



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.

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.

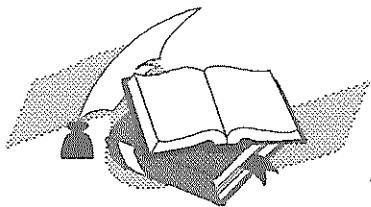
Denominational doctrines and differences are not our concern, and it is not our intention to enter into such arguments. There is not enough time left to waste it on such unproductive, and indeed, destructive, exercises. We are concerned ONLY with what the Word of God says and teaches.

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.

As we commence this New Year, we look back with sincere thankfulness for what has been achieved, and the assistance given by so many towards our ministry. Our sincere thanks to every one involved. But we cannot afford to live in the past, even though we must learn from its lessons.

There is no doubt but that the attack from the enemy within is going to grow more intensive as the New Year progresses. The catch-cry today, the world over, is 'democracy'. At all costs, every nation must be converted to democracy, even if they have to be forced to do so at the point of our guns. Yes, I said OUR guns. It's not the third world countries that are seeking democracy. It is our own Anglo-Saxon, so-called Christian, nations who are forcing the issue upon them. Anyone who doesn't recognise that all this is part of a very deliberate plot to bring about our own ultimate destruction is just simply living with their heads in the sand. Perhaps if we removed all the symbols of our heritage from our several Coats of Arms and replaced them with an Ostrich, we would have a far more accurate representation of our present stupidity.

But if there is one area of our national life within the British Commonwealth countries which is under attack more than any other it must surely be our Monarchy. The members of our Royal Family, despite the foolish and immoral behaviour of some of them, have become the target of every sick joke, and increasingly sick television programmes imaginable. And our own government station is right at the forefront of the attack. We are being systematically and deliberately brainwashed into accepting the supposed fact that the Monarchy is no longer necessary to us. We are being gradually conditioned to accept that a Republic is not only advisable, but absolutely necessary to our national survival. Now all this might sound fair enough to some people if it only applied to Australia. But the truth of the matter is becoming more and more apparent as we now see that this attack is not so confined. In the past, the various dominions have been persuaded to abandon the Monarchy to various extents. But when we find the attack now being directed to the position of the Monarchy in Britain itself, then something is going very, very wrong indeed. Only this morning, (Dec. 6, '94), our A.B.C. news reported that Labour members of the British Parliament were lobbying to reduce the extent and powers of the Royal Family. This is

not exactly new, I admit, but the statement that interested me was their claim that "it is now impossible for an hereditary Monarch to fit in to our democratic society". In other words, democracy can no longer be equated with an hereditary monarchy. So the cat is well and truly out of the bag.

Doesn't it seem somewhat strange that other nations with monarchies, outside the Anglo-Saxon nations, don't appear to be targeted in the same manner? For instance, if the things that are being said about our Monarch were to be even breathed in Japan against their Monarch, the offender would be arrested on the spot, and possibly executed. The media are not allowed to have 'field days' with their Monarch, or with the Monarch of many other countries. So why the difference when it comes to our Monarch?

The answer to this question can only be understood as we realise the deep and long-lasting significance of our Royal Family, and the Divinely appointed place it holds in the plans and purposes of Almighty God. For some time now we have pointed out through the pages of this journal that one of the final signs given to us of the impending return of our Lord Jesus Christ is the 'scattering of the holy people', as mentioned by the prophet Daniel. (Dan. 12:7). Psalm 114:2 identifies these 'holy, or separated, people in terms of "The Dominion and The Sanctuary." The Dominion constitutes the land where they dwell, whilst the Sanctuary constitutes and represents the king, or Royal House, that governs the dominion. The final destruction of the 'dominion' is now well on the way, and has been ever since the British people became officially a part of the States of Europe, totally contrary to the command of God Who stated that they were not to be reckoned among the nations. But now it is the turn of 'the sanctuary', the Royal House. Success can only be achieved by our enemies when both of these aspects of our national existence are totally destroyed. There is no doubt in my mind that these attacks against both our Monarchy and our nationality will continue to grow in intensity as this year progresses. I firmly believe that we are now living in the time of the 'death of the two witnesses', as described in the Book of the Revelation Chapter 11. This, I believe, is the purpose of 'democracy', to replace the rulership of God with the rulership of man. It is totally unscriptural, and totally anti-God. Our leaders, who with very few exceptions, are possibly ignorant of this diabolic plan of destruction, might well heed the sentence of God in relation to the people whom they are so paranoid about destroying. In the timing of God's prophetic Word, these witnesses are about to stand up again upon their feet. The 'dry bones', so aptly described by the prophet Ezekiel, are about to have the breath of life breathed into them, and stand upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Well might our enemy then be afraid. And well might we rejoice. We are on the very verge of dramatic and terrible things. Satan is indeed raving. But our God will prevail, and His Word will be vindicated.

LAW and FAITH.

The Doctrines of Law, Sin, Death, Grace and Faith.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

Part 2.

The Doctrine of Sin.

In our previous issue we pointed out that the purpose of these studies is to collate some of the major fundamental principles and doctrines of our faith into the overall pattern of God's plans and purposes as revealed in His Word. We reviewed the subject of The Law, and its absolute importance in the continuing life of His people Israel. When we refer to the Law in our present context, we are not referring to the Laws contained in Ordinances, or the Sacrificial Laws, for as Paul pointed out so carefully both in Ephesians 2:15 and Colossians 2:14, these were taken away and nailed to the Cross. We are referring here to the major section of God's Laws, the Commandments, Statutes, and Judgments, which were never ever repealed by our Lord, modern theology notwithstanding.

So when we come to the subject of 'SIN', we need to understand its relationship to Law. God's Word is quite clear in teaching us that when we break God's Law, either individually or nationally, the act itself, as well as the resultant condition, is SIN. We read in I John 3:4;

"Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness." (N.I.V. version).

“Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.” (N.A.S.B. version).

“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.” (K.J. version).

So we see that the Biblical definition of ‘sin’ is quite different from the modern church doctrine of ‘sin’, because if the Law has been done away with, as we are presently taught, then there is no criteria left upon which we can assess ‘sin’. Let us look at a few more Scriptures to determine the Biblical relationship between sin and law.

Rom. 3:20; *“Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”*

Rom. 5:13; *“For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.”*

Rom. 7:7; *“What shall we say then? is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.”*

Rom. 7:8; *“But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.”*

Rom. 2:31; *“Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.”*

Sin continues to exist only because the Law continues to exist. Neither faith nor grace can alter that situation. The ‘law’ of which Paul was speaking in Romans 6:14 when he said; *“for ye are not under law, but under grace”*, was the law contained in ordinances, or the sacrificial laws, to which we referred earlier. If he was referring to the entire law of God, then how could we possibly understand his statement just two chapters earlier in Romans 4:15 where he wrote; *“for where no law is, there is no transgression.”* Or in other words, *“There is no sin”*.

Thus we conclude that SIN, in its true Biblical sense, cannot even exist without the continued operation of the Law.

But there is one more aspect of 'sin' which we should look at before proceeding. That is the relationship between ourselves and sin as set forth in Psalm 51:5;

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me."

Sin is not just an act. It is also a condition. The original sin committed by our first parents, Adam and Eve, introduced into our genes a condition of sin or sinfulness. This was never intended by God, although, in His foreknowledge, He knew what was going to happen. His instructions to Adam was that he was not to eat of the 'Tree of the knowledge of good and evil', which was synonymous with 'the tree of the knowledge of life and death.' As we read in Deuteronomy 30:15;

"See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil."

God's original intention was that His new Adam should not know anything of death. They were to be a very special 'living' people. But at the same time, He warned Adam that if he transgressed the commandment not to eat of this 'tree', then he would immediately begin to die. We know the story only too well. Both Adam and his wife Eve decided that they just had to know what they shouldn't know. They broke the commandment, and by so doing committed the first sin. The sentence for sin has always been the same. It was then, and still is, death. As we read in Ezekiel 18:4;

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Thus, the sinful condition, leading to death, is an inherent part of every human being. It is not just a matter of what we do, but of what we are. The poison of death is born in us. It is in our bloodstream. As a result, it doesn't matter how good a life we lead, or how well we keep God's Laws, we are all subject to the same ultimate human fate. This is why good Christians die just the same as non-Christians. The seed of death is born in us as a result of the sinful condition which we have inherited from our forefathers. In addition to this, we are subject to the Law which says that the sins of the parents will be visited upon the

children unto the third and the fourth generation. Thus, anything that we now do which is contrary to God's Laws will affect our children for up to the next four generations. This is why many diseases are referred to as being inherited. If more people realised the importance of this factor alone, they would surely understand the necessity of obeying God's Laws, if for no other reason than to protect the health of their children and grandchildren.

We come now to a third factor in our study of 'sin'. In Hebrews 8:12 we read this statement;

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

This is a most interesting verse of Scripture, because it refers to three specific subjects, unrighteousness, sin, and iniquity. These are obviously different subjects, with different meanings, otherwise it would be just a waste of space to refer to them separately and so specifically. Because of the progression in their operation, I am going to comment on these factors in reverse order.

