His only requirement was that they should not mix themselves up, for by so doing, they would destroy the particular purpose for which God created them in the first place. This is not said to offend in any way those Christians who may find themselves in this position, and is not said in judgment. That is not my prerogative. It is said purely as a matter of what I believe to be Bible doctrine. We will all answer finally to God Himself, and I'm sure that He will take all circumstances into consideration when the time comes. The point I am making is not against individuals, but against our national policies which not only allow, but almost force upon us this condition.

The second condition of note is the wickedness which prevailed. In Gen. 6:5 we read;

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

The marginal reading of the latter part of this verse says that not only the imagination, but the purpose and desires of their thoughts were continued day by day. In other words, the evil that was being done was quite deliberate, and deliberately planned. As stated in the other two authorities which we quoted, they made God their enemy by deliberately provoking Him. Wickedness became not so much a human failure, but seemingly a competition to see who could become the most vile among the people. We don't have to be too intelligent to recognise this condition today. Every form of debauchery and evil is now openly displayed to public view, and supported to such an extent that I'm sure many people take part in it simply because they have been taught that not to do so is a mark of some kind of mental and social deficiency. And as far as God is concerned, who needs Him? God has now become, to an ever increasing number of people, just a palliative in times of stress, or someone to conveniently blame when ever something goes

wrong. This was one of the conditions that existed in Noah's day, and it is in full evidence today.

The third condition with which we shall deal is that stated in Matthew 24:38;

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, . . ."

Many teach that this represents the present practice of gluttony, drunkenness, and the high divorce and re-marriage rate. Now whilst this application can be made, I personally think that it misses the main point of the statement. I believe that the point that our Lord was making, is that life was continuing as normal in all areas of society without the people paying the slightest attention to the warning of impending judgment that had been given to them by Noah for some 120 years. The policy was, as it is today, 'eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die.' I have to admit that I have a great respect for Noah. He continually warned his people for 120 years, and the only ones who paid any attention to him was his own family. And quite frankly, we don't know whether they went with him because of their own personal convictions, or because their dad told them to. I suspect, judging by future events and the later actions of some of them, that it could have been the latter reason. But it's a great lesson for us. None of us will live for 120 years, let alone spend that much time warning our people. So if you ever feel that you're bashing your head against a wall trying to warn people who seem to have not the slightest interest in what you are saying, just think of Noah. And more particularly think on his reward for his faithfulness. God doesn't like quitters. Those who will receive the reward are those whom the Lord will find busily working in His vineyard when He returns.

But there is one other thing which I feel is of special significance about the days of Noah, and in particular to Noah himself. We are fully aware that our Lord said

that no man knoweth the day nor the hour of His return, but keep this thought in mind. God's first warning through Noah was given 120 years prior to the event. But the day finally came when God spoke directly to Noah and told him that he had exactly seven days to go before God's judgment was to strike. This form of final warning is not uncommon in the Bible. As we will see in our next study, Lot was given just twenty four hours notice. This notice was not in reference to any physical manifestation of the Lord, but of that particular person's deliverance from the judgment to come. In another incident, the prophet Elijah was given exact knowledge of the time of his departure, and not only him, but the other prophets as well.

Perhaps we should give more consideration to what the Lord could have been conveying to us when He said;

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

(Luke 21:36).

Now I don't believe for one moment in the 'secret rapture' theory when supposedly all the Christians will be raptured out of the mess they helped to cause in the first place, and I do not believe that this is what the Lord was referring to. But I do believe that it applies specifically to those who will qualify as overcomers - those who will rule and reign with Christ over His Kingdom, - as distinct from those who will just be citizens in the Kingdom. It is my personal belief that only the 'overcomers', constituting the Elders of Israel, will be taken to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, and thus escape the final force of God's judgment. Only time will tell if that conclusion is correct, but irrespective of this, the example is there. We are to prepare ourselves for whatever eventuality happens, just as Noah did. Only then will we be held to be righteous by God, and reap the rewards of our obedience.

(To be continued).



THE LAW and THE WORD

By The Rev. C. Tombs.

WHATEVER our differences may be, whatever our beliefs, whatever denominations we may be a member of, whatever political party we may support, *nothing*, and I repeat, *nothing* will solve our existing problems, or assure us of the future, *other than* the return to this earth of the Lord Jesus Christ to take up once more His earthly Throne that He relinquished in the days of Samuel.

I Samuel 8:9 - *'For in that day the law shall go forth from Zion'*.