The word 'iniquity' as used in the Bible means the violation of the law. It also includes the inherent evil nature within us, or the wicked act of the mind delighting in evil. In other words, it represents not so much the act of sin, but the inherent weakness within all of us which leads to sin. In Isaiah 59:2 we read;

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

The word used here means 'perversity, or moral evil'. This is the condition of inherent structural weakness within us. This is the condition referred to in Psalm 51:5

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me."

The moral evil and propensity to do that which is wrong is born in us, and is the driving force that makes us then commit the act of sin. A very good example of this is found in Genesis 6:5;

"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."

This is the major problem within both our national and our individual life today!

The sin itself, as bad as that is, is not the primary problem. The primary problem is the inherent weakness of perverseness that lies within us which prompts us to sin. This being the case, it must automatically follow that what we should be concentrating on initially is not so much the 'sin', but rather, the cause of the sin. It is very much like going to the doctor. So many of them treat the symptoms, rather than the cause of the disease. And the same applies on the spiritual level. We hear ad nauseam of the problem of sin, but rarely do we hear of the earlier problem of iniquity which leads or causes us to sin.

If we wish to remove sin from our lives, then the first place to start is with the iniquity, not the sin. The basic problem is with the iniquity, and if we do not deal with this first, then we will never conquer the sin which results. Remember, iniquity is basically an evil condition. This condition then prompts us to commit an evil act. That act is then referred to as sin.

Iniquity is a power force, and must be removed by a more powerful force.

God treats iniquity in three ways. Firstly, He forgives us our iniquities. Let us look at a few Scriptures;

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." (Psalm 103:3).

It is important to note here that our healing does not only depend on the forgiveness of our sins, but also on the forgiveness of the iniquity from which the sin derived.

"Yet, LORD, thou knowest all their counsel against me to slay me: forgive not their iniquity, neither

blot out their sin from thy sight, but let them be overthrown before thee; deal thus with them in the time of thine anger.” (Jer. 18:23).

“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.” (Jer. 31:34).

“Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.” (Romans 4:7).

Secondly, He **cleanses** us from our iniquities.

“And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me.” (Jer. 33:8).

“Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.” (Ezek. 36:13).

So now we find that the iniquities are not only forgiven, or sent away, but in addition, we are cleansed from them. The slate is now clean. There is now nothing there to see. It's a pity that more Christians don't realise this wonderful fact. How many times have you, or someone you know, fallen foul of some evil intent within you, sought God's forgiveness, and then kept on seeking His forgiveness day after day, for the same thing. This is totally wrong, and quite unnecessary, because when God forgives you, He wipes the slate clean and there is no more remembrance of your iniquity before Him, unless of course, you allow it to be reintroduced. So once you've repented and sought God's forgiveness in sincerity, **forget about it**. God has, so why should you worry any further.

Thirdly, our iniquities are redeemed. We read in Psalm 130:8;

"And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities."

The word 'redeem' means to buy something back which once belonged to you. Israel belonged to God in a very special way. But because of their sinfulness and wickedness, God set them aside as an act of punishment. But in due time, their Redeemer, our Lord Jesus Christ came to redeem them, to buy them back, so that they could be restored to Him once more. The same principle applies to us as individuals. Our salvation and forgiveness brings us back to God. So we see that 'iniquity' can be forgiven, cleansed, and redeemed.

As we previously pointed out, it is the operation of the iniquity within us that leads to the action which is then referred to as 'sin'. This also can be forgiven. We read in Acts 3:19;

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

We read in Matthew 9:1-8 of the place of forgiveness of sin in physical healing.

"And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

*And he arose, and departed to his house.
But when the multitude saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men."*

Other similar instances also contain the added words of our Lord to 'go and sin no more'. So there is no doubt but that healing is associated with the forgiveness of sin. We should carefully note however that forgiveness of sin is not necessarily followed by physical healing. **But physical healing is always dependant upon forgiveness of sin.** The reason why so many folk experience healing and then revert to their former illness is because there has been no repentance, and the healing has become little more than a temporary relief. Then again, if the act of repentance for a particular sin does not include a genuine repentance of the iniquity that caused the sin in the first place, then the illness can, and mostly does, return.

Sin is also cleansed. For instance, in Psalm 51:2 we read;

"Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin."

And in Rev. 1:5 we read;

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."

Thus we see that in the case of both iniquity and sin, we are forgiven and cleansed.

But when we come to the third phrase, that of 'unrighteousness', we find quite a difference. The word means, 'that which is not conformable to that which is right'.

"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,

who hold the truth in unrighteousness.”

(Rom. 1:17-18).

“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”

(Rom. 6:13).

“What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid.”

(Rom. 9:14).

“Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness.”

(II Peter 2:15).

From the above, we see that ‘unrighteousness’ is a condition. We don’t do something that is unrighteous. We become unrighteous through the wrong that we do. And this is where the difference comes in. As we have seen, our sins and our iniquities are forgiven and cleansed. But not once in the entire Scriptures do we find any reference to our unrighteousness being forgiven. God does not forgive unrighteousness. He forgives the motivation and the act, but not the condition. Unrighteousness can only be cleansed. As we read in I John 1:9;

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

And when you come to think of it, that makes sense. If you get dirty, you don’t forgive the dirt for being on you. You wash yourself and get rid of it.

Thus we find the progression. First we have the inherent weakness born within us which prompts, or tempts us to do something wrong. Secondly, we give way to the temptation and commit that which is wrong, thus committing the sin. The committing of the sin then makes us unrighteous.

When we truly repent, God both forgives and wipes away the sin and the iniquity, and then, through the shed blood of our Lord Jesus Christ cleanses us from all unrighteousness. We are

then covered with the righteousness of Christ, and in an acceptable condition for God to look upon us. We don't inherit righteousness, and we certainly don't earn it. It is part of the free grace of God offered to those who love Him and wish to continually obey Him in all aspects of life.

Sin is the transgression of the Law. If we do not wish to remain as transgressors, we must repent from our sins, have them washed away, so that we may inherit the righteousness that a loving God always intended for us.

(To be continued.)



Covenant Vision Fellowship.

Pastor:- Frank W. Dowsett. J.P.

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

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C. V. P. E. W. S.

Since our last issue of The Covenant Vision we have some very exciting news for our readers. Late November the opportunity to visit overseas to speak presented itself to us. So as a result of our contacting the folk concerned, we have finalised a visit to Belfast in Northern Ireland next March where I have been invited to speak at nine services, in seven different churches of the Churches of God. (For those who might be wondering, there is no connection between these churches and Herbert Armstrong's World Wide Church of God). These churches are very strong in their Israel Identity beliefs, and in fact, I hold my accreditation as a minister with them, and with their Australian Affiliate. Several of these churches have regular attendances of 700 to 800 per service, so I've been told. I met two of the senior pastors of these churches a few years ago when they were in Australia, and it will be a wonderful opportunity to renew our fellowship, as they are very fine servants of God. Naturally, Betty is accompanying me on the trip. During later planning we decided to take Betty's sister, Daphne, with us. Daph lost her husband several years ago, and since then, when possible, we have taken her with us on holidays. This will be quite an experience for her as she has never been outside Australia. It will also be a welcome break for both Betty and me, as in ten years of our present ministry we have rarely been able to leave for more than two weeks at a time. So this will be a kind of Sabbatical for us.

But things didn't end with our plans for Ireland. We decided that we would extend our stay for a little while to have a working holiday, as it were. Betty's family originally came from Cork in southern Ireland, and we decided to hire a car and have a tour round Ireland for a week to see the sights, and to have a break after the fairly intensive speaking schedule. Then we decided to return home via the U.S.A. so that I could spent several days with my younger brother who lives near Boston, Massachusetts, and whom we haven't seen for many years. As this isn't that far from Toronto, in Canada, where there is a strong Branch of the British Israel World Federation, I made arrangements to visit them on the way through. To cut a long story short, they

organised for me to speak at about five meetings at and around Toronto, and another at Vancouver. We also hope to visit Pastor David Barley of America's Promise in Idaho, where we have also been invited to speak, although at the time of writing this, we are not sure that we can get on a connecting flight at the right time. Would you believe that the flights that we can use on our particular ticket, which gives us six sectors throughout the U.S.A. for just an extra few hundred dollars over the return flight through Europe, were completely booked out **four months ahead**. So the upshot of all this is that we will be away for about six weeks, instead of the three to four weeks that we originally intended. We understand that the folk in Belfast are going to show us around that beautiful part of the country, and the folk in Toronto have already arranged to show us the sights round there, including a visit to the Niagara Falls. We will also be staying a night in Amsterdam because of flight connections, so that will give us a little time to see something of that city. We expect to be leaving late February, and returning the first week in April. Our office secretary, Ruth, will be looking after things at the office whilst we are away, whilst our Elder, George Wilson, with the aid of several of our up-and-coming young people will look after the services.

In January we will be conducting a marriage ceremony for two of our young folk, and a few weeks after our return we celebrate the wedding of a second couple who are also members of our congregation.

Because of the Christmas break, our printer is closing down for several weeks, and we have had to prepare this issue fairly quickly. As a result of this, and our time away, we have been obliged to postpone our first article in our promised series "Babylon the Great", and will commence this series in a later issue. Our March/April issue will also have to be printed and posted prior to leaving on our trip, as to leave it until we return would be far too late. So we'll do our best. In the meantime, we **would especially request your prayers**, not only for a safe trip, but also that the Lord will strengthen us physically and mentally in this opportunity to witness to our brethren overseas of His wonderful faithfulness and glory. We are quite sure, because of the manner in which everything has fallen into place, that He has presented us with a wonderful opportunity which has been the privilege of very few Australians in the past, and we look forward to this extension to our ministry. God richly bless you all.

WHEN WILL BRITAIN WAKE UP?

Her Time for Slumber has Run Out

Reginald H.W. Cox

Courtesy "Wake Up"
11 Seagate, Irvine, Ayrshire,
Scotland. KA12 8RH
(Sept./Oct., 1994)

The following thesis was delivered to an international gathering of concerned Christians at the Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, by the author, the Rev. Reginald Cox, the former rector of St. Jude's Church, Walsall. Though there have been many important and significant events in the four years between then and now, the substance of his remarks is no less topical and relevant in today's climate of advanced immorality, even in Christendom.

All of us gathered here have been Christ's faithful watchmen over many years. I have been on the wall for more than 60 years, and during this lifetime have seen the fulfilment of a number of prophecies, including the Deliverance of Jerusalem in 1917, each pointing to the nearness of our Lord's return to establish the Kingdom of God on Earth, for which we petition unceasingly in The Lord's Prayer.

As I have grown older, questions recur with increasing frequency: Does our Lord require us only to *watch and pray* (Mark 13:33)? Are we to do or say nothing about the ever-growing threats to destroy our country and those we love? Are we to be silent while our people live carelessly and stumble from one dangerous deception to another?

Before we examine these questions -- before we consider the Great Deception which is destroying us as a Christian nation, thwarting every effort we make towards

becoming a healthy people living prosperously and safely under the protection of Almighty God -- we should remind ourselves what Scripture teaches us about Satan and the evil spiritual forces under his direction. We should do this because the theologians and the higher critics, the modernists and the humanists all tell us that the Devil or Satan or the dragon or that old serpent -- as Jesus Christ calls him (*Revelation 12:9; 20:21*) -- does not exist!

Satan is on their side, and he will prosper and propagate these doctrines because he wants us to believe them that humanity and God's great Cause in the earth might be destroyed. The theologians teach us that all human suffering and all the evils that afflict us are essentially the result of mankind's frailty and natural tendency to sin. This must surely mean that God created us flawed.

The late Howard Rand, that wise and sagacious American watchman, pointed out that so long as the Scriptural version of Satan as a celestial being in opposition to God prevails, then the truth that God exists will not be completely eradicated. He went on to ask if Jesus was lying when He said: "He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; but the tares are the children of the wicked one. The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world (or age); and the reapers are the angels". (*Matthew 13:37-39*.)

In the United Kingdom the Christian church is in very serious decline. One of the reasons for this is that the great majority of church leaders have entirely lost or rejected the vision of the Kingdom of God and the reality of the spiritual struggle between God and the Devil -- between good and evil -- which will end with our Lord Jesus Christ establishing that Kingdom *here on earth*; that much longed-for event which, happily, now appears to be very close.

That the Devil has been able to corrupt and mislead the Church -- the Body of Christ -- is a shock to many Christians; but the evidence is seen in the seduction of church leaders (some of whom do not hesitate to

declare publicly their doubts about the veracity of Holy Writ) and the modernistic tendency to so spiritualise even the plainest facts of Scripture that these become unreal or unacceptable.

Separating Church and State is a Recipe for Disaster

To the dangers which threaten the Church we shall return. Right now we must look at the manner in which Satan has succeeded in deceiving those whom Christ has described as "the very elect" (*Matthew 24:24*). The key to this Great Deception is the widely accepted satanic lie that there is no place for religion in politics or for politics in religion; that the two philosophies are incompatible and must for this reason, be kept apart. By accepting this lie as a profound truth Christian countries have been deceived into separating Church and State, with quite disastrous results for their peoples.

This Great Deception has been inflicted upon the peoples and government of the United Kingdom, but here the separation has not become quite complete: there is a lingering suspicion that the government of the State *might* be accountable to Almighty God. So the monarch, the *titular* head of state, is crowned in a religious service which closely resembles the crowning of the kings of ancient Israel. Again, the prime minister, the *elected* head of government, has to approve the appointment of the bishops of the national church, much as the order of the Old Testament where Moses was instructor to Aaron, the High Priest. Also, each sitting of our House of Commons is opened with a formal prayer by the chaplain.

However, acknowledgement that *the only law-giver is Almighty God* is not found in our State proceedings or Law Courts. Yet God has already promulgated the laws by which we should be governed, and the only legitimate function of the House of Commons is to draft the regulations which will ensure that the Divine Law is observed throughout the Realm. No one, even among our educated classes and leaders of thought, seems to be aware of God's promise that if we willingly obey His Divine Law and keep

His Statutes He will give us, as a nation, freedom from want and disease; that He will, among other blessings, protect us from our enemies and from those who hate us, that we may live in peace.

Far from devising instruments to ensure that the Divine Law is observed throughout the United Kingdom, that we might enjoy these transcendent blessings, our would-be *legislators*, under the influence of satanic agency, not merely ignore God's wise counsel but have flagrantly defied the Divine Law by introducing measures to permit misbehaviour condemned by God, resulting in filthy and quite horrifying perversions which, under Divine Law, attract the death penalty. This arrogant rejection of the omnipotent wisdom of Almighty God resulted in AIDS, and the dedicated work of our medical research teams will be rewarded only after sodomy and its related perversions are once more criminal offences attracting the most severe punishment; only after the nation's rulers repent of their mischief.

Democracy, though the Best Man has Achieved, is not Efficient

This is merely one of the administrative blunders committed by a body acting in ignorance or in contempt of the Divine Will. It is noted here because it illustrates the dangers inherent in the type of government defined by Abraham Lincoln as "government of the people, by the people, for the people". It must be admitted that while democracy is not particularly efficient, it is better -- very much better -- than any other form of government yet evolved by man.

Even so, our politicians and leaders of thought have brain-washed most of our people into believing that our type of democratic government is something almost sacred and must be upheld and protected at all costs. This propaganda also has been successful in other parts of the world. Not long ago it was noticeable that, in throwing off the shackles of Communism, the peoples of Eastern Europe demanded democratic government as a top priority.

Nevertheless, we must never forget that democracy is not the type of government prescribed by Almighty God. Indeed, there is only one reference to democracy in the whole of Scripture. You will recall that a number of Levites were elected by the princes and the congregation to protest to Moses about their living conditions. We read that "the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them" (*Numbers 16:32*).

Through His prophets, God has made it abundantly clear that in any theocratic State the function of its leaders will not be to make worldly laws of their own, but wisely to administer the Law of Almighty God. That is what our Lord meant when explaining that His Kingdom (the Kingdom of God on Earth) was not of this world order (*Kosmos -- John 18:36*), where kings and governors rule by their own laws.

Our Lord also confirmed that He had not come to destroy the Law but to fulfil it (*Matthew 5:17*). Indeed, He imposed upon His followers the additional obligation to obey the *spirit* of the Law and not merely the letter (*Matthew 5:27-28*).

By deceiving mankind into believing that the Divine Law was not part of the State -- that man could, indeed, make his own laws -- Satan scored a truly remarkable victory. This satanic deception of the Church has led to an almost unbelievable situation, depriving the Church of any interest in or responsibility to the Law. Bishops, elders and theologians have confined their attention to purely spiritual issues limiting their evangel to the Gospel of Personal Salvation. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God on Earth either has been ignored or spiritualised into a vague, intangible kingdom that now exists in the hearts of men or in a spiritual zone somewhere above the clouds, remote from Earth and humanity.

Cut Adrift from its Anchor the Church is Without an Authoritative Message

Having cut loose from the sheet anchor of Scrip-

ture, most of the Christian Church in this country now finds itself adrift and without an authoritative message either for its own communicants or for the uncommitted man and woman in the street. This rejection of sound Scriptural doctrine has had two unfortunate results: a modern church service can have as little relevance to Scripture as, say, a meeting of a friendly society -- a situation which has prompted church leaders to join with other denominations to form a confederate church that will ultimately come under the influence of the Church of Rome. (An active leader in this movement -- now Lord Runcie -- was head of the Anglican Church.) One result of this drift from sound doctrine is a drastic fall in the number of communicants of most orthodox churches and a dramatic rise to some millions in the circulation of the magazines published by unorthodox churches who preach sound Scriptural doctrine in simple language.