Micah 4 tells us that all nations shall become subject to that law, if only by lip service. Thus prosperity will increase, sickness and disease will disappear, nations will learn war no more, and *every man shall live under his own vine and fig tree* (separation) and none shall make him afraid.

Often have I referred to this prophecy of Micah, and do so again, for it is imperative that we take note, for nothing that we endeavour to do, however sincere our efforts, will in any way alter the trend of events as they face us today. We alone are responsible, thus we must await patiently as events unfold themselves.

Now patience is not one of my virtues, and I am sure there are many who think as I do, and ask themselves - 'what can I do'? No one appears to be interested concerning Israel, not even Christians! -- Exactly! How Satan must be chuckling to himself, as he sees all things seemingly going his way. Well, Paul gives the answer when writing to the Ephesians - *"Wherefore take unto yourselves the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all, to stand"*. (Ephesians 6:10-17.)

Paul was ever conscious of the power of Satan, and frequently warns us, as did Jesus when addressing His disciples concerning His return and the end of the age - *"And many false prophets shall arise, and shall deceive*

many. And because iniquity shall abound, *the love of many shall wax cold.*"

How true, for there are many times we find ourselves asking - 'is it worthwhile, no one seems to listen or show any interest'. This fact, I consider to be but a sure sign of the times. But did not Jesus say - **"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved"**.

Obviously there is no side entrance or back doors whereby one can escape. There is but one way for us to endure, and that is to stand facing the enemy - ***"and with our feet shod with the Gospel of peace"***. Certainly not an easy thing to do when faced with fiery darts of the devil, whatsoever the evangelist may tell you to the contrary.

I was reading once again a book written by Patience Strong - entitled - 'The Other Side of the Coin'. If you feel a little dejected, a little sad about matters in general, I suggest you get this book and read it, and you will instantly feel an upsurge of assurance and certain hope for the future. For instance a quotation from the book reads - "Some people may ask whether it matters who we are? It matters because in the identification of the Celto-Anglo-Saxon peoples with ancient Israel, ***we are unlocking the mysteries of the Bible, for this is the key to the Scriptures.*** The church has been like a blind shepherd refusing to accept the Bible as literal Truth. How can it be otherwise? For those who run the average church are chiefly, as Paul said to Timothy, like "silly women", not the minister, and unless you are a member, you are not 'one of them'." What a spiritual revival there would be throughout Christendom if people understood that the Bible has to do with our present situation!

It was interesting to read in a Christian journal of the growth of church life in Venezuela. Samuel Olsen, the founder of the largest evangelical church in Venezuela, has this to say - "churches that are not open and flexible, that is, are tied down with their own rituals, don't grow". He continues - "I feel my church grows because I make no claims to being a denominational church. I don't even talk about being Evangelical or Pentecostal. People come and receive the Word and worship". How truly Christ-like, how refreshing to read. Jesus had but one command - ***"seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,***

and all these things shall be added unto you". No labels attached. No identity cards necessary. No question as to whether you have been baptised, or are you saved, or are you prepared to conform to some man-made ritual or doctrine.

The Word of God offers to all an abundant life here and now and forever. That is the reason why the God who created us, chose and separated a people, and gave to them His righteousness, in terms of statutes and judgments, that would be a blessing, if followed, unto all nations of the earth.

I spoke recently at a women's meeting on the Law of the LORD. I was told at the close, "we don't mix politics with religion". Naturally I have not been asked since. Truly did Isaiah write - ***"Hear ye deaf, and look ye blind, that ye may see. Who is blind but My servant? Or deaf as My messenger, that I sent? Who is blind but he that is perfect, and blind as the Lord's servant. Seeing many things, but thou observest not, opening the ears, but he heareth not".*** (Isaiah 42:18-20.)

We endeavour to probe and to understand the mysteries of the Godhead, and the Resurrection etc., but when it comes to the simpler teachings of Moses as confirmed by Jesus on many occasions, we are not interested, and so the world, inclusive of Israel Britain, continues to suffer in consequence. This is clearly apparent when reading the various articles in both Christian and secular publications. Poverty and sickness are prevalent throughout the world. Could this be what Jesus meant when He said - ***"It is written - Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God".***

If so, then why not try 'every word' - beginning at Moses and the prophets, precisely as did Jesus. (Luke 24:25-27.)

It is little good expecting people who are now unemployed, etc., to fill our churches and to listen to the minister telling them 'God is love'. Nor does it help the nations facing terrorism, civil war, poverty and disease. This is surely the reason for the LORD declaring - ***"Is this the fast that I have chosen"***? (Isaiah 58.)