Satan, the enemy of Christ, is certainly a subtle and efficient adversary; but what a terrible calamity to bring upon a people who, less than a century ago, were described as The People of the Book, and were regarded as the greatest nation on Earth! As one old enough to remember the declining years of that great age I can say, without doubt or hesitation, that the greatness of Britain was a reflection of the sterling character of her people -- commoners and gentry alike. Indeed, it can be claimed, without fear of contradiction, that the men and women who answered the challenge of the Great War of 1914-18 -- be they from these islands or from the Dominions -- were of the finest generation our island race has produced and, in the light of present trends, is ever likely to produce until the nation is cleansed.

They were certainly a People of the Book: people of simple undoubting faith, reflected in their loyalty and patriotism; in their love of family and friends; in their consideration for the aged, the infirm and the underdog; and in their innate but unexpressed conviction that, as they belonged to the finest race upon Earth, their behaviour should reflect what was, to them, a very serious responsibility. They would not do anything to "let the side down".

They had a respect for authority and they were blessed with an upper class of great probity and responsibility. Their thinking was influenced by intellectual giants of immense stature.

The Powers of Darkness have Suppressed the Unique British Character

Through two world wars the Powers of Darkness have been able to break down the whole superstructure of social responsibility throughout Britain and to undermine the theology which gave birth to the great Protestant awakening of the sixteenth century. They have been able to entice the British people into the evil Babylonian financial system; but their greatest achievement has been to crush and suppress the unique character of the British people.

Working through the legal machinery of our parliamentary system, the forces of evil have brought millions of aliens to these islands. That is, people of other races, other cultures, other religions; people who are unable or unwilling to assimilate, as did the Huguenots and other European refugees who have enriched our society in times past. Although public opinion is alarmed by the ever growing threat of civil unrest, resulting from the massive foreign population already here, the Government is faced with demands that we should offer full British citizenship to the entire population of Hong Kong consisting of more than five million Chinese Asians!

The Devil's advocates talk glibly about the evil of racism in order to justify their policy of destroying or submerging one of the purest races on Earth. They should be reminded that the different races of mankind were created purposefully by Almighty God and that there are many Scriptural references to refute the satanic deception that race-mixing is good or even desirable. Christ's watchmen will have noticed that it is difficult to find another period in recorded history when the races of mankind have been so widely admixed and disturbed as in the period commencing with the world war of 1914-18. That movement

still continues to disturb the political stability of the nations of the world and indicates that we are moving rapidly towards the Second Advent of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

As we look back over the last 50 years or more and compare the changes with the signs He predicted it is not difficult to see that we are living in the Time of the End. The political, religious, meteorological and environmental changes, are so vast that the Christian who has become aware of their significance is somewhat humbled and overawed by their extent. In such circumstances can we, as Christ's watchmen, do more than maintain a prayerful vigil?

Our Lord's prophetic description of the state of the world immediately prior to His return, indicates that pre-Advent conditions will be like those prevailing before the Flood. In His own words: people will continue "**eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage**" (*Matthew 24:38*), and we see very few will be aware of what is about to happen.

We concerned Christians, and those throughout this land who have been privileged to know what is soon to happen to this blind and sinful world, have a duty; much like that bestowed upon St. Luke, to **WAKE UP** those around us to a knowledge of how the forces of evil have misled them, and to condition them to face the frightening events that will precede the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we have a duty "**to make ready a people prepared for the Lord**" (*Luke 1:17*).

The Anglican Liturgy was Destroyed by the Alternative Services Book

A great deal can be done to open the eyes of the spiritually blind, and looking at just a few of the issues that should have our attention we might encourage our Anglican friends to concentrate their efforts on revealing how their **dignified, Scripturally oriented and inspiring liturgy** was destroyed by the introduction of the *Alternative*

Services Book. In some churches they may be successful in having *The Book of Common Prayer* restored to regular use. Individually one might befriend a lapsed Christian and by demonstrating the subtle way in which the forces of darkness had corrupted his church, restore his faith in the inspired Word of God.

Notwithstanding the many pressures of vested interests, we are blessed in this country with a press that is relatively free and independent, and will often expose public wrong or injustice brought to their notice. Therefore, those who write for publication ought also to consider the far-reaching effects of dealing with the spiritual aspects of the wrong or injustice they report. However, perhaps the greatest opportunity for bringing enlightenment is in helping the sick and needy, because those who find health and happiness through their obedience to the Divine Law will pass on the good news to others.

We must expect, and most certainly will receive, rebuffs from the worldly and the sophisticated for, as St. Paul discovered: "**The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God**" (*1 Corinthians 3:19*); but this should not discourage us from presenting our case for the veracity of Scripture to the educated and informed. Indeed, trained and disciplined minds can understand and appreciate the evidence of historical fact in the fulfilment of prophecy. Nevertheless, we must heed the warning of our Lord Jesus Christ and maintain a constant prayer vigil.

No one is permitted to know the precise time of His Coming: but we do know from recent signs and events that it must now be very near. Although staggering in their extent and complexity, these signs and events are being brushed aside, ignored or dismissed as scientific nightmares. Very few people treat them seriously, and only a tiny minority of Christians relate them to Scriptural prophecy or to the consequences of disobeying the Divine Law.

What is happening today is not merely without precedent; if present trends continued all forms of animal

life would eventually cease and Earth would become a lifeless wilderness. The destruction of the ozone layer which screens out most of the damaging UV-b radiation, is a case in point: biologists say that without the ozone layer, life could not exist. But our Lord assures us that this will not be allowed to happen: "**And except those days be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened**" (*Matthew 24:22*).

Another threat to human life is posed by the ever growing incidence of AIDS (already noted) which is almost as frightening as was the Black Death, and certainly as lethal. That a very high percentage of our children are now being born with AIDS or with other very serious physical disabilities is a grim reminder that the consequences of ignoring Divine Law are now upon us in this largely heathen land.

Having Rejected God we Cannot now Find our Way

It is because our people have rejected God that they seek a "natural" explanation for these appalling calamities, and we cannot find a solution or an answer because we are spiritually asleep. It is a tragedy that we remain asleep even after a hurricane -- the first hurricane in our history -- struck that part of Britain from which we are governed.

Christ has warned that political unrest among the nations with famines, disease and widespread earthquakes will precede His Return (*Matthew 24:6-7*). These disturbances are now occurring in Europe, in Africa, in Russia, and in the Middle East, but not even a hurricane could wake up our people and cause them to recognise that something unusual was happening in the world.

In the meantime, and while we watch and pray, we should not willingly or knowingly participate in the evil systems which now flourish and which will be destroyed in the run-up to the Kingdom. Those who find this summary disturbing or frightening should note the words of Almighty

God, directed to His servants in these islands:-

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God" I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10).



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

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

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

And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be over-charged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

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 21:25-28 & 34-36)

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THE FEASTS OF JEHOVAH.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

Part 1.

Introduction.

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings. These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Here, in Leviticus 23:1-4, Jehovah, the Lord God of Israel, gave His commandment to His people.

But let it be carefully noted that these are NOT 'the Feasts of Israel'. They are NOT 'the Feasts of the Jews', and they are

certainly NOT Jewish Feasts. They are JEHOVAH'S FEASTS which He gave to the nation of Israel. Neither the Jews, nor any non-Israel nation have any right to them. They were specifically given to Israel.

The questions arise, "Why did Jehovah give these commandments?" and "Why are they so disregarded today within the Christian community and churches?" It is our intention in this series of articles to examine not only the initial reason for their introduction by God into the life of Israel, but to also study their validity and their meaning and application for today.

So let us commence with a short study of the purpose for which Jehovah introduced these Feasts.

1. They laid down the pattern and the principles for Israel's worship.

In this regard, they firstly established the need for the head of the household to accept, and carry out, his God-given authority and responsibility as the Priest of the family. Under God, it was the man's responsibility to teach and train his family in the necessity to obey the laws, statutes, commandments and judgments of God. This requirement is clearly set forth in the following Scriptures;

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success." (Joshua 1:8).

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates." (Deut. 6:6-9).

"And it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments before the LORD our God, as he hath commanded us." (Deut. 6:25).

"Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else.

Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever." (Deut 4:39-40).

It is abundantly clear from these readings that the prime requirement, as far as God was concerned, was for his people, from their very earliest years, to be thoroughly taught in His Laws. There was no such thing as Sunday School where the children were to be taught by others. The responsibility lay squarely on the shoulders of the father, as head of the family. It shows how far we have slipped from God's original requirements when we consider the totally God-dishonouring teaching today that the Law of God is no longer applicable, having allegedly been done away with. How can we possibly teach our children to grow up in the fear and admonition of God, if the very means by which we do this has been removed? The situation is absolutely ludicrous. And those who use every excuse they can find to disregard this fact should seriously take to heart the words of our Lord Himself where He said in John 14:15;

"If ye love Me, keep My commandments."