Instead of continually spiritualising our God as if He is concerned only with Heavenly matters, which is not the sole purpose of the Word of God, our main objective should be to show the way as to how to enjoy the fruits of our labours here and now, free of poverty, war and sickness, and to take this Gospel pertaining to the Kingdom unto all the families of the earth.

Hence the words of Micah 4: first - "For the law shall go forth of Zion"; and secondly - "And the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem".

*"Therefore let us not sleep,
as do others; but let us watch
and be sober."*

(I Thessalonians 5:6)



In Memorium.

David Paul Noble.

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the passing of one of our most loved and respected members, David Noble.

David had been ill for some time, and finally passed away in his sleep on January 12, 1994.

David and his wife Lorna very rarely missed a meeting, and operated between them the overhead projector and the video camera. His fellowship will always be sorely missed.

He was a fine example of "an Israelite indeed", a man who sincerely loved his Lord, and loved to serve Him.

We extend to Lorna and their children our sympathy and love, in the sure knowledge of the resurrection when we will all meet again in the Kingdom of God.

WHAT GOD SAID ABOUT DAVID'S THRONE

Courtesy "Different News"
Canada

One of the most powerful statements about David's Throne comes in Psalm 89:20-37, as we read:-

"I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him: I will set his hand in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven. If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven."

You could not get language clearer than that with reference to the Throne of David! Notice some outstanding features:-

1. David was anointed with oil. The British Monarchy is the only monarchy in the world, that continues to anoint with oil - with a Coronation Service based on the Bible!
2. If David's seed "forsake my law" - they will be punished. This shows that the promise is not referring to Jesus - because He kept the Law perfectly - but is speaking of human beings on David's Throne who are liable to sin and break the Law!

3. The sun and moon are still here - so the Throne of David must also still be here!

David's Throne is now held by the British monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, a direct descendant of King David.

As stated clearly above, whether or not there is a good King or Queen on the Throne of David, it is still being held for our **LORD Jesus**, awaiting His return to take His rightful place as King of kings and Lord of lords.

(Taken from "Britain's Royal Throne" by Thomas Foster, Australia. Available from Covenant Vision Ministry, P.O. Box V192, Mt. Druitt, NSW, 2770, at \$7-00 posted in Australia, overseas seamail \$8-00, and economy/airmail \$9-50.)



Covenant Vision Fellowship.

Pastor:- Frank W. Dowsett.

You are cordially invited to join us
in fellowship and worship at our home chapel

at

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

Sunday morning at 10.00.

Praise & Worship.

Wednesday evening at 7.30.

Prayer & Bible Study.

For further information phone (02) 623-4691.



Malachi

A Study
by Frank W. Dowsett.

PART SEVEN.

Chapter Three. Part 2.

Blessing Requires Obedience.

In our previous study we read of the assurance of God's faithfulness to His people Israel in the verse;

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

We saw how Israel, the sons of Jacob, would never be consumed or destroyed, as distinct from present-day Zionist-Jewry who, NOT being the sons of Jacob, are to be totally exterminated, being, as God put it, "the people of His curse, whom He has devoted to destruction."

And people still have the gall to ask, in tones of ridicule, what difference does it make as to whether or not we of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic people are Israel?

From verse 7 onwards to the end of the third chapter, we find an account of contrasts. It is a form of soliloquy in which God tells Israel why they are in the mess in which they find themselves, and what the situation would have been if they had only obeyed Him instead of doing things their own way. And the Lord's words take on even more meaning when we realise that they directly follow His guarantee that in spite of all that Israel has done against Him, He still intends to preserve and save them from destruction. So let us follow this conversation, as it were, as God reasons with His people. He commences in verse 7 of chapter 3;

"Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?"

If there is one thing more than any other that we come across as we study the Word of God, it is that right from their very inception, Israel developed what could almost be called a passion for disobeying the Lord their God. What's more, they became very indignant every time the Lord reminded them of this fact. But don't think for a moment that anything has changed. The same thing still happens. Every man does that which is right in their own eyes, and woe betide anyone who would challenge them. You see, we today live in a so-called free society. The big catch-word is 'freedom' - freedom to do what you like, freedom to say what you like, freedom to obey or disobey - just as long as you don't rock the boat when it comes to exposing evil and corruption, or disagreeing with the established beliefs and sacred cows of the political and religious leaders. Then you really find out what today's 'freedom' is all about.