In view of the fact that Jesus is no other than Jehovah, Who formulated and gave His Laws in the first place, this in no way can be interpreted as applying only to the 'Ten Commandments'. What a ridiculous situation it would be if Jehovah told His people to keep all His Laws, and then later on, as Jesus, restricted this requirement just to the Ten Commandments. People who teach these things just don't bother to study the Word. All they do is to interpret it in such a manner as to suit their own self-opinionated beliefs and doctrines.

Secondly, the observance of these Feasts totally eliminated the risk of introducing into the nation's worship the doctrines and traditions of men. Denominations, as we now know them, would be totally unknown. Just think what that would mean in our present society. Instead of people becoming the subjects of all the religious sales pitch that we now see, engaged in by all the various denominations in order to swell their ranks, and their bank accounts, there would be just one national church, with one nation wide doctrine based solely upon the Word of God. All the infighting and inter-denominational disagreements would be eliminated entirely. Admittedly, this would be tough on all the Theological Colleges and the hundreds of different denominations, to say nothing of the thousands of shepherds, in their varying degrees of falsity. But if we could only get away from our paranoid support of the traditions of men which our Lord Himself so roundly condemned, and applied our energies and resources to worshipping God in the manner that He has set down, we would, I'm absolutely convinced, experience a national revival of proportions far beyond anything that we have ever experienced. God makes His will patently obvious in Deut. 6:1-15, part of which we quoted earlier;

"Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:

That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey.

*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD:
And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:*

And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

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

And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into the land which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildest not,

And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;

Then beware lest thou forget the LORD, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.

Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you;

(For the LORD thy God is a jealous God among you) lest the anger of the LORD thy God be kindled against thee, and destroy thee from off the face of the earth."

Read again, and thoroughly absorb, that last verse. God is a very jealous God. Our failure to observe what He has commanded has most definitely kindled His anger against us, and we are now being destroyed by lack of knowledge of His requirements, brought about mainly by the perversity of our shepherds who persist in substituting their own doctrines for the pure Word of God. And as a result, as the prophet Amos foretold, there is now a famine of the Word of God throughout the lands of Israel. We will deal with specific incidents of this false doctrine as we examine the various Feasts, but as an example, just look at our present seasons of Easter and Christmas. They are, and are acknowledged to be, purely pagan Babylonish customs, introduced into the Christian faith by the Church of Rome. They totally re-

placed the original Israel customs of Passover and Tabernacles established by God Himself. Yet the staunchest opponents of the Church of Rome and its teachings will seemingly fight to the death to preserve the right to uphold these false Romish teachings, whilst, without the bat of an eyelid, rejecting the customs set down by the Lord God of Israel whom they would also fight to the death to protect. We complain about all the paganism and commercialisation associated with both Easter and Christmas, and yet steadfastly and stubbornly refuse to re-introduce and observe the very mode of worship that would instantly remove these influences from our national and daily lives. These modern day celebrations rarely, if ever, mention the One whom the particular season is supposed to be celebrating. You ask any child today, who is the central character of Christmas and Easter, and they will answer without any hesitation, Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny respectively. And then we have the effrontery to ask why our kids are growing up without any knowledge of God, or the Lord Jesus Christ. The culprits are not the stores which have no other motive than mere profits. The culprits are the people, led by the false shepherds, who, in order to pander more and more to the wants of the child, give way to them and put themselves into hock every year to buy them bigger and better presents that they can't afford. Thus our children have become the victims of this ever widening cycle of sheer greed and paganism. On the one hand, we tell them to be good Christians, and on the other hand, tell them to be so by the use of pagan and God-dishonouring methods. I can only say that this seems very strange to me.

2. The Feasts laid down the pattern of God's dealings and His personal relationship with His people Israel.

The command is stated in Leviticus 23:1-4, with which we commenced our studies;

*"And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them,
Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall
proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my
feasts.*

Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons."

It will be noted at this point, that there are two major groups of Feasts. Firstly, there is the Weekly Feast or Sabbath, as set forth in verse 3, and secondly, there are the Seasonal Feasts of verse 4. So we will look first at the Weekly Feast.

It totally confounds me to read, as I recently did, such statements by ministers that the Feast Days have been done away with, being part of the Law. The very same people then quote the fourth Commandment as expressed in Exodus 20:8-10;

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."

They argue that the Law, including the Feast Days, was done away with, all except the Ten Commandments. Now how can we possibly reconcile a situation where a particular commandment is required to be kept by one set of rules, and at the same time done away with by another set of rules. If the Feast Days have been done away with, then the requirement for keeping a seven-day Sabbath has also been done away with, because it is the very first of the Feast Days which Jehovah instigated for His people. Conversely, if the Sabbath Day is still required to be observed, then the whole of the Feast Days of which it is a part also have to be observed. We just cannot have it both ways.

But what is this Sabbath referred to here. Firstly, it is not another word for 'Saturday', not is it another word for 'Sunday'.

It has absolutely nothing to do with any particular day of the week. The word 'sabbath' simply means 'rest - a cessation from labour'. Thus, the Sabbath relates purely and simply to a day of rest. The rule quite clearly states that we are to do all our work in six days, and then rest on the seventh day. It was a cyclical law, that is, it occurred on a regular cycle of every seventh day. There is no such phrase in the entire Bible as 'the seventh day of the week' in regardsd to the Sabbath. No particular day is anywhere stated to be the day on which this day first occurred. It is well to remember that at the time of its inception, the days of the week were not even named. Our present days of the week were totally unknown. They were simply referred to as the first, or tenth, or whatever, day of the month, the month commencing on the New Moon. They were not even referred to as the first or third or whatever day of the week. Furthermore, this rule was never given to individuals or organisations to change or apply as they saw fit. It was given to Israel as a nation, and was always intended to be applied on a national basis as a national law. Personal and private attempts to change this fact, in my own opinion, have caused more division and trouble within the Christian church than any other subject that I know. The nation, by law, has selected our present day of Sunday as the day on which this sabbath is to be upheld. It is upheld every seventh day on the Sunday by national law. And this is how it was ordained to be, especially when we realise that the great majority of those nations which incorporate the Sabbath Law on their Statute Books are the descendants of those very same people to whom this law was originally given.

The Law of the Sabbath is the first of Jehovah's Feast Days. Its observance is guaranteed, on the authority of the Word of God, to bring untold blessing. It's importance is set out in Isa. 58:13-14;

"If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:

Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the

earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it."

Then there is the second group of Feast Days which are referred to as seasonal feasts. They occur in three groups as follows.

1. (a) Passover.
(b) Unleavened Bread.
(c) Firstfruits.
2. Pentecost.
3. (a) Trumpets.
(b) Atonement.
(c) Tabernacles.

The importance of understanding these Feasts of Jehovah cannot, in my estimation, be too strongly expressed, and in subsequent studies we will examine these Feast Days in detail. It places the whole of our Lord's ministry, together with our worship, in its full and proper perspective. Remember, they have nothing whatsoever to do with Jewish customs. They were specifically given to us, as God's People Israel, as a means by which we can for all time worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Finally, we are informed of our authority and responsibility to keep these Feasts. Four times in Leviticus chapter 23 we are told;

"It shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings."

As we have said, they are not a part of the sacrificial ordinances. They have not been done away with, and they will not cease until the events and principles of which they are a pattern cease to exist, or are fulfilled.

(To be continued).



THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

By Bruce Horner

The visit of this most illustrious of Solomon's guests is recorded in 2 Chronicles chapter 9, and 1 Kings chapter 10. The Queen of Sheba came from Saba (Sheba) in southern Arabia, say the Yemenites who live there, and this view is supported by the Koran. However, Ivan Velikovsky has given us a new and different statement of Egyptian chronology, and he shows that the Queen of Sheba is identical with Hatshepsut, Queen of South Egypt. Queen Hatshepsut visited the land of Punt, or the Divine (God's) Land, and the account of her visit parallels the account of the Queen of Sheba while the new dating puts them into the same time frame and identifies the land of Punt with Palestine. When Hatshepsut returned to Egypt, she celebrated the success of her expedition as a personal triumph and erected a new temple and constructed terraces, and planted in these gardens the costly trees which she had brought from Punt. It was called the temple of the Most Splendid of Splendours, the ruins of which still bear this inscription - *"I have hearkened to my father...commanding me to establish for him a Punt in his house, to plant the trees of God's land beside his temple, in his garden".* The terraces in the Divine (God's) Land impressed the queen.

1 Kings 10:4-5. *"And when the Queen of Sheba had seen...the house that he had built...and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord, there was no more spirit in her."*

2 Chronicles 9:11. *"This path ascended from the lower to the upper terraces planted with Algum trees."*

Queen Hatshepsut wrote on the wall of her temple that "the 'highways of the myrrh-terraces' of the Divine Land were 'penetrated' and 'have reached the myrrh-terraces'" Similar terraces were built and planted facing the temple of the Most Splendid of Splendours. They

were planted with the trees about which it was said in Kings: "*...there came no such Alcum trees, nor were seen until this day*", and Queen Hatshepsut wrote: "Never was seen the like since the world was".

On the wall of the Deir el Bahari temple these trees are shown planted, and the inscription reads: "*Trees were taken up in God's Land and set in the ground* (in Egypt)".

The ruins of this temple disclose where and how the terraces were situated, forming garden plateaus at rising levels. Not only were the gardens of Solomon's temple imitated; the plan of the Temple in Jerusalem, even the service, were followed as models. The design of the Most Splendid of Splendours in Deir el Bahari did not follow the contemporary Egyptian style and is regarded by many as the most beautiful building in Egypt. For centuries attempts have been made to re-construct the Temple of Solomon, but the data in 1 Kings did not provide enough details. The subsequent copy of the temple built by the Queen of Sheba now gives us a wonderful insight into the actual appearance of the original Temple built by Solomon. The Temple of Jerusalem was built upon terraces planted with trees. These terraces were cut by an ascending path. The processions of the Levites started on the lowest terrace, and as they sang they mounted the path. This explains the fact that some of the Psalms are called "song of the ascent". This building initiated the use of twelve priests, divided into 4 orders, and headed by the High Priest of Amon. In the words of her inscription, she "*built a Punt*" in Egypt, and copied it all from Solomon.



SALVATION IS A HELMET NOT A NIGHT-CAP



OBADIAH.

Part 1.

The Origin of Edom.

A Study by
Frank W. Dowsett.

It is important to note, especially when studying any of the prophets, that the Bible is written to Israel, for Israel and about Israel, and was written by Israelites to Israelites. No other nation or people has anything to do with the history of the Bible except those which came in contact with Israel. No book of the Bible, except one, is addressed to any other nation but Israel. This one exception is the book of Obadiah. It is the only book in the Bible which is specifically addressed to a non-Israel people. We find that it commences with the statement, "*Thus said the Lord God concerning Edom*". The entire message of the book is to, and about, the people of Edom. So in this sense, it is quite special. It is also the shortest book in the Old Testament having only one chapter. Obadiah, the name itself, means "a servant of Jehovah". As a matter of interest, there are 12 different people named Obadiah recorded in the Old Testament. The prophet wrote his book in about the 5th Century B.C. and as we have pointed out, he had a special message addressed to the people of Edom, a message of God's judgment upon these people. It should also be kept in mind that Edom and Esau are two forms of address for the same people.

Perhaps we should commence our study by giving a short outline of the book's composition. Verses 1 to 14 all deal with the judgment on Edom. Of those 14 verses, verses 1 to 4 deal with the warning of Edom's doom; verses 5 to 9, and verse 18 deal with the completeness of Esau's destruction; verses 10 to 14 give the reason for the judgment upon Edom. Verses 15 and 16 carry the judgment more generally past Edom to the other na-

tions who are enemies of Israel; and it is not until you get to the last five verses, verses 17 to 21, that we come to the subject of the restoration of Israel following their persecution and enslavement by Edom. So we can see that there is quite a lot in these 21 verses.

But I believe that in order for us to understand the reasons for this judgment which was placed on Edom, it is necessary for us to understand and study the origins and the early history of these people. This is not going to be new to some of you, but I'm sure that it will be to many. I believe that one of the great deficiencies in Christian teaching today is the fact that no one seems to take any notice of subjects like this. I don't care what Church you go to, you will very rarely, if ever, hear a sermon, or teaching about Edom. No one is interested! There is no profit in talking about a nation called Edom. It all seems to be too deep. And as one minister once told me, all this knowledge is too dangerous. As far as people today are concerned, there's no such country or people around now known by that name, so why be concerned with it. So very few people know anything about it. As a matter of fact, you would be hard-pressed to find too many Christians who even associate Edom with Esau. To them, they are just two different words. You talk about things like Esau, Edom, and Idumeans, and the great majority of Christians have no idea at all of the connection between them. They have no idea that the Esau/Edom/Idumeans are all the same people.

Unless we understand the basic beginnings of Esau, and the events of his early life, we will never understand why God found it necessary to pronounce these judgments, and we will never understand the full nature and extent of these judgments unless we relate them to the actual origins of Esau himself and these early events of his life. Thus it is necessary for us to go back to the relevant Scriptures and check out these facts so that we can recognise just why God has allocated this particular book in the Bible to His sentence of judgment upon these people.

We first find Esau mentioned in Genesis chapter 25 wherein is recorded the account of the facts associated with his birth. There is a lot in this account that we need to understand in order to get a good background of this particular man and, of course, his descendants. Starting in Genesis 25:21, we read;

"And Isaac entreated the LORD for his wife, because she was barren: and the LORD was entreated of him, and Rebekah his wife conceived.

And the children struggled together within her; and she said, If it be so, why am I thus? And she went to inquire of the LORD."

It has always struck me as rather fascinating how naturally people in those far off days asked the Lord about things. She could have gone to inquire from the High Priest, but it says that she went to inquire of the Lord. 'Lord, what is going on?' she asked. The Lord said to her *"Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger."*

Now we need to take careful note here of what was actually said. Rebekah is expecting, but cannot understand what is happening within her. But she realises that it is something out of the ordinary. So she enquires of God as to what is going on, almost certainly suspecting that something was wrong.

One could reasonably expect that the Lord would have eased her fears simply by telling her that she was going to have twins and that they were going to grow up, one in this manner, and one in another manner. But God never said that. Instead;

"The LORD said unto her, Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger."

You will note that the Lord did not refer to two children, but to two nations, and two manner of people as being within her womb.

Right from that very point of time, it was the national aspect of these two boys that was important and this is what was revealed to Rebekah. This is something of which most Christians have no idea. This was a national beginning not just the beginning of two individual sons who were twins. God said, "Two nations,....two manner of people". This means that two different types of people would come from these two boys who

would become two nations. They were not going to be two nations growing up side by side just like Ephraim and Manasseh. These people were going to be totally different in every aspect of their lives; in their mannerisms, in their styles, in their worship, and in their approach to the Lord. They were to become two completely different types of nations, and when we understand the identity of the two nations that came from these two lads, we realise just how accurate that statement of the Lord was, because you couldn't get anything more different than that which exists between the descendants of Jacob and the descendants of Esau. They were, and are, totally and diametrically opposed to each other. God then went on to say that the elder shall serve the younger. It is interesting to note that this is not the only occasion where this kind of thing happened. For instance, we can consider Ephraim and Manasseh. Manasseh was the eldest, yet he was appointed to be junior to his younger brother Ephraim, which was quite contrary to the way it was normally done. We remember the account where Jacob crossed his hands and gave the major blessing to the younger of his two sons. Here it is happening again, the younger one, Jacob, was appointed the highest, whilst the eldest one, Esau, was made junior in rank to him. In the normal course of events, Esau could not be blamed for considering that he was entitled to the blessing. But God said NO even before they were born. God, in His foreknowledge and wisdom, appointed the younger son, Jacob, to receive the blessing, and as His Word tells us, "*The gifts and callings of God are without repentance.*" This is a factor of major importance which we must always bear in mind. I have to admit that I get tired of the number of times we hear people commenting about how unsavoury a character Jacob was because of the subtlety used by himself and his mother in tricking his father Isaac. It doesn't make any difference how they did it, and that doesn't mean that we condone the action used. We can run a great risk in trying to pre-empt what God is doing. Trying to help Him out, as so many Christians seem to do, shows a grave lack of faith in God's ability to achieve what He has purposed. The point is that God was going to achieve this result at any rate. God had decreed that the younger one was going to be senior to the older one. This could only be interpreted in the light of the fact that the younger one was destined to receive the birthright because who ever possessed the birthright had seniority. It was God's will right from the very beginning that the younger one,

Jacob, would have the birthright, not the elder one, Esau. So how it was achieved was somewhat immaterial.

As a matter of fact, the Bible tells us that before they were even born, before either of them had done anything either good or bad, God had declared, "*Jacob have I loved, and Esau have I hated*". The word "hated" doesn't mean "I like one person less than someone else." The word "hate" as used here means exactly the same as the way in which we use the word "hate". It means to totally despise someone. You cannot stand the sight of them. It certainly makes one wonder at the modern teaching that 'God loves everyone', because the Bible makes it very, very clear that God doesn't love everyone. He didn't love everyone then and He doesn't love everyone now. He is prepared to love everyone, and it is His inherent nature to love everyone, but there are those who, by their inborn hatred of our Lord Jesus Christ, and their bitter and perpetual antagonism, place themselves beyond the love of God and have become those whom He hates. They are specifically named in God's Word as the descendants of this lad, Esau, who became known as the Edomites, or Edom, and eventually at the time of our Lord's First Advent, the Idumeans. As a matter of fact, we find, as we go through God's Word, that on several occasions the Lord quite clearly expresses His intention to destroy these very same people. Take special note of the following Scriptures, as quoted from the New American Standard Bible;

"For My sword is satiated in heaven, Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, And upon the people whom I have devoted to destruction."