But God has no qualms about speaking His mind. He never tires of warning His people that the cause of all their troubles is their disobedience to His perfect laws, statutes, and judgments. I sometimes wonder if we truly realise just what happens to us when we disobey God. Listen again to the words God used; "Return unto me, **and I will return unto you**, saith the Lord of Hosts." The simple fact is that when we turn away from God and despise His commandments, the automatic and immediate reaction is that God turns away from us! We are not in our present mess only because we have turned from God, but rather that God, because of our disobedience, has turned away from us. As individuals we may obey God and receive His blessings and His presence in our lives, but as a nation God is no longer in our camp. We can call out to God until the cows come home, but unless we accompany that cry with one of repentance, and return to Him, He just does not hear us. You often hear people

accusing God of not answering them. But that's not the true situation at all. The truth of the matter is that God has simply not even heard our cries. How can we expect Him to answer our requests if He has not even heard them. We wouldn't expect this to happen on our own human level, so why should we expect it to work at God's level? We should never tire of quoting, and obeying the only formula which God ever gave His people for attracting the attention of God.

*"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."*

The apostle John made this point very clear in his first Epistle when he said;

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us. And if we know that He hear us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him".

(I John 4:22 and 5:14-15).

For us to think for one moment that God is going to answer our pleas, and save us out of our predicaments when we deliberately continue to reject and disobey His Holy Laws and Commandments is an offence to the majesty of God Almighty. God does not mess about with long political arguments and diatribes. He puts the situation in the plainest possible terms. "If you want Me to return to you and help you, then first, you return to Me and obey Me." They're the rules, and that's the only way God operates.

But look at the reply. In our arrogance we turn to Him and say, "What are you talking about God? When

did we ever turn from you? What have we done to deserve all this trouble you have brought upon us?

God is not fooled by all this hypocrisy and double-talk that goes on in the name of modern Christianity - or should we use the expression 'churchianity'. He immediately hits the nail right on the head.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation."

The sentence of the Most High God is that as an entire nation, **we have robbed Him!** And it is for this very reason that we are cursed with a curse. All the excuses, and all the platitudes, and all the sermons in the world will not make one scrap of difference to the fact that the curse under which we are now suffering is because we have robbed God. We may rob our neighbour, or our family, or our boss, and get away with it, **but nobody will ever escape the penalty of robbing God!**

Now there are two specified ways in which God says we are robbing Him. The first is through our tithes. I personally believe that most Christians have little idea of the true meaning and application of the word 'tithe.' It simply means 'a tenth part'. In Israel it originally comprised the national taxation, and required every person in Israel to return to the Lord one tenth of their increase. This, let me repeat, was the national tax. There were no sales taxes, no entertainment tax, no land tax, nor any of the other myriad of taxes which are now imposed upon us. The subject has been fairly extensively covered in our Book "CAMEO STUDIES" so I will not go into further detailed explanations here, other than to point out that this tenth was required twice, with a third tenth paid only every three years. This brought the total tax to just over 23% each year. Out of this tax, the government paid one tenth of it for the running costs of what we could call 'the national church', or the Aaronic Priests. As well as this,

the tax was paid only on the 'increase', not on the entire 'income.' In other words, any costs which were incurred in obtaining this increase, or profit, were legitimate deductions, as we would call them today. Mr. Colgate is usually the man quoted to prove the value of tithing, and quite rightly so. But the people who quote his example never seem to worry about telling their audience or congregation that he paid his tithe on his declared profits after deducting his costs of production. If he had paid a tenth of his entire income, out of which he had to pay the cost of labour and materials and administration, he would have gone broke in no time. So in technical terms, if we have paid our tax, then we have paid our tithes. But this is where the snag comes in. Under our present economic system, the tax imposed upon us is not used in the manner in which God intended it to be used. We are now paying increasingly heavy burdens of tax in order to pay the interest on the national debt, and to support programmes which are completely contrary to God's Word. **By doing this, we are robbing God**, and I might add, on a national scale. No wonder the Lord so roundly condemns us.