(Isa. 34:5.)

"I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How hast Thou loved us?" "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob; but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation, and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness."

Though Edom says, "We have been beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins"; thus says the LORD of hosts, "They may build, but I will tear down; and men will call them the wicked territory, and the people toward whom the LORD is indig-

nant forever.”
1:2-4.)

(Mal.

“But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence.”
(Luke 19:27.)

As we see, these people have been set aside for destruction. Now that is a pretty torrid sort of a sentence, isn't it, especially to those who believe that God only loves everyone and then have to accept the fact that God has actually appointed certain people and one particular race of people, not for redemption and salvation and love, but for destruction. This is their end. This is what God Himself has promised, and all our protestations will not alter God's Divine will in this matter. We will realise the full ramifications of this situation as we continue our study.

So continuing from verse 24 we read;-

*“And when her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.
And the first came out red, all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.
And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac was threescore years old when she bare them.”*

Now what does the word “Esau” mean? It means “hairy”. I asked specifically because most people say “red”. But “Edom” means “red”. Esau means “hairy”, which is a very important factor in what followed later. The firstborn was Esau, and he was born red, and hairy all over. Then Jacob was born with his hand holding Esau's heel. Now this is a very important and interesting statement, and the Lord did not cause it to be recorded for nothing. Let us turn to Hosea 12:3, where we read, in reference to Jacob;

“He took his brother by the heel in the womb and by his strength he had power with God”.

The fact that he had taken the heel of his brother signified, or was prophetic of, the strength and authority God had given

Jacob over his elder brother. When you think about it, when you've got hold of someone's heel, you've got a fairly good control on where they go. You'll trip them up in the end if you grab them by the heel. This is in complete accordance with what God's Word says. Esau is going to be destroyed by the hand of Israel. We're going to find this out as we continue our study of this Prophet.

There is an interesting reference to this principle of grabbing the heel in Genesis 3:15. Following the temptation of Eve and Adam, the Lord pronounced upon the serpent this sentence;

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Now, that is the other way round. I thought how interesting it was that with this aspect of the manner of the birth of Esau and Jacob, God had set in motion as it were the means by which that action on Satan's part of grabbing the heel of the seed of the woman, was reversed. Esau had become the agent through which Satan operated, and thus, the father or progenitor of the race of people referred to as 'the children of the wicked one'. Jacob, on the other hand, became the progenitor of those referred to as 'the children of God', or 'the sons of God'. And just as the seed of the wicked one, Satan, was to bruise the heel of the children or seed of the woman Eve, so God was reversing and cancelling this by the action of Jacob taking hold of the heel of Esau. Now I do not personally believe that this 'seed' of Eve is restricted to our Lord Jesus Christ as many Christians believe. That conclusion comes from what I believe to be a lack of understanding of Paul's statement in Gal. 3:16;

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ."

What appears to be entirely overlooked is the fact that the word "Christ" in the original Greek text is "Christos" which simply means "anointed". This one seed is "anointed". This cannot be restricted just to the Lord Jesus Christ as being the seed of the woman. This applies to the whole race that came through her and ultimately through Abraham, Isaac and his son

Jacob, as distinct from the seed or progeny of any other person. It was the descendants, or seed, of Abraham that was anointed, not the descendants of another. It was something specifically related to God's people Israel, the seed of the woman, as distinct from the seed of the serpent.

"And the boys grew: and Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; and Jacob was a plain man, dwelling in tents. And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob. And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom."

Esau is here for the first time referred to as Edom. The word "Edom", as we previously stated, means "red." This explains why there is such a connection between the descendants of Edom and 'red' communism. Communism was formed, founded and paid for by the descendants of Edom, present-day Edom/Jewry. Communism is nothing more, and nothing less than a branch of Zionism. It all stemmed from "RED EDOM!"

"And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentils; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright."

From this account we can see why God hated Esau. Esau had no respect whatsoever for his birthright, considering it of less value than a feed. So, the birthright passed to Jacob, just as God had intended.

There is a big lesson for all of us to learn in all of this. If God gives us something, a particular gift or ministry, then He expects us to use it. And woe betide anyone who fails to do so.

I don't think God looks very graciously on those who betray the trust that He puts in them, or relinquish at their own convenience the gifts and calling that He has appointed to them. We find that many people in the past, and particularly today, have been given a responsibility by God, and are put in high positions of Ministry, and yet they let God down. They betray the trust God has placed in them, simply to satisfy their own desires, and they invariably end up having their whole ministry taken from them. It might not appear like this on the surface, especially to the person concerned, but they always lose out.

So Esau sold his birthright, and from this time forward, he had no legal or moral claim to it, particularly in the sight of God.

From here, we need to go to Genesis chapter 27 because this is where we find recorded the next episode in this series of events. We are told there how Rebekah tried to help God out by disguising Jacob to represent him as his brother Esau in order to fool her husband Isaac. She loved Jacob, and wanted to make sure that he, and not his brother, received Isaac's blessing. It is very possible that Jacob had told her of the previous incident where Esau had sold to him his birthright, and that by doing what she did, wanted to ensure that Isaac did not unknowingly nullify the present position. Remember, she was well aware that God had promised her that Jacob was to be greater than Esau. She would also have been aware that the only way by which this could be achieved would be by Jacob, and not Esau, receiving the blessing from his father. So because Esau was very hairy and Jacob wasn't, she disguised Jacob with the coat of an animal, realising that Isaac, even though he was old and his sight was failing, would recognise which son was which simply by the hairy arms. Now a lot of people would hasten to condemn her and say all sorts of unkind things about her, but we must remember that if she hadn't done this, God would still have brought about some other circumstance in order to achieve exactly the same result. In God's sight, Jacob had to be the senior of the two, and was appointed by God to be the recipient of the birthright. We all know the story. Jacob went to his father with the meal he had prepared, and Isaac touched him on the arm, felt he was hairy, and said "Yes, this is my son Esau". He had a few doubts about it. The voice sounded a bit like Jacob but obviously he smelt and felt like Esau, so he gave him the blessing. And what a blessing it was. We read it in verses 28 and 29;

"Therefore God give thee of the dew of heaven, and the fatness of the earth, and plenty of corn and wine: Let people serve thee, and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed be every one that curseth thee, and blessed be he that blesseth thee."

At the end of that statement, we find the exact same blessing given to Abraham many years before, as recorded in Genesis 12:3. It is the same one found today in French around the shield on the Royal coat of arms which loosely translates, "Evil be to him that evil thinketh". This is where that inscription came from.

Now what we must remember here is that under normal circumstances that blessing would have been given to Esau. This is the point that most people totally miss. Esau would have received that blessing. He would have received the blessing of the dew of heaven and the fatness of the earth, the plenty of the corn and the wine. He would have had people serve him and nations bow down to him. He would have been lord over the brethren. Their mother's sons would have bowed down to him and everyone that cursed him would be cursed, and everyone that blessed him would be blessed. This is the blessing that Esau would have received. **But he had sold the birthright.** Now people can talk all they like about how Jacob tricked his father into giving him the blessing, but what Esau was trying to do was infinitely worse. He wanted the blessing from his father when he no longer had the birthright. He no longer had any legal right to the blessing because he had sold his birthright. We very rarely hear people talk about that aspect do we? Isn't it strange? People seem to have an in-built compulsion to knock down the person on top, - what we call 'the tall poppy syndrome' - the fellow who succeeds always has to be chopped down. They will talk about how bad Jacob was, but are never interested enough, or honest enough to admit that Esau tried to pull just as much a swift as what he blamed his brother for doing. In selling the birthright to his brother he no longer had any legal, or moral, claim to any blessing whatsoever from his father associated with the birthright. So the fact that he pleaded with his father to give it to him was in itself totally dishonest.

Inevitably, Esau came to his father with the meal he had prepared. We read of what transpired in Genesis 27:31-33;

“And he (Esau) also had made savoury meat, and brought it unto his father, and said unto his father, Let my father arise, and eat of his son’s venison, that thy soul may bless me.

And Isaac his father said unto him, Who art thou? And he said, I am thy son, thy firstborn Esau.

And Isaac trembled very exceedingly, and said, Who? where is he that hath taken venison, and brought it me, and I have eaten of all before thou camest, and have blessed him? yea, and he shall be blessed.”

Even in his surprise at what had happened, Isaac knew within his own heart that he had done the right thing. He said, “I have given the blessing to Jacob and he is going to remain blessed, and I am not going to undo the blessing”.

“And when Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with a great and exceeding bitter cry, and said unto his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father. And he said, Thy brother came with subtlety, and hath taken away thy blessing.

And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright; and, behold, now he hath taken away my blessing. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me?”