But what about the 'offerings'? These are not the same as the 'tithe'. The tithe was, and still is, compulsory. But the offerings are those things or amounts which we pay to God over and above what we are legally required to pay. For instance, if your tithe, in the Biblical sense, comes to say \$20 per week, then you have fulfilled your legal obligation regarding the tithe. But if you pay, say, \$30 per week, then the extra \$10 constitutes an offering over and above the tithe. There are two things which we must consider. Firstly, we must take into consideration the fact that our taxes are being misused, and thus our tithe is not being paid to God as required. Secondly, the payment of our taxes in no way exonerates us from paying to God what are His legitimate dues. I know of occasions when people have ceased paying anything at all into the offering of their particular church purely on the basis that they have paid their taxes. God is definitely not going to bless anyone with this attitude. Our approach as Christians should be as to how we can support His work, not how we can get out of supporting it. The purpose of these re-

marks is not to encourage people to pay less, but rather to try to explain the difference between tithes and offerings. They are both necessary, and if we do not offer them to God as we ought, then we are under a curse. This applies to the individual as well as to the nation. But if we obey God, and do it the way He prescribes, then abundant blessing follows, as we read in Mal. 3:10-12;

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts."

But our obedience to God's requirements regarding tithes and offerings do not just prove our obedience. They are proof to God of our faith. He does not pour out the blessings upon us and then live in hope that we will honour Him for it. The first step is ours. We have to make the first move by giving to God. THEN He blesses us. It is a classic example of James' injunction of 'showing our faith by our works'.

The blessing of God upon us if we are faithful to our responsibilities are three-fold.

1. The returns from God will be of such proportions that they will greatly exceed our requirements. It has been well said that it is not a matter of saying that we cannot afford to pay our tithes and offerings, but rather that we cannot afford NOT to pay them. God is no man's debtor. Those who regularly honour God with their substance and/or time will bare testimony to this fact. The only ad-

vice that I would offer is that you consider carefully as to where you put your tithe and offering. To give it to those who know or believe misuse it is a sheer waste. In fact, all you are doing is paying such people or groups to continue teaching error, and you thus share in their sin.

2. It is the quickest way to have our enemies - those who devour our substance and prosperity - destroyed. It is of little use for us to sit around and whine about what is happening to us, and how people of other nations and cultures have the ascendancy over us. It is useless to continually complain about how the wicked seem to prosper whilst the righteous always seem to get the worst end of the stick. That condition could, and would, be corrected immediately if we only obeyed God and honoured Him first. I don't know how long it is going to be before we wake up to the fact that the most important thing that God requires from us is **OBEDIENCE**. He has given us His laws and commandments and statutes and judgments for our blessing. All we have to do is to obey them. But of course, we know better, don't we. Thus we suffer, and the enemy continues to come in like a flood.

3. Thirdly, and very importantly, our resultant prosperity will become so noticeable that other nations will be amazed by it, and shall recognise that we are blessed of the Lord. This would be the greatest advertisement that we could give other people of the glory and goodness of our God. One of the very reasons why God formed us in the first place was that we might, as a nation, become a blessing to all the families and nations of the earth. It happened in the days of King Solomon, when his prosperity resulted in the Queen of Sheba paying him a royal visit to check on things for herself, such were the reports of Israel's prosperity. And when she saw it first hand, she admitted that she hadn't been told the half of it. But what do we do today? We disobey God at every turn. We despise His Holy Laws. In fact most ministers teach their flock that we no longer have to worry about keeping them as they are supposed to have been done away with. I can assure you that this is news to our Lord Jesus Christ who

personally said that these laws would continue to function whilst ever the sun and moon continued to exist.

Thus the Lord condemns us in verses 13-15;

"Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered."

Yet in spite of what the Lord has said, our arrogance knows no bounds. We blatantly disregard, and totally ignore the judgments that are falling increasingly upon us as coming from the Almighty. We have now set God aside as someone of no consequence. We taunt God with the fact that the proud are those who are now happy; that those who do evil are the ones who are getting rich; and even the fact that nothing happens to those who tempt God with their blasphemies and lies.

Well, at this point of time, their accusations might seem to be correct. But people who adopt this attitude are in for a very huge shock in the very near future. Recent events throughout the world have shown that God uses forces which are totally beyond our prediction or our control. God controls the flood, and the drought, and the fire, and the earthquake. And with these weapons of His indignation He can destroy our economy and our riches far more quickly than the banks can shut their doors.

But there is also the good news. Those whom God considers to be righteous need have no fear of God's judgments, as, God willing, we shall see in our next study.

(To be continued).



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.

FAX: (02) 623-4691.

Two things have I required of thee;
deny me them not before I die:

Remove far from me vanity and lies;
give me neither poverty nor riches;
feed me with food convenient for me:

Lest I be full, and deny thee,
and say,
Who is the LORD?
or lest I be poor, and steal,
and take the name of my God in vain.

Proverbs 30:7-9

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