The word “Jacob” means “a supplanter”. By giving him this name, God had foreshadowed the manner in which He was to act through Jacob. He had allowed Jacob, the supplanter, to in fact supplant his brother and gain the blessing and the birthright, and thus attain the destiny to which God had appointed him. But note Esau’s statement to his father. He said, “For he has supplanted me these two times, (firstly) he took away my birthright”. That was a deliberate lie. Jacob didn’t take away his birthright. Esau sold it to him. He could have just as easily said to Jacob, ‘get lost’. Fancy selling your birthright just for a feed. He really had a hide to blame Jacob for the situation. But then he continued to say to his father, “and behold now he has taken away my blessing. He didn’t do that either. Jacob was the only one who was legally entitled to the blessing because he had the

birthright. No wonder our Lord called Esau's descendants liars, and the sons of Satan, the father of lies.

And so he said to his father, "Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me".

"And Isaac answered and said unto Esau, Behold, I have made him thy lord, and all his brethren have I given to him for servants; and with corn and wine have I sustained him: and what shall I do now unto thee, my son?"

And Esau said unto his father, Hast thou but one blessing, my father? bless me, even me also, O my father. And Esau lifted up his voice, and wept.

And Isaac his father answered and said unto him, Behold, thy dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above;

And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck.

And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob."

Now you can see from this account how Esau was very, very quickly realising the implications of what he had done. He had lost the blessings and now he was hard put even to get a blessing from his father. And when he did get the blessing from his father, it wasn't really what he wanted. Isaac blessed him with the same first two blessings which he had laid upon Jacob, 'The dew of the heaven and the fatness of the earth', but from there on it changed. Esau was destined to live by the sword, that is, to live by attacking and destroying others. He was destined to originally serve his brother Jacob. But later he would gain dominion over Jacob's descendants, at which time he, Esau, would break Jacob's control over him. This is quite startling when you really look at it. In other words, Jacob would cease to be head over Esau when Esau rose to a position of great power. **This is exactly what has happened today.** The descendants of Esau have now thrown off the yoke, or the control of Jacob. They have now placed themselves above Jacob and they have reversed

the sentence that God passed thousands of years ago that the elder would serve the younger.

But Esau would not be placated, and because of the difference in the blessings, and the confirmation of the loss of the birthright, threatened to kill his brother Jacob.

Now with all this in mind, it is not difficult to recognise the connection of all that comes later in the prophetic Word of God regarding the relationship between Esau/Edom and Jacob. It was because of this birthright factor that Esau eventually hated Jacob with a consuming hatred. There is no doubt that Esau considered that all the blessings and covenants made and confirmed to Jacob, whether in the past, or in the future, belonged to himself. When God appeared to Jacob later on saying, "I am the God of thy father Abraham and thy father Isaac", and confirmed and ratified to Jacob the covenants He had made with Abraham and Isaac, Esau automatically considered that they rightfully belonged to him.

His plan, I believe, from that time on, has been to regain all those covenants for himself by destroying the possibility of Jacob ever obtaining the fulfilment and blessings of those covenants. And this is exactly what has happened.

So we can see how this event in the early lives of Jacob and Esau has enormous significance in our understanding of the Word of God and what is going on in the world today. It all arose out of Esau despising his birthright. His descendants are now doing everything in their power not only to regain it, with all its attendant blessings, but to destroy the descendants of Jacob whom their father Esau promised to kill. This is why we are finding in every aspect of our national life that we are being destroyed by the sons of Edom, Esau/Jewry. This is exactly what is happening in both our financial and political system. I recently read in an article, "The world is now covered in political, economic, moral and social problems which need to be acted upon by Christian people. But before we can properly act, we need a proper understanding of the problem, not just a superficial understanding". This is exactly the situation. Every moral, economic and political issue that we now have around our own necks, dragging us down, has been caused and has been put there by our enemy, who was Esau, in an all-out attempt to destroy every possibility of the descendants of Jacob ever fully gaining

the benefits of those covenants. Isn't it amazing, all the actions that are being taken against our Anglo-Saxon people and Christian culture, that are not being waged against most of the other countries of the world. I'm not saying that other nations are not in trouble, but they are certainly not under attack the same as we are. They are not trying to be destroyed. You don't find an anti-Monarchy movement against the king of Siam, or the king of some other place. Nobody is interested in knocking the Monarchy of other nations. It is only our Anglo-Saxon countries that have to become republics, because they have to, at all costs, destroy our throne. It is only the Anglo-Israel countries that have become the target of all-out indiscriminate immigration and multiculturalism. You just try to introduce these things into non-Anglo-Saxon lands and see how you get on. All these things are happening as a direct result of Esau's clearly stated aim to kill, or destroy, his brother Jacob. This, I firmly believe, is what is happening right now.

Isn't it interesting. God's simple promise to Rebekah began this whole controversy which, as I mentioned before, became the catalyst of the world-wide controversy between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent which is represented by the seed of Jacob as the people anointed to blessing, and the seed of Esau, as the people appointed to destruction.

When we turn to Genesis 28, we find another interesting factor in this whole scenario. In verses 6 to 9, we read how Esau deliberately commenced a spiteful and disobedient act against both his brother and against God. It is interesting to note what he did. The very first act recorded of Esau against God and against Jacob, his brother, was this;

"When Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob, and sent him away to Padanaram, to take him a wife from thence; and that as he blessed him he gave him a charge, saying, Thou shalt not take a wife of the daughters of Canaan;

And that Jacob obeyed his father and his mother, and was gone to Padanaram;

And Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan pleased not Isaac his father;

Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ish-

mael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife."

Thus, as an act of sheer spite, Esau deliberately married non-Israelite women, knowing perfectly well that this was contrary to God's Law. The entire chapter 36 of Genesis sets forth the generations of Esau, the father of the Edomites. It lists all the wives that he took from the land of Canaan, as well as the wives which his sons took. It lists the descendants of those wives. One of those descendants, his grandson, was called Amalek. Now Amalek is the one of whom God said in Exodus 17:16;

"For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

The reason for this is found in Numbers 24:20;

"And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek was the first of the nations (marg. 'that warred against Israel'); but his latter end shall be that he perish for ever."

Amalek's king at one time was Agag. Agag in the Hebrew is "gg". The Hebrew language has no vowels as we know them, and this is exactly the same route word as the word "gog" in Ezekiel 38 and 39. Here we have the connection between Esau and "gog and "magog" Russia. I don't believe that we can for one moment blame the normal Russian person for the communism of that unhappy land. Many of them are just as Anglo-Saxon as you and I. It is the founders and operators of communism that are the culprits. It is their Zionist leadership who is descendant from the king of the Amalekites, the grandson of Esau. They are the ones associated with "gog" and "magog".

But returning to Esau, we find that one of the very first thing recorded of him after then earlier episodes of his life with which we have already dealt, is that he introduced into the life of his people miscegenation, fornication and multi-culturalism. Isn't that interesting. He did it out of sheer spite. He saw what Jacob had done, and because Jacob had acted to please both his God,

and his father and mother, Isaac and Rebekah, he determined that he was going to do it differently and deliberately set out to disobey their instructions. It was a deliberate act on the part of Esau and that deliberate act has been handed down from generation to generation and has now been adopted by the descendants of Jacob his brother, and has become an entire way of life for God's people. They have just been deliberately mixed up and I believe it has been deliberately engineered and fostered by the very descendants of this same person Esau by fostering multi-culturalism within our nation. You will find that these same people are at the root cause of all these problems. It is an indisputable fact, that if you wish to understand the present, then go back to the past. Ecclesiastes 1:9-10 tells us;

*"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.
Is there any thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us."*

If you adopt this Biblical principle, you will rarely go wrong in your understanding of the main factors behind current events. We now know the answer to our problems because we know exactly what the enemy is, who he is, what he has done previously. What's more, we know why he is doing it, and how he is doing it. And now, when we read these accounts of Esau/Edom in the Bible, we can understand their true significance and application to our present national situation to a degree probably never previously realised. It's no wonder that people today don't understand what's going on. They have no reference point on which to make an assessment. But now that we have a basis on which to understand the present, we find that we also have the basis on which we can understand what the future holds for this enemy. So God willing, in our next issue, we will study how God intends to punish and destroy present Esau/Edom, and free His people from their deadly clutches.

(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/FAX: (02) 623-4691.**

*Then the prophet Elijah arose like fire,
And his word burned like a torch;
He brought a famine upon them,
And made them few by his zeal,
By the word of the Lord he shut up heaven;
In the same way, he brought down fire three times.
How glorified you were, Elijah, in your wonderful
acts, And who can glory like you?
You who raised one who was dead, from death,
And from Hades, by the word of the Most High;
Who brought kings down to destruction,
And distinguished men from their beds.
Who heard rebukes at Sinai,
And judgments of vengeance at Horeb;
Who anointed kings to exact retribution,
And prophets to succeed him;
Who were taken up in a whirlwind of fire,
In a chariot with fiery horses;
Who, it is written, is to come in rebuke
at the appointed time,
To quiet anger before it becomes wrath,
To turn the heart of the father to his son,
And to reform the tribes of Jacob.*

Ecclesiasticus 48:1-10

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